

### WILEY PARK GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

April / Volume 1

2021



# *I am in charge of how I feel and today I am choosing happiness!*

## PRINCIPAL ADDRESS



#### Welcome

Welcome back to WPGHS for 2021. We are hopeful that this year will be safer and more settled for everyone following the disruptions caused by the onset of the COVID pandemic last year. Please be assured that our commitment to community safety and health education will continue throughout this year.

#### **Principal Retirement**

I would like to start this year by acknowledging the retirement of our wonderful Principal Mr Grahame Steigler-Peters. Grahame has served NSW public education with enthusiasm and passion throughout his extensive career. As Principal for the past 6 years, he has been a strong supporter our community, staff & in particular the wonderful young women of WPGHS. On behalf of the school and community, thank you Grahame and enjoy your well-earned retirement.

#### **School Organisation**

Since the commencement of 2021, Ms Agapitos and myself have shared 5 week blocks performing the role of Principal and our HT HSIE Ms Gemisi has been relieving Deputy Principal throughout this term. This will continue until the end of Term1, when hopefully we will be able to announce the appointment of a new Wiley Park Principal.

#### **New Behaviour Procedure**

During 2020, WPGHS implemented a new behaviour management system for our students. All students were taught about the new system and our expectations. Teachers are now contacting families earlier to express concerns about student behaviour and engagement in learning. We ask that you support these new procedures as teachers are genuinely concerned about your daughter/s and their success at school. If you have any concerns regarding your daughter's wellbeing please contact our vibrant Wellbeing team of Counsellors, Year Advisers and/or the Relieving HT Wellbeing Ms Bobokis.

#### Parent Teacher Evenings 2021

Recently we have been advised that parents will able to visit the school site for Parent teacher meetings and information events. We are really glad that we will be able to welcome you back onsite for 2021. Be assured that a COVID plan will be developed for every event to optimise community safety.

J Fitzpatrick (Rel. Principal)

## **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL** ADDRESS



Dear Parents and families, welcome back to 2021.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge our retired Principal, Mr Grahame Steigler-Peters for his contribution to the growth of the school and promotion of womens' education. He has been highly respected across the school community and now retired after 40 years of service to education. As Relieving Principal from weeks 1 to 5 of this term. I communicated to you through our schoolbytes system to keep you up to date with all the great developments and achievements of the school.

Welcome Year 7

Year 7 have settled in well and I am very pleased with their enthusiasm to learn and their positive energy. They are under the wonderful leadership of Ms D.

Ahmad as their Year Adviser.

#### **Congratulations to our HSC Students**

Once again the HSC results have been a great success. In the 2020 HSC, the top ATAR score was 92.4 awarded to Kashfi Mannan. Students received 5 x Band 6 and 54 x Band 5 results with Distinguished Achievers in: Music 1, Visual Arts and Legal Studies. I would like to congratulate all our teachers and HSC students for doing so well during a turbulent COVID year. Many of the Year 12 students have gone onto University and other careers. We are so very proud of this fine group of young women.

#### P&C

The first P&C meeting was held on Tuesday 16 February. It was wonderful to meet new parents and our existing P&C members to discuss the schools future directions and new Strategic Improvement Plan. Please remember to contact our wonderful CLOs Nga, Najah and Mary if you have any concerns. My thanks to our P&C President, Mrs Oied, the committee and our CLOs who all work so hard to connect our parents with the school.

#### The new WPGHS Strategic Improvement Plan 2021 -2024

Recently I invited you all to have your say about the future directions of the school by sending a survey to complete. Your feedback is very important to us and we have reflected on your recommendations. Staff and students were also surveyed to ensure whole school community input and consultation in decision making.

The new Strategic Improvement Plan is a 4 Year plan with 3 Strategic Directions:

Strategic Direction 1: Student Growth and Attainment

(literacy & numeracy)

Strategic Direction 2: Connected Quality Teaching (Cross Curriculum Connections and Quality Teaching) Strategic Direction 3: Collaborative Communities (Attendance, Wellbeing, Personalised Growth

#### **COVID 21 Intensive Support Initiative:**

The school was granted government funding called the COVID 21 Intensive Support Initiative to be used during 2021. The funding is aimed at supporting students in small group tutorials to improve their literacy and numeracy skills and impact of adjustments to learning during the working at home phase last year. I have used this funding to employ literacy and numeracy specialist teachers who will be working 5 rounds of five-week rotations targeting five students at a time to boost their literacy and numeracy skills. **SRC Congratulations** 

Congratulations to Sreya Reza School Captain, Fatma Arja Vice Captain and Fatima Daher Vice Captain and our SRC as our student ambassadors to the school for 2021.

