# Casula Connects August 2025

# **Up-Coming Events**

Sentral parent calendar link:

https://casula-h.sentral.com.au/s-e5JmxQ/webcal/calendar/3

August 2025

11th - 22nd Yr12 Trial HSC Exams

## September 2025

4<sup>th</sup> Community Café 9:15-10:15am 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> NAIDOC Week @ CHS 15<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> Yr11 Yearly Exams 24<sup>th</sup> Yr12 Graduation 26<sup>th</sup> Last day of term 3

# Senior Executive Corner

As we move into Term Three, we extend a warm welcome back to all our students, families, and staff and welcome Mr. O'Donnell to the role of Acting Principal. We hope you had a refreshing break and are ready for an exciting and productive semester ahead. This semester is set to be a busy one, filled with a variety of learning opportunities, extracurricular activities, and community events designed to engage our students and support their educational journeys. As we embark on another busy term, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. Let us continue to work hand in hand to inspire and empower our children, ensuring they have the tools and resources they need to succeed.

# **Celebrating Education Week Success**

Education Week is an annual celebration of NSW public education and the achievements of schools, students, and the education system. This year's theme, Ignite your potential, celebrates 177 years of Public Education. The community of Casula High School celebrated our diversity at International Day on 7 August with our students and staff. It was wonderful to have our students proudly wearing their national dress. The day enabled our community to celebrate our uniqueness, similarities, and differences, with students from varied cultures, living and learning in an accepting and respectful community. We celebrated what Casula High School represents through international activities, cultural performances and cultural foods which were prepared by our families, students, and staff. Our staff

at Casula High School create strong connections with our students and community whilst leading in quality education, providing opportunities for student growth, whilst supporting the wellbeing of all students. We congratulate our community for their inclusivity and thank our generous families for their contributions.

# **Year 12 Trials**

As we approach Week Four of the term, our Year 12 students are working towards their Trial HSC exams. These examinations are a crucial step in their academic journey, providing valuable insights into their readiness for the final HSC assessments. The Trial HSC exams serve not only as a practice run for the final exams but also as a chance to identify strengths and areas for further growth in their understanding of the syllabus. In the lead-up to the exams, we remind students that seeking support is vital. Whether it's reaching out to teachers for guidance, attending the Homework Centre for additional support, students should feel empowered to ask for help when needed. Our school provides the necessary resources to support students during this critical time.

Our school community believes in year 12, and we wish them the very best of luck in their exams.

# Safety in our community

As we navigate the busy term, it is essential to prioritise the safety of our students during their exit from school grounds. Ensuring that students leave in a safe manner not only protects them but also fosters a culture of responsibility and awareness within our school community.

One of the most crucial aspects of student safety is the use of designated crossings when leaving school. We encourage all students to be vigilant and use these crossings to navigate busy roads. This simple act can significantly reduce the risk of accidents and ensures that students are making safe choices as they transition from school to home.

For our older students who are driving to school, it is vital that they park in designated areas only. Parking in safe spots not only keeps their vehicles secure but also minimises disruptions to traffic flow and enhances the safety of all students. We remind our seniors to be mindful of their surroundings and to follow all parking regulations.

We also ask parents to play their part by using allocated parking spots when picking up their children. This practice not only helps in maintaining an orderly flow of traffic but also ensures that all students can safely enter and exit vehicles without the risk of accidents. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated and is instrumental in fostering a safe environment around our school.

We remind students to use their Opal cards appropriately when using public transport. Tapping on and off correctly is not just about following the rules; it is also a matter of safety. This practice helps students become more responsible and aware of their surroundings while commuting and is a requirement of Transport NSW.

Safety is a shared responsibility that involves students, parents, and school staff. By following these guidelines, we can ensure that our students exit the school grounds safely and responsibly. We appreciate the support of our community in making our school a safe place for everyone.

# Works around the school

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing the best teaching and learning environment for our students, we are excited to announce a series of exciting infrastructure improvements taking place around our school.

One of the highlights of our recent upgrades is the resurfacing of the basketball courts. This revitalisation not only improves the safety and playability of the courts but also encourages students to engage in physical activity and teamwork. With a fresh surface, our students can look forward to enjoying their favourite sports during recess and lunch, during physical education classes and sport sessions.

We are pleased to announce the completion of our new bathrooms specifically for Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students. These modern facilities provide a more comfortable and accessible experience for our younger students, promoting hygiene and wellbeing within the school environment. The new bathrooms are designed with student needs in mind, ensuring that they can enjoy a clean and welcoming space.

In addition to the basketball courts and bathroom upgrades, considerable work is being done to enhance our outdoor spaces. New seating areas and pathways are being constructed to ease congestion, providing students with additional outdoor learning spaces and more room to enjoy the outdoor spaces during break times.

We are excited to be embarking on our High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) journey at Casula High School. Our staff have engaged in HPGE professional learning, and we have established a HPGE team that identifies and addresses the learning needs of high potential and gifted students. Our students have had the opportunity to engage in debating competitions, ICAs exams, sporting opportunities and technology workshops.

