

INFOLINE

Crestwood High School Fortnightly Newsletter



From the Principal

By Tania Wright

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to 2025, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our families, especially those of our new Year 7 students. It has been heartening to see our Year 7 students make such a positive transition to high school, happy and enthusiastic as they embrace new challenges and opportunities. Their eagerness to learn and engage with their peers and their teachers is truly commendable and sets a wonderful tone for the year ahead.

I would like to thank students and parents for the effort they have made in ensuring they are wearing the correct school uniform. Wearing the correct school uniform is an important aspect of promoting a sense of belonging and pride within the school community. It creates a unified appearance among students, fostering a positive school identity and encouraging respect for the school. By adhering to the uniform policy, students demonstrate their commitment to their school and its values, enhancing the overall learning environment.

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From the Principal cont. *By Tania Wright*

This week, we celebrated our High Achievers assembly, where we acknowledged the academic excellence of our year 11 accelerated students and HSC class of 2024. It was inspiring to witness the achievements of these dedicated students, as they forge an exciting path ahead. As part of my speech, I recalled the significance of Thomas Edison's words, "Success is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration." Success at school requires ongoing commitment and perseverance, in dedicating time to studies. The high school journey builds resilience and teachers are on hand to guide, provide necessary feedback and support students throughout.

The dux of Crestwood High School in 2023, Bailey Mularczyk, was the guest speaker at the assembly and he gave insights into his preparation for the HSC and study techniques that proved successful for him.

This week, we have emailed information to parents about voluntary contributions in schools and how they play a crucial role in enhancing the educational experience for students. These contributions, made by parents, can support various programs, resources, and extracurricular activities. They help bridge funding gaps and provide additional opportunities for learning and development.

Schools may use these contributions to purchase educational materials to enhance programs. Ultimately, voluntary contributions foster a sense of community and collaboration among families and schools, benefiting everyone involved.

Having had the opportunity to address the year 7 students, walk around the playground and go into classrooms, they tell me they like high school.

I am very much looking forward to the year ahead with all of our students as they build on their continuing relationships with staff.

Tania Wright



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

WELCOME

Welcome to the academic school year of 2025. I hope all students' had a restful and well deserved break and are ready and committed to their academic pursuits and personal best for 2025.

I'm very excited to be the new Deputy Principal of Crestwood High School. I look forward to working collaboratively with the students', staff and parents/carers to ensure the best educational outcomes for each student. I will be the Deputy for Year 8, 10 and 12.

Please see a list of key personnel in the school for 2025:

Principal: T.Wright
Deputy Principal 7,9 and 11: E.Connolly
Deputy Principal: 8, 10, 12: R.Roberts

Year adviser 7: J.Walker
Year adviser 8: T.Henderson
Year adviser 9: C.Lancett
Year adviser 10: J. Phillips
Year adviser 11: T. Mournehis
Year adviser 12: D.Hillman
Sport coordinator: J. Butler



If you have any questions regarding curriculum, please contact your son/daughter's classroom teacher or the head teacher of the curriculum area.

Please see below a summary of key areas that I would like to ensure all parents' carers are reminded of.

Punctuality

Arriving on time is crucial for setting a positive tone for the day. Late arrivals can disrupt not only learning but also that of your peers. Punctuality demonstrates respect for your teachers, your peers, and the learning environment. We ask parents to support their children in developing good habits by ensuring they arrive at school on time each day. Together, we can create a culture where every student values their education and respects the time of others. If a student has a valid reason for being late this must be explained to the school on the day of absence.





Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is vital for academic success and personal growth. The NSW Department of Education emphasises that every school day counts, and consistent attendance is linked to better learning outcomes. We understand that sometimes circumstances arise that may prevent attendance, but we encourage families to prioritise school and engage in open communication with us about any challenges faced. Remember, being present not only enhances your learning but also strengthens our school community.

Mobile Phone policy



A reminder about our mobile phone policy—our gate-to-gate rule. Phones must be switched off and secured in Yonder pouches for the entire school day. Pouches will be checked in the homeroom, and any phone found outside of its pouch will result in an automatic notification to myself or Ms Connolly. This policy is in place to ensure a focused and distraction-free learning environment. Please be a respectful learner by following the process and embracing the opportunity to engage fully in your education.

