



**PARA HILLS
HIGH SCHOOL**
Your vision Your future



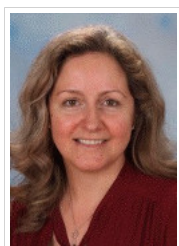
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6 December 2019

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



2019 is almost over and as it wraps up, it provides a wonderful opportunity for reflection on how the year has passed and shape our aspirations for next year.

This has been a fantastic year for achievement at Para Hills High School. From a significant growth in our NAPLAN scores, excellent improvement in our SACE results, showing that our staff and students are very skilled at supporting individual growth and pathways, to numerous victories in sports and the arts, great progress was made by the overwhelming majority of our students.

On Wednesday 4th December I was very lucky to congratulate a large number of our Year 8-12 students on their wonderful achievements this year. A record number of students were awarded for their commitment, dedication and diligence in their studies and contribution to the community in 2019. I look forward to congratulating the Year 12s again on the 17th December when their SACE results come in.

Whilst we often celebrate the achievements of students, teachers don't always get the thanks they deserve and I hope you will help me change that at the school. I wish to thank all our staff, students and parents for their wonderful contribution to the school community. I urge every one of you, at this time of year, to take the time to think about someone who has made a difference to you and express your gratitude for their support.

We have, as usual at this time of year, a few announcements regarding our staff. I am thrilled to congratulate the following new appointments at the school:

- **Ms. Naumann** - our new Science Coordinator
- **Ms. Mattis** - our new EALD/ Literacy/ Transition Coordinator
- **Ms. Ferguson** - our new Japanese teacher.

- **Ms. Alder** – our new permanent teacher in the Disability Unit
- **Ms. Dunn** – our new permanent teacher in the Disability Unit.

I will provide you with more information on the profiles of our staff in the first newsletter of next year.

Sadly, we have to say goodbye to a number of our staff too.

After many years at Para Hills High School, Dr Swanson is retiring. Over the many years he has dedicated to Para Hills, Dr Swanson has held many hats: he has been a Science Coordinator, Year level manager, Care group teacher, a leader and proud ambassador for STEM and a great support to his team, colleagues and students at the school. We will miss him and wish him a great retirement.

We are still awaiting confirmation of some of our staffing, but in the interim, we would like to thank our wonderful team of contract teachers who have been with us this year: Mrs Alder, Miss Beer, Miss Cassar, Ms Dosky, Miss Hall, Miss Juros, Ms Lewis, Mr McLoughlin, Miss Mouvet, Miss Nairn, Mrs Nazzaro, Mr Phillipps, Mr N Rotolo.

We will be starting 2020 with a few changes in the way we deliver education at the school too. Thanks to the changes in the timetable, our seniors school students have improved opportunities to complete more of their SACE credits earlier in their schooling, giving them more time and energy to put their best foot forward in Year 12.

Our Year 10 Ignite team have been busily planning a new section of the curriculum, in collaboration with their teachers, to provide better opportunities for our students to focus on what they enjoy most. They will be providing you a full overview of their plans for Semester 2 in our first newsletter of 2020.

We will be starting 2020 with a strong focus on learning and would like to minimise distractions. Unnecessary conversations about uniform or phones should be reduced to a minimum if all our students remember to follow the uniform and mobile phone policies. Please use the summer holidays to make sure you start the year with a full uniform kit, as detailed on our website and in the attached flyer. If for whatever reason you struggle

with that, please get in touch and we can help you get things in place before the start of the year.

I would also like to remind you of our new start and finish times next year:

Day	Student finish time	Staff development/ meeting time
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	3:10 pm	
Wednesday	2:20 pm	2:30 - 17:00

Whatever our journey has been this year, it is important to remember that it does not have to determine what 2020 will bring. January 2020 is an opportunity for a new start. As a matter of fact, every day is an opportunity for a new start and for another step to bring you closer to what you'd like your future to be.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you this year and I look forward having another fantastic year in 2020. Until then, I would like to wish you all a wonderful holiday. See you next year!

DIARY

06/12/19	Reports posted home
09/12/19	Years 8 & 9 Activities Week Begins
13/12/19	End of Term. Early Dismissal 2.00pm
28/01/20	Term 1 Begins

PARA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL 2020 MATERIALS AND SERVICES CHARGES

PHHS charges parents the standard sum plus a voluntary payment to support replacing books in the library and access to equipment. Invoices along with additional information will be sent out in January 2020. The 2020 this charge is outlined below:

- **Standard Sum** \$322
- **Voluntary Sum** \$ 68

The total charge is \$390 per year as approved by the Governing Council at the November 2019 meeting.

Payment Options

- Payment in full to the finance office at the school
- Payments via a direct debit instalment agreement. This is to be negotiated with the finance team at the school.

