

NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 | WEEK 8B | 21 - 25 March 2022

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HIGHLIGHTS

- International Women's Day
- LOTE News
- Harmony Day Bookmark Comp

WELCOME

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Student leadership and student voice are important aspects of our school and this week, I would like to announce that the following Year 7 students have been successful in representing their classes on the Student Representative Council (SRC).

- Julia (7S)
- Leila (7C)
- Hasnah (7T)
- Pritha (7H)
- Eli (7R)
- Riya (7G)

I look forward to having them make their mark in various student forums for the rest of the year. The following students are highly commended for their work externally to the school.

- Ava (Year 8)
- Abbey (Year 7)
- Anika (Year 8)
- Alexia (Year 7)
- Bowie (Year 9)

Principal's message continued on next page





Principal's message continued

These thoughtful and socially active students participated in a community program known as *Kids Giving Back* to help others, especially during last year's lockdown! These students have been so generous with their own time. They have helped preparing meals and care packs for others in need. One of the organisers for the program, Gabrielle said, "Kids Giving Back is a charity whose mission is to create the next generation of generosity." Well done, girls! I am so impressed that you are making a real and tangible difference in our local community by becoming part of the next generation of generosity.

The past two weeks have been busy. As well as classroom learning, our students and staff have celebrated the following memorable events:

- International Women's Day (IWD) SRC members, together with Ms Jansen's Year 10 History class led the school in celebrating IWD. The theme Changing Climates: Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow encapsulating the important role women play in changing our world. It focuses not only on the world's environmental crisis, and the call for others to join the women of today to create a better future for the world; it is also about the important subject of changing the social climate right now regarding women, so that together we can work to create a sustainable world for generations to come.
- RGHS Open Night last Tuesday night we welcomed close to 400 community members to our school. Our guests walked away in awe at what RGHS has to offer in the curriculum and co-curricular areas. Since then, we have been receiving many enrolment enquiries. We thank the staff and students for their tremendous support, which has resulted in producing one of the memorable events of this year. We also thank the wonderful support from our P&C representatives who also took time out on this night, to speak to our potential parents.
- Harmony Day the school hall stage lit up with colour as students sang and danced in their traditional costumes to traditional music last Monday. We were also entertained by the Japanese and Lebanese drummers which brought about more dancing from students and staff alike. It was indeed a great time to celebrate our unique cultures while appreciating other new cultures. It

is indeed a timely reminder that inclusion and acceptance are attributes which are so essential, not only in our school but in communities all over the world.

 Achievement in 2021 Semester 2 Reports students from Years 8 to 12 were recognised for their outstanding achievement last semester. This ranged from academic achievement, attendance and effort. A full list is published in this week's newsletter edition. Congratulations to all award winners.

Maintenance work will be commencing soon at RGHS in the toilets and the School Hall. We look forward to the completion of these urgent improvement. When I hear more from the winning contractor, I will provide you with further information.

RGHS is about to receive some much-needed upgrades to some of our facilities. One significant part of this upgrade is the new woodwork facility. This is a piece of very exciting news for our school as the new addition will add a new dimension to the teaching of Mandatory Technology courses within the Technological and Applied Studies (TAS) department. Other anticipated upgrades include an undercover learning area outside the school hall, refurbished kitchens, a library mezzanine and a pedestrian entrance to the school

At a recent P&C Annual General Meeting, the school had the opportunity to thank the outgoing Office Bearers (Leanne Bergan, Shelley Borer, Andrew Babbage, and Rachel Daley) for their wonderful work and support of the school. Their work amongst us, especially during the pandemic, has been much appreciated. We are indeed fortunate to have such a supportive group of parents working alongside the school. We also welcome the incoming Office Bearers and Executives (Lucy Bloom, Shelley Borer, Leanne Bergan, Venkat Krishnan, Andrew Babbage, Irene Nordon, Natalie Martin, and Deborah Boswell). Until next time,

Regards Lucy Andre Randwick Girls' High School is proud to be part of the Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia. See recent article below about single sex girls school: Combating the rise in school loneliness. The story is courtesy of *The Educator, Australia*

COMBATING THE RISE IN SCHOOL LONELINESS

While social distance, <u>such as during a pandemic</u>, is associated with elevated loneliness in young people, loneliness can persist in the society of others.

