

## YEAR 12 TEAM LEADERS

'No one has ever become poor by giving.' – Anne Frank

Since this time five years ago, I have been writing about the Class of 2019. It is with excitement, determination and some nostalgia that I am sure we are all looking at our young men at the start of this, their final year at school. As always, it has been great to catch-up with the boys these past few days with most looking recharged and ready to give their best for these last three terms.

Whether all the holiday homework has been completed or not, it is imperative for each student to spend the time in these first few weeks getting to a point with their subjects that they are comfortable with. Being proactive is much better than being reactive and, with assessments starting in the next two weeks, minimising stress is vital.

To that end, I would love for the boys to make giving the best of themselves a mantra for the year ahead. Helping their peers to succeed, supporting their friends and families and being kind and giving to themselves will help each of them to grow and flourish. Undue anxiety can be reduced by eating and sleeping well, getting enough exercise and by asking for help. Presentation is also key as being well dressed and groomed will help to increase positive self-worth and decrease negative interactions with staff.

Once again, please encourage your son to seek assistance from those that are here to help him at Knox. We want this to be a special and rewarding year for the cohort and are confident that it will be.

SAM WHITE AND ANDREA WIFFEN



## STUDENT ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

It was lovely to see the boys back on Wednesday refreshed and ready to start their final year at Knox. It seems like only yesterday they started in Year 7.

It was great to hear the boys talk about their different holidays, some at home and some overseas.

Year 12 BBO starts again next Wednesday 2 February. Please remember to bring cash.

During the holidays, Knox hosted the annual Neil Dansie Cricket Festival attended by schools from all over Australia. Three Knox boys scored centuries during the festival including Henry Wines, Jason Whiffin and Sam Druce.

During the first four days of the school holidays, 70 boys were involved in the Abbox Camp at Abbotsleigh where they looked after 28 special children. All involved said they will never forget the children they were assisting, nor the wonderful experience.

From Monday 4 February, if a student does not have a scheduled class either first or last period, he may seek permission to arrive at School at 9.15am in time for Period 2 or leave after Period 6. A [request for permission](#) must be signed and submitted to Mr Weeding for consideration before any late arrivals or early leave is granted.

On Wednesday 6 February school photos will be taken. Please ensure that your son has his hair cut to Knox standards, his uniform in impeccable order and is clean shaven.

Have a great weekend.

[PAMELA HITCHCOCK](#)

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***The only difference  
between a dream and a  
goal, is a plan.***

### 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](#)
- [Permission slip for study leave](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Wednesday 6 February

- Year 12 Photos

#### Friday 15 February

- Knox at Home  
WSA Seniors' Hall  
7.30pm to 9.30pm

#### Friday 12 April

- Term 1 concludes  
See the full calendar in [Parent Lounge](#)

**STAGE 6 ACADEMY TEAM**

The boys returned on Wednesday with a spring in their step ready for the challenges that lie ahead. With the arrival of the new Year 11 students, the WSA has been alive this week and it has been a pleasure to be caught up in the excitement of a new year.

Today a special year meeting was held to lay a platform to for the final three terms ahead. Some of the points that were discussed include:

**High Expectations**

It is important that the data obtained by each student from their Year 11 KAI interview is used to set realistic, yet courageous goals. The boys should make contact with their mentor over the coming days and weeks. The next formal KAI interview will be in early Term 2.

**Collaboration**

As has been outlined in past newsletters, the WSA was modelled on [Bandura's Social Learning Theory](#). The infrastructure provides the environment for this to occur and the effective use of class time and afternoon and evening studies in Seniors' Hall ensures the boys benefit from the experience. The results of the HSC cohorts since its opening clearly shows that the collaboration this space promotes has enabled the success in part we have witnessed. There were many success stories from the 2018 HSC. Cory Aitchison (Dux of Science) achieved one of the three top ATARS for Knox and will study Advanced Science majoring in Physics at the University of Sydney. In the HSC 2018 feature in the Hornsby Advocate, Cory said 'the collaboration between the tight-knit school community really helped ease the pressure of their final year' He went on to say that 'a big part of my last year at school was the community – the support from my friends and teachers helped bring down the stress for me – the collaboration really helped'. It is crucial that promoting collaboration now, rather than solely after the Trial Exams (a common misconception among Year 12 students doing the HSC) will be a goal throughout the year. What will be the story of the class of 2019?

**Punctuality**

Many boys are outstanding in their punctuality to class. Period 1 should be the most productive period of the day if a good night of sleep has been achieved. At the year meeting we reinforced the importance of being at school with plenty of time to ensure they are ready for the day ahead. Students arriving late to school without a valid reason is unacceptable; it interferes with their own learning and disrupts all students when they walk in late. Mr Ranyard will be keeping a close eye on students arriving to school consistently late and will be withdrawing privileges for these boys if needed.

**Electronic Devices**

Over the past two years the boarders have achieved incredible gains in productivity by locking their devices away for the evening. The day boys can now employ a similar strategy using the lockable technology cabinet in Seniors' Hall each evening. The cabinet provides a secure place where phones, iPads and laptops can be signed in at 4.30 pm and then collected at 9pm. Of course, this is not compulsory but we encourage the boys to self-regulate and see what they can achieve while away from the distraction of technology.



ANDREW WEEDING AND GREG NUNAN

**SENIOR SCHOOL TUCKSHOPS VOLUNTEERS  
URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR 2019**

The Senior School Tuckshops 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 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](#) (Tuckshop Convenor) and let her know your availability.

**SWIMMING - SATURDAY 2 FEBRUARY**

Years 8-12 Knox swim trials

Boys register near the pool from 9am and warm up from 9.30am

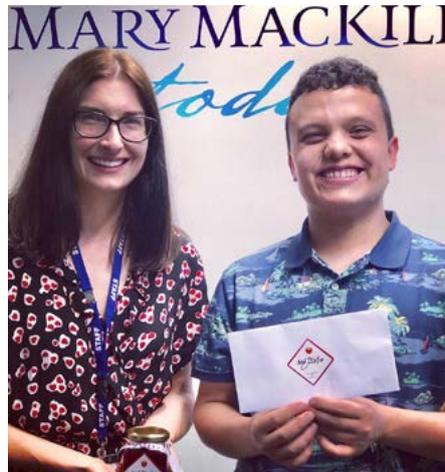
We encourage as many boys as possible to attend.



ABBOX CAMP



Above: Haowen Gao, AMC Award, with His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales at Government House



Above: Ben Burwood donating money he has raised through his jam making to the Mary MacKillop Foundation

**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, 7.00pm - 9.00pm  
**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 Humanix by Friday 8 February at [bit.ly/KnoxatHome](http://bit.ly/KnoxatHome).

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



Above: KAPA Tour - Spain

