## tech talk june 2021



**Sydney** 

**Technical** 



#### Steven So Principal

#### **YEAR 7 SRC INDUCTION**

Hearty congratulations to the newly appointed Year 7 members of the SRC! Their induction ceremony was aptly part of our first whole school indoor assembly held early this term.

I know they will do a wonderful job representing their peers. Well done and best wishes to each student as they each embark on their journey of leadership.





#### **MOTHER'S DAY**

Many thanks to our wonderful P&C for organising and running a very successful Mother's Day Morning Tea. Kudos to Nan Chen, Jocelyn Camara and Minh Ho for their hard work in organising this year's fabulous event. The event provided the mums a wide variety of delicious canapés to enjoy with their cup of tea. Mothers were excitedly capturing the moment with a photo in front of a extraordinary flower wall. It was lovely to see parents, teachers and students have a chance to mingle and engage with one another. Thank you to all who made the morning such a success.

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#### **STUDY SKILLS**

This year Dr Prue Salter presented to Year 7 and Year 8 students and their families from our school and St George Girls via a Zoom platform. Dr Salter was once again a big hit and was able to provide much needed expertise for our communities in this field. I would like to thank Mr Kirk Grinham in enabling the smooth running of the event by facilitating over 190 participants and providing answers and critical advice to attendees in the Q and A chat.



ordered by Mr Werner could not have been better as the boys competed for top place. students was commendable and irrespective event entered they gave their best and this is of

mindset towards life.

positive

**ATHLETICS** 

CARNIVAL

Our

behaviour

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testament

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Congratulations to all who participated.

More photos from the Athletics Carnival will be in the next edition of Tech Talk.

The Sydney Tech athletics carnival was once again held at

ES Marks Athletics Field on Thursday 20 May. The weather

#### PARENT PARTNERSHIP **AND BYOD**

My thanks to Mr Paul Copeland who led the Parent Partnership Program explaining to parents the aim of BYOD at Tech and how to maximise the use of student

He also supported parents in the areas of accessing the Parent Portal. Emails and where and how to access DoE approved software. I kindly ask

devices.

ONLINE SESSIONS GROUP LICENCES



you as parents to support the school by reminding your son to bring his fully charged device to school ready for use each day.

#### UNIFORM

It is absolutely wonderful to see our students immaculately dressed in full

school uniform each day. As the weather heads into winter the school expects your son to wear his blazer as the outer most layer of his uniform. Stav warm! Steven So Principal



Joshua Zhi wearing the uniform well

#### SCHOOL CALENDAR Term 2 - 2021

#### June

1	Years 8 and 10 - Special Religious Education
	Year 9 - SRC Kahoot
	P&C Meeting 7pm Common Room
4	Year 12 Economics HSC Preparation Incursion
7-11	Year 11 Assessments
8	Years 7 and 9 - Special Religious Education
	Second Hand Uniform Shop 10:30-12 - Vera's Cottage
10	12 Eng3, 5, 6 - Tempest Symposium
11	Sydney East Cross Country
	Year 7 Parent/Teacher Interviews
15-17	Ensembles Camp
15	Year 11 U-Turn the Wheel
15	Year 7 Drama Excursion - Monkey Baa Theatre
16	Year 9 and 10 Drama Excursion
21	Parent/Student UAC Information Evening
22	Musicale
23-24	Bandfest
24	Years 8 and 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews

25 Last Day of Term

#### Term 3 - 2021

#### July

- 12 Staff Development Day
- 13 Second Hand Uniform Shop 10:30-12 - Vera's Cottage
- 15 CHS Cross Country Years 9 and 10 Drama Excursion
- 20 Years 9 and 10 Parent/Teacher Interviews Year 10 Subject Selection for Year 11 Information Session
- 22 Year 10 ANSTO Excursion
- 26-27 Year 10 Academic Adviser Interviews
- 27 Australian Science Olympiads Physics
- 28 Sydney East Athletics Carnival Australian Science Olympiads - Earth and Environmental Science

#### July continued

 29 Year 10 Academic Adviser Interviews Australian Science Olympiads - Biology Year 10 Mathematics Assessment
 30 Year 10 Subject Selection (for Year 11) opens online Australian Science Olympiads - Chemistry

#### August

- 2-4 Year 9 Camp
- 3 Year 10 online Subject Selection closes at 3pm
  - P&C Meeting 7pm Common Room
- 5 Annual Australian Mathematics Competition
- 9 Sydney East 15 Basketball
- 10 Second Hand Uniform Shop 10:30-12 - Vera's Cottage
- 11 Winter Sport Semi Finals Year 10 Parent Partnership Meeting
- 12 Years 11 and 12 Parent Partnership Meeting

#### 26 July - 13 August: Year 12 Assessments/Trial HSC

### The following events/clubs are on the following days.

- \* Anime Club Room 40 Tuesday Lunch
- \* Beginner Band Rehearsals Friday 2:25pm
- \* Choir Rehearsal Tuesday Lunch
- \* Concert Band Rehearsals Monday 3:05pm
- \* Debate Club Monday Lunch
- \* Guitar Ensemble Rehearsals Monday 3:05pm
- \* Intermediate Band Rehearsals Tuesday 3:05pm
- \* Running Club Kempt Field Wednesday - 7:30-8:30am
- \* Stage Band Rehearsals Thursday 3:05pm
- \* String Ensemble Rehearsals Thursday 3:05pm
- \* Tech High Times Meeting Monday Lunch

This calendar is a general guide. Sometimes event dates change unexpectedly.

### FROM THE DEPUTIE\$



Kirk Grinham Deputy Principal



Alison Preachey Deputy Principal



Aphrodite Cox Deputy Principal

#### **TERM 2 ASSESSMENTS**

Term 2 is a busy one with all years having assessment periods. Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 have now completed their assessments and Year 12 assessments being completed in Week 6 followed by Year 11 in Week 8.

### MID YEAR REPORTS AND PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Year 11 and 12 reports were issued recently and I trust that parents are working together with their children to take heed of any advice given for improving performance.

This year we are continuing with four separate dates for Parent Teacher interviews to allow greater access to teachers. Please take the opportunity to meet with your son's teachers to discuss his progress. Booking requests for Parent Teacher interviews are completed online using the URL and an access code provided in a separate email closer to the dates.

