



THE NEWS @ CONCORD

Term 2 2019 Issue 79



Athletics Carnival

By Aaliyah Alamedine and Mohamad Hazim



Running races and fancy costumes, it's the Athletics Carnival! The Concord High School Athletics Carnival was held on the 17th of May 2019, at St Lukes Oval and it was an event never to be forgotten.

The 2019 Athletics Carnival theme was 'Film', so we had various students coming as all sorts of characters from their favourite movies. The carnival had numerous track and field events that catered to everyone; including 100 - 1500 meter Sprints, Shot-put, Javelin, Discus, Long Jump, and High Jump. Also featured was a sausage sizzle in our very own canteen, and drink stands easily accessible, so if anyone needed a refresher it was there.

To start off the fun day Concord High School had their traditional war cry and all our Concord houses gathered together to chant their cries.

Yaralla came 1st, Brays came 2nd, Kendall came 3rd, Kings came 4th, and Majors came 5th! They then jumped straight into the events, starting with the 800 metres, following through to the 1500 metres. While these track events were running, the field events were also taking place on the long jump track, and on our school oval.

Our day was kept entertained with music and funny jokes being played by our very own commentators, Ms Cesta and Mr Slocum, who always keep these events lively and exciting.

The results were as follows:

- Brays came 1st, finishing on 743 points,
- Kendall came 2nd, finishing on 737 points,
- Majors came 3rd, finishing on 653 points,
- Yaralla came 4th, finishing on 644 points,
- and Kings came 5th, finishing on 640 points!

We congratulate all houses for their efforts and we thank each participant for making it a wonderful day for all. But most importantly, a special thanks to Mr Bilbija and team for organising an amazing day!



ZONE ATHLETICS

Zone athletics was held at Sydney Olympic Park.



@CONCORD_HS_NSW

Follow us on Twitter for updates on what is happening at Concord High!



GIRLS ON THE BLOCK

A new initiative from the students at Concord High School.

Interview with the Constable

Story by Reya Palkhiwala and Jack Brandhoj

On Thursday the 6th of June Constable Anne Ferfolya, visited Concord High School to talk to year 7 about safe online behaviour. We have built a strong relationship with our local police and were able to speak with Constable Jim Bottalico about the work they do in the community.

1. What are your main goals in helping Concord High School?

As School Liaison and Youth Liaison Police officers our goal is to work in partnership and support the school, students and parents when it comes to matters involving the law or any issues that we can assist with in being able to support the school and families when it comes to the wellbeing of students.

2. What is Concord's biggest challenge, in your opinion?

Concord is no different than any other high school we deal with. It does not have one specific problem but as in all high schools we have dealt with a range of issues at the school. There is not one specific area that stand out as far as I am concerned.

3. What do you intend to educate Concord High School students about?

We have many things that we can do with students at Concord High. They include Cyber, The Law in general, Behaviour in Public Places, Drug and Alcohol abuse and for the older students Safe driving and

Safe partying. Generally, have to be a good citizen and what is expected of them to become well-adjusted members of society.

4. What other schools have you worked with?

Our YLO work with all schools in the Burwood Police Area Command. There are 56 schools in the command which include Primary and High Schools. The SLP works only with High Schools, however works over two Police Area Commands, Burwood and Auburn.

5. Have you always aspired to be a part of the police force?

I applied for the Police Force when I first left school however got a job with Telecom (Telstra) straight after finishing school. I was made redundant at 48 years of age and then joined the Police. I graduated at 50 years of age. I really enjoy what I do in the NSW Police Force.

6. What is your opinion on teenagers and teenage culture today?

There are a lot of challenges for teenagers in today's society. I think that the expectation of what they want to achieve places a lot of pressure on teenagers. Unfortunately, society wants everything now and it is very competitive when it comes to what you have and how you are perceived. There is pressure from everyone, parents, peers, schools and society in general on teenagers.

7. How do you think parents can help keep their kids safe?

Unfortunately, in our busy society the teenager's main teacher, I believe, are their parents and, in most families, both work hard to provide for their families and don't have the time to spend to teach their children or listen to them. We are a 24/7 society now which poses lots of challenges for teenagers. I always say to parents if you want to give your children something valuable give them your time.

Thank you Constable Jim Botatalico and Constable Anne Ferfolya for the hard work and insight into Concord High School.



Ms Milinovic, Deputy Principal

Story by Amy McGee and Tasha Avramidi

This year, Ms Milinovic is working with the new principal Mr Newby, and is taking up the role as Deputy Principal at Concord High School. Two reporters Amy McGee and Tasha Avramidi interviewed Ms Milinovic to find out what goals she has set heading into the rest of the school year.

The first question we asked was what goals she had for 2019. Ms Milinovic says that she is working from a welfare perspective to ensure that every Year 9 and 11 student is working towards their personal best and that they are safe and following the school's PB4L values of being respectful, responsible and achieving. Ms Milinovic also spoke about attendance and uniform. She says that she wants every student to feel proud to wear their school uniform and be a part of our school community to feel a sense of belonging. She says that wearing a uniform is teaching us a life skill, as our future workforce will require you to be in some type of uniform for any given career choice. In regards to attendance, she says she wants students in their classes at school every day. She believes that being at school means we will absorb knowledge and skills which will lead to power, personal growth and development. Ms Milinovic says, "In terms of the community, my aim is to work towards Concord High School being the best school in the inner west and for people to view our school as the best option for their child's welfare and academic progression."