Uniform

Our school has an impeccable uniform which is so pleasing to see, and we want to see this continue in 2025. Our uniform represents our school community, dedication to learning, and commitment to upholding the values of respect and responsibility. Taking pride in our uniform reflects a positive attitude towards education and fosters a sense of unity among peers. A reminder, uniform is a requirement—no socks below the ankle, and fully enclosed black leather shoes must be worn as part of WHS regulations.

I wish all students a wonderful start to the year, and I look forward to collaborating with each of you to make our school a place where every student reaches their personal best.

Ms Roberts



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Crestwood High School

Day of Photography

20/02/2025

1. Please wear your full school uniform
2. Please place your order online before the day of photography
- Go to **www.advancedlife.com.au** and enter this code:

3R8 NLT 6XX

3. Payment can be made using Visa, Mastercard or PayPal
4. If you are unable to order online, please hand your completed order envelope directly to the photographers on the day of photography

Sibling photos can be ordered online or you can collect an order envelope from the library. Sibling photo orders will not be accepted after the day of photography.

If you have any queries concerning school photographs and ordering, please contact advancedlife directly:

www.advancedlife.com.au/contact

advancedlife
school photography & print specialists

Order your school photos now

to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

enter code: 3R8 NLT 6XX



scan to order

or collect a cash order envelope
from your school office



advancedlife
school photography & print specialists



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

THE BENEFITS OF ATTENDANCE

Consistently going to school has countless benefits – from learning, to creating social connections and improving wellbeing through access to support and quality education.

Students are required to attend school every day, whether it's the first or last day of the term, Mondays, Fridays or days dedicated to sports carnivals, school excursions and incursions.

If your child is absent from school, please let us know why as soon as possible. This can be communicated through the SENTRAL portal by either responding to absentee texts sent out or by completing a future absence request. Of course, there will be times when your child is unable to be at school, like when they are unwell. Medical appointments should take place outside school hours where possible, and family holidays should be taken in term breaks.



NOTIFY THE SCHOOL OF ABSENCE



Compulsory school attendance

| Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- ▮ Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- ▮ Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- ▮ Give students time to greet their friends before class
- ▮ Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- ▮ being sick, or having an infectious disease
- ▮ having an unavoidable medical appointment
- ▮ being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- ▮ exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



T



More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.

WELFARE NEWS

WHAT IS A SSO

Hello, my name is Tara Gleig and I am the Student Support Officer (SSO) at Crestwood HS. I come from a social science, counselling and youth work background and have had the pleasure in supporting young people here in the Hills for over 11 years. I have a keen interest in our community, supporting parents/carers and providing guidance, self growth and confidence in young people.

SSOs work with school counselling services and the department's wellbeing team to enhance the wellbeing and learning outcomes of students. SSOs support the implementation of the school's whole-of-school approach to wellbeing, helping students develop social and emotional skills through targeted strengths-based programs and strategies that build resilience, coping skills and positive relationships. They also have a pivotal role in working collaboratively with external and other government agencies in their support of students and their families.

I love working with the students at Crestwood in the welfare space helping to create a safe, positive, happy environment at school where they can flourish, develop and prepare themselves for the years ahead.



A photograph of a wooden mannequin standing with its arms raised, holding a white rectangular sign. The sign has the words 'EVERYONE MATTERS' written in bold, black, capital letters. The background is a soft, out-of-focus orange and yellow gradient.



WELFARE NEWS

Building Positive Friendships: A Key to Happiness and Success

Starting at a new school or stepping into a new environment can feel overwhelming, but one of the best ways to make the transition easier is by building strong, positive friendships. Friendships are more than just fun – they play a huge role in our happiness, confidence, and overall well-being.

Why Friendships Matter

Good friends bring out the best in us! They celebrate our successes, support us through challenges, and make everyday moments more enjoyable. Research shows that strong friendships can reduce stress, boost happiness, and even contribute to a longer, healthier life. The friendships you form now can shape your school experience and give you a strong support network.

Online vs In-Person Friendships

While online friendships can be fun, nothing beats real-life connections. Laughing together, sharing experiences, and being there for each other in person creates stronger, more meaningful bonds. Prioritizing face-to-face interactions helps build deeper, more lasting friendships.

The Benefits of Great Friendships

Making and maintaining positive friendships can bring so many rewards:

- **Happiness Boost** – Spending time with supportive friends lifts your mood and keeps you motivated.
- **Encouragement & Growth** – True friends inspire you to reach your goals and push you to be your best.
- **Less Stress, More Confidence** – Friends help you stay positive, making it easier to handle school pressures and challenges.
- **Support Through Change** – Whether it's adjusting to a new school, tackling a tough subject, or facing personal struggles, good friends provide comfort and reassurance.
- **Sense of Belonging** – Feeling connected to others helps build confidence and makes school life more enjoyable.



WELFARE NEWS

Finding and Nurturing Friendships

Starting at a new school or stepping into a new environment can feel overwhelming, but one of the best ways to make the transition easier is by building strong, positive friendships. Friendships are more than just fun – they play a huge role in our happiness, confidence, and overall well-being.

Making Sure Friendships are Positive

Ask yourself:

- ✨ Do I feel happy and supported around this person?
- ✨ Can I be myself without fear of judgment?
- ✨ Does this friendship bring out the best in me?

If a friendship feels one-sided or negative, it's okay to step back and focus on those who uplift and encourage you.

Final Thoughts

Friendships are one of the best parts of school life! They bring laughter, support and unforgettable memories. By building positive connections, you'll not only enjoy your school experience more but also create a strong foundation for future success. So, take a chance, say hello, and be open to forming friendships that will brighten your journey!





BACK TO SCHOOL



Your Back to school 2025!

Education leaders kicked off the 2025 school year at Western Sydney University on Tuesday the 11th February, 2025.

The Minister for Education and Early Learning Prue Car welcomed the beginning and future teachers and school leaders and said every public school teacher had her “unwavering respect”.

One of our staff members, Jordan Mularczyk in TAS (Technological and Applied Studies), attended the “Back to school” meeting on Tuesday. There is a photo of him here with the Secretary Murat Dizdar the Education Secretary and the Honourable Prue Car the Minister for Education and Early Learning.

The other photo, Jordan is with Deb Summerhayes, the Executive Director, School Performance Metropolitan South and West.



ELECTIVE SUBJECT CONTRIBUTIONS

Parents will soon receive an email with a statement of account for school contributions. Could I ask that parents give it their prompt attention as subject contributions allow us to maintain and enhance our excellent teaching and learning programs.

All money raised through elective subject contributions goes directly to purchasing consumable materials e.g. timber, metal, plastics, electronic components for Technology and Industrial Technology, food for Food Technology, textiles for Textile Technology, paints and art materials for Creative Arts.

Students like to design and make things and the payment of elective subject contributions for practical subjects offers enhanced learning opportunities. Elective subject contributions may be paid online through Schoolbytes or at the student service window at recess or lunch.

Parents are reminded that elective subject contributions can be paid in instalments. Parents who are experiencing financial difficulty may request financial assistance. Contact the Principal, Ms Tania Wright for more details.

Kelly Fisher (CAPA) and Jon Hinde (TAS)



High Achievers HSC 2024

**Congratulations to our 2024 HSC High Achievers who were
recognised at this weeks assembly.**

The following students achieved a Band 6 in their course

Kavya Acharya

Biology
English Advanced
Legal Studies

Ronash Alves

Engineering Studies

Rayyan Awais

Investigating Science

Judah Ayling

Investigating Science

Angelina Ballas

Personal Development, Health and
Physical Education

Tijana Bunjevac

Legal Studies

Wyatt Burbridge

Music 1

Owen Chen

Mathematis Standard 2

Audrey Choo

English Extension 2

Sze Tieng Choong

Investigating Science

Liliana Circosta

Visual Arts

Keiralee Cutajar

English Extension 1
Legal Studies

Elyse Devine

Music 1

Mark Eckert

English Standard
Legal Studies

Leana Espanola

Industrial Technology

Benjamin Fullerton

Investigating Science
Music 1

Armaan Gill

Legal Studies

Scout Goldthorp

Visual Arts

Sarah Harris

Legal Studies

Caitlin Heagney

English Extension 1

Nicole Hossary

Legal Studies

Azhar Hussain

Investigating Science

Kiara Kanchan

English Extension 1
English Extension 2
English Advanced
Legal Studies

Blesson Kannadasan

Mathematis Standard 2

Xi Lau

Investigating Science

Alison Lee

Design and Technology
Visual Arts

Kavisha Manatunga

Mathematics Extension 2
Biology

Ramneek Matharu

Investigating Science

Rowan Myers

Investigating Science

Ella Sarina

English Standard

Yevin Senaratna

Mathematics Extension 2

Emmett Shang

Mathematics Extension 2



High Achievers HSC 2024

Mackenzie Sherman

Mathematics Standard 2

Emily Tang

Investigating Science

Saher Trivedi

Mathematics Standard 2

Aneesh Upadhyaya

Mathematics Extension 2

Business Studies

YuJie Wang

Information Processes and Technology

Mathematics Standard 2

Andrew West

Industrial Technology

Tasha White

Visual Arts

Jialin Wu

Investigating Science

Kate-Lynn Wu

Investigating Science

Shiao Yek

Chemistry

Mathematics Advanced

Visual Arts

Rochelle Yiu

Japanese Beginners

Viola Zhang

Mathematics Extension 2

Mathematics Extension 1

Chemistry



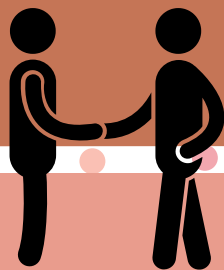
**Congratulations to the DUX of
the 2024 Higher School
Certificate- Kiara Kanchan**



YEAR 7 MEET AND GREET

TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

**Come along
and meet
Crestwood
High School's
Year 7 teachers**



**Great
Opportunity
to start
putting
names and
faces
together**

Where?

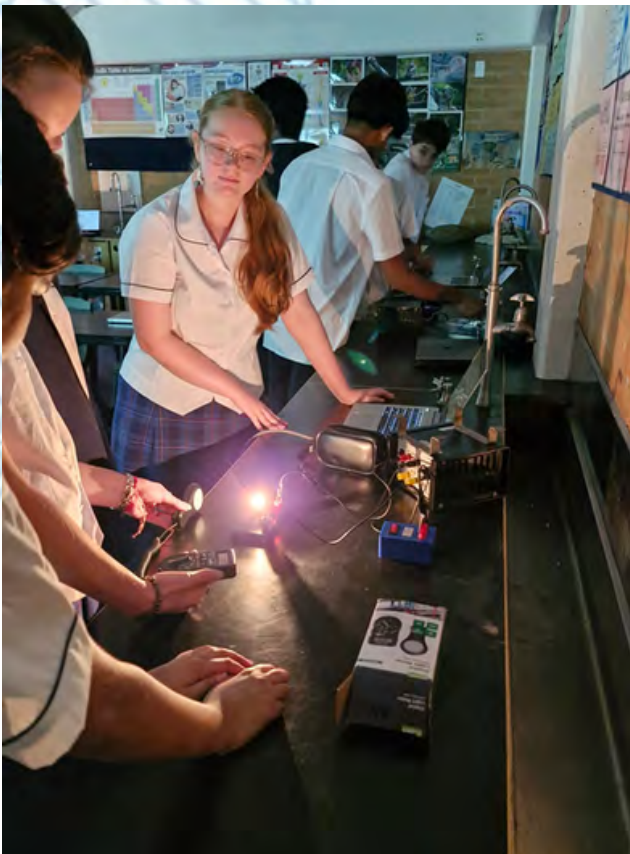
In our school library

**Time:
5pm to
6.30 pm**



Science matters.

A new year means a new crop of eager young students starting their HSC journeys in Investigating Science. To begin their journey, our burgeoning scientists are learning to make clear, concise and accurate observations about their experiments.



