



Important Dates

- June 8 Public Holiday
Queens Birthday
- June 15 Refugee
Week
- July 3 Term 2 Ends

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Newsletter Date June 1, 2020

Principal writes

Students have returned to face to face teaching in a very positive way and are working hard to make up for any missed time.

Year 12 students have been particularly hard working recognising that the effort the put in now will pay dividends later. Additional support at the Monday after school learning centre is available to all students, but Year 12 should definitely make use of this service.

We have received information from the New South Wales Vice-Chancellors' Committee regarding the ATAR and university entry. The New South Wales Vice-Chancellor's Committee (NSWVCC), which represents all NSW-based universities, supports the joint decision of the NSW Education Standards Agency (NESA) and the NSW Department of Education to hold the HSC exams in 2020.

University of Wollongong Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Wellings, speaking on behalf of all the NSW Universities, assured all students, teachers and parents that universities would assist as much as possi-

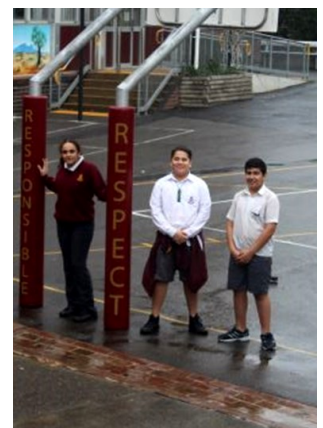
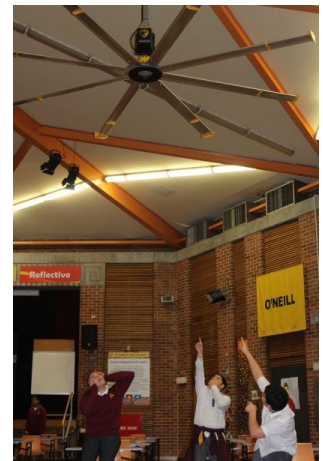
ble via admission processes and wished to remind students that there are alternative pathways into university such as bridging and foundational courses to build up knowledge and skills lost during the pandemic.

"As in all previous years, NSW universities work closely with the NESA and the Universities Admissions Centre to ensure that university admission processes and pathways are as equitable and transparent as possible. This will continue for 2021 admissions with universities taking the impact of these disruptions into account in assessing applications for admission, especially for certain student groups that are more likely to have been disadvantaged by the disruption," said Professor Wellings.

The key message for Year 12 is to remain committed to completing the HSC in 2020.

Ms Ross
Principal

LEFT: some of the recent improvements happening around the school



Deputy writes

I would like to publicly thank staff, students and families for their sense of commitment and hope in the face of great difficulty over the past six weeks. Nothing beats face-to-face learning for school-age students. Your positivity and ability to adapt to a rapidly changing education paradigm has been a gift to our community.

At KHS we reinforce to our students that their school lives are their responsibility.

Students are given repeated reminders regarding permission slips; homework and assessments; correct uniform and to bring their equipment ready to learn. No student deliberately ignores these in order to make trouble for themselves.

The opportunities for our student to learn are endless, and the thing to remember is that the stakes are low while they are at school. Personal responsibility is a habit – and

habits must be practised to take root. Over time, their habits will tend towards them becoming reflective, respectful and resilient students.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Mr Haggart
- Deputy Principal



Year 12 Report

In the midst of their HSC year, the class of 2020 were confronted by unforeseen challenges that have reshaped the landscape of their learning. Despite these challenges, Year 12 Students demonstrated resilience, rising to the occasion and navigating through remote learning and Zoom lessons with their class teachers.

It is now important for students to implement healthy and sustainable study routines as they move forward with their HSC, so they can continue to learn, complete assessment tasks and take care of themselves.

Kogarah High School is offering the Monday afternoon homework centre and Wednesday HUB support for students, and Year 11 and 12 students have been provided with Senior Enrichment Sessions specifically catered to developing healthy study habits, such as: creating a study schedule, creating study notes and practising past papers.

KHS has now also implemented a mentor program, providing students with an opportunity to work with a teacher-mentor to assist with general routines, study skills, time management as well as keeping on

top of academic stresses. They will also be able to access support from the Careers Advisor, Miss Alouie, School Counsellors' Miss MacLean and Ms Milinkovic, as well as Youth Outreach Coordinator, Mr Dangas.

Ms. Alouie
- Year 12 Advisor

'NESA will continue to update you with exceptions and changes to relevant deadlines regarding this years HSC'

Minimum Standards

NESA has increased the chances Year 12 students have to sit the minimum standard online tests.

Year 12 students so far have had one opportunity to sit the tests.

Students yet to meet the HSC minimum standard will be able to attempt each test up to six times in 2020, with 14 calendar

days between re-attempts.

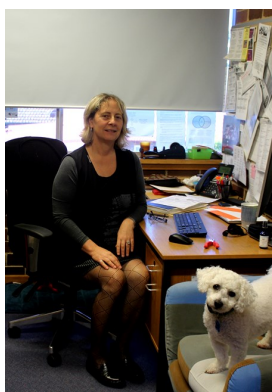
This is to make sure students have a fair and reasonable opportunity to sit the short, online minimum standard tests during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Students in Years 10 and 11 continue to have four chances a year to sit each test.

