


Term 3 2019
Upcoming events:

27 September	Term 3 ends
14 October	Term 4 begins
30 October	P&C Meeting
13 November	Parent Meeting
4 December	P&C Meeting

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

HSC examinations begin on Thursday 17 October 2019 and continue until 10 November 2019. This year, across New South Wales, almost 80,000 young people will sit for these examinations, we wish all of our students well; hope that they achieve their potential and that they access the post school option of their choice. It is a very important time of the year that can be stressful for students and their family, all of our thoughts and best wishes are with this group of fine young men as they embark on this final stage of their secondary education.

At the end of term 3 our Year 11 boys complete the final stage of the Preliminary HSC course and sit for their yearly examinations. Again, this is an important stage of their formal assessment process for all of their Preliminary Courses. As of day 1 of Term 4 our Year 11 students begin the HSC course.

Each term staff at Birrong Boys High School commit to a three hour 'Twilight Session' where we work together on a designated project aimed at whole school improvement. Our term 3 session was dedicated to explore the characteristics of a Visible Learner. All teachers now ensure that all students are aware of what they are learning, how they will be learning and how they will know they have been successful in their learning during each lessons. of NAPLAN data with the specific aim of ensuring that each student exhibits a year of growth for each year of schooling. On this evening classroom teachers analysed data across a two year time frame and used a tool developed by John Hattie to determine 'effect size'. Staff then worked to develop suitable strategies for their particular classes. As we progress, data analysis and evidence based research will form the basis of all educational delivery.

At this time of year, as we plan for 2020, Year 8 students and Year 10 students choose subjects for next year. Year 8 students are asked to choose electives from a list of subjects offered by different faculties, in Year 9 all students have three electives on their timetable. Year 10 students have to choose five subjects to study for the Preliminary HSC as well as mandatory English. Each year we allow for the subjects chosen by our students to determine the timetable, we do our best to cater to the needs of all students but also understand that courses which may only be chosen by a few individuals are unlikely to run. It is important that parents are involved in this process and that students choose subjects they enjoy and are interested in, this year, as always, we have involved the expertise of Deputy Principals, Head Teachers and our Careers Adviser.

During week 8 of term 3 our Positive Behaviour for Learning Team led formal success assemblies for students from Year 7 to Year 10. At the assembly awards were presented to individuals who continually meet school expectations at the highest level. I would like to congratulate all students who recently received a Principal's Award. Well Done. I wish all students and parents, have a safe and happy break.

Ms C Scott
Relieving Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEARS 9, 11 & 12

Farewell And Best Wishes To The Class Of 2019

Friday 27th September is the last day for our current Year 12 students. A formal Graduation Ceremony will be held on the Thursday 26th September 2019, commencing at 12 pm in our school hall followed by an afternoon tea in our school library. This is a special day for all our class of 2019 as it completes their schooling, and for most Birrong Boys has been their school for 6 years. We welcome all parents of our Year 12 to attend the Graduation Ceremony and to celebrate the successful completion of their son's schooling. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and all the parents' who have worked tirelessly in ensuring that the class of 2019 have achieved the full potential. I have been privileged to work with the class of 2019, as their Deputy Principal and I am honoured and proud of their achievement and success. I wish each one the very best in their future paths they take in the world outside our school.

2019 HSC

The 2019 Higher School Certificate Examination starts on Thursday 17th October, all our HSC students can access their personal examination timetable from NESA students online. Student's personal exam timetable is available from student's online.nesa.nsw.edu.au. It is crucial that our HSC students read and understand the information about the HSC examinations in the 2019 HSC rules and procedures for HSC candidates. Students that have a disability that affects their reading of examination questions or responding to them under examination conditions are encouraged to see me ASAP to apply for a disability provision. HSC students should also be aware of items that they are not to bring into the examination room (school hall). i.e. Mobile phones, electronic devices, paper, correction fluid.

Information About the HSC Exams

Make sure you have read and understand the *2019 Higher School Certificate Rules and Procedures* guide. You should have received a guide from your school and can also access it here: educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/hsc/rules-procedures-guide-students.

There are serious consequences for:

- Cheating in an exam
- Disobeying NESA's rules for exam conduct
- Not making a serious attempt across a range of questions in each exam.

Any of these offences may result in reduced marks, course cancellation or loss of your HSC.

Attendance

Compulsory Schooling

Parents or carers of children of compulsory school age are responsible for ensuring their child attends school every day. Children must commence school by age 6 and then complete year 10.

After Year 10 - and until they turn 17 - students must be:

- In school, or registered for home schooling, or
- In approved education or training (eg TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship) or
- In full-time, paid employment (average 25hours/week) or in a combination of work, education and/or training.

The Importance Of Arriving on Time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents. The Deputy Principals have been interviewing students who regularly come late to school and encouraging them that it is not in their benefit to arrive late, we seek help from parents to ensure that their child arrives to school no later than 8:50am.

Free Homework Centre

The Homework Centre operates on Mondays and Tuesdays from 3.05 pm till 4.05 pm in our school library. Please encourage your son to attend as they will benefit from free tutoring, homework assistance, support with assessments and assignments.

