



# Seven Hills High School

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

Newsletter

September 2019

## Upcoming Events

### September

- 11 P & C Meeting @ 7:30 pm  
in the library
- 12 Premier's Debating  
Challenge vs Girraween
- 14 Seven Hills High School  
60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour &  
Dinner
- 17 NAPLAN Online School  
Readiness Test – Day 1
- 18 NAPLAN Online School  
Readiness Test – Day 2
- 19 CAPA Night
- ICAS Online Mathematics
- 24 Fast Forward Workshops
- 26 RTA's distributed
- 27 Last day of Term 3

### October

- 14 Students return Term 4
- 15 Premier's Sporting  
Challenge - Leading with  
Action Workshops

## CAPA Night

The CAPA faculty is excited to be launching **CAPA Night**, which will be taking place on **Thursday 19 September**.

CAPA Night is an art exhibition, which provides students from all year groups with the opportunity to display their works. Visitors will be treated to a wide range of displays including paintings, drawings, mixed media, ceramics and much more.

The night will also include performances from some of our talented Music students, which attendees can enjoy as they stroll around different collections with refreshments and finger foods on hand.

This is a **free event** and as it is an **open exhibition** you are invited to join us in the **school's auditorium anytime between 6:00pm and 7:30pm**.

The CAPA faculty hope to see you on the night and thank you in advance for making this a memorable occasion.

## Seven Hills High School Parents and Citizens Association

### 7.30pm Wednesday

I encourage all parents and community members to attend this meeting in order to have input into the school and to learn about what is taking place in classrooms on a daily basis.

At this month's meeting, we will hear from Carissa Howell, Relieving Head Teacher Wellbeing and STEM Coordinator.

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## STEM News

At the end of last term, Year 8 Self Select completed their Mars Rover project using the Lego EV3 Mindstorm kits. The project entailed the creation of a robot prototype that could independently investigate a planet, avoid obstacles and traverse different terrain. The unit concluded with students creating and presenting a marketing campaign to sell their robots.

Six students from the class participated in the Department of Education's Game Changer challenge, whilst the rest of the class completed the AI for Good challenge sponsored by Microsoft. Whilst the groups were not fortunate enough to progress to the finals of the challenges, they enjoyed the experiences and presented some innovative ideas to create positive change using technology.

This term the class is involved in a series of online workshops as part of the Full STEAM Ahead program run by ABCN in conjunction with the Powerhouse Museum. Students have started to learn about coding Arduino ThinkerShields and will over the next few weeks further develop their design thinking skills and finish the program by coming up with an idea and pitching them to a panel presenting the workshops.

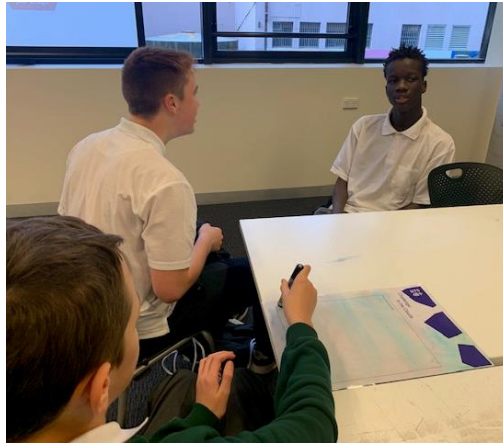
The focus for the Year 9 iSTEM elective class during Term 2 was 'Drones'. Students investigated the safety, ethical and commercial aspects of drones. They completed the unit of work by using drones to create promotional videos for the school.





## STEM News Continued

At the end of Term 2 the class participated in the University of Technology Sydney's (UTS) STEM day, along with a number of other schools. Students competed in a range of different hands-on workshops and had the chance to work with students from other schools. Ideas and concepts were shared with fellow participants throughout the day.



This term the elective class is turning their attention to Robotics also with an innovate research project, where they are looking at their community and coming up with an idea on how to improve an aspect of it, along with building and programming an autonomous robot to complete a number of missions within a lego city.

Students in the Robotics Club competed in the RoboCup Junior competition on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August. A team comprising of Jorgia Laing, Thomas Denton and Luke Dormer competed in the Rescue challenge, where a robot was programmed to find its way through a natural disaster and save people from a toxic spill. The students competed with pride and resilience, refusing to give up when obstacles were presented.





## STEM News Continued

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August we welcomed over 140 students from Kings Langley, Vardy's Road, Lalor Park, Lynwood Park, Seven Hills and Seven Hills North Public Schools for our third Year 4 STEM Day. The students along with assistance from our Year 7 and 8 Self Select classes, completed a number of STEM challenges. They included: using LED lights and button batteries to make an item of their choice using the materials provided, creating a tower using only paddle pop sticks and rubber bands to hold a tennis ball at least 15cm above the ground, finishing off with the major challenge of creating a car powered by the air in a balloon, the students could use any of the materials provided but were given a budget they had to stick to.



