



# Volume 6—5 June 2020

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Volume 6—5th June 2020

## Principal's Message

### Special points of interest:

- HSC –what you need to know
- NCCD Information
- New Books in the Library
- P&C news

### Back in business

It's so good to be back in routine. Students are happily settled and busy – and that is a very promising start to the “new normal”.

While there were advantages to the experience of on - line learning – for example, an opportunity to be independent, or a chance to have uninterrupted time, or an opportunity to explore the merit of flexibility in learning – there were clearly disadvantages. Students report that organisation, motivation and working without teacher and peer support were challenges. Parents certainly have flagged that there were significant issues. Currently, teachers are assessing what shortfalls have occurred, planning ways to address and further support students with their learning. But we are optimistic. Students and teachers are keener than ever so we are expecting a greater focus in the weeks ahead when usually at this time of the term student concentration starts to wane.

### Year 10 Subject Selection

This important process of engaging directly and personally with Year 10 students and their parents for subject selection in the seniors years has necessarily had to be changed in light of restrictions regarding large gatherings.

As you would know, good communication on this issue is vital so we have had to think differently in order that students and parents have **the right information in order to make informed decisions.**

**Week 8 of term 2** (June 15 – June 19) will see **subject selection information available on-line via CANVAS**, including a comprehensive subject booklet and videos prepared by head teachers and senior executive outlining specifics of the courses offered in each faculty. As well, detail on the HSC and ATAR requirements will be on a video. Students are advised to approach their teachers after reading the booklet and viewing the videos. A hard copy of the booklet will be available for students on Wednesday June 24 when distribution will occur.



**Student interviews** – one on one with a teacher expert and parent if requested - will occur on **29 June and 30 June**. This interview will be an opportunity to discuss options and ideas prior the actual selection of subjects. We want to ensure that the courses selected are appropriate and that selections are compliant with NESAs regulations. This is a personalised and important part of the subject selection process. Students will be allocated a time and this information will be relayed to students and parents in the coming weeks, closer to the interview time.

Students will then complete a subject selection form on line in the library on **June 29 and June 30**. By **Friday 3 July** students will finalise subject selection by returning a printout with parent signature to Mr Mitchell's office.

I will email parents and students next week with a reminder of the timeline. Of course, we will be available for any questions via phone or email and are only too happy to respond. This is an important time for students so **information is power**. Please don't hesitate to contact us.

## Higher School Certificate Changes

I know that this information has been communicated before but I do want to reiterate important NESAs changes to HSC assessment, again.

Following this article is a succinct chart on specific changes and NESAs contact details. In the first instance, if in doubt, students are advised to speak with their teachers or head teachers, or Ms Dane and Mr Kennedy who are experts in this field.

In a time of change we need to be nimble in responding, but we need to know the facts first. **Please, read the following document on page 4 & 5 carefully.**

The Higher School Certificate this year will start a little later on **Tuesday 20 October**. By now all students will have received their HSC timetables.

## Uniform

We have made some short- term changes to uniform in the post COVID world and due to extensive renovation work of ceilings. We didn't want space issues when students change into PE uniform so we have allowed students to wear their PE uniform to school if they have sport or PE on any day and to remain in that PE uniform all day.

I want to flag with you that this will be changed as soon as the remediation works are complete which I hope will be soon. And I also want to flag with you that there are aspects of the PE uniform and uniform generally that need attention and your support:

PE uniform consists of the school's tracksuit pants - not black leggings or multi-coloured track pants and so forth.



Hoodies are not part of the uniform. Please, parents can you support us on this. We want students to be warm so undershirts (white), the school jumper, the school jacket should suffice. It is illogical for boys to claim they are cold when they are wearing shorts or girls who say they are cold when in a mini skirt and not wearing black tights.

We take pride in the symbol of our uniform and want it to be honoured.

