



Seven Hills High School

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

August
2020

New Vocational Education Facilities at Seven Hills High School

In exciting news for our school community, the Premier, Gladys Berejiklian, officially announced that, within three years, Seven Hills High School will have specialist vocational educational facilities and classes in the areas of Community and Health Services, Construction (Electrotechnology and Plumbing) and Transport and Logistics.

Report continues next page

The Premier of NSW, Gladys Berejiklian, the Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education, Geoff Lee, and the Member for Seven Hills, Mark Taylor, at Seven Hills High School.



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Seven Hills High School is one of two schools in the state to be chosen to deliver the Vocational Schools Pilot program and this will result in the Nirimba Collegiate broadening its curriculum offering, in the area of Vocational Education Training (VET). These VET courses will provide students with qualifications and experience in industries with strong projected employment growth in the Western Sydney area.

The three key industry focus areas: Construction/Electrotechnology and Plumbing; Health and Community Services; and Transport and Logistics; will be delivered through a combination of school implemented courses and partnerships with TAFE NSW, industry associations and private training providers.

In addition to these core areas, students may have the opportunity to incorporate relevant complementary VET courses, in areas such as business, financial and retail services, into their studies.

The Vocational Education Training (VET) courses are 'dual accredited' courses – meaning they count as units of study towards the High School Certificate (HSC) and a nationally recognised industry qualification.

Many of the VET courses students will be able to study will contribute towards an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

With courses due to commence in 2023, students enrolled in Year 12, will have the opportunity to study a VET course in their final year.

I look forward to providing you with further updates during the planning and construction phases of the program.

If you would like to find out more about VET pathways, and the wonderful opportunities for school students, you may like to access the Skills and Thrills Digital Parents Showcase.

The Skills and Thrills Digital Parents Showcase is an engaging and informative 20-minute video created to highlight VET and the success stories that emanate from VET pathways. The Digital Parents

Showcase will help parents better understand vocational pathways, including apprenticeships/traineeships and school-based apprenticeships/ traineeships and give parents the knowledge they need to help their children make informed career choices.

To be involved, parents need to pre-register their interest to receive viewing information and updates at www.skillsone.com.au

Greg Johnstone

Principal

Student Voice

Focus Groups Report

In Term 2, the Student Representative Council (SRC) began running focus groups on alternate Friday afternoons. With guidance from our Community Liaison Officer, Mr Naufahu and Mr Way, we were taught how to properly run a focus group and have continued to review and improve our skills.

The focus groups consisted of selected students who met to discuss a particular topic about our school.

So far, we have discussed the SRC's role in the school and areas where students work. In these sessions, students raised points about the school's bathrooms, classroom posters and classroom atmospheres which were then brought up with Mr Johnstone. Actions that have been taken so far include the repair of bathroom fittings and teachers being advised of the learning space findings.

We are planning to continue these sessions through Term 3, focusing on topics such as technology at school and school programs to help continue our school's improvement.

The groups have allowed students' ideas and concerns to be heard and are a great way to help the school.

Anyone who is interested in participating in future focus groups should see Mr Way in the Science staffroom.

Rachel Pilbeam

Vice-Captain

'Tell Them from Me' Term 2 Student Survey

In reviewing responses in the area of Wellbeing, it was evident there is a need to raise the level of awareness of which staff, students should see, to get help if they are experiencing issues with other students.

As a result, the Wellbeing Team has put together information posters, which will be placed around the school this week.

Remember, if you are unsure of who to see when you have a problem, your Year Adviser is a good place to start.

Carissa Howell

Relieving Head Teacher Wellbeing

Chinese Report

Students have been busy this term learning concepts and sentence patterns associated with Sport. They have also been revising characters learnt through Ni Hao games. This assesses students' stroke order and accuracy.

Two students who excelled using this program and consistently achieved outstanding results are Akoi Ajang (100 points) and Liam Eves (102 points)

Congratulations on your efforts so far this term.

