# Newsletter

### **SOUTH GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL**

Term 4, Week 9, 2019

### From the Principal's Desk

#### **Thank You**

As we make our way to the end of another very successful term, I would like to thank the parents and extended families who care for our students, the staff who encourage and support our students every day and the students themselves who do their best to be respectful, responsible learners every day. We have an amazing school community and our students are thriving as a result. I am looking forward to welcoming the new Year 7 students in 2020 and seeing SGHS grow from strength to strength. Thank you all for your support.

#### **End of Year Presentations**

This week I had the pleasure of attending three events at which the achievements of our students were celebrated. The Presentation Day Assembly showcased the academic success of our students, the STAR Awards recognised students whose literacy skills and NAPLAN results have improved, and the Principal's Tea Party celebrated the outstanding attendance (98% or more) of our students. It was lovely to share these celebrations with so many families, and I know that the students also appreciated the support.

#### Self-Care

The holiday season can seem somewhat overwhelming. However, it is important that as parents and carers, we take some time to look after ourselves. If you have ever flown on an aeroplane, you will be familiar with the words; "in the event of a loss in cabin pressure, secure your own oxygen mask first, before helping others". If you don't, the lack of oxygen in the cabin will render you useless and you will be unable to help anyone. So, over the next few weeks I would encourage everyone to do something that makes them happy. Take some time to care for yourself, so that you can take care of others and return safely in 2020.

### **Presentation Day**

The annual SGHS Presentation Day was held on Tuesday and was a great success. The event included the presentation of a variety of Special Awards, Academic Awards and the Principal's Award for Excellence in each year group. We also showcased our talented Combined Dance Ensemble, Aboriginal Dance Ensemble and the Southside Singers. Well done to all the award recipients and thank you to the staff and sponsors who made the event a success.









### **HSC & ATAR BBQ**

We invite the 2019 HSC graduates to a BBQ breakfast 8.00 am on Tuesday 17th December in the quad. This will be a great opportunity to catch up with teachers and peers, and to share your results. Mr McKee will be cooking for you!

Tyson Street, South Grafton, NSW 2460
e sthgrafton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
p 02 6642 1466 f 02 6643 2027
m 0404 260 328
www.sthgrafton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au



### **Diary Dates**

#### **Monday 16 December**

Year End Activities

### **Tuesday 17 December**

Year End Activities

### Wednesday 18 December

Last day of school for students

### Monday 27 January 2020

Australia Day holiday

### Tuesday 28 January 2020

Staff Development Day

### Wednesday 29 January 2020

Years 7/11/12 students return to school

### Thursday 30 January 2020

Years 8/9/10 students return to school

#### Tuesday 4 February 2020

Swimming Carnival

### STAR Presentation

On Wednesday this week, SGHS held its end of year STAR Presentation & Celebration. More than 50 students and their families came along for the award presentation and morning tea.

STAR stands for Support, Tutoring and Reading. STAR supports over 100 students in a variety of ways across the whole school including helping students improve their literacy skills through our reading program and helping them to complete hundreds of assessment tasks throughout the year. In our MultiLit program, we had approximately 50 students participating. In NAPLAN this year we have STAR students who have achieved first in grammar and punctuation growth and first in spelling growth. Also, top five in reading, writing, grammar and spelling growth and top 10 in spelling and numeracy growth.

Learning and support teachers would like to thank Ms Pizarro and Mrs Dewberry for presenting the awards and cutting the cake. Ms Pizarro's speech was particularly thought-provoking and inspiring, emphasising the importance of reading. Special thanks to Sarah Butterworth and Kieran Jeffs for being our MCs and Tayarna Webb-Donovan for giving the Acknowledgement of Country. Mrs Wood and the Accelerated Hospitality class kindly offered to make the huge STAR cake, Keanu entertained us with his music and also thanks the canteen for so efficiently organising the catering.





