

# Tech Talk September 2019

# Sydney Technical High School



## FROM THE RELIEVING PRINCIPAL



## SRC ELECTIONS

SRC elections for Years 7-11 for the 2020 SRC have now been finalised. Congratulations to all successful students. The Induction Ceremony will take place this Friday at a special assembly.

My congratulations to our newly elected School Captain Eric Napper and Vice Captain Dylan Alima. I look forward to working with them, supporting them to lead the student body and having them represent the school. Both of them have had extensive experience in the SRC as well as being leaders within the Environment Team and Interact and I am confident in their ability to step up to this new and exciting challenge.



L-R: Eric Napper (Captain)  
and Dylan Alima (Vice Captain).

## JAPANESE CULTURAL FESTIVAL

During Week 3, the Languages Faculty held a wonderful Japanese Cultural Festival. It coincided with Education Week as well as the visit of Nanzan High School students from Japan. The festival was held during lunchtime, where students were able to immerse themselves in Japanese Culture and sample some delicious Japanese food. Thank you to Ms Hu, Ms Mac and Ms Huang for their organisation of the event.

My thanks to those generous families who opened their homes to allow Nanzan HS students to stay with them. The school really appreciates your kindness. See photos on page 15.

## SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Our Science and Engineering team were Regional winners of the National Science and Engineering Challenge last term and progressed to the State Championships in Newcastle last week. Thank you to Ms Noyes, Dr Voulalas and Mr Matthews for their leadership, training and supervision. The standard of the competition was particularly high and our boys achieved 2nd place. Congratulations boys! A great achievement!

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT .....	1
SCHOOL CALENDAR .....	3
PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM DATES .....	3
SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP DATES .....	3
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' REPORT .....	4
LIBRARY .....	5
WELLBEING .....	8

P&C .....	10
CAREERS .....	12
ALUMNI PHOTOS .....	13
FACULTY NEWS - EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS .....	14
JAPANESE MARKET DAY .....	15
SCHOOL NOTICES .....	16

## YEAR 12

Last week we had the HSC Music and Visual Arts Night. Congratulations to Ms Ryan and Ms Falconer for all their hard work with their students and thank you to the Creative Arts Faculty for their assistance as well. The Music students – Thomas Wills, Joon Kim, Curtis Tan, Joshua Lee, Jaimie Mo, Winston Liang, Eoin McKenna and George Papaioannou showcased their wonderful talents through Cello, Saxophone, Piano and Vocals. These boys will be undertaking the practical component of their HSC Music Course next week and we wish them all the very best. The Art students – Leon Cao, Max Cheung, Herbert Lai, Oliver Matthews, Michael Min, Joshua Steneker, Patrick Xia, Jeremy Yang, Jonathan Yang and Thomas Yap showcased their talents through a variety of mediums including Digital Media, Drawing, Graphic Design, Painting and Animation. Congratulations to the students on the outstanding quality of their work. It was truly remarkable to see all of their hard work come to fruition. The Design and Technology Major Projects for the HSC were due last week and we will be having a showcase of their work next week. The Visual Arts and Design and Technology students will all be very pleased to have the practical component of their courses completed now. Well done boys!

## COMBINED P&C MEETING

Last month the P&C held a combined meeting with St George Girls High School P&C and had a guest speaker, Dr Toulia Tsovolos, a Child and Adolescent Psychologist, speak to parents about dealing with gifted teenagers. She provided information on recent research as well as practical strategies for parents to implement at home. Thank you to Warren Mak, our P&C President, and the team for organising the very well received event.

## ALUMNI DAY

Last Friday we held our annual Alumni Day. This year we invited the cohorts of 1988, 1993, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2014. They were given an update of the school since they graduated, they were taken on a tour of the school and joined in our whole school assembly, followed by morning tea with the staff. They were all very proud of their connection with the school and

the successes they have been able to achieve based on the opportunities provided to them in their time at Tech, something they were all very grateful for.

