



## Concord High School **Keeping In Touch** *Respectful Responsible Achieving* **Term 3 Week 9**

Email us your thoughts –  
[concord-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:concord-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Regularly check school website -  
[www.concord-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.concord-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

# Principals Report

I would like to congratulate Ms Joyce Valele, a Student learning and Support Officer (SLSO) at Concord High School for being selected by the school to receive the Secretary's Award for Excellent Service. There were many nominations received and being selected to receive this award is a significant achievement. This prestigious award recognises Ms Valele's outstanding achievements and contribution to public education. Ms Valele was presented with her award by Mr Mark Scott AO, Secretary of the NSW Department of Education on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September at a special presentation ceremony.

Every day, Ms Valele goes above and beyond her role to assist students with physical and intellectual disabilities, mental health issues and emotional and behavioural difficulties. She is a regular volunteer at the school's Breakfast Club program and established the Whanua group, the School's Pacific Islander Cultural group. Ms Valele epitomises the values of this award and has created such a sense of trust amongst the students that they are comfortable to approach her about many issues.



# Principals Report continued

## Enviro Club

The Enviro Club has been very active around the school this year beautifying the school environment. On Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> September students under the leadership of Ms Fatma Bekheet attended an event at Olympic Park to present their GoMAD video. I would like to thank Ms Bekeet and Ms Celik for their support in engaging the students in wonderful initiatives to educate them and improve the external environment at Concord High School.



## Year 12 Farewell

This week with sadness we will formally farewell the Year 12 students. I would like to thank all of the Year 12 students for the contributions that they have made to Concord High School over the last 6 years and wish them all the very best for their HSC examinations and future endeavours. I would also like to thank the teachers of Year 12 who have gone above and beyond to support the students during their final year in preparation for the HSC examinations. A huge thank you to Mr Jason Munday, Year 12 Adviser and Ms Emma Finlayson, Assistant Year Adviser for their care, enthusiasm, hard work and support of the Year 12 students.

Best wishes Year 12 students





# Principals Report continued

## Executive School Planning day

The executive staff at Concord High School spent the day on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September engaging in an executive school planning day with a theme of 'Building Capacity'. During this valuable professional learning experience the executive engaged in professional development focused around the school plan 2018-2020 and developing leadership capacity.



## Food Technology Cafes

During this term the Year 9 Food Technology students have been very busy learning about how to set up their own catering operations. The classes ran their own cafes serving beautiful meals to teaching staff at the school. Below are some photos of the Italian themed café lead by Ms Tunks.



**Mrs Jody Engisch**  
**Relieving Principal**

# Deputy Principals Report

By Craig Anderson & Fiona Payne

## Year 12 transition

During the week we will hold the Year 12 Graduation ceremony starting at 6pm sharp in the school Hall.

Once the HSC examinations are over Year 12 are requested to return to school on Wednesday November 8 between 9 to 11am and complete the sign out process. On this day students are expected to return all Concord High School resources loaned to them and settle any financial commitments.

If you have any questions about the Year 12 transition please contact Mrs Milligan, Ms Peoples, Mr Munday or Mr Anderson at school.

