

KEIRA

July 2022

News



Great traditions, a confident future.



From the Principal

Welcome to the newsletter of Keira HS! It has been wonderful to see so many great things happening in and out of classrooms this term, with students at the front of celebrations and events.

Keira HS prides itself on offering many opportunities for students. I commend the staff for being available for many lunchtimes and after school activities.

Some of the great activities include:

EVENT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
RECESS	Crochet Club Stage 4 Maths Club Uploaded to Google Classroom	Stage 5 Maths Club			
LUNCH		Choir	Representative Netball Training		
DURING SPORT WEDNESDAYS			Beginner Band + Intermediate Band + Guitar Group EALD learning support for senior students (Library)		
AFTER SCHOOL	Year 12 Visual Arts Students Major Work Workshop Senior Stage Band (Music room) EALD Homework Centre Yrs 7-12 (Library; 2.45-4.45)	Homework club (Library) Junior Stage Band (music room)		Rock and Water	

I have been impressed with the students quickly moving into their classes and settling into their learning.

A typical lesson begins with a quick, entry style activity for students to engage with the learning straight away. Students get to recall knowledge from previous lessons and start to engage with the current lesson's learning. The first 10 minutes of class is important as explicit teaching is delivered and students get to understand what will be happening for the remainder of the lesson.

Moving to class straight away gives students their best opportunity to engage with the learning that lesson.



Attendance

I understand that attendance is important, and we have sent several letters to families outlining their child's attendance. We want to continue working with families and students to increase student's attendance. We do recognise that Covid and other illnesses have impacted on student's attendance. Thank you to those that passed on feedback and to parents for checking the Sentral Parent Student portal. We want to be able to recognise and celebrate students who have excellent attendance as well as students who have improved their attendance across the year.

Covid and other illnesses have also impacted on staff attendance. This has also impacted the continuity of learning and I praise students for working hard in all their lessons. We endeavour to have lessons covered through casual teachers and teachers taking 'extras' but this is not always possible. At times, there will be classes supervised in the library or combined classes but at all times, students will have learning to complete.

P&C

Thank you to the parents who were able to attend our Week 8 meeting and Annual General Meeting (AGM). An executive has now been elected to oversee the P&C and make decisions.

Thank you and congratulations to these parents for being elected into these roles:

- President - Mark McCarthy
- Treasurer - Julie Gallan
- Vice President 1 - Tara Alexander
- Vice President 2 - Mel Edwards

The Secretary position is currently vacant. If you are interested in filling this position, please contact Tracy Tzanopoulos (Keira HS Business Manager) at school or attend the Week 3 Term 3 meeting.

2022 Meetings:

- Term 3: Week 3 Wednesday 3 August 6 to 7pm
- Term 3: Week 8 Wednesday 7 September 6 to 7pm
- Term 4: Week 3 Wednesday 26 October 6 to 7pm
- Term 4: Week 8 Wednesday 30 November 6 to 7pm

Professional Learning

This term, teachers have been involved in several professional learning activities, based on our School Improvement Plan:

Enabling the Learner

- Trauma informed Practice
- High Impact Feedback

Student Growth and Attainment

- Academic Reading for Meaning
- Explicit teaching of vocabulary

Enabling High Impact Teaching

- Curriculum review 2022
- Coaching and Mentoring

RECONCILIATION WEEK 27 MAY TO 3 JUNE 2022



Our Term 3 School Development Day will see our teaching staff spread across the Illawarra with the Curriculum Network Illawarra workshops. Each faculty team will meet with their curriculum colleagues at various schools.

Keira HS will host the EAL/D (English as Additional Language/ Dialect).

This yearly event is a highlight for teachers as they get to collaborate and learn with their curriculum colleagues across the Illawarra, further improving their ability to deliver high-impact teaching in classrooms.

NSW Secondary Principals Council Annual Conference 2022

I was fortunate to be a member of the organising committee of this conference, held in Wollongong in Week 8. There were fantastic student performances and exhibitors, showcasing their latest products. The professional learning was exceptional, focused on the power of public schools and the luminosity of school leadership.



Sara, Gabbi and Gus performed at the NSW Secondary principals Conference on Thursday 16 June 2022.

Presenters:

Julia Baird: Best-selling author and award-winning journalist and cancer survivor. She hosts The Drum on ABC TV and writes columns for The New York Times, The Sydney Morning Herald and the Age.

Ms Baird shared insights about focusing on positivity in conjunction with finding awe and wonder in the world. Connections with nature and with people were important, which made me consider how fortunate we are at Keira HS to have so many great people and fantastic access to the forests, beaches, parks, reserves and paths of the Illawarra.

Anita Hiess: Author and finalist in the 2013 Australian of the Year Awards (Local Hero). Anita is a proud member of the Wiradjuri Nation of central New South Wales, but was born in Gadigal Country and has spent much of her life on Dharawal land near La Perouse.