The NSW Government is committed to delivering high potential and gifted education (HPGE) in every school by investing an additional \$50 million into the HPGE Partner School program. This is in addition to the \$50 million investment in the 2024/25 NSW Budget which has already started to benefit 13 high schools across the state. Under the program, Casula High School will receive facility upgrades to accommodate increased enrolments, broaden educational opportunities and

facilitate the delivery of tailored HPGE course offerings. This will include a new Creative and Performing Arts facility and an upgrade to the school entrance which will include way finding, lighting and landscaping. Planning and design work will be undertaken throughout the year. We will keep our community updated and provide additional information as it becomes available.

# **Community Café**

We look forward to meeting with our community at our next Community Café on 4 September. The focus of this Community Café is connecting with our families. Parents/Caregivers will have the opportunity to be creative and work in our TAS learning spaces to decorate cupcakes. As spaces are limited in our Industrial kitchen, parents will need to respond to an RSVP that will be shared closer to the event.

# Subject Selection for Years 8 and 10: Proceeding Smoothly

Subject selection is an exciting yet crucial time for our Year 8 and 10 students as they begin to shape their educational pathways. We are thrilled to see so many students thoughtfully considering their options and making informed decisions about their future studies. The information sessions were well attended, and we're grateful for the support and guidance provided by parents and teachers.

# The Importance of Wearing Uniform

We'd like to remind all students and families about the importance of wearing the correct school uniform. Our uniform represents our school's values and identity and wearing it with pride is a sign of respect for our community. We ask parents to ensure that their children come to school in full uniform every day, this includes appropriate footwear. If there are any issues with obtaining the correct uniform, please contact the school office, and we will be happy to assist.

At our school, we believe that education is a collaborative effort. Working closely with students and families is vital in ensuring that every child has access to a strong and enriching educational experience. We are dedicated to fostering positive relationships with our community, as

we know that when students feel supported at home and at school, they thrive.



# **Every Day Matters website**

Working hand in hand with families, we create a powerful force that nurtures and empowers our children to reach their potential.

# Sincerely,

Mr O'Donnell	Principal (Acting)	
Ms Witherly	Relieving Deputy Principal	
	Years 7+ 10	
Ms Signorini	Deputy Principal Years 9 + 12	
Ms Pasalic	Deputy Principal Voors 9 + 11	
Ms Crawford	Deputy Principal Years 8 + 11	

# Koori Korner



Warami everyone,

Well, I hope everyone in the community had a happy NAIDOC Week during the week of 6th -13th July. Wish you had

a chance to get out to the many community events that occurred across Sydney. Always a busy time of year and no wonder why they call it Christmas in July for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people around the nation.

At Casula High it doesn't end there. We have NAIDOC celebrations throughout Term 3. Starting on the 14<sup>th</sup> August several of our students were involved in the LLAECG Combined Schools NAIDOC Day. This year it will be held at Ashcroft Public School, where over 25 schools from the local area will be involved. A big day for all students and teachers taking part. In the past this has been a successful day, enjoyed by all, and this year students are looking forward to another enthralling cultural day.

The day after, on the 15<sup>th</sup> August some of our students participated in the NAIDOC Community Walk. This has been run in the last few years and has become a new tradition. It involves not only us but student leaders across Casula PS, Lurnea PS, Lurnea HS, Prestons PS and Dalmeny PS. Students walked between schools where they share Acknowledgement of country and participate in a gift sharing ceremony. Ending up at Prestons PS for a BBQ and a cultural activity.

Then moving onto Week 8 of the term, we will be celebrating our own NAIDOC Week at the school. Kicking off with a formal assembly on the Monday 8th September where family and community will be invited to come in and see our student leaders run the assembly. Fitting as this year's theme is: The Next Generation: Strength, Vison & Legacy. Then on the Wednesday of that week staff and some community members will run cultural workshops for all of our Year 7 to 10 students. Then finally we finish the week with the OzTag Competition. Again, a call out to any family or community members who wish to be part of the festivities at the school, feel free to reach out to the school and speak with Mr Gandiaga. As always, we work collaboratively with our community and take on any ideas or feedback to make this week better and bigger than ever before.

Our shared Google Classroom – reminder to families to check the Google Classroom for communications of upcoming events and programs run at the school. Most of you have joined. If you wish to join and don't know how, call the school and ask to speak to Mr Gandiaga

**Souths Cares** – This wonderful mentoring program continues this term. On the 16<sup>th</sup> August some of our students were invited to do a lap of honour at the Rabbitohs game against Parramatta at Allianz Stadium. On top of this, students who have consistently engaged in the program recently received their new hoodies. The design this year looks awesome.



16 AUGUST | ALLIANZ STADIUM | 7:35PM











6-13 JULY 2025





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# Ancestral Lines by Jeremy Morgan Worrall

This artwork is a visual representation of the generational times that carry through my mab. When I think of the need generation, think towards my arrestors: tury dright, I rach Wight, tonis Wight. Through to my harma it office and my letter Vanessa. Tooking back gives me the strength and vision to look backed took ingue in the pointing is less to family lines, it as congines, inflicting what they lines and what they passed on. The first presents lare, hunting, and backing. The second reflects care, weaking and love. The trindefores the two combined, while the first two conyunities determine represents of incoved go and steel in motion. Above them stall the escence of Country—swifing sizes and a giant moon over Emmaville, it is by the fire, under these cool sizes, where the next generation finds their strength, vision, and legacy.

