

Term 1 Week 1

1 February 2019

## *Principal Matters by Mark Watson*



### Welcome Back

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to the 2019 school year. I hope the summer holidays were an opportunity for you to take some time to relax and prepare for the year ahead. I also hope you managed to survive the January heat! Staff returned to school on Tuesday in readiness for Years 7, 11 and 12 on Wednesday and the whole school on Thursday. We are really looking forward to sharing a great 2019 with all of you.

### Year 7 2019

We were delighted to meet our 204 new Year 7 students on Wednesday this week. Year 7 is another large group similar to Year 8, which has now also grown to be over 200 students. Year 7's first days were spent on an induction program led by their Year Adviser, Mr Zaboklicki and Ms McGurgan our Peer Mentor Coordinator. Students were led through the somewhat complex tasks of reading a high school timetable, finding their way around the school and navigating our technology systems. On Thursday the emphasis shifted to team building with students attending sessions led by our Year 10 student peer mentors. By the end of the week, Year 7 were getting to know their teachers as they attended lessons for the first time. We also learned something about the year group. It appears that Year 7 are great animal lovers, especially of dogs. Linda Hart, our school Police Youth Liaison Officer came along to speak to Year 7 about cyber-safety. She was inundated with questions about police dogs. She left saying she would brush up on police horses so she is prepared for her next visit! A big thank you to Mr Zaboklicki, Ms McGurgan and all the staff involved in the induction; and a big welcome to Year 7!



### New Staff For 2019

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new staff we have joining us in 2019. In English we have Mrs Button, Mrs Ishkanian replacing Ms Gerardi for 2019 and Ms Bamford replacing Mrs Morris for 2019. In Hearing Support we have Mr Dumbrell joining us for two days a week in 2019. In Mathematics we have Mrs Frykberg replacing Mr Howell for 2019, Mr Tong and Mr Killick. In Science we are joined by Mrs Wadhawan, a new permanent staff member; and by Miss Fong. In Technology and Applied Studies Ms Nisbit and Mr Woodhead join us.

## Outstanding HSC Results

As mentioned in the last newsletter for 2018, we were delighted by the HSC results achieved by the Year 12 class of 2018. We had 95 mentions on the high achievers list for students who achieve the top band in a course of study, four mentions on the All Rounder list for students who achieve the highest band in their best 10 units of study and 26 students achieving an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) of over 90. In the ranking published on the Sydney Morning Herald's web site we jumped from being ranked 204<sup>th</sup> out of all schools, Government and Non-Government in 2017 to 113<sup>th</sup> in 2018. An assembly will be held on Monday 11 February to recognise and congratulate our high performing students of 2018.

## Building Works Update



Over the next two years our facilities will be significantly upgraded. Some of this work began over the summer break. C-Block currently has scaffolding around it as a result of its roof being replaced over the holidays. It is anticipated that this work will be completed in the next few weeks. Classes are continuing in the block while this work is taking place. The second phase of works on C-Block will see the inside of the building refurbished. This work should begin in the first half of this year. We will need to vacate the building while the refurbishment takes place. In preparation for this, demountable buildings have been located on the oval and this is where the C-Block classes will be relocated. We are waiting for more demountable buildings to arrive for this purpose. I expect the refurbishment to be completed by the end of this year and when this is done the demountable

buildings will be removed. The replacement of the outdoor basketball courts by a two court indoor stadium is also scheduled to begin before the end of this year. This project is currently the subject of a Development Application before Council. Also over the holidays, new flooring was installed in B-Block. The upgrade to our facilities is very exciting and we cannot wait until the new resources become available.

## P&C Executive Planning Meeting

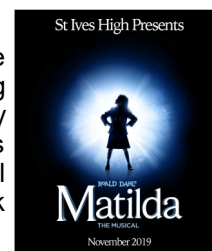
The P&C Executive held a planning meeting on Tuesday evening this week. The purpose of the meeting was to identify priorities for the 2019 P&C budget using a similar format to the one used in 2018. In addition to programs traditionally supported by the P&C, a significant contribution was made in 2018 to the air conditioning of classrooms and grounds beautification. I would like to thank the P&C for their contribution to the school and their commitment in 2019.

## Extra Curricular Fitness Programs

While there is much talk of health and fitness programs in schools in the media, we have been leading the way at St Ives High for many years now. On Friday, our very popular Bootcamp resumed. This will be the seventh year we have run a bootcamp and the 7am start on Fridays is a wonderful way to begin the last day of the school week. Our bootcamp is open to staff and parents to come along and join us as well. In 2018 we introduced a running club to preparation for the Bare Creek Trail run where we won the school's challenge for the third year in a row. Following this success, we decided to keep it going with the Lindfield Fun Run being the next event we will target. With so many people participating in the popular Saturday 5 Km Park Runs across Sydney, the Tuesday morning running club is a great way to prepare for a 5K event. We meet in the base bay in front of the school at 7am on Tuesdays. We are also planning to enter a team in the Bobbin Head Cycle Classic at the end of this term. Thanks to Mr Lawler and Mrs Frykberg for coordinating these fitness activities.

