



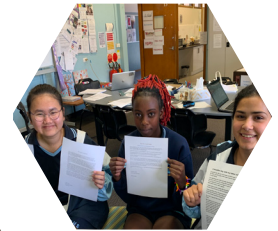
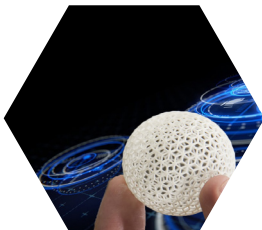
Community Newsletter

June
2020



LEARNING SUCCESS

FEATURED



IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
JUNE 23	YEAR 10 IMMUNISATION	JULY 3	WINTER BREAK

Since welcoming back all of our students full time following our period of extended isolation, it has been fantastic to see students re-engaging with their learning. As I walk through the corridors I have seen our students focusing on the tasks that they are provided, working collaboratively with each other and with their teachers. Students and staff are all happy and excited to be able to reconnect with each other. The time apart seems to have strengthened the relationships that we foster here at Corrimal HS – this has been evident as I see people across the school. There is a very positive feeling and a warmth which is evident to staff and visitors alike.

Work is continuing at the school with the Library roof currently being replaced. Along with this work, there is new air conditioning being installed in the Library as well as all of the Science labs. Following this, we will be having one of our undercover walkways replaced.

We are also hopeful that the basketball courts will be finalised soon following a number of weeks of rain which impacted on the work. Students are very excited about the opportunity to use the courts for PE, Sport and during breaks.

I would like to acknowledge the work that our Construction students and teachers have been doing around the school. In order to gain competencies across their syllabus, the students have been engaging in a number of school improvement projects recently. These have included the installation of new seating areas around our Basketball courts, as well as



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

rejuvenating the Agriculture facility. This has included the building and installation of new work benches which will allow for staff and students to work in a suitable environment.

I would like to welcome a couple of new staff on board at Corrimal High School. Keifer Power joins us in Learning Support as an SLSO. Keifer comes to us from Mt Austin where he did a lot of work with disengaged students. He has settled in very well here at Corrimal working very closely with Mrs Mahon in Learning Support as well as Mr Adams in our Boys to Men program. He can often be found out playing touch footy with the students at recess and lunch. Keifer will be continuing to develop a number of programs with Mrs Bourke in Wellbeing as well as working closely with the Deputies with our disengaged students.

I would also like to welcome Ron Vaartjes. Ron is our new Farm Assistant who has joined us recently and has been the driving force behind upgrades and improvements to the Agriculture facility. He has settled in very well with staff and students, and the changes he has made are already making a difference to our facilities.

I was very proud of the work that our Special Education students and staff did recently with our Alpacas. In particular, I would like to thank Mr Brown, Bunyarra, Lachlan and Hayden who showcased our Alpaca Assisted Intervention program. The work that these students have done with our Alpacas is outstanding and we are very fortunate to have them working with our animals. Bunyarra and Hayden also spoke very well on WIN news – outstanding ambassadors for the school.

Great things continue to happen at Corrimal with the school about to officially be announced as an Academy of STEM Excellence (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths). This is part of the NSW Department of Education STEM Industry Schools Partnership program. The Academy is one of only 8 across NSW which places us in a very good position to be able to connect our students with STEM industry experts from across NSW, as well as guiding our students into STEM related tertiary and work pathways. Corrimal HS will be the northern hub, while Warrawong HS and Lake Illawarra HS will form the southern hub of the Illawarra Academy of STEM Excellence. Our position in this program has been strengthened further with the appointment of Mr Andrew Laidler – Head Teacher Science @ Corrimal HS to the position of STEM Project Officer for the Academy. Congratulations to Mr Laidler.

This Academy will not only provide access and benefits to students from Corrimal High School, it will also open up opportunities for

students from Bellambi, Corrimal, Corrimal East, Tarrawanna and Towradgi Public Schools to further extend staff knowledge and student experience in STEM pathways.