Ms Hiess encouraged us all to be activists, as we should be active in our lives and stand up for what we believe in. She highlighted the need for people to take responsibility for their own wellbeing and to “fill your bucket” so you can help others. Some ideas for “filling your bucket” included:

- reading from a variety of sources
- acknowledging the country on where you learn and learning about connecting to country
- acknowledging the people that have gone before you, especially the traditional custodians
- practice gratitude
- be active
- journal writing, especially focusing on positives and what inspires you

“To do your best work, you need to be at your best and connected”

Jennifer Robinson: human rights lawyer, Rhodes scholar and fierce supporter of public education.

Ms Robinson shared her experiences of growing up in Berry and her time at Bomaderry HS. Her favourite class was Indonesian language studies, which fuelled an insatiable curiosity about the world that has produced a global impact. She shared the importance of public education and the wonderful opportunities for students to learn and to connect with such a wide range of people. Ms Robinson described her passion for helping others that was built firstly from her family, then from her teachers and friends at school, then by experiencing the world and seeing how she could make a difference.

Dr Richard Harris OAM: Doctor anaesthesiologist, with a passion for diving and aeromedical retrieval medicine. In 2018 he received the Star of Courage and the medal of the Order of Australia for his role in the Thailand cave rescue, leading to being awarded the 2019 Australian of the Year with his dive partner Craig Challen.

Dr Harris detailed his history of loving adventure and controlled risk-taking, leading to a passion for cave diving around the world. Combined with his wide range of skills and passion for caring for others, gave him the unique opportunity to be involved in the Thailand cave rescue. Dr Harris promoted lifelong learning, with his message of learning as much as you can because you could use it to help others in very unique situations!

Dr Tim Flannery: mammologist, palaeontologist, environmentalist, conservationist, explorer, author, science communicator, activist and public scientist. He was awarded Australian of the Year in 2007 for his work and advocacy on environmental issues.

Dr Flannery discussed the current needs of people in our environment with a range of practical, local and global ideas to help our planet. He explained the power that schools can have to address global issues, and how collectively, we can make such a difference. Dr Flannery's ideas for schools included:

- contacting education ministers and calling for improvements with school infrastructure, energy use and solar panels
- improving recycling
- reducing energy use
- improving student's understanding of the impacts of energy use, damage to the environment (including school buildings which cost not only money, but finite resources to fix)
- improving gardens and natural spaces

The event was a fabulous success that inspired over 350 Principals to continue advocacy for students and families in public education in conjunction with providing outstanding learning environments for people to thrive in.

Mr Scott Frazier Principal



NSW Secondary principals Conference on Thursday 16 June 2022

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From the Deputy Principal

Celebrating Student Leadership



Keira Community of Schools Leadership Ceremony

Friday 17 June 2022

The Keira Community of Schools Leadership Ceremony is a significant annual event that allows us to recognise and congratulate the student leaders from all schools within our learning community. This event also provides the opportunity to experience the amazing depth of student leadership across all 7 schools.

This year our ceremony was led by Year 12 students, Molly Rigby, Geordie McCarthy, Kelly Jessop and Maddison Toll. These exceptional students confidently led the school community in our celebration of student leadership and are to be congratulated.

It is an important moment as it allows each Principal to introduce their student leadership team and for the student leaders to speak on behalf of their schools. Two leaders from each of the 7 schools presented on the meaning of leadership and their focus as they lead within their school to enact positive change. It gives me great confidence in our future to see the quality of young people keen to contribute to their school, community, and world.

Our Interact and SRC leaders were also celebrated for the role they play in leading our school in the promotion of positive civics and citizenship across the school year.

Our Director Educational Leadership, Mr David Lamb joined our school community and spoke to all in attendance of the skillset required to be an effective leader. We very much valued his words and look forward to Mrs Lamb attending many more of Keira's important moments.

Building leaders for today and tomorrow remains a central focus of Keira. Our school is recognised as a place that not only values celebrating achievement but in deliberately enacting programs to support all our students to develop a skillset essential to successfully lead others.

One of the most important aspects of the day was the involvement of the parents and carers of the student leaders from across our partner primary schools. We thank them for joining us in our celebration.

2022 School Leaders



BALGOWNIE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Zara Bourbonnais *Speaker*, **Otis Kelly**, **Jasmine Moffitt**, **Aidan Rayner** *Speaker*



CONISTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Aleksia Meers *Speaker*, **Sidney Smith** *Speaker*, **Zac Cave**, **Emerald Clay**



FAIRY MEADOW DEMONSTRATION SCHOOL

Samantha Green *Speaker*, **Eli Dimanoski** *Speaker*, **Stella Steven**, **Orlando Beer**



MT OUSLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Vanessa Le *Speaker*, **Kane Badger** *Speaker*

Zahra Al Rashid, **Alexander Smyth**, **Hirada Lawler**, **Eilidh Marshal**
PLEASANT HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL



Billy Anderson, **Isla Pearce**, **Samuel Issa** *Speaker*, **Gisele Bezbradica** *Speaker*



WOLLONGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

Jennifer Jogen *Speaker*, **Benjamin Rocker**, **Eden Leota**, **Axel Comer** *Speaker*



KEIRA HIGH SCHOOL

Molly Rigby, **Geordie McCarthy**, **Maddison Toll**, **Lauren Sheppard**, **Kelly Jessep**



