

Newsletter

SOUTH GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

Term 4, Week 2, 2020

From the Principal's Desk

HSC Exams Begin

The 2020 HSC exams officially began on Tuesday 20 October with English. Our cohort of fearless Year 12 students joined around 73,000 others across the length and breadth of NSW. This year, there is an added layer of precaution as we endeavour to keep our students COVID safe and avoid any disruption to their final exams. In total, there will be 120 written papers, with the last one scheduled for November 11. HSC results will be available on December 18.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate my Year 12 students, and their families, for persevering, for remaining optimistic and for being some of the most resilient people I have ever had the pleasure to know. #togetherweroar

External Validation

Each year a group of schools are nominated to participate in the Department of Education's External Validation process. This year, it is our turn, so we have been busy collecting and analysing evidence in order to identify where SGHS sits against the School Excellence Framework. The evidence sets are on display in the library and I would strongly encourage anyone who is interested to come along and take a look. This process will also help us as we develop our new Strategic Improvement Plan.

Attendance

The link between success at school and attending every class, every day is very strong. We currently have 21 students who have 100% attendance for the whole year and considering the disruptions caused by COVID, this is an excellent achievement. As a whole year group, our best attenders are Years 7 and 9 (84% Term 4, Week 1). Every day at school counts and the impact of absenteeism increases with every lesson that a student misses.

Every Student, Every Task

This has been a very strong and consistent theme across our school for the past two years and I have noticed an increase in the number of students seeking help with assignments and homework. It is great to see students being proactive and taking responsibility for their learning. If you think your child needs some extra help, please contact the Learning and Support team who are located in the Library.

Note to parents & carers who need to collect their child early from school. Please send a note with your child to hand in at the office first thing of a morning or alternatively, call the school and advise as soon as possible. Your child will be provided with a leave pass which they will present to their teacher to allow them to leave class and they will also present the leave pass to the front office to allow them to leave school grounds.



Diary Dates

Tuesday 20 October - 6 November

- HSC exams

Monday 2 November

- P&C Meeting, 5.30pm in library

Tuesday 3 November

- Yr 7 Vaccinations

Friday 13 November

- Yr 12 Graduation and Formal

Tuesday 1 December

- Year 7 Dose 2 HPV and catch up Year 7, 8 & 10 vaccinations

Daily - A reminder that 'Healthy Breakfast' is available for all students from 8.00 am in the hall

Year 12 Graduation

The Year 12 Graduation Assembly and Formal is on Friday, 13 November 2020.

All Year 12 students will be presented with their portfolio at the Graduation Assembly. Students are to wear school uniform as part of the school protocol and arrive by 9.00am. The Presentation will commence in the school hall at 9.30am. Year 12 students can invite a maximum number of two guests. We are requesting that all Year 12 students RSVP using the tear off section from the letter given to them on Thursday.

The Formal will be held at the Clarence Valley Jockey Club commencing at 5:30pm. Tickets are available for purchase from the front office at a cost of \$40 per graduating student and \$50 per guest, with a maximum of two guests per graduating student. Unsold tickets will be made available to additional guests at a later date.

Covid-19 safety plans have been developed for these events and the guidelines include:

- Students, staff and guests are not to attend these events if feeling unwell
- Guests are to sign in with the external visitors form
- Guests will be allocated a seat to ensure social distancing is maintained
- Venue capacity is based off the four square metre rule
- Hand sanitiser will be available at entry and exit points
- A reminder from the public health order that for pre and post formal activities the maximum number of visitors at a private residence is 20 people.

We are doing our best to give the students the most "normal" end to Year 12 as possible and your support is appreciated.

School Website

Our school website is where you can find information related to how our school operates including policies and procedures. For access to day-to-day information, students and parents should refer to the Sentral Parent and Student Portal and/or our school Facebook page. SGHS Website <https://sthgraston-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Sentral Parent and Student Portal <https://web2.sthgraston-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/portal2/#!/login>
SGHS Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/southgrastonhighschoolofficial/>

Helpful Contacts

Kids Helpline Official: 1800 55 1800. <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467. <https://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au/>

Headspace: 1800 650 890. <https://headspace.org.au/>

Lifeline: 13 11 14. <https://www.lifeline.org.au/>

Beyond Blue: 1300 22 4636. <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

Last Day for Year 12

Friday was the Class of 2020's last day of school. They celebrated with a Personal Assistant day where the students were bought by staff to raise money for their upcoming Formal. The staff selected the students' outfits and gave them jobs to carry out throughout the day such as car washing, filing, and cooking lunch. They finished the day with the staff v's students soccer match.

This week the HSC has begun and we wish the Year 12's all the best with their exams. Friday November 13th will be the Graduation Assembly at SGHS and the Formal will be that evening at the Clarence River Jockey Club. Graduates and their two guests are to purchase tickets from the Front office ASAP.



