



# Volume 18—18 December 2021

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Volume 18 - 18 December 2021

## Principal's Message

### Special points of interest:

- My Story
- Year 12 Grad Photos
- Support Contact Numbers
- Library
- P&C

## HSC Results

Wow! What a fabulous result from such a year of disruptions. The class of 2020 have achieved 220 Band 6 results. The following students have achieved band 6 results in 10 units or more, Miranda Clinton, Vy Dinh, Joshua Sotomayor, Sophie Sullivan and Amelia Wheeler. Five students have obtained state ranking, we are waiting with anticipation on the result of their place. Congratulations on such an outstanding effort from a fantastic group of students.

 Joshua Sotomayor ATAR 99.2 <b>DUX</b>	 Huang Phuong (Vy) Dinh ATAR 99.1	 Katherine Hopkins ATAR 98.8	 Sophie Sullivan ATAR 98.7	 Miranda Clinton ATAR 98.00	 Fleur Randerath ATAR 97.95	 Benjamin Guven ATAR 97.8	 Amelia Wheeler ATAR 97.7	 Liyana Khumalo ATAR 97.45	 Jagad Preston ATAR 96.6
 Paris Ianni ATAR 96.2	 Abhi Singh ATAR 96.00	 Paris Starling ATAR 95.95	 Jeanni Huang ATAR 95.6	 Mitchell McVey ATAR 95.5	 Rebecca Tunks ATAR 95.2	 Jenny Kim ATAR 95.2	 Linda Wang ATAR 95.00	 Renee Sproull ATAR 94.8	 Navein Thangiah ATAR 94.6
 Lana Skori ATAR 94.5	 Amren Gill ATAR 94.35	 Jaxen Bedano ATAR 94.15	 Yu Yin Lai ATAR 94.05	<b>ATAR Results 2020</b>		 Clara Harvey ATAR 94.05	 Kaylah Williams ATAR 94.2	 Reece Gerungan ATAR 93.85	 Rebecca Heenan ATAR 93.8
 Stephanie Betonis ATAR 93.5	 Liesl Friis ATAR 93.3	 Caitlyn Munns ATAR 93.00	 Angela Xia ATAR 92.35	 Alexandra Roper ATAR 92.25	 Darrin Rathani ATAR 92.15	 Samantha Hamilton ATAR 91.85	 Salma Elshehry ATAR 91.3	 Haman Shah ATAR 91.00	 Jessica Kim ATAR 90.90
 William Sandford ATAR 90.85	 Xueying He ATAR 90.70	 Shahan Raza ATAR 90.50	 Lauren Attard ATAR 90.05	 Salhej Bhangu ATAR 90.4					



## Presentation Assemblies

In a year filled with many changes and disruption, Presentation Day was the last event to be modified to ensure the school was COVID safe. Over three days, we held Stage assemblies to recognise students for academic achievements, work within the community and sporting prowess. It was my great pleasure to congratulate our students who received awards. Thank you, parents, for your support, understanding and participation as a virtual audience this year. I would also like to acknowledge the Presentation Team for their organisation and management of the Presentation Day assemblies. Thank you, Helen Preketes, Michelle O'Brien, Illone Windrim, Leisje Smith, Amy Danckert, Nic Derricott, Brandon Luhur and Jennifer Dane.



## Year 12 Major Work Nominations

The following students have been nominated for possible inclusion in InTech, the annual exhibition of outstanding Major Projects developed by HSC Industrial Technology students. The selected projects will be displayed for Shape 2020, the combined exhibition of HSC Technology projects at the Powerhouse Museum, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), Sydney, from 26 February to 9 May 2021.



Jeremiah Lee - Industrial Technology Graphics





Caitlin Tong - Industrial Technology Graphics



Nathan Jack - Industrial Technology Timber



Benjamin Snook - Industrial Technology Timber

**Thank you**

Ms Bedano's Year 8 class have been working on a project to bring Christmas cheer to the homeless in our local area. With the help of Samuel Gilbert Primary School, they have raised enough money to buy 30x 50L hiking style quality backpacks from an outdoor specialist, so they are heavy duty and water resistant. Hopefully this will allow the community's rough sleepers to carry their belongings and provide greater mobility to enjoy a better quality of life. They are going to fill the backpacks with a sleeping bag and some smaller items which have been donated by the community. The aim is to really brighten their Christmas day and bring a smile to someone who may not have family or loved ones which shows there are people who care about them in the community. Mission Australia are going to help to distribute the backpacks on Christmas Eve.