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HSC Trial Exams

Our High School Certificate students are currently sitting their Trial Examinations before heading into their final term of study. We wish them all the greatest of luck for this examination period.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
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TERM 3 2022

Week 1

Monday 18 July	Staff Development Day Interschools Snowsport Championships
Tuesday 19 July	Students Return for Term 3 Interschools Snowsport Championships
Thursday 21 July	Southern Stars Rehearsal Stage 6 CAPA Excursion – Seymour Centre Interschools Snowsport Championships
Friday 22 July	Interschools Snowsport Championships State Cross Country – Eastern Creek

Week 2

Wednesday 27 July	YAM Program – Year 9
Thursday 28 July	Winter Recital Duke of Edinburgh Adventurous Training Day Futsal State Championships – Under 16's – Windsor Sydney

Ms P Havilah
Relieving Deputy Principal – Years 9 & 12



From the Deputy Principal

Have you signed up for the Sentral Parent Portal yet?

The computer system we use to manage student matters including attendance is called Sentral. They provide a portal for parents which we are increasingly using for parent communication. It allows parents to notify the school of upcoming absences, provides information to parents on students' timetable and attendance, stores newsletters, reports and other correspondence. Over time we will use it to schedule parent/teacher interviews.

The address for the portal is <https://keirahs.sentral.com.au/portal2/> You can register yourself for an account there. You will need an access key to link to your child's records – we recently re-sent these keys to families who have not yet registered.

If you need assistance with logging in or using the portal, please contact me.

Years 7-10 Reports

Teachers are putting the finishing touches to Semester One academic reports – we normally aim to hand these out at school over the last two days of term, but given the industrial action scheduled for Thursday in Week 10, they will instead be distributed early in Term Three. They will also be published to the Sentral Parent Portal.

Bricklaying Project

As part of our participation in the Educational Pathways Project, some of our students will be working with TAFE Bricklaying teachers on replacing some of our wooden garden surrounds with bricks at a height comfortable for students to sit on. This takes place early Term 3, so I hope to have some photographs to show you in the next newsletter.

No Act of Kindness is Ever Wasted

A Lion lay asleep in the forest, his great head resting on his paws. A timid little Mouse came upon him unexpectedly, and in her fright and haste to get away, ran across the Lion's nose. Roused from his nap, the Lion laid his huge paw angrily on the tiny creature to kill her.

"Spare me!" begged the poor Mouse. "Please let me go and someday I will surely repay you."

The Lion was much amused to think that a Mouse could ever help him. But he was generous and finally let the Mouse go.

Some days later, while stalking his prey in the forest, the Lion was caught in the toils of a hunter's net. Unable to free himself, he filled the forest with his angry roaring. The Mouse knew the voice and quickly found the Lion struggling in the net. Running to one of the great ropes that bound him, she gnawed it until it parted, and soon the Lion was free.

"You laughed when I said I would repay you," said the Mouse. "Now you see that even a Mouse can help a Lion."

Mr G Langford
Deputy Principal - Years 8 & 11



News from Wellbeing



From the Student Support Officer

What is a Student Support Officer (SSO)?

Student Support Officers are a relatively new role in schools. I work as part of the Wellbeing Team to support students and families so that school can be as positive as it can be.

Schools have a strong focus on learning for students, however, this learning becomes hard if their emotional, physical, social, spiritual and mental health needs are not being met.

My role is to support students as a trusted point of contact to help solve their dilemmas by drawing upon the resources available to them within Keira High, as well as working with external agencies to support students whose circumstances outside of school may need further support.

I assist students with the provision of resources required to meet their educational requirements. I can help with student assistance for uniforms, and other resources necessary to meet their educational needs.

I am also an active part in the provision of group programs within the school to better equip our students to address the many challenges confronted in our ever-evolving world, so they can flourish to become their best person.

For both our students and parents alike, please feel free to contact me.

I am located right next to the **Wellbeing Hub in Room 205**.

Students can access SSO support by:

- Talking to their Year Adviser
- Talking to HT Welfare Mrs Vlahakis
- Self-Referral



Mrs L Deitz
Student Support Officer





Year 12 – Ms Holliday

Year 12 have commenced their Trial HSC examinations. Due to Covid, this is their first time sitting all together in the hall completing formal examinations. It has been a fantastic opportunity for Year 12 to experience what the HSC will look and feel like when October comes around. As a group, they have been observed for being the best behaved and focused group of students sitting formal examinations for a long time.

The recent Athletics Carnival saw some fun and competitive action on the track and the sounds and smells of the BBQ, facilitated by Year 12 as part of the fundraising efforts, permeated all of Wollongong. As we all know from weekend sports and Bunnings adventures, there is truly nothing more satiating than the aroma of caramelised onions on a hot plate. Mr Law and I are very proud and appreciative of the 42 helpers, they were absolutely fantastic at selling the sizzle!

Year 12 had the opportunity to enjoy a social afternoon at Northern Bowl on Thursday 17, in the week before the exams. A great time was had by all. Mohammad Adil is recognised for his strike rate prowess and there were more than a few spares to celebrate. Romany proved to be the sharpest shooter, with her name immortalised with the highest score on the goal shooting game in the bowling centre. It was a wonderful afternoon, and the group were able to decompress, socialise and take time out from their study schedule to have some fun. Balance is key and as we move towards the actual HSC, it will be important for our Year 12 students to remember this.