## **Update on remediation work**

I have advised you in emails and in the last Drawbridge of proactive investigations by the Department of Education to identify potentially hazardous materials. Those investigations revealed the presence of asbestos in the roof spaces of Block A, B, D and E. The department immediately secured all staffrooms and classrooms and began gyrocking to ensure that the asbestos is appropriately encapsulated. In keeping with practice on these matters, the asbestos will not be touched. All work is being undertaken in accordance with Safework NSW procedures and an independent hygienist will confirm safety of occupation before classes resume in the relevant classrooms.

We are desperately hoping we can have staffrooms and classrooms back by the end of next week.

Regards

Vicki Brewer

# 2020 HSC: WHAT'S CHANGED FOR ME?

The NESA COVID-19 Response Committee (with representatives from government, Catholic and independent schools) is carefully considering and making any changes needed to ensure a fair and safe 2020 HSC.

- What you need to know**
- \* NESA and schools are following the advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, which is also supported by NSW Health.
  - \* Your school has the authority to determine the number, type and weighting of formal school-based assessment tasks.
  - \* The written exams start on Tuesday 20 October, and the timetable is now available.
  - \* You'll get your results on Friday 18 December, by SMS, email and online.
  - \* An overview of specific changes to the 2020 HSC is on the other side of this leaflet. If you're impacted by any of the changes, talk to your teacher or visit the NESA website for more information, including about how your final mark will be calculated.



## → SPECIFIC CHANGES

### Creative Arts performance and practical exams

**DANCE Core composition:** You must dance your own choreography

**DRAMA Individual Project (Critical Analysis—Portfolio of Theatre Criticism):** You may use filmed theatre performances

**Individual Project (Video Drama):** Submit documentation and up to 2 minutes of edited footage, instead of the final film

**MUSIC** You can only perform solo, with pre-recorded accompaniment or with a single live accompanist

### VISUAL ARTS

**Body of Work:** Now due on 14 September

### Practical and oral language exams

#### DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

##### Major Design Project:

Now due on 10 September

#### ENGLISH EXTENSION 2

##### Major Work (Multimedia-Short Film):

Submit documentation instead of the final film

#### INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

##### Major Project (Product):

Now due on 27 August

#### TEXTILES AND DESIGN

##### Major Textiles Project (Product):

Now due on 31 August

Language oral exams start on 15 August.  
An updated timetable is now available.

### Cancelled exams

#### DANCE

Major Study Composition  
Major Study Dance and  
Technology (Film and Video)

#### DRAMA

Group performance

#### MUSIC EXTENSION

Performance  
(Mandatory ensemble piece)

### Other changes

If you are doing a VET subject and are unable to complete the work placement, you'll still be eligible to receive the corresponding units of HSC credit.

If you are applying for disability provisions, you have more time to provide evidence to support the application.

If you are yet to meet the HSC minimum standard, you can attempt each test up to six times in 2020. You can also take the tests once you have left school.

### Questions about the HSC?

Contact the COVID-19 support team on **1300 138 323**  
email [covid19support@nesa.nsw.edu.au](mailto:covid19support@nesa.nsw.edu.au)  
visit [educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/stayhealthyHSC](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/stayhealthyHSC)

### Need help managing stress?

Visit [ReachOut.com](http://ReachOut.com) for information, tools and tips to turn exam stress into success. If you need help right now, call **Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800** or **Lifeline 13 11 14**, or talk to your GP

# CONCESSION CARDS

All students who came to A1 and registered for a new concession card, these are available to collect from the Payments Office.

If you are 16 years old, you are required to have a concession card to travel on public transport under a Child/Student Opal Card. If you have not requested one yet, please come to the Payments office to register for one.

This card allows you to travel on NSW Public Transport on a Child/Student Opal Card. The government will expect you to travel on an Adult Card (which costs a lot more) when you turn 16 years old, unless you can show them this Concession Card which advises them that you are still at school

senior secondary student concession card

Transport 20

Student's name in full

Residential address

Student's signature

Name of school

Signature of school principal or authorised representative

CASTLE HILL HIGH SCHOOL

For travel with child/concession fare on train, bus, ferry and light rail services within NSW as indicated on the reverse.

