

## USEFUL LINKS

- [Sport Fixtures](#)
- [Make a Payment](#)
- [Knox Website](#)
- [Illness & Misadventure Form](#)
- [Student Leave Form](#)
- [Student Driver Form](#)
- [Vehicle Driving Policy Form](#)
- [Careers](#)
- [Assessment Booklet](#)
- [Assessment Chart](#)

## FROM THE TEAM LEADERS



Welcome back, and I hope the holidays were reinvigorating! My Mentor group all assured me that they diligently stuck to their study planner, but also got the much needed “them” time. I was very impressed to see the number of boys in Seniors’ Hall during the holidays putting in some extraordinary hours! With only four weeks until Trials start, having put in the hard work will allow our boys to cope with the rise in pace

and intensity. We also discussed how few sessions we have left as a group, which for me will be a little sad as it has been great to watch the individual growth and transformations our boys have made. I am tough on our group on many standards, from timekeeping, language, to their dress standards and turning up to Mentor sessions on time. I think the boys are finally seeing that it’s because I care about them next year when they are in the real world, where no-one will care if they are late, miss an assignment, or look slovenly. Getting into great habits now will pay dividends when they get their first real job.

We were extremely fortunate at School Assembly this week to hear from Mr Daniel Kieghran, one of four living recipients of the Victoria Cross. He received this “For the most conspicuous acts of gallantry and extreme devotion to duty in action in circumstances of great peril” while serving in an Afghanistan deployment in 2010. His story of character and courage was one that I feel extremely lucky to have been able to hear first-hand, and the videos he showed enabled the whole room to understand the extreme situations where he showed incredible courage under fire – literally! While we never know how we would react until we are in such a fight or flight scenario, who you are as a man starts with, the everyday standards you accept from yourself.

This Saturday will be our boys’ last home game. I’m sure there will be mixed emotions, but the over-riding one should be immense pride of their long journey. They have given a huge contribution to our community, not just in their sporting feats, but also the amazing support they show for each other. I know the cohort will remember forever their last CAS T&F or Swimming events, and leading the chants with the rest of the school standing behind them. Give it everything this weekend boys. I look forward to seeing a huge crowd on Knox 1 and all the best!

MATTHEW CAVALLARO YEAR 12 TEAM LEADER  
IAN BUTLER YEAR 12 ASSISTANT TEAM LEADER

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Wednesday 1 August

- [Medicine and Allied Health Industry Breakfast, 7am - 8.20am, Seniors’ Hall, WSA.](#) Click [here](#) for further details

### Wednesday 22 August to Wednesday 5 September

- HSC Trials. Click [here](#) to view the timetable and click [here](#) for the T2 Study Break Planner

### Monday 24 September

- Valedictory Ceremony and Valedictory Dinner

### October 2018

- HSC Examination commences

## CONTACT

Renee Willson: 02 9119 0886  
Email: [willsonr@knox.nsw.edu.au](mailto:willsonr@knox.nsw.edu.au)  
[Year 12 page on the Portal](#)



## FROM THE DEPUTY HEADMASTER - YEARS 7-12

Dear Parents,

In recent months, the Heads of Academy and I have been reviewing the place of mobile devices in the school context. This has arisen following conversations with students, staff and parents and has centred on the influence mobile devices play in the learning and social context of our students.

We are conscious of the ubiquitous nature mobile devices hold in the culture of young people. I think from our own lives, we know the role that technology can have in causing distracted behaviours and hindering our ability to 'be present' to one another.

I truly believe that Knox has an essential role in developing the skills for our students to establish good lifelong habits in their use of technology. We want to encourage our students to be given opportunities to learn effectively and develop positive, meaningful relationships with their peers in the playground and the classroom away from the distractions of mobile devices.

Academic research has shown withdrawing the influence of digital distractors from the learning environment sees greater concentration levels and connectedness to the learning offered in the class setting.

Taking into consideration observations, research and responses from teachers, parents, stakeholder groups and students, we have developed the following policies:

### **Policy for Years 7 to 10 students**

Years 7 to 10 boys are expected to have their mobile device in their locker throughout the course of the day. If a parent has an urgent need to pass a message onto their son he can briefly access his phone at his locker; during either recess, lunch or the conclusion of the school day.

### **Policy for Years 11 and 12 students**

In recognising secondary school is a period where we see boys transition from adolescent to early adulthood we are conscious of providing opportunities for students to adopt greater responsibility in regulating their use of mobile devices. We feel strongly students in Years 11 and 12 should have the requisite skills to manage the use of their device. This said, our staff will continue to institute practices promoting appropriate use of mobile devices and where appropriate intervene if devices interrupt the learning or social context.

### **Laptops**

Laptops will continue to be used in the classroom and can be used by the boys for school work.

We will be speaking to the boys about these policies at assembly and year meetings over the next week. Boys who use their phones in class or don't follow the policy for their year group will have their phones confiscated and can collect their phone from their Student Administration Officer at the end of the day. If phone use continues we will contact home and additional sanctions will be instituted.

We continue to investigate tools and strategies that support students to make positive decisions in managing their online footprint. These tools are shared with the students during Mentor, Class and Year Meetings.

I encourage you to take the opportunity to speak to your son about appropriate and balanced use of their mobile devices. Thank you for your on-going support of the school as we work to instil good habits for life.

PHIL O'REGAN DEPUTY HEADMASTER - YEARS 7-12