'School loneliness', defined as the inverse of <u>school belonging and connectedness</u>, carries risks of low wellbeing, subsequent mental health concerns, with negative effects continuing into adulthood.

The 'technology culture' of the school community seems key to unlocking the causes, and therefore, solutions to school loneliness, in addition to a strong sense of community.

Loren Bridge, Executive Officer, Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia, says the social support provided by all-girls schools could be protective against the loneliness of a digitally driven generation. "Research tells us that girls feel more comfortable, self-assured and supported in an all-girls environment, which in turn encourages confidence, resilience and higher levels of participation in all aspects of school life," Bridge told The Educator. "Simply put, girls are happier in all-girls schools."

Bridge said this is supported by data from PISA (the OECD's Programme for International Student Academic Assessment) which shows that girls who attend single-sex schools experience a more positive school environment onewhere they feel a stronger sense of safety and belonging compared to girls inco-ed schools.

"Girls' school students often describe this support and belonging as a *sisterhood* and it lasts well beyond their school years," Bridge said. "One explanation for girls being happier in an all-girl environment is that every aspect of every program is specifically tailored to the needs of girls, purposefully developing their confidence and potential and ensuring that students feel seen and supported throughout their schooling."

Methodist Ladies' College (MLC) principal, Diana Vernon, has run three vastly different single-sex girls' schools in the UK and in Australia. "While I might be biased, the overriding benefit of girls' schools as being environments in which girls can build their confidence in who they are and in what their interests are, without having to manage any additional challenges of gender stereotyping," Vernon told The Educator. Vernon said this is particularly relevant during their teenage years when girls are still working out who they are.

"When they have the freedom to be themselves, as we see time and again, they leave girls' schools with a solid foundation and confidence in who they are, ready to embrace the challenges of the wider world," she said. "I am reminded of a colleague of mine who used the metaphor of learning to sail—you wouldn't send a learner sailor out in a gale force or strong wind; you provide them with the skills and tools and help them develop their skills in calmer waters, before encouraging and supporting them in embracing the challenges of the choppier seas."

Related stories:

- How all-girls' schools are breaking the glass ceiling
- Girls who attend single-sex schools mentally tougher than co-ed peers –study
- Single-sex schools fared better than national average during pandemic study

From the Deputies

his term continues to be action packed with staff and students fully engaged in learning and extra-curricular activities at the school.

Open Night

Since the last Newsletter we have held our Open Night with significant organisation by Mr James and our wonderful students supported by the P&C and Randwick Girls' High School staff. The event was a huge success, with excellent questions and great discussion about the myriad of opportunities afforded to our students both in and out of the classroom. As always, we were proud to showcase Randwick Girls' High School to the community with many visitors commenting on the great feel and vibrancy of our school.

National Day of Action against bullying and violence

Friday 18 March marked the National Day of Action against bullying and violence. The theme for 2022 is Kindness Culture. The SRC confirmed our commitment to building a kindness culture that promotes inclusion, respect and belonging for all students within our Randwick Girls' High School community.

Year 8,10 and 12 Assemblies

On Monday we had a number of students recognised for outstanding contributions to the classroom, attendance and academic improvement. Leading the Year 8, 10 and 12 recognition Assemblies were the cohort Year Advisers Ms Venizelou, Ms Stolzenhein, and Ms Rollo. It is always a pleasure to congratulate students who have worked hard to reach milestones in pursuit of their personal best.

Harmony Day

On Monday 21 March RGHS celebrated Harmony Day. What a magnificent day it was, Ms Sun and the organisational team produced an outstanding program that included an inspiring Key Note address from Lowanna Moran, as well as performances and learning experiences

representing cultures from all over the world and was attended by Mr Paul Owens Director of Educational Leadership. The Parade of Nations showcased students dressed in national costumes. The vast array of student and professional performances highlighted that we are a multicultural school that welcomes diversity and embraces inclusiveness, respect and belonging for everyone.

Check in Assessments

Year 8 students completed the Numeracy Check in Assessment on Friday 25 March and will complete the Reading Check in Assessment on Monday 28 March. It is important to remember that these are only diagnostic tests and students shouldn't be anxious about sitting for them. We use the data to supplement existing school practices to help inform our teaching practice and best support individuals in future planning.