Remaining Parent Teacher interviews dates are as follows:

**Year 7:** Friday 11 June 1:10-3:30pm

Years 8 and 11: Thursday 24 June 3:30-6:30pm.

**Years 9 and 10:** Tuesday 20 July 3:30-6:30pm. Following the Year 10 Parent/ Teacher interviews, there will be a Year 10 to Year 11 Subject Selection Information Meeting in the Common Room at 6:45pm for students and their parents.

#### YEAR 10 PLANNING FOR YEAR 11

Our Year 10 discussions and planning for subject selection 2022 and career paths have commenced under the guidance of the Careers Adviser, Mr Mouzakis. Last month, Mr Mouzakis held a Zoom meeting for parents about these processes. Supporting documents, including a recording of this meeting have been emailed to all parents.

#### NAPLAN

Years 7 and 9 completed their NAPLAN tests for Literacy and Numeracy in May. Results will be available for parents towards the end of Term 3.

### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL OR LATENESS TO SCHOOL

Explanations for absences from school or lateness to school should always be provided to the school by parents within seven school days. This can be done in a variety of methods: replying to the school text message, sending a note to school with the student, a phone call, or an email by the parent.

Reasons for absence and lateness are varied. Some reasons are deemed by the Department of Education as valid reasons and others are not. Notes are processed and the information will appear on the intranet or Sentral. Valid reasons will appear as Sick or Leave. Reasons deemed not to be valid will appear as Unjustified. Leave not explained after seven days will be converted to Unjustified.

Medical appointments should be made outside of school hours where possible. This includes during sport time. Sydney Tech is an integral member of our Sport Zone and student participation in grade teams means that they have made a commitment to the school, their coach and teammates.

#### ENHANCED LEARNING EDUCATIONATIONAL SERVICES

On Monday 24 May, Dr Prue Salter from Enhanced Learning Educational Services (www.enhancedlearning.net) ran a Zoom study skills evening with Year 7 and Year 8 parents and students. The evening helped families assess what changes could be made to help students move towards achieving their personal best efficiently and effectively. Families examined the following areas: home study environment, the way they organise and manage their resources, how to work effectively at home and deal with distractions, how to manage the workload in high school, and the steps to studying in high school: making study notes, learning the notes by testing yourself and doing as much practise as possible. Parents are encouraged to review the slides and handout from the session with students, and discuss the main areas identified where changes need to be made: Year 7 Slides, password is achieve. Parents can also find extra study skills tips on the following website: http://studyskillstoptipsparents.com/. All secondary students at our school also have access to a great study skills website to help students develop their skills. Go to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and enter the username: STHS and the password: 686success and start improving your results today!

#### UNIFORM

As the weather becomes cooler, a reminder that students are expected to wear correct school uniform. Blazers are compulsory in Terms 2 and 3 for Years 7-12. If students need extra warmth, then the school uniform jumper may be worn under the blazer. Hoodies are not acceptable in any circumstance.

Sports uniform is to be worn on Wednesdays (Sport Day) but black track pants are not acceptable. Students in Year 12 who are not currently participating in school sport can wear full school uniform on Wednesdays, particularly if they have outgrown their sports uniform.

#### **SRC WEEK**

SRC Week will be held during Week 10. There will be many organised activities for both students and staff in which to participate. This is an excellent way of encouraging students to contribute to the school and have a good time in the process. Previous activities included a pizza day, scavenger hunt, teachers Vs students family feud and a talent quest.

In 2021, we look forward to announcing the winning design and its creator for our recent Sport Shirt competition.

Aprodite Cox, Kirk Grinham and Alison Peachey Deputy Principals

Many of the photos that you see in all editions of Tech Talk and the Journal are taken by our School Media Team.

I thank these students for their photography efforts. Without the contribution from these students, we would have far fewer photos of our students when they participate in whole school events and excursions.

Cheryl Feigen, School Admin Officer



#### PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM DATES FOR TERM 3

All sessions in Common Room - 9:00am

#### YEAR 7, 8 and 9

At this stage there will be no presentation for Years 7, 8 and 9 in Term 3 - if anything changes you will be notified

YEAR 10 WEDNESDAY 11 AUGUST The Thriving Senior Student

YEAR 11 AND YEAR 12 THURSDAY 12 AUGUST Stress Management



# **P&C CHAT**

May has been a busy month for STHS parents. I would like to thank the hard working executive team members for all their contributions, suggestions and initiatives. It has been a pleasure to work with you all. Parents are very busy people, yet are able to find the time to volunteer and help. Thank you for all your hard effort and concern for the school community. It is amazing that we have so many people with such positive energy.

Thank you especially for the Year Reps Raj Surti (Senior Parent Rep/Assistant Secretary/P&C Tech Support) and Jocelyn Camara (Junior Parent Rep) for making weekly contributions to the parent chat groups keeping parents informed of What's On. Thanks also to Harsha Yadav (Vice President) for helping to keep us all informed of the important issues at STHS, Alex Troyak (Treasurer) for his financial expertise and efficiency, Matthew Jensen (Vice President) for his wealth of knowledge, Janet Kirk (Secretary) for her secretarial skills and Raj who contributed extensively. Also, thanks to Linda Choy (Assistant Treasurer) who helped out tirelessly with both events. Welcome Minh Ho to the P&C who is our new enthusiastic events coordinator!

This year, as we slowly head back to the new normal living

with Covid, we have been able to come back onto the school site. Thank you to the teachers and staff who have been very accommodating and welcoming. As parents, we want to continue to find innovative ways to help our sons, staff and the wider school community.

Sydney Technical High School And the P&C wish you a Happy Mother's Day!

Earlier this term, we had the Welcome Year 7 BBQ which saw lots of volunteers helping our school. This was closely followed by the Mother's Day Breakfast Grab and Go which was on despite the heavy rain and a last minute Covid restriction. Luckily for us, the skies cleared in time and we had some lovely sunshine for the event.

A huge thank you to both Jocelyn Camara and Minh Ho for their enormous contributions to both events, and for coordinating the team of wonderful parent helpers. See Mothers Day photos on this page the following two pages for an array of happy mums and their sons.

#### Nan Chen P&C President

We would like to thank all the volunteers, including the student body who contributed. The turnout was great and our Flower Wall Photo Booth was a hit with the mums (and dads). Thank you to the students who helped take the free photos, using our wonderful new digital

camera which was donated by the 2020 STHS P&C. This new camera is proving to be a great asset for the Art Faculty. The P&C are glad that the camera arrived in time to be used for the function. Thanks also to the students who helped hand

out multicoloured roses to the mothers and staff (who are mums) for the event. Also, a special thanks to the school staff Jacqui and Mark for helping to set up in the early hours.