## SASS RECOGNITION WEEK

Last week was SASS Recognition Week. The week is a way to acknowledge the work of the School Administrative Support Staff, show respect, recognise their efforts and thank them. The SASS team here at Tech go above and beyond to support teachers, students and parents and help to ensure the smooth running of the school. Thank you.

## TECH ROADSHOW

Last Thursday, a number of our SRC students organised and ran a Roadshow at Hurstville Public School. The students were in groups of two or three and promoted some of the numerous co-curricular activities and opportunities available to students at Tech such as Debating, Duke of Ed, Performing Ensembles, Environment Team and Sport just to name a few. Our boys spoke with great enthusiasm and confidence to the Year 5 and 6 students which was very well received. The aim of this was to enhance the relationship between Sydney Tech and Hurstville Public School as well as increase interest amongst the boys to want to attend Tech in the future.

**Diane Wilson**  
Relieving Principal



Being treated to morning tea during SASS Week

# SCHOOL CALENDAR

## Term 3 - 2019

### September

- 2 Year 12 Trivia Night
- 2 Footy Colours Mufti Day Fundraiser
- 3 Special Religious Education  
Years 7 and 8
- 3 Year 11 Parent Partnership Meeting
- 3 P&C Meeting - 7.30pm Common Room
- 4 P&C Father's Day Breakfast
- 5 Year 12 Parent Partnership Meeting
- 6 SRC Induction Assembly
- 10 Special Religious Education  
Years 9 and 10
- 10 Uniform Shop - 10.30am - 12pm  
Vera's Cottage
- 24 Vaccination Day - Year 7 and Year 8 Catch Up
- 27 Year 12 Graduation Assembly  
and Luncheon
- 27 Term 3 finishes  
- School Holidays Commence

## Term 4 - 2019

### October

#### HSC 17 October - 12 November

- 4 Term 4 Commences for Teachers and  
Students
- 15 Open Day for 2021 Prospective Students  
9.15am Auditorium
- 17 GameAware Parent Workshop

**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 3 AND TERM 4

#### 9AM - COMMON ROOM

Year 11 - Tuesday 3 September  
Stress Management

Year 12 - Thursday 5 September  
Which University?

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

## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP DATES

### Term 3

10 September

### 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



### SUBJECT SELECTION

Subject selections for Year 10 are currently being finalised. We are currently looking at numbers of students selecting each subject to determine which classes will run and which are not viable.

An information evening for parents of Year 8 students was held on Tuesday 27 August. Subject selections for Year 8 into 9 will need to be submitted by clicking on the link emailed to students by Monday 2 September. The class lists for each subject in both of these years will be finalised early in Term 4. Changes may be made during Term 4 only if there is room in the class students wish to enter.

### FINAL EXAMS FOR YEARS 7- 10

Year 10 yearly exams will be held in Week 3 of Term 4. Yearly exams for Year 7 will be conducted in Week 4, Year 9 yearly exams will be conducted in Week 5 and Year 8 yearly exams will be held in Week 6. All students should begin to make study notes or revision notes as preparation for these exams. Students should make use of the extra free time they have during the school holidays to help prepare.

### YEAR 11 IN TERM 3 AND 4

The Year 11 final assessment period will begin in Week 8 of Term 3, beginning Monday 9 September. The timetable for the exams is currently being designed and will be distributed to students when it is finalised. These tasks are the final assessments for the preliminary courses for all students in Year 11. The beginning of Term 4 is the start of the HSC courses for these students. Official assessment tasks for the HSC will begin in Term 4. HSC 2020 information afternoon will be held on Tuesday 15 October from 5-6pm in the auditorium.

Students need to complete a minimum of 10 units for the HSC. All Year 11 students are to enter their HSC subjects/units by returning the sheet issued to them via email by Friday 6 September to the box in Mr Grinham's office. This needs to include any units being picked up and any accelerated courses undertaken. Please be mindful of the eligibility policy. Changes to subjects will occur in Term 4, from the beginning of Week 3.

Year 11 students who drive to school or are a passenger in a car driven by another student, must see Ms Burgess in Term 4 to collect the correct permission letter. These forms must be completed, signed by parents and returned as soon as possible.

