



ST CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

At this time of the year the school is heavily involved in evaluating what it has done in the current year, as well planning for the year ahead. It's an exciting time, and also a very hectic one for all of the staff. 2018 has been a terrific year for our school and we look forward immensely to the opportunities that will be presented in 2019.

Our Year 10 students have just completed their yearly examinations and will shortly be engaged in various activities in the lead up to them transitioning into their years of senior schooling. This includes their "clearance day" procedures from the junior school, return of equipment and payment of outstanding fees before commencing their new subjects in 2019. On the subject of outstanding fees, if any parents are having financial difficulty affecting their ability to meet these obligations please feel free to contact me to arrange an installment agreement and/or Student Assistance. As most parents would by now be aware, we are no longer allowing students to pay for non-essential activities whilst they have outstanding debts, unless an agreement has been reached for financial assistance.

In the weeks ahead the majority of our students in Years 7-9 will be engaged in end of year examinations and /or assessment tasks, in the lead up to the production of Yearly Reports. It is important for all of these students that they are spending time at home studying, reviewing their class notes and focusing upon achieving their "Personal Best" and ensuring they maintain the High Expectations that are expected by us all.

I would like to say "well done" to two groups of students and the teachers who have worked so well with them. Our outgoing Year 12 made us all very proud with the way they conducted themselves at the Year 12 Graduation and Year 12 Formal. They were superb. Now that the HSC has just finished, we look forward to, and anticipate, very strong results in the HSC.

Our incoming Year 12 has recently completed the Australian Business Week (ABW) program and they have already shown a capacity to "step up" to the high standards set by our recent Year 12 cohorts.

The way the students committed themselves to the program throughout the week was superb. I would also like to thank the amazing team of staff and community helpers that make this program such a success. I would also like to acknowledge our school leadership team; Dean, Emily, Kaylee, Ali, Brayden, Asim, Kahla and Zaineb for the way they have represented our school at several community events already.

This month Mrs Lowe and I attended the St Marys RSL sub-Branch: Colin Shepherd OAM, Memorial School scholarships awards dinner. We were both very proud watching our three Year 10 students Claude, Jordan and Elisha received their scholarship which will assist with their future education.

The weeks ahead will see lots of events take place as the school year draws to a conclusion. Please make sure you keep up to date with these events via the school app, the school sign, Facebook and the school's website.

Congratulations and thanks to our amazing staff. The commitment of the staff to continually improve their practice and develop a better understanding of the educational landscape is inspiring. We would be the first to admit we're not perfect, but I guarantee you that I've never been in a school that is more determined than this one to continually improve itself for the benefit of the students in our community.

Karen Shepherd
Relieving Principal

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DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' REPORT

Junior Students

A reminder that students in Years 7 to 10 are not permitted to leave the school grounds at any time during the school day (8.25 am – 2.30 pm) without signing out at the Front Office. Students seeking permission to leave are asked to bring a signed note from a parent that they have signed by one of the Deputy Principals before 8.25 am. The student then shows their teacher the note at the time they need to leave and then they are able to sign out at the Front Office. Students in Years 7 to 10 are not permitted to leave the school grounds during recess and lunch breaks to visit the shopping centre. Any student leaving school premises without permission is considered to be truanting.

HSC Examinations

Year 12 2018 have now completed their HSC examinations and clearance procedures at St Clair High School. They will eagerly await their HSC results in December and their ATAR and University placements. The staff at St Clair High look forward to hearing what pathway this cohort will pursue next..

Yearly Examinations Years 7-10

Currently students in Years 7-10 are completing yearly examinations and/or final assessment tasks in each of their subjects. These assessments provide valuable information to staff about the learning progress of each student and the skills and knowledge they have developed. This will be followed shortly by staff completing yearly reports for students to provide invaluable feedback to parents and guardians. We encourage all students to complete all tasks to reflect their personal best so that it is an accurate reflection of their learning.

Year 7 2019 Orientation Day

On Tuesday 4th December our Year 7 cohort for 2019 will be attending the Orientation Day. Mr Pabian will be their Year Adviser and Ms Rome the Assistant Year Adviser and they have been working closely with the primary schools to support students in their transition to high school. The Orientation Day will commence at 9 am in the School Hall. The School Uniform Shop will be operation on this day.