School Card

- The SA Government has increased the threshold for eligibility for School Card for the 2018 school year by approximately \$20,000. This meant that more families are eligible for this financial support. The finance team will send out an A Form to all families with the 2020 invoices when they were posted in the middle of January. If you are unsure if you are eligible, please apply! The school offers options for instalment payments if you are not eligible
- **SCHOOL CARD APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE LODGED EACH CALENDAR YEAR.** The forms are available from January online and via form lodged at the school, and close the second week in November annually.

Centre Pay

- Those families that receive Centrelink payments are able to set up direct payments from their benefit to make payment to the school.

Should you require any further information do not hesitate to contact the finance team at the school.

DISABILITY UNIT NEWS



A big thank you to SAVERS, Tea Tree Plus, who have donated books, cushions and rugs to set up reading in our classrooms and couches for our Counselling spaces.



Also, we would like to thank them for donations of rugs and outdoor flexible seating to help with creative activity spaces in our courtyard. We especially like to thank Sigrid Schanz and Jason Neale for their support and coordination.

Para Hills High School Disability Unit



Christmas Party

As Christmas is getting closer, the Unit were invited to the Ladies of Variety Christmas Party. This was held in the Pavilion at Wayville Showgrounds on Wednesday November 27 with approximately 2000 others in attendance from various schools across the state.

Students had the opportunity to get tattoos, have their faces painted, dance, sit in a fire engine, a police car and catch up with friends and staff from their previous school. There were a variety of characters roaming the room for students to have photos taken with, and if they were lucky enough, they were interviewed by TV news readers for channel 7, 9 or 10.

Food and drinks were flowing with the chatter of students enjoying the atmosphere of the day. There were even bigger smiles on their faces when ice creams were handed out. At the end of the party, all students were given a present from Ladies of Variety.

Ms Wanganeen
SSO Disability Unit

International Day of People with Disabilities



On Tuesday 3rd December, Para Hills High School celebrated International Day for People with Disability. All classes watched an inspirational speech by Dylan Alcott and met in the Unit courtyard at recess and lunch for games, music, giveaways, milkshakes and a BBQ lunch.

The raffle draw for our Major Raffle occurred at lunch on International Day for people with Disability.

The winner of a family holiday to Queensland (including flights, accommodation, entry to theme parks and food credit) was John Azzolini from Hallett Cove.

The winner of the seller's prize was Kathryn Jarrett.

Total monies raised was \$1,300.

Ms Ramke
Senior Leader Disability Unit



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL SECONDARY TRAINING ACADEMY

On the 20th and 21st of November our SAASTA Academy participated in the annual SAASTA Shield carnival. The carnival is the culminating event for the SAASTA Shield in which students have accumulated points for their work and attendance during the semester. The carnival involved a Netball tournament hosted by Netball SA and a Challenge Day.

After getting off to a slow start in the Netball Carnival, our senior players demonstrated fantastic leadership and led us to the Grand Final in which we beat Port Augusta by a point. The next day students participated in a series of challenges ranging from memory and survival tasks set by the Australian Defence Force, to blind kicking competitions with Andrew McLeod and the Adelaide Crows. Although we did not take home maximum points on the day, the group worked effectively as a team and were able to complete all of the challenges successfully.

Overall in the SAASTA Shield, the North-East academy finished 4th in the state which is a commendable effort and reflects the students hard work and effort over the year. The carnival caps off a successful year in which we have maintained 100% task completion and our year 12 students have successfully achieved their SACE.

I have been fortunate enough to work with a group of Indigenous students who are not only fantastic to work with, but have made my role in running the program a continually rewarding and enjoyable experience. I am already looking forward to next year and working with some of the emerging leaders in our Indigenous community.

Mr Palmer
SAASTA/ Aboriginal Education Coordinator



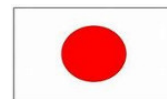
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Japanese

Term 4 in Japanese class

Year 10 restaurant visit

In week 6 the Year 10 Japanese class went to Sushi Planet at Modbury for lunch. The chef had set up a sushi making workshop for us to participate in. We then ordered lunch and enjoyed some delicious traditional Japanese food.





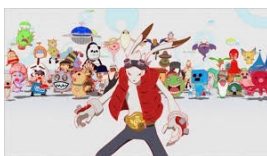
Year 8 Onigiri making workshop

During the Year 8 Japanese classes in week 7, the Head Chef from Sushi Planet came to do a cooking demonstration with the students. We were able to make Onigiri, which are Japanese rice balls. We took lots of photos of them and compared all the different shapes that had been created. Our task that went with this, was in line with the #onigiriacion campaign which raises money and awareness for poverty around hunger. All the students had a great time engaging in this task and learning how a simple rice ball is the Australian equivalent to the vegemite sandwich.



Anime club

This term for Anime club we have watched some episodes of Dragon Ball, as well as the movie, 'Summer Wars'. Summer Wars was produced in 2009 and tells the story of Kenji Koiso, a timid eleventh-grade math genius who is taken to Ueda by twelfth-grade student, Natsuki Shinohara to celebrate her great-grandmother's 90th birthday. However, he is falsely implicated in the hacking of a virtual world by a sadistic artificial intelligence named Love Machine. Kenji must repair the damage done, and find a way to stop the rogue computer program from causing any further chaos.



