



Volume 9—31st July 2020

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Volume 9—31st July 2020

Principal's Message

Special points of interest:

- Digital Da Vinci Achievement
- Library news
- P&C

Welcome back to Term 3

Welcome back everyone. What with COVID and remediation works, I am hoping this term will be less dramatic than term 2. I would also like to welcome our 14 new enrolments who began this week.

Where will we go in 2021 – 2024?

The School Development Day for teachers on 20 July was an opportunity for us to begin thinking about our future, specifically the next four years, 2021-2024. I must say it was therapeutic to think about teaching and learning!

We began the day reflecting on our context, practice and achievements; a situational analysis in other words. After all: "Life can only be understood backwards. The past is where you learn the lesson. The future is where you apply the lesson". We wanted to track programs and culture in the past decade that had made a difference – or not – and examine data to attest to achievement.

We wanted to address some of the following questions in order to address our context:

- What are the foundations of CHHS and are they strong?
- What does the research say?
- What do we say?
- What needs re-visiting? What needs re-working?
- Is there a pipedream of possibilities?

In assessing our foundations the following aspects were targeted:

- Our notion that we want to "Challenge Minds and Build Character"
- Our belief that positive, respectful relationships are at the heart of learning and working
- Our belief that academic excellence is a driving priority
- A belief that supportive, collaborative, professional learning amongst teachers is key to improving the craft
- A determination to honour the belief that "every student counts" – for example, high performance students, those struggling, those with social issues, the creative, the sporting, LGBTQI students and so forth



We used research from the Centre for Educational Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) in its latest document “What works Best, 2020 Update” which identifies eight themes that make a difference for students in their learning:

- High Expectations
- Explicit Teaching
- Effective Feedback
- Use of Data to Inform Practice
- Assessment
- Classroom Management
- Wellbeing
- Collaboration

While not new, it was very important that we reminded ourselves of these underpinning bedrocks in teaching to evaluate and consider further ways to improve.

As well, we considered some of the challenges that need to be tackled in thinking about our future, including our changing size and demographic, changing behaviour norms in society, the impact of social media and the impact of burgeoning mental health issues.

It was a fruitful, stimulating day.

We will continue to discuss matters. In the coming weeks, the P&C will be asked for their feedback as well as students.

Curriculum for Year 9 and Year 11, 2021

The final aspects of subject selection for Year 8 and Year 10 students have occurred this week ready for investigation as to what will be offered in 2021. This is a massive, important task. We do want students to do what they are good at and what they like so it's important that the detail of the process is right. While it is not possible to guarantee that every student will get everything they wish for, we try very hard to accommodate everyone.

Year 12

I wrote to Year 12 and their parents this week about final celebrations for the end of this term – the Graduation Ceremony, the Farewell Assembly and the Formal – all of which are important milestones and rituals for students, their teachers and parents. We do love this time of year and the opportunity to celebrate, reminisce, laugh, connect. The dreaded COVID situation may well change aspects to these ceremonies.

What we will do is to honour our Year 12 students and their parents in the best way we can, no matter the restrictions. We won't be making any decisions until we have advice – which currently is a moveable feast!

I will keep the community posted.

Regards
Vicki Brewer
Principal



Our Wonderful Year 12 Students



Digital Da Vinci

When home became school in late March, it seemed that extra-curricular activities and excursions would be off the agenda for 2020. However, when students in Years 7 to 10 were offered the opportunity to participate in an online extra-curricular, over seventy jumped at the chance and Digital Da Vinci was born!

Each week during Term Two, students put their critical, creative and lateral thinking skills to the test, completing academic challenges including logic, construction and everything in between! Students were rewarded for attempting and completing the tasks, fighting it out for the title of Digital Da Vincian 2020. The prizes, including cinema vouchers and chocolates, added an extra incentive for these already keen and committed students.