We also asked what her strengths are when it came to the role of Deputy Principal at Concord. Her 19 years in experience of teaching is something she believes contributes to her strengths as deputy and she says it helps to understand the dynamics between students and staff and how best to assist a student with their academic and welfare needs. Ms Milinovic, tells us she takes a firm but fair approach and it has allowed her to build a strong rapport with parents, students and staff. "The boundaries I have in place allow for students to understand that I will always work in the best interest of the child, whilst steering them in a direction that will inevitably lead to them being a good active citizen in preparation for the real world."

"I would love every student to believe in themselves and develop a greater sense of

resilience. This will eventually lead them into being the best version of themselves and help them achieve the goals they have set for themselves," Ms Milinovic told us, when asked what she would like to change about Concord High School. She is very passionate about all students and she works very hard to ensure every student feels safe and welcome.

When we asked how this role differs from her previous role, she told us that this role allows her to see a bigger picture of Concord High School and she says being Deputy Principal has exposed her to a whole school approach in terms of welfare, academics and whole school projects. Her last role was faculty based where she was focused on HSIE, students and curriculum; now she gets to work with students and parents to better everyone's time at Concord High School and work to make the Concord community a great community.

There are some exciting challenges ahead, "My role as part of the Senior Executive means I get to work with a great team of senior educators who are working tirelessly to ensure that 1200 students are being catered for on a social, physical, socio-cultural and academic level and I find this quite challenging, yet exciting. The greatest part of my current job is that I get to work directly with outstanding staff and students whilst also meeting some wonderful and dedicated parents and members of the community who are proud to be part of Concord High School."



The Peer Reading Program

Story by Kasia Bergersen & Clarissa Emanuele



Peer reading is a new program at Concord High School, created to improve the reading skills of year 7 students. Twenty five year 10 students will be participating in helping support year 7 students who could benefit from improving their reading abilities.

Sessions will begin over the next year and will take place twice a week during periods 2, 3 and 4 on rotating days. The program has been organised and will be run by Mr. Munday and Ms. Hoy.

The program aims to help improve reading and to develop a passion for reading. The year 10 students volunteering to help with the program will initiate simulating conversations on the books they will be reading and enhance their assigned peers with an understanding of context and emotions. The year 10 students volunteering aim to build healthy friendships with the year 7 students. The program will help them build on their confidence with their reading and foster relationships with other students who could make them feel more comfortable as they integrate into high school life.



Our GATS Program

Story by Kasia Bergersen & Clarissa Emanuele

The Gifted and Talented Students Program supports the needs of students who are academically gifted. The program offers countless opportunities such as extracurricular activities, competitions and advanced areas of study. Students in these classes are taught how to collaborate whilst aiming to achieve great personal results. Members of the program describe the program as an opportunity to excel and challenge oneself. The atmosphere facilitates healthy competition in a supportive environment.

Applicants must follow the instructions on the Concord High School website which indicate the date, location and explain in full detail the selection process. Students sit the test during Year 6. If successful, are placed in the program and many groups stay together throughout their junior high school years. The Academic Placement Test is set at an advanced level of difficulty to test the academic abilities of all applicants. Students will be assessed in problem solving, mathematics achievement and reasoning, reading comprehension and written expression.

When applying it is important to know that the most recent Student School Report and Year 5 Naplan results are taken into account during the selection process. You must also compile a Student Learning Portfolio in which various elements indicating the students personal achievements and abilities are displayed. Applicants who demonstrate exceeding abilities with the test results will be offered immediate placement into the program and applicants who demonstrate high abilities with the test results will be asked for an interview.



Writers Festival

Story by Kobi Slaats

On the 1st of May, students from the Year 9 and 10 Advanced, GATS and Journalism classes attended the Annual Sydney Writers Festival held at Carriageworks in Sydney. Our experience at the festival included four different authors, each explaining their creative successes and struggles, reading from their works, talking about their journey towards becoming an author. At the end of each session, authors answered questions asked by the students.

The first speaker we listened to was American author Dhonielle Clayton. Throughout her successful career she has written many books and her most noted works include 'The Belles', and the 'Tiny Pretty Things' series which she co-wrote with Sona Charaipotra. She spoke about how to be a good writer you must write about things you are passionate about and have a connection with. This is how her book; 'The Belles' came to life. She had noticed that people were deeply obsessed with beauty and so 'The Belles' was born.

The next speaker to follow Ms Clayton, was award-winning author Neal Shusterman. Neal discovered that he was a great storyteller when he volunteered to work at a kid's summer camp. Unaware of what would come from it, Shusterman started telling stories to the kids to settle them down before bed. This ignited an inner motivation and he then went on to write more than 30 award-winning books for children, teens and adults, including 'The Unwind Dystology', 'The Skinjacker' trilogy, 'Downsiders', and 'Challenger Deep', which won the National Book Award. Along with his books, he has also worked as a script writer for the series 'Goosebumps' and 'Animorphs' and even wrote the Disney Channel movie, 'Pixel Perfect'.

Next from the lineup of authors was indigenous author and storyteller Ambelin Kwaymullina. She is a passionate advocate for letting underrepresented voices be heard and has done so in her writing, including her dystopian series, 'The Tribe'. Kwaymullina spoke about how she tries to include a sense of realism in her stories.

One of her most recent works, 'Meet Me at the Intersection', is an anthology of short fiction, memoir and poetry by authors who are First Nations, People of Colour, LGBTIQA+ or living with disability. This gives readers a sense of Australia from the perspectives of different people.