#NAIDOC2025 #BLAKLOUDPROUD



@naldocweek





facebook.com/NAIDDC

# Student Spotlight Community Cafe



When most 13-year-olds thinking about video games or hanging out with friends, Isaac has his sights set on something bigger — swimming for a cure.

Since 2019, Isaac has taken part in the 24-Hour Mega Swim at Homebush, a major fundraiser for

Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Year after year, Isaac returns to the pool, swimming with his team-mates for a full 24 hours — all to raise money and awareness for Australians living with MS.

Now, at just 13 years old, Isaac is already a seasoned Mega Swim participant. His dedication is remarkable, not just because of his age, but because of the energy, compassion, and endurance he brings to every lap. He's proof that no one is too young to make a difference.

"Swimming for MS means more than just laps," says Isaac. "It's about helping people, being part of a team, and showing that even kids can step up."

The MS 24-Hour Mega Swim is one of Australia's most popular and inspiring fundraising events, where teams of swimmers compete in a relay-style challenge to keep someone in the water for a full 24 hours. Funds raised support MS Plus, providing essential services like physiotherapy, counselling, and home visits to people living with MS.

For Isaac, it's personal. Though he doesn't have MS himself, he swims with those who do in mind — and with the kind of drive that's impossible to ignore.

As he trains for another Mega Swim, Isaac is also calling on others to get involved — by donating, cheering on swimmers, or even signing up to swim themselves.

Every dollar makes a difference. Every lap brings us closer to a world free of MS.

# Support Isaac's Swim

Want to help Isaac reach his fundraising goal? Visit [https://www.msmegachallenge.org.au/fundraisers/isaa cnarayan/mega-swim-sydney ] to donate or learn more about the MS 24-Hour Mega Swim.

Your support again means so much to Isaac and his team.

Next Community café will be held on Thursday 4th September from 9:15am to 10:15am.

All Parents are welcome.



You're invited to Casula High School's



Thursday, 4th September 2025 9.15am - 10.15am

Meet in the Common Room (before going to the Kitchen)

**Theme:** Showcasing the TAS Department

Parents will participate in decorating cupcakes

Join us for a fun morning of creativity and connection. We look forward to seeing you there!

# Year Advisor Reports

# **Year 7 Advisors Report**

Welcome back to Term 3. We cannot believe that we are already have way through Year 7. Last term was finished on a high with CASPERS. It was so nice to see Year 7 enjoying the talents of Casula and to have Year 7 represented in the performance. International Day was a smashing success. Congratulations to all students who participated in a cultural performance or contributed to a food stall. Just a reminder of the uniform expectations that include black shoes, no hoddies and a shirt under your jumper. If you have an issues access uniform or understanding our uniform policy, please reach out. Over the next few weeks, your term 3 assessment notifications will begin rolling out. Homework Centre on a Monday is a great way to get ahead and prepare for these tasks. Have a great couple of weeks everyone. Finally, thank you to Ms Brechin for her amazing support over the last two terms. She will be stepping back from Assistant Year Adviser for the remainder of the year. It is with much happiness we welcome Ms Mongomery to the role. We are very excited you have joined us on our high school adventure.

Ms Garven / Ms Montgomery

# **Year 8 Advisors Report**

Welcome back Year 8 to another term. It has already been a big start with students having their parent teacher interviews and international day in week 3. This is also a big term for our Year 8 debate team as they have some big match ups this term. We wish them good luck. Good luck to all students and may this term be a hardworking and rewarding one.

Mr Punales / Ms Bell

# **Year 9 Advisors Report**

We would like to thank all the families who attended our recent Parent Teacher Night. It was a wonderful evening of connection, conversation, and collaboration. We're grateful for the opportunity to work together and support our students.

We're thrilled to share an exciting opportunity for a select group of our Year 9 students who have been invited to participate in the High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) Challenge this term. These students will be tackling a real-world issue affecting our community in South-West Sydney, using their creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration skills to develop a digital model for change. Our teams will be going head-to-head with students from Hurlstone Agricultural High School in a friendly competition. We can't wait to see what innovative concepts both teams bring to the table.

As part of the Fast Forward program, participating students will be attending a University Day in Week 6. This experience is a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, network and start thinking about life beyond high school.

International Day was a vibrant celebration of the rich cultural diversity that makes our school community so special. Year 9 participated in cultural workshops, watched student-led performances and celebrated their culture through traditional dress, music and food stalls. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make the event such a success! And a huge congratulations to our Year 9 World Cup soccer team 'Sierra Leon', who took out the top spot in a thrilling final match and penalty shoot-out. 'Australia' is to be commended on their efforts for finishing in 2nd place. Their teamwork, sportsmanship, and determination were on full display, and we are extremely proud of everyone who participated.

As always, we want to remind everyone of the importance of wearing the correct school uniform, with all black shoes. We appreciate your support in ensuring students come to school dressed according to the uniform guidelines, helping them to represent our school community with respect.

Ms Weeding / Mr Church

# **Year 10 Advisors Report**

We would like to thank all of the parents and carers of our wonderful Year 10 cohort who attended the subject selection even in week 10, term 2. If your child has not made any selections and you are unsure of what subjects are best to for your child, please let the Year 10 advisor team know and we can assist you.