Maximise Learning

It is very important that students maximise their learning by coming to class on time. While there are occasions when a student is absent from class due to illness or for other pressing reasons, being late to class for no reason is not acceptable. Please note that all students, including Year 12, need to follow correct procedures if they need to leave school during the school day. We cannot allow students to leave school during the day without parent/guardian permission. These procedures are designed to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students at our school.

Many assessment tasks have been completed this term and it has been pleasing to see the vast majority of students are organised, prepared and submitting tasks on the due date. Well done for demonstrating your ability to organise your time effectively and for showing academic maturity in your approach to study. As assessments are returned, it is important students look beyond their mark and take note of specific feedback they have received. Reading and understanding feedback is a great learning opportunity and

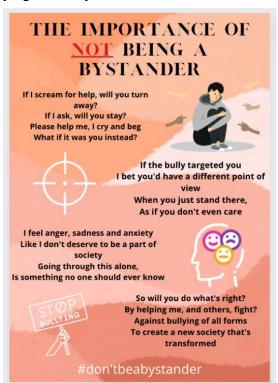
students are encouraged to incorporate their feedback into future work.

Regards Ms Reilly

Celebrations

As Term 1 2022 comes to a close, RGHS continues to celebrate student learning and engagement through a variety of programs. The Week 8 Year Assemblies celebrated student achievement and engagement through the biannual 'Year Adviser Awards'. It was wonderful to see so many students awarded. Harmony Day was also celebrated in Week 8 and what a joyous occasion it was! Congratulations to the students who participated in the variety of events that celebrated the rich, vibrant and diverse culture at RGHS and thank you to Regina Sun, LOTE Faculty and all staff who made it happen. Lastly, we look forward to the showcase of student talent and creativity that is the School Show next term. Students and staff are wished all the best in their rehearsals in the lead up to the performance week of The City of Stars.

Bullying. No Way!



On Friday 18 March we recognised the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA). This day highlights importance of students, parents and staff working together to

create a community that stands up to bullying behaviour. Bullying No Way encourages school communities to have open conversations about bullying. Children and young people who know what bullying is, and know what to do about it if it happens, also know they are not alone in dealing with it. We encourage families to continue to have these conversations at home so we can create work together to ensure an inclusive culture of respect. To mark the day, Vikki Farrelly our SEL, ran a poster competition. I congratulate Sofia (9) on her winning poster and poetry skills.

A successful Term 1 for Year 7

We look forward to meeting Year 7 families at the Year 7 Meet and Greet on Monday 28 March. Year 7 teachers are excited to share information regarding their subject areas and speak with parents and carers over afternoon tea. Year 7 have had a fantastic start to the year and have readily engaged in the Peer Support Program. Through Peer Support, Year 7 students have an opportunity to connect with Year 9 mentors to work on social skills to prepare them for the high school environment. A big thank you to the amazing Year 9 Leaders and Peer Support Coordinators Ms Lisa Vo and Ms Carolyn Fahy. Year 7 Are also encouraged to attend the lunchtime social group on Thursdays in Room 101 facilitated by Vikki Farrelly.

Communication in the face of Covid-19

As we face yet another rise in cases, students and parents are reminded to email the school office when they are required to isolate. This way, directions to online learning platforms can be provided through a central point of contact, rather than to individual teachers and Head Teachers. It is also important for students to remember that if an Assessment Task is missed due to isolation, the formal misadventure process must be followed. Students can access the misadventure forms on the school website to be submitted to the relevant Deputy Principal.

Ms Raechel Whitty Relieving Deputy Principal

International Women's Day





Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow

This year's International Women's Day theme is *Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow*. Every year on 8 March, the world comes together to celebrate women around the world. A day that finally knows no barriers for the 3.9 billion mothers, daughters, aunties, and sisters in your lives; for them to look back on and celebrate all their achievements and progress in history. This year's theme focuses on our planet's changing climate and recognises the women and girls working towards a sustainable future.