### YEAR 12 HSC PREPARATION

Year 12 are preparing for the countdown to the HSC. Exams begin on Thursday 17 October and conclude on Friday 8 November. Students should take on board the valuable feedback provided from the recent Trial HSC examinations in order to make improvements. Students studying Design and Technology, Languages, Music, and Visual Arts have already completed or are about to complete the practical component of their HSC. Year 12 had a meeting last week about the final days of school, the last day (breakfast, assembly, luncheon), the HSC days, misadventure, signing out and requirements for a safe conclusion to their school life. A letter has also been posted home. Further details about the Graduation luncheon will be provided in a separate note.

**Kirk Grinham**  
Deputy Principal

**Mel Burgess**  
Relieving Deputy Principal



## LIBRARY REPORT



The truth is libraries are raucous clubhouses for free speech, controversy and community.

– Paula Poundstone

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.

– Libba Bray

**The Charles Kingsford  
Smith Memorial Library  
of Sydney Technical High  
School**

## NEWS FROM THE CHARLES KINGSFORD SMITH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### Slam Poetry Workshop

Slam Poetry champion Will Small led 50 students from Years 7-11 in a writing workshop on Friday afternoon, 16 August, as part of our Australian Children's Book Council's Book Week celebration. Will Small was our second Artist in Residence for the year, providing a history of hip hop and the spoken word and instructing boys in exercises to find their unique perspective and voice and to get their thoughts down on paper.

Will spoke to the boys about how poetry seemed like something in dusty books to him when he was in school and how most people can only name poets who are dead. He said that "poetry is a living and breathing art for today" and detailed how his love of hip hop led him to making the choice to be a poet. Will credits his discovery of rapper Tupac with being a defining moment in his love of the spoken word and told students there were four

components of hip hop: the break (beats and mashing up of different genres of music); break dancing over the break of a song; rhyming by the MC/DJ; and graffiti/street art as these forms of expression were about taking their message to the people and "flipping something out of nothing." Much of the hip hop culture was born from people feeling overlooked, misunderstood and different, something teenagers often feel too. The boys studied the lyrics of a handwritten lyric of Tupac, "The Rose that Grew from Concrete," with students recognising the metaphor in the autobiographical poem with the rose representing Tupac and those like him who "flip something out of nothing" and of something worthy and beautiful growing in a poor and desolate area.

Next, Will led the boys in an exercise of "freestyling," done with or without a beat, in which the speaker thinks about their next line as they go. He pointed out the inflections, rhymes and repetition in the famous "I Have a Dream" speech by Martin Luther King Jr and how hip hop artists often layer spoken word such as King's speech over a beat.

Students then discussed how in any writing they do, it's necessary to communicate in an engaging way. To begin, Will encouraged them to do a daily "word dump" free writing into a notebook or journal and just



writing for a designated time such as 5 or 10 minutes, based on ideas in Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way*. This will build fluency, necessary in senior years for timed exams and get their fingers used to writing and their brains wired in stream of consciousness writing. During this time, grammar isn't important but instead getting ideas onto paper.



Students then responded to different stimuli such as photographs, cartoons, music, quotes, etc. Once they'd put some ideas on paper, Will led them through an editing process and told them to scratch out half of the unnecessary words to refine their writing, only leaving the words true to their point or message.



This step is often hardest for students.

Next, students were asked questions and they had to answer. "If you were a piece of furniture, what would you be and why?" produced "I am a rocking chair set in the corner of a room, ready for conversation."

Students really shone in this section, volunteering to read aloud and share their writing. "I am rolling hills reaching to the sapphire sea" and "a comic smile against a dark background" were two examples that students offered.

