



## FROM THE RELIEVING PRINCIPAL



### VALE RYAN WANG

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Ryan Wang of Year 7. Such an unimaginable tragedy which has impacted his family, his friends, the school and our entire community. Our sincerest, heartfelt condolences go out to the Wang family.

Ryan will be remembered as a typical Sydney Tech student – or as the boys would say a ‘True Techie’. He entered the school in Year 7 by sitting the selective schools entrance test and performed at such a level so as to be offered a placement here. From the day he arrived at Tech back in January, he immersed himself in school life. Ryan’s friends will tell you he was quite reserved at first, almost a little shy but this did not stop him from meeting new people and making new friends. Ryan had friends who also came from his primary school, Hurstville Public School, and he quickly made new mates in his class 7U and across other classes. Once he got to know people, he was able to warm up and develop stronger connections.

Ryan embraced the academic opportunities provided to him at a selective high school. He approached his schoolwork with interest, enthusiasm, diligence and a pursuit for his personal best. He liked all of his subjects but he particularly enjoyed the creative arts. Ryan had a passion for music. He played the piano and the violin and in recent years, he discovered his enjoyment of singing. Ryan joined the string ensemble and soon established more new friendships with others who shared a common love of music. These boys from the string ensemble proudly played at Ryan’s funeral - a true testament to the respect they have for him.

We have installed a plaque in a memorial garden in the school in Ryan’s honour and planted a tree for him as well. We have also established a new award for Presentation Day to acknowledge student contribution to Music.

Farewell Ryan - a beautiful soul, gone way too soon. We will forever miss you, your inquiring mind, your passion for music, your love of life and that gorgeous smile.



PRINCIPAL’S REPORT .....	1
SCHOOL CALENDAR .....	3
PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM DATES .....	3
SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP DATES .....	3
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS’ REPORT .....	4
CAREERS .....	5
LIBRARY .....	6

SUMMER ENSEMBLES .....	8
WELLBEING .....	9
FROM THE COUNSELLORS .....	11
P&C .....	12
FACULTY NEWS - EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS .....	13
FAREWELL TO YEAR 12, 2019 .....	14
SCHOOL NOTICES .....	16

## OLD BOYS LUNCH

The Old Boys Reunion lunch was held last Friday in the city. Kirk Grinham gave an update on Tech 2019. School Captain Eric Napper and Vice Captain Dylan Alima spoke about current life at Tech, and brought credit to themselves and to the school. Trevor Trotman, our Head Teacher Mathematics, was invited to be the guest presenter. He entertained and amused the audience with his amazing experiences and stories. I would like to thank the OB committee of John Coleman, David Knox, Keith Powell, John Harrison and Neville Shooter for organising the event.

## TERM 4 PARENT PARTNERSHIPS

I do hope that you are able to attend Term 4 meetings, our last ones for the year. We will be looking for your feedback into the topics you have found most useful and any topics that could be included for the following years. Your insights are much appreciated. Term 4 meetings are listed on the following page.

## P&C THANKS

As we approach the Annual General Meeting for the P&C to elect its new committee, I would like to give special thanks to the 2019 P&C Committee for their massive contribution to the school, particularly in relation to enhancing school to home communication. Thank you to Warren Mak, P&C President, and his enthusiastic team.

## ROAD SAFETY

Our five neighbouring schools (Bethany College, St Marys Star of the Sea School, GRC Hurstville, Hurstville Public School and Hurstville Adventist School) have been working together with our P&C representatives to investigate strategies to improve road safety in our area. Thank you to our P&C President, Warren Mak, and Hurstville Public School's P&C President, Jason Yeo, for initiating this venture. We have determined a prioritised list of short, mid and long term initiatives, all with the focus of slowing down the traffic in what we are now referring to as the Education Precinct.

Our team has now met with Chris Minns, State Member for Kogarah, representatives of Bayside and Georges River Councils, a representative for Linda Burney, Federal Member for Barton, and Chief Inspector, St George Police Area Command, NSW Police. Everyone is supportive of our recommendations and planning is now underway for funding and implementation.

Please be thoughtful of your role in road safety when you are part of the traffic flow. Be on the look-out for pedestrians. Be alert to signage including 40km/h school zones, parking as well as traffic infringements. Please help to keep all of our students safe.

