

HOXTON PARK HIGH SCHOOL



Inside the Issue

WORLD CHAMP!

Congratulations to Mr J Todhunter for captaining and winning the Men's Softball World Championship!

CONGRATULATIONS!

We would like to congratulate all of our Academic and Sporting award winners for 2022!

LAST DAY OF THE YEAR

The last of term is Friday 16th of December, 2022



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

PRINCIPAL, MS LENY WALLACE

Our final term is always a particularly busy and fulfilling one as it is crammed with academic as well as celebratory commitments.

Of course, one of the highlights of last term was the Graduation Assembly for Year 12 2022- a moving and significant rite of passage for our Year 12 students. My teachers were heartened to share this ceremony with so many families. My particular thanks to the team of teachers who worked with students to organise the assembly; also, to the many parents who expressed their appreciation for teachers' dedication and commitment. I was disappointed that I could not attend their graduation but I managed to catch up with many Year 12 students at the formal.

On behalf of Year 12, I would like to pay tribute to all the teachers and non-teaching staff who have provided such a positive place for our students to come to each day. In particular, I know Year 12 would like to acknowledge, the great work of Ms Joseph, Mr. Muller, Year Advisers and Ms. Zilic, Deputy in charge of Year 12 who have guided them with sensitivity, dedication and wisdom, constantly juggling the welfare and academic needs of so many young men and women while negotiating the complexities of adolescence! We thank them for providing the best care and guidance for our young graduating students.

We welcome our Year 11 students as they take their place as the senior role models of the school. All focus should now be on achieving the best HSC. It is important that everyone be immediately conversant of the Year 12 assessment schedule. This involves earmarking the due dates for tasks and examining if these tasks are to be completed at home or at school on the designated date. That calendar needs to be prominently displayed in the home and regularly monitored. It is only with authorised illness or misadventure that a student can avoid receiving zero for a task (although no one can afford to receive a zero!) Any authorisation can only be given by medical practitioners. In any cases of misadventure, please be reminded that copies of these illness/misadventure forms are to be taken to the appropriate authority for signature and be submitted on the day that the student returns to school.

I would like to thank our outgoing school captains, Nancy Volkman and Daniel Ebrahim for their diligence and their leadership. With the prefect team, these young students represented the school at many forums and events with confidence and pride. Congratulations and welcome to our new school captains, Emily Malakovski and Jo-Hanna Ieremia and school prefects who were elected and inducted to their roles at the end of Term 3. Whilst I'm delighted with our Captains, I would like to acknowledge each student who nominated for captain and spoke so compellingly last term. I congratulate the leadership team who I believe, under the guidance of Ms Osborne, will be positive role models. I know they will do Hoxton Park High School proud.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

PRINCIPAL, MS LENY WALLACE

As always, our fantastic students deserve the greatest thanks for our successful year. We are so proud of the many achievements during 2022. I also thank them for their co-operation. The positive attitude and school spirit displayed by our students make this such a unique school. Teachers and visitors constantly praise their maturity and responsible behaviour. Our student leaders were excellent role models who led our students to great achievements and positive outcomes.

I would like to thank our office and canteen staff, general and farm assistant, counsellors, career and student advisers who play such a vital role in the school and of course, our teaching staff, for their commitment and hard work. They have been an incredible source of strength and guidance to many students. A special thank you to Ms. Jamal and the senior executive for leading the school so well in my absence.

I look forward to celebrating the school achievements with you at our Presentation Day.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

SPORTS COORDINATOR , MR JOEL BERRELL

Semester 2 has seen the rain stop falling, the sun come out and our sporting facilities finally become useable again! With the sun out, the fields started to dry up and our sport and physical activity levels greatly improved. Integrated sport for Years 7-10 has seen lots more active participation and variety in activities over the last two terms. Students have been relishing the opportunity to get out on the fields and get moving.

On the representative sport front, we have seen some great individual and team results since Semester 1. Within our school sport pathways, our 15s Girls 4x100m relay team (Nikita E, Allison Hoang, Alyssa Camilleri, Christina Lay) made it to the NSW CHS Athletics Carnival, won their initial heat and came a respectable 8th in the state. Well done girls! Emily Malakovski also blitzed the field at NSW CHS Athletics, with 1st Place in the Girls 17-19 Yrs High Jump and 3rd Place in the Girls Pentathlon. Great job Emily. Unfortunately, Jonathan Veljanovski, our only other athlete that made it to NSW CHS, broke his leg the weekend before the carnival and couldn't attend!! He is back fighting fit and ready to make his mark in 2023.

