

Principal's Update – 7 February

Dear all

Welcome back to the start of the new school term. After what seems to have been a very long holiday it was wonderful to have the students arrive yesterday, and by starting on a Thursday and with only Friday to go till the weekend it was a nice way to ease into the new year.

Also welcome to all our new families whether your new student is in Year 7 or any of the other years. I hope they feel welcomed at their new school and if you have any concerns about their transition to high school, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Is it just me but so many students seem so much taller than last year particularly some of our Year 9 and 10 boys! I am sure it is a reflection of all that fabulous holiday food 😊

Year 7 are having a two day O week this year and hopefully this will allow Year 7 to get to know other students in their class, meet their Peer Support buddies and join the student portal. While some students have used our digital platform Google Classroom in their past school, others are new to this. However, it is an easy platform to use and new users should soon feel comfortable with the platform. The positive also about this platform is that parents can see the communication from the teacher to their students and their student's communication to the teacher. Of course parents can only see their student's work.

At the start of every year we run parent forums for each stage. These forums are run in the hall and all parents from the Stage (or two year groups) are welcome to attend. They are in the evening commencing at 7.00 pm and there is an opportunity for questions. The relevant deputy, Head Teacher Stage, Year Advisers and myself all attend and make presentations. The dates are :

- Years 11 and 12 (Stage 6) - Monday 17 February at 7.00 pm in the hall
- Years 7 and 8 (Stage 4) - Monday 24 February at 7.00 pm in the hall
- Years 9 and 10 (Stage 5) - Monday 3 March at 7.00 pm in the hall

Great to see that excursions and student learning have commenced from day 1 with an art excursion to the Art Gallery of NSW happening today. Then on Monday all Year 12 will have Elevate. This is a study skills program that the school provides to all year groups.

Despite all that is done in the lead up to the new school year, some students arrive and realise that they wish to change a subject or elective. For Years 11 and 12 this can happen next week. For Years 9 and 10 we will allow the following week. If your child wishes to make a subject change they need to bring a note from you supporting that change, to me at either recess or lunch. Changes will occur depending on available space in the desired class.

At Mosman, parents are a very important part of our school. We have a number of parent committees that meet twice a term in the evenings. In my update, I will let you know of any upcoming meetings or events organised by and for parents. For example on Thursday 6 March, our P&C will be organising a welcome evening for Year 7 and all new parents. The event will be on Level 3 of the new building and drinks and canapes will be provided. New

parents are very welcome to attend and meet the executive and other teachers. So mark the date in your diary!

I will also give you a heads up on any parent meetings happening in the upcoming week. This week on:

- Tuesday 11 February - The P&C sport committee will meet in the school foyer commencing at 6.00 pm. All parents who have a student interested in extracurricular sport are welcome to attend
- Thursday 13 February - The Wellbeing and Inclusion committee meet also at 6.00 pm in the school foyer. This group coordinates speakers on aspects of wellbeing for both students and parents.

A slightly longer than normal update, wishing you all a wonderful 2025.

Susan