**2021 Planning**

The construction of a school timetable for 2000 students and 130 staff is an extremely complex task which takes a huge amount of time and effort while considering the constraints such as access to speciality rooms. The welfare team collects and uses student information to construct new classes for next year. This is a timely process which considers the needs of all students in terms of learning and support for their education. In this process we consider the impact and / or distractions that friends have on the learning process which can be seen through report comments on your child's yearly report. Please expect significant changes to classes for 2021 and support the school's planning with your child by encouraging the focus on learning and they will be able to continue their friendships in the playground during recess and lunch.

**Uniform**

During the school holidays the uniform shop will be open to parents and students for purchase of school uniforms. Please refer to the summer school uniform requirements as published on the website when making uniform purchases. Please note that the additional layers used in winter for warmth such as the white undershirt or non-uniform jumper are not part of the summer uniform. Continuing COVID restrictions means that social distancing will continue to be enforced and you may need to cue outside the shop, thank you in advanced for your patience.

Students are required to wear black leather school shoes as part of the Department's Work Health and Safety requirements. In a school environment, there are many speciality rooms which pose potential hazards which is the reason students are expected to wear black leather school shoes to protect their feet. If your child requires a new pair of school shoes over the holidays please make sure they are appropriate.

**School ends and school opens**

The school year finishes for students on the Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Year 7, 11 and 12 will return on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January and Year 8, 9 and 10 will return on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.

**The year that has been**

Thank you for your support and patience with many challenges we have faced this year as a community. Your understanding and flexibility as the school made changes to cope and manage the disruptions is appreciated. This will be our last Drawbridge for 2020 so I take the opportunity to wish you a restful break. As I know all the teachers and support staff are looking forward to some time to rest and recharge.

Good wishes,  
Relieving Principal  
Diana King

# My Story

## A big decision

As Year 12 came to an end, I was still at a loss of what to do with my life. Although I definitely didn't want to go university, everybody was applying so I thought why not. I had 6 courses to choose. The first 4 were Business Management courses as I thought these would be interesting, but I couldn't decide on the last 2. My Dad had always thought I would make a good teacher and was constantly suggesting Geography and Economics teaching since they were the subjects I enjoyed most at school. After much debate, I conceded and put down teaching to keep him happy, thinking I was unlikely to get those choices anyway. In the meantime, not holding out any hope, I got a job working in a bank in the admin department. I soon came to the realisation that a desk job wasn't for me. Maybe university wouldn't be so bad after all. Well the offers came out and it was teaching!!

## Becoming a teacher

I attended Sydney University and completed a Bachelor of Education in Humanities. Once finished my first job was a temporary position at Rooty Hill HS for 12 months. This is where I taught my first and last Economics class. The next year I was appointed permanently to Plumpton HS where I would stay for 15 years. In my 2<sup>nd</sup> year there, a new subject was introduced into the NSW curriculum, Business Studies. I was lucky enough to get a class and have taught it every year since. Working at Plumpton was both challenging and rewarding, and some of my most memorable moments in teaching come from there.

## Castle Hill High School

15 years is a long time to be at a challenging school so it was time to move on. A short time after requesting a transfer I was told I would be moving to Castle Hill HS and would be teaching Business Studies, including an Accelerated Business Studies course. I have worked with some inspirational teachers over my career who have encouraged me along the way. I have also taught so many amazing students who have also taught me many things as well. I love getting to know them and being able to play a part in their education, especially seeing so many go off and pursue careers in Business. Even though I was adamant I never wanted to be a teacher, I quickly developed a passion for it and have now been lucky enough to share my enthusiasm and knowledge with university students learning to become Economics and Business Studies teachers themselves.

My Dad must have known something I didn't, because it was his persistence that led me to choose teaching as a career (and he never let her forget it!!). I can now not see myself doing anything else, anywhere else.