Year 12 2019

Year 11 students have now commenced their final year of schooling and are now referred to as the HSC class of 2019. Attendance at every class is one of the keys to success. There are a number of support personnel available to support students during the HSC year these include:

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' REPORT

- Year 12 2019 Assistant Year Adviser: Ms Morrison
- Deputy Principal: Mrs Dickson
- Senior School Coordinator: Mrs Sue Lowe
- Head Teacher Welfare: Mrs Owston
- Careers Advisor: Ms Bennet
- Head Teacher Teaching and learning 2019: Ms Holt
- EAL/D Teacher: Ms Saisithidej
- Learning Support Teachers: Mr Thurtell and Mrs Sharma
- School Counsellors: Ms Sun and Ms Kumar
- School Chaplain: Mr Piper
- Faculty Head Teachers can also provide support with specific subject based queries.

The end of the term will rapidly approach and the Christmas holidays will be here before we know it! We look forward to enjoying all of the key school events that take place at the end of the year that allows us to celebrate the achievements of our students.

Mrs Dickson – Relieving Deputy Principal for Years 7, 9 and 11
Mrs Beslic – Relieving Deputy Principal Years 8, 10 and 12

*Have you changed your address or phone details?
Please let us know the new details immediately.
If you don't let us know, and something happens to your child requiring us
to contact you urgently ...
If there's an emergency we need to be able to reach you!*

Fisher's Ghost Art Award

2018

Exhibition: Saturday 27 October – Thursday 13 December
Official opening night and award announcement: Friday 2 November
The Fisher's Ghost Art Award Official opening night will be AUSLAN interpreted.

This is a prestigious art award that offers the community of Campbelltown the opportunity to experience and enjoy an exhibition that includes work from a diverse range of disciplines and artists.

It gives me great pleasure to share the finalists in the 2018 Fisher's Ghost Art Award, now in its 56th year at the Campbelltown Arts Centre, Campbelltown.

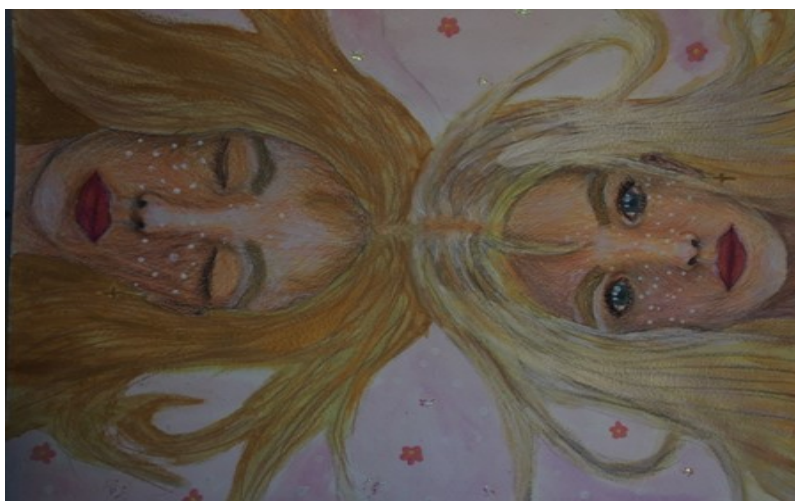
Congratulations to this Years 2018 Fisher's Ghost Art Award winners:

Jackson Firth and Lynda Sua-Oto from Year 7, Jodvel Fatheiburgh from Year 8 and Jennifer Pruyn from Year 9 artworks were selected to be displayed for two months.

I would like to congratulate the students on their outstanding creative artworks, hard work and their dedication in Visual Arts. I hope that they enjoy this exhibition of the 2018 Fisher's Ghost Art Award.

Miss Rainsford
Visual Arts Teacher.

Jennifer Pruyn, Jackson Firth, Lynda Sua-Oto and Jodvel Fatheiburgh artworks below that are on display at Fisher's Ghost Art Award at Campbelltown Arts Centre, Campbelltown.





DRAGONS DEN MUSIC STUDIO

Year 10 Elective Music Recording Studio Excursion



On Tuesday 30th October, Mrs Cenda's Year 10 Music Elective Class went to Dragon's Den Recording Studio, as part of their studies in "Technology and its Influence on Music".