Will finished by discussing how writing daily can help people to become self aware, a skill that researchers have found is what sets CEOs, executives and leaders apart from others. We thank Will Small for leading this workshop and helping our boys to gain confidence in their writing skills. You can check Will out at his website <https://www.leadbystory.com.au/>

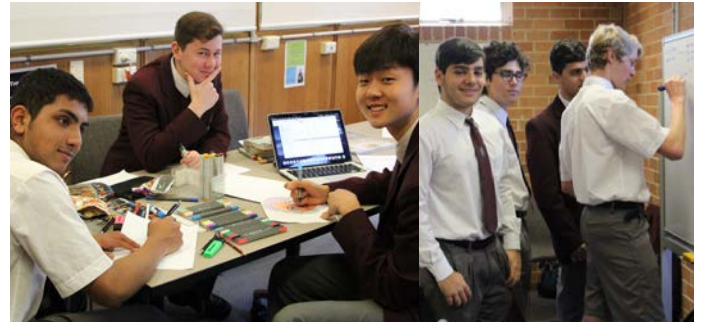
## Write a Book in a Day – a project supporting the Kids' Cancer Council

On Thursday 15 August two teams of Year 10 boys representing Tech worked from 8:30am until the end of the school day and beyond to submit a story of 4000-5000 words with illustrations. Write a Book in a Day is a creative and challenging team competition for students in Years 5 to 12. Teams of up to ten have a day to write and illustrate a book from start to finish. To make it even more fun, unique parameters must be included in the story. Completed books are donated to children in hospitals all across Australia. Funds raised through sponsorship go to The Kids' Cancer Project, a national charity with a mission to support scientific research to help children with cancer. A fundraiser will be held in September to support this cause.

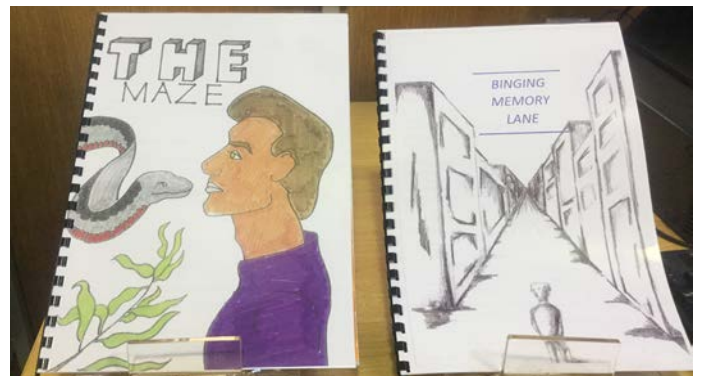
The project stresses collaboration, a life skill that students will need to learn when joining the work

force and in any other aspect of their lives. It is something that some gifted students struggle with as they prefer to work independently. It was amazing to see our boys butting heads about their visions for the books and defending their ideas then compromising to get the project done.

Team 1 consisting of Daniel Jensen, Zachary Favorito, Rayyan Hossain, Ambrose Konstantinidis, Anthony Kourtis, Arthur Paneras, Leo Shin and Rayan Zaioor created 'The Maze'.



Team 2 consisting of Sumen Ahmed, Jason Zhao, Deon Agiratos, Brendan Leung, Alistair Ho, Adrian Nguyen, Huy Nguyen and Tan Thai composed Binging Memory Lane.



I would especially like to commend Daniel and Rayyan of Team 1 who stayed behind until after 5pm to finish their story as well as Sumen, Jason, Deon, Adrian and Alistair who stayed after school for Team 2. Deon and Sumen continued to work at home and emailed me a story at 7:58pm, minutes before the 8pm deadline. Phew! Just in time! The dedication to the team is commendable by all students involved. The art is amazing, and you can see just a few of their illustrations here. We wish both teams good luck as



they go forward in the competition and commend them for their creativity and collaboration on this project.

## Intra-School Chess Tournament

A large group of junior students are competing weekly on Tuesdays at lunch in the library for the honour of being named chess champion at STHS. We will crown a winner at the end of the term so watch this space!