Science matters.



Science isn't only practiced in a classroom or lab. Many scientific discoveries are made while conducting experiments and observations outside of these controlled environments, which is why there will be a myriad of excursions for Stage 6 Science students to participate in, allowing them to experience science in the real world.

Term 1

Year 11 Biology students will be attending a field study at Longneck Lagoon, in order to study the environment and gather data to determine if the health of the ecosystem can support microbats, who play a vital role in controlling insect populations. This is a mandatory component of the Year 11 Biology course.



Term 1

Investigating Science students will be visiting Taronga Zoo, to study the animals and catalogue their behaviours in data tables called ethograms. These ethograms are used to assist zookeepers in determining the health of the animals, as well as developing the students' abilities to make observations and inferences from gathered data.



Science matters.

UNSW
MUSEUM
OF HUMAN
DISEASE



Term 3

Year 12 Biology students will be visiting UNSW's Museum of Human Disease, which houses a collection of over 1500 samples of diseased tissues and organs for study. As part of their studies, students will be able to see real examples of the infectious and non-infectious diseases they are learning about, enriching their learning and adding context to allow them to understand the impact of these health conditions.

Term 3

Year 12 Investigating Science and Physics students will be visiting ANSTO, Australia's leading site for nuclear study in both medical and industrial applications. This is an extremely valuable opportunity to see real-world applications of the theories they have been studying throughout their courses.



TAS TIMES

Supporting Your Child's Learning in TAS at Home

As we encourage our students to engage actively in their Technological and Applied Studies (TAS) classes, there are several ways you, as parents, can support their learning at home. Here are some practical tips:

Encourage Exploration: Encourage your child to explore various technologies and tools at home. Whether it's cooking, making, or using software for design, hands-on experiences reinforce what they learn in class.



Discuss Projects: Take an interest in your child's projects and assignments. Ask them to explain their work and the processes they've used. This not only boosts their confidence but also helps them articulate their thought processes.

Set Up a Creative Workspace: Designate a space at home where your child can work on their projects and supporting folios. A well-organised and inspiring environment can motivate them to engage more deeply with their studies.



Support Learning Resources: Help your child find additional resources such as books, online tutorials, or workshops that align with their interests in TAS. This can broaden their understanding and spark new ideas.

Encourage Problem-Solving: TAS subjects often focus on problem-solving and critical thinking. Encourage your child to approach challenges creatively and to think about solutions from different angles.



Celebrate Achievements: Acknowledge and celebrate your child's successes in TAS. Whether it's completing a project or mastering a new skill, positive reinforcement can inspire them to continue exploring and learning.

By actively participating in your child's education and fostering their interests in TAS, you help them develop essential skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. Don't hesitate to contact your child's TAS teacher with any questions.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to working with your child in 2025!

TAS Staff



CAPA HIGHLIGHTS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Madeleine Tsang (Yr 9) on her successful audition and acceptance into The NSW Department of Education Performing Arts Unit Symphonic Wind Orchestra. The Symphonic Wind Orchestra (SWO) has a long history of achievement in state and national competitions, and tours to regional NSW areas to provide engaging music with local students.

CRESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLES

The Music Department offers a variety of ensembles to enhance students' musical experiences at Crestwood High School.

The **Crestwood Concert Band** is the school's longest-running ensemble and has achieved outstanding success in recent years, earning high accolades at community festivals and competitions. In addition to performing at formal school assemblies and ceremonies, the band regularly participates in community charity and engagement events. Rehearsals are held on Friday afternoons, and new members are welcome throughout the year.

Students interested in jazz and related styles are encouraged to join the **Jazz Ensemble**. This talented group performs at both school and community events and has consistently earned recognition in competitions.

The **Year 8 Rock Ensemble** provides an opportunity for students of all skill levels to further their musical practice in a small-group setting. This ensemble focuses on developing instrumental and vocal skills while building confidence and musicality through ensemble performance.

Students interested in joining any of these ensembles are encouraged to visit the Music Staffroom for more information. We look forward to hearing these talented groups perform throughout the year.