## Student Profile

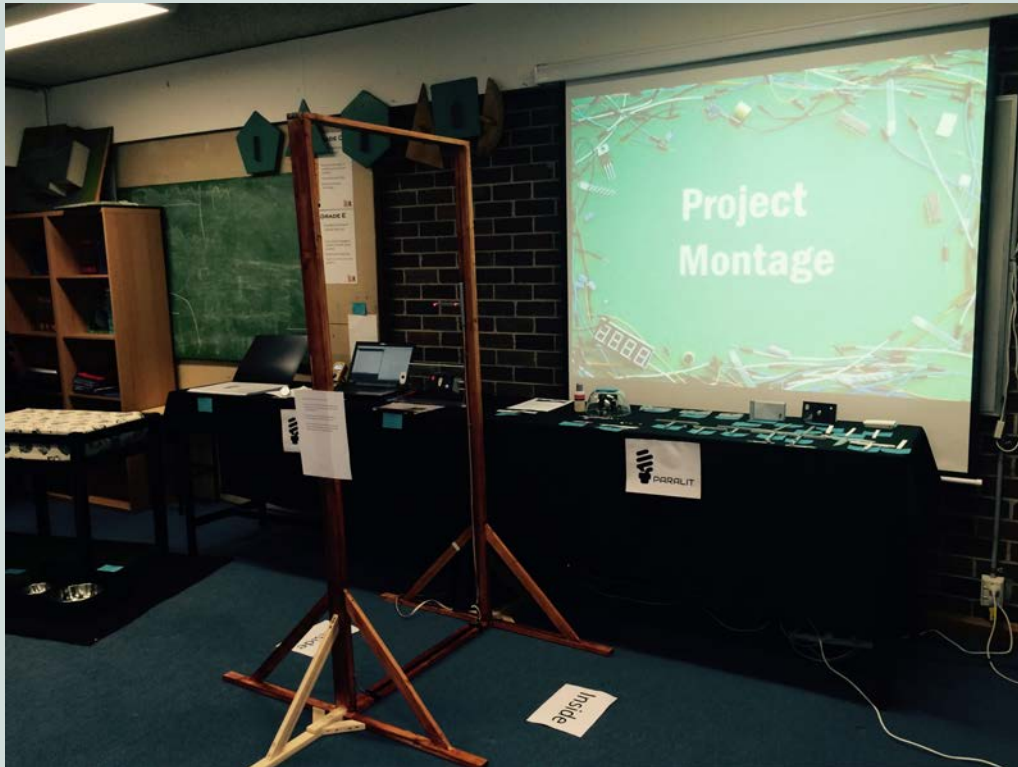


Some courses have a major work component. Of these some are sent out of the school to be marked such as Society and Culture Personal Interest Projects whilst others are marked at school. One of these courses is Design and Technology. Parsa Jalili Tabaei is a student who is just completing the school based component of his HSC in Design and Technology. Parsa has created a major work that is a fully automated room lighting system- The Paralit. This is the combination of electronics, mechanics and computing. "My main motivation is to create an innovative product, that is not only unique but it is superior to similar existing products in the market. I want to create a product that is helpful and makes everyday tasks easier and more convenient. This project was inspired by the evolution of every day products and machinery in the past few century, taking over everyday tasks by automatisation". Parsa hopes to study Engineering at Sydney University next year. We congratulate Parsa on his innovation as we do to all of our students who have completed a major work this year.



# Deputy Principals continued

## Parsa Jalili Taaei's HSC Design and Technology Project



### Students who live in Newington

If your child lives in the Newington area and catches a bus to school we ask that you please check on their behaviour whilst waiting for the bus. Unfortunately we have reports from members of the community about poor behaviour of our students at the bus stop. If you are able to please discuss our core values of respectful and responsible behaviour with your student. In travelling to and from school in uniform they represent both the family and school. The most recent complaint was students blocking access to commuters trying to catch other buses. Please ensure that your student knows to step aside when required.

### AIME

The AIME program has now finished for the term and will resume Week 2 of Term 4 and run until Week 6. The next Outreach days are Years 7 and 8 Friday October 13<sup>th</sup> and Years 9, 10 and 11 on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup>. Only those students that attend tutor squad on a Thursday afternoon are able to attend Outreach days.

### Social media issues

We are dealing with a large increase in complaints by students who are upset about content posted on social media.

Please ensure that you are vigilant with your child's use of social media. They have more skills than most of us but are still children and they do require supervision. If your student is upset by a post ask them to report it to the site, to block or delete the person who posted it and in some cases to stop looking at that site. To report serious incidents please go to [Office of the eSafety Commissioner website](#).



# Deputy Principals continued

## YEAR 11 PRELIMINARY HSC EXAMINATION BLOCK

Year 11 students will finish their Preliminary HSC examinations next week.

**Full school uniform is expected** for all examinations and students out of uniform will be sent down to the Side Office for an out of uniform pass.

Students will then attend the Cross Roads camp at Narrabeen on Wednesday 20 to Friday 22 September.

## FINAL DAYS: TELL THEM FROM ME

***Tell Them From Me** is an online survey system that helps school capture the views of students, teachers and parents.*

The survey is anonymous and is used to identify trends and better inform our school priorities. It takes about 15 minutes to complete.

