



# Seven Hills High School

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

October  
2020

## Upcoming Events

### October

- 19-30 Semester 2 Examinations
- 26 School Photographs

### November

- 2-3 Year 8 VALID Science Testing
- 6 Years 7&10 Vaccinations Catch up
- 12 NAIDOC Celebration
- 11-12 Endeavour Energy Program

### Christine and Kyle – State Winners in the AI for Good Challenge!

Congratulations to Christine Douglas and Kyle Maffeo on their entry in the AI (Artificial Intelligence) for Good Challenge, winning the State Final in the Years 10 to 12 category. A detailed report follows later in the newsletter.

### Term 4 School Operational Guidelines

The NSW Department of Education provides regular updates to its guidelines for the conducting of school activities in response to NSW Health advice.

During Term 4, we will provide parents and students with information on how we will organise our school events, such as Year 10 Graduation and Presentation Day, closer to their

scheduled date. By doing this we will ensure, as best as possible, the currency of our organisation for the planned activities.

### Community Consultation

Thank you to those parents who recently completed the Tell Them from Me 'Partners in Learning' survey. The major findings of the survey will be published in the next newsletter and the feedback provided added to other information and views the school will gather from staff, students, parents and the community to develop our Strategic Improvement Plan for 2021-2024.

As we are not in the position to hold consultative parent/carers forums at the school, we will be sending out a survey in the next few weeks to seek your views on the programs we currently run at the school and proposed changes to our student leadership pathways. I would encourage all parents/carers to contribute to the discussion by completing the online survey. You will receive a notification via SMS when the survey is open.

### Senior Learning Centre

I have met with those students who will be completing their senior studies at Seven Hills High School regarding the establishment of a Senior Learning Centre in the school library. The students will be involved in the design of this learning space, which will provide opportunities for individual and group study as well as a range of educational resources for their use.

Johnson Avenue, SEVEN HILLS 2147.

Phone 9624 3329

Email: [sevenhills-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sevenhills-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

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

## Senior Mentoring Program

Next year, senior students will have the opportunity to work with staff mentors in developing, implementing and achieving academic and personal goals as well as being provided with guidance in areas such as time management, study strategies and examination response techniques.

## Semester 2 Examinations

Examination timetables have already been distributed to students and a copy has been included in this newsletter and placed on the website.

Greg Johnstone

Principal

## AI for Good State Winners

Earlier this year, the Year 10 iSTEM class participated in Microsoft's AI for Good Challenge. Students had to identify a problem and come up with a solution using Artificial Intelligence.

Over 600 teams entered the challenge and one of our teams, Christine and Kyle, won the State Final for their Sensory 4 Sight entry, which attempts to solve the problem of vision impaired people not being able to access computer games and more importantly, make social connections with others.

Christine and Kyle now progress to the National Finals in the Years 10 to 12 category with the winners announced on 19 November.

Good luck Christine and Kyle!

Carissa Howell

iSTEM Teacher

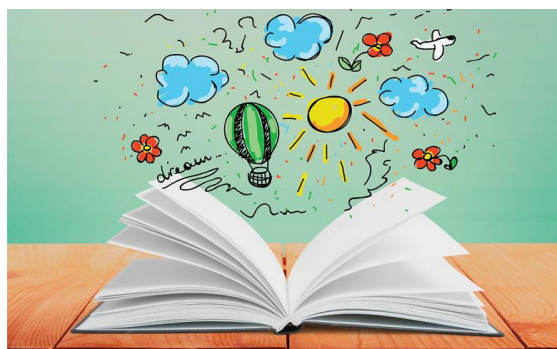


# Literacy Leap

## Suggested Home Strategies:

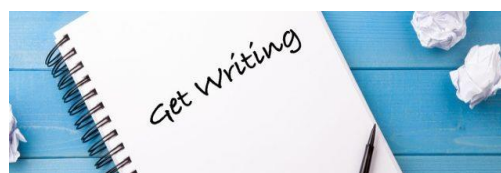
### READING

1. Encourage your child to find things that interest them and read about it. They can read much more than just books!
2. Ask your child to share with you what they learn from reading.
3. Provide a variety of reading materials that your child can easily access.



### WRITING

1. Encourage reading. There is a strong link between improved reading and writing.
2. Assist your child to read aloud all written responses to tasks and assignments to help them edit and identify mistakes.
3. Encourage your child to keep a journal. Suggest that they write about things that happened at school or at home.



# Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Build friendships



Develop life skills



## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per **fortnight**  
 = **4** weeks  = Over **1** year missed

**1** day per **week**  
 = **8** weeks  = Over **2.5** years missed

*If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's attendance please contact their Year Adviser, or the Head Teacher Wellbeing, on 96243329.*

## Semester 2 Year 7 Examination Timetable

Week 2	Mon 19/10	Tues 20/10	Wed 21/10	Thurs 22/10	Fri 23/10
Session 1	7C and 7D English		7D Geography	7B Science	
Session 2	7B English		7A Geography		7A Maths
Session 3			7B Geography	7C and 7D Science	7B Maths
Session 4	7A English	7C Geography		7A Science	7C and 7D Maths
Session 5					

Week 3	Mon 26/10	Tues 27/10	Wed 28/10	Thurs 29/10	Fri 30/10
Session 1	7D PDHPE	7C Music	7B Music	7/8 SCI LS	7/8 HSIE LS 7VAR 1 and 2
Session 2	7VAR4				7VAR3
Session 3	7VAR5	7/8 Maths LS		7A PDHPE	
Session 4	7C PDHPE	7/8 English LS	7A Music	7D MUSIC	
Session 5	7B PDHPE				

## Semester 2 Year 8 Examination Timetable

Week 2	Mon 19/10	Tues 20/10	Wed 21/10	Thurs 22/10	Fri 23/10
Session 1	8A English	8B Science 8C English			
Session 2					8C Maths
Session 3	8A/B/C Geography				8A Maths
Session 4		8A Science 8B English			8B Maths
Session 5		8C Science			

Week 3	Mon 26/10	Tues 27/10	Wed 28/10	Thurs 29/10	Fri 30/10
Session 1				7/8 Science LS	7/8 HSIE LS 8A Music
Session 2			8C PDHPE		8B PDHPE
Session 3		8A PDHPE 7/8 Maths LS			8B Music
Session 4		7/8 English LS			
Session 5			8C Music		



## Semester 2 Year 9 Examination Timetable

Week 2	Mon 19/10	Tues 20/10	Wed 21/10	Thurs 22/10	Fri 23/10
Session 1			9A Music	9A Commerce - Skills	
Session 2					
Session 3	9C Elective History - Skills				9A Commerce - Writing 9ADME 9A Dance
Session 4		9BVAR 9BDME	9C Agriculture 9C Elective History - Writing 9CDME 9CVAR 9C Music		

Week 3	Mon 26/10	Tues 27/10	Wed 28/10	Thurs 29/10	Fri 30/10
Session 1	9 PDHPE	9 English	9 Mathematics	9 Science	9 HSIE
Session 2	9 PDHPE	9 English	9 Mathematics	9 Science	9 HSIE 9/10 HSIE LS
Session 3	9/10 Maths LS		9/10 Science LS		
Session 4			9/10 English LS		

## Semester 2 Year 10 Examination Timetable

Week 2	Mon 19/10	Tues 20/10	Wed 21/10	Thurs 22/10	Fri 23/10
Session 1					
Session 2					10XVAR 10XCOM 10XDME
Session 3					
Session 4					10YDME 10Y Music

Week 3	Mon 26/10	Tues 27/10	Wed 28/10	Thurs 29/10	Fri 30/10
Session 1					
Session 2					9/10 HSIE LS
Session 3	10 PDHPE 9/10 Maths LS	10 English	10 Mathematics 9/10 Science LS	10 Science	10 HSIE
Session 4	PDHPE	10 English	10 Mathematics 9/10 English LS	10 Science	10 HSIE

# Taking Exams- Tips for Students

## Read the paper

Read through the entire exam paper, including the important front page, during reading time. Make sure you know how long to spend on each question – set time aside at the end to check over the whole paper.

## Make notes

Once you can start writing, jot down everything filling your brain that you think you might forget on a blank page of the exam paper – this will allow you to concentrate on one question at a time.

## Start with an easy one

You don't have to start the exam at Question 1 and move through in that order.

- It can be helpful to start with an 'easy' question first to settle any nerves.
- Leave the hardest questions for the middle of the exam time.

## Know what the question requires

Focus on reading the question carefully and ensure your response is in the format required. No exam question will ask you to write down everything you know about a topic.

Use the marks allocated to understand the amount of time you should give to each answer (the higher the mark the greater importance) or number of lines given as an indicator as to how much you should write.

## Know your keywords

Provide elaboration, evidence, explanation, examples, evaluation or analysis as required by the question.

## Think you've finished?

Check, check and check again. Before you are told to put your pens down, spend your time checking you have answered each question and looking over all your responses.

Excerpts from <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/learning-from-home/hsc-central/hsc-student-hub/hsc/exam-tips#Exam1>

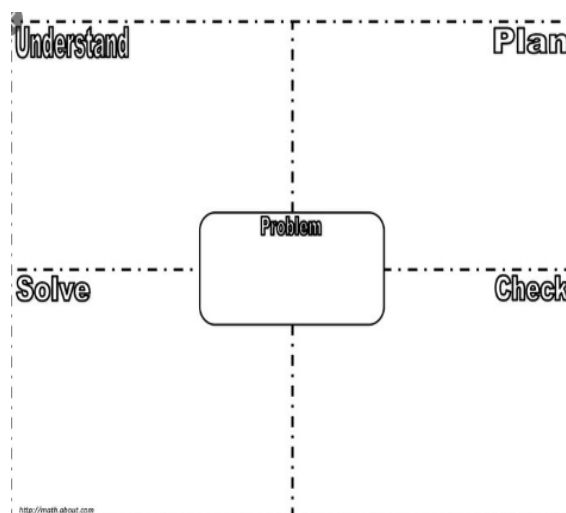
## How parents can help their child prepare for examinations.