Michelle O'Brien

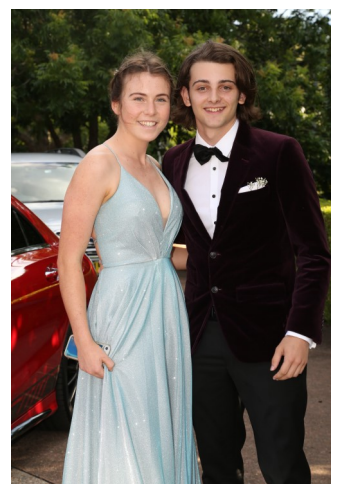
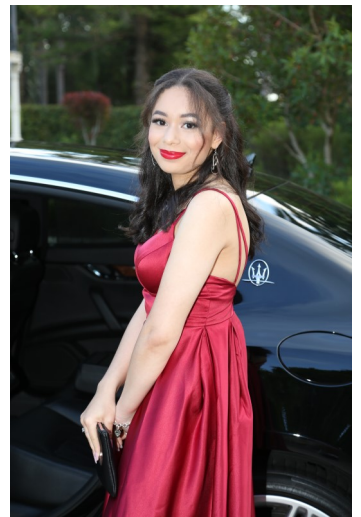




# Year 12 Graduation photos
















# Summer Guide to Getting Support Helpful Contacts



***If you're in a crisis or at immediate risk of harm to yourself or others,  
please call emergency services directly on 000.***

<p><b><u>Kids Helpline</u></b></p>  <p>kidshelpline Anytime   Any Reason</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 1800 551 800</p> <p>Free, confidential, 24/7 online and phone counselling service for children and young people aged 5-25.</p> <p><a href="https://kidshelpline.com.au/">https://kidshelpline.com.au/</a></p>
<p><b><u>Headspace</u></b></p>  <p>headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation</p>	<p><b>Get in contact with Headspace via eHeadspace</b></p> <p><a href="https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/">https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/</a></p> <p><b>Castle Hill Centre contact details:</b>  <b>Address:</b> 253 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, New South Wales 2154  <b>Phone:</b> (02) 9393 9800  <b>Fax:</b> (02) 8331 6055  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:headspace.castlehill@flourishaustralia.org.au">headspace.castlehill@flourishaustralia.org.au</a></p>
<p><b><u>Lifeline</u></b></p>  <p>Lifeline</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 13 11 14</p> <p>24 hour crisis support and suicide prevention services for people experiencing emotional distress.</p> <p><a href="https://www.lifeline.org.au/">https://www.lifeline.org.au/</a></p>
<p><b><u>Butterfly Foundation</u></b></p>  <p>Butterfly LET'S TALK eating disorders</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 1800 33 4673</p> <p>Support and advocacy for all people impacted by eating or body image issues.</p> <p><a href="https://butterfly.org.au/">https://butterfly.org.au/</a></p>



<p><b><u>Link2Home</u></b></p> 	<p><b>Phone:</b> 1800 152 152</p> <p>Referral service to assist homeless people and those at risk of homelessness.</p> <p><a href="https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing/help/ways/are-you-homeless">https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing/help/ways/are-you-homeless</a></p>
<p><b><u>QLife</u></b></p> 	<p><b>Phone:</b> 1800 184 527</p> <p>QLife provides anonymous and free LGBTI peer support and referral for people in Australia wanting to talk about sexuality, identity, gender, bodies, feelings or relationships.</p> <p><a href="https://qlife.org.au/">https://qlife.org.au/</a></p>
<p><b><u>Beyond Blue</u></b></p> 	<p><b>Phone:</b> 1300 224 636</p> <p>You can chat online with the Beyond Blue Support Service every day from 1:00 PM until 12:00 AM (AEDST).</p> <p><a href="https://www.beyondblue.org.au/">https://www.beyondblue.org.au/</a></p>
<p><b><u>Parent Line NSW</u></b></p> 	<p><b>Phone:</b> 1300 1300 52</p> <p>Parent Line is a free telephone counselling and support service for parents and carers with children aged 0-18 who live in NSW.</p> <p><a href="https://www.parentline.org.au/">https://www.parentline.org.au/</a></p>
<p><b><u>Suicide Risk Call Back Service</u></b></p> 	<p>Phone: 1300 659 467</p> <p>Suicide Call Back Service is a national 24/7 telehealth provider that offers free professional phone and online counselling for people living in Australia.</p> <p>You do not require a medical referral to initiate contact. This means you can access free professional counselling anywhere, at a time that is convenient to you.</p> <p><a href="https://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au/phone-and-online-counselling/">https://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au/phone-and-online-counselling/</a></p>
<p><b>Healthy Body=Healthy Mind</b></p>	<p>*Exercise-Make sure to exercise. Exercise helps boost your mood and keeps your body healthy.</p> <p>*Sleep-Get lots of sleep. You should be getting between 8-10 hours per night. If you are struggling with your sleep schedule try check out the resources below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headspace Sleep Fact Sheet: <a href="https://headspace.org.au/assets/Factsheets/HSP225-Sleep-Fact-Sheet-DP3.pdf">https://headspace.org.au/assets/Factsheets/HSP225-Sleep-Fact-Sheet-DP3.pdf</a></li> <li>• Headspace Meditation app: <a href="https://www.headspace.com/headspace-meditation-app">https://www.headspace.com/headspace-meditation-app</a></li> </ul> <p>*Nutrition-Maintain a healthy diet. If you are struggling with your relationship with food the following resource is available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Butterfly Foundation: 1800 33 4673 or chat line <a href="https://butterfly.org.au/get-support/chat-online/">https://butterfly.org.au/get-support/chat-online/</a></li> </ul>