Christmas in Japan fun facts

Christmas in Japan is usually spent eating KFC. Fun and true, the first KFC store opened in Nagoya during the 1970s. Now days, 10% of their sales comes from just one weekend. It all started thanks to Takeshi Okawara, the manager of the first KFC in the country. Shortly after it opened in 1970, Okawara woke up at midnight and jotted down an idea that came to him in a dream: a "party barrel" to be sold on Christmas. The marketing campaign took off, and now generations celebrate Christmas with their traditional meal at KFC. Check out one of their TV commercials from 2015:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=umHfb1JHovA>



Reminder about the 2021 trip to Japan.

Don't forget **ALL** students continuing Japanese next year have the opportunity to travel to Japan in 2021!!! We will start information sessions in Term 1 2020 and have plenty of time to get organized. A large portion of the trip will be covered by the Grant we have won to support language learning in schools. Some of the fun activities we will get to do in Japan include: Visiting the Osaka Castle, going to the Ramen Noodle Museum, participating in a Japanese cooking class, checking out a local Karaoke competition, spending the day at Universal Studios.



ARTS

Arts For All Project

Thanks again to the Arts for All Project, our year 9 and 10 dance students had the opportunity to participate in a Hip Hop dance workshop. Presented by Nikki Ashby who is a descendant of the Kaurna and Narrunga peoples from South Australia. Nikki has an outstanding professional background as a dancer, choreographer, director, actor, hip hop specialist and movement teacher. The Para Hills students had a fun lesson developing their skills and knowledge in this genre of dance.

Mrs Surman

Coordinator Arts and Culture



SPORT

School Sport 2019

Well done and thank you to all of the students who took part in the school sport program for 2019. It has been a busy

year, with many students out and enjoying being active every term. The PE faculty has really enjoyed seeing the skills you have learnt in classes being transferred to more serious competitions. We have entered approximately 30 different carnivals across the year, with multiple teams attending some of these. Some of the highlights included our 9/10 girls' team winning the tackle rugby competition and our Year 9 boys' finishing second at the beach soccer. The biggest achievement for the year in our program however was our performance at the Vista Athletics in Term 1. Despite being one of the smaller schools in the Group B competition, our students dominated across all year levels. We placed top 3 across all year levels, resulting in Para Hills being the overall B grade champions. While we didn't win or even place top 3 in many of the individual events across the day, it was the dedication and rigour demonstrated by our students to ensure that every event had a Para Hills competitor in it, earning participation points.

Thank you to all parents and caregivers who have helped support our program by allowing your child the opportunity to represent the school in Zone competitions. Without the support of parents, our sports program would not be able to run. We look forward to a strong 2020.

Lauren Semmens
Sports Coordinator



Year 8 Boys Beach Soccer



Year 9 Boys Beach Soccer



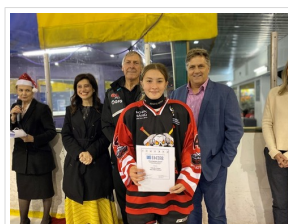
Girls tackle team

Ice Factor Tournament

Congratulations to the Outlawz who finished in third place at the Term 4 Ice Factor tournament. With only 3 players on the bench, the team were under pressure and tired all day. A special mention goes to Robert Drinkwater-Hall, who didn't get a break at all. As there were only two goalkeepers there for the day, he kindly volunteered to play all games so that the other teams wouldn't miss out. Congratulations to Tyson Bonnici and Taleesha Curnow for receiving Encouragement Awards.

I am very proud of the way this team has developed across the year and especially proud of the sportsmanship and teamwork they demonstrated at the tournament this term.

Mrs Semmens
Team Manager



MEET THE STAFF

Heather Long

Business Manager

I have been working at Para Hills High School for nearly 4 years and I came from Paralowie R-12 School. I have worked for the department since 1983 and started in Whyalla at Edward John Eyre High School. We moved to Ceduna in 1982 where I worked at Ceduna Area School and Kooniba Aboriginal School. Since moving to Adelaide in 1984 I have worked in a variety of metro primary, secondary and combined schools

I look after the school finances, the facilities and the support staff. I am part of the project team for the new performing arts centre and was involved with the STEM Renovation in Science and Maths.

Favourite Food	I like good food well cooked and served. I love smoked salmon but am a basic cook.
Favourite Movie	The Sixth Sense, X-Men, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit
Favourite Music	I love music from the 1960's including Herman's Hermits, The Beatles, and from the 1970's Jon English, and musical theatre sound tracks from all eras.

Pets	I have a marmalade cat called Gold Nugget and a white cat called Ace
Favourite Sport	I have been involved with Volleyball since I was 15 playing, coaching, refereeing and then running State League for 17 years. I am a life member of Volleyball SA.