

YEAR 11 TEAM LEADERS

This week saw the launch of our major fundraising initiative for this year. Year 11 students will be raising money for research into Sarcoma Cancer which is a rare form of cancer of the bone or soft tissue. Daniel Hardyman (Yr 11) shared a personal story about a close young family member with osteosarcoma. Two of the family members are planning to climb Mera Peak in Nepal this year to raise money for research into sarcoma. The funds are to go directly to the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute. The aim of the campaign is to raise \$64,000 dollars which equates to \$10 for every metre they climb. Less than 1% of cancer research funding is directed towards sarcoma, yet this rare group of cancers make up 20% of all childhood cancers so funds for research are desperately needed.



During year meeting, we celebrated the successes of a number of co-curricular activities such as Chess, Future Problem Solving, Robotics, Pipe Band and Sailing. Congratulations to William Choi who has recently been selected into the Firsts Debating Team. We finished the meeting by having a couple of Speed Chess games. Aleksy Ginovic took on Omar Khan which didn't last long as Omar lost in about 3 moves. Timothy Leong then was called in to challenge Aleksy. It went down to the wire and ended up a draw. I think Chess will have a new following after this exciting game!

I had the opportunity to watch "Oh What a Lovely War" last weekend. I was captivated by the performances of all the boys. It was a wonderful production and a delight to see the boys achieve in this area. To be part of the very last performance in the Drama Theatre was also quite special. Well done boys!

Finally, yesterday at the Academy Assembly, Year 11 had a chance to reflect on the goals they set at the beginning of the year and whether their routines have been effective. They have been challenged to think about habits they may need to change, distractions they need to manage and how effective their study has been. Year 11 is all about figuring out what works for them so that the stress in Year 12 is reduced.

Melinda Price and Constable Linda Hart then presented on the temptations that are in society to study harder by taking non-prescribed psychostimulants such as ADHD medication. We want our students to be fully informed of the dangers and legalities of this. Melinda raised an important point that the boys already have the ability and support to get through the next couple of years without the misuse of prescription or illicit drugs. If they start relying on stimulants, including large doses of caffeine, this will erode their confidence that they can get through their senior studies on their own. Stanford Children's Health Service, USA, states that the abuse of stimulants can lead to a false sense of assurance but reduced academic performance overall. Obviously, there are more dangerous side effects such as reduced sleep which has an impact on well-being, creating a pattern of substance abuse and in rare cases hallucinations, paranoia, irritability and dependence. There are serious legal ramifications for the misuse of these non-prescribed substances which includes providing them for others. There are no short cuts and the boys have a lot of support if needed to achieve their goals with their ability alone.

Have a lovely weekend!

BETH GODDARD AND DUNCAN STEDMAN

USEFUL LINKS

[Sport fixtures](#)

[Make a payment](#)

[Knox website](#)

[Careers](#)

[Year 11 page on the portal](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday April 4

- [Track and Field Championships](#)
Narrabeen

Friday April 5 - 12

- AFX Camp

Friday 12 April

- Term 1 concludes

Tuesday 20 April

- School resumes

Saturday 4 May'

- Gala Day - 10am - 4pm

Friday 24 May 4pm - 9pm

- Opening Junior Knox Academy and Performing Arts Centre

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



STAGE 6 ACADEMY TEAM

As we outlined at the Information Evening on 11 February, the sequence of events for issuing of School Reports and Parent/Student/Teacher Evening is different to what was experienced in Years 7 to 10 due to the compressed nature of the Preliminary HSC year. Based on the experiences of the last few years we are now running with a model whereby the Parent/Student/Teacher evening is quite early so communication with teachers can be facilitated prior to the second assessment in each subject. Reports will not have been written by this stage but teachers will have data on formative assessment that will have been completed throughout Term 1.



- Parent/Student/Teacher evening – Monday May 6. We like to refer to the evening as a Student Led Conference whereby the boys take the lead in the running of the interviews. The boys will get instructions on preparing for this evening in the first week of Term 2 during Year Meeting and further support from their teachers. Boys will also receive a reflection sheet prior to the evening that will assist them on the night. Details regarding booking appointments will be emailed by Fiona Billington by the end of this term.
- Half Yearly Reports will be issued during Term 2 Week 5A. The report format has been changed. Details associated with the changes are documented on a recording of a Parent Breakfast hosted by Mrs Yager, Mr O'Regan and Mr Nelson

The boys have made a fantastic start to their Stage 6 studies and we complimented them on this in Year Meeting this week. Looking ahead, they must now start to plan for next term. There are only 16 school weeks until their Yearly Exams. Yesterday we showed the boys an A3 study plan template that can be used for the upcoming break to assist with organisation. These templates are available from Mrs Cherry and Mrs Billington in WSA Management Centre.

Classes will run as normal while cadets are away. All non-cadets are expected to be in class through to the last day of term.

[ANDREW WEEDING AND GREG NUNAN](#)

CAREERS INFORMATION

Tuesday 3 April – BAcc Co-op Scholarship presentation - WSA Lecture Theatre - 12.50pm – 1.30pm

Wednesday 14 May - Engineering Industry Breakfast - WSA Seniors Hall

7am – 8.20am (registrations opening soon)

Tuesday 21 May - Knox Careers Night - Great Hall - 5.30pm – 8pm



MESSAGE FROM MR JAMES, HEADMASTER

New work at the Senior School campus

As we near completion of the Junior Academy and Performing Arts Centre (in time for the start of Term 2), we are now commencing work on a number of other projects at the Senior School campus which will better meet the needs of the boys and staff in the years ahead.

Over the last week, work has commenced on the redevelopment of the space outside the boarding precinct.

This project will provide a new undercover basketball court, an upgraded and improved locker area and administration facility for Years 7-10 and an outdoor garden and recreation space for our boarders to enjoy.

The final façade for the new works will be reflective of the Great Hall and other recent buildings.

The building works for this project will continue until approximately September 2019, subject to weather.