Some other outstanding sporting achievements outside of school include:

- Nancy Volkman (our departing school captain), who was already selected in the Sydney Junior Rugby Union U18s Girls Sydney team, as well as playing for Sydney University, was more recently selected to be a part of the NSW Waratahs Pre-Season Program. This is a huge and well-deserved opportunity for Nancy who is now given the chance to show how she can stack up against some of the best Rugby Union players in the country. We are crossing our fingers and toes that when the 2023 squad is announced, we see Nancy's name there.
- Kanye Maru-Mulu was selected in the Parramatta Eels Tarsha Gale (U18s) squad and is currently training with them 3 times a week. This is a huge achievement for Kanye and a stepping stone toward hopefully playing in the NRLW in the future.
- Keira King was selected in both the NSW and the Australian Youth Baseball Squad this year. Keira has travelled interstate to play some games for NSW and will play with the Australian Squad in 2023.
- Ibrahim El-Khoury was selected in the NSW U16s Country State Team for Futsal which will see him play early in 2023.

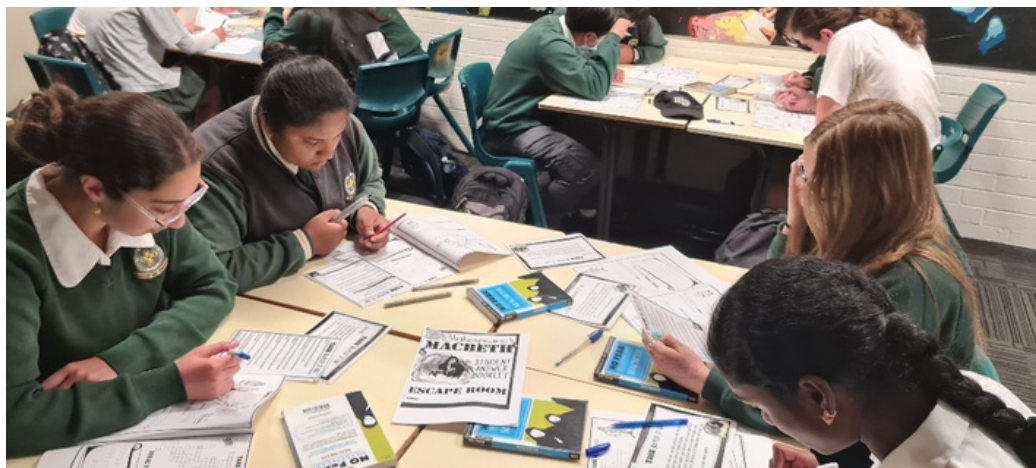
We are so proud of all our athletes at Hoxton Park HS and hope to continue to foster opportunities for them to develop their skills and represent our school in their representative teams.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

ENGLISH FACULTY

On Wednesday, my class (10 RED) and 10 ORANGE had participated in a Macbeth themed escape room. After much delay, students were eagerly waiting in anticipation of the experience - and the prize. The little narrative behind this was that King Macbeth had become unstable and was out to get us, which therefore required us to solve tasks in order to crack codes and escape his castle. The tasks were laid out for us, and we were required to solve them in our answer books, correctly and completely, before moving one step closer to the prize. These tasks required a sound level of knowledge on the play, as we had to sort out the timeline of events, and match corresponding words to events of the play. There was also a crossword which required us to know little details of the play in order to be solved. The final task required us to know the character which had said a specific quote, and the whole class was filled with the yells of people enthusiastically trying to guess and win. A group from 10 ORANGE had won and received a bag of candy each, with the team close to winning from my class, in an obvious moment of disappointment, received a small prize too.

It was a very enjoyable experience as we worked in groups to try to crack the code, and it was always very exciting when someone suddenly solves it, and yells out the answer in the fiery moment. Students worked together quickly, scrambling and talking fast and loud to make sure they're heard. Those with aggressive passion to win ran between both open classrooms and rushed to complete the tasks so the other class would not win. The tasks at hand really made you think and required you to communicate, which was a good change from standard class work.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

WELLBEING FACULTY

RAGE

Rage is a six-week anger management program that was run for students in years 7, 8 and 9 once a week for one period. The program is a strength-based solution focused program that is hands on, practical and fun. This course has been able to educate students on understanding emotions, recognising and reflecting on anger and healthy ways to self-regulate.

