



Para Hills High School Newsletter

From the Principal... Janette Scott



Thanks very much to all parents and carers who came to school on Tuesday 4 September for Course Counselling Day. It was great to see the intense conversations taking place among parents, students and teachers about each student's future plans and their choices for 2019. There was a vibrant atmosphere in the school's Disability Unit where parents/carers came in to review students' goals and plans, to see displays of student work, and to meet many of the providers that assist young people with disabilities and their families.

Almost 200 parents/carers answered a survey on the day so we gathered a tremendous amount of feedback that represents the views of nearly half of the families in our school. The key points from the feedback are listed below. This has been considered by the school's leadership group and will be presented to Governing Council, teaching staff and used in our planning for 2019:

- 94% of parents were highly satisfied or satisfied with the school; 3% were unsure; 2% were unsatisfied; and 1% made no response to this question
- 80% of parents had seen the mid-term Snapshot reports and talked about them with their child; 20% had not seen them
- 83% thought that laptops made a difference to their child's learning and over 90% of students have internet access at home
- just over 40% of parents are using DayMap for information about their child (eg reports) and 30% are using Skoolbag for getting updates
- 82% of parents of Year 8 and 9 students believe that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) will be important for their child's future compared with 67% of parents of year 10-12 students
- 43% of parents use their child's diary quite often to communicate with teachers and the school about a range of things including absences
- 52% of parents want us to provide a hard copy diary in 2019; 33% electronic, 7% either and 8% made no response to this question.
- no major areas of improvement were identified, however 5% of parents commented that our communication with parents is an area that could be improved.

Well done to our Year 9 students whose mean scores in the NAPLAN tests for Reading, Numeracy, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation were Band 7. We were disappointed with their results in Writing and we are looking into those in more detail. The reports were posted to parents of year 9 students last week. Our Year 8-10 students have recently completed the PAT Reading and PAT Maths tests and we will get this data back in term 4. Teachers will be using both sets of data to support students to make as much progress as they can through the rest of this year.

Finally, a quick update about our major STEMWorks renovations. The focus for the last few weeks has been on the internal fittings and fixtures: carpets and other floor coverings have been laid; electrical and water services installed; joinery is being constructed; and the new roof on the Science building is almost completed. We are not absolutely sure when the builders will hand the buildings back to us but we are drafting plans to move equipment etc back during the second half of term 4. These great new learning spaces will be ready for use at the beginning of 2019.

DIARY

SACE Dance Exam	25/09/18
Governing Council Meeting	24/10/18
Life Ed Program begins	29/10/18
Year 12 Final Assembly	31/10/18
Boys & Girls 2nd HPV Vacc.	02/11/18

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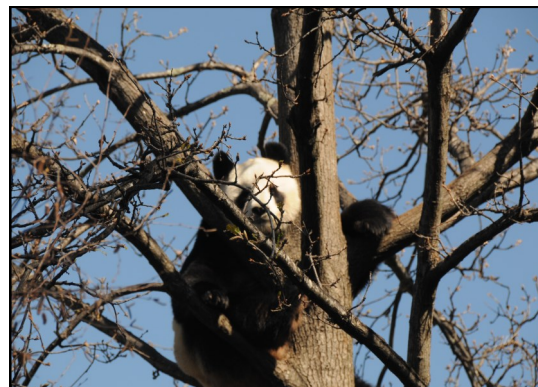
TERM 3 REPORTS

**will be handed to
students on
Friday 29 September and
available in DayMap that
day as well.**

**EARLY DISMISSAL
2.00PM FRIDAY
29 SEPTEMBER
TERM 4 BEGINS
MONDAY 15 OCTOBER**

STAGE 1 BIOLOGY ZOO TRIP

Our Year 11 Biology class has been studying ecology, which involved fieldwork to audit biodiversity on our campus. To enrich that experience, we visited the South Australian Museum's biodiversity exhibition and then engaged in a Threatened Species task at the Adelaide Zoo. Pre-service teacher Ms Mouvet taught the course and organised this excursion.