### Earn and Learn

Students in STAR are enjoying their new puzzles and games that were purchased with the Woolworths Earn & Learn Vouchers. Thank you from SLSOs and Learning and Support teachers





### **HSC Visual Arts Exhibition**











### Positive Behviour for Learning (PBL) Matrix

The PBL expectations for SGHG have been modified to only three expectations- Take Responsibility, Show Respect and Personal Best. Please discuss with your children how we can all strive to meet these expectation over the coming year."

### South Grafton High School PBL Matrix

	All Settings	Playground	Moving around the school
TAKE RESPONSIBILITY	□ Wear the correct school uniform     □ Be in the right place at all times     □ Follow instructions     □ Keep a clean and tidy environment     □ Stay calm and accept consequences	□ Follow directions of staff □ Use the toilet during recess and lunch □ Stay in bounds □ Use the bins for litter	□ Follow directions of staff □ Use the toilet during recess and lunch □ Line up ready for your class □ Be in the right place at the right time □ Stay to the left
SHOW RESPECT	Use appropriate language and tone Be considerate of others Listen to others Hands off	□ Use school language     □ Respect your own and others' property     □ Show tolerance     □ Hands off	☐ Speak politely to and about others☐ Respect each others personal space☐ Hands off
PERSONAL BEST	☐ Take pride in what you do ☐ Be ready to learn ☐ Encourage others ☐ Move sensibly	<ul> <li>□ Keep your area clean and tidy</li> <li>□ Move to class when the bell rings</li> <li>□ Include and encourage others</li> <li>□ Play safely</li> </ul>	☐ Be prepared for class☐ Move to class when the first bell rings
	Classroom	To and from School	Excursions/Sport

	Classroom	To and from School	Excursions/Sport
TAKE RESPONSIBILITY	□ Arrive on time □ Be prepared and on task □ Digital devices off □ Food away □ Bags in the right place □ Follow instructions	□ Be on time □ Look out for others □ Once in, stay in □ Be road safe □ Travel safely	□ Notes and fees in on time □ Dress appropriately – hat, clothes and footwee □ Follow teachers' directions and requests
SHOW RESPECT	☐ Follow teachers' instructions ☐ Let others learn ☐ Look after the classroom ☐ Take off hats ☐ Digital devices off/ food away	□ Care for myself, others, property and the environment     □ Listen and follow bus driver instructions     □ Use your manners and respectful language to all	□ Be proud of SGHS     □ Respect your own and others property     □ Behave lawfully
ERSONAL BEST	☐ Challenge yourself ☐ Have a go ☐ Be proud of what you do ☐ 4 on the floor	☐ Set a good example for SGHS ☐ Be proud of SGHS	□ Watch out for your mates     □ Demonstrate sportsmanship at all times     □ Accept the referee/umpire's decisions     □ Complete set tasks     □ Slip, slop, slap, wrap and slurp

### No Parking Zone

Please be mindful that the area in front of the hall is a bus zone between 8.00 - 9.00 am and 3.00 - 4.00 pm on school days.

Council staff have been patrolling this area of late and a number of parents have incurred a \$344 fine. Please also note that the area between the bus zone and the front of the school is a no standing area and could also incur a fine.





### Fire and Rescue



Tom Lavery took part in the Fire and Rescue Work Experience Program in Orchard Hills Sydney, a couple of weeks ago. Over the week he participated in a variety of activities such as the use of breathing apparatus, hydraulic tools and safety. Tom also experienced putting out real fires and participated in rescue simulations. Tom visited other Fire Stations in Sydney and visited the Museum of Fire. Tom really enjoyed the experience and learnt many valuable skills.

### Nymboida Presentation

Mrs Pachos, our Year 7 Year Advisor for 2020, presented the Nymboida Primary School scholarship winner at their Presentation Day on Tuesday



## Presentation Day Photos









### **Businesses We Love!**













Please support those businesses that support our school If your business would like to support our school give us a call on 0266421466

## Community Notice Board





### Have you been affected by a natural disaster?

Damage to property caused by natural disasters can affect anyone and often catch us unprepared. It can be very disruptive as people rush to have urgent repairs carried out. NSW Fair Trading and other service providers can assist.