With the recent work being completed on the Basketball courts at the school, we are currently experiencing a significant increase in incidents of trespass on our basketball courts as well as our playing fields. This includes incidences of people jumping the fence of the basketball courts outside of school hours. This is something that has the potential to cause damage to our new facilities. I am currently working with the School Security unit to find a solution. We have recently put new signage up indicating that the school courts and fields come under the Inclosed Lands Act, and people who are trespassing are actually breaking the law. If you happen to see people jumping the fence, or using the courts outside of school hours, I would appreciate it if you could contact the school to notify us on 4285 1199. If you do this, please include the following information – how many people, what date, what time, what they were doing.

In NSW, all Government schools undergo and External Validation (EV) process once in a 5 year cycle. Corrimal HS recently had their EV panel meeting with external staff completing an analysis of our school against the Schools Excellence Framework (SEF). The school collected and collated a large amount of data, information and evidence against each of the 14 elements of the SEF and then presented this to our external panel.

Schools get ranked as either Delivering, Sustaining & Growing or Excelling. After reviewing all of our documentary evidence, going on a virtual tour of the school, and asking us a number of clarifying questions, the panel validated our school as per the information below:

Delivering for

- Curriculum
- Assessment

Sustaining and Growing for

- Learning Culture
- Reporting
- Student Performance Measures
- Effective Classroom Practice
- Data Skills and Use
- Learning and Development
- Educational Leadership
- School Planning, Implementation and Reporting
- Management Practices and Processes

Excelling for

- Wellbeing
- Professional Standards
- School Resources

I am very proud to say that we had a fantastic team putting all of this information together and I am so appreciative of all of the work that everyone did to bring this EV together. This result is a true reflection of the amazing things that we continue to do at Corrimal High School.

Over the past two years, the school has experienced a wide variety of challenges,

as well as undergoing significant growth in enrolments, expectations and learning culture. I know that there are things that we can still improve further and as a school, we are committed to ensuring that we continue to provide the best learning opportunities for all of our students so that we can ensure all students reach their potential. As a school, we had already committed to a full curriculum and assessment review prior to submitting our External Validation document. We will be working collaboratively with all KLA's as well as external support staff to complete a thorough analysis of our curriculum and assessment processes. The outcomes of the review will guide the planning for our 2021 – 2024 Strategic school plan.

As we move towards the end of term, I would like to wish all of our families the best for a relaxing time spent with family and friends. I encourage each of our students to reflect on the year that we have had so far, and commit to working hard when Term 3 commences so that we can continue to improve as a school community.

Mr Roger
Principal



Corrimal High School Parents and Citizens Association

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Congratulations to our school community for the effort everyone has made during this tough time, to keep our families safe and our students connected with their learning experiences. Hopefully as you read this more community sport and cultural activities will be permitted to return, to ease the stress and anxiety that has confronted everyone during the first half of the year. Along with all community, volunteer organisations, our P&C has been in recess since the pandemic took hold. It prevented the holding of our Annual General Meeting so our committee has been 'minding the shop' in a caretaker capacity until more normal operations could resume.

Currently, we are still prevented from holding community meetings at school and despite the generously discounted licence negotiated by the state P&C Federation, online meetings via ZOOM were beyond the budget of our committee. Hopefully, Government authorities can lift the restriction, with social distancing procedures, for a meeting next term. This would then be the delayed AGM to restart our P&C's operations. We need you to be involved to collaborate with the staff in

gaining resources for our students.

Fortunately, we are about to receive the \$10 000 grant from the 2019 Community Building Partnership program so that the Yarning Circle Project can be completely finished along with the hard work the school, particularly Mr Foster, has already invested in it. Best wishes for the upcoming holiday break and looking forward to positive improvements for the remainder of the year.

Brad Chapman – Acting Secretary.



