



Mid-term, Term 1 2020

## CALENDAR CHECK

### Term 1

**Week 5 Fri 28 Feb 2020:** Yr 9 Science Ecosystem Test

**Week 6 Tues 3 Mar 2020:** Yr 7 and Yr 11 Elevate Session

**Week 6 Wed 4 Mar 2020:** Yr 12 Chemistry Depth Study Assessment Excursion

**Week 6 Wed 4 Mar 2020:** InConcert 1<sup>st</sup> Combined Metro-Combined Rehearsal

**Week 6 Wed 4 Mar 2020:** Pasifika performance International Women's Day (IWD)

**Week 6 Thurs 5 Mar 2020:** Bridging the Gap – I Can

**Week 7 Mon 9 Mar 2020:** School Photos

**Week 7 Wed 11 Mar 2020:** School Photos Catch Up Day

**Week 7 Fri 13 Mar 2020:** NAPLAN online

**Week 8 Mon 16 Mar 2020:** Vaccinations

**Week 9 Mon 23 Mar to Wed 25 March 2020:** Year 7 Camp

## PRINCIPAL REPORT

What a great start to the year has been for our St Clair High School Learning Community.

As a school community, students, staff, parents and our local community, 2020 will see us all focus on being 'classroom ready'. Learning, Initiating and Leading will be our goals. We value success for every student in every classroom and to achieve this we will be working to establish a shared belief that together, working side by side, we make the greatest difference to student growth.

I would like to introduce some new and/or returning faces to our school community:

Mr. Frank van Zanten - Head Teacher Administration.

Mr. Mitch Peachy - Industrial Arts team.

Ms. Kathy Whittaker - CAPA team, CAPA Advisor

Mr. Leo Giusti – Technical Support Officer

Ms. Hollie Brennan – HT Welfare (relieving)

Mrs. Megan McCarthy – 2 days targeted literacy support

Ms. Nicola Bennet – Careers (Mon – Thurs)

Our new 5 period day has been welcomed by all with both students and teaching staff commenting they are enjoying the new 'time' for learning and find the new structure engaging.

Yr 7 are settling in well, I have had the opportunity to visit several classrooms and talk to students about what they're learning and their thoughts about High School. It's pleasing to see that students are full of enthusiasm around their learning, and most importantly they are enjoying their learning and transitioning well to our school community. The Yr 7 Camp is not long away and

will be a fabulous opportunity for our students to build their confidence and resilience as students whilst having fun and bonding together as a year group.

We held our annual Yr 7 Welcome BBQ with a great response from our parent community. We look forward to working side by side with our parents/carers during this important learning journey for both themselves and their child.

I am pleased to inform our school community that we are receiving an upgrade of our 2 Kitchens with demolition of the current kitchens commencing as this newsletter goes to print. We look forward to the creation of 2 learning spaces with state of the art food preparation areas that will enhance the learning opportunities of all our students.

We hosted our first Yr 6 English Enrichment class with an enthusiastic group of Year 6 students from our STEPs primary schools. These students will be enriching and fostering their love of learning through a series of projects at our school. This term, they are journalists and will be researching, interviewing and writing to spread information to their peers back at school.

Congratulations to our Yr 12 2019 on your academic success. The Western weekender published a detailed report of our student's success recently. We are very proud of all our students and wish them every success as they embark on this new part of their learning journey.

On a final note the implementation of Home room to our school day as been an overwhelming success for our school community with lots of positive feedback from students and staff. Homeroom is an important part of our whole school U Matter Mentor Program. Homeroom is a 10-minute session every morning to support students in their learning readiness for the school day. Students meet with their mentors, the role is marked, students listen to the daily notices and discuss issues relevant to the school day and their engagement in learning. It also gives mentors the opportunity to provide support if necessary, with Homework, assessment work etc. Homeroom is a supportive, proactive learning environment specifically designed to promote every student's positive engagement in the SCHS learning community, ensuring that they are known, valued and cared for (Department of Education Priority).

