

## YEAR 9 TEAM LEADERS

On behalf of the whole Year 9 team I would like to welcome you back to the start of the 2019 school year and the start of the boy's journey in the Knox Middle Academy. It has been a busy week full of excitement and change as we have transitioned into the more senior areas of the School. Along with new lockers, classes and structures the boys have also welcomed 23 new students to the class of 2022. On behalf of all of us, we would like to welcome the new boys and their families and hope they have enjoyed their first week at Knox Grammar School.

As expected, not only have the boys all returned looking much taller and older but also more mature and confident. Whilst this year is one of change and significant personal development, the boys have all impressed staff with their mature approach which is a true testament to the character within the year group. Whilst there will be challenges for the boys along the way, I am confident that they will begin to use these challenges as learning opportunities as they start to take more responsibility for their schooling journey.

As such, we have designed a Mentor Program this year that will support the boys in developing some of the key skills they will need to tackle the years ahead. This term the boys will again be looking at how they can achieve their personal best within the classroom, academic, co-curricular and sporting realms of school life as well as exploring the concept of 'character strengths'.

Finally, as a team we have all commented on how wonderful it has been to chat with the boys and reconnect with them after a lovely holiday break. We have always said that the friendliness amongst the boys is one of the strengths of the cohort and seeing the boys enthusiastically share holiday stories with their mates and staff alike has been great for us to see.

Please ensure that your son has his hair cut appropriately, as per the school diary guidelines for individual photos next week (6 February).

As always, if you have any concerns or questions please contact either your son's Mentor or one of us.

VICKY COWELL



## STUDENT ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Year 9 - here we come. I hope you all had wonderful holidays and I look forward to catching up with most of you over the next few weeks.

Individual student photos are scheduled for Wednesday 6 February, period 6 in the Great Hall foyer. Please ensure your son's hair is to Knox standards and looking sharp for photo day. For those who miss out, catch ups will be held on Thursday 14 February in the Portrait room.

Please click [here](#) for the 2019 Cadet Camp Order form for the items available from the Uniform Shop. As you are aware, the Year 9 boys will be off on Cadet Camp at the end of Term 1 (departing Friday 5 April 2019).

Doing da Vinci Decathlon 2019 is confirmed for Thursday 28 February. Please click [here](#) for further information and registration details.

### Senior School Tuckshop - Volunteers Urgently Required for 2019

The Senior School Tuckshop have a number of vacancies which we are desperate to fill. If you are a new parent or an existing parent, helping out in the tuckshop is a very rewarding experience and a great way to meet and socialise with new friends. If you would like to help out, please email [Caron Suleyman](mailto:Caron.Suleyman@knox.nsw.edu.au) (Tuckshop Convenor) and let her know your availability.

Kind regards,  
Rebecca

REBECCA MACLACHLAN  
02 9119 0882 [maclachlanr@knox.nsw.edu.au](mailto:maclachlanr@knox.nsw.edu.au)



### USEFUL LINKS

- [Sport fixtures](#)
- [Make a payment](#)
- [Knox website](#)
- [Year 9 page on the portal](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Wednesday 6 February

- Year 9 individual photos, period 6 in the Great Hall foyer

#### Friday 15 February

- Knox at Home, 7.30pm-9.30pm

#### Thursday 28 February

- Doing da Vinci Decathlon 2019

#### Friday 5 April

- AFX commences

#### Friday 12 April

- AFX concludes
- Term 1 concludes

See the full calendar in [Parent Lounge](#)



## HEAD OF KNOX MIDDLE ACADEMY



Welcome to the Knox Middle Academy! I hope that all of our Knox families have had a wonderful summer and festive season shared with family and friends. I am very pleased to report a very smooth start to the year. The boys arrived on Wednesday looking very smart and there was a real buzz about the place as everyone reunited. I hope that each and every student has had a successful week and is looking forward to an exciting year ahead. I would especially like to welcome all the new students and their families to Knox.

Mr Jake Plaskett joins us this year as the Director of Studies for the Knox Middle Academy. Mr Plaskett and I are very much looking forward to getting to know and working with the Year 9 students as well as the dedicated and talented mentor team. It is our hope that your sons flourish in Year 9 as it is a time of great opportunity and exploration. We have had a number of queries about the possibility of changing electives. The deadline for changing electives is Week 7 of this term. If your son feels that there is a subject that would better suit his interests then he will need to complete an [elective change form](#) and return it to room 11.

In the Knox Middle Academy, we want to develop the character of the boys through the values of the Knox Total Fitness program, enabling their transition to independent and self-understanding young adults. We aim to provide the boys with the tools to become passionate learners, who possess the skills, habits and rigours that will enable them to achieve success in the Senior Academy and beyond. As the Head of Knox Middle Academy, I am both looking forward and feel privileged to work with the young men of Year 9 as they continue on their educational journey through Knox Grammar School.

ELIZABETH RUFF

## HEAD OF KNOX SPORTS & AQUATIC ACADEMY



Years 8-12 Knox swim trials will be held on Saturday 2 February.

Boys register near the pool from 9am and warm up commences from 9.30am. We want as many boys to attend as possible.

Period 7 and regular training and games will commence on Monday 4 February. Please note - sport day for Year 9 is on Tuesday.

Training schedule and fixtures can be found on the Knox Senior School Skoolbag App.

MARTIN HAYWOOD

### YEAR 9 PARENT CONVENOR/S

The KPA is desperately looking for a convenor for the Year 9 (2019) year group, and we would like to encourage you to consider taking on this role.

If you think that you might be interested in being a convenor, please feel free to contact [Megan Bailey](#) (Community Relations and Events Manager).

Thank you for your support.



## KNOX AT HOME 2019

The Knox Parents' Association (KPA) warmly invites all Knox Prep, Wahroonga Prep and Senior School parents to this special community event. Held at the beginning of the new school year, *Knox at Home* provides a relaxed opportunity for parents to meet with each other, members of staff and the School Council. It is a great way to meet other parents from your child's year group.

**When:** Friday 15 February 2019, 7.30pm-9.30pm  
**Where:** Seniors' Hall, Weeks Senior Academy, Senior School  
**Cost:** \$42 per person - includes drinks and savouries

Please note, this is an adults only event.

**RSVP and payment instructions:** To RSVP, please purchase your tickets via Humanitix by Friday 8 February at [bit.ly/knoxathome](http://bit.ly/knoxathome).

**Enquiries:** [events@knox.nsw.edu.au](mailto:events@knox.nsw.edu.au)

### BOOKS ON BACK ORDER

A small number of items are on back order with Box of Books/LJ Harper. To check which books are on back order and the reasons, please see the [waitlist](#).

There are three main reasons we're waiting on some physical textbooks:

- The book is not published yet, or in the process of being printed by the publisher.
- The publishers' stock levels are low (since orders were placed in October/November) and they require a reprint. These textbooks are being shipped out from the UK or other countries which can cause delays.
- Your order was placed after the cut-off date and stock is being replenished and shipped out as soon as possible.

In most cases these textbooks will be available digitally for students in their Box of Books school portal.