

Volume 14—6 September 2019

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Principal's Message

Administrative Staff – thank you for your service

It was a pleasure last Thursday to host morning tea for our wonderful administrative staff to celebrate their work and thank them for their service at Castle Hill High School. Mrs Debbie Boss and her magnificent team provided a banquet of all of our favourites – cheese scones, chocolate slice, leek and bacon quiche, tomato and spinach frittata, lemon slice and more. The conversation, cappuccinos and delicious food was a terrific way to say thank you to this great team of operators.



Showcase

Preparations have been in place for weeks for the annual Showcase, this year "Get Down and Boogie", seen by a full-to-capacity and exuberant house on Wednesday August 28.

With an overflowing complement of performers from the concert band, jazz ensembles, "hand picked session bands", contemporary dance ensembles, drama pieces, hip hop ensemble, outstanding soloists in dance and vocal, this was a superior art festival. The drama pieces had political edge. The dance was the best I've seen at this school and the hip hop was jaw dropping. So much energy and physicality! Rising young musicians, all keen and capable, performed with joy!

Special points of interest:

- Show Case Photos
- Sporting Achievement
- Write a Book in a Day
- Enrolment Policy
- P&C
- Calendar



This was complemented by the hosts, Matthew Thomson and Jack Bevan who were hilarious. The many wonderful staff who worked hard to deliver this showcase are to be congratulated, once again. We are so fortunate to have such dedication.



Bring It On

One of the great joys of the Showcase was seeing, for the first time at school, our hip hop group, managed and choreographed by Ms Corcoran Roberts. This troupe has been preparing and practising for a big event . They will perform in the finals of the "Bring It On" competition, one for hip hop dancers across the state, this coming Saturday.

It was extraordinary to see the skill, energy , flexibility and strength of these fine, contemporary dancers. Loved it!



Art and Music Show

Opening night of the annual Art Show was on Tuesday September 3. HSC major works took prominent place among a field of other works from junior students. Again, it was terrific to see the creative work undertaken by students and the pride of friends and family in the presentations of the pieces. The HSC music evening was on Thursday September 5. As usual, audience members were treated to excellence. I am always in awe of students who are able to perform in public and with such confidence and skill.

Director of Delivery Unit – James Centenera

The secretary of the Department of Education, Mr Mark Scott, has recently established a special unit, the Delivery Unit, to investigate best practice and what can be learned from schools who are performing well.

As a result of this initiative, we were privileged to have Mr James Centenera, director of the Delivery Unity look at some of our programs. I invited him to see our Year 12 boys mentoring program run by Mr Peter Kerrigan (what a program that is, now in its tenth year), the Higher Order Thinking professional learning work coordinated by Ms Katryce Nealon (so good to see our people deliver such high quality learning for one another), Quality Teaching Rounds coordinated by Ms Sue McDonald (this I think will change so much for teachers) and the Foundations English program managed by Ms Clarissa Greenhalgh (any work Clarissa does is tinged with magic!) James left with much food for thought and high praise for us.

The department's new enrolment policy

As of term 4 2019, the department's new policy regarding enrolment will take effect.

Some things will not change for us. We have always had a 100 points residential check for students in Year 8 – 12. But we will no longer be able to enrol out of area students in Year 7, except in the most extraordinary of circumstances. This will be a change for us.

I urge you to read the Information for Parents leaflet distributed by the department. You could make further enquiries by phoning 1300679332.

The new policy was published in the last edition of Drawbridge and is also published again in this edition.

Regards Vicki Brewer











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Open Girls Touch Football 2019

By Peter Jephtha

2019 has been a year of incredible results by the Open Girls Touch Football team. We worked with year twelves that have finished an amazing six year run of contribution, the emergence of new leaders pushing themselves for the future years and we saw the introduction of some exciting new beginnings for year seven and eights that will no doubt be dominating the scene. At the end of term one, we had a trial which saw the inclusion of two new year sevens into the team — Ava Jones and Pyper Marchant.