Dr Rhett Swanson
Science Coordinator



NASSA SCIENCE ENGINEERING STEM CHALLENGE

Following the success of the Maths Olympics, the Science CAT (curriculum area team) ran its first engineering challenge, in the library at Salisbury High School. We provided a junior team and a senior team of students who volunteered to participate in the competition. Students had no idea about the challenge beforehand; the idea was to simulate delivering food packages down a mountain using a flying fox rig.



Our junior team was looking really good, right up to the point where their package exploded! That happened to lots of teams and was a consequence of the steepness of the flying fox. Our senior team achieved their objectives and came in third overall. Our Science teachers, who put their own time into preparing for the event, working at the event and transporting students home, made it possible for our students to engage in this event. Everyone really enjoyed the evening, which will run again in Science Week next year.

Dr Rhett Swanson
Science Coordinator

COURSE COUNSELLING

During the afternoon and evening of Tuesday the 4th of September, over 85% of our students attended interviews with their Care Group teacher to select subjects for 2019.

Earlier during the term students had engaged in a range of information sessions and preparation activities during Care Group to support this process, and selected subjects from the new electronic Curriculum Guide.

With this information the school is currently looking to see what subjects we will offer in 2019, and matching our staffing needs for 2019 with the student choices. Planning is already underway to develop a timetable which students will be able to access on day one of next year.

It was great to see so many students and their parent/carers, and this gave the staff the chance to connect and discuss career paths and progress with a focus on the future. Many parents also participated in our annual school survey, giving us insight into what is working well and what we can improve within the school. As a result we are already looking at how we issue student laptops and our use of diaries and other forms of communication. (more on this next term).

Guy Harrison
Deputy Principal

ICE FACTOR

On Monday 17th September the ICE Factor team played in the Division 1 tournament. The Para Hills Outlawz played against Henley High School, Le Fevre and Bowden Brompton. The team won 4 games on the day and lost on two occasions. The Outlaws displayed outstanding skills and played as a cohesive team.

Overall the team finished in second place losing in a shootout against Henley High School. I would like to congratulate all students involved: Brandon Gilbert, Fatima Hashimi, Cameron Love, Sam Donnellan, Billy Kirby, Jordan Lawrence, Dakota Hampton, Marqis Astley Cervantes, Scott Grubner and Alen Medak and Joshua Norman.

I commend these students for their passion, efforts and development in ICE factor and have every confidence that they will further develop and improve.

Foti Massinis
PE/ICE Factor Teacher



PAT TESTING IN 2018

In December 2014 the Minister for Education and Child Development announced a number of new moves to strengthen student performance in our schools. One of these strategies is the Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT). There are two tests: PAT-R (Reading) and PAT-M (Numeracy).

Every student from Year 3 to Year 10 undertakes two of these tests, one in Numeracy and the other in Literacy. These tests are very different to the NAPLAN tests. At Para Hills High School each Year 8 - 10 student will have recently completed the tests during an allocated class, with a few catching up this week if they were absent when the test was administered.

The main aim of PAT is to provide information to teachers on the strengths and needs of their students. PAT tests will provide teachers with objective information for setting realistic learning goals and planning effective programs. They will also provide students with information to inform their learning and goal setting, as well as providing our school with information to measure improvement during each year of schooling and over a number of years.

The key feature of the PAT Tests is that there is a common scale for comparison covering the range of year levels that allows progress to be tracked from year to year. The PAT Tests are actually an assessment for learning. The results of the PAT tests are used by teachers for learning design.

The tests will indicate what skills students have mastered, what skills they are consolidating and even more importantly what skills they need to be educationally stretched.

Guy Harrison
Deputy Principal

SACE DANCE EXAM

PARA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL AND TURNING POINT DANCE
Present
SACE DANCE EXAM

El Movimiento Es Vida Movement is Life

GOLDEN GROVE ARTS CENTRE

Tuesday 25th September 2018

7pm

Cost - \$10



LOST PROPERTY

If your child has lost any school clothing, please come and check through our lost property.

