



Seven Hills High School

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

Newsletter
December 2018

Upcoming Events

December

- 11 Year 10 Formal
- 12 P&C Meeting 7.30pm
Rewards Day Excursion – Wet 'N' Wild
- 13 Hackathon Excursion for 8A
- 14 Year 10 Graduation Ceremony
- 17 Semester 2 Reports Distributed
- 18 Premier's Coding Challenge Presentation
- 19 Last day of Term 4 for students
- 20-21 School Development Days

2019

January

- 28 Australia Day Public Holiday
- 29 School Development Day
- 30 Year 7 and Peer Support Leaders return to school
- 31 Years 8, 9 & 10 return to school

February

- 5 School Swimming Carnival

End of Year Message

As this is the final newsletter for 2018 I want to acknowledge those who have contributed to another year full of successes.

To the administration and teaching staff and our Youth Workers, thank you for your commitment to the students of Seven Hills High School both inside and outside the classroom. Unfortunately, we have four of our temporary staff leaving the school at year's end, Mr Sharma, Ms Zdravec, Mr Burgess and Ms Keogh. Thank you for your contributions to our school and we wish you the best for the future.

The work done within the school has been complemented by the many excellent programs implemented by our community partners. The Seven Hills Parents and Citizens Association, has done a wonderful job in raising funds for our school and being the parent voice throughout 2018. Our parents and carers, have greatly assisted their children and our school through attendance at various school community events. Thank you all for your support again this year.

Have a safe and restful Christmas and I will see you in the New Year.

Greg Johnstone

Principal



Johnson Avenue, SEVEN HILLS 2147.

Phone 9624 3329

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

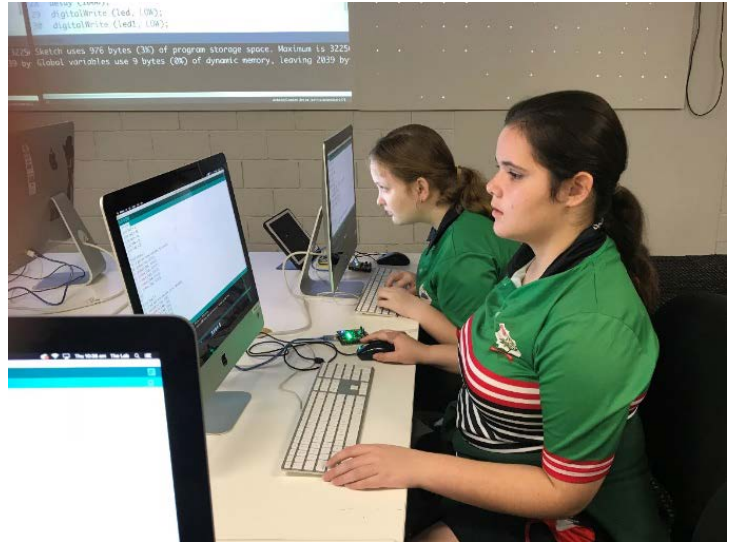
Website: <http://www.sevenhills-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

STEM at Seven Hills

High School

This year has been busy with a number of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) activities, including excursions, online programs, Robotics competitions, virtual excursions, primary school STEM days and the Premier's Coding Challenge, along with a number of professional development opportunities for teachers.

Although it is Term 4, things have not slowed down in STEM and students have participated in a number activities and programs this term.



Year 8 Self-Select – Physical Computing Excursion

On Thursday 18 November, 8A visited the Museum of Arts and Applied Sciences (the Powerhouse Museum, Ultimo), as part of a Virtual Physical Computing Course in which they participated towards the end of Term 2.

Upon arriving at the museum, the students were taken to “The Lab”, where they were involved in a workshop using the Arduino ThinkerShields. By the end of the session, students were able to write their own code, make lights flash in different sequences on the boards and play sounds.

After the workshop, the students had time to explore the museum and try out many of the hands-on exhibits.

The students enjoyed the day and have been using their newly developed skills, in class, to progress through the Premier's Coding Challenge.