The final speaker of the day was author Will Kostakis. Will grew up in a very close-knit Greek family and went through many hardships through his life which are represented in his books. In his senior years of high school, his best friend passed away unexpectedly. After a long period of grieving, Will knew he had to pick his life back up and make his best friend proud, so he decided to write a story. This story then went on to win the Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of the Year. He is the author of the successful novel, 'The First Third' which won the 2014 Inky Awards and was shortlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year: Older Readers and Prime Minister's Literary Awards. His most recent novel 'The Sidekicks' has since been shortlisted for the Queensland Literary Awards.

Students were able to get books signed by the authors, which was a great opportunity for students who may have not gotten the chance to ask a question in the Q and A, to ask them face to face. It was a great day for all students involved and everyone got something out of it



A New Take On A Classic

Story by Ella Purdon

Shakespeare's classic tragedy 'Othello' was staged by Sport for Jove Theatre company, and our Year 11 Advanced English students were lucky to attend a performance at Riverside Theatre, Parramatta. The set and imagery were set out well, as well as lighting and the accompanying sound helped create a sense of foreboding for the audience.

The cast performed to the best of their abilities, sparking commentary from the students as to how accurately the characters of Iago and Emilia were cast. Other characters of the play tended to over-act, creating a feeling that specific scenes in the play seem forced, and lacked an authentic emotional connection with the audience. The costumes were simple and suited the tone and context of the production that was set during a modern war. Many of the scenes succeeded in engaging the audience well when

they consisted of a more naturalistic setup with a larger group of actors on stage at once. Overall, it was a good day, 3/5 stars.

'I think it was interesting in the recreation of it to a more contemporary form to meet current standards like, with the execution of the military scenes, it kind of related it to modern military technology and included all of the... navy and aircraft carriers, destroyers, all those ships into, like, the graphics... They also use more appropriate clothing to our current times, compared to what would be found in the Venetian times. In terms of the acting, Iago... performed his role really well... people were a bit mixed on Othello's performance and Desmodas, but overall it was an alright play.' -Sam Panozzo

'I thought it was a pretty good production. It was pretty decent... I think the actors were pretty good, they were very emotive, they had lots of emotion. So, yeah, they did a pretty good job of it. You know, like, being the characters.' - Veronica

'...It was pretty interesting, it was a modernised version of the original play... they had two strong female leads... I enjoyed it, I think most of the kids that went did.' - Ben Comer



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TENNIS COACHING ENROLMENT FORM

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Child's name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: Home _____ Work/Mobile _____ Email address _____

Parent's Name: _____ School attending: _____

Ability level (approx): ☐ Beginner ☐ Advanced Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Advanced

Preferred days and times: _____

Science Column

Feature by Thomas Abbott

Each term we will be bringing you our new Science Column, discussing key scientific issues of the day. This term we will look at climate change.

You would have heard of climate change. It is probably the largest issue our planet is currently facing. Greenhouse gas emissions are trapping heat in our atmosphere and causing the ice shelf to melt. This will release methane, which traps even more heat, melting more ice. Eventually, life on our planet will therefore become unsustainable. In 12 years, the effects of climate change will be irreversible. NASA tells us that by 2050, most life will become extinct due to climate change, including humans.

However, our future can be saved. Scientists have made plans to neutralize the methane by turning it into less harmful carbon dioxide. Companies such as Tesla, Toyota and Rivian are working on sustainable energy systems in things such as cars, and renewable energy is beginning to take off around the world. These ideas will take some of the pressure off for the world, but they still need some help. So of course, who better to help them than the Australian Government.

The government has assigned a policy over climate change where we will attempt to remove our carbon emissions by 26 to 28 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030. They are also aiming to double Australia's renewable energy capacity by 2020. This will have the benefit of making new jobs and producing far more clean energy. They are also aiming to achieve the goals set in the Paris Agreement. However, to properly stop climate change, YOU need to take action

So, what can you do?

You could walk or take the bus instead of getting driven to and from school. Take shorter showers, and when not in a room, turn the lights off. You can use less air conditioning and heating, and most importantly don't litter. Despite being small, everything you do contributes to a brighter future in a safer world.



Nihon e No Tabi: A Journey to Japan

Story by Neva Mikulic



'Fascinating' was the word a Year 9 student used to describe the school's recent trip to Japan. The trip was planned as an educational and eye-opening experience for a group of thirty students either studying or interested in Japanese. "I was very excited to just experience Tokyo. It's so vast and futuristic in some ways and I couldn't wait to explore and enjoy feeling small in such an impressive metropolis," said one of our intrepid travellers.

Travelling over the school holidays, a ten hour flight took the 30 students and three accompanying teachers to Japan for a two-week trip that included stays in Tokyo, Nangano, Hiroshima, Gujo Hachiman, Gifu, and Mibu Town, with visits to a variety of towns and areas including Shibuya, Kyoto, and Tochigi. "I really enjoyed Gujo Hachiman, which was a small town in the fairly mountainous prefecture of Gifu," said a Year 9 student. "My favourite part was just walking around the streets and exploring. It was Spring Festival the day we were there, so we could watch the parades, costumes and traditional clothing and rituals. It was so picturesque."

The trip included visits to various Japanese schools where students were able to practice their speaking skills, a Japanese dance class and an entire day dedicated to Disneyland. "The schools in Mibu were so hospitable and excited to see us. The mayor came to welcome us, the local TV news station documented our visit and interviewed us, and the entirety of the schools said goodbye to us in a clapping guard of honour. It was very

special. We bonded with the students more quickly than you would expect with a language barrier, and I really enjoyed meeting them and practising speaking Japanese."