Mark Harper

Language teacher

Upcoming Events

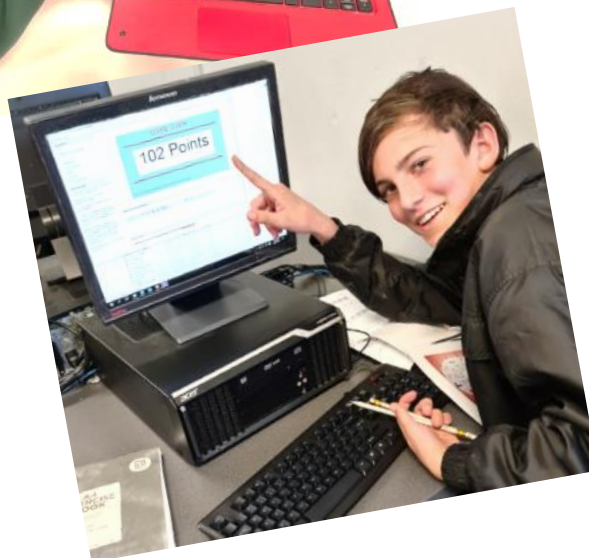
August

20 Vaccinations Year 7 & 10

20-21 High Resolves Seminars Years 9 & 10

September

1 VALID Science Testing Year 10



ICAS

ICAS will return to [Seven Hills High School](#) this year. We encourage you to consider entering your child in ICAS. This fantastic assessment program allows students to challenge themselves and be recognised for their academic efforts. The assessment is now fully online and sitting dates for **Mathematics** (Years 7 to 10) will commence in Term 3 and Term 4. Learn more by visiting unsw.global/icas

Students interested in participating must pick up a permission note from the maths staffroom (available from Week 4). Both the permission note and a payment of \$16 is due by **28 August**.

Joanne Andrew

Head Teacher Mathematics

Numeracy Tip

Elapsed Time: the amount of time that passes from the beginning of an event to its end.

There are many opportunities to develop your child's skills to calculate elapsed time. Incorporating questions on the way to everyday activities such as sport, catching public transport, cinema, visiting friends, shopping etc.

Rather than calculating the drop off and pick up times, pose some questions and get your children to work it out.

Example: If it is 11.22am now and you need 2 hours to shop and 96 minutes for the movie, what time do I need to be back to pick you up?

Swapping between minutes and hours as your child becomes more confident; displaying an analogue clock and asking your children to use it for the time; adding driving, wait times and additional events; changing between analogue, digital and 24 hour time when discussing time; are all ways to assist your child to be a more effective and confident user of time and to meet the everyday demands of life. That is; to be *NUMERATE!*



Library Matters

Library staff were very pleased to welcome students back into the library last term after returning from home learning.

We determined that the library's mission is to *promote a supportive, effective and enjoyable information environment for the school community.*

The screenshot shows the Oliver Library website interface. At the top, there is a teal header with the NSW Government Education logo and the text "Oliver Library". Below the header is a navigation bar with links for Home, Browse lists, Search, Book reviews, Genres, Reading lists, News, and Links. A search bar is located below the navigation bar, with a "Guided tour" button on the left and a "Search" button on the right. The main content area is titled "New Items" and displays a grid of 12 book covers, each with a green checkmark in the top right corner. The book covers are: "Girl Gone Viral" by Armin Greder, "Escape from Alcatraz" by Bruce Goldstone, "FaerieGrown" by Sarah Crossen, "Minecraft: The Craze" by Tracy Baptiste, "Strange Things" by David Almond, "The Boy on the Street" by David Almond, "Artem Fowl: The Graphic Novel" by Eoin Colfer, "Raven" by Lauren Child, "10 Little Wonders: The Best Beneath the Stairs" by R. L. Stine, "Urban Outlaws: Lockdown" by Peter Jay BLattner, "Holes" by Louis Sachar, and "River of London" by Michael Chabon.

New additions: Mrs Keep and I have been very busy purchasing and processing a wide range of high interest books to encourage reading for pleasure. These are already proving popular with students. Students are invited to request book titles that they would like to see added to the library collection using the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/y2suc3mf>. The link can also be used to provide feedback to help us improve library resources and services.



Displays: To support the Year 9 English unit on Writing Crime Fiction, the library put together a display on Crime and Mystery genre last term. This attracted much interest and students were encouraged to interact with the display and have their 'mug shots' taken with friends.

This term we have created a Fantasy genre display with the aim of highlighting our fantastic array of fantasy fiction for recreational reading.

Oliver Library: Students are reminded that they can check out the library's range of resources in our catalogue in Oliver Library. Oliver is easily accessed via the icon on the Student Portal home page.

'When in doubt, go to the Library' - Hermione Granger

Happy reading!

Cathy Costello
Teacher Librarian

Careers

Senior Subject Selection Interviews were successfully held on Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 June. All Year 10 students and their parents/carers were invited to attend a half-hour interview in the library during these two days. All subjects and pathways were discussed with students and parents in preparation for 2021. A copy of the subjects selected by Year 10 for Year 11 were scanned and sent home via an email. These subject choices are now set for 2021.

Any student who has selected to attend Wyndham College MUST return their enrolment envelope (yellow envelope) to me by Week 5, 21 September.

If you have any questions or need assistance completing the forms please call me on 96243329.

Year 10 Skills Coaching group.

All Year 10 students who indicated they would like to explore a work pathway after gaining a Year 10 Record of School Achievement (RoSA) have been invited to participate in a six week program at school on Thursdays during Sessions 3 and 4.

