



Seven Hills High School

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

September
2020

Upcoming Events

September

14 – 18 Maths in Trade Pathways

25 Last day of Term 3

October

12 Term 4 commences



AI For Good

Earlier this year, the Year 10 iSTEM class participated in the 'AI for Good' Challenge run by Microsoft and Education Change Makers.

Students had to identify a problem and come up with a solution using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and worked through the challenge, ensuring their solution met a number of criteria, before submitting their final ideas.

Over 600 teams entered the challenge and one of our teams, Christine and Kyle, have been successful in making it to the State Finals for their 'Sensory 4 Sight' entry. Their entry attempts to solve the problem of visually impaired people not being able to access computer games. The state finals are to be held via Zoom on Friday 18 September, where the State winners will be announced.

Good luck Christine and Kyle!

Carissa Howell

Science Week 2020

15 – 23 August was Science Week. We celebrated the week by hosting escape rooms in Science classes centred on this year's theme, 'Deep Blue', which involved learning about our oceans and their future.



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

Science Week 2020 cont'd

We also had SCINEMA 2020 Science videos playing in the library, a fantastic library Science Week display, and a lunchtime trivia competition (congratulations to the winner, Rachel Pilbeam). It was great to celebrate the importance of Science in our community.

Daniel Way

Head Teacher Science



PDHPE Term 3

It has been a very busy term for students in PDHPE.

Students in Years 8 and 10 have been participating in a unit on Gymnastics and Years 7 and 9 in a unit on Dance. Just recently students completed their routines for assessment.

Year 9 PASS have been studying a unit on Technology in Sport and have been using the Polar Brat HR monitors to collect data on their heart rate as they perform.

The Year 9 Dance elective students have completed their composition process. The photo left shows Makayla, April and Olivia, who created a dance piece, 'Acceptance'.

Students have been enjoying using the new outdoor table tennis tables in PE lessons, as well as at recess and lunchtime.



The newly recon-ditioned oval has been constantly used this term, with the amazing new playing surface being appreciated by both staff and students.



Vivien Thurlow

Head Teacher
PDHPE



7A Forensic Science Incursion

On Tuesday 1 September, 7A participated in a Forensic Science Mystery Challenge.

A skull was found in the Agriculture Plot and five teachers claimed to be the owner. It was up to 7A to prove the rightful owner.

They spent the day collecting and analysing evidence including blood typing, chromatography, hair and fibre analysis, fingerprinting as well interviewing each teacher.

All students applied the skills they had learnt throughout the year and had fun 'grilling' the teachers.

Vivien Thurlow

Head Teacher PDHPE



NSW Department of Education Information for Parents and Carers

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/a-z-parents-guide>

An A-Z of resources most important to parents and carers, including:

- Attendance
- Canteens
- Careers advisory service
- Curriculum
- Counselling
- Disability, learning and support
- Discipline
- Enrolment
- Excursions
- Family law matters
- Feedback and complaints
- General enquiries
- Health and safety
- Homework and study
- Hot weather
- Infectious diseases
- Interpreting and translations
- Medication at school
- Parent organisations
- School hours
- School transport
- Technology in schools
- Uniforms
- Voluntary school contributions
- Wellbeing

Numeracy Tip – Measuring Things

Understanding measurement and scale are crucial to your child's understanding of numeracy.

Here are some tips and activities:

>>> Use a wall measuring chart to measure the height of people in your family.

>>> Talk to your child about objects/buildings around them and help them judge which is taller or shorter.

>>> Cut a piece of string for your child – any length will do. Use the string to measure the objects in your house to find out what is longer or shorter than your 'string measuring tape'. Ask your child to identify anything that is the same length.

>>> Explore other ways of measuring, such as using a cup, jug, teaspoon, icy pole sticks, footprints or hand lengths.

>>> Help your child to build a tower of blocks that is taller than a favourite toy. Ask your child to count the total blocks to measure the height of the tower.

>>> Estimate and then measure who can jump the furthest, or stand on one foot for a longer period, or how many buttons might fill a jar.

>>> Explore the size of different containers by pouring and filling. Estimate, then check to see which holds more or less.