Thank you for your continued support of the St Clair High School learning community.

Mrs Julie Tegart

Principal

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Beslic would like to welcome all students and their families back to an exciting and productive year in 2020. We would also like to welcome our new families to St Clair High School – in particular Year 7 and the large number of new enrolments in Year 11. There are many opportunities for all students to participate in engaging, interesting and relevant activities throughout the school year. All staff have commented on what a great start to the year it has been with students engaged in their learning.

School Uniform for most students has been worn with pride and we encourage this to continue. A reminder that grey track pants and black leggings are not part of the uniform at St Clair High School-and students should only be wearing the school jumper or jacket as no other colours are acceptable on the cooler days. Students are expected to be in full school uniform every day. Leather upper shoes are a WHS requirement and need to be worn every day in order to participate in practical subjects. If students are out of uniform, they need to provide a note from a parent/carer which they should present to their Year Advisor or Deputy Principal before school. They will then be issued with a green note. The school uniform shop is open Tuesdays 8.00am to 1.30pm which is located at the front of the school.

To our new parents, you may have seen our school gathering at the netball courts across the road from the school on the 17th February 2020. The school conducted the first compulsory emergency evacuation drill which is a WHS legal requirement. A second mandatory drills will be performed in the later part of the year. All students participated sensibly and showed respect at all times.

Year 7 began their year with a Peer Support Day organised and co-ordinated by Mrs Salt, Mrs Morrison and Mrs Charalambous and led by the Year 10 Peer Support Leaders. There were many nervous faces on the first day of High School but by the end of the day, there was an atmosphere of excitement and enthusiasm to start classes day 2. Students were familiarised with the location of classrooms and got to meet many of their class teachers. The two-week timetable was explained and what to do if students have any issues throughout the year. Parents of Year 7 students also had an opportunity to meet their teachers at the BBQ on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm.

The first parent teacher interview evening has been set for Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March. This year parents are able to book an interview online through the Sentral Parent Portal. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's teachers and get feedback on how they are progressing in each of their subjects and areas for improvement.

Years 11 & 12 are off to a great start to 2020. Year 12 are now focusing on their studies towards the HSC credential that will open up opportunities and possibilities beyond school. Year 11 are at the start of this journey. Very soon Year 11 will develop their HSC Success Plan's during their mentor lessons. The program is about goal setting and putting strategies in place in order to meet individual student goals. More information on this to come in the near future.

The vast majority of students should be congratulated for their punctuality to school and to class during the school day. Homeroom begins at 8.30 am with a warning bell sounding at 8.25 am. It is particularly important that students ensure that they are punctual and allow for plenty of time to arrive to class before the 8.30 bell.

School photos will take place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March with a follow up catch up day on 8th March. Information packages will be sent home with students shortly. All enquiries should be directed to Mrs Ralph or the Science faculty.

Parents are reminded that the school uses the SkoolBag App which can be downloaded. This is a valuable source of information for families, along with the school website, school Facebook page and the text messaging system. These platforms provide information like upcoming excursions, meetings, assessment tasks etc.

Both Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Beslic wish all students, their families and staff a great year at St Clair High School. We look forward to another fantastic year working with you all.

Mrs Shepherd  
Deputy Principal  
Years 8, 10 and 12

Mrs Beslic  
Deputy Principal  
Years 7, 9 and 11

## YEAR 5 /6 INFORMATION EVENING



## CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Term one has got off to a flying start in the Creative and performing Arts faculty at St Clair High School. There are many opportunities for student involvement, both within the classroom and additional enrichment opportunities.

### Dance Troupe

The talents of Ms Markou (Science) and Josh Piper (Chaplain) have seen the formation of the St Clair High School Dance Troupe. This group has been in the process of auditions in the past two weeks and it has been pleasing to have so many students involved. The group rehearses every Tuesday afternoon in the Music Cola from 2:40pm – 3:40pm. They are learning a variety of dance styles including Hip-Hop, Jazz and contemporary. If any students are still interested in participating, see Ms Markou or Josh Piper. This troupe are working hard towards a performance for Harmony Day which will take place Friday week 10, 3<sup>rd</sup> April in the school hall. Stay tuned for more up-and-coming performances.





### **Hip-Hop Workshop**

Hip-hop workshops take place every Monday Lunchtime in Music room 1. Here students can develop skills in the 5 elements of Hip-hop. DJ, MC, Graffiti, Breakdance and Beatbox are some of the elements explored. Register your interest with Josh Piper to become the next hip-hop superstar!

### **Junior Drama Ensemble**

Students in years 7 and 8 have the opportunity every Monday afternoon (2:45pm – 3:45pm in the IC building) to partake in a range of vocal and physical drama activities. This aims to improve confidence, communication, creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, play building and performance skills. See Ms Skocir (English/Drama) for more information. We look forward to being entertained by this ensemble in the near future.

### **Music**

Music classes give all students at St Clair High School the opportunity to perform, compose, and listen to a variety of styles of music. In year 7 and 8 currently, students are learning a variety of percussion instruments and guitars. There will be further opportunities to develop ukulele and keyboard skills. Year 9 and 10 are working on band pieces while year 12 are working towards their HSC items. For any information on music at St Clair High School, please contact Ms Whittaker or Mrs Cenda.

### **Singers Group**

Singers group rehearses every Monday recess in music room 1. This group is currently working on a piece called "Run to you", by the renowned artists The Pentatonix. This is in preparation for Harmony day in week 10. Additionally this group is also working hard for their up-and-coming performance at the Sydney Town Hall. More details to follow, however the first combined rehearsal in Sydney is Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Please ensure all permission notes are returned. For those that love to sing, it's not too late to be involved see Mrs Cenda in Music for more details.



### **Visual Arts Enrichment**

It is with great pleasure that we announce that the Visual Art Department at St Clair High School will be running an Art Enrichment Program. The Art enrichment Program aims to further develop the skills and talents of students at St Clair High School in a positive and friendly environment. It will give opportunities to build on techniques including, but not limited to painting, ceramics, and drawing. Works will be celebrated at various exhibitions throughout the year.

The Art Enrichment program will take place on Monday afternoons from 2:45-3:45 in Art room 1. This opportunity is open to all Art students from year 7-10. Students will be supplied with art materials and a small afternoon tea will also be offered. To participate in this program, we require a payment of \$10 per term to cover some of the costs. See Mrs Blyberg or Miss Rainsford for more details.



## Visual Arts

Visual Arts classes give all students at St Clair High School the opportunities to develop skills in painting, drawing and ceramics to name a few. In year 7 students are currently learning a variety of Aboriginal Art techniques while in year 8 students focus on elements of the Circus. There will be further opportunities to showcase Artworks at a number of events in school and external events. For any information on Art at St Clair High School, please contact Mrs Blyberg or Miss Rainsford.



Ms Whittaker  
Creative and Performing Arts

## ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

My name is Catherine Bargmann and I am the Aboriginal Education Mentor for 2020. My main role is to identify and support the individual learning needs of our students who identify as having an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background; co-ordinate programs to support their transition and wellbeing throughout their secondary schooling; and foster an environment where these students are empowered to share the heritage and traditions of their land with the wider school community.

At St Clair High School we acknowledge the Durag people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we work, live and learn. This land has created a culture of learning and collaboration since the dreaming. We walk together on this land and will continue learning from one another and with each other to share the history, culture and experiences of Aboriginal Australia.

We would like to officially welcome the new families joining the St Clair High School community and thank those students and their families who attended our Welcome Afternoon Tea held in the school Café area on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020. It was an absolute pleasure to meet you and I am looking forward to working closely with you to support your child in their secondary education journey.