### When studying

- Provide them with a place where they are unlikely to be disturbed.
- Unless they are using the computer for revision, turn it off!!
- Cut contact: no phone calls, no texts, no Facebook, etc.
- When your child is studying, they need to stop every 40 minutes and have a five minute break.
- Remind your child to take a short rest and move around in between each part of their study.
- Offer help sometimes. It can be useful having someone to listen or practice with.

## Numeracy Tip Problem Solving

Problem solving is one of the most valuable numeracy skills your child will develop. Year 8 have been developing their problem-solving strategies during their fortnightly numeracy lesson. Students have been developing skills by working collaboratively utilising critical thinking. The focus was on the mathematics skills rather than just the solution. Students developed a range of numeracy style questions that focused on skills and the vocabulary presented through a series of PowerPoints, graphic organisers and presentations based on the Frayer Model.



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

- Involve them in appropriate family decision making, for example, the cost of eating at home vs eating out
- 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 possibilities
- 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

## Signwriting and Graphics – Maths in Trade Pathway

At the end of Term 3 students participated in the Apprenticeship Forum Groups - Maths in Trade Signwriting and Graphics program. The course allowed students in Year 10 an opportunity to use maths in real world scenarios.

Matt was very impressed with the level of commitment and maturity demonstrated by the students involved. He also noted that this was the first course he had delivered where all 16 students who started the course, not only completed the program, but also finished the 5 projects that made up their portfolios of work.

In addition to their portfolios the team designed and developed two signs that they gifted to the school. One for the Senior Learning Centre, which will be used in the library to signify the new dedicated learning space for our senior students from 2021 and the other for the Ag Plot.

Congratulations to Chelsea Assange, Paige Williams, Aarfina Saad, Kaitlyn Jones, Chelsea Hottes, Tyler Gorman, Shane Morgan, Nicholas Nisbet, Heath Williams, Hannah Martin, Tamsyn Vaiciurgis, Elliot Blyth, Anthony Castia, Luke Fryer, Joshua Fernandez and Nathan Pilbeam.

Joanne Andrew

Head Teacher Mathematics



## Look out Wall Street!

Mathematics students participated in the interactive online ESSI Financial Challenge in Term 3. The competition (and available regular game) addresses many areas of the curriculum including earning, saving, spending and investing.

The goal of the challenge is to finish with the highest net worth. Our students competed against students from across Australia. Engagement levels were high through all classes and a number of students showed natural ability in the simulated financial world!

Congratulations to Dominic Krist and Caelin Nagy in Year 7 who finished the game on \$17, 436.13 and \$16, 730.87 respectively.

Joanne Andrew

Head Teacher Mathematics

## Library Matters

**Book Week** is being held this week (19-23 October). To celebrate, the Library will be holding the following events.

### Book Art

Book Art craft sessions will be held at lunch. Students will be shown how to create a cute hedgehog, cat, owl or a Christmas tree out of an old book. These will make great Christmas gifts for friends and family. Sessions are free and materials will be provided. All are welcome to join the fun!



Image: Book and craft ideas 2016



Image: Monzures 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6m3r4EYGvc0&app=desktop>  
<https://www.favecrafts.com/Christmas-Decorations/Folded-Book-Christmas-Tree>.

### Got Caught Reading Prize Draw

Students 'caught' reading in the library will receive a ticket to go into the monthly *Got Caught Reading* draw to win cool prizes. Additionally, teachers are getting involved by sharing a selfie of themselves reading. These photos will feature in our Book Week display in the Library.

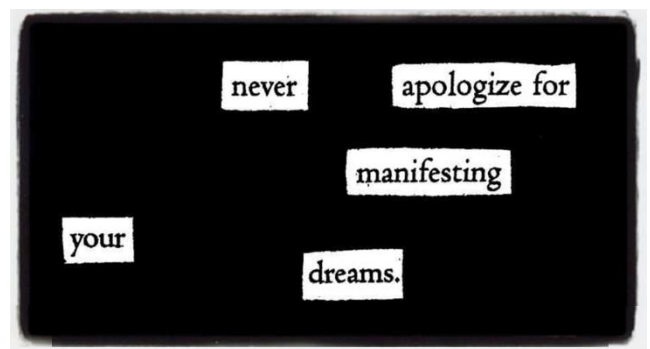


Image: Carroll 2019

<https://www.atlantamagazine.com/news-culture-articles/how-john-carroll-discovered-blackout-poetry-and-accidentally-built-a-community-of-hope/>

### Blackout Poetry

Year 7 and Year 8 English classes will join us in the library for a Blackout Poetry virtual excursion run by NSW State Library. A blackout poem is when a poet takes a marker to a page of text from an old book or newspaper and blacks out words until a poem is formed. The key thing with a blackout poem is that the text AND blacked out text form a sort of visual poem.

Happy Book Week!

Cathy Costello  
Teacher Librarian