Our journey started on May 15 when we took on Plumpton HS at their home ground. The Plumpton girls looked intimidating. They were predominantly older girls with dominating frames. The start of the game was quite close, with both teams attacking and defending well. Unfortunately for Plumpton though, this was the day we incorporated some new tactical patterns, when unleashed, put the opposition in a spin and us a couple of tries up at half time. Five minutes into the second half and Plumpton were struggling, clearly not matching our fitness levels. We now dominated all over the field and ended up winning the game 11-1.

Defeating Plumpton qualified us for the Sydney West Championships Gala Day Tournament. Unfortunately, we'd have to compete without two of our star midfielders Georgia Garnett – due to GWS commitments and Matilda Donkin – due to an ankle injury. This was going to make things tough, but I knew that our team had good depth and that we were still a solid outfit. We also acquired Hayley Chapman back into the team at this point. Hayley was a great utility who could dominate across many positions. Moving through the pool games on the day was fairly straight forward. The girls stuck to their structure and patterns and adapted well to any challenges our opponents threw at us. We ended up winning all pool matches but one, where we drew – an incredible individual try in the last minute by Jayde Costello allowed us to draw that game and go into the semi-finals in first place.

We moved past Jamison High in the semi-final without too much trouble. Unfortunately, we lost our speedy winger Sidney Burrell during that game with a knee injury. Now to the Grand Final! Before this game, we'd defeated The Hills Sports High School at this very stage

in the Grand Finals of the two previous years. In 2017 in normal time and in 2018 in a Drop-off decider. Today was going to be really tough, missing two midfielders and a winger, but the girls stepped up! It was a tight game all the way to the end, with full time ending in a draw, so a drop-off needed to be played (a drop-off is where the teams take the field with only 5 players and they lose a player every minute until it's three against three. At any stage, if a try is scored, then the game is over). The drop-off went for eight minutes — which was the longest on record at a Sydney West Championship. The girls were incredibly tired but kept fighting hard. When the game was in the eighth minute it was Molly Donkin, Maggie Donkin and Jayde Costello on the field. Molly called the shots, setting up a play resulting in Maggie and Jayde now in a two on one situation. Maggie drew her player beautifully before giving it to Jayde to dive across the line, scoring the last try and winning the Grand Final, making us Sydney West Champions!

The next progression was to play Callaghan College in Newcastle. Callaghan came second in their region and the winner here would go through to the State Championships. This was a much tougher game than we expected. We still didn't have Georgia due to an injury, but Matilda was back. This was also going to be the last game where the three Donkin sisters — Molly, Matilda and Maggie would play school touch football together. The game started and the tries were one for one all the way until the end. Finishing triumphantly six tries to five.



We had secured our place in the State Championships at Bateau Bay. Woo hoo! This was an overnight stay with the boys team also making the championships for the first time. Ms Golding was also there bringing her player management, social coordination and entertainment skills. Unfortunately, we lost Molly Donkin due to a tough Trials examination timetable and Hayley Chapman to a broken thumb, but gained a new year seven winger — Cassidy Jephtha. We stayed at Bateau Bay Blue Lagoon Resort where our girls and boys had an awesome time bonding in a different environment.



We won the first game in our pool and drew our second. Unfortunately, we lost the remaining two pool games in two very tight matches – The last match being against Mackellar Girls, who went on to win the Grand final.



I cannot describe how proud I am of the girl's performance over the year. They overcame great challenges to get to this stage and grew socially, personally, in ability and in character. The five year twelve girls Molly Donkin, Georgia Garnett, Monica Lenaz, Hayley Thorndyke and Tiarne Flavin have been an incredible asset to the team, contributing since they were in year seven in 2014. They have been wonderful role models of strength, resilience, leadership and just how to

have a great time with your teammates. They will be sorely missed. However, there has been strong developments in the upcoming leaders from year ten and eleven, being Matilda Donkin, Jayde Costello, Alana Hinde and Hayley Chapman. The future is looking bright!

























Due to the boys having a write-up in a previous issue, I did not include information on their journey.

CHHS ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: Kayla Wong – Dance

Kayla is a 15 year old dancer who is currently in Year 9. Her past fifteen years have been filled with academic accomplishments, as well as numerous dancing opportunities and endeavours. The Sports Council are very grateful that we have been given a chance to ask her a few questions about her rigorous, dance filled life.



