



# Seven Hills High School

November 2020

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

## **Upcoming Events**

#### **November**

- 19 Girls Rugby League Gala Day
- 23 Knowledge is Power Year 10
- Orientation Day Wyndham CollegeSenior Education Day Seven Hills HighSchool

Skills for Success Day – Year 9

- 27 Knowledge is Power Year 10Skills for Success Day Year 9
- 30 High Resolves Year 7

#### **December**

1 High Resolves – Year 8Orientation Day – Year 7 2021

# **Year 9 Fast Forward Program E- Day**

As part of the Fast Forward program selected Year 9 students attended the Western Sydney University online event on Tuesday, 20 October.

The Fast Forward program aims to promote successful participation in, and knowledge and awareness of, higher education. It also encourages and supports future educational and career aspirations by providing practical information and insights into university life.

During the program, students interacted with current students from Western Sydney University and asked relevant questions to get a clear idea of what it was like to study there.

Students learnt a little about themselves and their aptitudes by using Gardeners' theory of multiple

intelligences to analyse their personal interests, look at suitable subject courses, programs and career pathways related to each of the different intelligences.

Our students competed against other schools in challenge activities and a Kahoot Quiz. Seven Hills High School came first in the quiz, thanks to an outstanding performance from Amy Telfer who correctly answered every question.

It was a wonderful learning experience. Congratulations to the following students who participated in the event: Kaitlyn Brush, Ziah Burns, Shannon Hill, Megan McDevitt, Jorja McManus, Amy Telfer and Tyleen Saipele.

Jimmy Joseph

Year 9 Adviser

#### **NAIDOC** Week

This year's theme for NAIDOC Week, *Always Was, Always Will Be,* recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have occupied and cared for this land for over 65,000 years.

This year we celebrated NAIDOC Week with a special assembly hosted by our School Captains. Malakai Dwight, Emily Fisk and Ziah Burns spoke about this year's theme and its significance.

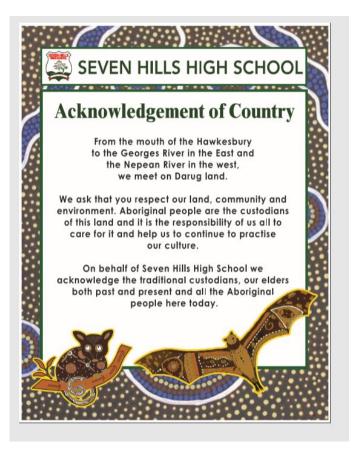
We also debuted our new Acknowledgement of Country sign, which now features the totems of both the male and female Darug people – the possum and the flying fox.

Joanna Jordan

**Aboriginal Programs Coordinator** 

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## Partners in Learning Survey

In September, parents were invited to participate in the Tell Them from Me Parent Survey. 34 parents completed the survey.

Here are just a few of the findings from the survey:

- Parents feel welcome when they visit the school.
- Parents feel well informed of their child's classroom behaviour, both positive and negative, but feel less well informed about their child's progress in their school subjects.
- Parents indicate that teachers expect their child to work hard and pay attention in class and that their child clearly understands the rules for school behaviour.
- Parents feel that staff take an active role in making sure all students are included in school activities and create opportunities for students who are learning at a slower pace.
- Texts and emails were considered the most useful means of finding out news about the school.

All information gained from the parent survey will be considered as we continue to seek ways to improve, in consultation with parents, our school procedures and practices.

**Greg Johnstone** 

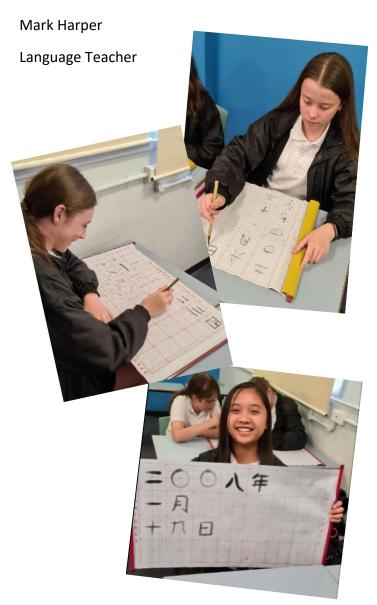
Principal

#### Chinese

Year 7 have been enjoying writing Chinese characters this term. They have been learning authentic Chinese techniques including how to hold the brush and stroke order.



Students had opportunities to write on scrolls and have benefited from additional instruction from pre-service teacher, Rosie Cui. Some students wrote their birthdays and a few lucky students learned the characters for their names.



## **Library Matters**

October was a very busy month in the library with Book Week and Halloween events.

During Book Week a number of teachers were 'caught reading' and helping to build the reading culture in the school. The student prize for 'got caught reading' was won by Amber Newell in Year 7 who received chocolates and stationery.

To celebrate Halloween, we promoted *Horror* and *Supernatural* genre books and decorated the library. During lunch breaks students got crafty and turned old books into Jack-o'-Lantern pumpkins.



Image: Homesteading Farm Life 2015



Image credits

Hallmark Channel. (2019). DIY Book Angels with Paige Hemmis. [Video]. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Wvpmo-pv40

Homesteading Farm Life. (2015). *DIY Fall Decor- Awesome Pumpkin Book* [Video]. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOhB9\_TgsKQ





In the lead up to Christmas we will be continuing book folding art in the library during lunch breaks. We will be getting festive by creating angels and Christmas trees. Sessions are free and materials will be provided. All are welcome to join the fun!

Cathy Costello

Teacher Librarian

# **Numeracy Tip - Money**

Currency, money, wealth, riches, fortune, pay, salary, remuneration, fee, stipend, cash, coin, savings, assets, capital, finances, funding, income – no matter how you refer to or think of money, students need to be able to operate successfully with it. Learning about money as a student helps to build confidence in fiscal situations and prepare them for more complex financial situations as an adult.



What can you do to help prepare your child for their financial future and support their learning about money and finances? Create as many opportunities as you can in which your children to use and budget money.

- Ask them to make specific purchases to a given budget (e.g. in the supermarket give them \$10 and a list of specific items they need to buy with that money. This also reinforces the value of money.)
- Ask them to determine the "best buy" (e.g. 5 Caramello bears for \$3 or 2 Caramello bears for \$2.)
- Ask them to work out how much money they will need to go to the movies, buy a Mega sized popcorn and drink.
- Ask them to work out how much they will have to **save** from their pocket money over the next 10 weeks to pay for the X-box game that they want.
- Ask them to work out how much it will cost for the family to go out for dinner on Friday night with everyone having the \$20 banquet, OR the best pizza deal so that everyone has enough to eat.

Estimating, predicting and rounding skills are also important skills that can be developed during these reallife experiences and a valuable skill for our student.

Remember, use as many of the four basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) as possible.

Joanne Andrew

**Head Teacher Mathematics** 

# **Literacy: Writing Focus**

Writing is an important, life-long skill and it is something you can easily support at home.

- To help your child build confidence in writing you can:
- Encourage them to write letters or messages to family and friends
- Encourage your child to write or keep a personal journal
- Let your child see you write things such as grocery lists, invoices and emails – this helps them understand that writing is an important skill for everyday life
- Engage with their assessment tasks and homework and encourage them to draft and edit their work



Improving writing will help your child improve all areas of communication and assist them in organising their thoughts and ideas.

Jennifer Farrugia

Relieving Head Teacher English/HSIE