#### **Home Repairs**

Before undertaking repairs, make sure the tradesperson is licensed for the job that needs doing. You can check a tradesperson's licence on the Fair Trading website. Carefully read contracts before signing them and make sure you understand any terms and conditions.

#### Warning - travelling conmen

Beware of travelling conmen and unlicensed traders, who target disaster-affected areas, offering cheap, cash-only repairs to roofs, driveways and damaged trees.

If you take up such offers, you run the risk of:

- substandard work
- being left out of pocket if the trader disappears before finishing the job
- being unable to contact the trader once they have been paid, and
- paying more to have a legitimate tradesperson repair shoddy work

Before you employ a tradesperson:

- check your insurance policy and find out if you are covered
- ask around for suitable tradespeople and get quotes
- Ask for a tradesperson's full name and licence number and check they are licensed to do the work
- do not pay in full up front
- be wary of door-to-door offers get proof that the tradesperson is offering the deal legally and appropriately
- check with your local council if a building permit or other approval is needed.

#### **Renting your home**

Landlords and tenants have rights and responsibilities if their rental property has been affected by a natural disaster, including arranging for urgent repairs, cleaning or clearing any debris caused by a disaster and arranging for utilities to be restored if they were cut-off due to damage to the property. More information on natural disasters in a tenancy is available on the Fair Trading website.

#### Rented caravan damaged or uninhabitable

You can terminate your agreement immediately and go elsewhere. You need to notify the Park Manager. You need to give a notice of termination in writing.

#### Furniture or personal belongings damaged

You need to contact your own insurance company about your contents insurance policy. If you need disaster assistance, visit the Emergency New South Wales website at www.emergency.nsw.gov.au

#### Car damaged

Contact your own insurance company to have the damage assessed. If the damage can be repaired, make sure you go to a licensed motor vehicle repairer.

#### Credit, debt and insurance problems

Contact your financial institution or insurer in the first instance. If you are unable to resolve the issue, call the Credit and Debt Hotline on 1800 007 007.

www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au Enquiries: 13 32 20

Language assistance: 13 14 50 (ask for an interpreter in your language) Indigenous: 1800 500 330 TTY: 1300 723 404 for hearing impaired

### **NORTHERN NSW FIRES | 15 November**

### Community Recovery Information #1

This newsletter contains recovery information for people recently impacted by bush fires in NSW.

### Health and wellbeing

### Looking after yourself and others

Bush fires can be distressing and you might feel things like sadness, frustration, anxiety or have trouble sleeping or remembering things. This is a normal reaction to an abnormal event and is not a sign of weakness.

Having someone to listen and support you at times like this is important.

Some tips on managing your recovery include:

- · spend time with family and friends
- try to get back into a routine
- continue a healthy lifestyle (eating, sleeping, exercise)
- take time out but don't isolate yourself
- express your feelings in your own time and way
- accept help when it is offered
- limit the amount of media coverage you are exposed to
- don't expect to have all the answers
- understand you are not alone in your experience.

Keep checking in with your friends and neighbours and looking out for each other.

#### Free face-to-face support

Free face-to-face or telephone counselling services with a mental health practitioner, such as a psychologist or mental health social worker, to provide people with strategies and techniques to manage mental health.

- Hunter/New England Healthwise 1800 931 540
- North Coast Connect to Wellbeing 1300 160 339

#### Free telephone support

The following are free services available 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

Mental Health Line 1800 011 511

Lifeline 13 11 14

Mensline 1300 789 978 Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger always call 000.

### Are you insured?

If you are insured you should talk to your insurance company as soon as possible about how to make a claim. If you have clearance, you can start cleaning up immediately - but first take pictures or video of any damage to your property and possessions as evidence for your claim. The Insurance Council of Australia can be contacted with any questions, complaints or concerns about your insurance on

1800 734 621.

### Support for Individuals

#### Disaster Relief Grants

If you are not insured and have limited income, you may be eligible for a disaster relief grant. Please call Disaster Welfare on 1800 018 444.

Grants are available for eligible individuals and families whose homes and essential household contents have been damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster.