Hello and welcome back to school. I hope everyone had a relaxing break.

It is no secret that term 4 is typically the busiest time of the school year. Most importantly, the HSC exams commence in week two. This year’s Year 12 cohort is the largest our school has ever had, and we wish them all the best of luck.

We will be continuing our holistic approach to student well-being this term by establishing a meditation and yoga program. Both meditation and yoga have repeatedly shown the potential to improve mental health in all types of people, so we will be holding small group sessions throughout the term. Term 4 is also the time when we run our annual school camp and formal, so keep an eye out for further information which will be passed on as details are finalised.

Our existing academic and support programs were of great benefit last term. Music therapy has been really well-received, and we look forward to seeing the results at the end of the year. The horticultural program has again stepped up to provide students with practical knowledge and memorable experiences, including an excursion to the National Park. The horticulture team is also responsible for the impressive sensory garden located at the entrance to the school.

Also last term, the school was visited by politician Mark Coure, the Member for Oatley. After the visit, we received a donation of $500 to our music program, allowing us to purchase new instruments and recording equipment. We would like to extend our gratitude towards Mr. Coure for this generous donation.

Finally, I would like to thank parents and carers for their time, and especially for their participation in parent-teacher meetings. They are always a great way to share the progress of students and collaboratively plan for their futures.

Craig Smith
Principal
Trip to Taronga Zoo

On Friday, the 19th of July, Jasper, I and several other people from SDEHS made a trip to Taronga Zoo for our Photographic and Digital Media subject. This trip was organized to give us opportunities to not only learn how to properly use digital cameras but to get up close and personal with the beautiful animals from Taronga Zoo.

From Woniora Road School, we travelled by foot, train and ferry to finally arrive at the zoo where we met our teachers. After a quick introduction on the different parts of our cameras such as exposure and shutter settings, we were on our way to go backstage to meet some of Taronga’s cutest.

Once we were backstage, we met a zookeeper/teacher, who was there to tell us about the animals we were about to see. After a quick introduction, the first animal was brought out, a snake. Seeing a chance present, each of us took close-up and artistic shots of the snake. After this, we were shown an echidna, which we were allowed to not only take photos of, but pet and have run around near us. Following the cute echidna, a small turtle was brought out for us, which we again were able to photograph, touch and have roam around near us. Next, a strange yet very photogenic lizard that I personally received some of my best shots from was brought to us. Subsequently a frog was carried out and finally a possum snuggled up in a towel was brought to us.

This was most definitely a very exciting and new experience for me and for the rest of the students, I’m sure. Some of the shots we got looked incredible. Big thanks to Taronga Zoo for sharing that experience with us.

Natasha, Year 10
# School Calendar

## OCTOBER

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<td>21</td>
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<td>23 Romeo &amp; Juliet Play—Opera House</td>
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<td>29 School Leavers Literacy &amp; Numeracy</td>
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## NOVEMBER

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<td>27 School Camp</td>
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<td>11 School Formal</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>18 Students’ Last Day of Term 4</td>
<td>19 Staff Development Day</td>
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Work Experience Reports

Jackson Bunnings - Kirrawee
Jackson enjoyed his time at Bunnings and developed a strong connection with the staff. Jackson was rewarded for his efforts with the presentation of a hamper.

Jayden Bunnings - Rockdale/Mechanic
Jayden, through all his efforts at TAFE and work experience, leaves us this year with an apprenticeship.

Michael H. - Best & Less Hurstville
Michael enjoyed himself at Best & Less and all reports back were that he was a friendly and capable young man.

Reem - Body Shop Miranda
Reem enjoyed the Body Shop and staff commented on her professionalism and her mature attitude.

Natasha and Cristian - Best Little Book Shop in Town Cronulla
They did their work experience at the Best Little Book Shop in Town at Cronulla and both impressed staff and customers with their presentation and enthusiasm for books.

Alison - Organic Cafe Gymea
The owner commented that she showed more initiative than was ever expected.

Dylan - Zest Waterfront Venues
Staff at Zest commented on his professional level of appearance, great attitude and his willingness to learn.

Georgia - Princes Highway Veterinarian
Georgia continues to have a positive experience with positive feedback from staff.

Weekly Schedule of Support Programs

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<td>Morning</td>
<td>Drama (Joe)</td>
<td>St George Youth Services</td>
<td>Work Solutions Services</td>
<td>Music Therapy (Joanne)</td>
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<td>Girls’ Program (Joanne) (on alternating weeks)</td>
<td>Fortnightly (Joe) Horticulture Stacie</td>
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<td>Middle</td>
<td>Girls Fitness (Tilly)</td>
<td>Food Tech (Tilly)</td>
<td>Volunteering (Vicky)</td>
<td>Music Therapy (Joanne)</td>
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<td>Horticulture Meditation (Andre)</td>
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<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Boys Fitness (Danny/Andre Radio (Joe)</td>
<td>Art Program (Dushan)</td>
<td>Horticulture (Stacie) Meditation (Andre)</td>
<td>Music Therapy (Joanne)</td>
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‘Spur of the Moment’ at the ATYP

As part of the Woniora Road drama crew, we were invited by our professional drama instructor Zoe Carides to watch a play she starred in, *Spur of the Moment*, at the Australian Theatre for Young People. The play was about a middle-class family in a marriage and financial crisis that has resulted in emotional fracturing between the parents, whilst their 12-year old daughter going onto being 13 starts experiencing attraction to a 21-year old lodger (don’t worry, the actress who plays the 12 year old is 18!!).