## News from CHHS Library

This year has been both an exciting and challenging year in the library. The teaching and learning needs of the Castle Hill high school community is always at the centre of what we do here in the library. In light of an increasing need to use online resources we have implemented and developed our CHHS library website "LibGuides" and added academic databases to our existing suite, with the latest being "Britannica Online". All of our online resources are designed to provide rich, rigorous and meaningful content, while at the same time increase student information and digital literacy. Reading for pleasure is also a crucial aspect of learning and we feel that student voice is key to our collection. Along with ensuring that we have new and engaging fiction book, this year we have focused on the student interest in manga books and have increased our Manga collection by 25%. We have also added a substantial number of history books that relate to curriculum and student areas of interest to foster and develop inquiry.

### Christmas Crafts

Craft activities resumed in the library in term 4 to allow students to express themselves creatively whilst at the same time enhancing a sense of community and belonging. We had our usual paper crafts, but added felt crafts as well. Much fun was had by all. We also resumed movie club beginning with "Where the Wild Things Are" and finishing off with "The Nightmare Before Christmas".



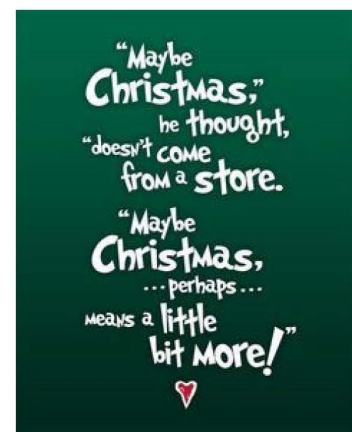
### Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

This year we ran the Salvation army Christmas tree appeal again and were overwhelmed by the generosity of staff, students and their families. We had a huge response from CHHS with bags of groceries and lovely new gifts for all ages. Thank you to all who contributed to this worthy cause.

Finally, we, in the library, would like to wish all of our students and families a very merry Christmas and happy New Year and we are looking forward to seeing you in 2021. We close with these wise words from Dr Seuss....

Happy Reading!