I wish you all a great year ahead, Ms D. Agapitos

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL ADDRESS



Dear Parents and families,

Welcome back to 2021.

#### Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)

At Wiley Park Girls High School we strive to be SAFE RESPECT-FUL LEARNERS. This term, our PB4L team has continued to plan lessons and events designed to inform our whole school community of the school's expectations with regards to behaviour.

We ask our families to support the school by ensuring your daughters; arrive at school on time, wear the correct full uniform (either sports or base uniform) and understand they are responsible for the school environment and have their phone turned off and in their bag while at school.

#### Uniform

As Term 1 ends and when we return in Term 2, winter will be upon sooner than we realise. Please support the school and ensure the girls wear the correct uniform every day. Juniors wear white shirt and green pants or skirt and black leather shoes and /or for sport, yellow polo shirt and green track pants and joggers. The senior girls wear a lemon shirt and green pants or skirt and black leather shoes. Only students who are studying SLR may wear the sports uniform.

Please don't forget, our school is always willing to help students and their families if they are finding the cost of new uniform pieces difficult. All you have to do is ask. So really there is no reason to be wearing hoodies and other types of clothing because of the cold.

#### Attendance

We have employed an Attendance Officer, Mr Rigby in 2021 (as part of our Strategic Improvement Plan) to support the school and families with attendance issues. It is very important to remember that attendance is compulsory every day and if for some reason your daughter is absent please contact the school to let them know. Also, please remember that school begins at 8.45 and that all students need to be at school by this time. We would appreciate your cooperation and support in this matter.

I wish everyone a wonderful and successful year.

Ms K Gemisi Relieving Deputy Principal

## **PB4L PROGRAM**

We at Wiley Park Girls High School uphold the standards of the PB4L which stand for **Positive Behaviour For Learning.** Our program adapts to the needs of our students and staff and focuses on understanding that:

#### Everyone has the right to:

- Feel safe, cared for and respected
- Learn and teach without disruption

#### Everyone is expected to:

- Be responsible for their own behaviour
- Respect the rights of others

Beginning of next term we are also very excited to reveal our new collection of PB4L signage that will be featured throughout the school. These signs positively engage with our students and staff to highlight the expectations of our PB4L program. Thank you to our staff for your dedication in bringing our program to life and in fabulous colour!



## **NAPLAN 2021**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Our school will be participating in NAPLAN Online between 11 and 21 May 2021.

In preparation for NAPLAN Online, our school will also be participating in practice tests between 22 March and 1 April. The practice test is a trial-run and key preparation activity for NAPLAN Online in May. It is not an assessment of student ability and the tests will not be marked.

Excessive preparation for NAPLAN Online is not recommended. Students can use the <u>public demonstration site</u> (<u>https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-</u> <u>demonstration-site</u>) to familiarise themselves with the types of questions and tools available in the NAPLAN Online tests.

If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact your child's teacher.



## **SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY**

All girls are expected to wear school uniform every day, this means at school and when travelling to and from school. They are also expected to wear full uniform on all occasions and when representing the school or on school activities.

#### **School Uniform Basics**

**Shirt:** A school shirt must be worn. The shirt can be a polo shirt or blouse and must have a collar and sleeves; it may have the school badge but no other markings. The shirt is a compulsory part of the uniform. Any shirt worn under the school shirt must be white.

Juniors (Years 7 – 10): White school shirt

#### Seniors (Years 11 – 12): Lemon school shirt

**Skirt or trousers:** Trousers must be full length office style for the senior and junior students. The trousers are not to be made of knit, stretchy fabric. Jeans, tights/leggings or tracksuit style pants are not acceptable to wear as school trousers. The green check skirt is not to be made of stretch knit fabric and must at least reach the knee. Year 12 students are permitted to wear the special Year 12 jersey, which they have designed in collaboration with their Year Adviser. However, the school shirt is still required to worn under the jersey.

**Shoes:** should be black leather covered school shoes. For safety reasons they must be completely enclosed. Open topped shoes, scuffs, sandals, or thongs are not permitted at any time. Shoes should not have raised soles or heels that could lead to an injury.

Socks/Stockings: socks must be white. Stockings can be black or flesh coloured.