NOT VALID UNLESS FOIL SEAL IS ATTACHED

FOIL SEAL

Expiry date 31.03.21

FOR CONDITIONS SEE BACK FORM No. 202

Always carry card when travelling





Dear parents, guardians and carers

**Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)**

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the *NCCD guidelines (2019)*.

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy) (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](https://www.nccd.edu.au) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

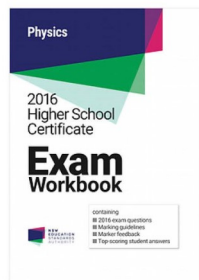
**Vicki Brewer**

**Principal**

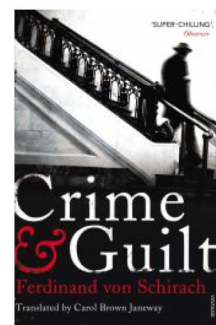
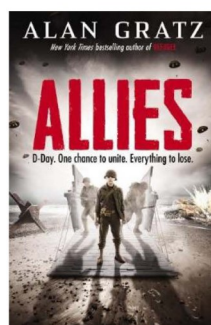
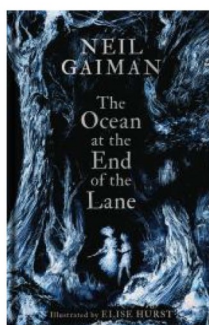
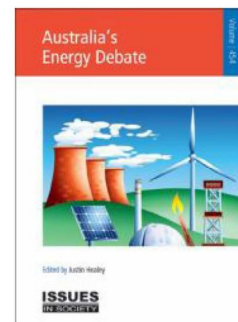
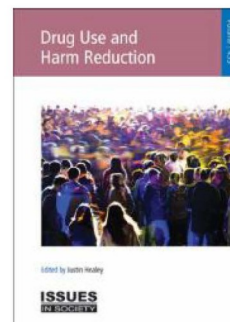
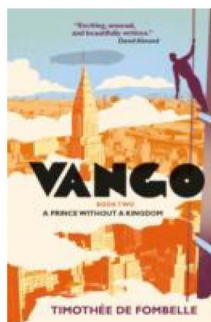
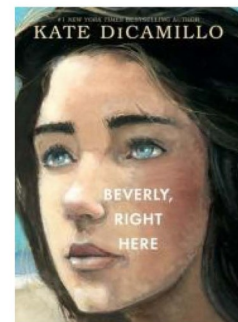
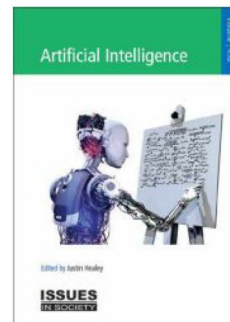
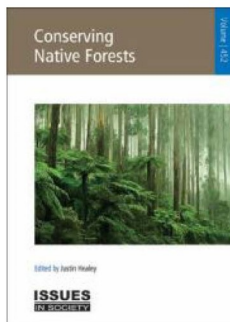
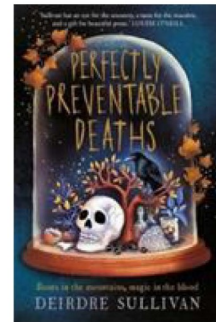




# BOOKS in the Library



2016 HSC Physics Exam Workbook







# CHHS LIBRARY NEWS

Here at Castle Hill High school library we believe in, and foster the importance of reading for pleasure. This is something that we strongly encourage in all of the students and staff and in particular, our wonderful Year 7 Library classes. There is no denying that the last few months have been challenging for our school community, however it has been really lovely to see the way our students have embraced the opportunity to read and the value they place on the experience. Below are just some of the many responses we received from our Year 7 students when asked about what reading means to them.

