



Important Dates

- Term 2 commences
Tues 28 April 2020
- Cross Country Fri
1 May 2020—
cancelled
- NAPLAN
13 & 14 May
2020—cancelled
- IFTAR family dinner
14 May 2020—
cancelled

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Issue 2, 2020

Newsletter Date April 9, 2020

Principal writes

As we round up term 1, 2020 the single word that springs to mind is "Challenging". Our teachers have been learning a new way to teach and our students have been learning a new way of studying. Parents are being called upon to play a more substantial role in their child's education, not to replace the teacher, but rather to support student learning at home. All teachers appreciate your support and acknowledge that this is new territory for many parents.

We have been informed that this level of social distancing will continue through term 2. At this stage we are not sure for how long, however, all teachers are prepping for at least the first five weeks of the term. We have been greatly supported by the

Department of Education and the experienced teachers in Distance Education.

What I want all students to understand is that they must keep up with their lessons. Making sure you complete the tasks assigned each week will ensure a smooth transition back into school when COVID 19 passes and we return to our usual routines.

Take a well-deserved break over the Easter holiday and school vacation period. Stay safe and well and look after each other. Teachers will be back online on 28th April.

Ms Ross
- Principal



'Learn. Achieve. Celebrate.'

Deputy writes

It has certainly been a challenging and unprecedented end to the term. I have been encouraged by the resilience that most students have demonstrated adjusting to learning from home.

Through numerous zoom conferences and conversations with students and staff, there is an overwhelming desire for ongoing connection to occur. We are

all missing the face-to-face connection. Schools are much more vibrant when we are all on site. I would encourage all students to continue to engage with their learning through Google Classrooms as this will make the transition back to onsite learning much easier.

I wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday where you can enjoy the

enforced time together. Be nice to each other and we hope to see all students back on site in the near future.

Happy holidays

Mrs Williams
- Deputy Principal



Year 9 Report

Well, what an interesting term this has turned out to be.

At the beginning of Year 9 students at Kogarah High School commence their elective subjects. This year's group have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to express themselves in areas of personal interest and passion such as Visual Arts, Music, Technology or Sport, while others have used their elective subject choices to explore and consider subjects which they may continue during and beyond their HSC.

It has been great to see students engaging in these subjects, learning new skills, pursuing their interests and goals and develop their own identity away from their peers.

The unexpected events of this year has taken the remainder of Term 1 online, a new challenge for both teachers and students. The teachers of all subjects have worked hard to move to remote teaching and learning with many using online platforms such as Google Classroom, Moodle and Edmodo to deliver content

and interact with their students.

I have seen examples of the great work that both teachers and students have been doing from home. I'd really encourage all students in Year 9 to make every effort to continue their learning from home, with particular emphasis placed on their literacy and numeracy.

Yours in Public Education.

Mr O'Connor
- Year 9 Advisor

"Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 all sporting programs for terms 1 & 2 have been cancelled"

—NSW
Department of
Education

Sport

NSW Department of Education has advised that due to the COVID-19 outbreak and 'social distancing strategy', all sporting programs for Terms 1 and 2 are now cancelled.

This includes all school sporting carnivals, grade sport competition, zone, regional and CHS sporting activities. No Winter sport competition will go ahead in 2020.

Instead, the summer sport competition will be extended to run throughout Terms 3 and 4.

This situation will be regularly reviewed and updates provided related to sport in Terms 3 and 4.

We thank you for your understanding during this time.

It is important to stay fit and healthy while at home. We encourage students and their families to find new and creative ways to

maintain a healthy lifestyle within the current social distancing restrictions.

Stay safe.

Ms Wyles
- Sport Coordinator



Boys to Men

The **"Boys to Men"** group is an interactive program that runs for 10 weeks each term. It is set up to give young male students the space to discuss some of the issues and situations they encounter during formative teenage years.

Students are selected based on my discussions with Year Advisors, Teachers and the School

Counsellor or self-referral. The program is interactive and aims to challenge some of the negative stereotypes of not showing emotions or expressing feelings which has been imbedded in male culture. It is also set up to be a safe place for our male students to have the courage to express feelings, discuss issues and support each other.