**Diane Wilson**  
Principal

## ROAD SAFETY ISSUES AROUND SCHOOLS

Offence	Minimum Fine	Minimum loss of demerit Points
If you stop or park on or near: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A Pedestrian Crossing</li><li>• A Children's Crossing</li><li>• Any marked Foot Crossing</li></ul>	\$325 \$325 \$325	2
If you double park	\$253	
If you park illegally in a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NO STOPPING zone</li><li>• NO STOPPING school zone</li><li>• NO PARKING zone</li><li>• BUS ZONE</li></ul>	\$258 \$325 \$108 \$253	2
If you make an illegal U Turn	\$265	2
If you exceed 40km/h in a school zone	\$189	2
If you exceed 40km/h when passing a school bus with flashing "wig-wag" lights	\$341	1

# SCHOOL CALENDAR

## Term 4 - 2019

### November

- 1-11 HSC Written Examinations
- 4-8 Year 7 Assessment Week
- 5-21 Year 10 National Minimum Standards Online Testing during this period but is not on every day
- 4-8 Year 8 Valid Science Testing
- 5 P&C Annual General Meeting, Common Room, 7pm
- 11-15 Year 9 Assessment Week
- 12 Year 7 Parent Partnership, Common Room, 9am
- 12 Uniform Shop, Vera's Cottage, 10:30-12
- 13 Summer Sport Finals
- 14 Year 8 Parent Partnership, Common Room, 9am
- 18-19 Year 12 Sign Out
- 18-22 Year 8 Assessment Week
- 19 Year 9 Parent Partnership, Library, 9am
- 19 Staff Appreciation Lunch
- 21 Year 10 Parent Partnership, Common Room, 9am
- 22 SRC Induction Assembly, Auditorium, 10:15am
- 22 White Ribbon Day Walk
- 26 Year 11 Parent Partnership, Common Room, 9am
- 28 Year 10 Talented Maths Day
- 28-29 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

### December

- 2 Year 8 Maths Day
- 3 Year 7, 2020 Orientation Day
- 3 Uniform Shop open for Year 7 Orientation Day  
Vera's Cottage, 10:30-12
- 3 SRE - Year 9 Period 1, Year 10 Period 2
- 4 Years 8-11, 2020 Orientation Day
- 6 Sports Awards Assembly

**Running Group is on every Wednesday Morning**

**Anime Club every Monday at Lunchtime**

**SALT Christian Group Meeting - Fridays at Lunchtime**

This calendar is a general guide. Sometimes event dates change unexpectedly. For a full up to date list of school activities please refer to our calendar at any time through the Schoolstream app.

## PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

### DATES FOR TERM 4

#### 9AM - COMMON ROOM

Year 7 - Tuesday 12 November  
Updated Gifted and Talented Policy, and STHS Expectations

Year 8 - Thursday 14 November  
Lessons Beyond the Classroom

Year 9 - Tuesday 19 November\*  
Gaming and Adolescence

Year 10 - Thursday 21 November  
Tips for Parents of Future Senior Students

Year 11 - Tuesday 26 November  
Supporting your Son in Year 12

\* Year 9 Session will be in the Library

## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP DATES

### Term 4

12 November  
3 December  
- Year 7 Orientation Day  
10 December



School Stream  
Download the  
School Stream App  
for your phone

## DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' REPORT



### YEAR 12

Year 12 HSC exams are continuing and will conclude on Monday 11 November, with students being able to access their results on Tuesday 17 December. A reminder that all Year 12 students are invited to attend a celebration Morning Tea at school on Wednesday 18 December at 10:45am in the passive area. All HSC students are asked to return textbooks and equipment as soon as possible. The two designated sign out days for Year 12 are Monday 18 November (12RT, 12RW and 12RM) and Tuesday 19 November (12RK, 12RB and 12RG) between 10:00am - 12:00pm.

### ASSESSMENTS

School exam periods for Years 7-10 are currently taking place and Year 11 will have their first HSC assessment week in Week 9. All Year 11 students have received their HSC Assessment book. Please read the information carefully and make sure you are familiar with the procedures for assessment tasks. All Year 11 students are also involved in scheduling a meeting with the careers adviser, Mr Mouzakis, this term to discuss their post high school pathway options. Students and parents in Years 9 and 10 must also understand and adhere to our new Stage 5 Assessment Policy requiring illness/misadventure forms to be completed and submitted should an absence occur in the five school days leading up to an assessment block.