Rachel Barnes, Sara Todner, Alina McBride, Freya Stevenson, Yuri Naumovski, Ethan Lowe, Bigyan Adhikari, Dennis Thai, Erin Biyik and Anakin Rosales creating the sizzle!



Dane Burge, Gus Kettley, Lachlan Neal, Geordie McCarthy, Joel Hammersley, Ari Deboynton, Romany Felgate and Molly Rigby at the Bowling excursion

Student Representative Council

On 15 June Keira High School Student Representative Council met at local primary school Lindsay Park Primary School together with students from local primary and high schools, and regional directors David Lamb and Kathy Powzun for the inaugural SRC network meeting. The initiative will provide students with the opportunity to collaborate with other SRC members and engage in leadership building activities. The event was attended by Year 11 SRC members Ellie Iskra and Wayne Cai, who provided both keynote speeches and guided students through a range of activities. The network will be an ongoing initiative that will continue next term. The SRC would like to thank Lindsay Park for hosting the event.



News from HSIE

HISTORY COMPETITION

During Term 2, over 50 History students from Years 7 - 10 participated in the Australian History Competition. The competition uses a range of historical sources to focus on testing student's analytical and interpretive skills rather than relying on prior knowledge. For this reason, the competition is accessible to students of all levels providing a great opportunity for them to engage as well as excel. The History Competition showcases History as an essential component in the school curriculum and helps to foster engagement and reward students' interest in the History subject. All students who participated did an excellent job, there was lots of positive feedback from the students which highlighted the benefits and value of this competition. The students will receive their results of this competition when they are released, which should be later in the year.

HISTORY ELECTIVE EXCURSIONS

During Week 7, our Stage 5 History Elective class took a journey on the Illawarra Heritage Trail. This pathway brought them into contact with the oldest and most significant heritage buildings in the Wollongong CBD. The excursion connected with the work that they have been studying connected to 'History, heritage and archaeology' and the realm of 'Public History'. During the excursion, the students were fortunate enough to engage with a range of people who are involved in recreating, restoring and preserving the local heritage of Wollongong. What an amazing moment of historical synchronicity! We also got to identify the oldest house in town, as well as the location where Keira High School started over 100 years ago.



If you are interested, I have included a link to the free map and information guide below. We can highly recommend undertaking this local and free activity. It is a fun and easy way to spend a few hours as an individual or as a family during the holidays, and whilst you are there, you can make a local connection with the past.

https://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0015/3831/Wollongong-Heritage-Trail.pdf



In Week 8, History Elective visited the Archaeology department of Wollongong University. We were lucky enough to be hosted by Dr Alex Mackay and his team of academics, who took the students through a series of workshops. These ranged from:

- Ecology studies focusing on fossilised human and animal remains
- Experimental archaeology that identified stone tool making techniques
- Rock art and the ethical challenges that archaeologists face when dating ancient sites.

Wollongong University is a world leader in specific fields of archaeology and Keira High School's connection with the institution is a valuable partnership that we look forward to developing in the future.



Finally, we would like to wish Year 12 all the best for their Exam period. We hope they enjoy the success that they deserve, and their hard work helps prepare them for the end of year HSC examinations.

Have a safe holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone next term.

Mr K Weber
Head Teacher HSIE

On Thursday, 19 May 2022, 21 students attended the Zone Cross Country carnival at Nicholson Park. All students participated at an exceptional level with great spirit and of course some nerves. We had 9 students moving onto Regional Cross Country on 3 June at Willandra, Cambewarra.

Top 3 results were: William Lewis, Callum Burge and Sharnee Behr. William and Callum were both in the boys 16 years race where William came first and Callum came second. Sharnee had her final Zone Cross Country race in the girls 18 years where she came 5th.

I would just like to personally congratulate every student who was involved in the Zone Cross Country carnival and thank you for getting involved and giving it your best go.

Ms A Earl PDHPE Teacher / Sports Organise



Zone Cross Country 2022



Representative Tennis

On Monday 23 May, Sebastian Alexander (Yr 9), Ashton Alexander (Yr 8), Tex Francis (Yr 10) and Tully McCarthy (Yr 8) represented the school at the annual Stan Jones Tennis Knockout Tournament. On rain-affected courts, the boys played extremely well all day, beating Bulli High School and Wollongong Performing Arts High School, making it through to the final. Due to the poor weather, the final was postponed until the 26 May versus Smith's Hill High School. Unfortunately for Smith's Hill, one of their players injured themselves the day before the game, leading Smith's Hill to forfeit. This means that our boys' team made it through to the semi-final round in Bomaderry on June 24. If they win this next stage, they will take part in the Stan Jones finals held in Nelson Bay in Term 3.