## books@breakfast

All students from years 7-12 are invited to join the student-run book club held at the end of each term. The next meeting will be Tuesday 17 September before school in the library. Matthew Reilly's bestselling thriller "The Secret Runners of New York" will make for a lively discussion so students are encouraged to get in quick. At the moment all six of our copies are out so reserve a copy so that you can finish the book in time to enjoy breakfast and discussion. This club exists to encourage wide reading and to help students to form interactions with other students. The books chosen focus on problems or issues in our modern world or in the lives of today's teenagers.

## Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge has come to an end at the end. All students who have participated need to mark "finished" next to their online reading log so that Mrs Greaves can validate their lists. Thanks to all those in Years 7-9 who participated. The challenge asks students to read widely, outside of their comfort zone so they are to be commended for attempting to read a variety of books.

## Legacy Public Speaking Award

Tech hosted the district Legacy Public Speaking Award on 8 August 2019. Representing our school were Shabih Haider and Jay Bae who were commended for their prepared and impromptu speeches. I'd like to thank members of the Year 10 Debating Team who volunteered to chair, timekeep and supervise/escort students on the day: Alastair Ho, Huy Nguyen, Daniel Jensen and Sadek Medlej. Our audience were debating students from our local primary school, Hurstville Public and 7U, who were well behaved throughout the morning. The winners from GRC Peakhurst, PLC and Sydney Boys have advanced to the regional final.

**Elizabeth Greaves**

**Relieving Teacher Librarian**

## LEGACY PUBLIC SPEAKING



Jay Bae



Jay Bae and Shabih Haider



Huy Nguyen and Daniel Jensen



Year 7 as audience



Huy Nguyen, Daniel Jensen, Sadek Medlej and Alastair Ho

## WELLBEING REPORT



### OUTGOING YEAR 12 ADVISERS

As the Year 12 Class of 2019 completes their final weeks of school at Tech, it is important that we recognise and congratulate their Year Advisers over the past six years (Mr Lee Roche, Year 7, Ms Eugenie Sugowdz, Years 8-10 and Ms Antoinette Johnston, Years 11-12) on their commitment to the academic and personal development of these students, most of whom arrived here way back in 2014. On behalf of the school community - the many students, staff and parents who have been put at ease with the knowledge that their sons have been working to always give their personal best, I would like to thank you, Antoinette and Eugenie for your hard work and dedication to the wellbeing of these boys over the past six years.

### WELLBEING ASSEMBLIES

Wellbeing Assemblies have continued to play an important part in the development of effective wellbeing and engagement strategies for all of the students at Tech.

**Year 7:** With Peer Support now officially over for Year 7, their new program of wellbeing assemblies has already seen them take part in lessons aimed at avoiding distractions and falling behind. They have also learnt all about overcoming adversity and the skills required to bounce back from setbacks. Mr Andy Cachia organised a Year Meeting at the most recent wellbeing assembly to recognise and celebrate student achievement in the Semester 1 reports. The final assembly for Term 3 will finish up with an R U OK day recognition assembly to spread the message about the importance of checking in on others to ask "Are You Ok" and support a friend who may be going through tough times.

**Year 8:** Year 8 heard from external speaker Jonny Shannon who spoke about 'Cybersafety' and 'Cyberbullying' and the implications associated with the misuse of technology when online. Year 8 were also in the audience for Brainstorm Production's play - 'Sticks and Stones' - which is a topic that raises awareness about the issues associated with bullying. A Year meeting was also held for Year 8 by their Year Adviser, Ms Anna Steel, where high achievers were recognised and important information about the exciting range of electives available in Years 9 and 10 was outlined to all.

**Year 9:** Year 9 had a recognition assembly organised by their Relieving Year Adviser, Ms Cheryle Steel, and have started to plan for their camp later in the year to Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre. The students also heard from Youth Motivational Speaker, Daniel Merzer, who presented the 'Leader of your Life' session from his 'Get the Monkeys off your Back' Program. A presentation from our Year 9 Deputy, Mr Grinham, on respectful relationships and cybersafety tips was also provided for the students at one of their wellbeing assemblies this term.

