



Randwick Girls'
High School

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2020 Swimming Carnival
- Poetry Club
- Australian Maths Competition
- Careers News

WELCOME

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Over the last three weeks we have welcomed back most of our students and staff to the 2020 academic year. It is, as always, a pleasure to observe the passion, determination and enthusiasm around the teaching and learning opportunities in our classrooms. Visiting the classrooms for me, as usual, has been the highlight of the past three weeks. Our new students across all year groups including our Year 7 cohort are also becoming more familiar with the large school campus, as well as settling into their learning and peer groups. Well done to all.

A small number of our students are still in isolation as a coronavirus outbreak precaution and we look forward to welcoming them back soon. Thank you to these parents as well as our general parent community for your cooperation and understanding in this matter. Please make sure your daughters are well before they return to school.

Principal's report continued page 2



Randwick Girls' High
School



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Principal's report continued

Assessment Tasks

Specific Year Group information around assessment tasks and dates are being finalised for all year groups and this information will be on our school website very soon.

Class specific information around assessment tasks are also given to students by the class teachers on a frequent basis, as the need arises.

Homework Centre

The Homework Centre has commenced on Monday of this week. Please note that all students are welcome to participate. The Homework Centre occurs twice a week, on a Monday and Thursday afternoons from 3:30 to 5:00pm in the school library. A teacher and tutors are on hand to offer assistance on assessment tasks, homework or any topic which is related to the learning at this school.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Year 7 SRC representatives

Year 7 SRC nominations begin next week. Elections in classes will follow shortly after the nomination process is completed. Please encourage your daughter to put her hand up or nominate a fellow classmate for this important leadership opportunity.

Uniform Update

A few parents have contacted the school about uniform. Wileys has assured us again in the last few days that they have a strong refund and/or replacement policy. In the first instance if you have an issue with your uniform needs or purchase, negotiate with Wileys directly. Contact the school if negotiations fail to achieve a satisfactory result and we will take the issues up as a collective. The school expects Wileys to supply our uniform in a timely and satisfactory manner.

Please enforce the proper wearing of uniform with your children by making sure that they leave home with the correct uniform. Thank you for your partnership in this regard.

International Harmony Day

Saturday 21 March is International Harmony Day. Randwick Girls' High School is very proud to celebrate Harmony Day this year on the 20 March. Harmony Day, as you are aware, is a day when we highlight cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. Randwick Girls' value cultural respect and is proud we have a harmonious school culture as many cultures are represented in our school student population.

On time to school (repeat item)

Last year we noticed that some of our students were getting out of bed too late to come to school on time. Can we urge parents to please wake your daughters up on time to come to school.

Students miss out on vital work when they do not attend school on time. They also miss out on connecting with their peers.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day is a significant event in our school, being a single sex girls' school. As such, we will be holding a special assembly on the 12 March at our school to celebrate this important day even though it is celebrated by others around the world on Sunday 8 March.

Year 7 parents

As mentioned in the last newsletter, your daughters' teachers and I look forward to meeting you next Monday 17 February at 6pm in the school library lawn.

P&C Meeting

Our first P&C meeting is scheduled for 7 pm on the 24 February in the Staff Common Room. We hope to see you there!

Lucy Andre
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTIES

We have completed a full two week cycle of classes and all students have settled in well to 2020. Randwick Girls' High School offers one of the widest range of subjects in the Eastern Suburbs and this year has seen the introduction of Engineering Studies in Year 11. It is also good to see an elective Spanish class in Year 9, following the implementation of this European language in the senior school over the past two years.

Another exciting innovation is the introduction of STEM periods in Year 7, under the leadership of the Maths Head Teacher, Ms Barlow. She is ably supported by our librarian, Mr Brand, along with Mr Cajés and Ms Sun.

Three years ago the school introduced Literacy periods to support our students and this has been supplemented in 2020 with specific Numeracy periods.

Last week saw a successful school Swimming Carnival with attendance and participation the envy of many high schools. Under the leadership of our sports organiser, Ms Hodder, and the assistance of the PD/Health/PE staff, the carnival supported competitors, participants, house cheer squads and an outstanding performance by our Year 12 students. New staff to the school commented on what an amazing day it was and we look forward to our Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals early in Term 2.

Wednesday afternoon sport is now in full swing with students being able to access a wide variety of sporting activities. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and students that it is essential that students enter their Term 2 sports choices online when the window of opportunity opens later this term.