On Thursday 26 May, Isabella Poposki (Yr 12), Alina McBryde (Yr 12), Gabriela Luzaic (Yr 9) and Tayla Wiki (Yr 7) represented the school at the annual Floris Conway Tennis Knockout Tournament. Due to the consistently high standard of girls' tennis at Keira High, our team progressed straight into the second round of the day, versus and beating Wollongong Performing Arts High School. The girls then played Warilla High in the final. It was an excellent match, of a very high standard. So much so, that all sets and games were equal after 6 sets of tennis. This meant that the reverse doubles had to be played as a decider. Unfortunately, the girls lost the deciding set, ultimately placing second in the region.



Congratulations to both teams.

Fantastic effort!

Mr Wenzel
PDHPE Teacher

Mount Ousley Public School

The sun came out on 26 May when a select group of Keira High PASS students attended Mount Ousley's Primary School annual athletics carnival at Beaton Park.

We use these opportunities to connect with our feeder schools and our local community. It's also a great experience for our Keira High school students to develop leadership skills, public speaking and build their knowledge and understanding around officiating.

A huge well done to the following students who assisted in the Long Jump, the High Jump as well as the timing of the races.

Gabby, Eva, Jack, Remi, Daniel, Audrey and Zali

A great day was had by all!



Ms M Cantrill PDHPE Teacher

News from English

Year 10 English – Creating Confident Writers

Earlier this term, Year 10 concentrated on improving their creative writing skills. They were highly engaged in the planning, drafting, editing and publishing of an original story. This occurred over two weeks. Students enjoyed the process of improving their craft and applying textual concepts like character, connotation and symbolism.

Since then, their attention has turned to discursive writing, which requires writing objectively about a range of opinions. This differs from the persuasive writing they are familiar with, which is more forceful and single minded. Discursive writing allows them to compare concepts, expressing new and interesting perspectives. This is taking place in the context of their study of Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' or 'Taming of the Shrew'.

The feedback Year 10 students are receiving will inform their English course selection for the HSC. English is the only compulsory HSC course. Students select from English Studies, English Standard and English Advanced. These selections will occur in Term 3, ready for students to commence the Preliminary HSC at the beginning of the 2023 school year. Prior to these selections, English Head Teacher Ms Carruthers will inform Year 10 about the nature of each course.

For further information, visit <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/stage-6-english>

**Mr D Goodley
English Teacher**

Othello

On Thursday 9 June, 11EAK and Ms Cara journeyed to the Seymour Centre at Sydney University to see *Sport for Jove's* performance of Othello. This was the culmination of the Narratives the Shape our World module that they had been studying in class. It was a lovely sunny, albeit chilly, day. The students enjoyed the train trip up there. They described the performance as "intense," but ultimately loved seeing the play in the flesh, as it brought the story to life for them.



**Ms M Cara
English Teacher**

Creating Chances



Creating Chances provides internationally renowned best practice, evidence-based programs promoting positive youth development through sport. During Term 2 students from Keira High School engaged in a program called Coaches and Champions designed to build confident, capable, and future-ready young people. Our coaches were students from Stage 4 & 5. Our Champions consisted of approx. 50 students from the Support Unit.

Here is some feedback from Soe and Fahd, two of our student coaches:



Creating Chances is a program that helps high school students gain abilities in teaching others how to act under stressful situations. The part of the program I enjoyed most was getting to know more people and making new friends. Our main mentor is Paul. He taught us the importance of leadership and sportsmanship. His motto is FSI (Fun, Safe, Inclusive). It means having fun while learning, being safe when doing certain activities, and including everyone so that we all have fun. I recommend this

program to all teenagers as it helps build confidence. *By Soe Reh Year 8*

What can Creating Chances do for you? Creating Chances is a program that gives you leadership skills, respect, and how to manage a group. It teaches you to be a leader. It teaches you respect which you can take to your job. Paul is the Facilitator of the Keira High School Program. He is one of the best people I've have met. He gives us respect and talks to us about what going to happen, and he takes the time to explain new sporting skills. I want to say a very big thank you to Paul. *By Fahd Algenniat Year 8*

Accelerate Her

The program Accelerate-Her introduces young women to new experiences and events. Pathways are unlocked to a wider view into the future. One event the girls went to was a networking event. The young women met a range of professional mentors in different employment and career fields. These careers included fashion design, interior design and many more. Each mentor had their own story to share and advice to pass down as the younger group expressed their curiosity.

It was fascinating learning how the mentors reached their passions, or how they balance their job and personal life. I was interested in the different challenges they faced in order to feel secure about my own future. The mentors were open and inspired many of us and it was intriguing to see behind the final product of their work. It was moving to hear that aside from the difficulty and the importance of keeping up a job, the mentors acknowledged the habit of taking a break and taking care of yourself. It reflected to the stresses that I have experienced at school, where I needed a break.

Accelerate-Her has presented me with new connections, opportunities and experiences, and most of all an enjoyable adventure. I recommend the program to all young women of multicultural background because it opens them to a wider view of moving into adulthood at a young age, while having an incredible time!