The rising climate crisis is an incredibly big issue to women living in rural and developing countries, who face insufficient food levels, increasing percentages of child marriage, and higher chances of violence, poverty and displacement. Around the globe, women have been at the forefront of many sustainability movements, such as standing and protesting for women's education, fishing and natural disaster projects and women in STEM working on environmental plans. Investing in gender equality leads to more people working to improve the climate and saving our home. Millions of voices are currently working as one to protect the environment and in approaching gender equality.

Stevany Year 10





This year's theme for International Women Day is *Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow*. This recognises the contribution of women and girls around the world, who are leading the charge on climate change adaptation, mitigation, and response to create a more sustainable future for all. Around the world women and girls are effective leaders and change-makers for climate change, they are involved in sustainability initiatives and their participation and leadership has resulted in more effective climate action. When examining the opportunities, as well as the restrictions, women and girls must receive a voice and be equal players in decision-making related to climate change and sustainability. Without gender equality today, a sustainable future, and an equal future, remains beyond our reach.

Indigenous women in Australia have made a huge impact when on climate change. Creating more women in leadership is important, as power and equality is crucial to create a safer community, more sustainable economies, thriving businesses and a healthier and more peaceful society. Indigenous women in Australia, living in remote areas particularly contribute toward an effective outcome for women to take control of their economic futures, as well as that of their families and communities. Every day, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and girls make extraordinary contributions to the social, spiritual, economic and political life of their communities. Across Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are leading organisations and institutions carrying out effective responses, from the highest levels of decision-making through to frontline service delivery. Indigenous women bring different experiences, perspectives and skills to the table, and make invaluable contributions to decisions, policies and laws that work better for all.

Nefertari Year 10



LOTE NEWS

Open night

It was absolutely an honour to be a part of the open night at RGHS in language department. It's a great experience as a new teacher to witness our students performing at the open night voluntarily to share their own language learning journey. At RGHS, students are truly the main character of the open night. And as a teacher I'm so pleased to see this happening!

Chunyu Zhang

Fatin

Participating in Open Night was a great experience. When I first started learning Chinese in Year 7, I knew nothing of the language but now after a year of learning the language, I have discovered how wonderful Chinese is. At the start I wasn't sure if I could learn much but with the help of our wonderful teachers, learning Chinese has become so much easier. Chinese culture is a vibrant culture that is heavily diversified over the world but not many can recognise how important it is. Learning Chinese was an amazing experience and I hope to pass on all I have learnt to the oncoming years of Randwick Girls'.

Kleoniki Year 8



My favourite part of learning at Randwick Girls High School is the languages. I believe they are really important and improve your memory and are useful when going overseas. It also helps with learning other languages as it changes the way you think. I find language learning a fun experience and very interesting to learn and appreciate other languages. We learn about how to introduce ourselves and how to ask other people about themselves, as in their nationality, name, age and more. I participated in the Open Night at RGHS and had lots of fun. I described Chinese learning at this school and demonstrated my dialogue skills to the prospective students and their parents checking out this school. We also had an incursion and received bubble tea at the end of the year as a memento of our hard work.

Clémentine Year 8

As a student here, I have loved every aspect and all the activities I have experienced on my journey in language. I am so grateful to have helped in the Open night and Harmony Day, as I learned about different traditions, foods and cultures in China. I'm so excited to pass on my knowledge and learning experiences to potential new students at RGHS next year. I've loved every moment and thrilled to continue Chinese in the future.



French and Spanish News

In 2022 we have once more a broad selection of classes studying European Languages. With two Year 7 and two Year 8 French classes as well as a Year 8 Spanish class.



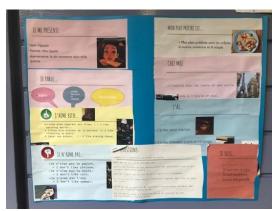




In Stage 5 we also have one of each Year 9 French and Spanish. These classes have been very active in their learning so far this year and have taken part in some fun classroom activities such as International Women's Day and Harmony Day celebrations.

Students have also made *Me, Myself and I* posters in French.







Other students will be soon creating board games with places in town and directions as a focus. Here are some samples of previous years' work.



In 2021 we had very pleasing success in both Spanish Beginners and French Continuers results in the HSC. Some students also were accelerated students who while being part of the Year 11 cohort, studied with Year 12 students and sat for their HSC exams. We look forward to another successful year in 2022.