Our Uniform

We all take pride in our school and we appreciate parent's cooperation in ensuring your son attends school in full school uniform. Our school uniform comprises of:

- black closed shoes,
- black pants (not track suits),
- white shirt and black jumper.

Parents are asked to assist by working with us to ensure that their son follows our school rule with respect to uniform. It is also crucial that proper foot wear is worn in classes that have equipment that may cause injury ie in TAS, Art and sport/PE.

Deputy Principal's Student Of The Month

*Fadi Zraika
July 2019*



*Sam Ierome
August 2019*



Mr M Derbas

Deputy Principal Years 9, 11 & 12

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEARS 7, 8 & 10

It has been another busy term at Birrong Boys High School with the Spring break upon us. Term 3 has the students engage in a variety of programs throughout.

Year 10 Subject Selection

All year 10 students were interviewed this term and assisted in choosing their subjects for 2020. It is an important decision for students in choosing subjects of their interest and also placing emphasis on their strengths. All students are to be commended for displaying great care and enthusiasm throughout the process in ensuring their choices meet all their learning needs and future aspirations. I would also like to thank all the parents for their ongoing support throughout.

UTS Academy Program

Birrong Boys High School have been given a wonderful opportunity by the University of Technology for 11 of our year 10 students to be a part of. The program involves year 10 boys to be part of a series of mentoring workshops, summer school and tutorial sessions with the UTS. At the conclusion of the program in 2021, students who have successfully completed all components of the program will be offered a placement in undergraduate degree of their choice in one of the 6 key areas which the UTS specialises in. The areas are:

- Engineering and IT
- Health
- Science
- Design
- Business
- Media

A big thank you to all the parents which attended our information forum for the program and showing great support and enthusiasm for the students who have been provided this opportunity.

School uniform

Term 3 has seen a marked improvement in the appearance of our boys within the community in their commitment to wearing our school uniform. Staff and members of our community have been very impressed in this marked improvement which showcases the school. It shows the pride the boys take in their appearance and pride they display in and around the school. I would like to thank all the parents and students for their ongoing support and upholding the school motto "From Each His Best"

Finally I would like to wish all families and students a happy and safe spring break. I look forward to all students returning in term 4 as they undertake assessment and examinations for the semester 2 reporting period.

Mr G Roukanas

Relieving Deputy Principal Years 7, 8 & 10

SPORTS REPORT

Year 8 and Year 10 Ultimate Soccer

In term 3, we had one year 8 and 10 team enter in the Sydney South West Ultimate Soccer competition at Fairfield. The Year 10 soccer team, was made of players with a wealth of experience and skills. In our first game, we were forced to play two players less on the field against Chester Hill High and managed to have a draw. From then on, we stamped our authority and had convincing wins over Strathfield South, Sefton, Condell Park and Moorebank High school. These wins, qualified us to make to make the semi-finals. In an close and exciting match, we unfortunately had a narrow loss to Moorebank High School, which eliminated us from the tournament. The year 8 soccer team has mixed results. They either had convincing wins, or a hard loss to a really good team. Year 8 unfortunately, did not qualify for semi finals. On behalf of Mr Karam and myself, we would like to thank all the students who attended for their excellent behaviour and sportsmanship. Well done!

ACPE Sports Event

The Australian College of Physical Education, will be running an sports event on October 24th and 25th 2019 in Homebush, which aims to increase sports participation and build awareness of all the future career pathways in sport. Spaces for this excursion are limited, and will be offered only to students in year 10 elective pass and Year 11 students enrolled in SLR. We highly recommend that students express their interest early to reserve themselves a spot to attend the excursion.

Mr C Ewen

Relieving Head Teacher PDHPE

LIBRARIAN

Education Week 2019

Education week is a state-wide, annual event to celebrate NSW public education, which was held between the 5-9 August 2019. It communicates the achievements of public schools, their students and the value of public education. Here at Birrong Boys High School each subject had work displayed, showing the hard work and effort of the students.





NSW's Premier's Reading Challenge



This semester students completed the NSW's Premier's Reading Challenge. This was open to all Year 7 and 8 students. The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

I would like to congratulate the following students who completed the challenge.

Year 7

Mohamed Khedr
Aflin Mohd Azmin
Adam Quadan

Year 8

Mohammed Agha
Mohammed Houda
Adam Kebbe
Ismail Sattar
Jabril Warwar

Ms S Saheli
Librarian

TRANSITION REPORT

The Careers and Transition Team (CAT) continue to support our HSC students at Birrong Boys High School. We are currently interviewing students and helping them complete the necessary paperwork to transition into University, Apprenticeships, TAFE or the Workforce. Enrolment processes into University and TAFE have changed making it more achievable for our boys to pursue a career of their choice. Miss Krnjaic and I have attended several Careers and Transition Workshops to ensure our students connect to most suitable future pathway. It is my pleasure to work with students from Years 7 – 12 to aspire them to choose university as a career pathway. We have worked closely with Brad Golledge and Jane Artup from the UNSW and Losana Ravulo ASPIRE team to aspire our boys from years 7 – 12 on aspiring them through our ASPIRE and Fast Forward programs. We also work with TAFE, Skillsroad and various outside providers to connect our boys to the amazing career opportunities.