**Year 10:** A recognition assembly coordinated by Year Adviser, Ms Jo Bilton, as well as the production 'Cheap Thrills' by Brainstorm Productions featured at the Year 10 wellbeing assemblies this term. Mr Mouzakis (Careers Adviser) spoke to the boys, prior to the subject selection afternoon, about choosing senior subjects. He also organised an Academic Adviser Day where all students were asked to dress up for an interview to practice interview skills as well as discussing subject choices with staff.



**Year 11:** In less than 12 months from now, the current cohort of Year 11 students will have just completed their Trial HSC exams – a stressful time for all. They have been approaching the topic of effective exam preparation and stress management. It was fortunate that we were also able to have some past Alumni students from the class of 2018, Alfred Ngyuen, Min Ho and Terrence Qi, share their experiences and tips with the students. Year 11 also heard from guest presenter Tom Reynolds, from the Independent Drug Education of Australia, talk to them about the risks and laws associated with alcohol and illicit drug usage in Australia. Students also learnt valuable first aid skills as part of the presentation. Later this term on Monday 23 September after the Year 11 assessments, NRMA U Turn the Wheel has also been booked. This is a driver education program sponsored and organised through Cronulla Rotary.

**Year 12:** Mr Jay Dahl, our school counsellor, presented 'Living a Balanced Life' at the last Year 12 assembly before the last two major assessment blocks in an attempt to help our boys get through the next few months of exams and assessments. I would also like to remind any Year 12s considering applying in Term 3 for the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) that if the application requires an Educational Impact Statement from the school then this needs to be finalised no later than Friday 13 September so that we can complete and return your form before Graduation Day. Remember the school must know about your disadvantage for a period of six months or more for us to be able to endorse the application. A copy of the presentation and all accompanying EAS literature and criteria can be found at:

Moodle B - > Wellbeing - > Educational Access Scheme or by visiting the EAS website.

<https://www.uac.edu.au/future-applicants/scholarships-and-schemes/educational-access-schemes>

## YEARLY EXAMS

It is that time of the Year when students will soon be sitting for their final round of exams. This can also be a stressful and anxious time of the year for some of our students and just as much for members of their families. REACH OUT have just recently uploaded some new resources on developing coping skills for stress, that parents and students can access online. Further resources can also be found on Andrew Fuller's website outlining useful tips on preparing for tests. Andrew is a clinical psychologist who works with many schools and specialises in the wellbeing of young people and their families.

The dates for Yearly Exams 2019 can be found on the school calendar.

## WEBLINKS

1. <https://parents.au.reachout.com/search?q=5 ways parents can help teenagers study for exams&page=1>
2. <http://andrewfuller.com.au/free-resources/>

**Nick Stokes**

**Head Teacher Wellbeing**



## P&C REPORT

### Upcoming Meetings

**Tuesday  
3 September**

**No Meeting in  
October**

**Tuesday  
5 November**

**Common Room  
All Parents Welcome**

It always amazes me how fast a year goes. Spring is already here and the boys at Tech are deep into Term 3.

## COMBINED STHS & SGGHS P&C MEETING

On 6 August 2019, Sydney Technical HS P&C hosted the annual combined P&C evening with St George Girls High School, and we had a fantastic turn out of parents and students of both high schools. We were fortunate to have the brilliant Dr Tsovolos give us an insight on “The Secret Life of the Gifted Teenager”. Dr Tsovolos’ presentation was both highly engaging and educational and I think everyone who attended would agree that they have learnt something from the evening. This year was also the first time that we invited Parents from Hurstville PS and Hurstville South PS to this event. I hope this invitation will continue in the future to foster a closer relationship with the community and to showcase Sydney Technical High School to prospective future students.

For those who missed out on the presentation, you can get a copy of the slides on the STHS P&C Facebook page.

## FATHER’S DAY BREAKFAST

After the highly successful Mother’s Day Morning Tea earlier this year, the dad’s will get their chance to celebrate their day at Sydney Tech with their son(s) at the Father’s Day Breakfast on Wednesday 4 September at 8am. The Father’s Day Breakfast is a good chance for the dads to meet and talk to other parents of students at the school to share stories about each other’s kids.

