



Important Dates

- 23 Feb Year 12 HSC Parent Information night 6pm
- 26 Feb Year 7 & Year 10 Vaccinations
- 8 March International Women's Day
- 9 March School photos
- 15 March Harmony Week

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Principal writes

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2021. It was a pleasure to **welcome 112 Year 7 students** to their first year of high school. We will work together with families to ensure the great start to the year continues.

We have also welcomed a number of new teachers to Kogarah High School as more familiar faces have moved on to new schools and different opportunities. Hopefully, the COVID safety guidelines will continue to relax throughout the year and parent - teacher evenings will again be an opportunity for families and staff to get to know each other.

After a disrupted 2020, our Year 12 students achieved some **fantastic results in their HSC**. Many students achieved Band 6 in one or more subjects and 46%

gained entry into University. A further 38% of the graduates of the class of 2020 enrolled in TAFE. From a cohort of 136 that is very impressive and we congratulate all our graduating students.

We are currently formulating our **Strategic Improvement Plan for 2021-2024**. The three strategic directions that will drive our professional practice and support student achievement are; Student growth & achievement, Student well-being & engagement, Refined teacher practice & collaboration.

At the **P&C/Community Connect Forum on Wednesday 3rd March at 6pm** we will unpack the Improvement Plan and discuss activities that will take place throughout the year. All parents are welcome to

join us. A light supper will be served by our senior Hospitality students. Please let the office know if you can make it, for catering numbers.

I would like to draw your attention to **the problem of vaping**, that we are dealing with on a daily basis. Vaping is treated the same as smoking. Students will face disciplinary procedures such as suspension from school if they bring e-cigarettes to school, if they are found to be in possession, are using or are selling e-cigarettes. Vapes, or e-cigarettes, can contain nicotine and other harmful toxins that are harmful to health. They are forbidden at school. Your support is needed to protect our children and their health.

Thank you

Ms Ross

Deputy writes

What a great start to the school year! I would like to extend a warm welcome to all students, and in particular, our Year 7 students who have settled in well to high school life and extend that welcome to the new families who have joined the Kogarah High school learning community. Year 7 students will be going on camp later in the Term and I wish them all the very best as they make new friends, get

to know their teachers and experience the exciting activities at the Great Aussie Bush Camp in Tea Gardens.

Starting high school is a big and often daunting step, it's a rite of passage, moving from being one of the big kids to starting again at the bottom. The journey began on Friday 29th January for over 110 curious and energetic students which were dressed sharply in school

uniform ready to conquer their first three days participating in a number of Project Based Learning activities.

Year 7 have had a lot to learn over the first 3 weeks. They have had to meet new teachers for each of their subjects while also meeting fellow peers and making new friendships.

Mr Haggart.



Mr May helping out a group of Year 7 students researching their PBL assignment.

Year 7 Report

What a great start our Year 7 students have had adjusting to the high school environment.

Our Year 7 students had their Orientation Day on Friday 29 of January. This was a great day during which the students had a taste of high school life. They participated in team building activities, PBL marshmallow activity and learned how to use our library. Our Year 10 Peer Support leaders helped out a lot and helped students

adjust to what is inherently a daunting new environment after Primary School.

At the beginning of the term year 7 students participated in a swimming carnival and may I say they did an amazing job participating in different water activities and more importantly for their outstanding positive behaviour and respect towards the staff at Bexley Aquatic Centre and KHS teachers.

We hope everyone is looking forward to year 7 camp, which will be an-

other great opportunity to make friends, learn to work as a team and challenge yourself.

Looking forward to watching our year 7 students grow, meanwhile please take the time to enjoy the fabulous learning environment we offer at KHS.

Mrs. Elmir and Ms. Tweedie

- Year 7 Advisors



Back row: Tanan Zandasharav, Jao Thipkamjorn, Sheila Bayarsaikhan, Anujin Bolotkhan, Anu Tumendemberel,

Front row: Tanny Assawarattanasakdi, Heart Samaniego

Sport

KHS has had a great start to Sport this year. Year 7, 9 and 10 have been involved in integrated sports programs, competing in small teams against their peers for the first few weeks of Term. This has been building a lot of Sport House spirit and the friendly competition has been great to watch! Crampton leading most comps from what I have heard!