## School Musical

We hold a school musical every second year and 2019 is a school musical year. At the end of 2018 we announced we would be doing *Annie*. However, over the school holidays there were some exciting developments with the rights for *Matilda* becoming available in a very limited way. We were lucky enough to secure the rights for St Ives High School for performances that will be held in Term 4 of this year. Our new Year 7 students will be able to participate in the show, information on how to sign up will be distributed next week. Thanks to Mr Sean Peter, our parent directing the show, for his hard work over the holidays to secure these rights.



## Events in Term 1

Term 1 is a very busy term with lots of events taking place. In Week 3 we have our Year 7 Parents Welcome Evening on Monday 11 February from 6pm until 8pm. Tuesday 12 February is the school swimming carnival and school photos will be taken on Wednesday 13 February and Friday 15 February. Also during this term we will hold our open afternoon, testing for our 2020 GATs class, Year 7 camp and athletics carnival. With these and so many other events taking place, it is really important to keep an eye on the school calendar. It is available as a link from the school's website, via Sentral or as a downloadable calendar to your device.

## Sentral

We will no longer be using the School Stream app in 2019 as a way of communicating with parents. This type of communication will now take place via the Sentral App. Sentral is the app you will use to access your child's reports during the year, check your child's attendance, receive message alerts and so much more. To gain access to the Sentral app you first need access to the Sentral portal. All new parents have been emailed with instructions on how to do this. Once you have portal access, you can go to an app store to download the app to your phone. See the how to instructions in this newsletter for more details. If are having difficulty, please contact the school.

## Follow Us

In addition to Sentral and the school newsletter, you can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook. It is a great way to stay up to date with us as events happen.

## Literacy News

Last year, the SIHS English Department opened submissions for the first eBook edition of *The St Ives High School Literary Journal*. The Journal was edited by a team of students under the guidance of Mr Stein, a seasoned publisher. The journal is now available online and contains a series of "must-read" poems and short stories from twenty-five SIHS students. The eBook is FREE and can be accessed via a number of options:

- \* **iPhone or Apple Mac computers:** Access iBooks and search for *St Ives High School Literary Journal* to download onto your iPhone, iPad or laptop.
- \* **Android Phones or PC computers:** Access the **Kobo** app through your app store and search for *St Ives High School Literary Journal* to download onto your phone. Alternatively, for PC users, you can visit the Kobo website at: <https://www.kobo.com/au/en/ebook/st-ives-high-school-literary-journal>

The Journal can also be accessed via a number of websites including;

- \* Good Reads; <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/43206259-st-ives-high-school-literary-journal>
- \* iTunes; <https://itunes.apple.com/us/book/st-ives-high-school-literary-journal/id1446512195?mt=11>
- \* Kobo; <https://www.kobo.com/au/en/ebook/st-ives-high-school-literary-journal>
- \* Scribd; <https://www.scribd.com/book/395518491/St-Ives-High-School-Literary-Journal?host=www.scribd.com&protocol=https>
- \* Barnes & Noble; <https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/st-ives-high-school-literary-journal-darren-stein/1130004453?ean=2940155906902>
- \* Smashwords; <https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/911995>
- \* Jordan MS Library; <http://www.jordanmslibrary.org/book/1446512195/download-st-ives-high-school-literary-journal-darren-stein.pdf>
- \* Fnac; <https://www.fnac.pt/livre-numerique/a6479618/St-Ives-High-School-Literary-Journal>

If you are in a book club, perhaps this could be the next book you review. Thanks to all the students involved and to Mr Stein for leading the project.

## Congratulations

This week, congratulations to;

- Nicole C (Year 11). Nicole is a member of the U17 NSW Women's Softball team that won gold at the nationals during January. They played 12 games and won them defeating South Australia in the finals 8-1. Nicole's batting and fielding was brilliant! She scored a home run in the game against the ACT.
- Abigail P (Year 11). Abigail is a member of the Sydney North Girls' Cricket team and will be going to the NSW CHS Girls' Cricket Championships at Raby Sport Complex 18-21 February.



Best wishes

**Mark Watson**  
Principal

### 2019 VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR YEARS 7 AND 10

Year 7 received their vaccination cards this week. The first vaccination is Wednesday 20 February. Cards must be returned to the school office before this date.

Vaccination dates for 2019 are as follows:

- 20 February – Year 7 Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (Dose 1) and Year 7 Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis
- 14 June – Year 10 Meningococcal ACWY
- 25 October – Year 7 Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (Dose 2)

Year 8 Catch up vaccinations may be added to a clinic depending upon the interval between doses. The Year 8 Catch up student list will be sent to the school prior to each clinic to facilitate planning.