Upcoming P&C is on Tuesday 1 June 2021 starting at 7:00pm or via ZOOM

School Common Room

Looking forward to seeing you then.

All parents are welcome.

Please note that there is no meeting in July due to school holidays

> Following Meeting will be Tuesday 3 August 2021

This year, the P&C executive team is recruiting parents to join the committee and help out at events, as well as providing assistance in grant applications. We will work together with the school to come up with a plan and think about future goals. It is important that parents who can contribute and help, join us. We welcome you and any innovative ideas that would help our school community, in particular our students. We would like to be able to give students the best opportunities.

Please note, as usual, we welcome your suggestions, ideas and questions. If you have any issue you would like the P&C to answer or address at meetings, please contact us via the email address: <u>sydtechparents@gmail.com</u> We endeavour to respond to questions or any ideas you may have and we hope to work closely with the school on important issues.

P&C meetings are on **every first Tuesday of the month**, during term times, at **7pm** in the **Staff Common Room**. You don't have to be a member. However, if you want your vote to count, please sign up online as a general committee member. It's only \$2 (payable online). Just check out our STHS P&C Facebook page for details on chat groups, forms and news.









## Leadership, Citizenship and School Pride at Sydney Tech

Leadership, citizenship, and school pride remain at the forefront of Sydney Technical High School's strategic vision. Internally, and as a result of the rapidly changing world, our school leadership has recognised the importance of adapting and innovating. The Prefect body and Student Representative Council of 2021 is committed to developing a community of connected young men equipped with experience, knowledge, and strong character. lead innovative changes and updates across multiple areas. Preliminary brainstorming was attended by all years, ensuring an appealing school community for future students. In particular, Year 7 voiced their desire for more culturally diverse language options.

The 2021 Prefect body is striving for an increased presence of our House System to strengthen the comaraderie and friendships in our school. In the future, it will hopefully move beyond sporting achievements, so that we can recognise a wider



Our recent work includes the inaugural school Capture the Flag game, an ambitious event initiated and coordinated by one of our Senior Prefects who saw the involvement of our entire student body, fostering active connection within, and across year groups.

The annual SRC Week will take place at the end of Term 2, an event that is firmly embedded within our school history and culture. This includes school classics such as Pizza Day and the Talent Quest, along with newer events such as the Teacher-Student Gameshow and the Free Throw Competition. It is always a memorable and relaxing way to cap off the first semester.

Most excitingly, we have recently begun the process of redesigning our sports uniform, reflecting the concerns and opinions of the student body, and allowing those same voices to offer creative input.

As a school, Tech has recently initiated an ambitious five-year plan that will see future Prefect bodies and SRC members working with school executives to

range of talents. We want to foster participation not just in academics, but also sports, special events, and extra-curriculars. This will increase recognition for those who work for it, and encourage our students to become well-rounded learners.

Ultimately, Sydney Tech's vision boils down to creating a friendly and comfortable environment for our students to achieve their dreams and potential.

Zachary Favorito and Marco Lam Year 12/SRC





# Leading the School 2021





An Academically Selective School for Boys

### ARE YOU THINKING OF BUYING YOUR CHILD A SMART TOY, SMART PHONE, TABLET, E-SITE MEMBERSHIP OR SOMETHING ELSE DIGITAL?

Children and teenagers are going online and using social media with increasing frequency. While many enjoy their online experiences, there are risks involved. Parents, schools and the broader community need to work together to help keep children's online experiences safe.

The Commonwealth Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner has developed a resource for parents – **iPARENT** – which helps parents deal with the connected devices in their children's lives.

iPARENT – found at <u>https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent</u> provides facts and statistics about Australian children online, managing technology in the home and strategies that can be used by parents to keep children safe online.

A parent's guide to online safety can be downloaded from this site. A range of other useful information is also available from the website. For example parents can access information about cyberbullying including:

- how to talk to their child about cyberbullying;
- what to do if their child is being cyber bullied or is engaging in cyberbullying behaviour themselves; and
  - sources of professional support and help.

The website also provides information about how parents and children can report unwanted online contact and/or inappropriate, offensive or illegal content online.

If you are thinking of buying smart toys, smart phones, tablets, drones, e-gift cards or membership in an e-gaming site may like to check out the e-Safety Commissioner's eSafety Gift Guide at - <u>https://www.esafety.gov.au/giftguide</u> - so you can be savvy and secure when you pick out tech gifts.

Finally, if someone you know is adversely affected by an online experience, free and confidential advice, assistance and support is available from:

- the Kids Helpline (ages 5 to 25) on 1800 55 1800; and/or
  - eheadspace (ages 12 to 25) on 1800 650 890; and/or
    - Lifeline on 13 11 14.

#### Of course if you need urgent assistance ring 000.

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June 2021 Tech Talk

# UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS CENTRE EVENING Monday 21 June **6:00–7:00m**

#### WHERE

Sydney Technical High School Auditorium 686 Forest Load Bestey



**Event for Year 12 and Parents** 

FEATURINE JAC Speakers Atab

Scaling Schelarships

EAS









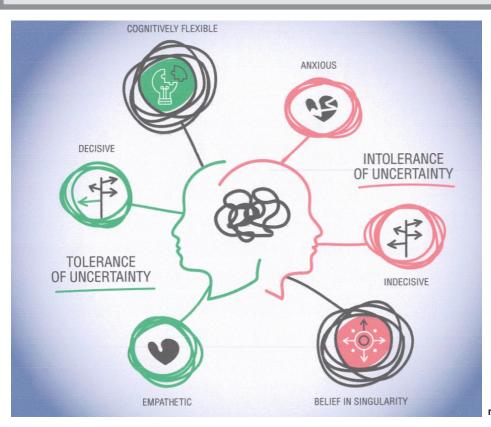
# WORLD OF CAREERS

#### Jerry Mouzakis Relieving Careers Adviser

Young people face a future working life which will be marked by constant change. This has been well documented in Dr Jim Bright's "Chaos Theory of Careers". Further impacting this change has been Covid-19. The economic impacts of Covid-19 has created labour market disruption and uncertainty in many career fields.