Year 8 have entered into the Zone Grade Sport competitions which have seen them head off for one round of competitive sports against other

Schools in the St George Zone. With teams playing Volleyball, Soccer, Oztag, Touch Football, Table Tennis and Basketball we have already notched up a few wins in the Boys Touch Football as well as Girls Volleyball and Soccer teams. Round 2 saw a wash out round giving us some extra training time, ready to get a few more wins in Week 6!!

Mr. Berrell



**Anujin Bolotkhan—
Sydney East Volleyball
Knockout**

Sydney East Girl's Volleyball Knockout

Is a well-being program targeting our (Yr 8/9) female cohort. It aims to give our female The Open Girl's Volleyball Knockout team participated in the Sydney East central venue day. The team competed against Newtown Performing Arts HS who they defeated 2-0. They then played Carringbah HS and once again were victorious 2-0. The next game proved more challenging and was extremely competitive against

St George Girls HS, but once again the girl's were victorious 2-1. This left the team in the final against Sydney Girls HS which again was a highly competitive match, but unfortunately the team was defeated.

With their excellent efforts and 2nd placing in the competition the team now progress to the CHS competition which will be held in term 3.

Anu Tumendemberel, Anujin Bolotkhan and Heart Samaniego made the Sydney East Knockout team squad of the 25 best players on the day. This squad was then reduced down to the Sydney East team through further trials and Heart Samaniego was selected to represent the zone – an outstanding effort. We wish Heart luck with her games and look forward to the next stage of competition.

Ms. Ellis

Faculty Report—Learning and Support

The Learning and Support Faculty continues to provide specialist and targeted support to students who are learning English as an additional language and students with additional learning needs. Support is provided by the EAL/D and LaST teachers through a range of programs, including smaller parallel English and Maths classes, team-teaching across subject areas and the MaqLit literacy program. The EAL/D and LaST teachers work collaboratively with other facul-

ties to improve the learning outcomes of their students.

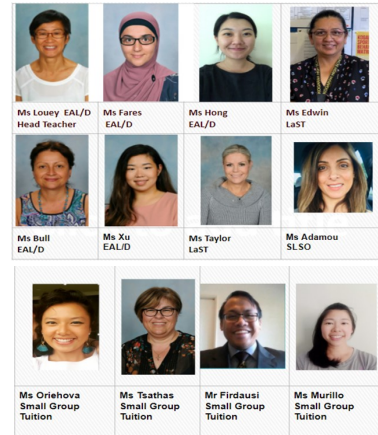
This year the school is very fortunate to receive one-off government funding for the *COVID Intensive Learning Support* program. This funding allows for the employment of an additional four teachers for 2021 to provide assistance to students who have been negatively impacted by the disruption to their schooling in 2020. The students receive extra help with their literacy, numeracy and under-

standing of the subject area through small group tuition in English, Maths, Science and HSIE.

The Learning and Support Faculty is very excited to be in the position to support such a large number of students this year across all the year groups and subject areas.

Ms Louey

- HT Learning & Support



Learning and Support Faculty

Visual Arts Intensive Writing Workshops

Students of Year 12 Visual Arts have been invited to attend intensive writing workshops on Tuesday afternoons in the school library. We encourage all of our Visual Arts students to attend. These workshops focus on helping students refine the academic specific writing skills required for answering questions in the critical and historical component of the Visual Arts HSC exam. We aim to build students' confidence in writing and look for-

ward to watching them exceed their expectations.

Congratulations to those students who have applied themselves with enthusiasm and a keen willingness to improve.

Ms Theodoridis, Curriculum Writing Specialist and April Hopson, Visual Arts Teacher



Year 12 Visual Arts students participating in Intensive Writing Workshop with Ms. Theodoridis and Ms. Hopson



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Swimming Carnival

This year Kogarah High School had a very successful swimming carnival with great attendance from all year groups! Many promising athletes displayed their ability and are now ready to represent the school in regional competition. So far, students are heading to the zone competition where a newly formed Kogarah High School squad has been formed. On top of this, many students decided to dress up for the occasion and it was used as a valuable team building exercise not only for year groups but for the school houses!

The day was periodically interrupted by bouts of rain however this did not dull the day as competition moved on smoothly with many spectators choosing to sit under the shelter next to the pool to watch each heat.

Students overall had good behaviour on the day, and with a record breaking number of attendees, it's a success the school hopes to carry on into further years to come.

James Wheate

- Vice Captain