To have your say, go to the following url:

<https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/chs2017>



# Welfare News

by Fiona Milligan

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September was R U Okay? Day. R U OK?Day is a national day of action dedicated to reminding everyone that we've all got what it takes to ask, "are you ok?" and support those struggling with life . Taking part can be as simple as learning R U OK?'s four steps so you can have a conversation that could change a life. Here at school, students were reminded of the following steps which all family's may find useful.

1. Ask
2. Listen
3. Encourage action
4. Check in

## 1. ASK R U OK?

- Be relaxed, friendly and concerned in your approach.
- Help them open up by asking questions like "How are you going?" or "What's been happening?"
- Mention specific things that have made you concerned for them, like "You seem less chatty than usual. How are you going?"

## IF PUSH BACK

- If they don't want to talk, don't criticise them.
- Tell them you're still concerned about changes in their behaviour and you care about them.
- Avoid a confrontation.
- You could say: "Please call me if you ever want to chat" or "Is there someone else you'd rather talk to?"

## 2. LISTEN WITHOUT JUDGEMENT

- Take what they say seriously and don't interrupt or rush the conversation.
- Don't judge their experiences or reactions but acknowledge that things seem tough for them.
- If they need time to think, sit patiently with the silence.
- Encourage them to explain: "How are you feeling about that?" or "How long have you felt that way?"
- Show that you've listened by repeating back what you've heard (in your own words) and ask if you have understood them properly.

## 3. ENCOURAGE ACTION

- Ask: "What have you done in the past to manage similar situations?"
- Ask: "How would you like me to support you?"
- Ask: "What's something you can do for yourself right now? Something that's enjoyable or relaxing?"
- You could say: "When I was going through a difficult time, I tried this... You might find it useful too."
- If they've been feeling really down for more than 2 weeks, encourage them to see a health professional. You could say, "It might be useful to link in with someone who can support you. I'm happy to assist you to find the right person to talk to."
- Be positive about the role of professionals in getting through tough times.



# Welfare News continued

## IF NEED EXPERT HELP

Some conversations are too big for family and friends to take on alone. If someone's been really low for more than 2 weeks - or is at risk - please contact a professional as soon as you can.

## 4. CHECK IN

- Pop a reminder in your diary to call them in a couple of weeks. If they're really struggling, follow up with them sooner.
- You could say: "I've been thinking of you and wanted to know how you've been going since we last chatted."
- Ask if they've found a better way to manage the situation. If they haven't done anything, don't judge them. They might just need someone to listen to them for the moment.
- Stay in touch and be there for them. Genuine care and concern can make a real difference.







## Reading Achievements at Concord High School

**Mr Wilks (Librarian)**

**Ms Picone (Relieving Head Teacher Secondary Studies)**

The following students have read an exception amount of novels this year. Concord High School has awarded these students and would like to recognize them for their dedication to reading and developing their literacy skills.

Jessica passion for literature has seen her engage in reading The Percy Jackson Series and The Harry Potter Series numerous times.

Jing (Jessica) Xu  
Year 8

Roger is an enthusiastic reader, having read the majority of The Percy Jackson Series, The Divergent Series and a range of other books.

Roger Zhang  
Year 8

Grace's reading interests include Science Fiction novels, such as The Future Trap and A Wrinkle in Time.

Grace Rosier  
Year 9



Linda is an avid reader of Rick Riordan's novels as well as books based on the genres of crime, suspense and horror.

Linda Kochappan  
Year 7

**"Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body."**

Richard Steele

Jiho enjoys reading the Full Metal Alchemist Manga Series. This particular manga series has sold over 67 million copies worldwide, making it one of the most successful series of all time.

Jiho Kim  
Year 7

Noah has a real passion for reading and this is exemplified by the fact that he has borrowed as many as 40 books from the library so far this year. The books he has borrowed range from The Hunger Games Series to The Percy Jackson Series.

Noah Stefas

A good percentage of Sam's reading relates to the genre of humour, such as The Simpsons and MAD Magazines. He has also read The Harry Potter Series.