This six week program will focus on developing an individual employment portfolio, creating a TFN and a USI. Students will complete practical activities together and sit through an interview with our partner company, Total Construction.



The Helmsman Project update –Year 9 Girls group.

It is intended that the girls will recommence planning and preparing for their community project later in the year. The community project will hopefully occur in Term 4.

Tonnie Slater

Careers Adviser

MATHS IN TRADE

2020

We are delighted to inform you that our school will again be participating in the 'Maths in Trade' Pathways program, supported by the Apprenticeship Forum Group, in conjunction with Master Builders Association, Master Plumbers Association and Housing Industry Australia.

This year we will be running a Sign Writing/ Graphics program and the one week course will be delivered by Matt Watson, HT Signs & Graphics, TAFE NSW. It is limited to the first 15 students in Year 10 who return the permission note with their USI number.

The aim of the course is to increase the number of students who take up apprenticeships in the construction area, to provide examples of the importance of Mathematics and to show how it is used in the real world.

In 2019 our students experienced bricklaying and it was a very positive learning opportunity for all involved. One of the lessons at which our students excelled utilised circle geometry to design an arch for a brick pizza oven.

Joanne Andrew

Head Teacher Mathematics



UNIFORM REMINDER

It is expected that all students will follow the dress code by wearing school uniform every day. To assist in this, students should have more than one uniform for the five school days. 'My uniform is in the wash' is not an acceptable reason for being out of uniform.

Families who face financial hardship should contact the school, so that we can discuss ways that we can support the regular wearing of uniform.

Joanne Andrew

Uniform Coordinator

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

Anti-Racism Contact Officers

Each school has a trained Anti-Racism Contact Officer (ARCO) who facilitates the complaints handling process and promotes anti-racism education in the school.

At Seven Hills High School, **Mr MacLaren** and **Ms Howell** are the ARCOs.

STEM News

There have been several projects and activities within our STEM programs this year.

Girls in STEM

Earlier this year, Seven Hills High School was fortunate enough to be selected for a Girls in STEM pilot project using the newly released Lego Spike Prime robots.

The group from Year 8, consisting of Rihanna Ali, Aneliese Bryen, Emily Johnston, Henrietta Laban and Jorgia Laing, worked on a series of tasks, and in line with the 2020 Science Week theme, solved an environmental problem associated with oceans. The group created a crab inspired robot to assist in cleaning up pollution from the ocean floor. Throughout the process, the girls recorded their progress.

They will present their work via Zoom to other groups who participated in the project.



The AWARE Group

We have been lucky enough to be approached by a data analytics company, the AWARE Group, to develop a strong mentoring relationship in the field of STEM.

They have a passion for promoting STEM career pathways for girls and will be working closely with the Girls Coding Club, the Robotics Club and STEM classes. The AWARE group have also been generous enough to provide the school with resources to support our school programs.

We are excited about this long term relationship and cannot wait to begin collaborating with the company. Their first activity will be Zoom presentations to Year 8 students over the next few weeks.

Space Camp

Whilst Space Camp is not running this year due to COVID-19, during the school holidays, Aneliese Bryen and Rihanna Ali were informed by the Camp that they were the successful applicants from Seven Hills High School for 2020, with dates to be announced for 2021, once travel restrictions are lifted.

The girls participated in the 'Meet an Astronaut' Zoom conference, with similar activities planned over the next few months.

Congratulations Rihanna and Aneliese!

Year 9 iSTEM

After successfully studying, designing and building aeroplanes over the past few months, the students are now embarking on a joint project with 9C Agriculture.

Whilst the Agriculture class is studying yabbies in a farming context, the iSTEM class will be designing, building and coding an automated aquaponics system.

Girls Coding Club

Any girls who are interested in computer programming are welcome to attend the Girls Coding Club. It runs every Monday lunch time in Lab 4. You have the opportunity to learn how to program in various languages and the option of experiencing physical computing.

Robotics Club

All students are welcome to attend the Robotics Club every Thursday lunch time in Lab 4. No matter if you are a beginner or expert, or prefer design and building to coding, everyone is encouraged to join.

There are opportunities to participate in upcoming competitions as well.



Minecraft Innovation Network

Seven Hills High School has been selected, along with 30 other schools, to participate in the Minecraft Innovation Network program.

Staff will be participating in professional learning through the Minecraft Teacher Academy, with the aim of developing activities and units of work, within the network, that can be implemented across a range of subjects.

We are excited to be trialling these lessons through the STEM classes.

Carissa Howell

STEM Coordinator



The Homework Centre is on every Tuesday and Wednesday from 3.00pm to 4.00pm in the library.