A number of recent reports have addressed this situation. The first report that is very useful has been written by Associate Professor Michelle D Lazarus of Monash University titled 'Preparing today's learners for uncertainty'. The report states that uncertainty has always been present in the workplace but we need to develop a new workplace skill of uncertainty tolerance (UT) which is the skill of processing and responding to unknown or complex situations. Employees with the ability to act despite unknowns, complexities or incongruence of data are seen to have the skill of uncertainty tolerance. They are seen to have less need for supervision but more importantly those without this skill appear to be at greater risk of stress, burnout and mental health disorders.

One idea for students to improve their UT is by reflective practice. From the report, multiple studies have found that formative reflective practice can improve UT. After completing a task, students talk or write about what they thought during the task, how they felt and what they learnt. This helps them identify what worked, and build confidence in managing future uncertain tasks.



myfuture -preparing today's learners

#### **OECD Education Working Papers No. 241**

Career ready? How schools can better prepare young people for working life in the era of COVID-19

Anthony Mann, Vanessa Denis, Chris Percy

This report outlines a number of ideas of preparing students to be career ready. These are:

- Internships
- Job shadowing and workplace visits
- Job fairs
- Speaking with a careers adviser
- Completing career questionnaires
- Researching jobs on the internet

How do we address these at Sydney Tech?

**Firstly work experience.** We have a compulsory week of work experience for all of Year 10 and then optional work experience for Years 11 and 12 during the term holidays. This allows for multiple opportunities for the students to engage in career exploration via workplace visits and job shadowing.

Year 10 are about to experience the final three points as they prepare themselves for the process of subject selection. They will be required to complete various career questionnaires ranging from Career Voyage (career guidance software), to individual strength analysis and investigating the future career opportunities in their chosen career sector. After the completion of these tasks they will fill in their results in an Academic Adviser Form and be interviewed on their career aspirations and goals. Other year groups have the opportunity to meet with me during recess or lunch to discuss their career goals. My door is always open. Please continue to read the weekly careers newsletter 'The Oracle' and come along to the university sessions or Alumni career mentoring sessions that are promoted in the newsletter and also advertised in the daily notices.

Jerry Mouzakis Relieving Careers Adviser



















June 2021 Tech Talk











An Academically Selective School for Boys



















































An Academically Selective School for Boys

### SCHOOL UNIFORM



- STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO WEAR FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND DURING SCHOOL HOURS.
- UNIFORM MUST BE WORN CORRECTLY: SHIRTS TUCKED IN, TIES DONE UP TO THE COLLAR AND SCHOOL CAPS REMOVED WHEN INSIDE BUILDINGS.

### **SCHOOL SHIRT**

- Junior sky blue with short or long sleeves
- Senior white with short or long sleeves

#### SHIRTS ARE TO BE WORN TUCKED IN

### **SCHOOL BLAZER**

• The maroon blazer is **COMPULSORY** as the **OUTER GARMENT** for warmth

all year

 Terms 2 and 3 the blazer MUST be worn

### **SCHOOL SHOES**

- Black lace up leather shoes, not suede
  - Sport shoes are not acceptable
  - Shoes with impervious uppers are required for Science and Technology Rooms

### SCHOOL CAP

 Optional school cap - black with school lettering

### **SCHOOL TIE**

- Junior maroon and sky blue striped tie
  - Senior maroon tie with STHS crest
    - Music Performing Ensemble Tie

### **SCHOOL JUMPER**

- Maroon jumper with STHS crest
- The school jumper is never worn as an outer garment - in Terms 2 and 3 the jumper can be worn as well as the blazer

### SCHOOL TROUSERS

- College worsted mid-grey long or short
- Permanent press polyester shorts OK
  - Cord or drill material is not OK
    - Button or zip but not elastic
  - Belts should be black or grey

### SCHOOL SOCKS

- Short grey socks with long pants
- STHS school grey long socks pulled up knee high with shorts

### **UNIFORM INFRACTIONS**

- Three uniform infractions per term = 1 Friday Detention
- Six uniform infractions per term = 2 Friday Detentions

# **ALUMNI NEW\$**

### Sydney Technical High School Class of 2011

# 10-year Reunion

Join us on 30 October 2021 7 o'clock in the evening Club Central Hurstville

Tickets available through Eventbrite: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/sydney-</u> <u>technical-high-school-10-year-reunion-</u> <u>class-of-2011-tickets-140972331037</u>

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/sydney-technical-high-school-10-year-reunion-class-of-2011-tickets-140972331037?fbclid=IwAR12MLm6bZ2g03Nia0OKe1kITp-vA0f8WBpaZwToBBhk6RwT\_ZV0rPn8SXo

MANNERS



# CAPERS AT CAPA

#### Julie Ryan Head Teacher Creative Arts

#### Ensemble Music:

**Performing Ensembles Camp 2021**: 15-17 June at the Stanwell Tops Conference Centre. Last week all students would have received permission notes and information for the upcoming Performing Ensembles Camp. If you haven't, please come and get a note from one of the music staff ASAP. Return all paperwork to the Creative Arts Staffroom and money to the school office.

**Outstanding Fees:** Fees for ensemble tuition is calculated and invoiced term by term. All students are charged \$8 per week (\$5 for choir) when rehearsals are held. If the rehearsal is cancelled by the school this is not included in the fees. Any unforeseen discrepancies are included in the next term. There are fees outstanding for both Terms 1

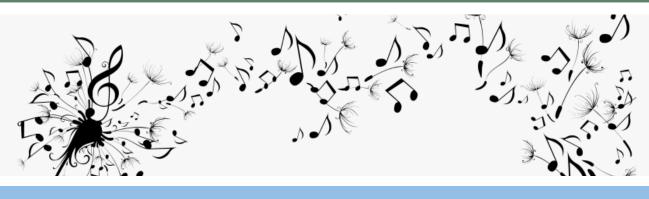
and 2. Please pay these fees to the office either online or in person. If you have any problems with this, please email Mrs Ryan at (julie.ryan30@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Musicale!:** Musicale is to be held on Tuesday 22 June in the Auditorium from 6:30pm. This a wonderful night where STHS will display the brightest performers in the school as well as showcase the many performing ensembles. See the flyer on the next page for more information. **STHS Choir:** In our continued attempt to take the world by storm, the Choir was chosen to be involved in the headline event for this year's NSW Department of Education NAIDOC activity.