Thursday 13 February is the day scheduled for our Year 7 vaccinations program. This program is important in assisting all students at our school to achieve the highest level of health possible.

To assist our students gain the maximum value from the educational experiences offered, Year Assemblies will be held on Monday 17 February. At these meetings students will be recognized for specific achievements in Term 4 last year and be given support and guidance for 2020. These meetings are successful because they are organized by the relevant Student Advisers for each year with the support of our Head Teacher Welfare, Ms Whitty. We are very lucky at Randwick Girls' High School to have such committed staff, willing to take on these important adviser positions to support all the students who attend our school.

Another important program supporting our Year 7 students settling into high school is our Peer Support program, organized by Ms McLean. These sessions not only assist our new student cohort, but also offer leadership opportunities for selected Year 10 students.

Year 12 Assessment Booklets will be issued to students on Monday 17 February at their Year Assembly and it is also available on the school website.

Year 7 and their parents also have the opportunity to integrate themselves into our school community by attending the annual Meet & Greet evening on Monday, 17 February, starting at 6pm. Special thanks to our P&C for their support and organisation of this important function.

Our annual Open Night will be held on Tuesday, 10 March, starting at 6pm for 6.30pm start in our Multi-Purpose Centre. If you have friends and family who are considering Randwick Girls' as a prospective educational institution for their daughters, please inform them of this wonderful opportunity to attend this showcase of all that is on offer at our school.

D. Posener and B. Rekić

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to all students who participated at the annual **SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**, held at the Des Renford Memorial Pool, Heffron Park. Organised by the school's Sports Organiser Mrs Hodder, with the assistance of the PD/Health/PE Staff, the carnival was a great success, with **STOREY SPORTS HOUSE** winning the Champion Swimming House award. Congratulations to Storey House Patron Mr Kaplinski and Storey House Captains Tamsin, Mei, Keeley & Veronica. Well done !!!

Outstanding races from our champion swimmers, participation in events by the large number of students present (600+), the *Attendance Pointscore* and the successful *Wombat Lane & Cheer Squad* competitions, saw the final House Competition result in doubt until the final relay races. Special mention goes to the large number of **Year 12 students** who not only participated in many races, but entertained the crowd with their outstanding lunchtime performance, as well as the **Year 11 students** who assisted with the successful organisation of the carnival. Congratulations to **Lily, Kelina, Mei & Tamsin** who set new school swimming records.

Age Champions: 12yrs
 13yrs
 14yrs
 15yrs
 16yrs
 17+yrs
 AWD 16-19yrs

CAROLYN
JINNY
LILY
SIAN
KELINA
MEI
TAMSIN

B.CUNEO (Head Teacher – PD/H/PE)



BEST START – YEAR 7 TESTING

Best Start Year 7 is an online assessment for students that helps provide information for teachers on the literacy and numeracy skills of students at the beginning of Year 7.

The Best Start Year 7 will take place at our school in Term 1, 2020.

The assessment covers key literacy and numeracy skills that are important to a student's success in all subjects in high school. Students come to high school with a range of experiences, skills and abilities in literacy and numeracy. It is important that teachers have current information about their students so that they can plan programs and lessons that best support the learning needs of every student.

The Best Start Year 7 Assessment will be completed at school during class time.

No preparation is needed for this assessment. Its purpose is to provide our teachers with additional information to best support the teaching of your child.

If you have any questions about Best Start, information is available at:

<https://bit.ly/2LrdYbn>

or contact the school.

BUS SERVICE ADJUSTMENTS FROM 9 FEBRUARY

Timetable adjustments will occur on many Inner West bus routes from **Sunday 9 February**, to support more reliable journeys. There are also minor changes to the timetables of some school services.

Trip planning and further information

Parents and students are encouraged to plan their trip to see if these timetable changes will impact the way that they currently travel to and from school. More information, including timetables, maps, Trip Planning and school service details is available at **transportnsw.info**. You can also view school service information on the Transit Systems website – **transitsystems.com.au**.

Student Opal Card Reminder

Please ensure your daughters are aware of the condition of use of their Opal Card, and the importance of carrying and using their card whenever they travel.

It is a condition of travel that all students tap on with their Student Opal card every time they board the bus, and tap off when they alight. This allows Transport for NSW and bus operators to assess the patronage of bus services, including School Special buses, to ensure that resources are used efficiently and meet customer demand.