WELLBEING

I hope that everyone is safe and well. We have been back at school full-time for a fortnight now and the students are continuing to settle back into school. For some it has been seamless but for others it has taken a little time to get back into the school routine. A few little things that will assist with this are:

- Bringing bed time back to a suitable time to allow for adequate rest
- Packing the bag the night before so that all books and equipment are ready for the next day
- Ensuring lunch is packed and ready to go
- Having a good breakfast
- Drinking plenty of water as there are many benefits to the body – healthy skin, increased brain function, improved digestive health ... see below

Fourteen benefits of drinking water

1. It lubricates the joints
2. It forms saliva and mucus
3. It delivers oxygen throughout the body
4. It boosts skin health and beauty

5. It cushions the brain, spinal cord, and other sensitive tissues
6. It regulates body temperature
7. The digestive system depends on it
8. It flushes body waste
9. It helps maintain blood pressure
10. The airways need it
11. It makes minerals and nutrients accessible
12. It prevents kidney damage
13. It boosts performance during exercise
14. Weight loss

Year 10 Immunisation June 23

We have received confirmation from NSW Health that the vaccinations will be offered to Year 10 on their original scheduled date. This date is Tuesday 23 June (Term 2 Week 9.) Year 10 students will receive the following vaccination:

Year	Vaccine	Number of Doses	Date
Year 10	Meningococcal ACWY	Single Dose	23/6/20

Parent Information Kits that include an information sheet, consent form and privacy statement were given to Year 10 parents last week. If you would like your child to receive their vaccination at school, please complete and sign the consent form and get them to return this to school by Friday 19 June.

Well-Being Programs

A number of programs are still running this term and we are lucky enough to have amazing teachers who are implementing new well-being programs to ensure that students' well-being needs are being met.

- “Boys to Men” program run by Mr Adams
- We have been lucky to have a new SLSO, Kiefer Power start with us this term who is working with a number of our students in a mentoring role to build relationships, assist with their learning and foster positive change in the way they conduct themselves within the school environment. Kiefer has also been very active on the oval and recess and lunch which a number of our sporty students have really enjoyed. Kiefer is also working with students in a post-suspension program to promote accountability and responsibility and to assist students to repair harm when relationships break down through wrongdoing, mistakes and misunderstanding.
- Mrs Begg will be engaging with all year groups in a well-being check in program. The program has been devised specifically to check in on students since returning to school after the COVID-19 disruption and to ensure anyone who is feeling less than their best can be identified and can access

the appropriate support. Students will also be provided a pamphlet with information on self-care and where they can access external support services.

Attendance

It has been pleasing to see such positive attendance since our return to school. For a number of students who had previously had poor attendance, it seems to have been the break they needed and they have returned in a positive frame of mind and they have been at school each day. This is a real success for them and I congratulate them for taking this positive step. I am sure they will find they have a better connection with their peers and they will find they can work better in class as they are not missing the vital information they need to enhance their learning.

As always, please ensure your child is at school every day and if they are unwell please contact the school to explain their absence. The advice for the general population is if anyone is experiencing flu like symptoms that they arrange to be tested for COVID-19. Please advise the school if this occurs and then advise of the result. This is of utmost importance as we have students and staff at the school with health concerns that places them at increased risk of infection.

If you have any concerns, please call the school and arrange to speak with me or their Year Adviser.

Mrs Bourke
Head Teacher Well-Being



ENGLISH

It has been a busy time in English lately!

Our Year 12 English students are currently getting a taste for University life by watching a series of lectures on their HSC modules. These lectures have been created by the NSW English Teacher's Association. The speakers are critically acclaimed educators and curriculum advisors who are also experienced HSC markers, and include Jane Sherlock and Cassandra Kennedy just to name a few. Our Year 12 students are so lucky to have this opportunity and have said the experience has been hugely beneficial.

Year 7 have all received their latest Assessment notification with their task due on 30 June. They have been working hard on improving their creative writing skills and their assessment task requires them to write a terrifying tale about a haunted theme park. If you have a student in Year 7 please encourage them and ask to see their work!

