

# ST IVES MATTERS

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Term 3 Week 4 14 August 2020

## Deputy Principal Matters by Nathan Lawler

#### **Remediation Works**

The remediation work on B-Block is scheduled for completion tomorrow (Saturday). Mr Watson, Mrs Bodley and I walked through the buildings on Thursday afternoon and we were really impressed. B-Block teachers have been teaching from demountable buildings since term 1, so the revamped teaching spaces will hopefully bring some joy for all.

#### Some of the highlights are:

- Two brand new Science labs. These revamped spaces create a working environment that not only benefits students but their teachers too. The labs cater for both practical and theoretical work.
- New carpet, gyprock ceilings and fresh paint in all of the B Block classrooms.
- A new and improved performance space for Drama students.



Removalists have been booked for the weekend to move equipment and resources from the demountables to B-Block so that classes can begin in B-Block next week. With the completion of the remediation works in B-Block, work will start in A-Block next week. As a result, A-Block will be relocated to the demountable buildings. This move will also take place this weekend. Removal boxes have been delivered so that staff involved can pack before the weekend. On Monday staff will need to unpack and set up after the move.

We have been granted permission to operate the school in a mixed mode on Monday August 17.

- Students in Years 7 to 10 will take part in another online wellbeing day from home. Students should follow this link <a href="https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/sihs-wellbeing-day/home?pli=1&authuser=1">https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/sihs-wellbeing-day/home?pli=1&authuser=1</a>
- Year 11 classes will be online using Zoom and/or Google.
- Year 12 period 1 and 2 classes will go ahead at school following their normal timetable. For the remainder of the day, Year 12 will be treated to a number of activities to support their wellbeing. The sessions include: a workshop with our school counsellors and Head Teacher Welfare, a visit from some special canines, a pizza lunch and support from our Deputies and Year Advisor Ms Paterson throughout the afternoon.

The remediation of Block D (primarily Mathematics classrooms and our School Office) will be completed next week. Removalists have been booked for the weekend of August 22 and 23 to move D-Block from the demountables. We are hopeful that the classroom and meeting spaces in D-Block are just as nice as B-Block.

By the end of the remediation works Blocks A, B and D will have been given a significant upgrade. Block C was renovated last year. We are also told that the new multiuse sports centre is on track for completion by the end of the year.



#### What happens if there is a COVID case at the school?

With the increase in cases across Sydney we are wary that our school community at some point may be directly impacted. Below you will find some information about would likely happen if one of our students tested positive.

All confirmed cases are immediately assessed by NSW Health to determine whether the person has been infectious while at school, and to determine the appropriate course of action required to minimise any risk to the wider community.

Where NSW Health confirm that a student has tested positive the following actions are likely to be:

- Communication with parents advising them whether their child has been in close contact with a confirmed
  case.
- Ceasing operations of the school (where it is deemed appropriate).
- Contact tracing to identify all close contacts to a confirmed case. In some instances, this may require ceasing the operations of the school while the contact tracing process is completed.
- Thorough cleaning of the school site to ensure the environment is clean and safe prior to the school resuming onsite learning.
- Parents/carers will be notified via a phone call and formally in writing if their child has been in close contact
  with someone who has tested positive to COVID-19 while at school. These students will be required to remain in home isolation and not return to school for 14 days from the last possible contact. In this situation,
  we will arrange for the student to receive their learning programs at home.
- Where a student is not deemed to be a close contact, parents will receive a letter advising them to monitor
  their child for symptoms and to seek treatment if appropriate. In these situations, students and staff are not
  required to self-isolate and can continue to attend school and engage in their normal activities within the
  community.
- All families will receive a formal letter from the school to advise them what to do if they have been at school on a day when the confirmed case was considered to be infectious.
- If your child has been in contact with someone who is a confirmed case, please notify a member of our senior executive.

#### Please continue to keep your child at home if unwell.

#### What are the requirements for school visitors?

All visitors to a school site are required to sign the <u>external visitors to the school site form (PDF 187K)</u> each time they visit. This form acts as evidence that the visitor is aware of, and will abide by their obligations to comply with the health advice of the day, including hygiene and distancing requirements.

#### **Transport and Traffic Update**

St Ives High P&C in partnership with the school has formed the Student Transport Working Group to investigate the scale and nature of the problems students currently face getting to and from school so that we can lobby for improved transport services. Our P&C have also formed a Traffic Working Group to investigate traffic congestion issues around the school and its' causes. In just a few weeks, a comprehensive survey will be sent to all parents.

As mentioned in last week's newsletter the purpose of this survey is threefold:

- · to investigate the scale and nature of the problems students currently face getting to and from school so that we can lobby for improved transport services
- to investigate traffic congestion issues around the school and their causes, to lobby for measures to reduce congestion, ensure pedestrian safety and improve traffic management
- · to gather and collate your feedback about transport and traffic issues and then use it to lobby the decision makers in government and NSW Transport for change.

The more families that respond to this survey with their insights, the greater chance we have for positive change.

#### **Maths Competition News**

Ms Berger has been busily working behind the scenes organising our keen mathematicians to undertake some challenging competitions.

#### Here is the latest update:

#### **APSMO (Australasian Problem Solving Maths Olympiad)**

Round 4 was held this week. Congratulations to all who participated. Particular congratulations to Nate R and Kevin H (year 8) for successfully solving four problems in the allotted time.