Over the next term and a half the school will be working with Seven Hills West to create an automated Smart Home to be showcased at the Blacktown Learning Community STEM Expo. A select number of students will be working alongside and mentoring the students at Seven Hills West in all aspects of the project, including the design process, coding and wiring. This will involve a number of visits to the primary school, as well spending some time in the Industrial Arts classroom, creating a house out of plywood.

Mrs Howell

STEM Coordinator

## Year 10 Geography Tree

### Planting

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2019 students from 10C Geography got their hands dirty planting trees around the school. It was fantastic to see all students actively involved and enthusiastic. Their contribution to making the environment greener and promote a healthier planet is commendable.

Nitika Soni





## Helmsman Boys Group Update

Over the last couple of weeks, the group has been busy working on their school based project for the students. They have been active in transforming the area near the kitchens into a 'chill out' zone for students who want a space to relax in a pleasant and peaceful area.



The project has involved planning, contacting contractors and putting in the hard work to create an aesthetically pleasing area that is functional for students to access. The boys, with limited help from Leon (Helmsman Group Mentor) and myself, have been problem solving and strategizing to ensure that the end result is something they can be proud of. All of the boys are commended on their efforts and overall teamwork skills. Congratulations to the Helmsman team: Jason Gannon, Zinken Zoleta, J Justin Banac, Nathan Pilbeam, Yoel Yohana, Shane Morgan and Keith Ross, for their ongoing efforts and contributions to this worthwhile project.

I also want to thank Mrs Slater, for her efforts, and Bunnings for their assistance and generous donation of plants and taking the time to assist the boys with their project. A massive thank you to Mr Johnstone for providing lunch for the group and his never ending support and ideas, and to Leon, your approach and enthusiasm have been invaluable. Thanks Leon for the frappes!!!

Mr Harper



## City 2 Surf 2019

On Sunday, the 11th of August, 4 students from Seven Hills High School completed the City 2 Surf to raise money in support of the RUOK foundation. The team had been training leading up to the event and had a great time running the course. We raised over \$400 for this great cause. Well done Kyle, Jasmine, Jaden and Holly on this massive achievement. Thanks to everyone who donated!

Daniel Way

Student Leadership Coordinator





## Hands on Activities in Mathematics with 7A

7A have been developing their understanding of algebra with some 'Hands On Activities' in the 4C room. These activities allow for concrete understanding to align itself with the abstract nature of algebra. More importantly, the students get to have some fun with Mathematics and each other as they work together to model the problems. Well done 7A!



Ms Andrew

Head Teacher Mathematics

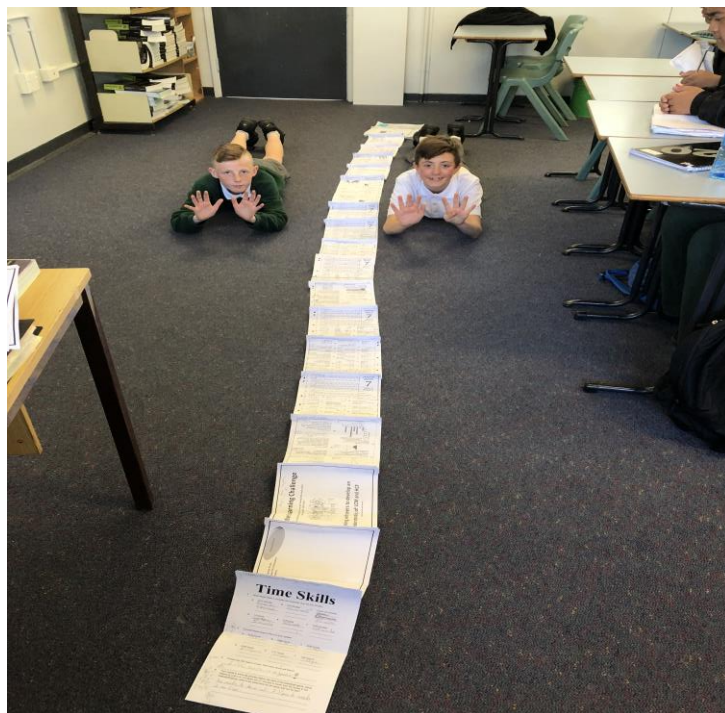
## MATHEMATICS HOMEWORK 2019

### Every student has maths homework!

Students are expected to strive for 1000 points from Monday to Sunday each week of the school term.

The goal is for each student to work through all topics listed under LEARN. At times activities will be assigned, otherwise the students choose their own but there is always homework to be completed.

