

# Newsletter

## SOUTH GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

Term 3, Week 2, 2020

### From the Principal's Desk

#### Awards Assembly

The Awards Assembly that was held on Thursday this week was a true celebration of the success of our students. Following is an extract of my opening address to the students:

“Today’s assembly is a truly unique event and reflects the fact that we live in unprecedented times. Some of these wonderful young people have reached significant milestones in our Merit System, others have achieved academic excellence and many of them have done both. As a group, they have all achieved something very special last semester.

Our merit award recipients have accumulated a range of individual awards during the course of their education here at SGHS. These individual awards have been in recognition of each student’s academic and sporting achievements, their participation in extra-curricular activities, their attendance at school and the positive way in which they demonstrate our core values of show respect, be responsible, and personal best. For only the third time ever, we are presenting Diamond Awards and we have two students who have earned at least 260 individual awards. We also have Gold and Silver Medal awards to present.

Our academic award recipients have achieved an overall assessment mark of at least 85% in one or more of the subjects they studied in Semester 1. This means they were able to demonstrate an extensive knowledge and a deep understanding of the content covered during the semester and that they were able to apply this in a wide variety of contexts, demonstrating that they can think creatively and critically to solve problems. Above all, these students have applied themselves consistently and diligently, even during our COVID-19 restrictions. They didn’t give up!. They managed to successfully navigate the challenges that working from home presented. They zoomed, they collaborated via google classrooms, they completed work packages and then they transitioned back to school, almost seamlessly. This level of achievement is testament to the resilience of our community. And this is certainly worth celebrating.

When I talk about resilience, I am referring to our ability to cope with unexpected challenges and changes in our lives. During tough times we dig deep, find our inner strength and engage our support networks. Being part of a resilient community has helped the students of SGHS maintain their perspective, keep striving to achieve their best and given them the courage to chase their dreams. I would like to sincerely thank our extended community for their ongoing support.

Now, many of you have heard me say “Good, better best, never let it rest. Till your good is better and your better is your best.” This is where I draw my resilience from. This constant cycle of challenging myself to improve and achieve my personal best reminds me that there is always room for improvement. If there is a problem, it’s only because I haven’t found the solution yet. This saying is something that I have tried to pass on to my own children and to the students I have taught. It churns through my head often and I hope it will churn through yours too.

continued over.



# Diary Dates

## Monday 3 August

- P&C Meeting, Library 5.30pm - ALL WELCOME
- AMC Maths Competition

## Wednesday 5 August

- Yr 10 into 11 Subject Information Evening

## Friday 7 August

- Subject choices Yrs 8,9 & 10

## 10 - 14 August

- NAIDOC Week

## Wednesday 12 August

- Australian Defence Force Talk in the library

## Monday 17 August

- ICAS English Competition

## Monday 17 August to Friday 28 August

- Trial HSC

## Friday 25 September

- Minnie Water Painted Person Art Excursion (new date from 3 April due to COVID 19 situation)

## Tuesday 1 December

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

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

# Local Service Providers

If you or someone you know needs help there is support available. Potential sources of free, anonymous and confidential, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week support for your children include:

- Kids Helpline (1800 551800 or [www.kidshelp.com.au](http://www.kidshelp.com.au))
- Lifeline (131114 or [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au))
- Headspace (1800 650 890 or [www.headspace.org.au](http://www.headspace.org.au))
- You or your child may also contact the State Mental Health Telephone Access Line (1800 011 511) which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is staffed by clinicians who can provide advice, make referrals and link callers to the mental health service in their Local Health District.
- Headspace Grafton (6642 1520) is also available to support students. Their centre on 59 Duke Street is open 9-5 Monday to Friday.

# 2020/2021 Captains

Are you our next school captain?

Nominations are now open for School Captains and Student Representative Council Representatives (SRC) for 2020/2021.

Recently the SRC made a change to their Constitution to ensure that being a member of the SRC was more inclusive. The major change that has occurred is the inclusion of four captains rather than the traditional male and female Captains and male and female Vice Captains. This year students will select one male, one female and two more student regardless of gender to lead our school as Captains in 2020/2021. In addition, the title of Prefect will be bestowed upon Year 12 students who are elected into the SRC.