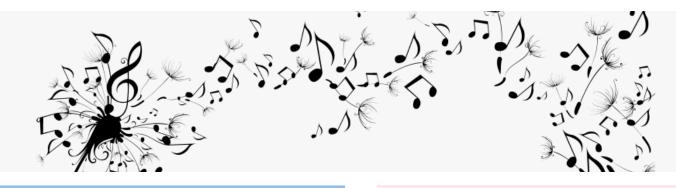
In our ongoing collaboration with Carlton Public School, the students recorded a video of the students from both schools performing a section of Christine Anu's song, My Island Home.

With this year's NAIDOC theme of "Heal Country" the Aboriginal Outcomes and Partnerships Directorate will be creating a series of videos to showcase this theme and these will be streamed live each day from 21 June through to 25 June at 9:30am. Watch this space.





June 2021 Tech Talk



#### **Classroom Music: Composition Masterclass:**

Earlier this month the Year 12 Music class had a masterclass presented by the accomplished composer and STHS Old Boy Matthew Orlovich. He gave the boys tips on how to create compositions, how to stave off writers block and how to create an effective score.



**Matthew Orlovich** 

Sibelius Upgrade: STHS is also in the process of upgrading the current Sibelius program. For years we have been using Sibelius 6 and have now invested in Sibelius Ultimate. This will give all music students access to state of the art music transcription and compositional software.

On the last day of Term 1 Tech had another Music Appreciation Day to celebrate music in the school and also to farewell our relieving librarian Elizabeth Greaves.

Here are some pictures of the fun! Thanks to the boys who performed.



#### Visual Arts/Digital Media Team:

The Digital Media Team had a special afternoon where exstudent Emmanuel Takla came in to give them an insight on how being part of the DMT has helped him in his career.

Emmanuel is studying architecture and said that the ability to take quality photos, process and present them has been very

helpful. He gave the team tips and even had a powerpoint presentation to show them. Thank you to Emmanuel and Ms Annette Falconer for giving their time after school.









Invite you to



Cost: \$5 Concession - \$10 Adults - \$20 Family (2A and 2C) Supper will be provided for a small cost and satisfaction is free.

AUDITORIUM Forest Road, Bexley - Parking on front oval via Forest Road

Phone: 9587 5899

STHS Music Students, Teachers and Parents thank you for your support.

### Stellar student pays it forward



Undertaking an accelerated course is a rewarding opportunity offered to students at STHS, but it comes with its

fair share of additional pressure. This is particularly true when trying to balance the completion of a HSC subject a year early and managing your new Preliminary subjects. But help is always available at STHS and hearing from others who have been in your shoes can be the best advice of all.

This term, 2020 Accelerated Business Studies student, Ambrose Konstantinidis, came to offer his words of wisdom to the 2021 Year 11 Accelerated Business students. He spoke to them about what worked well for him as he prepared for his first HSC exam and what he learnt from his mistakes early on, experiences that ultimately led to outstanding results in the subject.

On behalf of the accelerated students, I would like to thank Ambrose for taking time out of his

busy workload as he completes his remaining HSC subjects to, as he put it, "pay it forward" through offering his experience to the next cohort of accelerated students similarly to how past accelerated students offered him advice this time last year. Bv speaking to his peers, he has not only given them the confidence boost needed to get through their upcoming assessments, but also demonstrated the helpfulness of the students here at Tech and the selflessness of offering time and support to those around us in an effort to build others up.

#### Jo Bilton Social Science Faculty

#### NSW Premier's Debating Challenge - Years 11 and 12

Round 1 Debates of the NSW Premier's Debating Challenge were tough, but thrilling and exciting at the same time. We had some face to face debates as well as online debates.

Topics for the debates included: \* "Should mindful meditation be compulsory for all secondary students?"

\* That all university degrees should require the completion of an Arts degree.

\* That political advertising should be banned from social media.

\* That the government should prioritise the return of its citizens stranded overseas.

\* That the Australian government should prioritise vaccinations for



Year 12 - STHS A - Leo Shin, Huy Nguyen, Lucas Ma, Geoffrey Zhen

poorer nations not able to control the pandemic themselves.

Students in the STHS (A) team are: Deon Argiratos, Christopher Bisseh, Ambrose Konstantinidis, Lucas Ma, Sadek Medlej, Leo Shin,

Huy Nguyen and Geoffrey Zhen.

STHS (B) team consists of Year 11 students: Adithya Agilan, Neil Dadhich, Thejas Madathil, Alan Palakeera, Terry Rakis, Lalit Sahni and Soham Samantara.

The only victory in debating went to our STHS (B) team who debated against our STHS (A) team in Round 2. This was a thrilling debate between our Year 12 and Year 11 students. The Year 11 students were anxious about

debating against the seniors in their first debate against each other. The topic was: That political advertising should be banned from social media. STHS (A) (Year 12) – Geoffrey Zhen, Lucas Ma, Huy Nguyen, Leo Shin and STHS (B) (Year 11) Neil Dadhich Soham Samantara, Adithya Agilan, Thejas Madathil.



Year 11 - STHS B -Neil Dadhich, Soham Samantara, Adithya Agilan, Thejas Madathil

After some very pertinent arguments from both sides and an excellent display of public speaking and debating skills, it was too close to call a winner. In the end the winning team was STHS(B). Congratulations to Year 11 on their victory in this debate and congratulations to all students who have generously given up their time to participate in this valuable competition.

Mary Trovas Debating Coordinator



# WELLBEING @ TECH

#### YEAR 11 CAMP

TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL? As the cold weather hits,

so do the winter bugs. It's often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety's sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice. The NSW Health and Department of Education have some further information for parents/carers to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser https://education.nsw. gov.au/parents-andcarers/wellbeing/healthand-safety/too-sick-to-goto-school

I was fortunate enough to go away with Year 11 on their last school camp and a great time was had by all. During the day the students were able to participate in a range of physical and challenging activities that promoted team building, cooperation and encouragement among the students. Each activity had a key message linked with the mandatory 'Life Ready' course. At night the students heard from Dr Prue Salter about study skills, and participated in a variety of different sports and games using the indoor basketball courts and futsal courts. The behaviour of our Year 11 students was outstanding and made it that much easier for the instructors and supervising teachers who were on camp.