*By Clodagh
Danillo
Year 9*

News from Library

Sydney Writers' Festival Excursion

On Thursday May 19 I had the pleasure of taking a group of 20 enthusiastic readers and aspiring writers to the Secondary Schools Day of the Sydney Writers' Festival at the Sydney Town Hall. Our students were attentive listeners, respectful audience members, asked probing questions and were very excited to buy books and have them signed by the authors. Here is what they said of the experience:



"When I woke up I was bumbling with excitement. I could barely sleep the night before. I mean, going on a trip to see some of the best Australian YA authors? That's like a dream come true for someone like me! When I arrived, I was one of the last people there. The train ride was fun, but when we arrived was when I felt really excited. All of the writers who spoke at the festival were really cool but I especially liked Any Kaufman's speech about building worlds in her books. As someone who also likes to write I found the story how she became a writer interesting. The other writers spoke of important social issues which influenced their writing. It was interesting and captivating and I would definitely recommend it.

"The Sydney Town Hall was a magical setting for the Writers' Festival. It was beautiful and ornate, with an enormous crystal chandelier". The authors gave helpful information for aspiring writers about the creative process and the practical steps to getting published. Dr Jared Thomas, talked about what it was like growing up in regional communities as a young Aboriginal man and how his experiences lent an authentic voice to the stories he shared. The powerful talk about combating racism from Dr Sarah Ayoub emphasised the importance of telling your own story, otherwise others will speak for you. All speakers showed how their approaches build empathy for others. *Astrid and Piper*



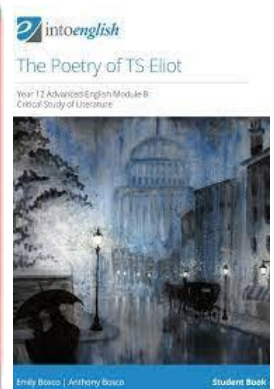
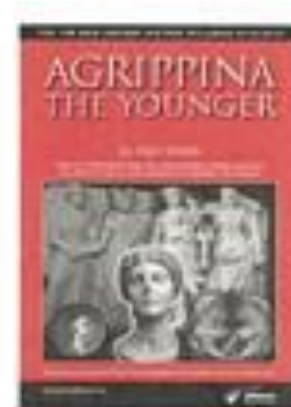
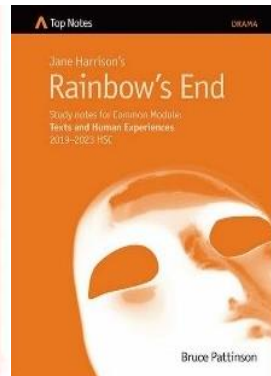
NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

Students are reminded that the 2022 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge runs until Friday 19 August giving students plenty of time to update their online reading logs and to continuing reading during the school holidays. 67 students have registered to date with one 1 student having read 20 books to complete the Challenge and more students getting close to the finish line. Students who complete the Challenge will celebrate their achievements at a pizza luncheon later in the year. Completion certificates signed by the Premier will be issued at the end of year assemblies.

Everything you need to know about the Challenge can be found in Keira HS's learn path guide at: <https://tinyurl.com/2b5pzt6x> .

What's new in the collection?

The library is updating its HSC collection with the latest ATAR, Checkpoints and Top Notes study guides to support our senior students.



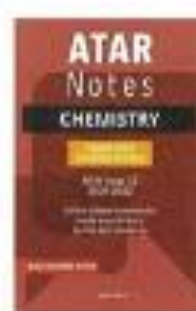
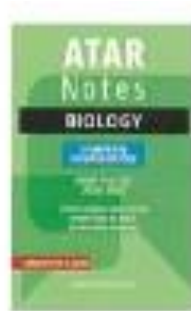
Issues in Society

Issues in Society

Issues in Society

Issues in Society

Issues in Society



SRE YEAR 7



OPPORTUNITY FOR YEAR 7 TO ENROL IN SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE)



Special Religious Education or SRE, is a feature of the public education system in NSW to provide students an in class opportunity for education in ethics, faith and morality from a religious or non-religious perspective at the choice of parents.

Previously the school chaplain at Mount Ousley Public School, Jimmy Knight is the Christian SRE teacher for year 7 students at Keria High, providing religious education for those that wish to opt in. This class time is an opportunity for students to ask questions and think for themselves about faith, morality and the Christian world view.

If you have not received the note handed to year 7 students for a response to SRE, please find the permission note below to opt in or out of SRE.

This can be returned physically to the front office, or directly to Jimmy through this google form:

<https://forms.gle/AkyJDHepfe32QYpYA>.

SRE Options

☐ Christian SRE (1 lesson a fortnight)

OR

☐ Please check this box if you do not wish for your child to attend SRE.

Student name: _____

Class: 7 _____

Signature of parent/carer: _____

Date: _____

For more information about Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Education in Ethics (SEE), including the list of approved providers, please visit:
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-across-the-curriculum/religion-and-ethics>



School-Based Apprenticeship & Traineeship Information Session



As a school participating in the Department of Education - Educational Pathways Program, interested students of Keira High School have been meeting with the appointed SBAT Engagement Officer, Megan Jackson-Lee, to discuss the proven pathway into employment or further training that a School-Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship can offer. The opportunity to get a head start on their career combining paid work, training and school means that they will not only get unit credit towards their NSW Higher School Certificate, but also an industry-recognised, national qualification. ATAR and non-ATAR SBAT pathways are available.