If you have any questions please email [tania.mcgurgan@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tania.mcgurgan@det.nsw.edu.au)

## NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2019 the following vaccines will be offered:

YEARS	VACCINE	NUMBER OF DOSES
Year 7	Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine	2-doses at least 6 mths apart
	Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine	Single dose
Year 10	Meningococcal ACWY vaccine	Single dose

*Parent Information Kits* that include an information sheet, consent form and privacy statement will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

read all the information provided

complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive

return the completed consent form to their child's school

ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Please note that students who commence HPV vaccination in school clinics in Year 7 but do not complete the course during the school year may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8. Students who have any HPV doses at their GP will be advised to complete the course with their GP.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation).

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

A Record of Vaccination card will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

### Frequently asked questions:

- ◆ **My child received the Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine when they were aged 4. Do they need this one?** Yes this is a booster dose that all adolescents in year 7 require.
- ◆ **My child received the Meningococcal vaccine when they were an infant. Is this the same vaccine?** The Australian childhood immunisation schedule included Meningococcal C vaccine. This vaccine contains four strains offering additional protection against Meningococcal ACWY.

Visit [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation) for further information and translated copies of the Vaccination Information Kits

## GROWTH COACHING – EXCITING OPPORTUNITY

We are excited to announce a wonderful opportunity for our students starting early in 2019!

St Ives High School will be taking part in a special pilot program in collaboration with Growth Coaching International. The program involves training a small group of Year 11 students as "Growth Coaches". These students will be working one-to-one with Year 8 students, supporting these students in setting and working towards their own school-related goals.

This is not a remedial program! As many of our parent community will have experienced for themselves, coaching provides an opportunity for all people to build on strengths and continue to grow in their professional life.

Research shows not only does being coached help build resilience, assist with achieving goals, improve wellbeing, connectedness and engagement but that there are also many benefits for the person doing the coaching, such as:

- improved communication skills (asking good questions, listening, giving and receiving feedback)
- increased self confidence
- improved skill in perspective taking
- improved relationships with peers, teachers and even siblings
- increased emotional intelligence

This is a very special opportunity - only six schools in NSW have been invited to take part and we are excited to be working closely with local schools Pymble Ladies' College and Loreto Kirribilli, as well as our regional friends at Ulladulla High School.

Year 11 students will commence their training in Week 1, Term 1. We will be asking Year 8 students to volunteer as "coachees" later in Term 1.

We look forward to keeping you updated with the pilot as the year progresses. In the meantime, please do take a minute to view a video presented by program facilitators Professor Christian van Nieuwerburgh and Claudia Owad, which you can find on our school Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/stiveshighschool>).

Do feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to know more.

**Natasha Mercer**  
Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning

## THE WRITING CENTRE 2019 - SAME FOCUS AND TIME, DIFFERENT PLACE AND TEACHER

### **Same focus:**

Since 2016 St Ives High School has had a Writing Centre to enhance the communication skills of our students. In that time students from primary school to Year 12 and our parents have worked tirelessly to improve their knowledge and accurate application of English grammar. The centre focuses on improving

- vocabulary
- spelling
- sentence construction
- paragraphing
- whole text construction

### **Same time:**

From 7.45am on Monday and Wednesday mornings starting from **Wednesday 6 February**

### **Different place: B16**

### **Different teacher:**

We are absolutely delighted that **Miss Emma Abraham** will co-ordinate the centre.

Everyone in the school community is warmly welcome to come to the Writing Centre.

Further information is available from Miss Abraham [emma.abraham5@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:emma.abraham5@det.nsw.edu.au) or Mrs Regan [peta.regan@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:peta.regan@det.nsw.edu.au) who ran the centre previously.

## MESSAGE FROM THE P&C PRESIDENT

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to all our new and returning families.

Last year the P&C focussed on improving the school grounds with landscaping, outdoor seating and a sun-shelter. P&C funding was provided for air-conditioning in A & B Block and we now have sunscreen lotion (50+) available for purchase from the Uniform Shop. These projects were only possible through the support of parents volunteering their time and paying the P&C Voluntary Contribution of \$240 per family.



We are all responsible for caring for our school and I'm happy to report many Year 7 parents have already signed up for their 'Just One Thing' activity. Over 30 parents have volunteered to help with our environment days, and a similar number want to help with fund-raising activities.

I look forward to working with you to support our wonderful school!

**Libby Cameron**  
P&C President



## BOOTCAMP



Reminder that Bootcamp is held on Friday mornings at 7.00 am and is open to students, staff and parents.

Please wear appropriate footwear and bring a bottle of water.  
Brekkie Club serves breakfast at 8.00 am.