DRAMA - The Mousetrap

The senior Drama class presented Agatha Christie's 'The Mouse Trap' over two consecutive nights in the Gym on the 30th and 31st of August. The rehearsal process began at the beginning of Term 2. Students participated in after school rehearsals and holiday workshops to produce a fantastic performance over both nights. Congratulations to the talented senior Drama class of 2018 for a memorable performance. On behalf of the senior Drama class, I would like to thank the PE faculty for allowing us to use the Gym as well as staff, family and friends for their support.

Cleonikki Kefalas
Drama Teacher



TRY A TRADE

A group of 12 boys and 6 girls recently participated in a Try a Trade Day organised by the Peer Training Group. The students had taster sessions in plumbing, refrigeration mechanical and electrical and data communication. Their engagement was fantastic for the entire day and it was great to see each and every student trying out the trades, asking questions about the trades, and gaining an insight into the job the opportunities around these trades. Every student left the day one step closer to being clearer about their career aspirations and pathways. Plumbing was a popular choice with a number of students now aspiring towards learning this trade. Several students have now decided to apply for a VET course next year in one of these trades so that they can gain a Certificate 3 in a trade as well as successfully complete their SACE Certificate. The feedback from several students was that they feel really excited about the next year or two at school because they can still study while they learn a trade at the same time. Well done to all those students that attended. Here are some pictures of them hard at work!

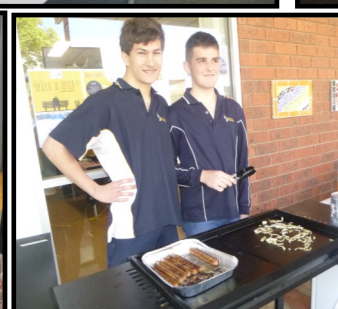
Mathew Rotolo (Year Level Manager)



DISABILITY UNIT OPEN DAY

The results are in.....

The new name for our ASD Class is The S.T.A.R (Students Transforming Abilities Room)
Thank you to everyone who voted.



Thank you to everyone for making our Open Day a huge success.

Congratulations to all our winners!

- ◆ The winner of the Lucky Square (a family pass to the Royal Adelaide Show) was Ja-Rule Cowrie.
- ◆ The Learning Journey Booklet competition winners: Chloe Taylor *(Yr 8) who won a special prize pack donated by Special Olympics.
- ◆ Tim Ung (Yr 10) who won a \$25 JB HI FI Voucher donated by My Supports.

Emma Ramke (Unit Senior Leader)

MONEY RAISED

- ◆ \$118.65 for the Hutt Street Centre (walk a mile in my boots).
- ◆ \$118.65 for Rural Aid to go to our farmers



Congratulations Caitlin Vernon (Yr 11) who planned and organised the fundraising.

RAFFLE TICKETS are still available. \$1 per ticket with all monies going towards our courtyard re-development.

OPEN DAY FEEDBACK

"Congratulations for Open Day, it was great and the students really enjoyed themselves. I feel very privileged to be doing placement in the Unit".

Helena (Art Therapist)

"Very enjoyable—great atmosphere and lots of activities to keep everyone interested and engaged".

"It was incredible! So many organisations all there to help make the next stage of our students lives easier! Help find the pathway that is right for them".

"I thoroughly enjoyed the whole day".

Unit Staff

PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

25 parent surveys were completed.

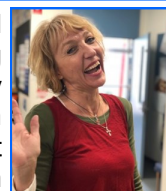
68% are **highly satisfied** with the Disability Unit.
32% are **satisfied** with the Disability Unit



Emma Ramke
Unit Senior Leader

ART THERAPIST

Hi, my name is Helena and I am a student studying Transpersonal Art Therapy at the IKON Institute. I am currently on placement at Para Hills High School in the Disability Unit. I am available for all students and teachers at the school and you find me in the Interception room. The creative process involved in the making of art is healing and life enhancing. Expressing the metaphors we use through art offers the opportunity to explore our subconscious and discover a new way of seeing and being in the world. Hope to see as many of you as possible.