These camps do not happen without a significant amount of preparation behind the scenes and Sharron Cleary, Year 11 Relieving Adviser, deserves huge congratulations. Thanks must also be extended to the other staff who left their classes and families behind for three days: Jenny Haitidis, Yiota Zois, Cindy Huang, Nathan Ngan, Michael Sender and Mattias Sender. The study skills session run by Dr Prue Salter on the second night of camp focused on helping students identify changes and improvements they could make to their approach to their studies in order to maximise their results in their final years of school. The main areas covered with Year 11 were:

Head Teacher Wellbeing

**Nick Stokes** 

- Moving into a senior mindset.
- Working effectively in the evenings and dealing with distractions.
- Managing time efficiently
- Managing workload and planning for assessments
- Making brain friendly study notes on a regular basis
- Using a wide variety of active study techniques to suit individual learning styles

Parents are encouraged to review the handout from the session with students and discuss the main areas identified where changes need to be made. Parents can also find extra study skills tips on the following website: http:// studyskillstoptipsparents.com/.

https://www.cci.health.wa.gov.au/-/media/CCI/Mental-Health-Professionals/Procrastination/Procrastination---Information-Sheets/ Procrastination-Information-Sheet---04---Practical-Strategies-to-Stop-Procrastinating.pdf

A further recommended source around practical advice and tips to manage academic procrastination can be found on Dr Prue Salter's Online ELES Study skills handbook: <u>https://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au/inside/inside\_content/home6.html</u>

Username: sths Password: 686success

#### ACADEMIC PROCRASTINATION

As we enter the half-way mark of another school year and teachers embark upon the reporting process, it is timely to reflect upon a common issue that my team and I regularly talk to students Particularly amongst about. those in the senior school, we have conversations with them about their academic progress and performance. These are intelligent young men who we have the privilege of teaching every day yet, for specific reasons, some are not working to their potential, their requirements or near the standard that can produce their personal best. Parents are alerted to this, if they are not already consciously aware of the situation, via semesterised reports, letters from teachers and assessment results. Like the teachers, parents also recognise these students' talents but become frustrated with their lack of motivation, communication or effort.

While characteristics these are not necessarily unique to teenage boys, within the context of an academically selective school populated by students with the opportunity to have a range of university choices, it is concerning. When staff speak with students who are identified in these categories, in most circumstances the boys will articulate, very clearly, what has gone wrong and what needs to be done. Yet, often, the change does not occur. What I am describing here, falls under the category of academic procrastination. This is a concept that does have a higher prevalence amongst intelligent students and which, if left unrecognised, may affect a student's learning and therefore future, long after they leave high school. The tendency for students who procrastinate is

that key tasks seem to come all at once. This is not the reality but the result.

The reasons behind academic procrastination vary but usually include:

- Negative self-talk that hijacks their attempts to begin school work before they start. Sadly, this is usually illogical and factually inaccurate. Students may think there is little point in bothering to continuing when there are still several marks available in the remaining assessments.
- They allow potential distractions to become actual distractions – these can be associated with their mood, energy levels, motivation, technology (gaming in particular), home environment, work/tutoring commitments.
- Fear of failure leading to leaving things until the last minute and therefore submitting work of lesser quality.
- Perfectionism it sounds strange but this can also be a deterrent behind students being able to simply "Get on with it!"
- Ways that students and their parents can break the cycle of procrastination include:
- Challenge the self-talk and overcome the internal monologue that is allowing them to become fixated on unhelpful thoughts. For every negative thought process, we should aim to outweigh these by at least two positive thoughts
- Conduct a distraction audit identify all of the behaviours, events, people, devices and settings that trigger procrastination. Consider these honestly and always getting a second opinion.

Identify what they can control and put limits on these around frequency and access. Again, it might help to have someone helpful keep tabs on this and ask the tough questions or take a strong stand if they cannot control this by themselves.

- Rewards when something is completed – this may be a goal or a school-based task, take the time to celebrate this by doing something for themselves that makes them feel good. Go to the movies, hang out with mates. Balance is the key here.
- Chunking \_ sometimes referred to as partialisation, by identifying and prioritising the steps associated with a task or a series of deadlines, the requirements may seem less overwhelming. This process also gives you clear start and end points or at least the choice to begin work on the part of the task that you enjoy most or are good at. The link below contains some useful strategies for with dealing academic procrastination in practical ways.



### GREETING\$ FROM THE CHARLE\$ KING\$FORD \$MITH LIBRARY

Francesca Cato Teacher/Librarian

### 2021 NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge is off and running for 2021! The challenge opened for online entries on Monday 1 March 2021 and will close for students on Friday 20 August 2021.

I would like to congratulate the boys who have successfully qualified so far. For those still in the running, do not give up! Slow and steady will still win the race. ©

Successful completion of this Challenge can contribute points towards the Wykeham award.

Each year, the PRC booklists are refreshed and enhanced to ensure that new, award winning and notable books, and established and new Australian authors, are included. The booklists can be accessed from the website: <u>https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc</u>.

Do not forget that this year, the Challenge is open to Year 10 students as well as Years 7, 8 and 9. In addition to the 5-6 and 7-9 booklists, there is a new booklist category - 9 plus. This booklist is aimed at more mature readers. such as those in Year 9 and above. This rating reflects the mature themes and content that are better suited for older students in high school.

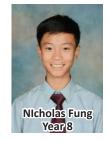
Books read after the Challenge closes can count towards the next year's Challenge. Encourage your son to check his loan history or personal reading records from August 2020 onwards – he might be halfway through the Challenge and not even know it!

The PRC poster for 2021 is, in one word, stunning. The indigenous artwork was created by Dr Bronwyn Bancroft, a Bundjalung Woman and artist. It depicts the journey of stories from their creators through the community, and is representative of the importance of sharing stories throughout all phases of our life and community.

### Students who have so far met the challenge



















#### How do I ... Check if the Library holds a particular PRC title?

#### A. You can search for it in the Search Bar in 'Oliver'



- i. If you know the exact title, search using the Title option
- ii. If you are not sure of the exact title, search using the Word option
- iii. If you do not know the title, but you know the author, search using the Author option
- iv. If it is part of a series, try searching for the name of the series using the Series option.

#### B. You can browse the 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge list in 'Oliver'

i. Click on Reading Lists on the menu bar



ii. Find the list that you are after. If there is a + sign, click on it to expand the list.



iii. The blue list headings are links. Click on the booklist that you are after to view the list of titles we hold from that list

If we don't have the title you are after, request it! If you are interested in reading it, we want to know what it is! You can write requests in the request folder or ask a Library staff member ©

### Some of the Reading Material for the PRC 2021



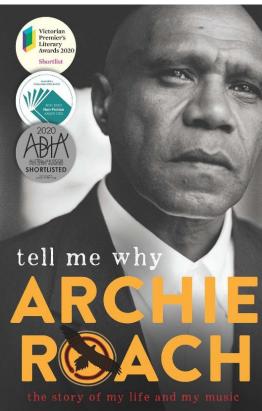
Some of the new titles in the Year 9 Plus Booklist



Some of the new titles in the Years 7-9 Booklist

### Book of the Month

"Identity is constructed through stories..... Those stories both communicate who we are but also help construct our own understanding of who we are." Professor Andrea Breen



In my own personal experience, I certainly have experienced this to be true. Part of my identity has been shaped by stories of my parent's lives, cultures, of my grandparent's lives, journeys, struggles and successes. This week, Reconciliation week, really got me thinking about what it would be like not to have known these stories. How would I know who I was? Where I belonged? Who my family was? Would I feel the same way about myself? My story?

Reading up on Sorry Day and the experiences of the Stolen Generation was heartbreaking. Whilst I could not identify with being forcibly removed from my parents, I certainly empathised with the fear and pain a parent would feel having the threat of (or actually having) their child taken from them. Between 1910-1969, this was the reality of many Indigenous parents.

Since the beginning of time (the Dreaming) storytelling has played a vital role in Australian Aboriginal culture. Cultural traditions and beliefs as well as historical telling of actual events are passed down orally through generations. The Stolen Generations - the result of old government practises of removing children from their families and communities to be raised in institutions, fostered out or adopted by non-Indigenous families - broke important cultural, spiritual and family ties and has left a lasting and intergenerational impact on the lives and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Which brings me to my pick for book of the Month for May - Tell me why by Archie Roach. If you are not familiar with him, he is an indigenous (Gunditimara Bundjalung) and Australian musician, singer, songwriter and a stolen generations survivor. Forcibly removed from his family at age two, he was placed into foster care and told he was an orphan. In his teens he received a letter that spoke of a life he had no memory of. It was from a woman claiming to be his sister, telling him his mother had passed away a week earlier. His world imploded. It took him almost a lifetime to find out who he really

was. He has overcome teenage alcoholism and homelessness to become the person he is today. He is a Member of the Order of Australia for his lifetime contribution to Indigenous arts and culture, and his story is truly inspirational.



Archie Roach Online Exhibition: His Story in Song

'There are many Australian stories, and mine is just one about what happened to me and other First Peoples of this country. It's important for me to tell my story – because it's not just part of my healing but of this country's as well. We all have a story and as you read this book I would like you to think of your own story, what that means and who is also a part of your story.'

**Archie Roach** 



Social Media - Follow us on @sydneytechlibrary

### **SCHOOL NOTICES**

#### **VISITORS TO SCHOOL**

**COVID-19** - Please be aware that at the present time we would appreciate it if all parents and visitors check in if they have to visit the school.

We will inform you when we have a change in this ruling from the Department of Education.

### OFFICE HOURS AND PAYMENTS

The School Office is open from 8:15am-3:15pm for enquiries.

**Payments by students** should only be made before school, between Period 1 and 2, at Recess and at Lunch. Payments will not be taken after the bell has gone at the end of lunch.

**Payments over the phone or at the front office** can only be made from 8:15am-1:15pm.

**Payments on Line** can be made using the link in your emailed statement or via the STHS website. If you would like an account statement sent to you please contact the office.

Website Payments - To make online payments, click on the 'online payment' link in the top right hand corner of the HOME page above the SEARCH box.

#### ATTENTION PARENTS -SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE

If your child is absent from school, an explanation must be provided to the school **within seven school days** from the first day of any period of absence.

It is Departmental Policy that if your son needs to leave the school early for an appointment, a letter must be brought to the school office and it must be signed by one of the Deputy Principals before the start of the school day for leave to be granted.

If you reply to an SMS about your son's absence, please note his name, class and reason for the absence on the SMS.

#### SICK BAY AND YOUR SON

If you receive a phone call from the office informing you that your son is unwell and in sick bay, you must attend to this promptly and collect your son as soon as possible.

Your son cannot be left in sick bay for lengthy periods of time.

#### PARENT/TEACHER CONTACT

Any parent who needs to make contact with a Year Adviser or Teacher should phone the school (9587 5899) OR email the school (sydneytech-h. school@det.nsw.edu.au) to arrange a suitable time.

### IMPORTANT HEALTH

A student in our school is currently receiving treatment which results in a lowered immune system. This means that the student is more prone to getting ill from infections. As the student is not contagious but has a chronic illness, it is important that he participates actively in the day to day school program without any major limitations. A major concern is that if this student develops measles, chicken pox, whooping cough or influenza, he could become seriously ill. It is important that we prevent this situation from occuring.

If your child has or may have measles or chicken pox, it is important that you:

- 1. Do not send them to school
- 2. Notify the School Principal as soon as possible.
- Take them to your GP or medical centre to confirm diagnosis if possible.

#### CHANGE OF MOBILE PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES

If you have changed your mobile phone number, email or mailing address, please contact the school immediately so that we can update our records.

### STUDENT DROP OFF/PICK UP

Traffic conditions in Anderson Street have become too dangerous for students plus local residents have complained about the increased traffic. Due to this increased traffic around the school, it has been decided that if you are dropping off your son in the morning and picking him up in the afternoon, then you must do so at Ethel Street ONLY.

Students will be directed out the Ethel Street Gates in the afternoon.

Please be aware of local residents in Ethel Street - do not park across driveways and be aware of their privacy.

### FEE QUERIES

Due to the high number of students attending the office each day, we would respectfully request that all parents who have questions with regard to their fees either email the office if they feel there is a problem - outlining the situation so that we can investigate further - OR ring the office if it is a simple enquiry so that it can be solved over the phone.

Email and phone queries not only allows the question to be attended to without classroom interruption, but also removes the number of people being dealt with in one area of the school which contravenes the social distancing guidelines of COVID safe practices with which we are endeavouring to operate.

We appreciate your cooperation in these unusual times.