Year 8 sit for the VALID test this month. VALID is an external national and online test for Science.

### SRC INDUCTION

Our rescheduled SRC Induction Assembly is now from 10:15am-10:55am on Friday 22 November 2019.

### SRE

Special Religious Education (SRE) otherwise known as 'scripture' will be held on 26 November for Years 7 and 8 and on 3 December for Years 9 and 10. Further details for students will be given through the daily notices. As in previous years, Tech will offer scripture services from approved providers of Catholic, Greek Orthodox and Christian Studies once each term in 2020. Students' scripture groups are collected at the start of Year 7 each year. Students, with the written permission from their families, are able to opt in/opt out of scripture groups at any time.

### ALUMNI

The Tech Alumni Reunion Luncheon was held on Friday 25 October and was attended by ex-students from the 1940s, 50s and 60s. Many memories and stories were shared and there was lots of laughter. It is wonderful to see a large group of men united by the strong bond between them – the spirit of Tech. HT Mathematics, Trevor Trotman, entertained the guests with an overview of his faculty's achievements in recent years while deputy principal, Kirk Grinham also attended to represent the school in the company of our newest school leaders, Eric Napper (captain) and Dylan Alima (vice captain) who both spoke on behalf of the student body.

**Kirk Grinham**  
Deputy Principal

**Mel Burgess**  
Relieving Deputy Principal



## CAREERS REPORT



All year 11 students have been informed that they are required to attend a compulsory interview with the career adviser prior to the end of this term. In this preliminary interview we will discuss their:

- Subject selection
- Adjustment factors
- Educational access scheme and elite athlete or performer information
- Other tests that might be required – UCAT or LAT (we have UCAT resources in the library)
- Scholarships and cadetships

It is important to note that I am available to discuss any career related topics with students as they see fit and that this is not a one-off interview but rather one of many over the coming year.

One of the initiatives of the Careers Faculty this year has been inviting Alumni from various fields to act as mentors for our senior students. In the November issue of 'In the Black', Nicola Heath (writer for 'In the Black', magazine published by the Certifying Practising Accountants of Australia) states that 'a mentor is someone who shares their experiences, acts as a sounding board and can provide advice and guidance.'

This week we had Samuel Lee and Aaron Irving from the class of 2013 talk to our current and future Legal Studies students. Samuel is in his second graduate rotation at King & Wood Mallesons and Aaron is about to start his graduate rotation in the Australian Government Offices. Lengthy discussions were initiated from questions, and topics ranged from which university (group of eight are the universities in Australia that are the highest ranked and have the best international reputation according to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings - they are UNSW, Sydney University, Australia National University and the Universities of Monash, Melbourne, Adelaide, WA and Qld) all the way to extracurricular ideas for both high school and university in order to capture that elusive graduate role.

Also present was Alfred Nguyen (2018) who spoke of his experience as a first year Law student and his university choice.

**Jerry Mouzakis**  
**Relieving Careers Adviser**



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YOU

KEEP IN TOUCH AND BUILD YOUR PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

CREATE A LINKEDIN ACCOUNT AND ADD SYDNEY TECH TO YOUR CONNECTIONS AND JOIN

SYDNEY TECH STUDENTS & OLD BOYS Group

CONNECTING TECH WITH OLD BOYS

## LIBRARY REPORT



“Libraries are a force for good. They wear capes. They fight evil. The library card is a passport to wonders and miracles, glimpses into other lives, religions, experiences, the hopes and dreams and strivings of ALL human beings, and it is this passport that opens our eyes and hearts to the world beyond our front doors, that is one of our best hopes against tyranny, xenophobia, hopelessness, despair, anarchy, and ignorance. Libraries are the torch of the world, illuminating the path when it feels too dark to see. We mustn’t allow that torch to be extinguished.”

— Libba Bray

## NEWS FROM THE CHARLES KINGSFORD SMITH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Tech’s library is a bustling hub in our school. October brought the start of our Year 12s sitting their HSC exams and Year 11s moving into Year 12. The upstairs senior area has been packed daily with students squeezing in study time.