Find out more about the minimum standard online tests.

For more information visit the NESA website—minimum standards.

Joel Eaton
-Head Teacher
Administration



**School Counsellor
Sonja Milinkovic
with therapy dog
Buzz.**

Meet 'BUZZ'

A big welcome to BUZZ!

The new therapy dog within the School Counselling Team.

Buzz has a gentle temperament and enjoys working with students at Kogarah HS.

Quite a number of students and teachers have enjoyed working with BUZZ over the last two weeks.

Buzz's main aim is to help students keep calm and ease stress at school.

Research has found that petting dogs will assist with emotion regulation, increased levels of Oxytocin (the feel good hormone) and decreased levels of Cortisol or stress.

We are trying to ease BUZZ into the school so that he does not become overwhelmed and stressed by visiting large

numbers of students on the playground.

Thus, he will remain working with individual students in the counsellor's office.

Sonja Milinkovic
District School Counsellor
Registered Psychologist

What is iSTEM?

STEM is the new buzz word of the decade for educators and employers alike. 'Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics', these are the economic drivers of the future.

An individual who has a foundation in these disciplines who then learns to harmonise them and adapt them to future problems will always be in high demand by employers.

STEM is a two year pathway offered to year 9 students who are willing to take on the challenge to think, build and create on a regular basis. They will be trained to bring together the

four STEM factors to design and model solutions to real world applications together with recording and presenting their solutions to their peers. Some areas that are covered in the course include robotics, aeronautics and civil engineering.

In summary, STEM offers a student the chance to reinforce their understanding of Science, Technology and Mathematics by incorporating these disciplines into an engineering based, real world, application. As an Engineering Studies teacher of the senior school I strongly recommend this

course for all students interested in doing Engineering Studies in Years 11 & 12. The skills and thinking patterns developed in this course will hopefully give students an impetus to further their learning in tertiary institutions, university or TAFE, and thus be better prepared for the jobs of the future.

John Apostolides

- Science and Engineering Teacher



Kogarah High students engaging in STEM program.

Faculty Report—English

Our dedicated English faculty have embarked on redesigning all our year 7-10 programs and assessments embedding rich, practical tasks which develop the skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening that are the foundation for any creative and purposeful expression in language.

One of the most significant challenges we face in education is how best to pre-

pare all our students for a rapidly changing, technology driven, global world.

To do so, we need to broaden our view of student achievement to include a greater emphasis on the higher order skills necessary for developing global citizens who are ready for the world beyond school.

With this in mind, our teachers have incorporated

teaching activities where students are able to learn how to navigate multimedia platforms, advertising content and develop their use of persuasive language using 21st century collaborative tools.

Diana Di Cola

- HT English

'Our goal is to provide appropriate cognitive rigor as well as teaching the English language skills necessary to access all of the discipline areas.'

Sport

Wednesday sport - this term will remain the same summer sport.

Sport groups are the same as Term 1.

Sport will be training with no interschool grade sport competition.

Students will participate in non-contact

recreational activities related to their specific sport, in line with the AHPPC guidelines and NSW Health advice.

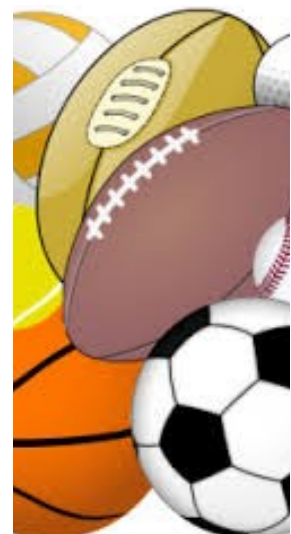
Students should not be participating in sport if they are unwell.

Students are encouraged to bring their own personal items

such as drink bottles, as sharing is prohibited.

Zoe Wyles

-Sports Coordinator



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Stay calm by practising this 1-minute relaxation activity

1: Set up

Find a comfortable sitting position, your feet flat on the floor, your hands resting in your lap. Close your eyes if you feel comfortable.

2: Think, feel, body

Ask yourself, "What am I thinking now?"
Notice your thoughts, are they negative or positive.
Notice how you feel emotionally.
Notice how your body feels, does it hurt or are you tense.

3: Focus on your breath

Listen to your breath as it goes in and out.
You can put a hand on your stomach and feel it rise and fall with each breath.
Say to yourself "It's okay. Whatever it is, I am okay." Just listen to your breathing

4: Coming back

Notice how your whole body feels.
Listen to the sounds in the room.

5: Reflecting

Think 'do I feel different at all?'
When you are ready, open your eyes and be kind to yourself and others.

Laura MacLean
School Counsellor/ Provisional Psychologist

Outdoor Learning Space for CAPA

CAPA staff are delighted to announce that the renovations to the outdoor area outside of Block 1 are underway!

Outdoor learning spaces have a positive impact on student wellbeing, engagement and increase creativity.

Year 9 & 10 VA Elective students will be creating ceramic artwork that will form part of a permanent exhibition in the space.

It has been a fantastic opportunity to put our creative minds together and design an outdoor learning space that can be used by CAPA students and teachers here at Kogarah High.

Stay Tuned!

Miss Hopson

- Teacher Visual Arts