Please register your interest in learning more about the 'SBAT' opportunity and how you as parents and/or carers, can support your child in being successful on their future SBAT journey.

Details

Keira High School Library

Morning Session: 5 Aug @ 10am

Evening Session: 27 Jul @ 5:30pm

To register interest please scan QR
code below.



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Educational
Pathways Program



Expand student minds in a
fun & challenging setting with

2022 GERRIC Student Programs

July 5 - 8 | Online & On-campus

9:00am - 3:00pm



Online



UNSW Campus,
Kensington



Follow the QR Code
for more information

Great traditions, a confident future.



Educational Pathways Program:

Message from Head Teacher Careers Michelle Collison



Parents and carers play an important role in helping their young adults make career choices. You are the greatest influence on your young adults' career choice. Making choices can be difficult, 'the world of work' is complex and careful investigation is needed so that careers can be properly planned.

We're here to help you help your teenagers with some strategies courtesy of the Career Industry Council of Australia.

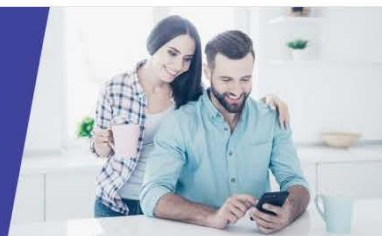
1. Remain positive. No matter how complex and confusing the changes in employment and training may seem, the majority of school leavers now have access to a number of education and vocational pathways.
2. Encourage your young adult to develop positive self-esteem. Focus on their achievements – but not just at school. Acknowledge their efforts in all their activities like, sport, community activities, keeping their room tidy, helping around the house. Show them that you believe in them.
3. Allow for change in direction. It is very unusual for a student to choose a career at a very early age and never waiver in their choice. Be prepared for changes and encourage your teenager to explore their options.
4. Encourage them to learn from their mistakes. Even if you feel uncertain about their choice, remain positive as they make their first steps towards their career. It isn't the end of the world if they choose the wrong work experience or subject. Discovering that a previous career interest is not for them is a positive step in the decision-making process as it gives them the time to re-assess their interests and broaden their options.
5. Encourage them to find an industry contact. When a teenager begins to express an interest in a particular career, if it is possible help them to establish links with someone in that field. This person can then provide a direct, first-hand information link with that particular occupation or industry.
6. Networking. Students should be actively encouraged to develop an information network for themselves. This network could well be friends, neighbours, part-time work employers, work experience employers and your family's builder/car repairer/plumber/accountant. This network can also include their roll call teacher, year advisor, best friends' parents, and most certainly the school Careers Advisor.
7. Share your experiences. Talk to your teenager about your own experiences of work and study and your reasons for making particular career decisions. Discuss the problems you have faced and how you dealt with them. Speak openly of the positive and negative aspects of the jobs you have done.

What if you have young children as well? You can start the conversations as early as 7 by stimulating their imagination, discussing feelings, and talking about growing up. The Australian Governments 'Your Career' website has some great resources for creating the little ripples in your child's life that inform their development and life choices. I highly recommend that you watch the video and try using the conversation cards with your child – I have. <https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/get-career-resources/little-ripples>

If you would like help accessing the resources mentioned or would like to discuss how you can support your child or teenager further, please contact me at michelle.dunn4@det.nsw.edu.au



Important Information: Sentral for Parents App



From **Thursday 23rd June 2022**, versions 3 and 4 of the Sentral for Parents App will no longer be supported. If you are on one of these versions, you need to update your app to continue accessing information and receiving notifications.

How do I check what version I am?

From your app, go into Settings cog in the top left corner of the dashboard screen, then into App Version. (See image below.)

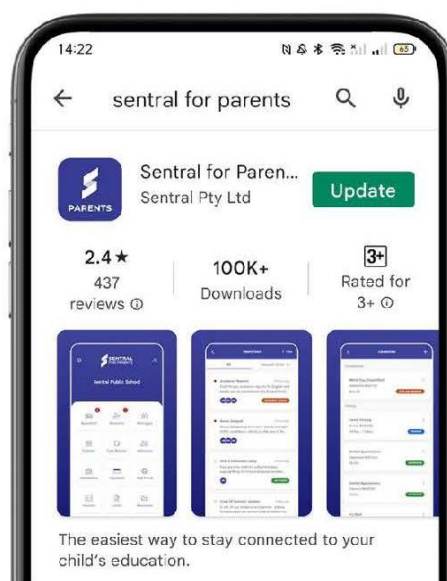


I am on Version 3 or 4

You will need to update your app. Go to your device's app store and search for Sentral for Parents and then select Update (see image below). Or you can access the app store using the QR codes below. After the update, when you go back into the app, you will be required to re-enter your login credentials.

I am on Version 5

You do not need to do anything at this time.



App Store



Google Play



How to get Help

If you require assistance you can email parentapp@sentral.com.au for support.



OUR WOLLONGONG JOIN THE CONVERSATION



We want to be learning city.