The SRC includes up to 45 students across all year groups;

- Year 11 into 12- 4 Captains plus 6 Prefects
- Year 10 into 11- 8 SRC members
- Year 9 into 10- 8 SRC members
- Year 8 into 9- 8 SRC members
- Year 7 into 8- 8 SRC members

# School Website

Our school website has seen a few changes in recent times with the addition of Home Learning, South Radio and Careers @ SGHS pages. Home Learning is where students can access their Google Classrooms and information related to home learning. South Radio is currently an introduction to our very own radio station and Careers @ SGHS is a page where students can access the SGHS careers website and links to relevant information regarding applying for University and apprenticeships and traineeships.

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://sthgraffton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Sentral Parent and Student Portal <https://web2.sthgraffton-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/portal2/#!/login> SGHS

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/southgrafftonhighschoolofficial/>

From Principal's Desk - continued

You (the students) have all achieved excellent academic results in Semester 1 and you and your families deserve to feel proud of your efforts. I am certainly very proud of all of your achievements and am happy to tell anyone who will listen.

Now, as you reflect on your current successes, I encourage you to look to the future and challenge yourself. How will you take your good and make it better? What do you need to do to turn your better into your best? These are personal challenges and require an individual response if you are to make a real difference in your future. Remember, however, that you do not have to do this alone. Do not underestimate the impact that family can have on your ultimate success. I was very lucky that both of my parents valued education, even though neither of them had the chance to finish high school. They encouraged and supported me to become the first person in our entire family to go to University. It was scary and exciting and challenging all at the same time, but I am very grateful for the opportunity. Without their support, without them encouraging me to strive for my personal best and never give up, I would not have completed by degree.

So, good, better, best. Never let it rest, till you good is better and your better is your best. Let this be the mantra that shapes your future. Let this be the verse that churns through your head when you need inspiration. And above all never stop trying to improve, never give up."

## English Competition

The ICAS English Competition will be held on 17 August 2020. It is a great opportunity to test your English skills against students throughout Australia and overseas. You will receive a certificate of participation, which is a great addition to your resume. The cost is \$15 and can be paid to the front office. See your English teacher if you would like more information. Entries close week 8. All students in Yr7 Platinum who have paid their fees are automatically entered.

## Chicken Coops

Thank you for the interest in the chicken coops we recently placed for tender. The successful applicants have been notified.



## Careers

### Year 12 Individual Placement Support Program

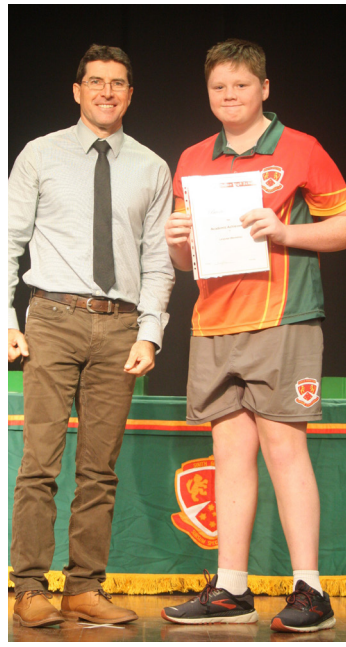
Some of our Year 12 students are participating in the Individual Placement and Support Program run by Headspace. This program is a Careers Education program that aims to successfully transition student's from school to employment or further education and training, and involves a one hour session per fortnight (Thursday A, 10.00 am - 11.00 am) for Term 3. The students will be provided with information and resources from a variety of community and employment services including; Headspace, ETC, Grafton TAFE, Key Employment, CHS, New School of Arts and Clarence Valley volunteering.



# Semester 1 Awards Presentation Day

Awards for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Academic Achievement, Silver, Gold and Diamond Star Awards were presented to students on Thursday 30 July at a special assembly held in the school hall. Entertainment was provided by our Aboriginal Dancers and Patrick Reilly on the guitar.





# Educational Pathways Policy Pilot (EPP)

Dear Parents

As you are aware, South Grafton HS is part of the Educational Pathways Policy Pilot (EPPP) which involves five school clusters across the state. The pilot program is aimed at ensuring our young people are independent and leave school well prepared for higher education, training or work.