EAL/D



What is EAL/D?

EAL/D (English as an Additional Language or Dialect) refers to students who speak a language or a dialect other than Standard Australian English and who require additional support to develop their English language proficiency.

Who are EAL/D learners?

- Overseas and Australian-born students whose first language is a language or dialect other than English.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students whose first language is an Indigenous language, including traditional languages and related varieties, or Aboriginal English.

How are they supported?

- Depending on their English language proficiency level, EAL/D students are provided with in-class and out-of-class support from the EAL/D teacher Mrs. Melnikova.
- Classroom teachers differentiate their lessons to ensure that learning is accessible for all students.

Free interpreter service:

 **131-450**

Call this FREE number if you are a parent of an EAL/D student and need help with communicating with school.

Translated school documents:

Access school documents translated into your language using this link:
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/translated-documents>

Choose a document and then select the language required.



ENGLISH & DRAMA NEWS

Welcome to English & Drama 2025

A Revitalising Start...

Welcome to the exhilarating 2025 academic year, where our passionate students of English and Drama are about to embark on the most thrilling adventure yet! Buckle up, because this year is set to be a rollercoaster ride through the vibrant and captivating world of literature!

Imagine stepping into a realm where every page you turn is a gateway to new adventures, each character a friend waiting to be discovered, and every poem a melody that resonates with your soul. As you dive into this rich tapestry of stories, you'll sharpen your skills as insightful readers, unleash your creativity as imaginative writers, and dazzle audiences as captivating performers.

Get ready to explore a treasure trove of educational experiences tailored just for you, the true English enthusiasts! Picture yourself unravelling literary mysteries, engaging in lively debates about your favourite characters, and crafting stories that leap off the page. For our Drama aficionados, the stage is set for an array of diverse opportunities that will ignite your imagination and let your talents shine like never before. Whether you're mastering the art of monologues or dazzling group performances, this year is all about turning your wildest theatrical dreams into reality.

So, gather your notebooks and warm up those vocal cords! Prepare to embark on a journey filled with discovery, creativity, and inspiration, where every lesson is a chance to lose yourself in the magic of words and the thrill of performance. Get ready for a year that promises to not just teach you but to ignite your passion for English literature and drama like never before!





Year 7 English

JOURNEYS THROUGH POETRY

In Year 7, students will embark on an exciting adventure exploring the concept of journeys through the captivating world of poetry! Picture this: each poem is a ticket to a new destination, where words paint vivid landscapes and emotions take flight. Students will dive into the art of language techniques, uncovering the magic behind metaphors, similes, and alliteration that bring poems to life. Not only will they analyse a diverse array of poems, but they will also discover how to express their own unique ideas through the power of words.

But wait, there's more! Alongside their poetic explorations, students will sharpen their paragraph writing skills, transforming their thoughts into clear, compelling arguments. With creativity as their compass and imagination as their guide, they will also learn to navigate the seas of writing with confidence and flair. Get ready for a term filled with inspiration, creativity, and the joy of discovering the many paths that poetry can take us on!

Year 8 English

READING THE MEDIA: SEEKING THE TRUTH

In Term 1, Year 8 students will embark on an exciting journey into the captivating world of visual techniques and their powerful role in shaping our perceptions. This exploration will not only unveil the artistry behind various media types but will also empower students to become savvy consumers of information. They will dive headfirst into the vibrant landscape of newspapers, the vast expanse of the internet, the ever-evolving realm of television, the dynamic world of social media, and the persuasive art of advertising.

Throughout this term, students will unravel the secrets of how creators wield visual language features like masterful painters with a canvas, intentionally crafting images and layouts that tug at our emotions and challenge our understanding of products, news, and pressing real-world issues.

To showcase their newfound knowledge, students will engage in a creative and critical response to a media case study of their choice. They'll pick a real-world issue that speaks to them and delve into the media's portrayal of it, all while honing their analytical skills. This is not just an assignment; it's an invitation to become detectives of the digital age, piecing together the puzzle of how visual storytelling influences opinions and perspectives. By the end of the term, they will have sharpened their ability to discern fact from fiction and developed a keen eye for the artistry that shapes our understanding of the world around us. Let the adventure begin!