Marie (Y9 Spanish) said at Open Night: "I enjoy learning Spanish because it's fun. I already speak some Greek and I think it's a great thing to learn another language."

Ava (Y11 French Beginners) said at Open Night: "I've already learnt a lot in one term of French and I hope I'll be able to use my French in the future".

In Ms Bates' Y7 French class, students researched something they'd always wondered about French culture:



by Behafarid

IN WHAT WAYS HAS FRENCH ARCHITECTURE CHANGED OVER TIME?



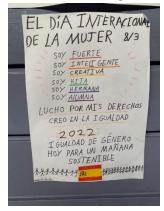


In the Year 9 Spanish class, students each researched a different city from the Spanish-speaking world and presented their findings to the class:





International Women's Day Posters in Spanish







Mrs Jewell and Ms Bates

LOTE Harmony Day Bookmark Competition Winners



My design is based on the harmony that Australia has created with other countries in 2022 and before! I thought incorporating the flags of the world would clearly symbolize the countries and the hands making the heart really show that we are all willing to love and help each other in times of need. Things like bookmarks really help to remind us of how we connect to other countries and how diverse the world really is. I really hope you all like the bookmark I made though it was quite simple!

Leora

For my bookmark I drew cats. This is because I didn't want to only show people in a certain way or only show one gender. Cats are a nice way to symbolise multiculturalism. They also show that we are all equal, even though we look, talk and dress differently. I know that I'm not the best artist in the world, but I hope that you like my bookmark anyway.

Eve





My Harmony Day bookmark features a fun twist on the well recognised LGBTQ+ rainbow, with a rainbow of skin tones replacing the traditional bright colours. I depict four women of differing backgrounds standing together as a symbol of unity to represent the true meaning of Harmony Day.

Lana

My artwork represents different country's national flowers from various continents of the world. I was inspired to create this piece as I am interested in the flora that spans across the earth's ecosystems which are not just available in Australia. These flowers cannot coexist together outside of their natural habitat, using gouache paint and white gel pen I intertwined the flowers to exist in one place simultaneously. In order to highlight the beauty of these country's natural environments, the flowers overlapping each other mimics a symbolic garden, each blossoming together in harmony.

Lauren

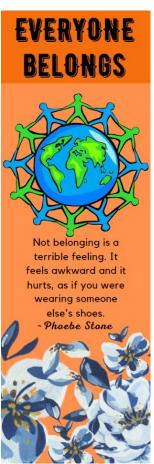




Congratulations to our six winners and one Special Award winner- Lauren Year 12!



By Daniela Year 7



By Ila Year 8



By Alesha Year 11

Japanese

Learning languages at Randwick Girls' High School has been a wonderful experience. I have learnt Japanese for two years and it has been my favourite subject for a while. The language teachers are very calm and great at teaching, they are methodical in how they work through the curriculum. Learning languages has been great and to all the language teachers ありがとございます!

Samantha

Learning languages at this school has been an excellent subject to learn for my three years at Randwick Girls' Highschool and it is a subject with brilliant teachers. Learning languages at this school is a wonderful experience for me and other students.

Gabrielle

As a child, I've always enjoyed Japanese culture and went overseas to Japan many times. Learning the culture and language itself helped me understand it better than I did before.

Catlinh

They're Back

Dear Parents/Guardians/Carers

It has come to our attention that some students in the school may have head lice and we seek your cooperation in checking your child's hair this week.

Head lice do not transmit infectious diseases – they are transmitted by having head to head contact with someone who has head lice. You may be reassured to know that head lice are commonly found in places other than at school. Head lice are common in school-aged children and are the most adaptable of creatures. They have survived living solely on humans for 10,000 years!!!!

What can you do?

We seek your cooperation in checking your child's hair and in those instances where head lice or eggs are found, treating your child's hair with pharmaceutical remedies that are easily available over the counter or checking with your local GP in order to prevent its spread.

When can my child return to school?

Health regulations requires that where a child has head lice, that child should not return to school until the day after appropriate treatment has started.

Your co-operation and support in this matter would be gratefully appreciated in the interests of the wellbeing of our students and staff.





We acknowledge and pay respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



AGM Highlights

Thanks to all who joined us for the AGM and General Meeting on Monday night!