Throughout the program students focused on specific strategies to cope with anger, this involved increased self-awareness, breathing techniques, relaxation strategies, personal reflection and emotional awareness.

Each week the students identified what level on the 'anger scale' they were on and how they have tackled situations when they have felt heightened. Towards the end of the program all students agreed that the strategies and techniques that were practiced throughout the course were applied in personal situations, this assisted in self-regulation and avoidance of further escalation.

Students feedback was that by the end of the program they were able to identify feelings of anger, along with triggers and explored alternate strategies to cope with frustration.

Managing the Bull

Managing the Bull is a six-week resilience program that was run for year 7 and 8 students once a week for one period. Managing the Bull is a program that focuses on building resilience in students through games, activities and discussions. This was done in a safe and supportive environment where students were able to identify their personal strengths, build self-esteem, communicate effectively and deal with cyber bullying.

All students agreed that the program has impacted them in a positive way, making them feel more confident, open to communicating how they feel and being able to stand up for themselves in a positive way. Throughout the program, the students reflected on their progress by journaling at the end of each session. The last session of the program, students went through their journals and noticed the drastic changes in their improvement on handling situations and being able to bounce back from difficult times.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

WELLBEING FACULTY

Girls Supervisor

2022 has seen some exciting activities for our female students. Some of these programs involved some of our Year 11 students working with ABCN and mentors from AMEX, and our Year 7 and 8 students participating in the Know Your Flow program conducted by Bright Girl Health. Our most recent activity was a "Girl's Night In" which was held on Thursday 1st December 2022. The response to this initiative was overwhelming, with us having to create a waiting list for those students who unfortunately missed out. The afternoon was attended by 120 students and a large cohort of our female teachers. It involved an activity designed to increase the self-esteem and confidence of the students which was followed by a movie (with popcorn and a slushee of course!). The girls had a wonderful time and we look forward to continuing these activities and many more in the future.



Cyber Safety

For many young people, the internet and mobile phones are their social lifeline. It's where they engage with friends out-of-school hours and keep up-to-date. For some, time away from that network can threaten their sense of connectedness to their social community.

Like communicating in the real world, there are risks in interacting online. Cyberbullying, identity theft, scams and inappropriate content are some of the issues that can pose challenges for young people.

We encourage all parents/carers to use the Digital Citizenship

(<https://www.digitalcitizenship.nsw.edu.au/>) toolkit to empower your child to understand how their online behaviour affects themselves and others.

You and your child can find information on:

- how to 'be positive' by understanding online behaviour and its effect
- 'be smart' by thinking critically and being digitally aware
- 'be safe' by protecting your security, privacy and wellbeing.

In addition to the above, Hoxton Park High School has restricted student use of digital devices and online services in all school-related settings, including at recess and lunch. This plan is available on the school website.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

SUPPORT UNIT FACULTY

Literacy:

This term 7Gold has worked on a novel study. We read and discussed the Hatchet by Gary Paulsen and explored the themes of a family breakdown, survival in the wilderness and teenage emotions. All students thoroughly enjoyed the reading and comprehension activities that culminated in us watching the multimedia adaptation of the story. A truly inspiring novel enjoyed by all.



Technology:

7 Gold has been working on 'Food and Agriculture, Paddock to Plate' unit of work. We have learned how to grow some herbs, create consumer attractive packaging as well as create exciting recipes to link our learning.

We have also thoroughly enjoyed our cooking hands-on experience in the kitchen and have learnt how to cook and bake many yummy treats! A great term in the kitchen.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

SUPPORT UNIT FACULTY

Visual Arts:

Lights!!! Camera!!! Action!!! Photography has been a truly exciting topic explored this term. 7Gold learnt about lighting, moods, tones and themes when capturing an image. We have lots of opportunities to shoot still images as well as transient and ephemeral pictures. 7Gold sure has many budding photographers in our midst!



Music:

This term 7Gold has been strumming away whilst learning about the ukulele! We looked at the history of the ukulele, the different parts of the instrument, as well as various strumming patterns. Some songs we have played so far include The Muffin Man, Riptide, and You Are My Sunshine.