After the play had finished we had a Q&A with the cast and director, where the crew got insights into how the actors prepared for their roles, learning lines, expressing emotions and being able to keep in-character. The crew thoroughly enjoyed the play, with well-rounding smiles and discussions about the play on the way back to school. I enjoyed so much myself, I went and saw it again with the family.

Jimmy, Year 12

Regional Art Exhibition at the Seaview Gallery

From the beginning, everybody had a careful approach. We didn’t know what to expect. As the program unfolded, it became more hands-on and the teacher focused on our individual strengths. I appreciated having the teachers’ comments throughout the program. What I liked the most about the program was the consistency—working on one project for the whole term allowed me to focus on and develop my skills.

The main challenge of the program was capturing realistic likenesses. When making a series of portraits, I wanted to make the face that looked exactly like me, because I knew we would be doing a whole series based on the same face. I had also never used ink before, and found that controlling the ink to get the results I wanted required lots of concentration and very careful work.

At the end of the program, we went to an exhibition to see the artwork of students from schools all over Sydney. There wasn’t much space there which was disappointing, but it was good to see how other students developed over time and how they resolved their challenges.

Angela, Year 10

Bush Tucker Trail Walk at The Royal National Park

We went to the Royal National Park for a couple of hours where we were given a tour by an Indigenous Park Ranger.

We were shown native animals from the National Park and also went to a secret cave that had Indigenous Aboriginal engravings which were hundreds of years old.

The Park Ranger taught us the Aboriginal way of life hundreds of years ago, which is much different to how we live today. He offered us a special plant that is supposed to prevent the flu. Many of us decided to have some! We tried many other bush foods which all had different uses. Lastly we were shown the tidal fish catchment area, where they would catch fresh fish.

We all enjoyed the Bush Tucker excursion and we all left happy, more knowledgeable and well-fed.

John, Year 9
As a perfume/fragrance lover, I want to represent the gardenia’s scent as something rich and potent. Its smell—a very floral and creamy scent—is captured in floral details and bubbles. The spiral is to invite the audience to a whirl of delight. My artwork is to encapsulate the essence of gardenia.

Angela, Year 9

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Head pounding.  Anxiety, Fear of writing.  Fear of writing.  
Walls close around me.  And I never will.  And Never will.  
My pen shakes between fingers.  Sweating. My skin is boiling.  
And refuses to touch paper.  Pen slips from my hand.  Georgia  
Mind refuses to think.  Relief.  Year 9

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The Line Must Be Drawn.

I've lost it all  
the feeling of humanity  
the voice of my being  
Covering me with this coldness  
This pain of loss and feeling  
this fear, this dread.  
Dread was a former crime  
but now it's a common feeling  
a strange feeling with physical evil  
in the form of a beast  
let me confess it at once,  
you struck me down once  
but that only inspired me  
you cannot throw me aside  
I will break free  
break free of this nightmare  
You'll see.

Agony, death, horror and crime  
I loathed this mournfully, eternally upon my heart  
for a man you were  
Honourable and Kind  
Oh how the mighty have fallen  
The line must be drawn here  
With my aversion I leave you this  
a white ribbon  
I struggled to reject,  
an object, I struggled to name  
but above all it was a symbol of my tranquility  
a beacon of hope.

Owen West  
Year 11

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Crystal Quartz  
Natasha - Year 10  
Photographic Digital Media Achievement Award
On Monday, 11 November 2013 you are invited to a free parenting seminar featuring a presentation by Paul Dillon, best-selling author of the book ‘Teenagers, Alcohol and Drugs’ (2009).

Paul has extensive experience presenting drug information to parents and young people both in Australia and internationally. He is a highly regarded social commentator and has appeared on Sunrise, The 7PM Project and Today.

This seminar follows on from the hugely popular Michael McQueen presentation ‘Engaging Gen Y’ which was held in May 2013. The presentation will highlight a number of issues that are of increasing concern to parents including:

- Current trends in alcohol and drug use amongst young people.
- How to hold safe parties for teenagers.
- Secondary supply of alcohol laws.

Date
Monday, 11 November 2013

Time
6.00pm to 8.00pm

Where
Monk Auditorium, Georges River College - Oatley Senior Campus, Oatley Avenue and Hurstville Road, Oatley

Bookings Essential
Phone 9330 9551 or visit stgeorgeparents.eventbrite.com.au

A light dinner will be provided
A big thank you to our supporters!

To Mark Coure MP, for his $500 donation that enabled us to purchase a new keyboard for our music program.


To Bunnings Warehouse for their ongoing support, delicious food, and new BBQ that they kindly donated to our school.

To The Body Shop for supporting our students in the work experience program.

To the Organic Café Gymea for supporting our students in the work experience program.

To The Princes Highway Veterinary Hospital for supporting our students in the work experience program.

To The Best Little Bookshop in Town, Cronulla, for supporting our students in the work experience program.

For more information about our service, contact:

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