In week 2, we had a visit from TAFE and they gave out valuable information regarding TAFE courses for 2026-2027. TAFE allows students numerous employment pathways post school and is designed for students who plan to commence an apprenticeship/traineeship. Applications will be closing soon.

All students will need to apply for their Unique Student Identifier (USI). This is a personal education number required for all nationally recognised study, including university and vocational education and training (VET). Made up of 10 letters and numbers, it is free and stays with you for life. If you get the time, can you please assist your child to obtain one. Here is the link to complete this process. Please contact Mr Roberts if you require support.

# https://www.usi.gov.au/

In term 4, students will be able to participate in work experience program. We encourage families to have discussions about options and encourage your child to approach prospective employers now.

Mr Roberts / Mr Steedman

# Year 11 Advisors Report

Welcome to the final term of the Preliminary course.

This term, Year 11 students attended the **BStreet Smart excursion**, an important event highlighting the realities of road safety. The day featured real-life stories from emergency services, survivors, and medical staff, aiming to inspire safer choices both as drivers and passengers.

For those considering vocational pathways, **TAFE NSW** applications may still be open. This is a fantastic opportunity to complement the HSC with hands-on skills and industry qualifications. Speak with the careers' adviser for guidance about courses that align with your future goals.

With the Year 11 Preliminary exams fast approaching, students should look to create a realistic study timetable, adopt effective revision strategies and actively review class notes. This should help them build discipline and long-term study habits that will also help them out in the HSC.

Mr Dubria / Mr Fok

# **Vear 12 Advisors Report**

Welcome back, Year 12, from your holidays. We hope that you had a restful break and also spent some quality time preparing for your HSC Trials, whether it was revising in your own time or attending study sessions at school. For your Trials, it is important that you are here on time for relevant exams. Please make sure to check your timetable every day.

In exciting news, the Year 12 Formal is confirmed for November 27<sup>th</sup>. Initial deposit payments of \$50 can now be made through School Bytes. The total amount will be communicated once all fundraising funds have been distributed.

Speaking of fundraising, thank you to everyone who supported our drinks stall at International Day. It was also great to see Year 12 actively participating during this day in various stalls and performances. We hope you had memorable time at your last International Day.

Finally, if you need any assistance for any reason, please feel free to reach out.

Mr Markovski / Ms Prasad

# Faculty Feedback

# TAS

#### Year 7 and 8

Second semester of the year in TAS Faculty provide students with different subjects and new skills to be developed with timber, food technology, engineering and computers.

#### Year 9 and 10

Our students are currently in the middle of their course work and practical's, building knowledge and skills which will forever by helpful.

#### Year 11

Students are coming to the end of their Preliminary course and are preparing for their upcoming yearly exams and then continuing their course into their HSC.

#### Year 12

Submission of Major Projects for external marking has been finalised. Watch this space for photos in our next edition after marking has taken place.

# **CAPA**

Students from Visual arts, Drama and Music are spending the majority of term 3 working towards submitting their major projects. HSC major projects for creative arts students range from performances in Music and Drama, to complex and sophisticated art works and costume designs for Visual arts.

The submission and completion of major works is a major milestone for our CAPA students as it represents a significant portion of their HSC marks for their respective subjects and is the culmination of 18 months of work.

On behalf of all of us in the CAPA faculty, we would like to congratulate our Year 12 students for their hard work and efforts so far and wish them all the best as they prepare for their HSC written examinations.

# **ENGLISH**

In Term 3, our students are diving into a range of diverse and exciting topics across all year groups. Year 7 will step into the magical world of dramatic plays as they explore *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*. Year 8 will journey back in time as they are introduced to one of the

most iconic figures in English literature through our Introduction to Shakespeare and Poetry unit. Year 9 will discover the power of their own voices in A Better World, a thought-provoking unit that explores protest and its significance in today's world. Meanwhile, Year 10 will engage with the themes of storytelling and resilience through Eddie Jaku's heartwarming autobiography The Happiest Refugee, which offers a powerful perspective on survival during World War II.

The English Faculty would also like to wish our senior students the very best as they approach significant milestones in their academic journey. Year 11 will complete their Preliminary exams at the end of this term, marking their final steps before transitioning into Year 12. As for our Year 12 students, their Trial HSC English exams which took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2025. We wish them the best of luck and look forward to welcoming them back for HSC revision.

Here's to a successful and inspiring Term 3.

# MATHS – STEM - ENGINEERING STUDIES

Exploration, Innovation, and Real-World Connections Across All Year Levels

It's been a buzzing term in the Maths and STEM classrooms, with students across all years exploring new concepts, applying skills to real-world contexts, and embracing the challenge of creative design and critical thinking.

# **Engineering Studies in Action**

Year 11 Engineering Studies students have launched into their fourth module: *Biomedical Engineering*. They are delving into the fascinating world of medical innovation, examining the history of this life-changing field, the materials used in medical devices, and the impacts on society and the environment. Meanwhile, Year 12 Engineering students are sharpening their exam readiness by unpacking patterns in past HSC papers, identifying recurring question types, and practising strategic approaches.

**STEM Creativity and Competition** 

Our Year 10 STEM students are reaching the final stages of their impressive robotic hand projects. They've designed, built, and coded their own functioning robotic hands – a true testament to collaboration and problem-solving.