Sam Hogan  
Year 8

Westley impressed the library staff by reading works from George Orwell who is one of the most influential writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Westley Lo  
Year 9

Heshwaran has borrowed a book that no one else on this reading achievements list has borrowed – The Story of Frog Belly Rat Bone.

Heshwaran Nanthakumaran  
Year 9

# European Handball 2017

Any sport where Iceland can field a champion Olympic team must be an accessible game for all. As part of grade sport, Concord High School engages in a fiercely fought European Handball competition with schools in our area. It is a fast paced game, which requires energy, fitness and a high level of skill. This year was a superb year for the sport at Concord. We fielded two teams, and each team displayed the commitment necessary to learn new techniques and develop their game play to raise their standard each week. As the season progressed, each team rose to new challenges as a cohort, supporting each other in game play, communicating tactics, and consistently showing the true values of sport-selflessness and focus on the goals of the team.

Both teams experienced victory and defeats in their learning process, but consistently displayed the true bravery needed to return each week and commit to give their best. As a result of this great attitude advanced through the draw, and the teams fought a close high tension battle in the semi -finals, Concord 2 defeating Fort Street 3-2, and Concord 1 beating Ryde Secondary College 8-7.

The grand final was fought between the Concord teams in a spirit of true determination. And what a game it was-so well balanced and displaying all the skills and fortitude they had developed over the year.

The result was, Concord 1 beat Concord 2 by 9 goals to 8. A fittingly close end to a wonderful season by both teams.

It has been an absolute pleasure to be associated with such a fine bunch of young men who taught me, once again, that with heart, skill and determination many things become possible. We had so much fun and many laughs along the way. To all team members-thanks very much for making my Tuesdays a day to look forward to. And I congratulate you all on a wonderful season, well done chaps!





# Enviro Club

## by Craig Anderson

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September our Enviro club presented at the Youth Eco Summit at Sydney Olympic Park. The students presented their GoMAD- Go Make a Difference video to an audience of over 200 students from a variety of schools. The video chronicles the Wildlife corridor and the hard work that each focus group put toward this project. The video will appear on our school website shortly. Congratulations team. The Enviro team meets every Monday at lunchtime in Common 7. The term 4 focus will be on developing a vertical garden as well as productive vegetable gardens.



# Rotary Club of Sydney Inner West

**Karen Rivers, Director**

**Mobile: 0411 241 582**

A lovely friend of many years Kathy Dodd Farrawell will be creating an art piece, a 2 metre long black canvas where she will create her design in her style as a First Australian woman and then on the day people can be involved by signing it, adding colour, whatever they wish .

As a member of Rotary Club of Sydney Inner West we involve ourselves with local community projects and close to my heart and our main focus for the past four years has been the Sydney Survivorship Centre and the Survivorship Cottage at Concord Cancer Centre created by Professor Janette Vardy a true visionary in cancer health care.

Everyone involved at "The Cottage " as it is affectionately known enjoys a variety of fun, healthy, uplifting classes which enrich their lives through friendship and activities.

Our focus at Rotary so far has been to help furnish the cottage , acquiring many gifts from businesses and the support of community groups including local students to help create a homely environment and lovely surrounding gardens for the cancer survivors.

Community is the circles of our lives , our time spent with each other , friends, family , neighbours , colleagues & cancer does not discriminate , it is a wish to have as many communities join in this celebration by attending on the day but also by donating time , art to auction and in turn we will be acknowledging the people involved .

Ongoing fundraising is imperative for the centre to enable them to continue to provide all the wonderful free activities for cancer survivors and their carers . These include activities such as art therapy, music therapy, mindfulness, yoga, pilates, and other lifestyle and educational activities.







# AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING FOR TERM 4, 2017

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**Tutoring will begin Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October and end on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December.**

After School Tutoring is conducted on a term basis and will be available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in English, Maths and Science. There will be **8** tutoring sessions (Week 2 – Week 9) in **Term 4** held in the school library from 3:00-4:00pm and from 4:00-5:00pm.

The tutors are university students and **their numbers are limited so flexibility is necessary when making preferences** as the 3:00pm-4:00pm time slot and individual sessions are not always possible to accommodate.