"I think the day that stood out to me the most was the very last full day, on the island of Miyajima," notes Elijah Ross. "It was exhilarating to be able to follow the mountain trails, looking at the ancient shrines on the way. Another other highlight was the food. Ramen was especially cheap, and available everywhere, but it was delicious...think the common idea misconception surrounding prices of goods most items that you find in Australia are actually cheaper in Japan."

The students going on the 2019 Japan trip followed a detailed and jam-packed itinerary meticulously planned by the Languages staff. Ms Merchant, Head of Teaching and Learning, appreciates how the variety of places visited allowed students to see things that tour groups normally might not.

Students that went were able to reflect on how their experiences in Japan brought perspectives to their lives in Sydney. "It made me grateful for some things I have in Sydney that they don't have in Japan, and I was just so excited to share my experiences with my family back home. Everywhere you go in Japan is pristine, and everyone is so respectful. Sydney is a lot more multicultural though, and it took some time to adjust to not seeing so many different ethnicities every day."

Year 9 student Elijah Ross describes the differences between cultures that he observed. "One massive difference I have noticed here is the difference in the amount of respect people have for one another. In Japan, people are considerate...even in large cities like Tokyo or Hiroshima," he says, noting the cleanliness. "I think the Japanese school visits had a profound effect on my perception of the difference in cultures in learning environments."

Ms Merchant speaks to the value of this trip. "The best way to acquire a language is what they call immersion. Surrounded by it, hearing it constantly. Get(ting) to experience the culture front and centre. Even for those not learning Japanese... Travel broadens your world so much. It shows you difference, you interact with that difference and you learn to appreciate it and work with it rather than against it. For a lot of students this was their first trip overseas. Several of them particularly just came into themselves."

"I learnt more about the culture and language of Japan, things that you can only really learn from being there and experiencing it," students reflected. "To other students travelling or on the next trip, just try everything," another student added. "Food, activities, culture, just participate and enjoy the unknown." This trip certainly showed the value of travelling as the best way to experience and enjoy a culture, and we hope to hear about many more of these experiences in the years to come.

Changes in the school

Story by Justine Castrogiovanni and Taiki Millar

Coming into Term Two our school has undergone a number of changes, which affect the whole school. The following are the changes that have taken place: change to the Tuesday sport uniform policy, changes to the canteen menu and our new bell system. These changes may be minor, but all students should be informed of the changes that are taking place.

Wear it to school!

One of the changes introduced to the school this term is the wearing of the sports uniform to and from school for Tuesday sport. This change makes it much easier for students as they will no longer have to get changed at recess or lunch and will not have to lug around their sports uniform all day. And don't forget your parents not having to wash an extra school shirt! This change is only a test and will only be made permanent if students continue to wear the full sports uniform, this includes the Concord High School sports top, sports shorts and running shoes.

The school community of Concord High School endorses, supports and expects students to be in uniform. In endorsing the wearing of uniform by all students in the school, we recognise the principles of equity and safety for all students. Uniform is an important part of the development of the school as it presents the first impression people form about the school and its students.

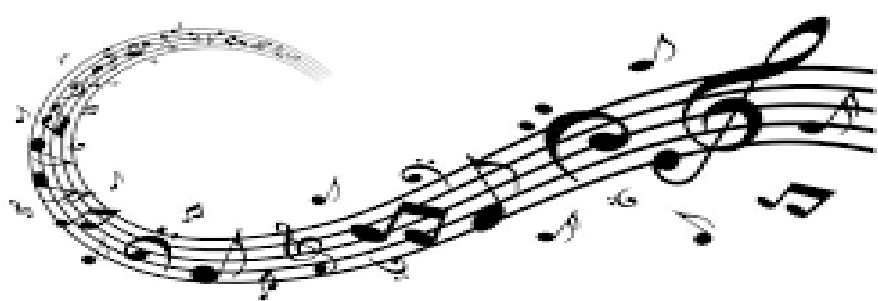
"It is expected that ALL students bring enclosed leather shoes for all TAS and SCIENCE practical lessons as part of the WH&S policy at Concord High School. Students will be unable to participate in ANY practical lessons in any other shoes that required." If appropriate shoes are not worn, the privilege of wearing sports uniform on Tuesday may be taken away" says Mrs Easterbrook.



A Groovy New Bell

A new school bell with a curated musical playlist has the students of Concord High School skipping through the school gates and hallways. Many schools around Australia have made the switch from air raid sirens to music, using bell times as a unique opportunity to expose students to music they wouldn't otherwise hear.

A variety in songs can keep the students engaged with the music throughout the week and stop any one track becoming monotonous. The school plays popular music to signal the start and end of the day, as well as the transition between recess and lunch into classes. English teacher Mrs Hoy believes that the musical bells have a calming effect on the students. But the big question remains – who is our resident DJ?



Whats New In The New Canteen?

Given the serious, long-term consequences of childhood obesity, it would seem logical that we make all efforts possible to promote healthy eating and lifestyle choices among young people. The school environment has a significant impact on the development of eating habits. Just about everyone can remember purchasing an ice-cream, meat pie or sausage roll on a special occasion. But these days, what was once a treat for a special occasion has grown into multiple times a week, or for some children every day. The older students are more aware of healthy eating habits which is why they're grabbing a nutritious drink at lunch to have with their salads. Our school canteen are seeing positive changes in the students, and we are reaping the benefits of a new canteen.



NAPLAN 2019

Story by Bianca Grose



The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy or better known as NAPLAN gives students all around Australia mixed emotions. Students in grades 3, 5, 7 and 9 are obligated to take a range of tests; reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. Although these tests don't go towards any individuals' grades, they do help notify their parents of their performance at school and helps the school know if you need extra support or further extension. The year 3s first NAPLAN was held this term, being new to this important test and how they are run. It may be helpful to

hear some encouraging words from their parents. In addition to it being the first big test for the year 3s it is the year 9s final year of NAPLAN.