### BOOKS@BREAKFAST

Term 3’s student-run book club, books@breakfast, met before school on Thursday 19 September to discuss Matthew Reilly’s dystopian thriller “The Secret Runners of New York”. Teenagers love dystopian novels as they ask important questions about the future – dystopias are utopias gone wrong, when after a catastrophic event, the future world tries to correct the mistakes of our present world by creating a perfect world that ends up overcorrecting and going wrong in some other way. Dystopias such as “The Hunger Games”, “Divergent” and “The Maze Runner” top the list of most borrowed books in school libraries. Dystopian novels, like the best science fiction stories, cause readers to question the effect of technology, the dangers of test tube babies or how humans are losing skills and intelligence due to machines doing the work for us. They show us the possible futures ahead for humanity and our planet and get students thinking about ways to solve those problems.

The club chose Nic Stone’s “Dear Martin” as the Term 4 book to be discussed on Thursday 5 December before school in the library. “Dear Martin” has been one of those word-of-mouth books that has swept through Year 9 with some students calling it the best book they’ve ever read. High praise!

“Dear Martin” focuses on an adolescent African American boy named Justyce, who when faced with racial discrimination, begins to write letters in his diary to Dr Martin Luther King Jr. We encourage all students from 7-12 to grab a copy of this beautiful coming of age story and join us for our last books@breakfast discussion of the year.

“You can’t change how other people think and act, but you’re in full control of you. When it comes down to it, the only question that matters is this: If nothing in the world ever changes, what type of man are you gonna be?” Justyce McAllister, “Dear Martin” by Nic Stone

### PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

Tech had 42 students in Years 7-9 complete the PRC. We congratulate the boys on this achievement. Certificates will be handed out later this term to participating students, with some receiving silver and gold awards for consecutive years of completing the PRC.

### BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK

The library is running a promotion called Blind Date with a Book. The concept is that just with a person, we sometimes judge a book by its cover. Therefore, we wrapped up a few bestsellers and favourites then have students borrow it as if it’s a blind date with a person. They need to get to know the book and give it a little time. So often, students dismiss certain genres saying, “I don’t like fantasy books.” Sometimes, just with a date with a person, the student returns the book and they just didn’t hit it off. Other times, we’ve heard that they loved the book and never would have picked it up off the shelf. Encourage your sons to pop in and choose a book from our Blind Date

with a Book display – the books are single and ready to mingle! Hopefully, they'll find their perfect match!

## **LIBRARY CONTRIBUTION**

The Library Fund allows us to provide extra resources, furniture and equipment for our students in the library.

- Every student is given the ability to print whatever is necessary for their courses. Most schools have a limit so they are very lucky to be given this privilege.
- Every student has available to them thousands of new fiction and nonfiction books. We also have subscriptions to 25 magazines, which can be used for pleasure reading, to stay on top of current events or for reference in their classes such as TIME, History Uncovered, National Geographic, Game Informer, Rolling Stone and Choice.

- We have added to our shelving, soft furniture in the fiction section and created more collaborative seating upstairs in the senior section. Bean bags are popular for those who want to lie down and read. Cameras were also installed to keep students and their belongings safe. Shelving was built to hold student's belongings.

So please continue to support your child and his school library by continuing to donate to the Library Fund. This will enable us to provide the most current resources for our students.

**Elizabeth Greaves**  
**Relieving Teacher/Librarian**

**Our library has a new Instagram page so follow @sydneytechlibrary for news, photos, promotions and more!**



**Sydney Tech  
Performing Ensembles  
Present**

**Summer Ensembles  
Concert - 2019**

Come in your best festive attire,  
sing some songs and hear some  
excellent music from our school  
ensembles



**Date:**

**Monday  
2 December 2019**

**Time:**

**6-7:45 pm**

**Place:**

**STHS Auditorium**



## WELLBEING REPORT



Welcome back and I hope everyone has had a well rested break ready for the final term of 2019. The HSC is now well underway with many of our Year 12 students having only a few exams left to complete. The last day of the HSC is Monday 11 November 2019 and we wish all our boys the very best as they wait in anticipation for their results to come out at the end of the year. A special morning tea has been organised on the last day of school for Year 12 students, so they can share and celebrate their results with their teachers and fellow classmates.