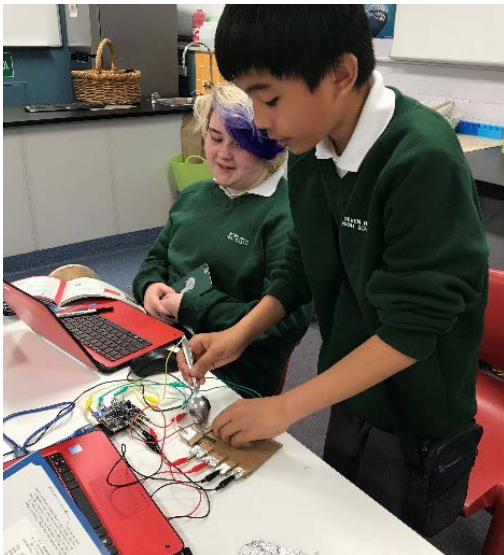


Premier's Coding Challenge

Earlier this year, Seven Hills High School became a member of the Western Sydney Coding Club run by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences. As a result of participating in the programs offered by the club, we were invited to participate in the inaugural Premier's Coding Challenge.

The challenge consists of a number of programming tasks using Arduino ThinkerShields that participants complete to move up the levels, starting at the Bronze and hopefully completing up to the Diamond level.

Currently our students have completed the Gold level and will be attending a Hackathon on Thursday 13 December to work with other schools to create an invention using the ThinkerShields.



Next year is shaping up to be an exciting one, with the continuation of the Robotics Club, the establishment of the Girls' Coding Club, excursions, participation in programs and iSTEM implemented as an elective for Years 9 and 10.

First Lego League

On Thursday 8 November, four students from our Robotics Club participated in the First Lego League, with this year's theme "Into Orbit". A competition that did not just focus on how well the robot completed its missions, but also how the teams worked together to research and solve problems.



The group had been working on their entry since Term 3, which consisted of programming the robot to complete as many missions as possible within a set timeframe, researching a problem faced by Astronauts and coming up with possible solutions.



The group worked together to solve any problems that they had and completed their tasks within the timeframes set. The team members represented the school with pride and courteousness, and the students are already planning how to tackle next year's problem.

Carissa Howell
STEM Coordinator

The Helmsman Project

Graduation Ceremony

It has been another successful year as we continued to participate in the Helmsman Project. This year, our adventure activities included a city challenge, kayaking on the Lane Cover River and a bush walk at Glenwood. As the students experienced each adventure, they became more aware of their strengths and weaknesses. This self-awareness was then used in the individual and group coaching sessions.

Once the adventure program finished, the group's focus was on a combined community event that was then pitched and organised.

The Year 9 group consisted of Isaac Bryen, Kyle Cavanagh, Aaron Cook, Chantelle Davison, Aaliyah Fisk, Taylor Gale, Jaden McManus, Taliah Meisake, Maritsa Papadopoulos, Bradlen Saba and Pauline Savtsuk.

This group displayed an amazing collaborative effort in organising a Cancer Awareness Day at school. It included the distribution of wristbands and encouraging conversations about cancer. The students presented facts on cancer and the most common types of cancers at our formal assembly. At lunch, a sausage sizzle was held that was very well supported by the students and during Session 5, students attended a disco in the hall.

A final fundraising sausage sizzle was held at the City West Christmas Carols on Saturday night. The evening was a big success and we thank City West Church for the amazing opportunity to partner with them in this event.

The Graduation ceremony took place on Friday, 30 November.