Year 9 STEM students are showcasing their artistic and scientific skills in the *Australian Virtual Astronaut (AVA) Challenge*, where they're competing in a statewide mission patch design competition. This challenge connects STEM learning with space exploration and creative expression.

# **Mathematics with Meaning**

In Year 10 Maths, students have been using trigonometry and bearings to determine the heights of tall objects such as trees and buildings, discovering just how maths helps us measure the world around us. Year 9 Maths classes are exploring the power of equations, discovering practical applications like converting between Celsius and Fahrenheit, an essential skill for understanding global temperature scales.

Year 8 students are hard at work preparing their *algebra portfolios*, demonstrating their understanding through a range of problem-solving tasks and mathematical reasoning.

# **Engaging the Young Mathematicians**



In Year 7, students are actively exploring ratios through hands-on activities using foam shapes and even making cordial! This practical approach has helped students see the relevance of ratios in everyday situations.

promoting deeper understanding through discussion, experimentation, and fun.

Whether it's programming a robot, designing a mission patch, or calculating the height of a tree, our students are using mathematics and engineering to explore, create, and connect with the world around them. We're proud of their curiosity and dedication.











# SCIENCE

# **Year 11 Chemistry**

Students conducted a practical investigation exploring how catalysts and surface area affect the rate of chemical reactions. These factors play a critical role in determining how quickly reactions occur, an essential consideration in chemical industries. By understanding and applying these concepts, students gained insight into how reaction rates can be controlled and optimized in both industrial processes and everyday applications.





**Year 8 Science** 



In this exciting project, students use Minecraft Education to design and build their own sustainable towns. As part of our "Resources" topic, students

will explore renewable energy sources, eco-friendly design, and smart resource management.

Working in teams, they'll apply what they've learned in class to create towns that are not only functional, but environmentally responsible. This is a hands-on, creative way to bring geography to life while imagining a greener future!



It's been a busy term in Science so far, with students focused on completing assessment tasks and deepening their understanding of theory rather than spending time in the lab. But the goggles and test tubes won't stay away for long. Science Week is now in full swing, so keep an eye out in our next edition for all the exciting, hands-on activities and fun experiments our students will be taking part in.

#### **PDHPE**

Casula High School has once again shone on the sporting stage with some incredible results across multiple competitions. Our AFL team put in a strong performance to claim victory in their zone game against Holsworthy, demonstrating great teamwork, skill, and determination. The Opens Boys Futsal team have continued their winning streak, taking out the regional championship and earning their place at the upcoming State Championships, a huge achievement and a testament to their hard work. Our Girls Volleyball team also represented the school with pride, competing against the best in NSW and securing an impressive 6th place finish in the state. Congratulations to all our for athletes and coaches their dedication. sportsmanship, and commitment to excellence.

#### **Year 11 Bstreetsmart Excursion**

Our Year 11 students recently attended the Bstreetsmart excursion, an engaging and eye-opening event focused on road safety and responsible driving. Students had the opportunity to hear powerful real-life stories from crash survivors, emergency service workers, and families affected by road trauma. The day also featured interactive displays, demonstrations, and valuable information on making safe decisions behind the wheel. The experience was both impactful and educational, equipping our students with important knowledge and awareness as they prepare for their future as drivers and passengers.

# SPECIAL ED

Our Special Education students have had a busy and exciting term, taking part in a variety of engaging and hands-on activities.



In Science, students have been exploring the human body and created models of the bones in the hand using drinking straws, a fun and interactive way to support their learning. They have also been studying Solutions and

Mixtures, with one memorable experiment being the making of ice cream. With the guidance of our Science teacher, Mrs. Arti, and assistance from Mrs. Sauvan, students created and decorated their ice cream with sprinkles before enjoying the smooth, creamy treat, a delicious success.



A group of students proudly represented our school at the recent bocce competition and did an amazing job, with special thanks to Ms Midgley, Mr

Church, and Mr Steedman for their support on the day. Building on this success, our special education students are now ready to roll at the upcoming Inclusive Bowling Gala Day, a celebration of fun, inclusion, and friendly competition. We can't wait to see our team shine on the lanes and represent our school with pride.



At CASPERS, several of our students took to the stage to showcase their talents through lively dance routines and a heartfelt singing performance from John, who was accompanied by Ben. Their

energy, confidence, and enthusiasm lit up the room, captivating the audience and earning plenty of cheers and applause. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to express themselves, share their skills, and experience the joy of performing in front of a crowd. This was made possible with the support and dedication from Ms. Georgiou and Ms. Midgley.





Meanwhile, our garden continues to thrive, with students enjoying the rewarding experience of harvesting the vegetables they've helped grow.

In Science the students have been learning about Solutions and Mixtures. One of their experiments was making ice cream which they decorated with sprinkles and then enjoyed their smooth creamy treat. This is all thanks to our Science teacher Mrs. Arti and Mrs. Sauvan who helped to make the experiment a delicious success.

Our Year 11 students attended the BStreetSmart excursion with mainstream students in their year group. It is a youth road safety event designed to inspire young drivers to adopt safer driving habits. The day was a success. A big thank you to Mrs. Hamilton-Smith for ensuring our students had a stress free and safe day.