With end of year exams approaching for all other year groups, students are reminded to start preparing and revising now to help alleviate any stress or anxiety that can be overwhelming when studying is left to the last minute. There are plenty of useful resources and links available from Prue Salters ELES Study Skills Website [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) which we have been using in some of our Wellbeing Assemblies this term. Daniel Merzer, who presented the session, 'Get the Monkeys Off Your Back' to our Year 9 cohort this year also had an article in the Sydney Observer last month which provided some useful tips for students and their parents around exam time.

### EXAM STRESS

The pressure to perform, the fear of failure, a mountainous study load and waves of future uncertainty present some of the stressors that some students may experience leading up to exams.

Stress is a normal part of life and essential for building resilience. It cannot be avoided, only managed. What can be avoided is distress.

So, if you are a parent, what can you do to help your child manage stress and avoid distress heading into exams and ultimately the HSC?

#### Observe the Signs

Keep a constant eye out for signs of distress, such as constant panicking, agitation, nervousness, fatigue, nausea, distant behaviour, as well as forgetting to eat and losing sleep. Is your child feeling hopeful and confident, or dreadful and wanting to escape?

#### Get to the Bottom of it

Open 'non-confrontational' dialogue to identify the root cause of distress, providing a safe outlet for your child to express themselves. Seek first to listen and understand, rather than to give advice. Make them feel heard and supported.

#### Tips to Thrive

A few parental tips and messages to support your child:

- Close the expectation gap by mutually agreeing on what is realistic and achievable.
- Throw out the ATAR expectation and replace this with the 'personal best' expectation.
- The fruit is in the pursuit and the person they become in striving for success, regardless of the result.
- Perspective - The ATAR is not the be all and end all.
- Comparison hurts so avoid it.
- Healthy eating, adequate rest and exercise are essential for keeping a healthy mind and optimal performance.
- Encourage regular study breaks to avoid burnout.

- Keep the fun and connectedness alive with regular family activities.
- Help out in the background by cooking favourite meals or keeping the noise down at home.
- Deliver daily doses of encouragement, reminding them that you will love and support them, no matter what. (Ref: Daniel Merzer; October 2019 | SydneyObserver.com.au)

Students can also come and speak to their Class Teacher, Year Adviser, Counsellor or Mentor if further assistance is required.

## HSC MENTOR SCHEME

Now that Year 11 students have officially moved into their HSC year, it's no secret that there will be countless demands, challenges and stress placed upon our students in their final HSC year. For this reason, the school will be running a HSC Mentor scheme again coordinated by the Year 11 Adviser, Mr Gamage. Organisation for our HSC Mentor Scheme is currently underway with Mr Gamage matching up interested students from his year group with a teacher mentor. The mentor's role at Tech is to encourage, guide and use their vast knowledge and experience to assist students whenever the need arises. Students have been advised that the mentor is not a substitute for the normal classroom teacher or traditional support networks that exist via the school's Wellbeing team. Thank you to Mr Gamage for all his organisation in getting the scheme up and running again and for the volunteering staff who have made themselves available as mentors for our incoming Year 12s.

## PEER SUPPORT

Peer Support training for all Year 8 students took place over two days from 31 October - 1 November 2019. The Peer Support Foundation's leadership training provides an opportunity for our boys to learn important skills and strategies around resilience, teamwork and communication. Coordinated by Ms Pamela Stergiou and facilitated by another 10 dedicated staff, this is a valued program that we then use to identify 60 new peer support leaders who will take on additional responsibilities in the transition to high school of our new Year 7 students for 2020. At their most recent Wellbeing Assembly, all of Year 8 were informed of the program's expectations and aims, as well as their own requirements should they wish to be offered a place amongst this leadership group.

## WHITE RIBBON DAY

For a number of years now, the school has supported White Ribbon Day, raising awareness about the impacts caused from domestic violence. This tradition will continue in November despite White Ribbon Australia going into liquidation last month. A group of student representatives from our Interact group will join students from other local high schools and community groups in the area to participate in the White Ribbon Day Walk organised by Georges River Council to stand up and speak out against domestic violence.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND YOU

Just like physical health, we also have mental health. According to the World Health Organization, mental health is "a state of wellbeing in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community."

How we feel about our mental health and wellbeing can be influenced by a variety of 'factors'. We all have ups and downs, times when we feel great and times when we feel we are struggling. This is normal.

Mental health is about the way we think, feel and develop relationships - and not merely the absence of a mental health issue.