What are some of your greatest accomplishments thus far?

I have been touring with Australian LOcREaDO Dance Company, and am currently in the contemporary program. I am also a part of the Dream Dance Company in the Australian Dance Festival, which is held in Queensland. Additionally, I am training with Ev and Bow Youth Company, as well as having three featured dance roles in School Spectacular.

What is a typical day for you?

I train at Caper School of Performing Arts for 3-5 hours each day after school. On the weekend, I either have competitions, shows, rehearsals or photo shoots. I am able to complete my school work whenever I have time available, which is not often!

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My biggest inspiration is my dance teacher and mentor, Ashleigh Tavares, who is also one of the biggest commercial dancers in Australia. She is like a "second mum" to me, and provides me with opportunities and the confidence to continue doing what I love.

What has been some of your most proudest moments of your dance career?

I have won Solo National Titles, in the past few years. Performing with Dream Dance Company and School Spectacular have also been amazing highlights for me.





By Sports Council: Fleur Randerath & Paris Hilal (Year 11)



write a book in a day Proudly supporting































Enrolment policy

Information for parents

The Enrolment of Students in NSW Government Schools policy is in place to assist schools to meet their obligations under the *Education Act 1990* - to ensure that every student has a place at their local school. The policy also communicates to staff and the community a transparent enrolment process.

Why was the enrolment policy revised?

Across the state, many communities are changing. Some are growing at rates never seen before. Some schools that used to be able to accept out-of-area enrolments, no longer have the room to do so.

The revised policy is designed to support schools to manage all enrolment applications, encourage greater consistency in decision-making and make sure the enrolment choices are clear for parents.

What are the changes?

The enrolment cap

The enrolment cap is the number of students that can be enrolled at a school based on the school's permanent accommodation. The enrolment cap tells us whether the school may or may not have the capacity to accept non-local enrolments. It is not a target or limit on the number of local enrolments a school can take.

Each school with a local intake area will have a cap set by the department from Term 4 2019. Within the enrolment cap, a number of enrolment places (the buffer) must be kept aside for the likely number of local students who will need to enrol during the year. For this reason, a school will not take non-local students once they reach their buffer, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

100-point residential address check

Parents planning to enrol their child at a school that is near or at their buffer or cap will be asked to complete the 100-point residential address check to confirm they live within the school's designated intake area. This means you will need to provide documents to verify your child's current address.

So that schools only seek information relevant to your child's enrolment, a list of approved documents for the residential address check is available from the school or the department's website at https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/enrolment-of-students-in-nsw-government-schools.

Selection criteria for non-local enrolment

Sibling enrolments are now clearly prioritised (where possible) and selection criteria for non-local enrolment will not include student ability, performance or achievement.



education.nsw.gov.au



What has not changed?

Schools will continue to enrol students who live in their local intake area, regardless of the school's cap status.

There are no changes to enrolment rights of siblings of non-local students. In schools with available places, each enrolment application is considered on its merits, including if siblings currently attend the school. If the school is below capacity, out-of-area applications for siblings of current students will be given enrolment priority.

Schools will continue to provide families with support and advice during the enrolment process, including assessment of exceptional and compelling circumstances particularly for vulnerable students and their families.

Schools will also continue to apply the policy fairly and consistently using transparent and accountable processes when making decisions around enrolment applications. Parents have a right to appeal to determine whether the stated processes have been applied in a procedurally fair manner.

But what do the changes mean for me?

What if my child is already enrolled but we do not live in that school's intake area?

Your child will remain enrolled at the school as the revised policy does not affect students already enrolled in NSW Government schools.

We were in area when my child was enrolled in the school. The department has since changed the school's boundary and our residence is now out of area. I have other children and I want them all to go to the same school. What are my options?

At times it is necessary for the department to make adjustments to a school's local enrolment intake area. This could mean a family with a child/children already enrolled is then outside the local intake area. When this happens, the family will still be able to enrol siblings together at the school, regardless of whether the school is over the buffer or cap.

I already have a child enrolled as an out-of-area student in a NSW Government school. Can I enrol my other children at that school too?