POETRY CLUB

Are you a poet and think you know it?

Do you have ideas that can change the world?

Do you have something to say?

Randwick Girls' High School is introducing its first slam poetry club and whether you're a masterful Shakespeare or new to writing, we want you! The club will be called *Randwick Poetry Jam* and will involve general meetings where we watch and read poems, then engage in collective discussion. At the end of general meetings, a theme will be announced and students wishing to write their own performance or written poem will be able to present it at the next performance meeting. The club will aim to create a space for students to explore their creativity, identity and performativity. The club hopes to create a strong community of poets and can potentially result in students entering local poetry competitions!

It's a great way to meet new people, build up your confidence, and have your voice heard!

The meeting times are as follows:

Monday	Week 4	General meeting
Friday	Week 6	Performances
Monday	Week 8	General meeting
Friday	Week 10	Performances

If you have any questions or want more information, please join the google classroom by entering the following code: bjrmyq

We hope to see you there!

Mr Briffa and Ms Reilly

The Australian Mathematics Competition

In late 2019, Randwick Girls' High School participated, once again, in the Australian Mathematics Competition. School-based maths competitions don't get much bigger than this, with more than 15 million entries since 1978 and with students in more than 30 countries attempting the same 30 problems on the same morning, with tests for Stage 4, Stage 5 and Stage 6.

The Maths Competition provides an excellent opportunity for students to measure themselves against their peers in an external test, where the stakes are low and the goal is to become comfortable with large examinations.

On August 1 2019, 69 keen Randwick Girls' students sat the test, with ages ranging from Year 7 all the way up to Year 12. All our students acquitted themselves well, however one name stood out from the rest, with a Distinction result. Rose in Year 7 achieved an impressive 92% on the test, which placed her in the top 20% of Year 7 and 8 students worldwide and won her the prestigious, Best In School award.

To put this in perspective, the 2018 test saw three Distinctions achieved at Randwick Girls', all from girls in Year 11 and 12. All three went on to achieve Band 6 in the highest levels of mathematics and the Best In School winner, Xinran Zhu, also gained the school's highest ATAR result, with a memorable 99.6. It is very pleasing to see Rose's consistent efforts in mathematics paying off and it will be exciting to watch her progress through mathematics in the years to come.

Nonetheless, all the participants are to be congratulated on their success and their school spirit. The Australian Mathematics Competition will take place again on Thursday 30 July 2020 and it is hoped that as many girls as possible will participate and again do battle, to achieve their very personal best.

Kathy Barlow
Relieving Head Teacher, Mathematics

CAREERS NEWS

Year 10 Work Experience 2020: The Year 10 block work experience week for 2020 will be held in Week 9 of Term 2 from Monday the 22 June until Friday the 26 June. Work experience enables students to participate in the world of work and gain an insight into different work environments. Students will be provided with their work experience documentation in the near future.

Year 11 student Ruby undertook an extremely valuable week of work experience at Taronga Zoo for her Year 10 work experience. Ruby shares her experience below:

I was lucky enough to get to do a week of work experience at Taronga Zoo, I've always wanted to be a Zookeeper and work with animals so this was such an amazing experience! I spent my week with the marine mammal division who take care of animals such as pelicans, penguins and seals. Throughout the week I helped by assisting with penguin feeding, cleaning enclosures and exhibits, cutting up fish, cleaning windows, cleaning buckets and working backstage at the seal show. However, the highlight of my week was definitely meeting the seals. While I was there I was able to meet Bondi the New Zealand fur seal and Charlie the Australian sea lion, who were both super friendly and cute! Overall I really enjoyed the experience and I learnt so much from my time at the zoo.

Ruby



Careers Events: Throughout the year there will be numerous opportunities for students to participate in a range of Careers events such as the HSC & Careers Expo, UTS Girls' In STEM Days, National Maritime Museum Women in Science Symposium, VIVID Schools, Girls' In Property, University & TAFE Seminars, St Vincent's Hospital Research Day and the Sydney Children's Hospital Health Careers Day.

St Vincent's Hospital Research Day: In the latter part of 2019, Year 10 students with an interest in careers in medical research, medicine or allied health had the opportunity to attend the St Vincent's Research Campus, which includes the Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute and St Vincent's Centre for Applied Medical Science. This research campus has pioneered insights into some of the most widespread diseases affecting our community today. To showcase this exciting research, students from Randwick Girls' High School together with students from Sydney Girls' High School and St Vincent's College attended the St Vincent's Hospital Research Day Schools' Outreach Program. The program was designed to give students a view into the inner-workings of the St Vincent's Campus and to learn more about the career paths and types of research work being undertaken by campus researchers.