Castle Hill High School, your Digital Da Vincians for 2020 are:

Year 10

- 1st Place – Alexander Tan
- 2nd Place – Priya Patel
- 3rd Place – Jason Park

Year 9

- 1st Place – Lucinda Vanderklauw
- 2nd Place – Breanna Yeun and Arya Sambyal
- 3rd Place – Naomi Baker

Year 8

- 1st Place – Kaya Lawton
- 2nd Place – Zac Danckert
- 3rd Place – Riddhi Ippalavalasa

Year 7

- 1st Place – Callista Yeun
- 2nd Place – Ken Nguyen
- 3rd Place – Anannya Bandaru

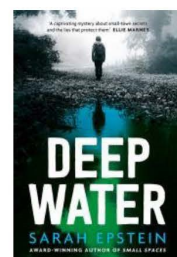
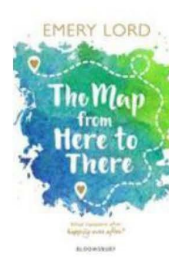
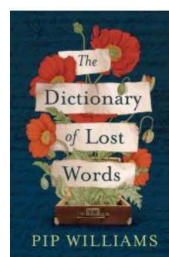
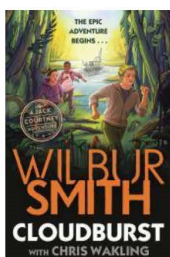
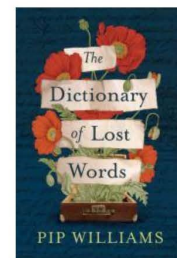
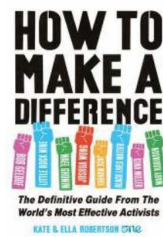
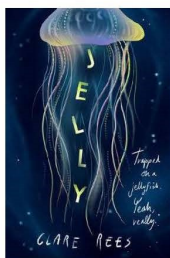
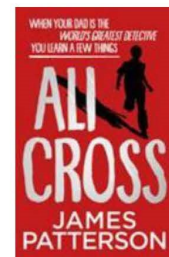
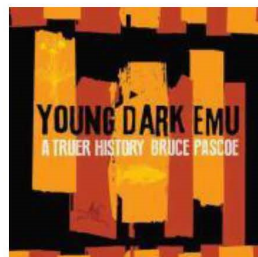
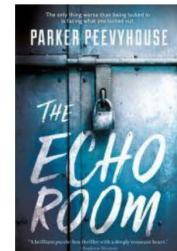
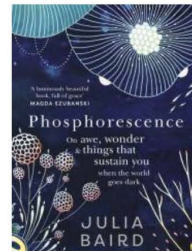
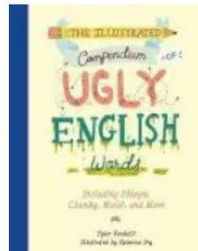
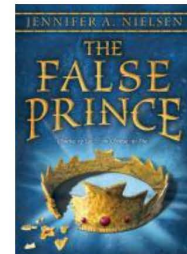
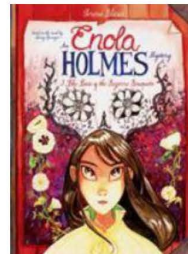
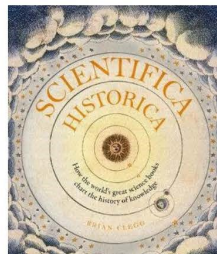
A big congratulations and well done to all of the students who took up the challenge and participated in Digital Da Vinci. And, of course, thank you to all the parents who engaged as well, particularly with the filming of the engineering tasks.



Miss Rhonda Davis
English Teacher



BOOKS in the Library



The School
Photographer

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P 02 9674 9824

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Castle Hill High School

Sports & Special Photos

All Sports & Special photographs taken on

Tuesday 30th June, 2020

will be available online for viewing & purchasing from

Thursday 30th July, 2020

www.theschoolphotographer.com.au

TO VIEW PRICES AND PAY ONLINE
PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE AND USE THE
PURPLE CODE BELOW

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P&C News ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION COMMITTEE

The P&C EMR Committee formed back in 2014 when we battled the Telstra Tower on the RSL roof. Unfortunately, we were not successful in preventing this external installation, so we turned our attention to the internal wireless environment at the school.