### 2019 SCHOOL TERMS

#### **TERM 1** (11 weeks)

Tuesday, 29 January – School Development Day - Staff return to school

Wednesday, 30 January – Years 7, 11 and 12 students return to school

Thursday, 31 January – Years 8, 9 and 10 students return to school

Friday, 12 April – last day Term 1

#### **TERM 2** (10 weeks)

Monday, 29 April – School Development Day - Staff return to school

Tuesday, 30 April – Students return to school

Monday, 10 June – Queen's Birthday (Public holiday)

Friday, 5 July – last day Term 2

#### **TERM 3** (10 weeks)

Monday, 22 July – School Development Day – Staff return to school

Tuesday, 23 July – Students return to school

Friday, 27 September – last day Term 3

#### **Term 4** (10 weeks)

Monday, 14 October – All students and staff return to school

Wednesday, 18 December – Last day of Term 4 for students

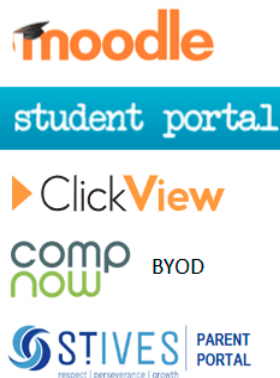
Thursday, 19 December and Friday, 20 December – Staff days

## PARENT PORTAL

We are using Parent Portal when communicating information related to your child's learning. We are asking teachers to communicate examination notifications via the student and parent portal. This can be helpful, especially if your child is prone to losing handouts.

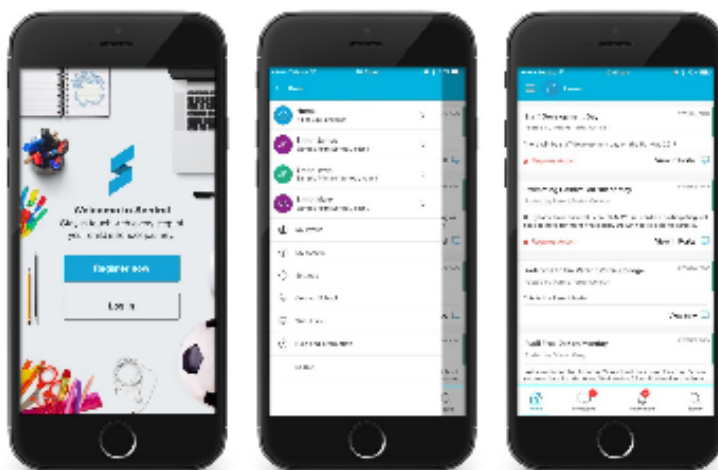
To access the Portal you can follow these steps:

1. Go to the school website
2. Click on 'Parent and Student links'
3. Select Parent Portal
4. Click on 'classes' and select the courses where there is a notification.



**Our school's new parent portal and app empowers all parents.**

**Keep fully updated, manage and control everything related to your child's education. Communicate with the school seamlessly through push notifications, instant messaging, payment gateways and much more all at the power of your fingertips.**



**With the new parent portal and app, now parents can:**



**Better Informed**  
Receive push notifications about everything that's important for your child.



**At your fingertips**  
Information that's most relevant and needs your attention appears clearly on your mobile device.



**Communicate easily**  
With our instant messaging feature, have conversations with the school staff and get the feedback you want.



**Instant payments**  
Pay for excursions, school fees and so much more. Right away with your credit card and record / track your bills.



**Track homework**  
Know exactly what your child needs to complete at home.



**Permit instantly**  
No more notices to sign or papers given to your child for carrying back. Approve instantly on your parent app.

**All your children across multiple schools in one app\***

**Manage all your children's education progression on one platform**

\* Schools must all be users of Sentral

**Portal and App key can be obtained from our school's administration department.**

**Download the App today**

For IOS [www.applestore.com](http://www.applestore.com) or Android [www.playgoogle.com](http://www.playgoogle.com)



# SIHS Writing Centre

When:  
Monday and  
Wednesday  
from 7.45am

Where:  
B16 Classroom  
(next to the English  
Staffroom)

CLASSES START  
WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 6, 2019  
(WEEK 2)



- One-on-one and small  
group sessions to  
develop
- spelling
  - vocabulary
  - sentences
  - paragraphs
  - whole texts
  - question analysis
  - essay construction
  - argument
- persuasiveness
- effective study skills

Contact: Ms. Abraham  
emma.abraham5@det.nsw.edu.au  
English Staffroom

## Here's what the students think:

"It's actually fun... I've learnt how to spell with the rules."

"I keep coming because it's pretty fun... nice and quiet. I learn a lot of new words every time I come here."

"I keep coming because I have a friend to go with. I've learnt the history of English, using affixes and spelling rules."

"I've been coming to the Writing Centre because I am very bad at spelling and grammar. I keep coming back because it is helping my English skills. I've learnt many skills."