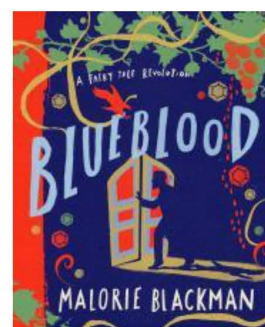
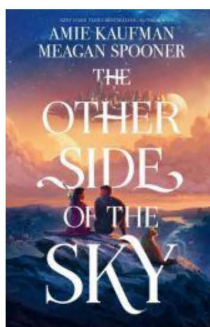
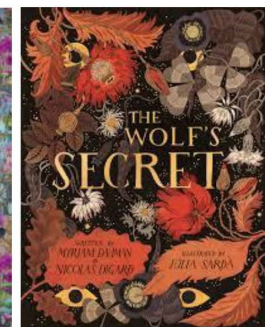
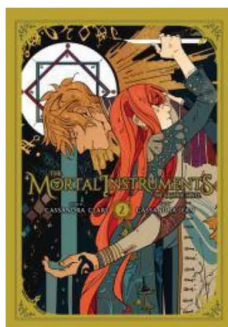
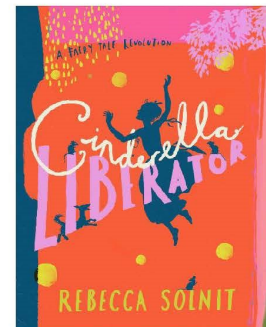
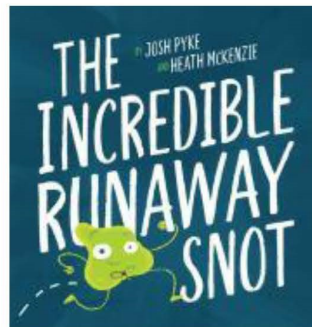
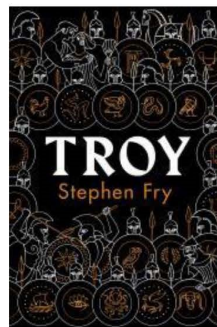
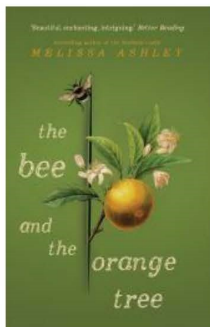
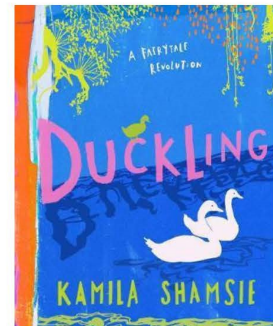
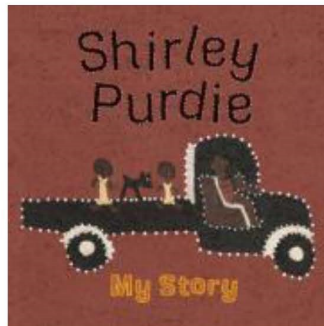
Mrs. Mathews, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs Hemmings, Mrs Hutton, Mrs Roper







# BOOKS in the Library



## Uniform Shop News



Winter



Sports



Summer

### **UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS TERM 1 2021**

#### **During January School Holidays**

Tuesday 19 January 2021	10:00am – 12:30pm
Wednesday 20 January 2021	10:00am – 12:30pm
Thursday 21 January 2021	10:00am – 12:30pm
Friday 22 January 2021	10:00am – 12:30pm
Monday 25 January 2021	10:00am – 12:30pm
Wednesday 27 January 2021	10:00am – 12:30pm
Thursday 28 January 2021	10:00am – 12:30pm

#### **Week 1 Term 1 2021**

Friday 29 January 2021	8.15am – 11.30am
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#### **Weeks 2 – 10**

Tuesday and Friday	8.15am – 11.30am
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Items purchased have a 60-day return policy. Please keep the dockets so, the date of purchase is available.

**Coming Soon:** New navy sloppy joes available in 2021.

Margaret Pritchard  
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator



# Calendar

## Term 1 Week 1A 2021

Monday 25th January  
 Tuesday 26th January  
 Wednesday 27th January  
 Thursday 28th January  
 Friday 29th January

Holidays  
 Australia Day (Public Holiday)  
 School Development Day (Staff Only)  
 School Development Day (Staff Only)  
 School resumes for students in year 7, 11 & 12

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## Term 1 Week 2B 2021

Monday 1st February  
 Tuesday 2nd February  
 Wednesday 3rd February  
 Thursday 4th February  
 Friday 5th February

School resumes for students in all years  
 2020 HSC High Achievers Assembly  
 Year 7 Camp  
 Year 7 Camp  
 Year 7 Camp

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## Term 1 Week 3A 2021

Monday 8th February  
 Tuesday 9th February  
 Wednesday 10th February  
 Thursday 11th February  
 Friday 12th February

Peer Support lesson 2  
 Year 11 Meeting (NESA check/Assessment booklet)  
 School Photos Day 1  
 School Photos Day 2