**Hats and Scarves:** Students are encouraged to wear sun hats when outdoors in the sun. The school has a green and yellow sun hat available at uniform suppliers. Head scarves are to be plain black in colour. Jelbabs are not part of the school uniform.

#### **Sports Uniform**

The sports uniform consists of a yellow and green sports shirt, bottle green shorts or tracksuit pants with appropriate shoes. Students are expected to change for all PE classes OR the sports uniform may be worn on the day a student has sport and/or when representing the school in sporting activities.

**Sport Days:** The full school sport uniform may be worn to and from school only on the days the student has sport. On these days, students either wear the full school uniform or full sport uniform – NOT a mixture.

**Note:** Senior students who do not study SLR are not permitted to wear sports uniform as an alternate uniform.

## **MOBILE PHONE POLICY**

Students are expected to have their mobile phones **TURNED OFF** and **IN THEIR** BAGS from the moment they enter school. This also includes headphones and other personal technological devices.

Wiley Park Girls High School is committed to the creation of a safe and respectful environment for all staff and students. We acknowledges that students may need to be in possession of a mobile phone at school for reasons relating to their safety in travelling to and from school. If students are required to contact home, they are advised to visit the office who can call home for the student.

There are a range of technologies available today that when incorporated appropriately into lessons can enhance learning. When these technologies are misused by students they can be very disruptive to teaching and learning and cause other problems such as:

- Bullying and harassment
- Peer conflict
- Distractions from learning
- Cheating in tests or exams
- Theft or damage



#### **Procedure**

If students are using mobile phones we have a three step procedure to ensure students are following our rules and polices.

**Step One:** Students who don't respond to the rule reminder will have their phone confiscated and given to the Deputy Principal. It can be collected at the end of the day. **Step Two:** Phone is confiscated for a second time, given to Deputy Principal and parents called. Parents collect the phone and attend a meeting with the Deputy Principal where the rules will be explained. A warning of suspension will be given to the family and student.

**Step Three:** Failure to uphold the rules will be viewed as persistent disobedience and will result in suspension of the student.

### YEAR 7

What a great start to the year! It has been a pleasure to watch our Year 7 students grow into respectful members of the WPGHS community.

#### Transition Days

We started the year off with a bang! Ms C. Saisanis did an amazing job organising Day One and Two of 2021. Year 7 had the opportunity to explore our school and meet their teachers. They played ball games with our P.E teachers and became little "smarties" in a very sweet Mathematics workshop. Year 7 were also lucky enough to enjoy two Science experiment shows put on by our resident scientists, Mr Henstock and Ms Southern. Ms D. Saisanis also ran a super fun workshop for our girls who loved exploring the library and all it has to offer. *Fusion* youth workers helped our students get to know each other with two stimulating icebreaker workshops. At the end of the Transition Days, our Year 7 students were exhausted but excited to officially begin their high school adventure. Each student was given a free book-pack containing everything they need to make their first year of high school a successful one.

#### First Grade Meeting and SRC elections

Our first grade meeting was run by Onisa Angelwin and Houda Elcheikh. During this meeting, Year 7 students elected Amal Arja, Tamara Jazevska and Rayann Hadid to represent them in the Student Representative Council. These girls have already shown excellent leadership skills and are always ready to help their Year 7 peers as well as their teachers. Congratulations girls!

#### Peer Support

Peer Support Day was a massive success and Year 7 enjoyed getting to know out Year 10 students. They participated in many activities and games which required teamwork and communication. Our students also left their hand print in our school's new Aboriginal learning space. A big thank you to Ms Southern for making this day possible.

#### Stem Day

In Week 5, Year 7 were involved in STEM day, organised by Ms Lavite and run by our Science, TAS and Mathematics teachers. The day consisted of students having to construct a parachute which would be able to safely deliver a fragile egg from the third floor to the ground floor. The focus was to highlight the intricacy of safely delivering food and resources to affected community members during the recent bushfires. Our students thoroughly enjoyed this learning experience and the life lessons which came with it.

#### **Vaccinations**

Our students were very brave in Week 6 when they received their first high school vaccinations. A big thank you to Ms Sari and our Library staff for providing lollipops and helping our girls stay strong and brave.

#### <u>Big Fish</u>

In Week 7, our Year 7 participated in *Big Fish Little Fish*, a programme designed to prepare them for the challenges of high school. Natalie from *Human Connections* spoke about mental wellbeing and provided the girls with coping strategies to help combat selfdoubt and stress. Our students were very engaged and benefited greatly from the workshop.