Year 10 Music students rehearsed and recorded Backstreet Boy's: "I Want it That Way"



The Year 10 Music Students learnt about techniques in recording and were able to operate a DJ desk.





DRAGONS DEN MUSIC STUDIO

Year 10 Elective Music Recording Studio Excursion



Media Release



Friday, 2nd November 2018

Ending violence against women and children, *together* this White Ribbon Day

St Clair High school students and staff are coming together on Thursday 22nd November the day before White Ribbon Day (23rd November) to raise awareness and funds to support White Ribbon and help end men's violence against women and children in our community.

As a community, we play a vital role in standing up, speaking out and ending all forms of violence against women.

St Clair High School set standards for acceptable behaviour.

"If we can teach children from a young age about respect, this will transpire through the ages"

"If we can set the standard for respectful behaviour and gender equality in the community, at home and in school, we can go a long way to eliminate violence against women and children. We do this by standing up, speaking out and acting when it comes to violence against women."

We ask that students bring in money to purchase food or donate.

When: Thursday 22nd November 2018

Time: 12.45pm – 1.15pm

Where: St Clair High School

Cost: \$2.50 for a sausage sandwich, \$1 coca cola or \$ 3.00 for a combo

Funds raised go towards supporting White Ribbon's national primary prevention campaign, which aims to stop violence before it occurs, through education initiatives in schools, workplaces and the broader community. White Ribbon is committed to building an Australian community where every woman lives in safety, free from all forms of men's abuse.

Find out more about White Ribbon Day: <https://www.whiteribbon.org.au/day/>

Note media

White Ribbon Australia asks all media to include the following line when reporting on incidents of men's violence against women: *If you or someone you know is experiencing violence, call 1800 RESPECT on 1800 737 732 for advice or support. This free service providing confidential advice is open 24/7. In an emergency, call the police on 000. All incidents of violence should be reported to the police.*

We are a White Ribbon School

To end violence, we must work together to change our attitudes and behaviours. St Clair and Erskine Park Schools (STEPS) are committed to working together to foster a culture of respect.



We support White Ribbon and promote 'respectful relationships' within our community.

At our school we say;
YES to RESPECT



Community Event

On **Sunday 25th November 2018**, our school will be attending the White Ribbon River Walk at Nepean River.

Time: 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Venue: Weir Reserve to Tench Reserve, Banks of Nepean River, Penrith

This is a free community event including a 3.5km walk along the banks of Nepean River from Weir Reserve to Tench Reserve, Penrith. Speeches and White Ribbon oath will take place prior to the commencement of the walk at Weir Reserve and conclude with a BBQ breakfast and music entertainment at Tench Reserve. A free shuttle bus service will be available.

Link for Council information

<https://www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/What-s-On/EventCategory/Family-events/White-Ribbon-Day-river-walk/#>



White Ribbon
Australia



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

On Tuesday the 13th of November two of our Year 9 students, Eliz Buke and Cameron Edwards represented St Clair High School at the first annual STEPS-Rotary Public Speaking Competition. The High School section of the competition required students from both St Clair High School and Erskine Park High School to compose and present a five minute speech on one of two topics. Cameron presented a speech on the question "Do mobile phones have a place in schools?" arguing for the effective use of phones as a learning tool, while Eliz argued that "Gambling is ruining Australia's great sporting culture." Both students made the school proud with their thought provoking arguments and excellent delivery and as a result Eliz was awarded 1st prize and Cameron was awarded 2nd. Congratulations to both students on an outstanding achievement and representing high expectations and personal best within our school!

kind Regards,

Hollie Brennan
English Teacher



ARTS IN ACTION

VISUAL ARTS CAMP 2018

Monday 5th November – Wednesday 7th November 2018

This was a three-day residential Visual Arts camp that provided students with an opportunity to develop and experiment their artmaking skills under the guidance of professional, experienced team of wonderful artists and Visual Arts Teachers. The workshops rotated four times, so this allowed the students to experience a range of different workshops such as Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking, Photography, Drawing and Site Specific Installations in the environment. The students produced and created an outstanding Body of Works over the duration of the camp and the students were totally exhausted by the end of the each day, but they had fun and enjoyed the whole experience.