Come along to get help with homework and assessments, whilst making use of the resources available in our school library.

To participate, collect a note from the front office or library.

Daniel Way

Head Teacher Science

Poems by 7A

'The Lost Man' – by Ryan Mills

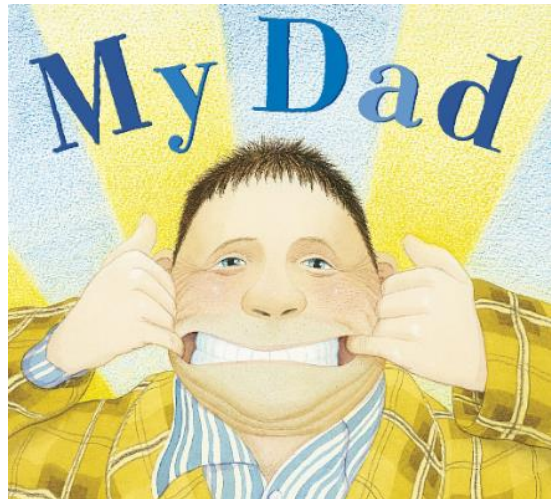
Here's a man, seemingly without a heart,
Who has done good, and bad.
Who seemingly has seen things and knows things,
Trying to redeem himself in the eyes of,
Himself.

He has seen more, loved more and lost more
than most people could.
He's the man who keeps on running,
Never looking back, because he dared not to see.



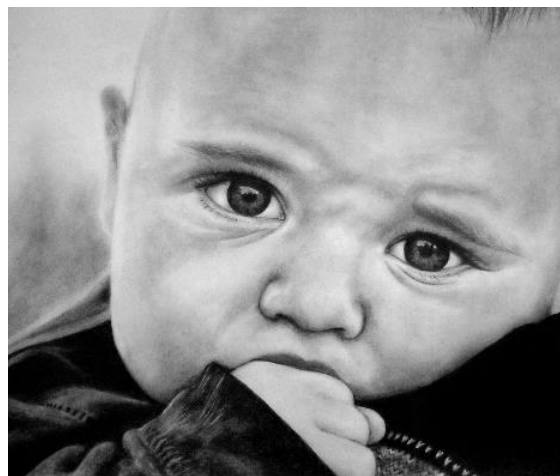
'My Dad!' by Jasmine Sullivan

Dad just fell down the stairs!
It felt like an earthquake,
Now I am awake,
Not that anyone cares.
His bones are broken
The damage unspoken
Dad just fell down the stairs!



'My Baby Cousin' by Blaire Peregrino

My baby cousin is very cute,
He's 2 and talented,
He could play the flute!
His giggle is precious,
His smiles brighten your day
I could live with him always
Each and every day!



Red Nose and Jeans for Genes Day

On Friday the 7th of August, Seven Hills High School held Red Nose and Jeans for Genes Day to raise funds to help scientists conduct life-saving research into Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), genetic disorders in children and birth defects.

Students came to school wearing red and jeans for a gold coin donation, which allowed us to raise over \$236 for these great causes.

Thank you to everyone for your support.

Rachel Pilbeam

Vice-Captain



Literacy Leap

Suggested Home Strategies:

READING

1. Encourage your child to read in interest areas.
2. Read with your child and ask them *how* and *why* questions about the text.
3. Ask your child to predict what might be on the next page or next chapter.

WRITING

1. Encourage reading. There is a strong link between improved reading and writing.
2. Suggest your child use an electronic device to record a verbal response to the topic. Get them to transcribe their ideas on paper.
3. Encourage your child to proof-read all written responses to tasks and assignments.
4. Encourage them to share their writing with you and respond to your suggestions.

'Tell Them from Me' Term 3 Surveys

During Term 3, our students and staff will be participating in 'Tell Them from Me' surveys. These surveys provide valuable feedback, which is utilised by the school to improve its practices in areas such as student wellbeing, and teaching and learning. Staff will be participating in the survey from Week 5 onwards, and the students from Week 9, this term. More information regarding the student survey will be provided closer to the administration date.

In the near future, we will also be inviting parents and caregivers to complete the parent version of the survey. The link will soon be provided via text message and the school app.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could spend some time completing the survey. Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding any of the surveys.

Matthew MacLaren

Acting Deputy Principal



At Seven Hills High

EVERY DAY COUNTS

because...

When you miss just...	That equals...	Which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Yr12 that is equal to...
1 day each fortnight	20 days a year	nearly 1 1/2 years of school	finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days a year	nearly 2 1/2 years of school	finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days a year	over 5 years of learning	finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days a year	nearly 8 years of learning	finishing Year 4

TIME IS PRECIOUS, DON'T WASTE IT.