>>> Notice changes in the weather and the time of day. Use an old bottle and create a 'rain gauge' to measure and monitor how much it rains.

>>> Grab a handful of pasta and estimate how many pieces they are holding etc...

Joanne Andrew

Head Teacher Mathematics



Water Bottle Refill Stations

NSW Health advises that people should not be putting their mouths on the spouts of bubblers.

To encourage the use of water bottles, the school has installed four water bottle refill stations.

These are located in the canteen area.

Alexis Manga 7B

Chinese

你喜欢什么运动？
Ni xihuan shenme yundong?

If you were in Year 7 you would know what this means.

We have been busy learning about sport and leisure activities this term and also completed revision activities on greetings and family.

Students have learnt the characters for some key vocabulary and completed class surveys, asking and answering questions in Mandarin.

Recently, we have also created some posters, Kahoots and flashcards associated with sport; seen left.

Year 7 are congratulated on their efforts this term.

再见。Zaijian.

Mark Harper
Chinese Teacher



Kiara Lowe 7D



Liam Eves 7C



Blaire Peregrino 7A



TAS Term 3

Students in Years 7 and 8 have been working hard creating products in Metal Technology, Food Technology and Agriculture. The Year 7/8 Support class made bird seed cookies, which they hung from the trees in the school, to feed the birds.

Students have transformed our Agriculture Plot and have planted carrots, broccoli, herbs and snow peas.

Our Food Technology students have been preparing for their upcoming assessments. Year 9 have been exploring cake decorating techniques.

Vivien Thurlow

Head Teacher PDHPE



Preparing for the Semester 2 Examinations

Students - review your **Elevate Education** seminar booklets for tips on studying, note taking and remembering course information.

Go to <https://au.elevateeducation.com/> and use your seminar presenter's password to access a range of online resources.

See Mr MacLaren if you require help in accessing the material.



Year 9 students recently participated in the Reading and Numeracy Check-In assessment program.

The Check-in assessment is a NSW Department of Education online reading and numeracy assessment, available to support schools to assess and monitor Year 9 student learning, following the period of learning from home.

The Check-in assessment supplements existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy and helps teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to student needs.

As a school we look forward to analysing the results from our student testing to inform our classroom practice.

Literacy: Reading Focus

One of the best ways to support your child's learning and to develop reading fluency and enjoyment is to develop strong reading habits at home. Why not try:

- ✓ Joining a library
- ✓ Turning off the television or screens at least one night a week as a family
- ✓ Encouraging reading aloud to siblings

A strong understanding of the way language works when it is written helps students to become more independent as learners. When students research ideas, write responses and when they speak in class discussions, a knowledge of how to make meaning adds clarity to their thinking and responding.

Ms Rodd

HT Eng/HSIE/Literacy



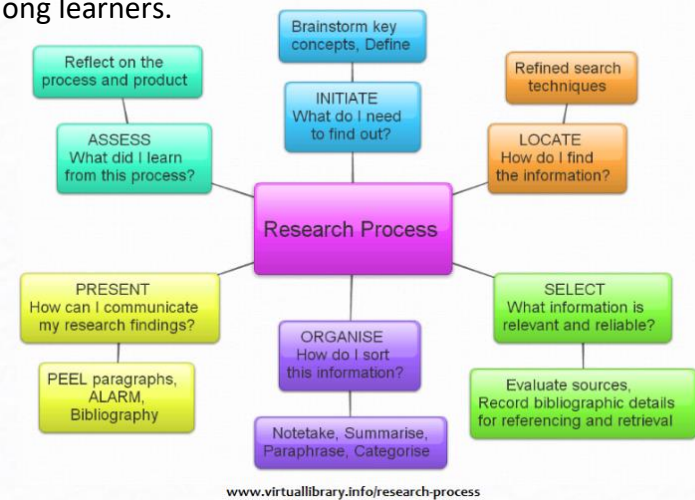
Library Matters

In August, Year 10 Science classes visited the library to learn how to avoid plagiarism. Students were shown some tips on paraphrasing information into their own words and how to use online tools to take the pain out of referencing.