Year 12 Events



Miss Millican

Look who has their picture on the side of a bus, our very own Mathematics teacher, Miss Millican.



Assessments at a Glance

Assessments and a Glance

Week	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
Term 4						
Week 3	Music	English Geography Science	Agriculture IT Building IT Timber IT Metal Music PDHPE	Agriculture IT Building IT Metal IT Timber Music PDHPE	NIL	NIL
Week 4	English Music Science Visual Arts	Music Visual Arts	Semester 2 Exams	Semester 2 Exams	NIL	NIL

NEED HELP WITH English or HSIE

Homework Club is on Wednesday afternoons
from 3.00pm
In the Library



NEED HELP WITH MATHS?

MATHS TUTORING AVAILABLE
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
From 3:00
IN THE LIBRARY

Careers

Parental Consent Form for Student Evaluation of EPPP Program

Parents and carers of students participating in the school's Educational Pathways Pilot Program (EPPP) are being asked to complete a parental consent form for their child to evaluate the EPPP Program. The program is a NSW Department of Education led initiative to improve career pathways and future employment outcomes for young people. Our school is taking part in the program to test new ways of providing careers advice, and support young people in obtaining job-ready life skills.

The NSW Department of Education has developed 10 pilots for the program aimed at improving career development services, vocational education and training pathways, and future employment outcomes for young people. Researchers from Western Sydney University will evaluate these new pilots for the program. This year, the researchers will examine student experiences and their perceived value of the pilots. This will inform future improvement and expansion of the program.



Additional Transition

Moving from primary to secondary school or high school is a big transition. It can be a time full of fun, excitement and new experiences, however, it can also be challenging or worrying for many children. The transition to secondary school is sometimes more challenging for children with additional needs. It is important to ensure that each child and their family is adequately prepared for the change and can receive the information required.

In order to assist the student's transition to high school, SGHS has planned additional transition days during Term Four. These additional days are designed to support students and ensure all students have access to a positive and effective transition in an inclusive, high quality educational setting.



Education

Go.Forward

Educational Pathways Pilot Program



A total of 24 schools across South Western Sydney and the North Coast are participating in the EPPP Program.

Your child is invited to participate in a three-year evaluation of the Educational Pathways Pilot Programs. In order to capture your child's experience and perceived value of the pilots they will complete a short 7-minute response survey for each of the programs they participate in. Your child's answers to the short response survey questions will be used to improve the quality of the pilots. In addition to the short response surveys, next year your child will be invited to complete a 30-minute online survey in May and a follow-up survey in November. These surveys ask questions about how your child makes career decisions and their experience in training programs. Your child may also be invited to participate in a 40-minute peer focus group discussion towards the end of this year with 3 other students. Your child's evaluation of their experience of the EPPP will help improve the program for future years. For information on the survey and to give permission/consent please scan the QR code below or visit https://surveyswesternsydney.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2aUzPUKpl98r4k5.

The additional transition days will begin on Tuesday 10 November 2020 (Term 4 Week 5) and will continue on Tuesday 17 November and Tuesday 24 November gradually increasing the time spent at SGHS.

If you feel that your child would benefit from the additional transition days please speak to your school's Principal or classroom teacher for more information.

- Ms Rebekah Owens
Learning and Support Teacher

Community News



THE UNIT
Clarence Valley Technology Club

THE UNIT is a Technology Club where high functioning kids on the Autism Spectrum can explore their technology interests at their own pace in a safe environment, with support from professional I.T. mentors.
(No diagnosis or referral required)

THE UNIT is not a classroom. THE UNIT provides a social venue where kids can blend in, be understood and not be judged.

2-Hour Sessions each Saturday.
New School of Arts, South Grafton.

For ages 9 to 17
phone or text: 0419 610 917
email: b.carnaby@bigpond.com
(NDIS and 'Creative Kids Voucher' friendly)

Music & Drama
Scholarship Applications
NOW OPEN



closing date
30 October

your library
your place

you're invited

skateboard & scooter racks
THE BIG LAUNCH
4-5pm Wed 28 Oct
at Grafton Library

grab your friends, your board
& your library card
and roll over ...

free ice cream from the
I Scream cart

chalk painting

live deck painting by
local artist Kade Valja

10 padlocks to giveaway
(first 10 library members
with boards) join your library now



clarence your library-your place
VALLEY COUNCIL

**Our mobile
screening
van is in
Grafton
now.**



NSW BreastScreen

Book online or call 13 20 50



**7 Sep – 17 Dec
2020**

We recommend women aged 50 - 74 have a mammogram every two years.
Book your free mammogram online at book.breastscreen.nsw.gov.au or call 13 20 50.

**Art After School
T4**

**Paint, draw &
sketch**

Yr. 5 - Yr. 8

6 x prerecorded lessons
over 6 weeks
3 live zoom sessions
29th Oct – 3rd Dec

\$100 per child or
NSW Creative Kids Voucher