Year 10

We have been working hard with Year 10 students who have recently completed their subject selection process. I was honoured to have worked with selected Year 10 students who participated in a series of programs with the ASPIRE team at the University of NSW. The students first attended the CONNECT program where they participated in a range of sessions that included a NESA presentation on HSC subject selection, guest speakers on interesting career pathway journeys and teambuilding activities based on transferrable skills required for successful employment. This workshop was attended by over 200 students from across the state. Following this, they completed an online mentoring program with students from the University of NSW. This was an engaging program as the mentors shared their experience as former HSC students and their journey as University students. The aim of this program was to support them during their subject selection process and to gain an insight into the different careers on offer.

The final stage of the program was the Degrees at Work workshop which was held at Clifford Chance a global law firm. This workshop was held at their Sydney offices where the boys met with the executives who shared their career journey stories. They gave up their time to work with our boys to identify transferrable skills required within the workforce. They also gave them insights into their acquisition process and expressed the importance on standing out from other applicants by

having part time employment or volunteering to develop those transferrable skills like networking, teamwork and communication skills. The boys benefited greatly from this experience as they discussed subject choices and university pathways.

Internal Workshops

Year 7 -11 have benefited from our internal ASPIRE workshops. These are age appropriate programs to aspire our boys to choose a university pathway. Brad is an energetic presenter who shares his career story and how he has benefited from choosing university as pathway despite his challenges during his schooling years. with the boys to encourage them to never give up on the idea of university.

Year 8 & 9

Years 8 & 9 enjoyed an amazing TASTER Day and Design Thinking Workshop at the UNSW. This was a hands-on experience where the boys were able to visit the different workshops showcasing the different university faculties. Students were able to choose two workshops of their choice to gain a deeper insight of the university course. Our boys did exceptionally well in the law workshop where they participated in a mock trial. Lucky for them they were on the winning team due to their excellent debating skills. Overall it was highly beneficial as students were able to make more informed decisions on the range of courses available at university.

Year 11

Year 11 students attended a Study Skills Workshop on essay writing and time management skills which was presented by Samantha Skinner. This involved using the ALARM teaching and learning strategies which we have implemented at Birrong Boys.

Upcoming events

Powerhouse Museum

Our year 7 will be attending the Power House Museum to experience astronaut training, discover the technology used to get to the moon and learn about the future of space exploration.

Fast Forward

We are excited for our targeted Year 9 students to participate in the Fast Forward Program at the University of Western Sydney. This program will allow our students to attend various workshops from year 7 to 12 with the aim of demonstrating life as a university student and to foster a love for tertiary education. We would like to thank Losana and the team from WSU for this wonderful program and their efforts on allowing our students to live up to our school motto of 'from each his best'.

Work Experience

We would like to congratulate Hamman Huwait and Shaoquett Douar who have been successful in gaining work experience placements in Term 4 at Clifford Chance. Hamman demonstrated his excellent leadership skills at the Degrees at Work program and he made a presentation to the executives and students on his previous work placement experience at Clifford Chance and the skills he gained during that time. He was very confident and inspiring for the students and staff.

We look forward to working with the students, their families and the wider community in providing our boys with the best opportunity to succeed in the future.

Ms K Khelladi
Transition Adviser



Community News

HOMEWORK CENTRE

When: Mondays & Tuesdays
3.10pm to 4.10pm

Where: Library

Who: All students welcome

Research and reading

Help with assessments/assignments/internet access

A quiet place to finish school tasks

IT'S FREE

Afternoon tea provided

You cannot attend the Homework Centre without a signed permission note from your parent/carer.

NSW SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENT CONCESSION CARD

Birrong Boys High School students aged 16 years and older are eligible to apply for a NSW Senior Secondary Student Concession Card. ***This card entitles the holder to half fare concessions at all times on the following services:***

- Local bus services (school services and regular route services) across NSW.
- Sydney Trains services (note: a separate concession station access fee is payable for entry/exit of Domestic and International Airport stations).
- Sydney Ferries services and Newcastle Ferries services.
- NSW TrainLink rail and coach services.

Concession fares are not available on special and premium services, charter services, special event services or tourism services.

Eligible students can make application at the student window

Payments

Payments for school fees, uniform, equipment and excursions can be made at the front office. Cash (correct money please), cheques



School Opal cards:

- Tap on and off for each journey.
- For between home and school use only.

STUDENT WELLBEING

At Birrong Boys High School student wellbeing is of paramount concern to all staff.

If you have any concerns about your son's attendance, behaviour or academic performance, please contact the school on 9644 5200 and speak to your son's Year Adviser.

The Year Advisers are as follows:-

Year 7—Ms Davies

Year 8 – Ms Saheli

Year 9 – Mr Matar

Year 10 – Ms Malla

Year 11 – Mr Karam

Year 12 – Mr Ewen