An application form is included in this week's 'Keeping in Touch' or one can be obtained from the Front Office. Parents will be notified of the success of their application during the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Payment of tutoring fees will be required by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

**Applications for Term 4 will open on**

**Friday 8th September, 2017**

**and close on**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2017**

Applications are considered on a first come, first served basis. All forms must be returned by email to

[sarah.kim69@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sarah.kim69@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Please note: In fairness to everyone, applications sent before the opening date will be returned. Applications sent after the cut-off date will also be returned.**



***Congratulations to the students listed below, who were awarded a Merit last week.***

**STUDENT**

**AWARD**

Rohita CHIDIREDDI

**Principal's Award:** Principal Award

Jin CHOI

**Principal's Award:** Principal Award

Lina OKATI

**Head Teacher Award:** Head Teacher

Marco DIODATI

**Head Teacher Award:** Head Teacher

Gloria KIM

**Head Teacher Award:** Head Teacher

Parsa JALILI TABAEI

**Head Teacher Award:** Head Teacher

Lara FRANZI

**Head Teacher Award:** Head Teacher

Alex FORIERE

**Head Teacher Award:** Head Teacher

Alessandro ALTERISIO

**Head Teacher Award:** Head Teacher



# Upcoming Dates

## VARIATIONS TO ROUTINE TERM 3 WEEK 10 18 SEPTEMBER – 22 SEPTEMBER, 2017 WEEK B

<b>18 September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11 Final Preliminary Examinations</li> <li>Girls Welfare Activity 8:55am – 9:45am</li> <li>Robotics Club 12:35pm – 1:15pm</li> </ul>	<b>19 September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11 Final Preliminary Examinations</li> <li>Year 7 Gala Day Wet Weather Day 9:00am – 3:00pm</li> </ul>	<b>20 September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11 Final Preliminary Examinations</li> <li>EX – Year 11 Crossroad Camp 9:00am – 3:00pm</li> <li>Robotics Club 12:35pm – 1:15pm</li> <li>Year 12 Farewell Assembly 1:15pm – 2:55pm</li> </ul>
<b>21 September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11 Final Preliminary Examinations</li> <li>Year 12 Graduation</li> <li>Ryde Coffee School 9:00am – 3:00pm</li> <li>Year 11 Crossroad Camp 9:00am – 3:00pm</li> <li>MT-TPL last one. Presentations next term.</li> </ul>	<b>22 September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11 Final Preliminary Examinations</li> <li>Junior Assembly. Senior Year Meetings.</li> <li>Ryde Coffee School 9:00am – 3:00pm</li> <li>Year 11 Crossroad Camp 9:00am – 3:00pm</li> <li>Final Day Term 3</li> </ul>	

## A LOOK AHEAD 2017 Term 3 Week 10 & Term 4 Week 1 & 2

<b>A TERM 3 WEEK 1</b>	<b>9 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students Commence Term 4</li> <li>Robotics Club 12:35pm – 1:15pm</li> </ul>	<b>10 October</b>	<b>11 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Robotics Club 12:35pm – 1:15pm</li> </ul>	<b>12 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MT- Staff</li> </ul>	<b>13 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AIME Years 7 and 8</li> <li>Year 11 N Determinations – Principal Determination</li> </ul>
<b>B TERM 3 WEEK 2</b>	<b>16 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11 Reports Due</li> <li>Year 10 Road Safety 9:00am-2:00pm</li> <li>Robotics Club 12:35pm – 1:15pm</li> </ul>	<b>17 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P&amp;C Meeting 7:00pm-9:00pm</li> </ul>	<b>18 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Robotics Club 12:35pm – 1:15pm</li> </ul>	<b>19 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MT - Faculty</li> </ul>	<b>20 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AIME Years 9, 10 and 11</li> </ul>
<b>A TERM 3 WEEK 2</b>	<b>23 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Year 10 HSIE</li> <li>Headsart Program 9:00am-10:35am</li> <li>Robotics Club 12:35pm – 1:15pm</li> </ul>	<b>24 October</b>	<b>25 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Robotics Club 12:35pm – 1:15pm</li> </ul>	<b>26 October</b>	<b>27 October</b>