This will depend on the capacity of the school:

- If the school is **not near its buffer**, then siblings should be able to be enrolled at the school. In fact, siblings of students currently enrolled will be prioritised, where possible, over other non-local enrolment applications.
- If the school is **nearing its buffer**, then the school will form a non-local enrolment panel. The panel considers non-local enrolment applications when the number of non-local applications received exceeds the number of places available below the buffer. Again, in this instance, siblings of students currently enrolled will be prioritised, where possible, over other non-local enrolment applications.
- If the school is at capacity they will not accept nonlocal enrolment applications unless there are exceptional circumstances.

I have already accepted an offer for my child to attend a school in 2020 that is not my local school. What happens now?

The enrolment will proceed. Non-local enrolments accepted before Term 4 2019 for students starting in 2020 should not be affected.

What is the criteria for enrolment in a school that is not my local school?

Schools that are able to accept non-local enrolment applications establish a non-local enrolment selection panel, if demand exceeds the number of places below the school's buffer.

Schools are required to make the selection criteria available to the school community.

My circumstances are challenging and I think this school is best for my child. We live outside the school's intake area. What should I do?

We understand that not everyone's circumstances are the same, and that there are instances where exceptional circumstances will need to be considered.

Your circumstances should be discussed with the principal of your local school who can assist you to negotiate an out-of-area enrolment if there are exceptional and compelling circumstances.

Contact

For general enquiries contact: 1300 679 332 or email: <u>DoEinfo@det.nsw.edu.au</u>

For enrolment enquiries, speak to your local school. Find school contact details at: https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/finding-a-public-school

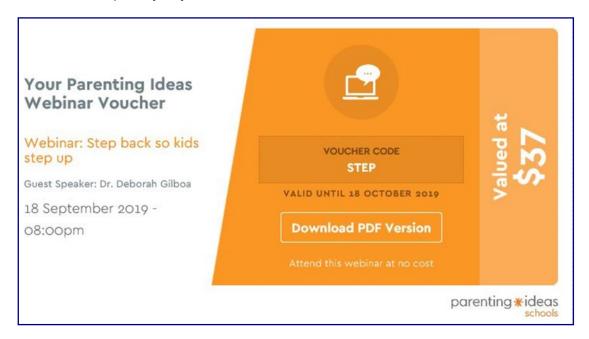
education.nsw.gov.au





How to access the webinar:

- 1. Grab the voucher code
- 2. Use it in the online shop to reduce the webinar cost to \$0
- 3. Proceed to checkout
- Place order
- 5. You will receive an email with instructions on how to view your webinar
- 6. Add webinar to your calendar from the options provided
- 7. Listen from the privacy of your own home



Article: When Relationships Go Wrong For Girls (Collett Smart)

Girlhood relationships are so important, yet they can be both wonderful and awful in the same week. A friendship fallout hurts, but children need to know that arguing doesn't have to be the end of the friendship. Developmentally, some squabbling is vital because it helps kids learn about respectful conflict resolution. Here's how parents can help at these difficult times:

Listen to their story

When inevitable conflict arises, girls can often get caught in a 'rumination loop' replaying the scene over in their minds, like a song stuck on repeat, which makes things feel catastrophic. As a girl's brain is still learning how to interpret some responses, she may be misinterpreting a friend's words or signals. If this is the case, ask her to look for evidence to support her interpretation. Suggest your daughter talks to her friend privately in an assertive way. Help her plan the conversation beforehand, starting with 'l' words, which encourage her to own her feelings. She could say, 'l felt let down when ...' Model apologies at home. Help her think of ways to say, 'l'm sorry. Can we fix this?'

Discuss the shifting nature of friendships

Relationships don't always last. As girls grow their tastes and interests change. They want to explore the possibilities of new people and activities. This often leads to hurt when one girl is not ready for a shift.

Parents can help by explaining that changes in friendships are a part of growing up (although never an excuse for meanness). Rather than simply dismissing a girls' feelings as silly, acknowledge the hurt and gently reassure her there are many new, interesting people she will meet.



Expand her village

Ensure your daughter has friends in a few settings – a neighbour, a team mate, a family friend. They can provide a different connection and helps girls realise they are not alone.