<https://www.virtuallibrary.info/plagiarism.html>

Year 8 Mathematics classes have also been visiting the library to learn Research and Information Skills. This skill set is critical for students to become independent life-long learners.



www.virtuallibrary.info/research-process

In August, we also celebrated Science Week in the library with a book display. Science documentaries were also screen in the library during lunch breaks.



Naturally, Mrs Keep and I have been busy purchasing and processing a great selection of books for recreational reading. We have significantly increased our Manga and Graphic novel collection and purchased a substantial number of books requested by students.

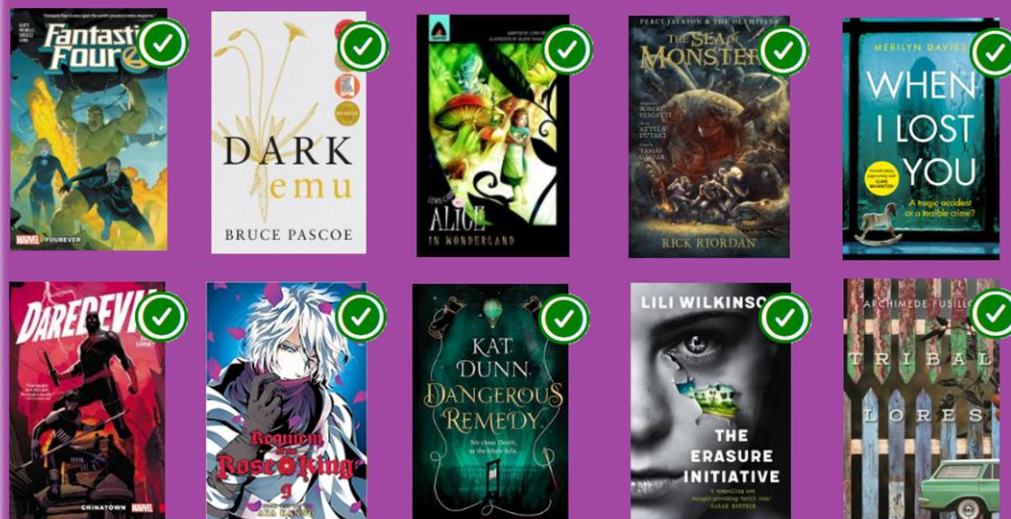
Why not visit the library soon and check out some of our new titles?

Happy Reading!

Cathy Costello

Teacher Librarian

New Books in the Library



Wellbeing News

Rock and Water Program

The Wellbeing Team is very excited to announce that Year 7 will be participating in the Rock and Water program on a weekly basis until the end of the year.

The lessons will consist of a series of exercises and games to assist students to develop an understanding about who they are, strategies to build resilience, self-regulation and self-confidence.

Information Posters

Students may have noticed a series of posters going up around the school.

This was in response to the Tell Them From Me Survey, which indicated a number of students were unsure who to see if they had an issue.

The posters provide students with information on their Year Advisers and the Anti-Racism Contact Officers.

Over the next week, students will start to see posters of Ms Lennon, the School Counsellor, so that they can become familiar with all the staff available at school with specific roles in the area of student wellbeing.

Attendance

Attendance is one of the most significant factors in success at school. It has been pleasing to see the number of students achieving 100% attendance each week.

A reminder to all students and parents/carers that should a student be absent, either a note or a reply to the school SMS is required, with a valid reason for the absence.

Carissa Howell

Head Teacher Wellbeing (rel.)

NEED TO TALK?

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Our Year Advisers



Mrs Stace
Year 7 Adviser
Location: Support/CAPA
Staffroom



Ms Attias
Year 8 Adviser
Location: Science
Staffroom



Mr Joseph
Year 9 Adviser
Location: PE/TAS
Staffroom



Mr Harper
Year 10 Adviser
Location: Math/LOTE
Staffroom

Year Advisers are available before school and during recess and lunch

BELONGING, CONNECTING, UNDERSTANDING

WE ARE HERE TO HELP



Mr MacLaren
Deputy Principal
Location: Deputy's Office
(Admin block)



Mrs Howell
Head Teacher Wellbeing
Location: Wellbeing Office
(top of the stairs near the Music room)

Our Anti-Racism Contact Officers



Ms Lennon
School Counsellor