The venue was held a Blue Gum Lodge, Springwood, the cost of the camp was \$320.00 dollars which covered two nights' accommodation, food, tutors, diary, art materials, movies and a African Drumming workshop.

At the art camp the emphasis was placed on being inspired and making connections with the landscape and the natural environment, artists and their own Artist Practice. The students produced artworks that were creative, innovative, amazing and exciting. While the students were challenged and pushed they generated fresh meaning through learning strategies, collaboration and exchange through imagination, experimentation, risk-taking, creative processes and critical thinking.

There were 54 students that attended the camp from a variety of schools for gifted and talented Visual Arts students. Five of those students were from St Clair High School. The students were commended on their behaviour and participation during the art camp not only by staff but also from the tutors and venue.

I would also like to congratulate and thank the students, tutors, teachers. To the parents for supporting their children and giving them the opportunity to attend the art camp, for dropping them off and picking them up and attending the exhibition. I also like to congratulate and acknowledge the Coordinator Officer for Arts in Action (Melissa Jacka) for her valuable contribution to the Art Camp. She did a wonderful job with the organisation of the Visual Arts Camp, Melissa organised emails, fees, payments, well-being, schedules, ordering of art materials, games and equipment and without her guidance and valuable experienced and effective teamwork the art camp would have not rang so efficiently.

The students and the Visual Arts department will look forward to the next camp in 2019.

Evaluation from Students.

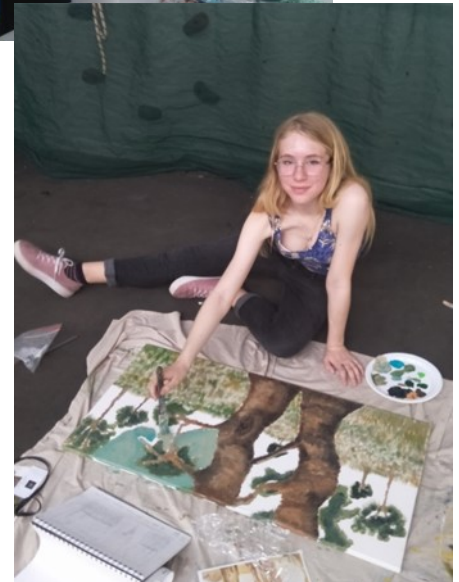
Shaylee Gram Year 7

I learned many new techniques in art and to experiment with paint and ink. I liked it when we made art outside in the environment with sticks and rocks. The camp was a lot of fun.



Jennifer Pruyn Year 9

Art Camp was a wonderful experience. I got to meet fellow passionate young artists who were fun to work with. I learned many new techniques and look forward to implementing them into my paintings. I also look forward to returning next year; hopefully it is not near exam period next year though.





Doris Rainsford / Art Teacher

Some safety messages – please help!

From time to time it's important to remind everyone about some things that need constant attention. We ask every parent for your understanding and support in relation to the following;

- ◆ Full school uniform includes the correct footwear. No parent should allow their son or daughter to come to school without safe footwear. Fashionable canvas shoes, no matter what colour are not safe and should not be worn to school under any circumstances. Yes, everyone, both junior and senior students!
- ◆ Deodorant sprays are a health hazard to some of our students and staff. Please understand that some people suffer from Asthma and other related respiratory conditions and spray deodorants can cause a serious risk to them. Please don't allow your children to bring these to school. Also, if your child does suffer from Asthma we ask that you provide the school with your child's Asthma Action Plan. Pro-formas are available from our Library SASS staff to assist you in the preparation of this important document.
- ◆ Please be aware that the school day starts at 8-30am. Students are expected to be at school when

In the interest of safety, please help us out!

From time to time it's understandable that your son or daughter may become unwell at school. We have strict procedures in place to manage these situations. This involves contact by the school administrative staff to a parent, caregiver or emergency contact person. This contact must come through the school, not directly to you from your son's or daughter's mobile phone. There have been some occasions when students have used their phone from a classroom (which is in breach of school policy anyway) and asked a parent to come to school to collect them. When the parent arrives, the school is unaware that the student is sick or has called the parent. Please ensure that if your child calls you, that you refer them to the front office and then contact the school to advise them of the call you have received before coming to the school.