We want Wollongong to be a city where everyone has an opportunity to learn, be creative and to become connected. That's why, by 2024 we are aiming to become a learning city. To help us develop a plan for what our learning city will look like, we'd love you to share your learning experiences. We want to hear about how important learning is to you, where you learn, what makes learning hard and which learning themes are important to you. These will help us understand what is important for our community, and our city.

Let us know your thoughts before 5pm Monday 8 August 2022.



Meet Christine. She's a lifelong learner.

Christine is 66 years old and runs a sewing group at Our Community Project in Port Kembla with her friends Eileen and Lisa.

You can learn more about the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities here <https://uil.unesco.org/lifelong-learning/learning-cities>

And the UNESCO Key Features and Guide to Learning Cities here <https://uil.unesco.org/lifelong-learning/learning-cities/key-features-learning-cities>

Why do we want Wollongong to become a learning city?

Wollongong City Council is committed to establishing Wollongong as a UNESCO learning city by 2024.

Our Wollongong 2028 Strategic Plan pledges a commitment to our community vision: *"From the mountains to the sea, we value and protect our natural environment and we will be leaders in building an educated, creative and connected community"*.

We believe lifelong learning is central to delivering on this community vision.

What is a learning city?

A learning city is a city that promotes lifelong learning for all members of the community. The UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities inspires cities around the world to invest in learning initiatives to become an accredited learning city.

What would Wollongong look like as a learning city?

Every learning city around the world is unique in how they approach lifelong learning. That's because different communities have unique needs and aspirations that need to be worked on.

www.our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Great traditions, a confident future.



Here in Wollongong, our goal is to build a learning city by empowering our community with the knowledge, skills and resources they need to face personal, local and global challenges.

Are there other learning cities in Australia?

There are currently three UNESCO learning cities in Australia: Wyndham Victoria, Melton Victoria, and Circular Head Tasmania. There are also learning communities who have not sought UNESCO accreditation. In NSW Gwydir Shire Council has established itself as a learning region. In Victoria, Brimbank is implementing a Lifelong Learning Strategy (2018-23) and Hume City Council has committed to supporting lifelong learning in the community through a Learning Together 2030 Strategic Plan.

What is a Learning City Plan?

A Learning City Plan will set out Wollongong's vision, objectives, key priority areas and actions for our learning city. It will also include how the learning city will be governed and reported on.

We are seeking ideas from the community and stakeholders, that we will inform the draft Learning City Plan. You can share your ideas on learning by completing this online survey:



<https://our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/learning-city>

Will other organisations work with Council to establish a learning city?

Yes, Council will partner with education institutions, non-profit organisations, NSW Government Department and Agencies, and the private sector to seek accreditation.

I work at an educational institution, or service provider. How do I become involved with Wollongong's learning city journey?

We want to hear about the learning experiences and challenges of the communities you work with, and your ideas on how to enhance and promote lifelong learning. You can share this by completing this survey:

our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/learning-city/survey_tools/learning-city-service-providers

We will also continue to work closely with a range of stakeholders to develop and implement the draft Learning City Plan. If you are interested in being involved, or want to be updated on the progress please email engagement@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

How will my feedback be used?

At the conclusion of the engagement period all feedback is will be read and considered. The project team will use what we have heard from the community to develop a draft Learning City Plan.

Join the conversation

We want to make sure everybody has the opportunity to provide their ideas and feedback.

Visit 41 Burelli Street Wollongong

Online www.our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Email engagement@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Phone (02) 4227 7111

Write Locked Bag 8821, Wollongong DC 2500

If you're Deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment, you can contact us through the National Relay Service. If you need an interpreter, you can contact us through the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131450. You'll need to provide our phone number 02 4227 7111.

www.our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au



SOMETHING TO DO THESE **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

JULY 2022

FREE for 12-24 years olds [unless otherwise specified]

WORKSHOPS

Bookings Required

5, 6 + 7 July 1.30 - 3.30pm	Embroidery - Wollongong Youth Centre Collaborate with local embroidery expert Mariam to create your own hoop design!
6 July 10 - 12pm	Nooky Song Writing - Bundaleer Community Centre
6 July 2 - 4pm	Nooky Song Writing - Koonawarra Community Centre
8 July 2 - 4pm	Nooky Song Writing - Wollongong Youth Centre

OUT & ABOUT

5 July 10 - 2pm	NAIDOC Event - Greene St, Warrawong
7 July 10 - 2pm	NAIDOC Event - Koonawarra Community Centre

LIVE MUSIC

@ Wollongong Youth Centre - All Ages Event

8 July 5pm	Nooky + Scrapes + Black + DJ Fly Waves
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HANG OUT

@ Wollongong Youth Centre

Tuesdays + Wednesdays 1 - 4pm

Thursday + Fridays 3 - 8pm

Comfy lounges, free WiFi, pool, games + snacks!
Gaming - Karaoke - Friday Night Food

For more info DM our socials or call 4227 8222
Activities are supervised, drug + alcohol free



Great traditions, a confident future.





Keira High School

3 Lysaght Street

FAIRY MEADOW NSW 2519

Telephone: 02 4229 4644

Email: keira-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.keira-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Facebook: Keira High School