Through all the tough times year 9 has had with NAPLAN it has finally come to an end. For some, this is a big weight lifted off their shoulders, but for others there has been more weight placed on it, because the HSC has come closer than expected. No student can say NAPLAN hasn't helped them prepare for HSC down to the way NAPLAN is run, the quality of the test

and the emotions you feel towards the test; NAPLAN and HSC are very similar. To help get a better understanding of NAPLAN, Ms Payne has provided us with her understanding of NAPLAN and how it helps our students at Concord High School.

"NAPLAN is important because it provides an idea about how students, schools and states are going in the education department"

"Students should try on their NAPLAN test because the test doesn't go towards any external qualification. What it does do is provide the school with a snapshot of how our students are managing in literacy and numeracy which lets us know where students may need extra support or if a student may need further extension"

Although NAPLAN is seen as a negative event by some students it provides the school with inside information to help their students and their parents understand their performance and prepare them for a more demanding test. So what do you think about NAPLAN?

Music at Concord

Story by Katie Panozzo and Brianna Winstanley

Music takes centre stage at Concord High School with a high range of groups making the school a musical place. There are a wide variety of musical groups including the string ensemble, stage band and vocal group that you may wish to get involved with. Michael Jobson, music teacher at Concord High School organises a range of musical events such as in school events, concerts and music ensemble nights. The vocal group sings a mixture of old, new, classical and modern music.

There are four main groups for the students to become involved in. This includes:

Concert Band, which is available to students from all years that play a brass, woodwind or percussion instruments. All skill levels are welcome. They play a mix of new and old music and are looking forward to some exciting performances.

Stage Band is an extension ensemble and membership is by invitation. Outstanding students that are already members of Concert Band, String Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble and Rock Band are

invited to join. Stage Band enjoys playing a variety of jazz, blues, swing and rock music.

String Ensemble is made up of students from all years and ability levels. The ensemble enjoys working on specialist music written for strings, as well as more popular music. String Ensemble takes part in a number of exciting performances throughout the year.

Rock Band is open to students from all years that enjoy playing popular music. Students that play, or would love to sing and popular music are welcome.

The Concord High School Vocal Group recently performed at 'In Concert' as part of a mass choir at Sydney Town Hall with Casey Donovan and 700 other students.

If you are interested in joining any music groups contact Mr Michael Jobson.



Aboriginal Weaving

Story by Jelena Cruz and Sophie Gors

Concord High School was lucky enough to be able to support a program that aims to teach students how to do traditional Abo-riginal weaving. These methods were used to make food tools, skin cloaks, etc. A group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students attended a program during the last two weeks of Term 2. The workshop strives to create ways for young children to embrace their culture as an Aborigine. They learn lessons about tribes, totems, and traditions. Students had the opportunity to be taught how to weave baskets and animals out of grass. The goal is for students to learn the traditional techniques and to use it for future activities and even pass it down to their own children.

A number of students from Year 7 to Year 11 were involved and were fortunate to learn from two supervisors. Indigenous Australians like to see each other as family which is why the students address their supervisors as “Auntie”, as a sign of respect. As students weaved their items and objects, the Aunties told stories and discussed views on problems and issues. They’re very passionate about their culture and their ways and are determined for young Aboriginal students to embrace it.

Years ago, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made a variety of things using plants and animal fibers. Tribes had to create cloaks for warmth, fishing nets for food, baskets for items to carry. They currently still use these skills in everyday life. People from all around the world have taken these skills and put them into everyday life with objects such as rug making, hand-painting fabrics, screen printing, and batik.

The students made coiled baskets of many shapes and sizes, ranging from small round baskets to large oval baskets that were used to carry small objects, even babies. Mostly, they use a fibre called pandanus fibre that is dyed with natural pigments. Bundles of this fibre is formed into coils and then the coils are covered and stitched together with strands of more fibre threaded onto a needle. Students have said that the program was well organized and fun. They found it very interesting to learn about their culture; especially because the Aunties were passionate. Some students found it difficult to weave at the start but slowly started to use the techniques they were taught. They thought it helped them embrace their culture since they experienced what it was like for past generations to weave headgear, food tools and baskets.



The Evolution of Concord High School

Story by Liam Penwill and Mikkel Estep

Concord High School has had a long history with many great moments, memories and achievements. The school has seen many changes over the years and has maintained a great reputation for teaching students.

The construction of Concord High School concluded in 1979, after the C.H Webb Brothers Pty. Ltd submitted a price of over four million dollars to win the bid for this large area of land. The school was established in 1980 and was officially opened by Sir James Rowland, Governor of New South Wales on 6 May 1981. The school has now been opened for over 38 years, but it wasn't always a school. Long ago, it used to be a tannery.

We have spoken with Mr. Brewer who has been working here since 1990 and has seen this school evolve and flourish. During his career, Mr. Brewer was the Head Teacher Social Science and he taught a wide range of subjects such as geography, commerce, economics, legal studies, business studies, and later on in his career, studies of religion.