Keeping our mind healthy is something we should do on a daily basis. It is an important part of your overall health to be able to function well, have meaningful social connections, positive self-esteem and the ability to cope with change.

Stigma around mental illness due to prejudice or misunderstanding remains an issue in Australia, delaying or preventing people from wanting or feeling able to seek help, and impacting adversely on their lives.

Misconceptions and misrepresentations about those experiencing mental illness are damaging to people's lives. They may include references to people affected as being 'scary', 'comical', 'incompetent', 'weak' or 'hopeless' and can appear anywhere, from in the media and the arts to conversations we have at work, school or home.

The reality is that the vast majority of people affected by mental illness with the right treatment and support, are able to lead independent lives and contribute to the community. With one in five Australians affected, they form part of our close circles of family, friends and colleagues, and interact with us in our communities every day.

It's time to look at mental illness in a different light – a positive light.

(Ref: Mental Health Australia (2019) <https://1010.org.au/about/>)

## ATTENDANCE/LEAVE

Sydney Technical High School has high expectations of all of its students and this includes their attendance. The school must adhere to State and Federal legislature around this as it ensures all children up to the age of 17 attend school. The demographics of the students at STHS mean that many are travelling long distances each day and rely on public transport that can sometimes be delayed. In these unforeseen instances, the school is always understanding. Where such understanding expires is when student absenteeism and/or lateness becomes too frequent. Students who know that

their transport links are unreliable in allowing them to arrive on time to school every day are strongly encouraged to make alternative arrangements. This may mean walking and leaving home earlier. All students are allowed three instances of unexplained lateness to school every term before they will receive an after school detention.

Students and their parents are reminded that any leave taken during the school day requires students to bring a note in the morning to the Deputy Principals where an early leavers pass will be issued.

Students and their parents are also reminded that where extended leave needs to be taken (ie more than five days) students are required to fill out a special form which they can collect from their Year Adviser or Ms Cohen in the front office. This leave will need to be approved by the Principal.

**Nick Stokes**

**Head Teacher Wellbeing**

## FROM THE COUNSELLORS

### Need to talk to someone??

Sydney Tech High School Counsellors Jay Dahl and Stephanie Lawson are registered psychologists who are available for appointments on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Jay and Stephanie support students to manage personal, social and/or emotional issues that are impacting their wellbeing.

Students can self-refer directly to Jay or Stephanie in room 12A (Block A, upstairs at the end of the corridor), or through their Year Adviser. Parents are also welcome to contact the counselling service for advice via the school's phone number.



## **P&C REPORT**

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Tuesday  
5 November 2019**

**Tuesday  
3 December 2019**

**Common Room  
All Parents Welcome**

The year has really flown by, and we are now at the business end of the year. Good luck to all the Year 12 (and any Year 10 and Year 11) students doing their HSC right now. The whole school and its community have great faith in all of you doing your best and getting the results you all deserve.

2019 has been another big and eventful year for the school. It's been an honour to represent the P&C this year and I thank everyone on the P&C committee as well as all the wonderful parents who have helped out this year.

The sad and tragic passing of Ryan Wang has really impacted on the school, students, teachers and the parent community. The P&C sends their deepest condolences to the Wang family.

In times of adversity also comes great character and strength of the community. It was amazing to see the school, parents, students and parent community pull together to support the Wang family and each other. The P&C working with the school managed to raise some funds to help support the Wang family. We thank everyone who contributed to this and will ensure that the family gets every dollar donated.

The P&C and the school have also been working on a strategy to improve the road safety around the school. We have initiated and formed a coalition amongst the six schools and their P&C committees in the local area that share the school zone with our school to work together as one unified voice in affecting change and improvement to pedestrian and road safety in the Hurstville Education Precinct. We had a meeting with the relevant authorities and representatives (State member for Kogarah, Federal Member for Burton, NSW Police, Georges River Council and Bayside Council) regarding our shared goal of slowing down traffic in the area. It was well received by all those who attended and the group is now working towards an outcome on each of the suggestions provided and discussed on the day. Making changes often takes time but hopefully we are now on their agenda and have a way of working towards a positive outcome.

The P&C has been busy (as usual) in 2019. We built on the previous year's success with the Mother's Day Morning Tea and Father's Day Breakfast, supporting and catering for the School Musicale and we still have Staff Appreciation Day and the End of Year concert towards the end of the year.