Our Special Education students lit up the stage at International Day with a fantastic dance performance! Their energy, smiles, and confidence had the whole school clapping along. A huge thank you to Ms Georgiou and Ms Midgley – it wouldn't have been possible without you. Well done to all the performers – you were amazing





# HSIE

A few things happening in HSIE already at the start of Term 3. Not only are our teachers working to support our Year 12 students as they head into their Trial HSC exams we are offering students many opportunities with excursions and incursions.

# **Year 11 Geography**



Students went out on the 1st August to conduct an urban Field Study Day at Liverpool Town Centre. Students made observations, conducted surveys and

turned into geographer's as they collected data, aimed at helping them with their Geographical Investigations. The rain stayed away and an enjoyable experience to those who attended.









Year 8 Japanese Drum sessions



Students had the opportunity to watch a performance by Taikoz. Taiko is a traditional Japanese drumming art form. The group brought incredible energy to the school hall, filling it with the deep.

powerful rhythms of traditional Japanese drums. Students were amazed by the performers' precision and

strength, and many were inspired by the cultural stories woven into the music. Several students were lucky enough to be



chosen to go on stage and try out some of the taiko drums.



#### Talk Law Year 10

The Talk Law program is on again. In partnership with King Wood & Mallesons, this program offers students the opportunity to work hand in hand with lawyers to discuss and workshop through current legal issues that affect you people's lives. Students interested in the program are encouraged to go to the HSIE staffroom to collect permission notes and show their expressions of interest.

# 12 Ancient History

Students are testing out their knowledge of Ancient Sparta by playing an intense game of 'Spartopoly'



# 'Ancient China' Escape Room

Mr Cary's year 7 History class were challenged to an epic Escape Room last week.

Theme: Students were trapped in Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi's tomb and needed to find the secret passageway before time ran out. Thankfully, they were able to work together and complete all their 'Ancient China' themed activities and escape in the nick of time.





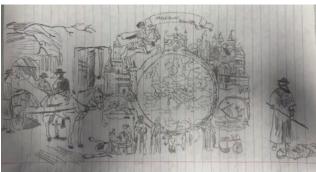






Year 7 Medieval Europe

Check out these epic title pages for 'Medieval Europe' from 7G.



Isabella Smith



Jesse Buachoom

# SRC

The Year 11 SRC application process is now well underway for our group of Year 12 SRC members for their final year of school year. Students have submitted their applications and are currently preparing their speeches, which they will deliver in front of their peers in the coming weeks. These speeches provide candidates with the opportunity to outline their vision for the Student Representative Council, share their ideas for initiatives, and explain how they plan to represent and support their cohort in their final year of high school. We look forward to hearing their inspiring proposals and seeing our future student leaders step confidently into this important role.

# **SECONDARY STUDIES**

Dear Year 12 Students,

The Trial HSC Exams are underway, they an important milestone on your path to the final HSC. These exams are not only a chance to show what you've learned so far, but also a valuable opportunity to build confidence and refine your exam techniques before the real thing.

Now is the time to establish strong study habits that will set you up for success. Here are a few tips to help you stay focused, balanced, and motivated:

# **Create a Study Timetable**

Plan your weeks ahead. Break your study into manageable sessions and rotate between subjects. Be realistic, include breaks, meals, and rest.

# **Practice Past Papers**

Get familiar with the types of questions you'll face. Time yourself to simulate exam conditions and review your answers to identify areas for improvement.

# Stay Active and Eat Well

Your brain needs fuel! Stay hydrated, eat nutritious meals, and keep moving, even a short walk can boost your focus and energy levels.

# **Minimise Distractions**

Put your phone away during study blocks, find a quiet space, and let your family know your schedule so they can support your routine.

# **Prioritise Sleep**

Late-night cramming might seem helpful, but nothing beats a good night's sleep for memory, concentration, and performance.

# Ask for Help

If you're stuck, don't sit in silence. Reach out to your teachers, peers, or support staff. You're not alone in this journey.

Remember, your Trials are a stepping stone, not the final destination. Give it your best shot, learn from the experience, and keep moving forward. You've got this.

Experience is the teacher of all things – Julius Caesar Wishing you all the best for your Trial Exams.

# STUDENT SUPPORT - WELLBEING ENGAGEMENT

Welcome to Term 3 from the Student Wellbeing Team

We are excited to welcome all students and families back for Term 3 at Casula High School. We trust everyone has had a restful break and is ready for another term of learning, growth, and connection.

This term, the Student Wellbeing Team is pleased to continue offering a range of engaging and impactful wellbeing programs for our students. Across Terms 3 and 4, we will be running Spire, ASPIRE, Sports Ability, and Top Blokes, programs designed to build resilience, confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills. These initiatives are a valuable part of our commitment to supporting the social, emotional, and physical wellbeing of all students.

We look forward to seeing our students actively participate, challenge themselves, and make the most of these opportunities. As always, we encourage parents and caregivers to stay connected with us and reach out if they have any questions or would like to learn more about our wellbeing programs.

# Celebrating Outstanding Attendance: A Special Morning Tea for Term 2 Achievers

Casula High School was proud to host a Special Morning Tea on Friday 1 August 2025 to celebrate another exceptional student attendance achievement, 88 students achieving 100% attendance in Term 2. While we would have loved to see even more students reach this milestone, it remains an impressive number that reflects our students' growing dedication and commitment to their learning, particularly during the cold winter months.