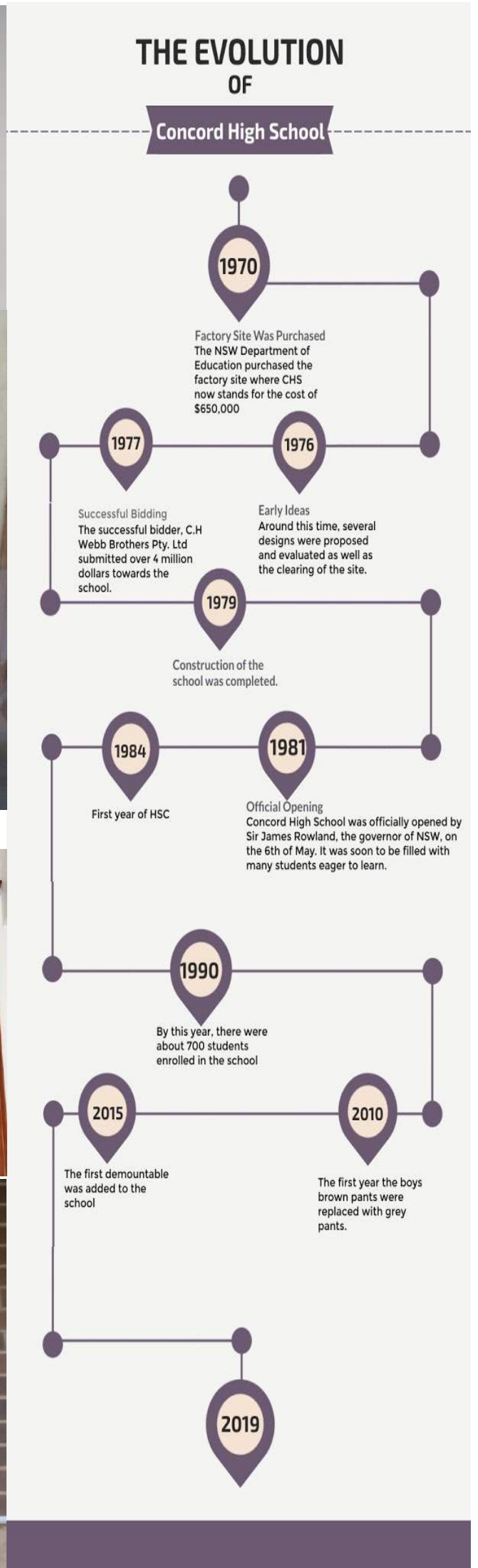
"This school was started because parents wanted a co-educational high school that their children could go to that was close to the area they lived in. This is because most of the schools in the area are single-sex schools," he says.

The school has changed a lot since its opening. According to Mr. Brewer there have been changes to uniform such as the boys pants changing from brown to grey, as well as an increase in students from 700 in 1990 to more than 1200 in 2019.

Concord High School will continue to grow as a school in the years coming, and students will continue developing in their skills and studies.