### PLPs

In 2020, St Clair High School will be continuing formal interviews with students who identify as having Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background with their parents/caregivers to complete the development of a Personal Learning Pathway plan. Please complete and return the booklets that were sent home with your child during Week 3 and book a suitable time to meet with Mrs Bargmann as soon as possible.



## SALT

We are excited to announce that in 2020, we have launched a Student Aboriginal Leadership Team (SALT). This team will meet twice a term to lead cultural events, celebrations and projects within the school and STEPS community.

### Year 7

Hanna Bonwick  
Cody Lawn  
Codey Morris

### Year 8

Loki Peleni  
Kailey Speeding

### Year 9

Keara-Rose Nauman  
Kai Pettit-Young

### Year 10

Angelina Gardner  
Alisha Lane  
Kyle Lawn

### Year 11

Taite Hamilton  
Kadeesha King

### Year 12

Lachlan Stroud



Image accessed from <https://www.darug.sydney/> Feb 2020

## Upcoming Events

If you would like to be involved any of the upcoming events listed below, please contact Mrs Bargmann.  
Term 1, Week 10 – Harmony Day (Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March)  
Term 2, Week 5 – Reconciliation Week (25<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> May)  
Term 2, Week 10 – NAIDOC Week Celebrations

Yenamala Budyari Gamada (Lets walk with good spirit)

**Catherine Bargmann** – Aboriginal Education Mentor  
[catherine.bargmann@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:catherine.bargmann@det.nsw.edu.au)

## TAFE Campus Tour

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February, a group of Year 10 students went on an excursion to tour TAFE Nepean and Mt Druitt campuses. The students who attended this excursion received travel training, catching public transport between school and both campuses, identifying meeting points on campus for possible future opportunities. The students were also informed about the TAFE library, additional support services available and explored the TAFE facilities and some of the courses available at the Nepean and Mt Druitt campuses. They visited Nursing, General Health, Dentistry, Fitness, Aged Care, Creative Arts and Design, Early Childhood, Hospitality, Commercial Cookery, Baking, Hair & Beauty and Automotive (Panel, Paint & Mechanical) facilities. The day was well received, with students improving their knowledge, understanding of future pathway options that TAFE has to offer and developed increased confidence to participate in upcoming TAFE taster courses of interest and/or TVET as an option for their HSC studies.





## CAREERS and TRANSITION

### Futures Week

The Careers and Transition are excited to announce that St Clair High School will be launching our very first Futures Week in Term 2, Week 4. During futures week all students at St Clair High School will participate in a range of activities to develop skills and attitudes to prepare them for life beyond school.

Year 7 – Strengths profiling & Industry Investigation

Year 8 – Career Investigations

Year 9 – Pathway Options & Speed Networking

Year 10, 11 & 12 – the following activities throughout the week (costs \$5)

### Monday 18 May

#### Year 13 The Truth Project - Yrs 10, 11 & 12



The Truth Project is an interactive workshop that will empower students to create an inspiring vision for their future. It will enhance student's knowledge and encourage a more positive post-school journey. The

Truth Project will bridge the gap between young people and the real story behind industries, workplaces, education and their own self-belief.

### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Pathway Presentations

#### Sharna Dawson – EDGE (Year 10, 11 & 12)

Sharna Dawson is a very experienced career practitioner who will be delivering an EDGE (Education, Department, Grooming & Employability skills) seminar to educate our students about what employers want, personal branding, minimising digital footprint, understanding the ramifications of current social media platforms and what that means for employment prospects.



### Mrs Nicola Bennet - Pathway Options (Year 10)

Our very own Careers Adviser, Mrs Nicola Bennet will educate our students about the various career and transition pathways to meet the diverse range of students' interests, abilities and needs.



### Beryl Ross - SBATs (Year 10)

Beryl Ross the Department of Education SBAT Officer will speak to students about School Based Apprenticeship & Traineeships (SBATs) opportunities; the benefits of undertaking an SBAT whilst completing the HSC; and how SBATs can provide students with a head start to their career.