Year 9 English

In Term 1, Year 9 students will embark on an exciting literary adventure that will elevate their understanding and appreciation of form and stylistic elements through the captivating exploration of a novel. By diving deep into close analysis and personal reflections, they'll uncover how language, form, and style intertwine to create powerful meanings.

As they journey through the text, students will identify, analyse, and respond to the key elements of narrative style, character growth, and point of view. They'll investigate how the author's clever choices in various conventions shape the narrative and mould the audience's reactions. Moreover, they'll delve into how the author unveils thematic concerns and how the reader's interpretation dances with the novel's stylistic techniques. The influence of style in connection with social and cultural contexts will also take centre stage, revealing how it can reflect a particular author, historical period, or genre.

Throughout this engaging unit, students will harness their understanding of the text to craft insightful analytical and critical responses. They'll articulate their ideas with clarity and flair, using a fitting tone and structure designed for their audience and purpose, making their literary discussions not just informative but truly captivating!



Year 10 English

In Year 10, students will embark on an exhilarating journey through the shadowy realms of William Shakespeare's Macbeth! Get ready to dive deep into this thrilling tale of ambition, power, and the dark twists of fate. As they read and watch the gripping scenes unfold, students will become detectives of language, dissecting the characters and their motivations, uncovering the rich tapestry of themes like corruption and the eternal struggle between destiny and free will.

Picture this: witches with prophecies, a brave warrior turned tyrant, and a haunting descent into madness! Students will analyse how Shakespeare weaves these elements together, creating a spellbinding narrative that still resonates today. And as the term reaches its climax, they will channel their inner Shakespearean scholars in an in-class analytical essay, where they'll showcase their insights and arguments. It's not just about grades; it's about immersing themselves in a world where every line crackles with tension and every character's choice reverberates through time. Let the drama unfold!

Join the Drama Ensemble



Ignite your passion for the spotlight! If you love acting, performing, or public speaking, our drama ensemble is the perfect stage for you. Dive into scriptwriting, craft captivating monologues, and discover the art of movement. Whether you shine in group projects or solo performances, you'll sharpen your skills and skyrocket your confidence. Join us and let your creativity take centre stage!