Telecommunication towers, Wi-Fi, mobile phones, wireless devices (laptops, tablets) cordless phones, wearable tech devices, and Bluetooth are examples of devices that emit radio frequency microwave radiation or Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR). The IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) and the WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified EMR as a **2B Possible Carcinogen**.

Growing independent scientific evidence is showing that EMR emissions can cause biological health issues. The problem is the radiation standards are outdated and based on thermal effects/heating. In addition, they are based on a plastic head called SAM who is 6 foot and 100KG so not representative of 97% of us and the guidelines exclude kids and are short term only. Biological health effects are ignored in the radiation standards so therein lies the problem. Here is an Australian database www.orsaa.org that contains the science and overwhelmingly biological health effects are found. The weight of evidence demonstrates harm.

The P&C EMR Committee believe it is in everyone's interest at Castle Hill High School to act in accordance with the **Precautionary Principle** to minimise potential health risks. Below please see some of the initiatives we have done to assist with that.

POSTERS - Several years ago now, two posters were developed and placed in classrooms asking children to practise safe tech use with their mobile phone. For example, most people do not read the fine print/legal disclaimer warning in their mobile device that states mobiles should not be held against the body (ie. against the head or in pockets). The posters encourage the use of airplane mode as much as possible because it disables the radiation along with turning off the Bluetooth/Wi-Fi.

MOBILE PHONE SAFETY TIPS - Please click on this link to see our list of safety tips for mobile phone use and also cyber bullying information. <https://castlehill-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/supporting-our-students/parents--carers-and-the-community/p-c/mobile-phone-safety-tips---cyberbullying-information.html>

The EMR Committee's list was so well regarded that The Environment Health Trust in the USA have mentioned our list on their website. <https://ehtrust.org/castle-hill-high-school-issues-safety-tips-to-reduce-cell-phone-radiation/>

WI-FI PLUGS - The biggest achievement of the committee so far is installing the Wi-Fi Plugs back in 2016. <https://www.chhspc.org.au/emr> - this link explains the process and shows a picture demonstrating the Wi-Fi Plugs. Teachers make the decision every lesson if Wi-Fi is required or not and if not, they simply pull the plug which disables the wireless in that room. Once again, our work has received high praise from The Environmental Health Trust (see top of page 2 second paragraph). <https://ehtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/WiFi-in-Schools-Toolkit-EHT.pdf>

5G – we are continually monitoring the situation regard 5G and at this time, 5G is not yet proposed for the Telstra Tower on the RSL. What most people don't realise is that 5G is coming to residential streets, which is partly why there is so much up roar regarding 5G. Here is an excellent website for more information. www.WeSayNoto5ginAustralia.com

If you have any questions about any of the above or would like more information, please email the P&C – chhspc@gmail.com

Elizabeth Madders
EMR Committee

Uniform Shop News



Winter



Sports



Summer

OPENING HOURS TERM 3

Tuesday **AND** FRIDAY
8.15 TO 11.30AM

PLEASE NOT THE CHANGE FROM MONDAYS TO TUESDAYS.

Size 14 jumpers are now available. Sizes 18 and 20 on order

ONLINE ORDERS AVAILABLE TO PICK UP FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP AT RECESS ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS.

Margaret Pritchard
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

N.B: The Department of Education advises that non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds – please be aware this includes the uniform shop.

Calendar

Week 3B

Monday	3rd August
Tuesday	4th August
Wednesday	5th August
Thursday	6th August
Friday	7th August

Week 4A

Monday	10th August	
Tuesday	11th August	High Potential and Gifted Enrolment Test Year 6 into 7
Wednesday	12th August	P&C Meeting
Thursday	13th August	
Friday	14th August	

Week 5B

Monday	17th August	Year 12 Trial HSC (All Week)
Tuesday	18th August	
Wednesday	19th August	
Thursday	20th August	
Friday	21st August	English Extension 2 - Major work NESA Due