## Why year 7 liked reading in Isolation at Home

When I read my book I often lost track of time and read for hours. For me, reading was a reason not to stare at a screen and listen to how the world is dying, but to instead dive into a world full of adventures.

Sahara

Reading in isolation was actually very enjoyable for me. The things I most enjoyed about it was the peacefulness of reading in amongst my stressful work. I also enjoyed the books themselves. What they are able to do is incredible. They can take someone from their ordinary world and transport them all around the globe. I was in Auschwitz when reading about the boy in the striped pyjamas and also for the Librarian of Auschwitz. We get to see how other characters are feeling in these harsh times. Then I think about how I'm complaining about my work and can see how our life is so much easier nowadays. Overall, I loved reading in isolation.

Elizabeth

The benefits of reading books extends your mind and imagination to be wild! It enhances our reading skills and strengthens the brain. It reduces stress whilst the more you read, the more words you gain exposure to, and they'll inevitably make their way into your everyday vocabulary. When you read a book, you have to remember an assortment of characters, their backgrounds, ambitions, history, and nuances, as well as the various arcs and subplots that weave their way through every story. That's a fair bit to remember, but brains are marvellous things and can remember these things with relative ease.

Julia

The best part is having some time to yourself to just read a book , instead of stressing for exams and sickness.I have certainly enjoyed reading at this time , to jump into a whole new world , to not stress about the issues of ours.

Anannya

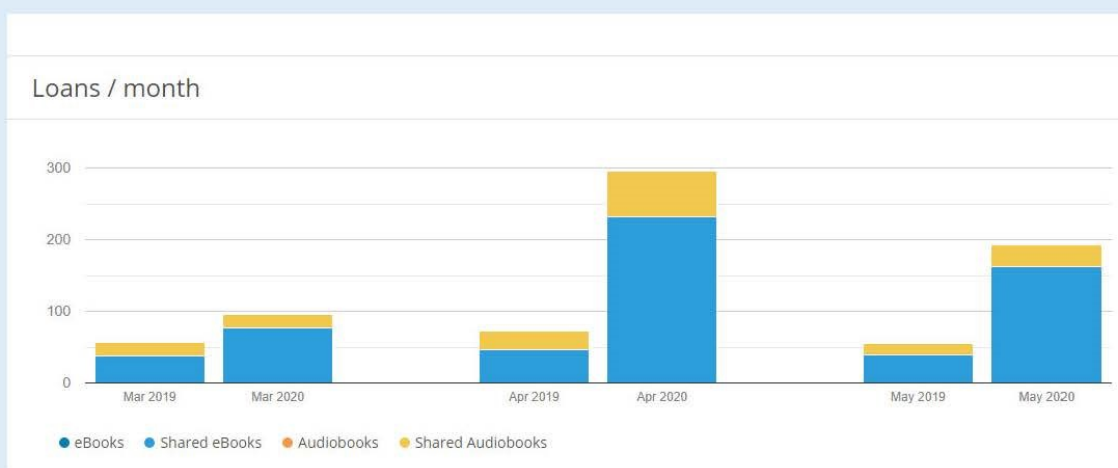
I really enjoyed just sitting down in my living room with a cup of warm milk and cookies in a beanbag and relaxing. It was a really stressful time and reading was like a little escape.

Pragyee

In my opinion, reading is one of the best things in the world. Each book contains a portal to another world in its pages. These worlds contain fluttering fairies, magnificent magic, fantastic beasts... and where to find them, and so much more! A book can offer an escape from reality to a mystical place, or turn back the hands of time all the way to the beginning of the universe. A book can be Fiction, with elves and dragons, or Non-Fiction, with cats and dogs to the tallest man in the world! Books can be about anything; exciting mysteries, wonderful magic, adventures to the unknown places in our minds. Books aren't like a movie, where you stare at a screen all day, they are like finding a treasure map in many ways. On a treasure map, you must go through obstacles on your way to the treasure. In a book, you watch and experience the character as they fight giant sea monsters, fire-breathing dragons and make new friends. In my opinion, a book is like life... you make friends and overcome obstacles, you fight for your cause, you sustain injuries along the way and even though you know that it will be hard, you keep on going to your next adventure. Life is truly like a book, the question is, what kind? "As one chapter closes, another begins." – (Lauren Juliff, 2018)