This program was a fantastic opportunity for students to be given a guided tour of the research campus, meet inspiring researchers and participate in panel question and answer sessions, where students heard about the different inspiring career paths and research being undertaken at St Vincent's campus. Year 11 student Shanley, shares her experience of the excursion here:

We had the opportunity to attend a very fun and informative trip to St Vincent's Hospital in Darlinghurst. We were greeted and welcomed warmly by three very wonderful people who worked for the Garvan Research Foundation and St Vincent's Hospital and they very kindly gave us a tour around the site starting off with the Garvan Research Foundation Building where we got to see the DNA inspired Double Helix staircase which greeted us the moment we stepped in the building. Moving on, we proceeded upstairs where we got to go to a research lab in a closed area where they test and diagnose certain ailments. I discovered they have developed a significantly new way of taking blood samples, which is pricking the finger and putting it on a card like sample, where the dried blood from people in developing countries would be sent to the laboratories in Sydney for testing.

After getting a tour of most of the building and having different researchers talk about their different areas of work, which was such an eye opening experience we headed downstairs to sit down for a lecture where we got a bag filled with amazing goodies such as surgeon doll which was also a USB, pens and more and we also got light refreshments on our way to our seats.

And lastly to wrap up our very eventful day, we went to the hall where there were UNSW stands where amazing and generous people from UNSW gave us medical related goodies and gave us a tiny insight on what medical science and applied research is like. We proceeded outside the hospital and eventually returned to school with a handful of memories and new knowledge about the world of medical science.

Shanley

Students are pictured below outside of St Vincent's Hospital enjoying their lunch break and with their participation certificates.



Useful Websites:



To register for the Randwick Girls' High School Careers website senior students should go to <https://www.randwickgirlscareers.com> and click on *For Students* in the top right hand corner, select *Student Secure Area* and then select *Registration*. This site has a lot of useful information such as the latest Careers newsletters which contain important information for Year 12 students, information on upcoming events and post school pathways such as TAFE, universities,

apprenticeships and traineeships. It also contains other useful tools such as an interest test, and a resume and cover letter template.



To register for Job Jump go to <https://www.jobjump.com.au/> the Randwick Girls' High School password is *randwick*. This site is a useful resource for researching different career paths and career events. The site also contains a helpful tool to assist students to create a customised resume.



A reminder to senior students and their parents/guardians who use facebook, to follow the Randwick Girls' High School facebook page to obtain useful Careers information. Please see: <https://www.facebook.com/rghscareers> If you have any questions about any of the events listed please do not hesitate to contact Ms Evers in Careers.

Ms Evers
Careers Adviser



RANDWICK GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL P&C UPDATE

P&C MEETING

Welcome to all RGHS families, old and new. We hope 2020 proves to be a happy and successful year for you all.

The P&C provides an open forum for parents, caregivers, teachers and the extended school community to come together and collaborate to:

- further the interests of the school
- contribute to a learning environment that delivers high quality educational outcomes for all students.

Please join us at our first meeting of the year to find out more and meet other members of our school community.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The P&C AGM will be held on **Monday 16 March 2020**.

- Election of the P&C Committee for 2020/2021 will be held at this meeting
- To be eligible to nominate, stand and vote for a committee position, you must be a financial member of the P&C by **Monday 24 February 2020**

How do I become a financial member?

Simply make a gold coin donation to the P&C Treasurer at either the:

- Year 7 Welcome BBQ on **Monday 17 February** OR
- first general meeting on **Monday 24 February**.

If you have any questions or would like to add an agenda item to the meeting please email us contact@randwickgirlspandc.org.au

Next P&C Meeting

Monday
24th February 2019
7pm

In the Staff Common Room
Level 2

All Welcome

The content on this page is provided by the RGHS P&C Association for information purposes to its members. It is approved by the P&C executive and does not necessarily represent the views of the school or the NSW Department of Education

REMINDER: YEAR 7 WELCOME BBQ



The P&C extends a warm welcome to all Year 7 families joining our school community and invites you to the Year 7 Welcome BBQ. Parents, caregivers, students and siblings are all invited.