If you still haven’t RSVP’d, it’s not too late to let us know you can make it. I hope to see you all at the breakfast.

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

A reminder that the STHS P&C is selling the 2019/20 Entertainment Book. You can purchase either the physical or the digital version of the Entertainment Book directly via the Sydney Technical High School P&C purchasing website ([www.entbook.com.au/206m530](http://www.entbook.com.au/206m530)). Please share the link with your friends and family who might be interested in the Entertainment Book. Every purchase via the STHS page will help raise more funds to support the students and teachers of STHS.

## 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 [sydttechparents@gmail.com](mailto:sydttechparents@gmail.com) Please send your suggestions, queries etc to this email.

**Warren Mak  
P&C President**



**The STHS P&C invites you to:**



**WHO :** Fathers together with their sons

**DATE :** WEDNESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2019

**TIME :** 8:00AM to 8:30AM

**VENUE :** Common Room



Combined P&C meeting - 6 August - School Auditorium



## CAREERS REPORT



Currently Year 12 should be working on their University preferences, scholarship applications as well as registering for courses that have a supplementary application direct to the university (medicine). They must also not forget to keep up with their study schedule.

With Year 12 coming to the completion of their secondary schooling, it is now time to look ahead.

Early next year they will enter the sphere of Tertiary Education and all that comes with it, including internships, networking events and finally graduate roles.

Regardless of the university your son has chosen to attend, students must differentiate themselves in order to aid them in getting that elusive role after university. Completing a degree at higher ranking universities (like UNSW) does not guarantee a job in the current day and age. Hundreds of students will finish each year with the same or similar qualifications to your son – so they need to stand out. From the table below, you can see the competition for graduate roles is increasing with more people completing tertiary education.

Source:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/mediareleasesbyReleaseDate/1533FE5A8541D66CCA2581BF00362D1D?OpenDocument>

## HIGHER EDUCATION

Total persons with non-school qualifications - by Level of Education

	2016	2011	Growth (%)
Postgraduate Degree Level	921,029	631,121	45.9%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level	377,539	297,280	27.0%
Bachelor Degree Level	2,882,838	2,340,509	23.2%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level	1,687,893	1,393,046	21.2%
Certificate III & IV Level	2,995,150	2,653,127	12.9%
Certificate I & II Level	215,505	211,972	1.7%

According to the Brotherhood of St Laurence, there has been a 50% reduction in entry level jobs advertised since 2016. The Reserve Bank has just published a report that says “30% of new graduates who are ready and able to enter the workforce do not get a full-time job within four months of finishing their degree”. So, the task is to differentiate yourself.

In the article “Learn to love networking” by Casciaro, Gino and Kouchaki, which was published in the Harvard Business review, the authors state that “in today’s world, networking is a necessity. A mountain of research shows that professional networks lead to more job and business opportunities, broader and deeper knowledge, improved capacity to innovate, faster advancement.....

Building and nurturing professional relationships also improves the quality of work and increases job satisfaction”.

One such way to differentiate and get a head start is to create a LinkedIn profile and join the school group – “Sydney Tech Students & Old Boys”. This is a way for your sons to have access to a plethora of past alumni from Sydney Tech – a vast knowledge bank that will aid your child in navigating university and their future careers.

For those of you who don’t know, LinkedIn is a tool that professionals use to share their skills, experience and achievements to self-promote, network and job search, with the ultimate goal of being noticed by recruiters and hiring personnel – think of it as a publicly accessible resume that Human Resource teams often use to recruit new talent to their organisations.

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



Alumni from years 1988, 1993, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2014 attended the school on Friday 30 August 2019




+

+
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



# Excellence in Mathematics

Congratulations to the following students in Years 11 and 12 who achieved at the top of their Mathematics courses in their Term 2 assessments. Letters of commendation were sent home to these students and they received a bronze merit award.

## Year 11

**Advanced:** Andy Ding, Alvin Joseph, Terry Koo, Jason Lim, Keegan Lim, William Mossman, Phi Nguyen, Vishaal Ramia Haribabu, Colby Rehn, Shaun Thach, Andrew Tran, Wesley Yiu and Zihao Zhou.