The morning tea, hosted during recess by our Acting Principal, Mr O'Donnell, was a vibrant and uplifting event. Students enjoyed delicious treats, shared stories, and celebrated their hard work alongside supportive staff. The atmosphere was one of pride, joy, and encouragement, with students feeling recognised for the effort it takes to maintain a perfect attendance record.

In his address, Mr O'Donnell warmly congratulated the students, highlighting that consistent attendance is about more than simply being in class. It demonstrates personal responsibility, a strong work ethic, and an active contribution to the school community.

We commend every student who achieved 100% attendance for setting such a positive example for their peers. This celebration also serves as a reminder that every school day matters — missing just one day can make it harder to keep up with lessons, stay connected with peers, and maintain momentum in learning.

## For students:

Arriving at school every day builds strong learning habits and keeps you on track with classwork.

Being present allows you to fully engage with your teachers, classmates, and school activities.

Good attendance habits set you up for success in senior years, work, and beyond.

# For parents and caregivers:

Please continue to communicate promptly with the school about any absences so they can be accurately recorded.

Encourage your child to attend every day unless they are genuinely unwell.

Help your child establish consistent routines, including sleep, breakfast, and transport, to make attending school easier.

A big congratulations again to our Term 2 achievers. Let's keep building a strong culture of attendance so even more students can be celebrated in Term 3.

# LIBRARY

The Library has recently added some exciting new games to its collection, including more copies of UNO and the fast-paced favourite *Taco Cat Goat Cheese Pizza*. These additions have quickly become popular with our students, providing a fun and engaging way to spend break times while building social connections. It's wonderful to see students gathering around the tables, sharing laughs, and enjoying a friendly bit of competition in our vibrant Library space.

Students are also encouraged to keep an ear out for roll call announcements about upcoming art and writing competitions, as well as special activities hosted in the Library. These opportunities are a great way for students to showcase their creativity, develop their skills, and participate in the wide variety of events our Library offers throughout the year.

# LEARNING AND SUPPORT

#### **Check-In Assessment**

From weeks 1-5 of Term 3, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will complete their check-in assessments in the areas of literacy and numeracy. The check-in assessment is an online assessment for students in Years 3 to 9. Data from the assessment supplements existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy, and helps teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to student needs.

# **Small Group Tutoring**

Our Small Group Tutoring Program provides small-group tuition to students in stages 4 and 5. Our tutors are currently working with students in Years 8 and 9 to support their growth as learners, as well as students in Year 10 to support them in meeting their HSC Minimum Standards. This program will continue throughout the year and will focus on building student's capacity for literacy and numeracy.

# QuickSmart Program

QuickSmart is a numeracy program that supports students in Years 7 to 9. Students in the program work closely with our SLSOs and LaSTs to build their capacity in fundamental mathematics. We have seen a number of proud students graduate from the program in term 3 and

will be welcoming new students into the program later this term.

# **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

At the beginning of the term staff engaged in Professional Learning that focused on explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy. Staff viewed, reflected and evaluated sample lesson videos from Miss Weeding and Miss Prasad, who both focused on in-text reading strategies. Staff then engaged in refining their own programs and lessons that replicated the strategies they viewed. This Professional Learning is a continuation of SKIM and Diagnose the Diagram, which have been core focuses for CHS since 2024.

# **DEBATING**

Our Stage 4 and Stage 5 debate teams have now completed Round 1 and Round 2 of the Premier's Debating Challenge.



# Stage 4

Round 1 of the competition saw Casula Team A vs. Casula Team B, with Team A coming away with the win. In round 2, Team A went head-to-head with Condell Park High, and Team B went up against Holsworthy High. Although the teams did not come away with a Round 2 win, we are so proud of their commitment to improving their debating skills.

# Stage 5

In Round 1 of the competition, Casula Team A went up against Casula Team B, with Team B coming away with the win. Round 2 saw both teams go head-to-head with Hurlstone Agricultural High School, with Team A coming away with a win! Although Team B did not come away with a win, it was an exceptionally close debate, and we are so proud to see the tremendous improvement in their debating skills.

We look forward to seeing all teams in action in Round 3.







# GAME CHANGER CHALLENGE

Our Year 8 Game Changers are through to Stage 2 of the competition. For this stage of the competition, the Waste Not Wizards and Scrap Savers are working on their video pitch and will continue to build on their Design Portfolios. Good luck to both teams!