Tonnie Slater

Helmsman Project Coordinator

The Helmsman Project

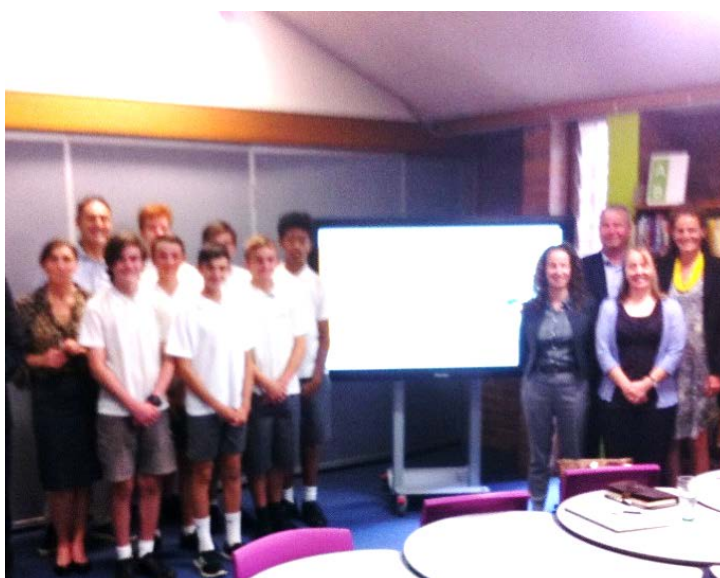
Boys Group 2017

The 2017 boys group also graduated after completing their community project in Term 4. The group members were Jack Bradley, Ben Deakin, James Fepuleai, Liam Howarth, Cameron Mitchell and Callum Pike.

The boys wanted to increase physical activity in the students at Seven Hills High School so decided to focus on Year 7 and organised three activities during their PE lessons. They also prepared and served a healthy lunch to all Year 7 students.

Tonnie Slater

Helmsman Project Coordinator



Year 8 Year Adviser Change for 2018

There will be a change to the Year 8 Adviser for 2019. Ms Farrugia will be taking leave in early 2019. As such, her role as Year Adviser will be filled by Mr Mark Harper. Mr Harper will commence in this role from the beginning of next year.

In 2019 please direct any enquires to Mr Harper in regard to your son or daughter's needs.

2018 Youth Awareness Breakfast

On Monday, 26 November, our School Captains Amneh Chaker and Alanna Kaufmann, and Vice Captains Rachael McDermott and Lewis Schmid, Represented Seven Hills High School at the 2018 Youth Awareness Breakfast at the Blacktown Workers Club.

Our captains joined students from 15 schools within the Blacktown area in support of White Ribbon. The theme of the morning was 'Break the Chain', signifying the importance of promoting greater awareness of domestic violence and the need to speak up, stand up and act.



Local, state and federal politicians, representatives from the NSW Police Force, businessmen and women and guest speakers, such as ex-rugby league representative Beau Scott, relayed this message through moving speeches and presentations.

Michael Jones

Fast Forward University Visit

On Tuesday 27 November, nineteen Year 9 students attended the Parramatta Campus of Western Sydney University as part of the Fast Forward Program.

Upon arrival, students met their "UniMate", a current university student who would mentor and assist them throughout the day.

During the first session, students were informed of different options for tertiary education, alternate pathways and support systems offered. This was followed by a session on learning styles and careers.

The students were then given a scenario and they had to create a product and presentation around the scenario.

The final session involved a campus challenge, in which students had to solve a series of clues and make their way around campus, which concluded with a Kahoot quiz.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and are already looking forward to the visits in 2019.

Carissa Howell

Year 9 Adviser



Year 9 Subject Expo at Wyndham

On Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 December, Year 9, accompanied by myself and Mr Harper, visited Wyndham College as the first stage of their transition to Stage 6.

During the visits students were given an overview of the HSC, Wyndham College and different courses available in Mathematics and English.

Year 9 were then divided into small groups with students from Riverstone High School. During 10 sessions over the two days, they were given an insight to the facilities and subjects available for senior studies.

The students enjoyed meeting the other students, catching up with past Seven Hills High Schools and exploring the options available to them when they reach Year 11.

Carissa Howell

Year 9 Adviser



Happy Holidays

From the Library Grinch and his Elves

What a HUGE year it has been in our Library!