Helena Cuch
Art Therapist

DISABILITY UNIT OPEN DAY

TO ALL THE AGENCIES THAT ATTENDED ON THE DAY

We appreciate your support to the school and our families.

Mobo Group
Novita
SCOSA Barkuma
Empowering
Futures Campbell Page
Orana

Shine SA
IIFP
Cycle of Change
Minda
Autism SA
Uniting Communities
Bedford Industries

Feros Care
Jump in Supports
My Supports
Anglicare SA
Special Olympics
CBS
HCA

To all the businesses that donated items for our fundraising raffle and to help with the day - We thank you for your donation and look forward to meeting our fundraising target.

Kmart—Ingle Farm
Woolworths—Kesters Road
Mollydooker Winery
Anytime Fitness Para Hills
Price Attack—Ingle Farm
Jan Michael Hill Jewellery
SAGE Hotel
Woolworths—Salisbury
Drakes—Salisbury
The Meat and Cheese Club
Anne & Geoff Rosewarne
Woolworths—The Heights
Blackebys

Greggs Keggs
RRT Engineering
John Durrant
KW Wholesalers
Adelaide Crows
Alan Bell
Campbells Cash & Carry
Coles Distribution Centr
Royal Adelaide Show
Mobo Group
Special Olympics
My Supports
Foodland—Fairview Green
CBS

Emma Ramke
Unit Senior Leader

VIVO

In the Special Education unit each student and staff member are signed up to a program called VIVO. It's an online system where staff can reward students with points. These points can then be used to purchase items from our VIVO shop. Students are rewarded points based on the 3 values of our school – Responsibility, Respect and Rigour.

Students can earn points for many things such as having the correct uniform, helping others without being asked, completing work, good attendance and cooperating with teachers. They say you should give 10 positives for every negative – VIVO is a fantastic way to achieve this. We have been able to use this data of positive rewards in our One Child One Plan reviews as well.

Here's what some of our students think:

"Vivo is good because students can buy stuff they need." Caitlin, Year 11

"Items are pretty cheap- It's good for the students because it gives them a reward." James, Year 11

"The points are awesome." Bevan, Year 11



Kelsey Ulstrup
Unit SSO



Community Corner



Are you the parent
Of a teen or pre-teen girl?
Come and join us or watch our live webcast.

Dr Justin Coulsin, nationally recognised parenting speaker and author will talk about:

- what it's like to be a girls in today's world
- things girls worry about, how to support them and give them hope
- how to stay connected with your daughter when it seems she doesn't want to
- what this means for raising boys

Tuesday 6 November
When: 7.00– 9.00pm
Where: City Rooms
Adelaide Convention Centre

Register to attend in person
or view the live webcast at:

Online:
<http://parentingsa.eventbrite.com.au>
Phone: 8303 1660
Email: health.parentingsa@sa.gov.au

This seminar is designed for an adult audience.

Presented by Parenting SA. For
more information about raising
children and teenagers visit
www.parenting.sa.gov.au or
www.chy.com

Helping parents be their best



Government of
South Australia



Could \$500 help you with High school costs?

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|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ♦ laptops & tablets | ♦ specialist subjects |
| ♦ uniforms & shoes | ♦ books & supplies |
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To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at

Contact
Michelle Macarthy
your local Saver Plus Coordinator
Phone:
0409 986 245
Email:
Michelle.Macarthy@thesmithfamily.com.au
Web:
www.saverplus.org



Tilley Reserve, Surrey Downs
October to March
Saturday from 8.45am
Ages 3-17
First Home Meet—13 October
www.gglac.org.au



Running, Jumping, Throwing, Walking, Hurdling

Parent Information and Membership Pack Collection
Saturday 9.00am—11.00am
29th September 2018



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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