With all these exciting events, Year 7 remained busy and focused in the classroom in all subjects and have enjoyed studying a range of topics. Each classroom teacher is working closely with their class to continue to build the skills they need to grow into well-informed young women.

I look forward to seeing Year 7 continue to thrive in 2021!

Ms D. Ahmad



Thank you Big Fish, Little Fish



Our Year 7 representatives!



### YEAR 8

Hello year 8,

It has been a very busy year so far. I am very pleased to say that the majority of year 8 students have been working very well so far. Many students have been collecting their merit awards and handing them in to achieve silver awards. Keep up the excellent effort. I can foresee that many students are well on their way to achieve the Principal's award before the end of the year.

Year 7 and 8 both were entertained and informed by the talented actors from Brainstorm productions on appropriate use of social media in week 7 this term. There was much valuable advice to take from this, but girls make sure you are very careful with what you post on social media. Think before you post.

Half yearly exams are coming up and it is very important that you remain focused during the teachers' explanations and you do your very best to complete all your class work and homework.

For your exams remember:

- 1. To start your revision early
- 2. Ask your teacher for help, if there is something you don't understand

3. Don't forget to come to Maths club on every Wednesday second half of lunch (for extra Maths help).

Finally, year 8, I would like to remind everyone to make sure you go to class on time and to take out books and school diary at the start of each lesson.

Thank you all,

Mrs Pampalis

### YEAR 9

It has been a great start to 2021. Year 9 have well and truly settled into the new year. We are delighted to announce our SRC representatives for 2021. Congratulations to Hania Almas, Munazzah Fatima, Yasmine Kaddafi, Zaynab Abdul Wahed. These students were elected by their peers and teachers to represent WPGHS at school events, within and outside the school. Good luck to our year 9 representatives!

Congratulations to Jamila Akkari who participated and represented Year 9 in the swimming carnival. Jamila came 2<sup>nd</sup> place in freestyle, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in breaststroke and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in backstroke. Year 9 are also looking forward to participating in the Athletics Carnival in Week 10. We cannot wait to see all our girls in competitive mode, trying their very best and having lots of fun.

Our Year 9 students have been fortunate enough to choose elective subjects this year. Subject choices include Commerce, Food Technology, Music, Drama Physical Activity and Sport and Visual Arts. These subjects give our students avenues for choice and allow them to study topics which they enjoy and can thrive in.

Term 1 was also busy in the classroom whereby Year 9 participated in a range of engaging activities in the classroom. Our Year 9 STEM class had a blast designing and coding robots and completing coding missions. Year 9 Music class worked on incorporating ICT in music, using the program Band Lab to make electronic music. The girls really liked using this program! In Food Technology, the girls had an opportunity to apply theory to practice and cooked up a storm! The girls enjoyed cooking many dishes that represented their cultural background. In Drama, the girls partook in a comedy workshop whereby they created a comedy script. They were given the opportunity to practice and perform their pieces in front of their peers. All their performances were entertaining to say the least! Overall, Year 9 loved their practical lessons and did a fanatic job participating in classroom activities. I look forward to seeing Year 9 thrive in Term 2!

In Term 2, the students will be undertaking the NAPLAN tests in Literacy and Numeracy. WPGHS Wishes all the best to our students. Keep up the great work Year 9!

Ms N. Ahmad





### YEAR 10

Welcome students and congratulations for entering Year 10. This is the last year where many subjects are compulsory and students will need to complete the classwork and assessments for those subjects to be eligible for their ROSA. The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) issues the Record of School Achievement (RoSA) to eligible students who leave school before completing the Higher School Certificate (HSC). The Ro-SA is useful to students leaving school prior to the HSC because they can show it to potential employers or places of further learning.

#### **Minimum Standards Test**

Students will need to achieve Level 3 or 4 in short online reading, writing and numeracy tests of skills for everyday life to meet the HSC minimum standard. They get the first opportunity to sit these tests in year 10.

#### **Subject Selection**

Choosing subjects for Year 11 and 12 is very important for Year 10. There will be an information day for students and they will receive a booklet that outlines all of their options.

#### LOVEBITES

Year 10 students are participating in LOVE BiTES as part of international women's week. LOVE BiTES is a Respectful Relationships Education Program for young people that aims to provide young people with a safe environment to examine, discuss and explore respectful relationships.