We are aiming for the program to empower our male students to have the confidence to ask for help, to recognise and to take ownership of their behaviours, to show respect and enable our students to genuinely open up and consider lots of things about being a Man in society today.

John Dangas
—Youth Outreach Worker

Wellbeing

Monitoring your own and your children's wellbeing throughout this time is particularly important. Students at Kogarah High School will need to balance time spent working on their given tasks and enjoying some time to relax and focus on their own interests outside of school. Limiting screen time and having a routine at home will help students to stay on top of their wellbeing.

The Kogarah High School Welfare Team will continue to check in on students wellbeing by phone or email throughout this time. Students will continue to

have access to their Year Advisors, School Counsellors, Mr. John Dangas, Ms. Nazek Roumieh throughout these times. If your child has concerns during this time, they can contact these staff through the school.

A few things to remember at this time:

- Allow your child to have downtime for other activities. It is vital that students get downtime to be independent and relax.
- Remember that breaks are important for productivity. Don't expect to be able to work non-stop.

Some useful phone numbers and services

Kids Helpline
1800 551 800

Parent Helpline
1300 130 052

Beyond Blue
1300 224 636

Lifeline
13 11 14

Mental Health Line
1800 011 511

Mr Gifford
- Rel. HT Welfare



#StayHome

Faculty Report—Mathematics

We are proud of the progress our students have been making this term. The dedicated Mathematics staff are always working towards finding new ways to improve our student outcomes.

This year we have been focusing on giving our students explicit feedback, especially when setting out their solutions, ensuring that their work is mathematically accurate.

Refining these skills in junior years will teach the students best practice, skills that they need throughout their schooling. This will also help during examinations by learning how to show all their working and maximise their results.

Our Year 12 students have worked on investigation tasks as part of their assessment requirement.

Our innovative ways of teaching mathematical concepts have enabled our Senior students to use digital platforms, such as Excel, to record, analyse, interpret and present data from their investigation using graphs and other forms of recording data in a sophisticated visual way.

Ms Mandicos

—HT Mathematics

"Our faculty is always working towards finding new ways to improve our student outcomes"

Ramadan

Ramadan is the most sacred month of the year in Islamic culture.

This year, Ramadan begins early May and ends early June.

Ramadan is a kind of "spiritual training ground", says Islamic Council of Victoria vice-president Adel Salman, the "main game" of which is to improve your relationship with God and to improve yourself. It is a

time to develop new and better habits for the future.

Muslims observe the month of Ramadan, to mark that Allah, or God, gave the first chapters of the Quran to the Prophet Muhammad in 610, according to the Times of India.

During Ramadan, Muslims fast, undertake prayer and abstinence in thanks for God's revelation and his creation, as a result of

which they will emerge spiritually purified.

It is also a time for families to gather and celebrate.



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NESA and UAC Update for Year 12

We know you're worried about how your plans to complete your HSC or go to uni in 2021 will be affected by COVID-19.

We want to reassure you that the school is staying up to date with UAC and NESA, and other stakeholders to ensure that no student is disadvantaged and remains informed.

Can I please urge you to join the following google classroom: **3ny744w**

This classroom will be monitored and updated by Mr Eaton, Mr Haggart, Ms Alaouie and Ms Ross.

These are very difficult times, but we are all committed to looking after you and giving you the support you need.

It's important that you continue with your studies, assessments and with your plans for next year. Look after yourself and try not to worry. Be reassured by the many of us working in the background to help you get through Year 12 and reach your goals.

For the latest information from NESA and UAC you can also access the below sites:

<https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/news/novel-coronavirus>

<https://www.uac.edu.au/>

Mr Eaton

- HT Administration

'Clean Up Australia'

Earlier this term, we had a number of students who participated in the annual 'Clean Up Australia' campaign here at Kogarah High School. It is great to see our students take pride in maintaining the school grounds and setting a good example.

About 'Clean Up Australia'

'Clean Up Australia' inspires and empowers communities to clean up, fix up and conserve our environment.

What was started thirty years ago, by an "average Australian bloke" who had a simple idea to make a difference in his own backyard has now become the nation's largest community-based environmental event.