While our students are still in school, we want to strengthen the pathways between school, training and employment.

The pilot has 10 streams that focus on; enhanced careers advice, increasing the number of School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATS), and supporting disadvantaged and disengaged young students. We would like to survey the parents of the school and gauge an understanding of aspects around career education.

You are requested to undertake the Parent Survey. It consists of 10 questions.

Please select the link below to undertake the survey.

Survey Monkey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QHK7ZDF>

or scan the QR Code



David Youman

EPPP - Head Teacher Careers

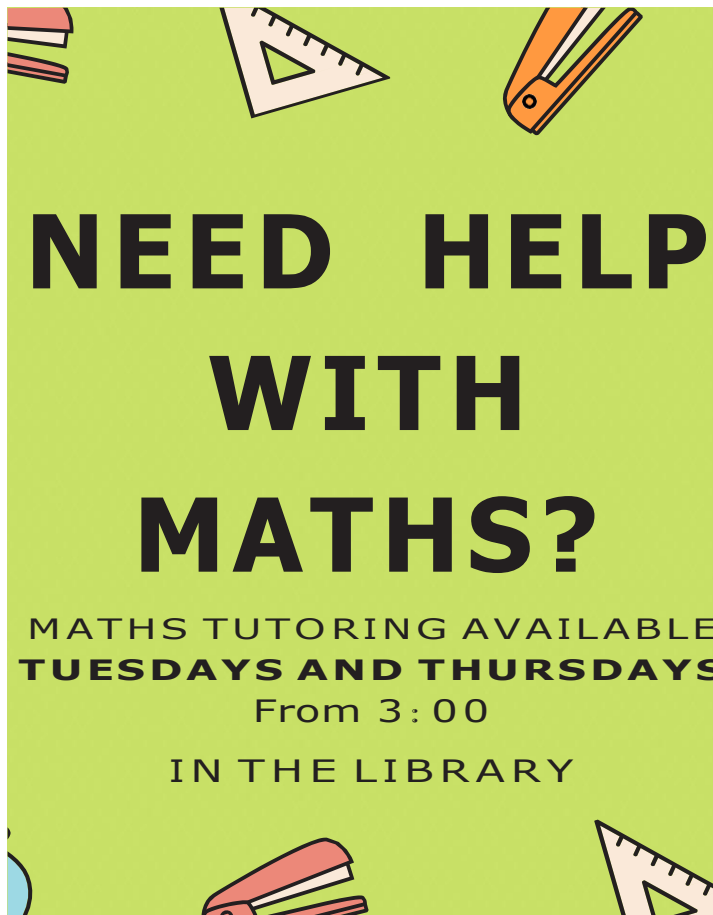
Grafton Cluster: Maclean HS, Grafton HS, South Grafton HS &

Woolgoolga HS

david.youman@det.nsw.edu.au

0409 452 901 6654 1500 (Woolgoolga HS)

## Homework Club



**NEED HELP WITH MATHS?**

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

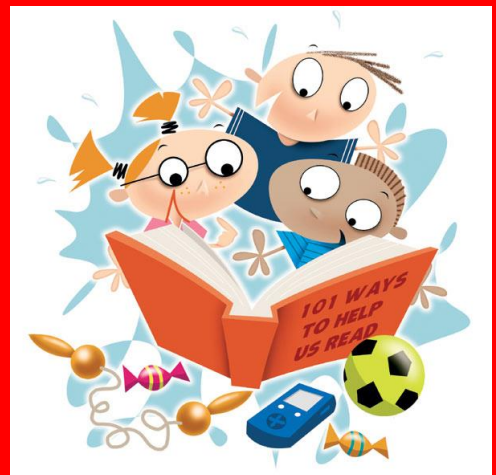
The poster features a light green background with illustrations of a ruler, a set square, and a stapler. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold and regular fonts.

## NEED HELP WITH English or HSIE

Homework Club is on Wednesday afternoons

from 3.00pm

In the Library



# 2020 HSC: WHAT'S CHANGED FOR ME?

The NESAs COVID-19 Response Committee (with representatives from government, Catholic and independent schools) and making any changes needed to ensure a fair and safe 2020 HSC.