I had the pleasure of working with some extremely talented and enthusiastic public speakers today as part of a Transitions project. Ella, Kahlia, Rawan, Jasmine, Imogen, Paige, Hansel, Sophie, Felicity and Ashley worked together to create a short film

about persuasive language which will be sent to our local primary schools so that the Year 6 students can gain an insight on what we do in English. Each student worked hard and I am so impressed with their efforts in this project. A special thanks to Esteban in Year 12 for giving his time so generously to film us.

Lastly, the lightboxes are up! Our 7E and Year 12 English classes worked with a local artist, Steven 'Ox' King, Indigenous poet Nicole Smede, and Aunty Shaz to create poetry and artworks inspired by the local landscape and by local Indigenous stories. Well, half of the project is complete with the lightboxes at Luke's Place Playground in Corrimal brightening up the local area. The lightboxes were switched on last week to coincide with Reconciliation Week. They look great!

Keep reading everyone!

Mrs Hayley Chisholm
Head Teacher English

KOORI CONNECTION

This term provided time for us to reflect during Reconciliation Week. Despite not being able to be involved in the same ways as previous years, we were undeterred.

Corrimal High School showed that we are in this together via roll call activities where students got to talk about the importance of reconciliation, participate in a video production and more.

We hope the time was valuable and thank all those students and staff involved.

The Boys to Men group this term have been working on Goal Setting skills. Each member has been asked to set themselves an academic goal for the year using the SMART goal framework. These have ranged from improving overall grades to improving grades in a particular class. The students involved then had to set medium- and short-term goals. These goals consist of trying not to get distracted in class, completing all work to the best of their ability and asking for help when they need it.

The group will further improve their goal

BOYS TO MEN

setting skills in the coming terms when they get to work in the school gym during Term three. They will set themselves a physical goal which they will work to achieve over the course of the Term.

LIBRARY NEWS

Scholarships

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the following students on successfully gaining Public Education Scholarships. The scholarships provide students with:

- Financial support: funds for educational goals such as laptops, school supplies and study needs, school excursions etc.
- Academic support: For school scholarships, the Foundation works with teachers and principals to ensure ongoing support and mentoring for scholarship recipients.
- Awards ceremony: a formal acknowledgement of recipient achievement at the annual Public Education Awards Ceremony in Sydney.

Bonfils Iranzi Mpewanayo was the successful recipient of a prestigious Friends of Zainab Senior Secondary Year 10 Scholarship.

Suzanne Abou Shalah was the successful recipient of the Harding Miller Scholarship.

Harmonie Speechley was the successful recipient of the NSW P&C Federation Scholarship.

Meripa Teo was the successful recipient of a PEF National Secondary Scholarship.

The next round of scholarship applications are opening soon. If you are interested in applying for a Public Education Scholarship

for 2020 please see Miss Zalewski in the English Staffroom or Miss Mahon in Learning Support for more information.



Check out our new Library Website
I am excited to launch the Corrimal High School Library Website. You can find information on all things library including new release books, author websites, makerspace resources and reading challenges and programs. The website also includes study skills information and other exciting apps and games. You can check it out @ <https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/chs-library>



TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

As always, Corrimal High School looks to support their students in various ways. Technology, and access to this, is no different. The school has an active BYOD program where students can bring their own laptop/notebook device and have it connected to the school's local network for use in classrooms. To do this, students and their parents/carers must complete a BYOD Agreement Charter and have the device configured by Mr Foster.

Corrimal High School also has over 200 devices for students to access for specialised lessons and learning support. Use and access is dependent on student courses and areas of

study.

During recess and lunch time, facilities are also available for students to continue their work.



GETTING CREATIVE

As part of Refugee Week this year, Illawarra Multicultural Services ran a creative writing competition for all students to enter. We are very proud to say that three of our year 8 students- Immaculee, Simaf and Kewalin worked very hard on some pieces about 'Life In Covid Lockdown'!

Their stories were entertaining, funny and personable and very enjoyable to read. Well done girls for your hard work and diligence. Well done for taking the opportunities that are presented to you!