Wal Hall, our first principal



Girls On The Block

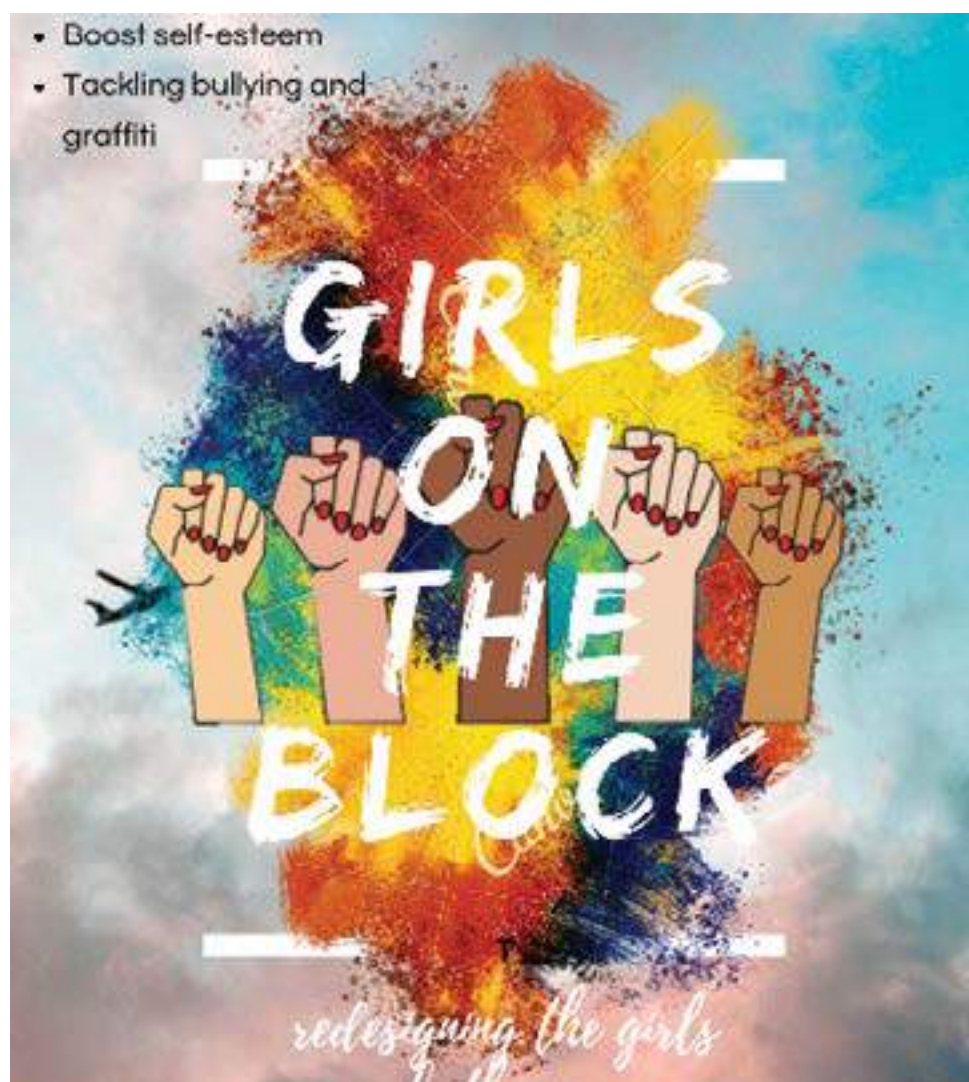
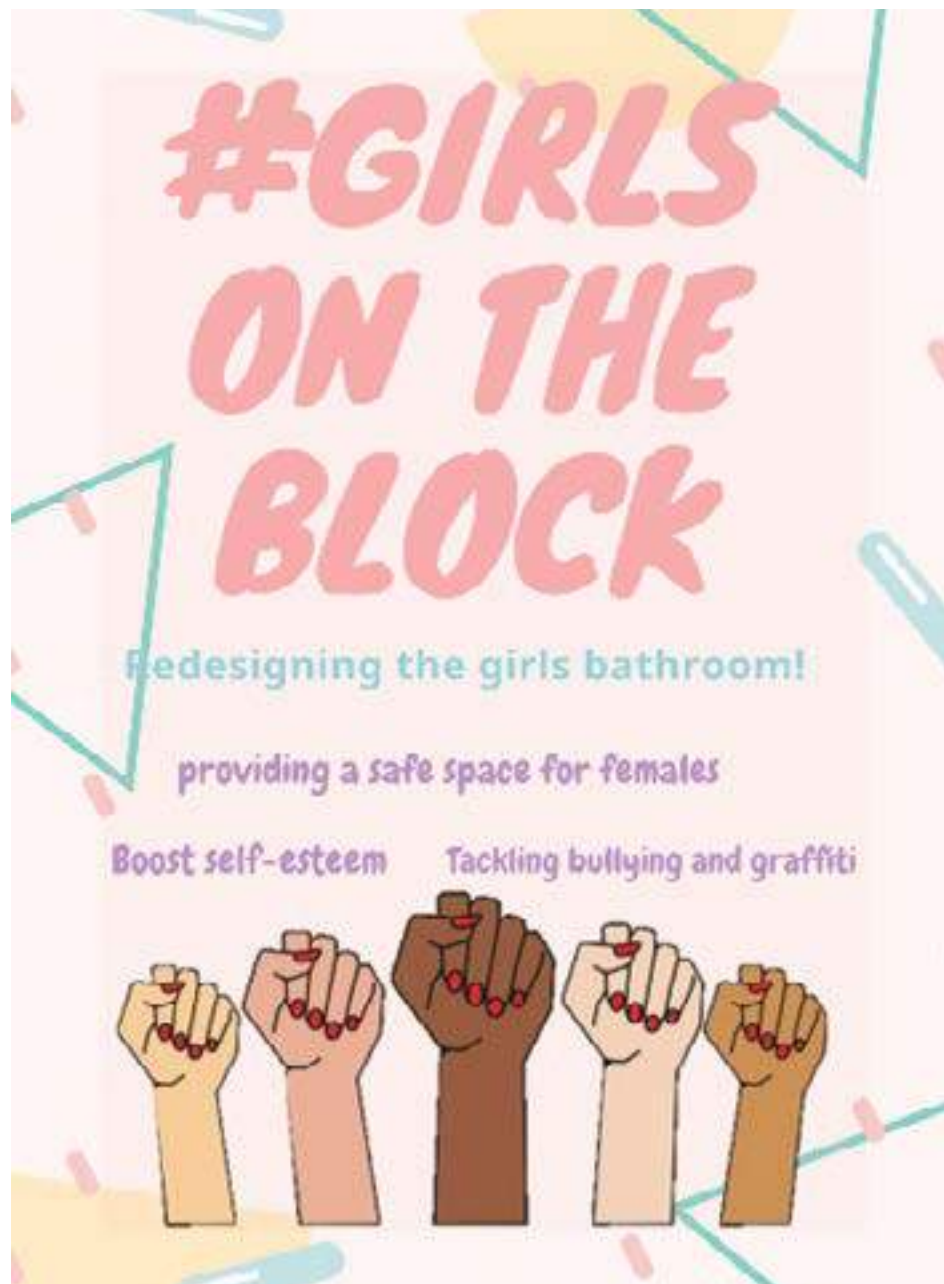
Story by Isabella Carbone

Everyone needs a space to turn to. A space to find comfort and a space to collect themselves throughout the challenging school year. However, for female students at Concord High School, this 'safe space' was nowhere to be found. With numerous girls identifying they had negative experiences of bullying in the bathrooms, the drive for a project like Girls on the Block, was sparked.

The idea was first introduced by Ms Peoples and immediately caught the attention of eager Year 9s, Year 12s and SRC students who are now working together to redesign the female toilet blocks. Over the next few terms, the Girls on the Block team hope to re-vamp the girls' bathrooms and make it a brighter, safer and more welcoming space for female students to turn to and find comfort in.

Mental health awareness and female empowerment are strong factors driving this initiative. The girls aspire to boost self-esteem, improve wellbeing and decrease the bullying of fellow females in the school by providing these new and positive environments. The outline for this makeover specifically details their plans of covering up graffiti and replacing it with positive and reassuring messages, displaying posters that provide information and contact details of health support in the community, as well as including a basket of sanitary products.