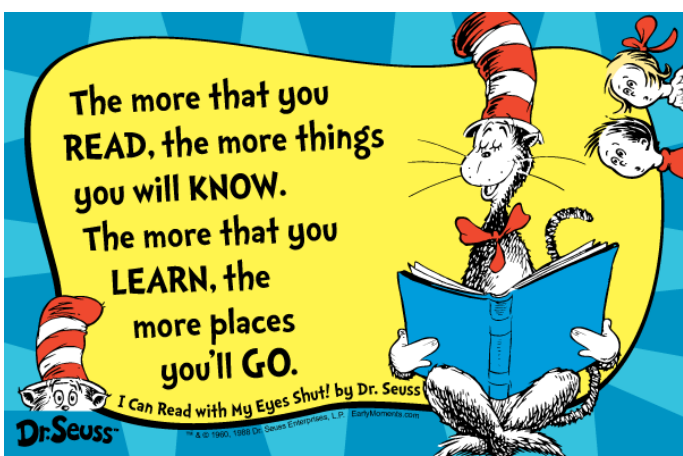
We have supported school, community and world events with displays for occasions ranging from the Olympics to Star Wars day to Science week. We have hosted community events such as Mother's Day breakfasts and forums to discuss the school's future.

The Library Assistants team have had lots of fun putting displays together such as the recent Halloween Display. Book Week was huge this year, the highlight definitely being the Treasure hunt around the school. Well done to all who participated.

Get into the Christmas Spirit with the Book Tree guessing competition and movies in the Library.

Along with the ever-popular Uno cards we have a lot of board games to borrow and play, and remember, we have the Youth Workers assisting with Chess and Board games on Thursday lunchtimes.

We are constantly looking to improve the Library space and make it a place for all of Seven Hills High. You may have noticed we swapped the Fiction and Non-Fiction collections this year, allowing us to buy more novels requested by you and cull old resources to make way for new, relevant and appealing books.



The graphic novel section continues to grow, and remember if you have a request, ask Mr Stewart by adding to our Wish List on the Library counter.

The Premiers Reading Challenge continues to grow in the school. Well done to those six students who completed the challenge this year.

The team are looking forward to next year with new displays, author visits, and new computers. Remember this is your Library, get involved!

Mr Stewart and the Elves

School Librarian and Assistants

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

The Year 7 & 8 Support students assembled and decorated a Christmas star tree made from ginger bread biscuits.

It was an activity that encouraged students to 'persevere' through any setbacks they encountered in the process. The end results were amazing.

Thank you to Tim, Linnea and Mrs Hynd for assisting in the activity. Wishing a Merry Christmas to all!

Tonnie Slater



Future Learning Classroom

In 2018, The Student Representative Council pitched an idea to develop a futuristic learning classroom designed to meet the needs of the 21st century learner. The room needed to allow for critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity (the 4 C's).

The idea was developed by the SRC on the Leadership Camp held earlier in the year and pitched to the staff by Ziah Burns, Amneh Chaker and Alanna Kaufmann. It was well received, and the project was underway.

The room was unveiled in November and classes are already getting great use out of this space.

Daniel Way

Student Leadership Coordinator

The 4C's – Collaboration, Communication, Creative and Critical Thinking

The 4C's Centre is for use when we need to work as a team and use critical and creative thinking. So when we went in the room for our maths lesson, that's exactly what we did!

We are learning about equations, so we played a game called mabble, which is like a math version of scrabble. We did rotations, where we competed in groups and did a variety of maths based activities such as, Mabble, used compasses to construct circles with specific dimensions, and we solved a Fermi problem, which was a question based on how many hairs on the human head, and an enrichment question which required critical thinking skills.

It was fun to rotate around, and we are very excited to go to the learning space again.

Yasmin Howarth

7A Student



Maths in the 4C's Room

The 4C's Centre is a new future focused learning space. It is a shared resource used for open plan learning and creative and critical thinking. The 4C's is compatible for almost any subject ranging from, math to food tech (theory).