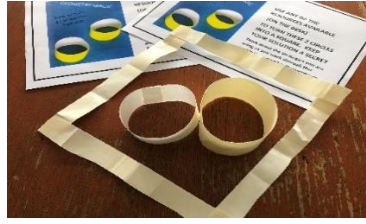
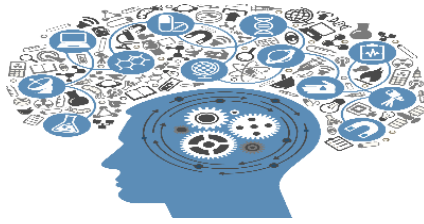
Some classes have additional or alternate homework. Students in Years 8 and 10 also have a Take Home Assessment at the moment.



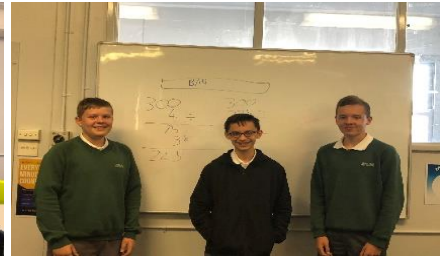
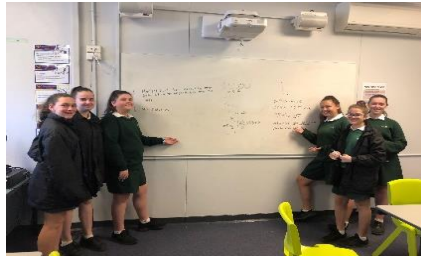
Ms Andrew

Head Teacher Mathematics

## Numeracy Tip # 4 - Problem Solving



Problem Solving is one of the most valuable numeracy skills your child will develop. Year 8 have been developing these specific skills in the 4C room. Some of the activities have included '2 circles to one square' and 'domino donuts'. They worked collaboratively utilising critical thinking. The focus was on the process rather than the solution. Students had an opportunity to share their insights and their higher order thinking skills.



Things you can do at home to support your child develop problem solving skills include:

- Include them in appropriate family decision making
- Focus on the process rather than just an answer, ask them how they came up with things
- Get them to repeat a problem to you in their own words
- Propose some 'what if's' and ask them to come up with contingencies
- Get them to draw a model, a plan, a design, show some working or write the pros and cons of their solution
- Encourage creativity
- Share your experiences, especially about what some road blocks may be to their solutions (this also builds resilient thinking)
- Discuss real world and community problems, discuss multiple potential solutions
- Encourage them to participate in some 'DIY projects'
- Ask them to identify a problem, then break it down into manageable parts
- Allow them to experience failure, ask them if they could have changed the outcome (this includes when playing board games or sport)
- Routinely ask them for help, time management is a big problem for some kids, allow them opportunities to solve timing issues

Ms Andrew

Numeracy Coordinator

Head Teacher Mathematics

## School Uniform

I will take this opportunity to remind you of the uniform requirement at SHHS. Please take the time to ensure that your child has the correct items of clothing for the warmer months ahead!

| <b>Boys</b>   | <b>Girls</b>  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plain black covered shoes with black shoelaces</li><li>• White socks</li><li>• Plain grey shorts or trousers (no denim or patterns)</li><li>• Plain white or SHHS polo or shirt (no other writing or logo)</li><li>• SHHS jumper, jacket or Met West jacket</li></ul> <p><b>Options:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plain white undergarment</li><li>• Plain black, green or white scarf in winter</li><li>• Hat in school colours</li></ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PE shirt to be worn only during PE/sport lesson</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plain black covered shoes with black shoelaces</li><li>• White socks or plain black/flesh coloured stockings</li><li>• Plain green skirt or trousers (no denim or patterns)</li><li>• Plain white or SHHS polo or shirt (no other writing or logo)</li><li>• SHHS jumper, jacket or Met West jacket</li></ul> <p><b>Options:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plain white undergarment</li><li>• Small necklace, earrings and bracelets allowed</li><li>• Plain black, green or white scarf in winter</li><li>• White or black plain headbands</li></ul> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PE shirt to be worn only during PE/sport lesson</li><li>• No costume jewellery (beads, hoop or dangling earrings, bangles, studded wristbands)</li><li>• Tights/leggings are not a suitable replacement for skirts, shorts or pants</li></ul> |

Ms Andrew

Uniform Coordinator

## Youth Off the Streets School Sleepout

On Friday, the 23rd of August, 18 students from Seven Hills High School participated in our annual School Sleepout to raise awareness and money for Father Riley's Youth Off the Streets Program. We raised \$270 and had a great time playing games, learning about homeless youth, dancing, karaoke and a movie before sleeping outside! A massive thanks to Mrs Thurlow for cooking our food, Mr Gray for the speaker and mic setup and North Rocks Bakers Delight who supplied a massive amount of bread for our dinner and breakfast!

Daniel Way

Student Leadership Coordinator