### My Gateway - GTO (Year 10)



My Gateway is a Group Training Organisation that will provide students with an introduction to Apprenticeships and Traineeships and the role that GTOs play in providing employees with suitable training and experience.

### TAFE (Year 10, 11 & 12)

TAFE is NSW's largest a Registered Training Organisation. They will provide our students with information about career pathway options, study options, entry requirements, course information and more....



### WSU & WSU The College (Year 11 & 12)

Our local university, Western Sydney University will speak with students about entry requirements, scholarships, alternative pathways and more....



## UAC (Year 12)

The Universities Admission Centre will speak with students about applying for an ATAR, University admissions, scholarships and more.

## Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May

### Skills and Thrills Parent Showcase

Skills One will be presenting a Skills and Thrills Careers Parent Showcase, to provide parents with the knowledge and understanding they need to assist their children to make informed choices.

Through the Showcases parents will learn about the following;

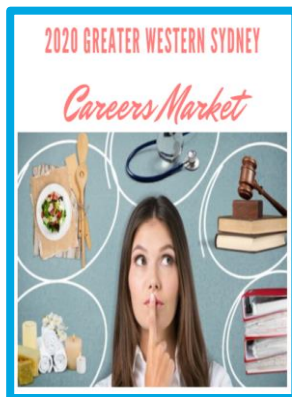
- Apprenticeships and Traineeships
- TAFE/ Private Training Providers
- Funding options available (Smart and Skilled)
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Options, School- delivered Vet, SBATs and EVET
- Where to find information
- Who can assist/ resources available
- Opportunity to speak with parents and students who have chosen/ who's child has chosen a VET pathway (Q&A)

## Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

### Careers Market

(optional for Years 10, 11 & 12, at additional cost of \$5)

The Greater Western Sydney Careers Market held at Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre offers students the fantastic opportunity for students to explore and speak with students with Universities, Registered Training Organisations, Apprenticeship centres, Group Training organisations, private colleges, professional associations and Employers about further education and career options available to them.



## Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May

### Business Breakfast

We will be hosting a breakfast to thank all of our Work Experience host employers and local employers and educational providers that wish to attend our Speed Networking event.

## Speed Networking (Years 9 & 10)

Students will participate in a Speed Networking activity to have casual, interactive career conversations with a variety of workplace guest speakers to broaden their understanding of career opportunities and pathways. **If you would like to attend this event as a guest speaker to share your career story please contact the Careers and Transition Team.**



Our Futures Week will be followed up by students completing a Career and Transition Action Plan. An information note will be sent home later in the term with further details regarding our Futures Week program.

Regards

Careers and Transition Team

**Catherine Bargmann**

Transition Adviser

**Nicola Bennet**

Careers Adviser

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Some of our Pasifika and Maori students at St Clair High School have been rehearsing hard for their performance at an International Women's Day community celebration at St Marys. Our Pasifika and Maori students have prepared a cultural performance that portrays the gracefulness of Pasifika women today. The students are nervous but also very excited to show case their skills in front of an expected audience of 200 people.

By Nia Tautua, Year 12





## PARENTS SHOWCASE

# PARENTS SHOWCASE

HELP SUPPORT YOUR CHILD  
MAKE INFORMED CAREER CHOICES!

SKILLS AND  
THRILLS

THE SHOW COVERS  
A RANGE OF HELPFUL TOPICS

- Industry Trends
- Jobs of the Future
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Options:  
School-delivered VET,  
SBATs and EVET
- Apprenticeships /  
Traineeships
- TAFE / Private Training  
Providers
- Funding Options  
Available (Smart and  
Skilled)
- Useful Resources
- Opportunities to speak to  
VET Ambassadors

A SHOW NOT TO BE MISSED!

DATE: Tuesday 19th May 2020, 6:30-8:00 PM  
LOCATION: St Clair High School (hall)  
242 Endeavour Ave, St Clair NSW  
COST: Free  
BOOKING REQUIRED:  
<https://skillsandthrills-stclairhs.eventbrite.com.au>



skillsone