Discuss toxic friendships

Most girls will experience the pain of interacting with a toxic 'friend' during their school years. This type of interaction is called relational aggression and serves to damage a person's sense of social place. For instance, a girl may appear to be friendly but she may use passive-aggressive strategies such as gossip, ostracism and online exclusion. These actions can be very confusing, leading to feelings of shame and loneliness.

When not given healthy ways to express their pain, girls can often internalise their emotions in unhealthy ways like such as through self-harm, anxiety, eating disorders and self- loathing.

Allow her to express hurt

Allow your daughter the chance to process pain, vent or cry when they are hurting. Adults may not be able to change a toxic person's behaviour, but shouldn't underestimate the power of listening and being available. Don't assume that you know what your daughter needs. Rather ask, "What do you need from me in this situation?" When a relationship problem escalates it may need to be taken to the school for further intervention.

Provide growth opportunities

Help your daughter develop the skills for developing healthy friendships. Explicitly teach your daughter to think about what compassion, kindness and empathy look like in a friend and helps her recognise what it means to be a good friend herself.

Helping girls manage friendship issues can be exhausting so parent self-care becomes a priority during these times. Girls benefit enormously from having a caring, emotionally healthy adult in their lives who can support them and help them process their thoughts and emotions when peer relationships turn sour.

(Collett Smart is a psychologist, qualified teacher and author of 'THEY'LL Be OKAY: 15 Conversations To Help Your Child Through Troubled Times')

Canteen News

The winter menu is available here.

P&C Information links:

P&C website: https://www.chhspc.org.au/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CHHSPC

Contact us: chhspc@gmail.com

Our next meeting is next Wednesday, 11th September at 7:30PM. Please come along.

Uniform Shop New



Summer

Opening hours for Term 4: Monday and Friday in weeks 1-10 from 8.15am - 11.30am

Friday LAST DAY OF HOLIDAYS (11 October) 10:00am - 12:30pm.

<u>Winter Uniform:</u> As per the changes to the school uniform policy, pants for girls are now part of the dress code. These are available in the uniform shop.

Online Orders: Please click the order online image to go directly to the ordering portal.

STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO PICK UP THESE ORDERS BEFORE SCHOOL OR AT RECESS.

<u>Students transitioning</u>: those in YEAR 10 going into YEAR 11 2020, are able to wear senior uniform from the beginning of term 4.

Pricina:

SKIRTS FOR GIRLS SIZES 1-22 \$65.00 BLOUSES 6G -16G \$40.00 REGULAR BLOUSES 6-22 \$40.00

BOYS' BLUE TROUSERS SIZES 14-22 \$50.00 BLUE SHORTS SIZES 73-112 \$40.00 SHIRTS SHORT SLEEVE SIZES 30-44 \$40.00

YEARS 7-9:

DRESSES SIZES 1-22 \$70.00

Price Changes:

- ALL TIES \$25.00
- BACKPACKS FULL SCHOOL GUARANTEE \$90.00

Second hand items available in various sizes.

Margaret

CHHS Uniform Shop Coordinator





Calendar

Monday 9th September Tuesday 10th September Music Submitted Works NESA Due

Celebration Assemblies Hall

Wednesday 11th September

ICAS Writing Exam Peer Support Camp

P&C Meeting

Maths Olympiad

Thursday 12th September Friday 13th September

Peer Support Camp Peer Support Camp Year 11 Exams

Monday 16th September

Year 11 Exams

Tuesday 17th September Wednesday 18th September

Year 11 Exams Year 11 Exams

ICAS Writing English

Thursday 19th September

The Hills Leadership program Day 2

Year 11 Exams

7 English G&T Excursion to the Jewish Museum

Friday 20th September

Year 7 Vaccination Year 11 Exams

Year 12 International Student Lunch

Monday 23rd September Tuesday 24th September Year 11 Exams Year 11 Exams

Wednesday 25th September

Year 12 Formal Assembly Period 2

Year 11 EAL/D Quarantine Station Excursion

Mathematics G&T Day

Year 11 Modern History Canberra Excursion

Thursday 26th September Year 12 Formal

Year 11 Modern History Canberra Excursion

Friday 27th September Last Day od Term 3