#### **ICAS Mathematics Competition**

The ICAS Maths competition will be held in the Hall Tuesday 25th August during periods 1 and 2. Students need to bring a fully charged device as the competition is on-line.

#### **AMOC Australian Mathematical Olympiad Competition**

Next Tuesday Nina K (year 11) will be sitting the invitational AMOC Senior Contest, one of only 120 students from across the country to be asked. This consists of five problems in four hours and is used to identify students for the Australian Maths Olympiad Team.

#### Mountain Bike Club

With the COVID restrictions, participation in sport has been impacted. One of the activities that we are able to still do is ride bikes. Our Mountain Bike club had a great time on Wednesday afternoon testing their skills on ramps and jumps. If your child would like to join the club they should come and speak to me.



Best wishes Nathan Lawler Deputy Principal

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WINNERS OF THE SNAPT! PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

With a record number of entries- 181- the Snapt! Competition was hard fought this year. Extra awards for Highly Commended and Runners Up were added to the windfall from the Visual Arts Department, supplementing the sponsorship from the P&C. Getting "Out & About" was certainly a priority for so many of our St Ives High School Community, as is evident in the variety of subsects and the beauty in many of the shots also!!

CONGRATULATIONS GO TO OUR GRAND PRIZE WINNER Caitlin Sarich in Year 11, which the Sudges thought captured the melancholy of being 'out & about' in Covid. She wins a HP Sproket Blue Tooth Printer, and the Year Group Winners in todays newsletter have all won a \$50 Westfield Gift Voucher.

Again I would like to mention the high quality of entries. I hope everyone enjoyed seeing the photos come through on their feed each day and I look forward very much to next year.

The winners photographs are over the page \$ next week we will feature the Runners Up and Highly Commended.

Tania McGurgan Visual Arts Teacher

### THE WINNERS OF THE SNAPT! PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



Garret G - Year 12



Justine B - Parent



Caitlin S - Year 11 - Overall Winner





Maya BW - Year 8





Moneli L - Year 11

Brenda L - Year 9



**Ashleigh Fong - Teacher** 



Claire R - Year 10

#### **TAFE TASTER COURSES TERM 4**

If you would like to do a TAFE taster course such as gaming, fashion, automotive, hair & beauty, carpentry, plumbing, childhood education or nursing for 1 day per week in term 4 see Mr Holmes for an EOI and course list. I have sent the EOI and course list to your email address and it is also on daily notices. You must be 15 when they start on October 19.

#### TAFE courses as a year 11/12 subject

If you are in year 10 or 11 and wish to do a TAFE course next year as a school subject you must fill in an EOI form before I can enter you into the system. I have sent it to your school email or you can collect from Mr Holmes. Applications close 4 September.

Neil Holmes Careers Adviser

#### 'STAFF STAR' OF THE WEEK

The Wellbeing Team decided to launch a new initiative to promote our teachers within the SIHS community. Each week, one teacher will star in the schools newsletter so the community will further get to know our wonderful staff.

#### Michelle Nunura Head Teacher Welfare



#### STAFF STAR

Name: Ritu Wadhawan Faculty: Science

How long have you been at SIHS: 1 year 8 months

Favourite food: Baked salmon with roasted vegetables and of course

Chicken curry

Favourite colour: Blue

Do you have any animals: NO WAY

interesting fact about yourself: I used to drive a scooter (motorcycle) in

India. Learnt and graduated in classical Kathak dance. Love Bollywood dancing,

knitting and cooking. Love my 5

beautiful grandchildren.

#### **CANINE ASSISTED LEARNING (CAL)**

This week selected students in Year 9 and 10 participated in the CAL program. This program will run for the duration of the term and is designed to build resilience and social connections in students. Evidence supports that working with dogs has many social, emotional, cognitive and mental health benefits. The students absolutely loved building an initial connection with the dogs and are looking forward to their next encounter the following week







Michelle Nunura Head Teacher Welfare

#### YEAR 7 & 8 TIMBER ELECTIVE UPDATE

This week some of our Year 8 Timber Elective students were learning to install electric circuits into their timber projects. This involved learning to solder, and connecting wires to rather tiny 3 colour LED strips. They are also laser etching and cutting their chosen designs into acrylic sheet to create a hologram effect from the lighting system they are building.

Some of our Year 7 Technology students began their Engineering Technology unit, with a design challenge that tested the stability of towers as they gain height. Fortunately, real buildings are not made with spaghetti! These students are now learning how CAD designs are created in TinkerCAD, with a view to designing their own gas powered race cars.

Josh Collins, TAS Faculty









# YEAR 8 PHOTOGRAPHY & DIGITAL MEDIA INCURSION SMOKE & MIRRORS

Today Year 8 PDM students immersed themselves in studio photography practice. Using the smoke machine, coloured led lighting, an array of props including face paints. The students took the opportunity to create some very impressive portrait photos.

Tania McGurgan Visual Arts Teacher











#### **AWOL PWD Youth Hub**

Our first AWOL PWD youth night was a huge success so we are doing it again this month. On Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of August we will be having a movie night from 5:30-7:30pm with popcorn, pizza and beanbags at the Gordon Youth Centre. Booking are essential as we can only have 20 people in the space due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

I will be there with two other youth workers on the night. Hope to see you there.

Samantha Marren Community Development Officer- Disability Services-Ku-ring-gai Council