#### **SCHOOL PAYMENTS**

In accordance with Covid-19 and Department of Education Guidelines, the school requests at this time that all payments be made online if possible.

Credit card payments can be made by phone. If paying by cash, put the correct money in an envelope with student's name, class and item for which payment is being made and your son can bring to the office before school, recess and lunch.

#### SCHOOL SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Second Hand Uniform Shop is located in Vera's Cottage. The Second Hand Uniform Shop is run by volunteers.

# Volunteers are always needed - please contact the office with your name and phone number if you can spare some time.

During the school terms, the Second Hand Uniform Shop is open on the Second Tuesday of each calendar month, from 10:30am till noon.

#### Uniform shop will next be open next on Tuesday 8 June 2021.

Students are allowed to come along and grab a bargain at recess.

Due to continuing Covid-19 and Department of Education guidelines, parents will be able to enter the Second Hand Uniform Shop if they adhere to the following:

- CASH payments only
- Enter through Anderson Street pedestrian gate and leave the school grounds promptly
  - Scan the QR code on arrival
    - Wear a mask

The Second Hand Uniform Shop is always in need of good quality uniform items.

If you have any donations of used uniform items, please have your son bring them in to the Office.

#### **BUILDING FUND**

Sydney Technical High School was relocated to the current site in Bexley from the city and the school opened in 1953. The building is very solid, but not very flexible and of course aspects of the school require constant upgrades.

The financial support of our parent and alumni community is critical in renovating school facilities through support of our Building Fund. Donations to the fund over \$2 may be tax deductible.

Recently, the Building Fund has renovated both the senior and junior toilets together with a major upgrade to the students' change rooms. We are currently upgrading our electrical network to enable upgraded wifi facilities to provide students with continuing future technology resources

Can I urge you, on behalf of our school community, to consider contributing generously to this very worthwhile fund, as we all benefit, towards ensuring that our students learn in an environment which is fit for our purpose: OPTIMUM LEARNING!

#### LIBRARY FUND

Want to be 'rich and famous'? Then make it a rule to read daily. Famous and very rich people like financier Warren Buffet, and Bill Gates read daily. A number of our students are avid readers and the 7-10 English reading program has given many students a great appetite for good books.

Our Library Fund gives parents and alumni the opportunity to donate to the Library. Donations to the fund over \$2 may be tax deductible.

The fund recently enabled us to renovate the whole area to make it modern, user friendly and a place to hang out. Open every day at 8am, the Library Fund lets the school keep interesting, thought provoking and modern books available for our students. The school introduced the READ program in 2018. Every student and teacher are required to read for 20 minutes every morning.

Could I urge all parents to contribute generously to the Library Fund, so that we can keep up to date with the sorts of novels and series that your son enjoys, and put them on the path to becoming lifelong readers.

#### PAYMENTS TO THE BUILDING FUND AND LIBRARY FUND CAN BE MADE:

- on line via the school website Parent Online Payment (POP)
  - at the school office with cash, cheque or credit card
    - by phone using credit card

Office hours for payments are 8:15am - 1:15pm

# Parking Rules and Infringements

#### **NO PARKING ZONES**

You can only stop in a No Parking zone while picking up or setting down passengers or goods. You have a maximum of 2 minutes from the time you stop and must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle at all times. If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction applies only at those times. **THIS IS NOT A WAITING ZONE**.

#### FINE EXCEEDS \$194 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS



#### DRIVEWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

- When exiting or entering a driveway a vehicle must give way to pedestrians on the footpath.
- Driveways are not playgrounds. Be aware that children can go unnoticed in front and behind your vehicle. Do not solely rely on reverse sensors or cameras in your vehicle.
- Always supervise and hold a child's hand near/ crossing driveways.
- It is illegal to park in or across any driveway or to block a footpath at any time.

#### FINE EXCEEDS \$349 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS



#### TIME RESTRICTED PARKING

Parking signs with specified time limits allow drivers to park their vehicle for a maximum period of time, eg 5 minutes, 1 hour etc. If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction applies only at those times.

#### FINE EXCEEDS \$116



#### **USING MOBILE PHONES**

- It is illegal to make or receive a call on your mobile phone while you are driving unless your phone is secured in a fixed mounting or does not require you to touch or manipulate the phone in any way.
- It is illegal to use the other features of a mobile phone such as texting, emailing etc unless your car is legally parked and the ignition is switched off.
- Using mobile phones is a major distraction for drivers and incurs higher fines and demerit points in school zones.

#### FINE EXCEEDS \$464 + 5 DEMERIT POINTS



Phone 1300 581 299 | 9562 1666 Email council@bayside.nsw.gov.au www.bayside.nsw.gov.au

#### **DOUBLE PARKING**

Do not double park at any time. Double parking is illegal and dangerous especially around schools. It reduces visibility and blocks the road for other motorists.

FINE EXCEEDS \$349 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS

#### **U TURNS**

- Performing U turns or 3 point turns in school zones is extremely dangerous.
- Performing U turns across unbroken centre lines is illegal and is particularly dangerous around schools.

FINE EXCEEDS \$349 + 3 DEMERIT POINTS

#### PARKING/STOPPING NEAR INTERSECTIONS

It is illegal to park or stop less than 10m from an intersection without lights as this blocks visibility for turning drivers and creates a hazard for all motorists.

#### FINE EXCEEDS \$464 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS

### PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS & CHILDREN'S CROSSINGS

- Slow down as you approach pedestrian crossings and children's crossings.
- Do not proceed if the road beyond the crossing is blocked.
- Do not stop or park in the No Stopping zones on either side of the crossing as this blocks visibility.
- At a children's crossing you must stop at or before the stop line if there is a pedestrian about to cross or already on the crossing.
- Do not proceed through a children's crossing until all pedestrians have completely cleared the crossing.

#### FINE EXCEEDS \$581 + 4 DEMERIT POINTS

#### **NO STOPPING ZONES**

No Stopping signs mean you must not stop here at any time. If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction applies only at those times.

An unbroken yellow kerb line is a no stopping line. You must not stop for any reason.

#### FINE EXCEEDS \$349 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS



#### **BUS ZONE SIGNS**

A Bus Zone is a No Stopping zone for vehicles other than buses. If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction applies only at those times.

You must not park your vehicle less than 20 metres before or 10 metres after a bus stop.

#### FINE EXCEEDS \$349 + 2 DEMERIT POINTS