#### **Meeting Focus**

In our yearly meetings we encourage our year 10 students of be highly motivated and engaged with school life. Lately we have been focusing on the important of consistent attendance and professional looking uniform.

I am very excited to see what our Year 10 students achieve this year!

Mr A. Kwong





### YEAR 11

Year 11 students have had an extremely busy start to the year as they have been managing the workload that comes with being a senior student. Week 6 of 2020 marked the commencement of Phase 1 of the 3 + 3 structure the Higher School Certificate for our year 11 students. Students are now studying subjects that they have selected themselves, from the broad range of curriculum choices offered at Wiley park Girls High.

Students have been completing the Preliminary course for three of their subjects and for students completing an ATAR pathway, they will be sitting for their preliminary exams in week 9 of term 1. The HSC course for three of their subjects will commence in Term 2. On the 29<sup>th</sup> April, students will be able to view their personalised HSC timetable via their student's online NESA account. Those that have chosen an ATAR pathway will sit for three of their HSC exams in the school hall, alongside our year 12 students, in term 4. I am proud to see students adapt to these changes and trying their best to meet the requirements of the courses that they have chosen to study.

So far we have hosted two assemblies as a senior year group. Students have received an assessment policy booklet detailing their assessment schedules and all other policies and procedures regarding their assessments. These year meetings have also allowed us to discuss the N Determination process, plagiarism and the policies and procedures for the HSC. Students were reminded of the importance of completing tasks on time and in their entirety in order to meet the requirements of the courses. Students were also reminded of the importance of maintaining attendance at 85% and above in order to adequately satisfy requirements.

Year 11 students have access to a Year Adviser Google classroom, where useful information is posted to assist them in their senior studies. Here they have access to useful NESA links, study skills and the WPGHS Wellbeing Hub. If students are having trouble juggling their various commitments, they can see me or their teachers for assistance and we can make accommodations where necessary.

As their year adviser, I have been very proud of their achievements this year and I look forward to watching the girls' progress into their final year of study.

Mrs C. Hatzidis

### YEAR 12

What an exciting time it is for Year 12! As we move closer to the second round of the HSC, I would like to remind students, that if they are having trouble juggling their various commitments, they can see me or their teachers for assistance and we can make accommodations where necessary.

<u>Year assemblies</u> -Year 12 assemblies are held every second Wednesday. During this time students are provided with informative sessions about student future directions and options available to students. These are organised by the respective Deputy Principal and Careers Adviser, and often involve guest speakers addressing the year 12 cohort.

<u>Preliminary exams- Week 9</u> Year 12 preliminary exams have been scheduled to begin in Week 9. Make sure you are using the weeks following up to your exams to prepare, ask questions, clarification and feedback from teachers. If you miss an exam, please refer to your assessment policy booklet for further clarification of the process that needs to be followed.

Attendance and participation in classes-Students and parents are reminded about the importance of good attendance when completing the HSC course. Attendance at every lesson and participation in class activities is expected of every student. It is vital that students are here every day so as to not miss out on important coursework. Students are aware 50% of their HSC mark for each subject is their performance in the HSC paper and 50% is a school assessment. It is also imperative to ensure students are at school on time so they can start the day fully informed.

We all look forward to the exciting and productive year ahead! *Ms G. Bobokis* 



Congratulations Stage 6 SRC students!

## **SRC INDUCTION**

We would like to say congratulations to our newly inducted SRC committee for 2021. We are very proud of you and we cannot wait to see what you all achieve this year. Please find below our SRC students for 2021!

#### Year 7

- Rayaan Hadid
- Tamara Jazevska
- Amal Arja

#### Year 8

- Tasnia Islam
- Yasaman Divan
- Aya El Arja

#### Year 9

- Hania Almas
- Munazzah Fatima
- Yasmine Kaddafi
- Zaynab Abdul Wahed

#### Year 10

- Fayza Nower
- Jenan Hadid
- Meliame Palu

#### Year 11

- Noura Haddad
- Aya Desoqi
- Rayanne Karhani
- Fabbiha Chowdhury

#### Year 12

- Sreya Reza School Captain
- Fatma Arja Vice Captain
- Fatima Daher Vice Captain
- Assiya Hasna
- Isra Khan
- Aisha Abdi-Hashi
- Safa Ali
- Alyssa Androutsos
- Ghina El Majzoub
- Safiah Tebe



### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

We celebrated International Women's Day on Monday the 8th of March by asking our students what they will do to empower women. Our staff were also treated with a special morning tea to celebrate the women that we work with and that inspire us!