- What you need to know NESAs and schools are following the advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, which is also supported by NSW Health.
- Your school has the authority to determine the number, type and weighting of formal school-based assessment tasks.
- The written exams start on Tuesday 20 October, and the timetable is now available.
- You'll get your results on Friday 18 December, by SMS, email and online.
- An overview of specific changes to the 2020 HSC is on the other side of this leaflet. If you're impacted by any of the changes, talk to your teacher or visit the NESAs website for more information, including about how your final mark will be calculated.



## → SPECIFIC CHANGES

### Creative Arts performance and practical exams

**DANCE Core composition:** You must dance your own choreography

**DRAMA Individual Project (Critical Analysis—Portfolio of Theatre Criticism):** You may use filmed theatre performances

**Individual Project (Video Drama):** Submit documentation and up to 2 minutes of edited footage, instead of the final film

**MUSIC** You can only perform solo, with pre-recorded accompaniment or with a single live accompanist

### VISUAL ARTS

**Body of Work:** Now due on 14 September

### Practical and oral language exams

#### DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

**Major Design Project:** Now due on 10 September

**ENGLISH EXTENSION 2 Major Work (Multimedia-Short Film):** Submit documentation instead of the final film

#### INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

**Major Project (Product):** Now due on 27 August

#### TEXTILES AND DESIGN

**Major Textiles Project (Product):** Now due on 31 August

Language oral exams start on 15 August. An updated timetable is now available.

### Cancelled exams

**DANCE** Major Study Composition Major Study Dance and Technology (Film and Video)

**DRAMA** Group performance  
**MUSIC EXTENSION** Performance (Mandatory ensemble piece)

### Other changes

If you are doing a VET subject and are unable to complete the work placement, you'll still be eligible to receive the corresponding units of HSC credit.

If you are applying for disability provisions, you have more time to provide evidence to support the application.

If you are yet to meet the HSC minimum standard, you can attempt each test up to six times in 2020. You can also take the tests once you have left school.

### Questions about the HSC?

Contact the COVID-19 support team on **1300 138 323**  
email [covid19support@nesa.nsw.edu.au](mailto:covid19support@nesa.nsw.edu.au)  
visit [educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/)  
stayhealthyHSC

### Need help managing stress?

Visit [ReachOut.com](http://ReachOut.com) for information, tools and tips to turn exam stress into success.  
If you need help right now, call Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 or Lifeline 13 11 14, or talk to your GP

# Community Notice Board



YOU'RE AN INNOVATOR WHO'S ALL ABOUT SOCIAL ANGE, **REGIONATE** IS THE CHALLENGE FOR YOU

1. Your team ether, and head [star.tv/regionate](http://star.tv/regionate) register
2. Come up with an innovative solution to make a positive impact in your community
3. Complete the 4 week challenge to win **PRIZES** for your team and school



[astar.tv/regionate](http://astar.tv/regionate):



GRAFTON VIKINGS BASKETBALL IS CURRENTLY TAKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM CHILDREN IN AGES UNDER 10'S THROUGH TO UNDER 18'S TO JOIN OUR REPRESENTATIVE BASKETBALL TEAMS, ANY LEVEL WELCOME, TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED, PLEASE CALL PAT ON 0447531494 IF YOUR INTERESTED, WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHOOTING SOME HOOPS! MAKE SURE YOU CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION!



AUG. 15

**Bike Repairs and Maintenance with the Bower Reuse and Repair Online Cafe**

by North East Waste [Follow](#)

Free

[Register](#)

Saturday morning reuse and repair series 1: Bike Repairs and Maintenance

### About this Event

Join the Bower Reuse and Repair Online Cafe, with hosts NE Waste, for an interactive session on how to care for and maintain your bike. Find out the basics for gear, brake and tyre checks and maintenance and how to fix a tyre puncture. Plus you have the chance to ask your own questions and get support from the experts!

This workshop is free and part of a Saturday morning series conducted by reuse and repair experts **The Bower Reuse and Repair Centre**, hosted by NE Waste in conjunction your local Northern Rivers Council and Richmond Tweed Libraries.

### Date And Time

Sat., 15 August 2020  
9:30 am – 10:30 am AEST  
[Add to Calendar](#)

### Location

Online Event

Click on this photo to take you to webpage