Geography:

Where in the world would you like to live? In geography this term we have explored places around Australia and the world. We have compared what services are available between rural and urban locations, and different factors that can impact the liveability of a place.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

SUPPORT UNIT FACULTY

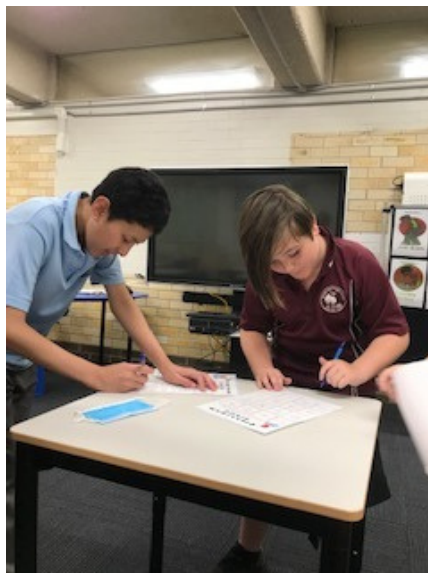
Science:

What does it take to survive? This term in Science we have been looking at how creatures adapt to survive in different environments. We have explored different ecosystems, food chains and microorganisms. We have also looked at how humans impact the environment, and how we can use science to help manage events such as natural disasters.



Support Unit Transition Day - 'Goodbye Primary School, hello High School!'

Our Support Unit has welcomed Year 6 students on four transition days organised by Support Staff in Term 4. As we will be establishing two new Year 7 classes in 2023, all visiting students were provided with opportunities to take part in mini lessons and to explore their new high school.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

SCIENCE FACULTY

It is hard to believe that the 2022 school year is nearly finished!

This has been a busy time for the Science Faculty as we have organised student projects, marked the Yearly Examinations, completed Semester 2 reports, and continued to teach our students important scientific and life skills to develop their understanding of science in the real world. Year 7 have been learning about the different animal kingdoms, adaptations, food chains and food webs. Year 8 are currently learning about the rock cycle. Year 9 have finalised their understanding of tectonic plates and earthquakes. Year 10 continue to learn about the universe and the big bang theory.



Our seniors attended a few excursions this year including and excursions to ANSTO and Western Sydney University. There they had the opportunity to carry out scientific experiments and observe scientists at work.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

HSIE FACULTY

WOW! 2022 has been an extremely busy year but it has gone so fast.

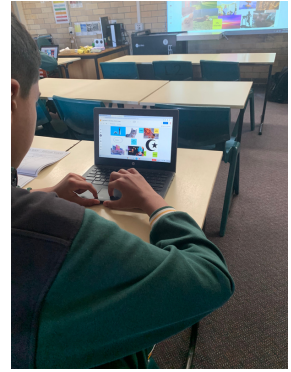
STAGE 6: As our Year 12 Graduates prepared for their HSC examinations in Term 4, Year 11 began their HSC course. We wish our Year 12 of 2022 every success in all they do in their post-school life, and we are excited to welcome our 2023 HSC students into the final stages of their official schooling. Those students in Ancient History, Business Studies, Legal Studies, Modern History, Society and Culture and Work Studies have already completed their first HSC Assessment Task. HSC students are reminded that throughout the Summer holidays, they should be preparing study notes based on their relevant Syllabus dot points, completing Holiday Homework and/or working on Assessment Task 2 if it has been issued. A reminder also to Society and Culture students that this is the perfect time to get a significant amount of their Personal Interest Project (PIP) completed. Early preparation and familiarisation with their topics and syllabus dot points will put our HSC students on the path to success.

STAGE 5: Year 9 students have completed their Stage 5 Geography course which most recently covered the topic of Human Wellbeing where they looked at population density, population pyramids, ageing population and population settlements and the wellbeing of people in different parts of the world with varying social and economic status. In 2023, they will move on to the Stage 5 History course. Year 10 students studied topics such as the Industrial Revolution, Australians at War, the Holocaust, as well as Rights and Freedoms from 1945 to present day. In Term 3, they had an excellent excursion to the Sydney Jewish Museum where they saw a range of Primary and Secondary sources and got to hear a survivor testimony to support their studies in class of the Holocaust. Year 10 History teachers were also amazed at the outstanding museum displays that students across the grade presented for their Research Assessment Task. (See images). We wish our Year 10 students all the very best as they move into their senior studies, TAFE or the workforce in 2023.