Women's Day









### **MATHEMATICS**

#### 2021 COVID Intensive Numeracy **Support Program**

We understand the impact made to our students after disruptive learning caused by COVID-19 in 2020. This year, Wiley Park Girls High School will provide small groups tuition for students who need numeracy support in their mathematics lessons.

The program will start during Term 1, 2021 and run throughout the school year. Numeracy experts team teach with mathematics teachers and provide supplementary teaching and learning support for the targeted students.

#### Year 7 Mathematics with Smarties

On the 1st February 2021, our year 7 students participated in a fun and practical Smarties Numeracy activity. Students had the opportunity to use their Smarties chocolates and tabulate the frequency of the different colours, construct a range of graphs and analyse their results. Students also calculated the perimeter and volume of their Smarties pack. Students enjoyed seeing that numeracy is all around them, even in their favourite chocolates!

#### Year 7 STEM

Year 7 STEM Day was organised on the Monday 22 February 2021. Activities were designed based on real life events such as natural disasters, and the affect on wildlife habitats. The year 7 students are on a mission aimed at rescuing these animals.

Our year 7 students were presented with a problem, challenging them to come up with a solution. That is, students must use their creative and problem solving skills to design a parachute that would enable emergency crew teams to safely drop food for wildlife animals. Students then had the opportunity to test their parachutes and evaluate their effectiveness.

Ms G Gu Head Teacher Mathematics









### ENGLISH

This year we are focusing on improving reading and writing across all years. Miss Saisanas has refined the "Wide Reading" program for our new Year Seven students, and some exciting new texts have been purchased to engage and challenge students of all reading levels. Year Seven have also been studying a historical fiction text, where skills of English and History have been integrated to develop their skills in both KLAs.

Year Eight and Nine are using Wordflyers to develop their individual literacy skills. Year Eight have also just completed a unit on Influential Women. Year Nine have been learning about documentaries and have made their own videos on an issue they are passionate about.

Year 10 have engaged well in their study of "Macbeth" and will be submitting visual representations of the play. We look forward to seeing their creative ideas based on the text.

Stage 6 classes are nearing their Preliminary exams, and have worked hard in all of their English courses. We wish them the best for their HSC courses.

Year 9 Drama have been learning about all of the aspects of Comedy, and have been coming up with some great physical comedy scenes.

Stage 6 Drama have just performed group devised plays based on the theme of "the lost child". Each group showed great creativity and interpretation in their pieces. The class are about to present their individual projects in either performance, design, or directing. I can't wait to see their final submissions. Also, we have a new stage!

We are looking forward to a busy and productive Term two.

Ms N. Cervonaro Head Teacher English & Drama



Year 10 English playing "Once Upon a Time" for storytelling techniques



Senior Drama students explore the play Drama Queens on the new

### LIBRARY

What an amazing start to the year! Year 7 have settled in to the Library like it was made for them, and our regular readers and visitors have been busy working towards their reading goals and enjoying their time in the space. So far this year, we have had 785 books borrowed, with the most loans coming from Years 7 and 8. The most popular genres have been Graphic Novels (of course!) and Fantasy and Science Fiction, followed closely by Non Fiction, which means that our tastes are changing (thanks in large part to Year 7).

To add to the already bright and bustling library, this term we launched Dungeons and Dragons at Wiley! This group of intrepid storytellers have enjoyed creating their characters and exploring the city of Estromar, proving their creativity and problem solving. We look forward to tracking their adventures this year.

#### Top Readers of 2021 (so far)

- 1. Fatima Najjarine
- 2. Rida Mubeen
- 3. Germana Howlett
- 4. Saja Al-Farouky
- 5. Maneeza Rehman

#### <u>SRC</u>



Wiley Park Girls' new SRC for 2021 were officially inducted on Wednesday, 17th February. During a ceremony held in the Library, students received their badges and pledged to uphold the values of WPGHS as student representatives this year. They are already hard at work making us proud – congratulations everyone!

Ms D. Saisanis Librarian



### HSIE

The past year have been a difficult time with staff, students and parents taking to the challenge of remote learning. We are very excited to be back in 2021 with our students engaging with their learning in class and comfortably online.