**Extension 1:** Jason Cho, George Kekatos, Matthew Lam, Steven Le, William Mossman, Phi Nguyen, Andrew Tran and William Zamany.

## Year 12

**Advanced:** Lochie Bown, Benjamin Hee Song, Alex Huynh, Herbert Lai, Joshua Lee, Winston Liang, Simon Lin, Nehal Nafcy, Eugenius Widjaja, Anthony Woo and Thomas Yap.

**Extension 1:** Sterling Bayaca, Kelvin Chan, Ahmed Hijazi, Alex Huynh, Minsu Jung, Winston Liang, Amir Nadeem, Adam Robey, Ishraq Siddique, Min Sik Son, Zuhair Syed and Steven Wu.

**Extension 2:** Jahan Dawra, Alex Gock-King, Minsu Jung, Ji Woo Lee, Amir Nadeem, Colin Ngo, Terrance Nguyen, Keven Qiu, Farhan Tanvir Joy, Tim Tjugito and Jihao (Sam) Yu.

Congratulations to the following students in Year 10 who achieved at the top of their Mathematics courses in their Term 3 common examinations. Letters of commendation have been sent home to these students and they have received a bronze merit award.

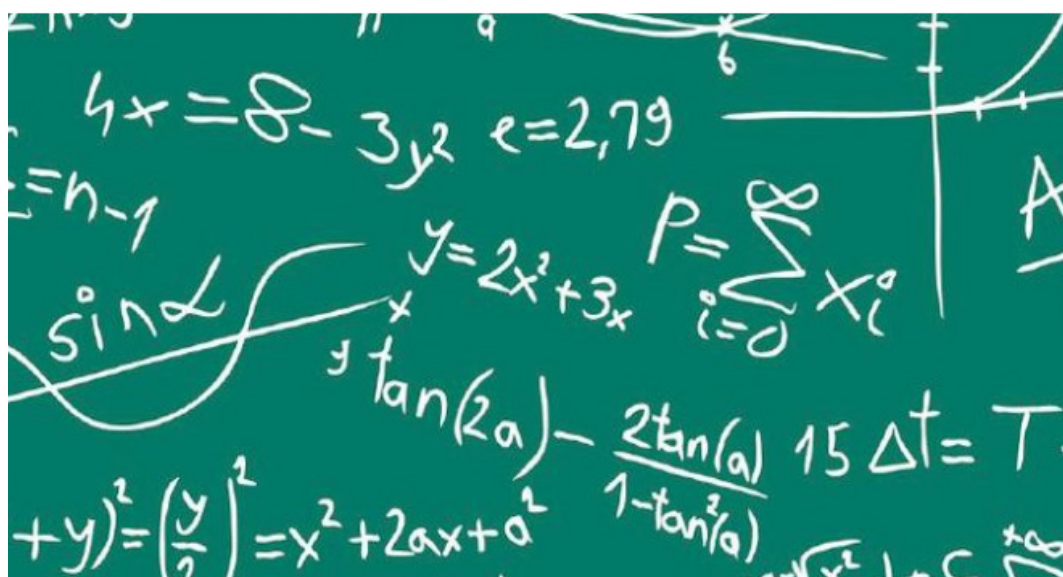
## Year 10:

Phu Dang, Michael Hamade, Eugene Hui, Rayyan Hossain, Brendan Leung, Eric Lin, Christopher Liu, Nathan Liu, Adrian Nguyen, Huy Nguyen, Jay Nishimura-Smirthwaite, Raymond Pan, Muhamed Tafech, Liam Truong and Wesley Wong.

Well done and keep up the great work!

**Pamela Stergiou**

**Mathematics Faculty**





# Japanese Market Day

To coincide with the Nanzan Students' visit to Sydney, our Year 9 and Year 10 Japanese students cooked up a storm and created a Japanese Food Festival on Monday 5 August which was well received by students and staff.





# 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 10 September 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.