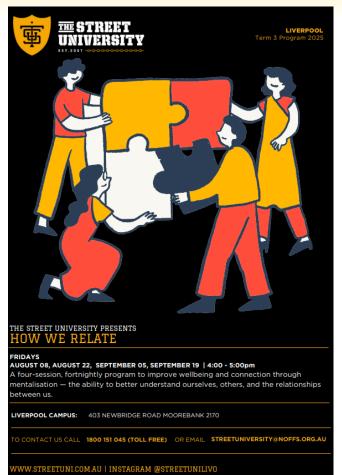




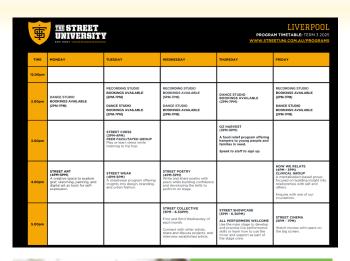
# **HPGE GLENFIELD NETWORK CHALLENGE**

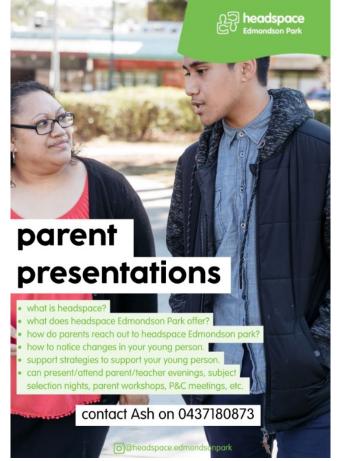
Selected Year 9 students will be participating in a HPGE Challenge with Hurlstone Agricultural High School. The challenge, FutureScape: Building Better Communities, aims to empower students to address complex social issues and focuses on encouraging innovation and creativity through a structured problem-solving process. Throughout Term 3, students will work in teams to identify an issue impacting the local area, develop a proposal for a solution, and create a model and presentation justifying their proposed solution. We look forward to seeing the innovative ideas of our Year 9 teams.

# COUNSELLOR













"You are not alone. Change starts with

#### WEEK 2: 22ND AUGUST

Explore how MBT can be used to manage emotions, build self-awareness, and improve communication through different approaches.

#### WEEK 3: 4TH SEPTEMBER

Discover key models used in MBT to better understand behaviour, emotions, and relationships. Learn how these models explain why we react the way we do and ways of thinking, feeling, and responding to others.

#### WEEK 4: 18TH SEPTEMBER

Build on practical skills to understand ourselves and others. We'll explore how to pause, reflect, and respond during real-life challenging experiences.

# Uniform Policy

# Contact Us

#### **GIRLS UNIFORM**

#### Years 7 - 10

- **Skirt** Bottle green (appropriate size and length)
- Shorts Bottle green (shorts are knee length with a cuff, 2 pockets, 1 button, zip front and belt loop. These shorts are the **ONLY** option for girls to wear).
- Shirt White polo or white blouse with school logo Years 11 - 12
- **Skirt** Green tartan (appropriate size and length)
- Shorts Bottle green (shorts are knee length with a cuff, 2 pockets, 1 button, zip front and belt loop. These shorts are the **ONLY** option for girls to wear).
- Shirt White polo or white blouse with school logo

#### All Years

- Trousers Black tailored (no track suit pants)
- Pullover Bottle green with school logo
- Jumper Bottle green with school logo
- Jacket Bottle green over-jacket with school logo
- Tie Bottle green
- Shoes Black leather, leatherette or suede
- Socks White
- **Headwear** (including caps and hijabs) if worn, must be in school colours, which are white, black and bottle areen

# **BOYS UNIFORM**

#### Years 7 - 10

- **Shorts –** Grey (appropriate size and length)
- **Trousers –** Grey tailored (no track suit pants)
- Shirt White polo or white business shirt with school logo

# Years 11 - 12

- **Shorts** Grey (appropriate size and length)
- **Trousers** Grey tailored (no track suit pants)
- Shirt White polo or white business shirt with school logo

#### All Years

- Pullover Bottle green with school logo
- Jacket Bottle green over-jacket with school logo
- Tie Bottle green
- Shoes Black leather, leatherette or suede
- Socks White
- Headwear (including caps) if worn, must be in school colours, which are white, black and bottle green

# PE / SPORT UNIFORM

#### All Students All Years

Black sports shorts (appropriate size and length), school sports polo, sports shoes

Casula Connects is available on the Parent Portal of the Sentral website, as well as on the Casula High School website. For any details about the newsletter or any other school events please contact the school on:

Phone: 9602 4320

Email: casula-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CasulaHighSchool

Twitter: @Casula High

# STAFF ROLES

TITLE	NAME
Principal (Acting)	Mr O'Donnell
Deputy Principal Years 7+ 10	Mr Witherly
(Relieving)	•
Deputy Principal Years 9 + 12	Ms Signorini
Deputy Principal Years 8 + 11	Ms Pasalic
	Ms Crawford
Year 7 Advisor	Ms Garven
Year 8 Advisor	Mr Punales
Year 9 Advisor	Ms Weeding
Year 10 Advisor	Mr Roberts
Year 11 Advisor	Mr Dubria
Year 12 Advisor	Mr Markovski
Careers Advisor	Mr Adio
Librarian	Ms Milliken
Technical Support	Mr Aussieker
Student Support	Ms O'Donnell
Head Teacher Administration	Ms Montgomery
Head Teacher CAPA	Ms Georgiou
Head Teacher English	Ms Kolar
Head Teacher HSIE	Mr Gandiaga
Head Teacher Learning & Support	Ms Holdswoth
Head Teacher Maths	Ms Campbell
Head Teacher PDHPE	Mr Dib
Head Teacher Secondary Studies	Mr Cary
Head Teacher Science	Ms Sami
Head Teacher Special Education	Ms Matthews
Head Teacher Teaching & Learning	Mr Carter
Head Teacher TAS	Ms Celic
Head Teacher Welfare	Mr Chanaoui Ms Neill