Years 8—12 transitioned into their new year classes during the second half of Term 4 (2020) and have restarted the year with enthusiasm and vigour. We are thrilled to welcome our new cohort of Year 7 students! We look forward to seeing what our students achieve this year and all of the exciting events that we have planned in HSIE.

#### What does HSIE stand for?

Junior Years (7-10)

• In the junior years encompasses the subjects of History, Geography, Unlocking the Past, Languages and Work studies.

Senior Years (11-12)

• Because our senior students have the opportunity to select subjects, they can choose from a vast array of HSIE topics to focus their studies on. This gives the students flexibility to choose subjects that they're passionate about and love to study. Some of the subjects include: Modern History, Geography, Ancient History, Arabic, Society & Culture, Business Services, Retail and Business studies. Stage 6 are busy preparing for the Preliminary Examinations in week 9, Term 1. We are looking forward to continued improved outcomes in the HSC as a result of the compressed curriculum.

Ms S. Volcevska Relieving Head Teacher HSIE



### PDHPE

#### Knockout Sport

Term 1 is a full term of CHS Knockout Competitions for WPGHS. Many schools participate in this competition, which is made up of rounds of competitions. As you win a round you progress to the next and losing teams are eliminated. WPGHS enters quite a few teams in various sports. This year our teams were Volleyball, Netball, Touch Football, Softball, Basketball and Soccer (which will play at the end of term). All our teams demonstrated excellent teamwork and sportsmanship in all sports, as always. All players are to be commended on the way they represented themselves and our school. Also, WPGHS also looked fabulous in their new jerseys, which were kindly purchased by the school with permission from Mr Stiegler-Peters last year.



Knockout Netball Team

#### Swimming Carnival

The annual school swimming carnival was held on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at Roselands Leisure and Aquatics Centre. Due to Covid 19 restrictions it was a competitors only event but this didn't get in the way of the carnival being a huge success. Although we got rained on during our walk to and from the pool, the weather during the day was stunning with blue skies and sunshine. Every student who attended embraced the day and swam their best. All students demonstrated school spirit by cheering and encouraging one another.

Congratulations to all swimmers for their excellent behaviour, effort and swimming achievements on the day. While it was a wonderful day, we certainly missed the atmosphere of a whole school carnival and can't wait for future carnivals where the whole school can attend again. Finally, congratulations to Goolagong house who earned the most points and is the winning house for swimming 2021.

### PDHPE

Swimming champions for their age group are:

13 years: Priyasha Kumar

14 years: Rayanne Dahoud

15 years: Isabella Araiji

16 years: Jenan Hadid

17+ years: Assiyah Hasna

School Swimming Champion 2021 is shared by: Assiyah Hasna and Isabella Araiji.

#### **Open Girls Basketball Knockout**

This year the Open Girls Basketball team made it to the second round by defeating Canterbury Girls High School in the first round 48-5. Kura Talauta was our highest point scorer in this game with a total of 10 points scored. Unfortunately, in the second round we were defeated by Newtown High School of the Performing Arts. Our team was pleased with their efforts in both matches, the players exceeded their own expectations and beat their previous personal bests. Alissa Al Ali scored an exciting 3 pointer and was also our highest point scorer for the game. Thank you to Tumara Latu and Christine Tuapou for their excellent scorekeeping skills. Everyone put in a 110% effort. Well done!



Knockout Basketball Team

### STEM

#### Year 7 STEM Program

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, the Year 7 cohort were involved in a STEM program. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The schools' aim is to increase the student's competency in the STEM areas. Also to spark an interest in future careers in **STEM**-related fields particularly for girls by studying realworld problems and solving them through project-based learning.

Students worked in groups to create a parachute which needed to land slowly and softly without breaking its contents. All students enjoyed solving this problem and was given a chocolate egg for their excellent behaviour.

Over all the students had a fantastic time and the STEM enrichment program gave the students an opportunity to solve problems on their own, through inquiry based learning and collaboratively working with others in a team.

I would like to thank all the Yr 7 students, Mrs Moxey, Mrs Tran, Mr Henstock and Mr Parousis who made this day a success.



Ms Lavite

#### Year 9 STEM Program

Year 9 iSTEM are developing their STEM Skills with a focus on robotics and how to build and code using LEGO and EV3 brick technology. Students apply their knowledge to solve "missions" where they are required to build program and resolve obstacles and challenges in a competition format.