A first for this year was the invitation of local area primary public schools to the Annual Sydney Technical High School and St George Girls High School Combined P&C Evening. The evening was a great success with an amazing speaker and fantastic community support. Parents of the local public schools really appreciated the invitation and it was a good way to showcase Sydney Tech to future prospective students.

The P&C also continues to build on the success of the P&C Facebook page and the P&C Year Group Whatsapp chat groups. High school can feel daunting for the students but sometimes it is daunting for the parents who are trying to support their child. While high school is the time to give your kids more responsibility and independence, the P&C Facebook Page and Year Chat Groups offer the parent community a communication channel to each other as well as the P&C and the school if and when it may be required. It also allows parents with kids in the same year to communicate and share their experience with each other or help each other out without feeling embarrassed about contacting the school.



For those who have participated in either, or both, the FaceBook page and Whatsapp Chat Groups, I thank you for your involvement and I hope you have found these communication channels to be useful.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next P&C meeting will also be the P&C's AGM. It will be held on Tuesday 5 November 2019 at 7:00pm in the Common Room. I encourage all of you to attend and vote to determine the makeup of the 2020 P&C Committee. Don't worry, turning up on this night does not make you a committee member but hopefully you will get a sense of what the P&C is trying to achieve for the school, parent community, and the students. We can all plan ahead for 2020 and arrive at some new future initiatives and goals that the P&C can aim towards.

## CONTACTING THE P&C

Join us on the STHS Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/groups/sthspandc](http://www.facebook.com/groups/sthspandc)). The email for contacting the P&C is [sydtechparents@gmail.com](mailto:sydtechparents@gmail.com) Please send your suggestions, queries etc to this email.

**Warren Mak**  
**P&C President**

## FACULTY NEWS

### EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS

Congratulations to the following students who achieved at the top of their Mathematics courses in their Term 3 examinations. Letters of commendation have been sent home to these students and they have received a bronze merit award from the Mathematics Faculty.

#### Year 7

Calvin Chen, Leon Gan, Ethan Goh, Mir Hasan, Ethan Hendra, Andrew Huang, Russell Liauw, Andrew Liu, Neeraj Margani, Raymond Tran, Sean Van Ummersen, Damien Vu, Henry Wang, George Xu and Wentao You.

#### Year 8

Joshua Bae, Edward Brownlie, Daniel Choe, Stefan Ilic, James Lin, Phoenix Liu, Nathan Lwin, Jack Yang, Aqeel Roshan, Keith Trayhurn, Gene Truong and Mark Ureta.

#### Year 9

Timothy Benjamin, Dylan Budiharto, Nicholas Chatterton, Daniel Chen, Neil Dadhich, Yong Deng, Leo Hou, Jeremy Komonen, Jonathan Liu, Arnon Masum, Danny Nguyen, Justin Poon, Terry Rakis, Amin Tafach, Nathan Tam, Justin Tran, Arthur Vien, Dominick Widjaja, Justin Zeng and Colin Zhang.

Keep up the fantastic work, boys!

**Pamela Stergiou**  
**Mathematics Faculty**



# FAREWELL TO YEAR 12, 2019



Farewell and good luck to the Class of 2019. Graduation Assembly and Farewell Luncheon were held on the last day of Term 3. HSC examinations end on 11 November and a Year 12 celebration morning tea will be held on Wednesday 18 December. We wish them all the best for the future.







# SCHOOL NOTICES

## IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

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 occurring.

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.
3. Take them to your GP or medical centre to confirm diagnosis if possible.

## 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-1.45pm.

**Payments on Line** can be made using the link in your emailed

statement or via the STHS website (see below). 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.

## 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.

## 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, then a letter must be brought to the school 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.

## 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 needed - please contact the office with your name and phone number.**

During the school terms, the Second Hand Uniform Shop is usually open on the Second Tuesday of each calendar month, from 10.30am-12 noon.

The Uniform shop will next be open on **Tuesday 12 November 2019.**

Come along and grab a bargain. If you have any donations of used uniform items, please send them to the Office.

## VISITORS TO SCHOOL

Please be aware that it is a legal requirement for ALL visitors on school grounds during school hours to report to the School Administration Office for sign-in and sign-out.

This includes parents and caregivers.