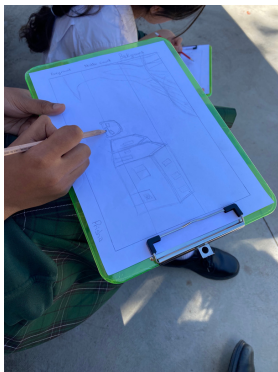
Elective classes in Stage 5 have been extremely busy with Commerce students having learned how to run their own business with the 100-hour Stage 5 Commerce class holding a very successful market stall last term, raising over \$400 in 30 minutes for the Black Dog Institute of Australia, a charity chosen by the students themselves. International Studies students have looked at a range of topics including Culture and Beliefs and Culture and Sport, expanding their social and cultural understanding.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?



STAGE 4: We bet the year has gone very fast for Year 7 students in their first year of Secondary school. They have now completed their first Semester of Geography where they covered the topics of Landscapes and Landforms and Place and Liveability. In this course they also began learning a range of new skills that are important to geographers such as Climate Graphs and creating Field Sketches (see images provided). These skills will continue to be built upon next year in Year 8 Geography during Semester 2. In Semester 1 next year they will begin the Year 8 History course. Year 8 have most recently studied a topic called Interconnections which has shown them just how small the world has become due to globalisation and the fact that people, countries, travel and business have become so tightly related and connected because of technological advancements. They have also continued to build on their geographical skills which will be further developed throughout Stage 5 Geography in Year 9.



Finally, we congratulate Mrs Ivona Zilic on her successful appointment as Deputy Principal and in 2023 we welcome a new Head Teacher to the HSIE faculty, Mr Jacob Appleby.

On behalf of HSIE, I wish everyone a wonderful, relaxing and safe Summer holiday break to unwind from such a busy school year.

To those families who celebrate the upcoming festive season, we wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

LEARNING AND SUPPORT FACULTY

Year 7 2023 Transition Day

The Learning and Support faculty recognise that the transition from Year 6 to Year 7 is an important milestone and can be a challenging time for some students. For this reason, we partnered with our feeder schools to host an additional Transition Day to provide an opportunity for our primary school students to become familiar with our high school environment, meet key members of staff and students and engage in mini lessons as a taster of what to expect in 2023.



2023 Year 7 Hoxton Orientation Week

Learning and Support Faculty will be facilitating HOW or Hoxton Orientation Week for the new Year 7 cohort of 2023. HOW will run for the first four days of high school, from Tuesday 31/1/23 to Friday 3/2/23.

Throughout the four days, the Learning and Support faculty will be administering diagnostic testing to determine students' capabilities and class suitability. Students will actively participate in numerous workshops and activities that centre on supporting their wellbeing and creating positive peer interactions. During HOW, students will receive their school timetable, diary, assessment schedule and other resources to support their organisation and preparation for their new high school setting.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

LEARNING AND SUPPORT FACULTY

Aboriginal Coordinator

Congratulations to Aaliyah Young who is the stage 5 recipient for the Go Scholarship for 2022- 2023.



Throughout this year South Cares has attended Hoxton Park High School, working with stage 4 and 5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. We would like to thank the team at South Cares for helping our students develop their future goals, engage with their culture, and build the skills to become future leaders in the school and the community.



During Term 4 Pathways to Dreaming from Western Sydney University came to Hoxton Park High School to work with our students to build on their cultural knowledge and future goals.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ HPHS?

LEARNING AND SUPPORT FACULTY



During term 4 the following students showcased their leadership within their community at a joint school NAIDOC celebration.

- Hayley Hyndes
- Salesi Phillips-Pikula
- Ella-Jay Nuttall
- Logan Smith
- Aaliyah Young
- Shaelyn Allison



Looking forward to 2023!

Next year the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Community will be involved in several exciting programs. Hoxton Park High School will be engaging with the following services to better support and nurture our students:

- South Cares
- Pathways to Dreaming
- Auntie Carol Brown
- School2Work

A reminder to all parents, any school holiday camps and opportunities will be advertised on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Google Classroom page.