Sadie

## Reading Wheelers ebooks and audio books in Isolation



This graph shows our Wheelers ePlatform user statistics for March, April and May. It compares loans for the same period in 2019 and 2020. Our library users, both staff and students, were very happy to have access to e-books and audio books while stuck at home

Take the plunge.  
Dive into an eBook today!



You can borrow online 24/7 -  
ask your librarian.



## P&C News



The teachers and staff at Castle Hill High School have done an incredible job of supporting students and their families during these incredibly challenging times. The school community would like the opportunity to show our appreciation by providing a lovely morning tea for all staff members.

Please donate generously to this fundraiser so that we can raise enough money to truly spoil our staff. If we are fortunate enough to raise sufficient excess funds this money will be used to purchase a coffee machine for the staff common room or another item that the staff decide will be of greatest benefit.

Thank you to the wonderful Alison Cunningham for championing this and co-ordinating the effort. A whopping \$675 came in overnight post launch and by the second day the tally sat at \$880. This just demonstrates the generosity of our community and the respect and value you have for our school staff.

Donations can be made via this [link](#).



### AGM & Meeting Update

The Federation has recently released a revised constitution. This now permits us to hold virtual meetings. We have also put in an expression of interest via the Federation for a P&C zoom account. Stay tuned. Very soon this will become our new normal. Virtual meetings will not replace face to face meetings but will be extremely handy for those families who want to be part of the conversation but physically can not attend on a regular basis.

The AGM is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> June which is our next gazetted meeting. Social distancing guidelines will be adhered to. This is the most important meeting of the year for us and will be conducted as a face to face meeting. There may be members and families who still do not wish to venture out, therefore we are establishing first that we will have quorum in order for the meeting to proceed. The AGM will be followed by a general meeting. The AGM will start promptly at 7:30 so that we can accommodate 2 meetings and minimise a delayed finish. Should we be unable to proceed due to insufficient numbers then we will notify our members and parents of the school community via our normal communication channels.

Please make sure your membership is current if you wish to vote at the AGM or stand for a position.

Liga Hegner  
P&C President

### Uniform Shop News

Thank you to all the parents and students who have waited patiently for uniform items through some tricky distribution times.

At the moment the uniform shop is open 8.15 TO 11.30 Monday and Friday.

Social distancing is required for waiting, purchase and trying on of uniforms with one student in the shop at a time. Time can be saved by ordering online and having your order ready to collect at recess on either of those days.

Most stock is available but what is out of stock is the result of unexpected increased demands. More stock will be available and will show up on the online order information.



Margaret Pritchard  
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

### Canteen News

The Canteen would like to thank the students that are doing as they have been asked regarding the social distancing. We would like to explain why we are being so adamant about only 1 student at a time at the counter. For those students who look at us in a funny way/roll eyes: please know that it is for a good reason.

We only have enough staff to serve 1 student at a time as helpers don't use the iPads. We also do not want to get sick because that would affect the smooth running of the canteen. If you have any issues with our current process, please feel free to talk to us.

[Online ordering](#) is available as always.

Diane Flanders  
Canteen Supervisor

# Calendar

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

Queen's Birthday—Public holiday

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Monday 15th June  
Tuesday 16th June  
Wednesday 17th June  
Thursday 18th June  
Friday 19th June

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Monday 22nd June  
Tuesday 23rd June  
Wednesday 24th June  
Thursday 25th June  
Friday 26th June

Year 10 Subject Information Week Booklet and Videos on CANVAS