A word of caution!

Most people get pretty excited about the amazing advances we are exposed to in the area of technology. Digital cameras, mobile phones that can do just about anything and cute little listening devices are all amongst the array of things to which we have easy access. Like most things though, there can be a catch.

All students and parents need to be aware that it is potentially a breach of privacy legislation to take photographs or make recordings of any sort without the knowledge of the subject. That is especially the case if the photo or recording is distributed in any way without the consent of the subject. This includes the posting of such images on the internet in places like You Tube or Facebook. Please ensure that your children are aware that they should not take and "post" photos or videos of other people without their consent.

The advice of Police is that when we are aware that a student has posted such an item, we are to immediately confiscate the device and provide it to the Police for use as evidence in any subsequent proceedings.

HOMEWORK

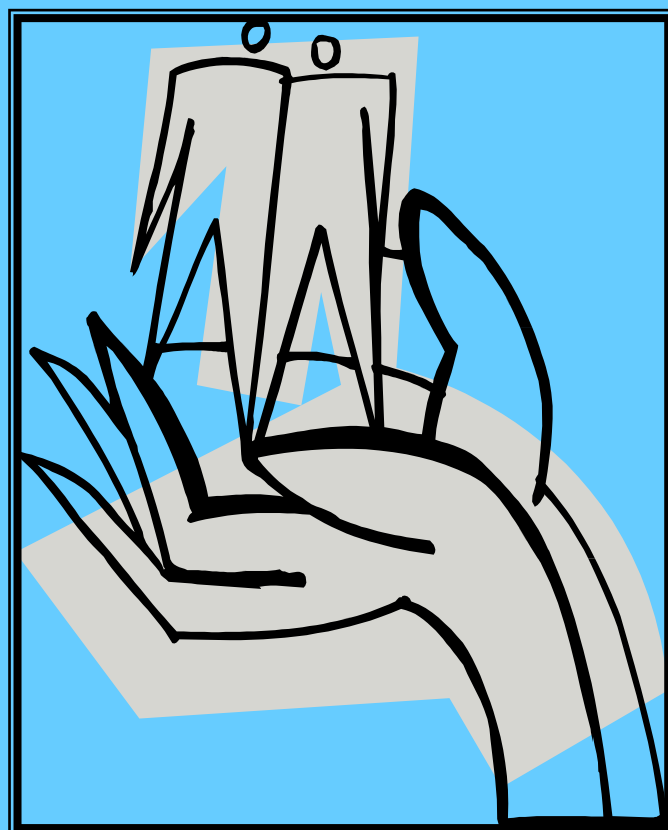
for homework help

Does your child need a hand with his or her homework?

Has an assessment or assignment got them

What about getting some handy study hints?

Need study space?
Access to printers?



- Get your child along to the Homework Centre in the school library.
- Staff will be available to help St Clair High students with their homework, assignments and with study skills.

WHAT: Homework Centre

WHERE: School library

WHEN: Every Wednesday

TIME: 2:35pm - 3:45pm

COST: It's FREE!

QUESTIONS: Contact

Ms Saisithidej (Ms.S) on
9670 6700 at the school.

TERM 4 2018**Week 6 - B**

Wed 21/11 Whole School Assembly
 Thurs 22/11 White Ribbon BBQ Fundraiser

Week 7 - A

Wed 28/11 Whole School Assembly

Week 8 - B

Tue 4/12 Year 7 2019 Orientation Day
 Wed 5/12 Year 10 Music Excursion at Recording Studio
 Fri 7/12 WSU GAT Science Day

Week 9 - A

Mon 10/12 Visual Arts Excursion Years 9 & 12
 Wed 12/12 Whole School Sports Assembly
 Wed 12/12 Ancient Canberra Excursion
 Fri 14/12 Rewards Day Year 7 to 10

**Next P&C
 Meeting
 and report from
 previous meeting,
 check out the
 following link for
 lots of
 information!**

www.sites.google.com/site/schspandc



Please be aware that the school day starts at 8.30am. Students are expected to be at school when the warning bell rings at 8.25am, ready to start Period 1 at 8.30am.