#### Mr Henstock

### SCIENCE

It has been an exciting year so far with the WPGHS Science Faculty. Our senior classes of Chemistry, Biology and Extension Science are deeply embedded in exploring their fields with depth studies and authentic scientific investigations. In Extension Science our students are exploring:

- Filtering water to remove pathogens
- What pH duckweed (aquatic plant) grows best in
- What colour of light moss grows best in
- How ant foraging changes with temperature variations
- How vitamin C affects germination of beans
- How does different pH affect the development of rust
- Investigation temperature changes on yeast activity



In Biology students explored biotic and abiotc factors at the local Wiley Park exploring various environmental impacts. In Chemistry our students have recently engaged in a deeper investigation into how batteries work and what combinations of metals produce the highest voltage in a galvanic cell arrangement.

For International Women's Day our girls explored women in science throughout history focussing on what they did to achieve their success. Our students were encouraged to see how they could follow in their footsteps and achieve their own successes life. Once again our faculty has engaged in some exciting space related projected including a joint project with One Giant Leap Australia and the Japanese Space Agency with the support the of Chief Scientist of NSW. This key component of the internationally run Asian Herbs in Space program provides our students with the opportunity to conduct a control group investigation to see if exposure to the microgravity and radiation environments of space affects the germination and growth of plants. This is a vital step in preparing humanity for extra terrestrial colonisation. This initial project will see students grow basil plants from seeds in the same way as they are grown on the space station for comparison tests. Following this our students will engage in a second space related seeds program and comparatively examine the growth of wattle trees from seeds that have been to the space station and have been brought back to earth compared with seeds from the same harvest batch that have not. Space Wattle trees grown in this fashion will be logged and identified as an enduring example of student space research.

Mr M. Henstock Head Teacher Science

### TAS

This term the TAS staff and students have been working productively on the programs assigned for this semester which have been planned and designed to enrich student's practical skills and knowledge.

#### Stage 6 Exploring Early Childhood Studies

This year our EEC students have been very fortunate to have a new addition to their class, baby Isla. The virtual baby is programmed to give our students a real life experience of caring for a baby. The stimulated baby is programed on the baby's cry and students need to work out if the baby needs a nappy change, bottle or if she is tired. The class is very excited and can't wait to test out their parenting skills and patience!





#### Stage 6 Food Technology

Yr 11 and 12 Food Technology students were given an assessment task to investigate current eating habits for a targeted lifecycle stage and based on their research had to make a day's menu looking specifically at the role the nutrients play in the diet for their stage. The students were inspired particularly as most students selected adolescents as their targeted group and they all produced nutritious and delicious meals for their task.





### TAS

#### Stage 5 Food Technology

Year 10 Food Technology student's practical task this term was to prepare either a grazing platter or a street food and then style and photograph the dish for a magazine. Ms Moxey praised all her students for working ethically in the kitchen and stated that the degree of sophistication of their final food products were 'mind blowing'. Well done Year 10 Food Technology for an outstanding effort!



Finally, a reminder that all TAS student are required to wear enclosed leather shoes for practical cooking lessons as this is part of the Work, Health and Safety Act and is actioned by the Department of Education. Please ensure your child has the appropriate footwear for all cooking lessons or they will not be allowed to participate in practical lessons. It is also important that your child is prepared for all cooking practicals which means they need to bring a tea towel, apron, container and a hair tie as well.

Ms R. Lavite Head Teacher TAS

### LATEST COVID ADVICE FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

#### What if my child is sick?

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded **NOT** to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms.

#### What if my child is sick whilst at school?

NSW Health has requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics. Students will go to the office to inform staff they are unwell. Staff from our office will contact families to collect the student who will then go have a covid test if they show flu like symptoms.

#### When can my child return to school?

Students and staff with flu-like symptoms need to be tested and provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom-free before being permitted to return to school. **Students who do not undertake a COVID-19 test will not be permitted to return to school for a 10-day period**. Additionally, they must be symptom-free for at least 3 days prior to returning to school.

### What if my child has allergies, rhinitis, or other chronic health conditions that are similar to flu like symptoms?

Students who have seasonal allergic rhinitis or another condition that presents similarly to flu-like symptoms are still required to get tested for COVID-19 and return a negative test result. Where their symptoms continue beyond 10 days, students should provide documentation from their GP confirming their symptoms are typical for their condition. If the student develops new or changed symptoms, they should get tested for COVID-19.

To learn more about the latest COVID-19 advice from the Department of Education please visit: https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families