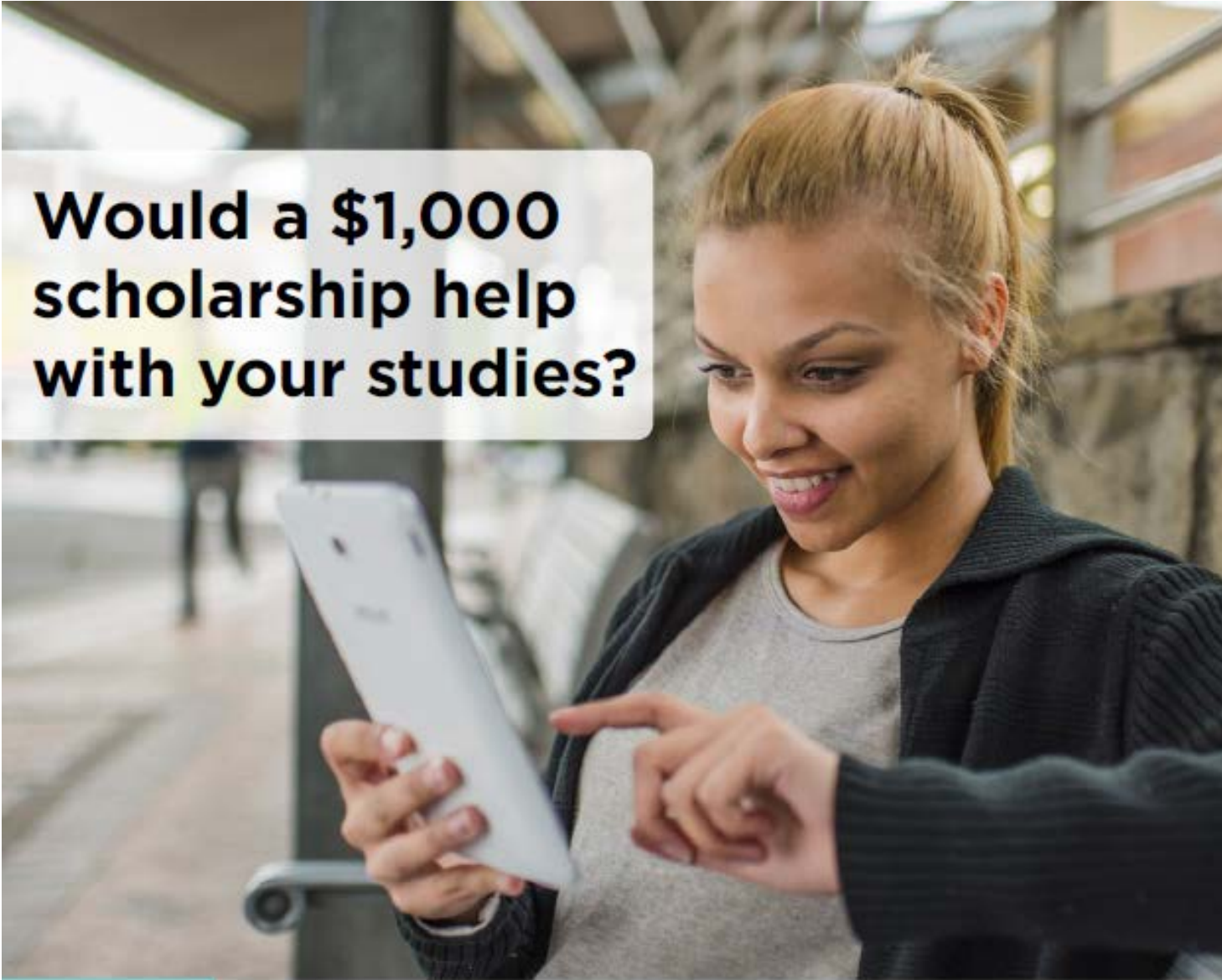
The 4C's Centre has many different spaces including; seating areas, a booth with a TV connected to a HDMI cord, for small group presentations, moveable whiteboards that fit on the tables to collaborate, a set of laptops for research, fun coloured moveable chairs and tables, a data projector and many other great resources.

I think that this room is a fantastic resource for future learning and hope that our class gets to use the 4C's Centre even more in the future.

Ziah Burns

7A Student





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www.facs.nsw.gov.au/facs-scholarships

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EXAMINATIONS & PERFORMANCES OFFERED

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 7th February- 7pm-8:30pm
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 New players please bring a copy of your birth certificate

For more details:
 Online registrations will open 3rd January 2019
 Contact
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