Congratulations to our 2022 elected representatives:

Office Bearers

President - Lucy Bloom Vice President - Shelley Borer Treasurer - Venkat Krishnan Secretary - Leanne Bergan

Executive Committee

Andrew Babbage Deborah Boswell Irene Nordon Natalie Martin

Sincere thanks to our outgoing Committee members:

Rachel Daly (Secretary), Andrew Babbage (Treasurer), Serena Edstein and Vickie Whittaker



Year 7 Meet & Greet

We are excited to be able to meet & greet our new Year 7 families this Monday 28th March!

16:30 - 17:30 "Meet the Teachers" at the MPC Followed by P&C sponsored afternoon tea

Here's how you can help:

- come and welcome new families
- donate \$ for catering (ref: "Yr 7 Event")
- donate items
- help set up/pack up
- https://forms.office.com/r/jdzfAQHWuj



Sign up to our mailing list for Agenda, Minutes & News







Randwick Girls' High School P&C Association

Here is how RGHS families can help:





Donate vouchers or cash to the Front Office "Vouch for Lismore"



Make a Payment via RGHS Ref: "Vouch for Lismore"

https://randwickg-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/





Donate to Givit

https://www.givit.org.au/appeals/givit-together/nsw-flood-appeal





Donate to Foodbank

https://www.foodbank.org.au/nsw-flood-update/?state=nsw-act



All donations received by RGHS will be dispersed to The Rivers Secondary College which is coordinating the northern rivers flood appeal for affected schools in the area. https://lismore-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/

Youth Autumn School Holiday Activities 2022 (1/2)

All events are held in person at the library. Bookings essential.

Digital Illustration Workshop

Monday 11 April, 10.30am – 1.30pm, Lionel Bowen Library, Maroubra For school years 4-8. Cost: \$5.

Bring your imagination to life in vivid detail while developing your digital art skills! Learn the fundamentals of digital illustration using the industry's leading software Adobe Photoshop with a Wacom tablet.



Monday Makers: Drawing Machines

Monday 11 April, 2.30 – 4.30pm, Lionel Bowen Library, Maroubra For ages 12–18 years. Free!

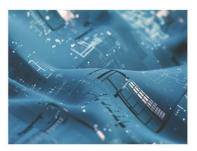
Make machines that can produce their own unexpected artworks! Your machine might make elegant geometrical lines or be brilliantly messy. At the end of the session, you'll take home your machine and its creations.



Wearable Circuits

Tuesday 12 and 19 April, 2.00 – 4.00pm, Lionel Bowen Library, Maroubra For ages 12–18 years. Cost: \$5.

Learn how to design and sew a wearable circuit using conductive thread, fabric, lights and other components in this 2-session workshop. Create a badge, cuff, or any kind of wearable accessory you can think of that will light up your outfit!



Bookings are essential:

Scan the QR code or visit www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/library

Enquiries: 9093 6400







Youth Autumn School Holiday Activities 2022 (2/2)

All events are held in person at the library. Bookings essential.

Australian Poetry Slam Workshop and Heat

Workshop:

Tuesday 12 April, 6.00 – 8.00pm, Margaret Martin Library, Randwick For ages 12-25. Free!

Work with a talented spoken word performance coach to create your own performance piece and find new ways to express your ideas. Join in some theatre and writing games to spark your imagination.

Poetry Slam Heat:

Wednesday 13 April, 6.00 – 8.30pm, Margaret Martin Library, Randwick For all ages. Free!

Join the audience or sign up to perform at our Poetry Slam Heat. It doesn't matter whether you're a first-time performer or a spoken word aficionado – just rock up, ready to write down your name and give a breath-taking performance. Great prizes are awaiting the top three performances!



Introduction to Python

Thursday 21 April, 10.30am – 12.00pm, Lionel Bowen Library, Maroubra For ages 12–18 years. Free!

This fun workshop will provide high school students with a simple introduction to concepts in coding, with syntax that is easy to learn and understand. Topics covered include 'If statements', 'Variables' and 'Loops'. The workshop is run by *CSESoc CompClub*, a group of passionate computing students from UNSW who focus on ensuring quality technological education is accessible and inclusive for all high school students.



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Scan the QR code or visit www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/library

Enquiries: 9093 6400