A fundraising cake stall was recently held to spread the message behind the project and managed to raise \$950, which will be put towards the renovations. Other activities and marketing events hope to be planned throughout the year as well. However, to continue promoting the drive, a #Campaign and support website for all students to access is in the making by the ICT group of the team. Through this, the girls hope to spread the message through the community and even expand this idea to other schools. If all goes well, there is also discussion of renovations occurring to the boy's toilet blocks. In the end, I think that we can all agree that this progress is something Concord High School needs and is an exciting opportunity for our community.



RED SHIELD APPEAL

Story by Ethan Li



The Red Shield Appeal is taking place on Sunday, 19th May 2019. Around 30 students from Concord High School volunteered at Mortlake Public School for the annual door knocking appeal. The money raised from the Red Shield Appeal will go towards The Salvation Army's network of services that help Australians in need.

people a night across Australia. The Red Shield Appeal began in 1965 and is promoted under the Salvation Army's most recognisable symbol; the red shield. Each year the Salvation Army appeals to the Australian community for donations to ensure they can give hope where it is needed most through social welfare and community service programs.

Often called, 'The Salvos', this organisation work to provide shelter for over 2,000

If you would like to be involved in 2020 contact MsWhite, our school volunteering coordinator.



Adopt a Farmer

Story by Yasin Haidary

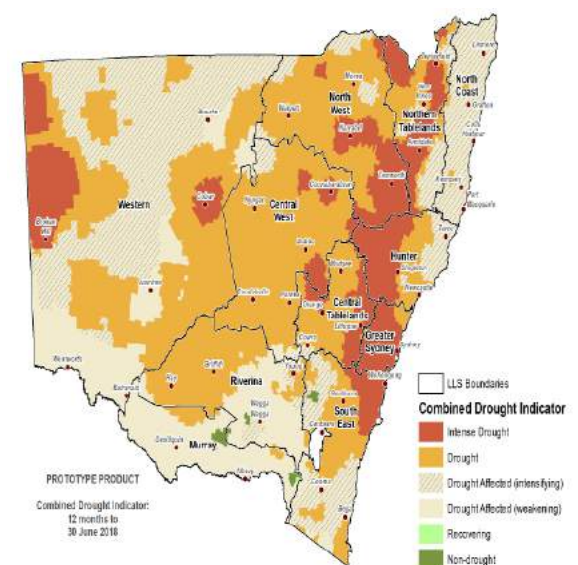


On the 8th of May 2019, Concord High School held a mufti day, for a gold coin donation. The theme and focus supported Adopt a Farmer "Students were encouraged to come dressed up as a farmer to show their support!"

The mufti day was a very important day for both the school and the rural communities, not only for the money raised but also for the raising of awareness of the issue. Most of us have been somewhat affected by this disastrous drought, whether that be indirect or direct, and this day is a way for us to spread the message that the farmers, or more so the whole of NSW, are in dire need of help.

The day was held as a fundraiser for the farmers in rural NSW who are affected by the drought and are struggling because of it. All the money that was raised from the event was donated to drought relief. Many students donated a gold coin, leading the school to contribute a whopping \$832.75 to a worthy cause.

Australia cannot survive without its farmers, and we encourage our community to support our farmers in any way you can!





CHS Driving For Sporting Excellence

Story by Georgia Durnford and Jack Brandhoj

Sport can be a lot of fun and also a great way to stay fit and active. With social media and technology becoming more and more important in our lives, Concord High School is doing as much as possible to encourage all students to go out and give sport a go. There are three sports carnivals each year where everyone has the opportunity to participate across swimming, athletics and cross country running.

The carnivals' events are categorized into age groups and then separated into boys and girls. For the highest placing competitors, there is then the Northern Suburbs Zone competition which involves many of the schools from the inner west and their respective winners.

In Cross Country, the fastest 12 people from each age/gender group from each school will get to compete in a bigger competition (Zone) which will eventually determine a winner.

In Athletics, there are multiple events track and field. Track includes events such as 800m, 200m, 100m and relays. The field events include shot put, discus, high jump, long jump and javelin. 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed competitors from each of these events will get the opportunity to go to Zone and compete for the opportunity to represent the zone at regionals.

Zone for Athletics and Cross country were both held this term (Term 2), Cross Country at Macquarie University on the 29th of May and Athletics at Sydney Olympic Park on the 17th of June. A big congratulations goes out to the Concord High students who went and participated in the Zone competitions and well done to the students who came in the top 10 in their Zone races and have made it to regionals.

Cross Country Zone Results -

Maisy Wright-Smith - 1st in 12 year old girls race.

Noah Chabo - 3rd in 12 year old boys race.

Julian Mantle - 6th in 12 year old boys race.

Jacob Grant - 9th in 12 year old boys race.

Darcy Woodley - 1st in 13 year old boys race.

Ivan Balic - 2nd in 13 year old boys race.

Nicholas Debelja - 3rd in 13 year old boys race.

Cameron O'Brien - 9th in 13 year old boys race.

Caitlin Oeser - 10th in 13 year old girls race.

Joel Weeks - 4th in 14 year old boys race.

Keira Will - 2nd in 14 year old girls race.

Hannah Kiefer - 7th in 14 year old girls race.

Dakota Thuell - 8th in 14 year old girls race.

Jacob Leon - 1st in 15 year old boys race.

Taeyoung Yoon - 2nd in 15 year old boys race.

Cameron Will - 2nd in 16 year old boys race.

Charlotte Trapnell - 4th in 16 year old girls race.

Max Trapnell - 1st in 17 year old boys race.

Kisha Chabo - 3rd in 17 year old girls race.

Francesca Bull - 3rd in 18 year old girls race.

Amy Falson - 4th in 18 year old girls race.