This annual event is a great opportunity to meet other families, P&C members, Principal Lucy Andre and teaching staff in a relaxed social setting with a delicious BBQ catered by the school canteen team.

Date: Monday 17 February 2019
Time: 6pm
Location: School library courtyard

If you have not already sent your RSVP please email us at contact@randwickgirlspandc.org.au

P&C CONTRIBUTION

The P&C raises funds through:

- Government grants – for projects that meet grant specific criteria
- P&C contribution – for educational resources & equipment not bound by specific criteria

Funds are directed towards educational resources, equipment and facilities to support learning and educational initiatives.

WHAT IS THE P&C CONTRIBUTION?

This is a voluntary payment that the P&C requests from families to help raise funds instead of asking for volunteers to help with countless sausage sizzles and other fundraising activities.

We request a contribution of **\$50 per student** but families are welcome to pay more or less. Every little bit counts and all contributions are much appreciated.

2020 GOAL

In 2020 the P&C hopes to raise **\$20,000** from contributions. Funds raised will be directed to projects that support quality educational outcomes for students and/or improve the physical school environment. These could include:

- Library refurbishments to support flexible learning
- New equipment and learning resources eg: IT hardware, software, musical instruments, technology and design equipment/resources
- Exterior wall art and landscaping to improve the physical environment
- School excursion subsidies
- Tutors for school clubs and other activities

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3 EASY WAYS TO PAY

EFT/DIRECT DEPOSIT

Randwick Girls P&C Association
BSB 032-056
Account 761171

OR

MAKE-A-PAYMENT

Via the school website
www.randwickgirlshighschool.com.au
Select 'Other' as the payment type and write 'P&C contribution' in the description

OR

CASH PAYMENT

To our Treasurer at a P&C meeting

EVERY DOLLAR MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Our school has roughly 1,000 students which means:

\$5 for every student = \$5,000
\$10 for every student = \$10,000
\$20 for every student = \$20,000
\$30 for every student = \$30,000
\$50 for every student = \$50,000

FREE EVENT

Healing Grief

Wednesday 19 February
7pm-8.30pm
Margaret Martin Library
Level 1, Royal Randwick
Shopping Centre, Belmore
Rd, Randwick

Tuesday 25 February
7pm-8.30pm
Margaret Martin Library
Level 1, Royal Randwick
Shopping Centre, Belmore
Rd, Randwick

Saturday 7 March
11am-1pm
Bowen Library and
Community Centre
Level 1, 669-673 Anzac
Parade Maroubra

**A seminar for people affected by grief or loss.
Significant change can challenge our abilities to cope.**

Patricia Brown is a grief specialist who lost her son to suicide in 1995. As part of her journey through grief, Patricia explored the many aspects of loss, how it changes lives and the consequences of suppressing grief, eventually publishing her story in 2014.

Patricia will provide insights and strategies on how to better understand and manage loss while building resilience and emotional wellbeing.

Patricia has co-facilitated healing grief retreats with Petrea King at Quest for Life, works as a grief coach and speaks regularly to bereavement groups.

This seminar is suitable for people aged 16 years and over who are seeking to deepen their understanding of the impact of change, loss and grief on their lives.

Bookings are required on **9093 6972** or by emailing **Frida.Kitas@randwick.nsw.gov.au**

YOUTH HEALTHY COOKING



WEDNESDAYS 3-6PM

A free healthy cooking program.

Learn how to make your favourite meal including
dessert from scratch, enjoy and share with your
friends

For young people aged 12-18 years
Cliff Noble Community Centre, 24 Suttor Ave,
Alexandria





TALKING WITH YOUR TEENAGER ABOUT CHALLENGING TEEN ISSUES

Monday 23 March 2020 | 6.15 -7.45pm
Waverley Library Theatrette

Tips for parents

This seminar is designed for parents with children aged 10-17, who want practical, effective information and strategies to develop good communication, healthy relationships and better understand and manage adolescent behaviour.

WAYS Youth & Family are specialists in the field of parenting and adolescent development and behaviour. This seminar will be led by experienced adolescent and family clinicians and will give parents:

- Practical strategies for effective communication and managing conflict,
- practical strategies for building resilience in their children,
- in depth understanding of the adolescent brain, thought processes and decision making,
- tips to manage the challenges of cyber space, sexting and substance use.

Free - Bookings at Eventbrite

<https://talkwithteens.eventbrite.com.au> or call 9083 8936 for more information.

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