See Ms Mournehis in the English staffroom for more information

Find us in the English staffroom located in the B Block

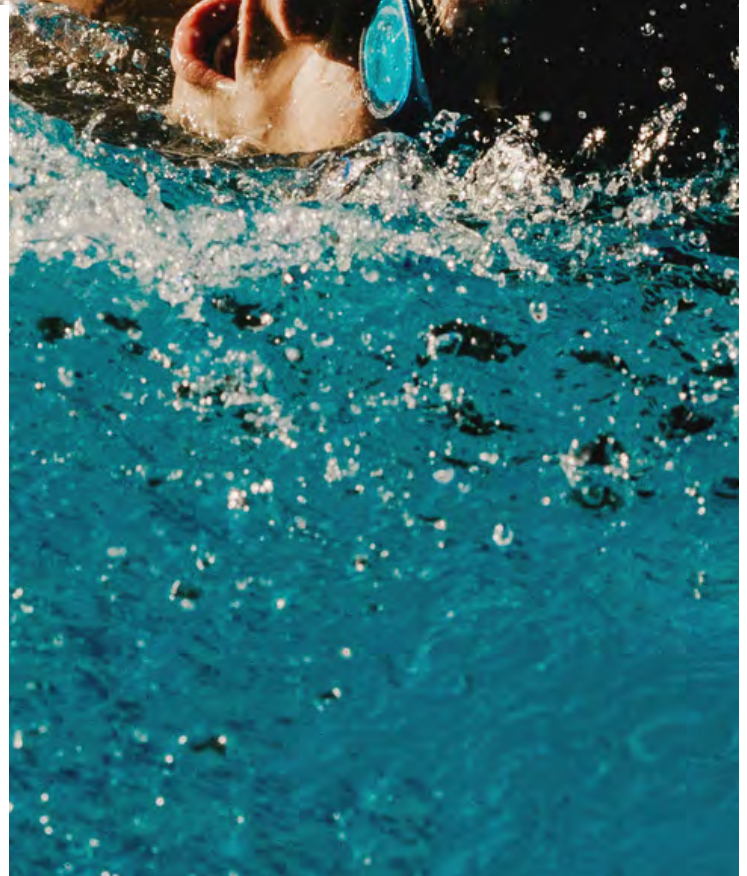
ENGLISH & DRAMA

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

THURSDAY 6TH MARCH 2025

PERMISSION AND PAYMENT

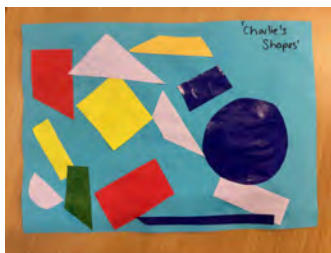
Students will have the opportunity to compete across a variety of events, with successful participants moving onto the Macquarie Zone carnival. Our carnival will be taking place at Waves Fitness and Aquatic Centre, with the inclusion of an inflatable obstacle course for students to use throughout the day. For students that are planning on attending, parents and caregivers will receive an email from school bytes allowing them to give both permission and payment in one convenient location. **Please ensure both permission and payment is provided by the cut off date (Thursday 27th February) to ensure your child is able to attend.** Any permission and payments made past this date will be unable to be accepted. Should you have any issues please contact Peta Swanson in the PDHPE department. We are looking forward to an exciting day for students and staff.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE SUPPORT UNIT

YEAR 7 STUDENTS ★

Our new Year 7 students are settling in well to high school life. In Class 4 (2) students have been experimenting in Visual Arts with the style of artist Wassily Kandinsky and creating some unique masterpieces.



We are all enjoying getting to know our new students and look forward to sharing more of their experiences in the coming weeks.



Everything you need to know about

OUR LIBRARY



OPENING HOURS

Our library is open 5 days a week.

8:00am - 3:00pm

BRING YOUR I.D. CARD

You will receive a school ID card in Term 2.

Make sure you bring it every day in case you need to borrow. Before this time, use your timetable.

If you lose your card it costs \$7 to replace it.

LOANS

Up to 5 items can be borrowed for 2 weeks.

Only two items from a given topic or series may be borrowed.

You can renew your resource two more times from your initial borrow.

Ensure you return your items via the returns chute by the due date.

OVERDUE ITEMS

You will receive a slip in roll call if your resource is overdue.

You must return it ASAP. If you think you've lost it, let us know. We don't bite :-)

However, any long term overdue, that are not returned or cannot be found will need to be paid for.

DO YOU LOVE TO READ?

BECOME A LIBRARY LEADER.

JOIN READING CIRCLE.



PRINTING

A4 BLACK & WHITE = 10C
A4 COLOUR = 20C

ENSURE YOU HAVE A USB TO PRINT

PHOTOCOPYING

A4 BLACK & WHITE = 10C
A4 COLOUR = 20C

TOP UP YOUR ACCOUNT AT THE
CIRCULATION DESK

PRC

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO READ 20
BOOKS FROM MARCH-AUGUST
EVERY YEAR!



OUR COLLECTION EVER GROWING, EVER CHANGING

In our library you can find:

THE LATEST FICTION
AN EXTENSIVE NON-FICTION SECTION
GRAPHIC NOVELS
WORLD BOOK ONLINE

You can access our Oliver catalogue 24/7
via your DET Student Portal



THIS IS YOUR LIBRARY, SO PLEASE TAKE CARE OF IT.

Lost or damaged books are your responsibility
so please take good care of them.

Help us help other students find good books
to read. Review them via Oliver.

If you have a class in the library please wait
outside for your teacher.

Ensure you leave your bags and food outside
but bring in your valuables. Hats should be
removed and smiles are welcome.

“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads,
lives only one.”
- George R.R. Martin



A NOVEL IDEA

The Fortnightly Newsletter of the Crestwood High School Library



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FROM THE TEACHER LIBRARIAN

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OVERDUES - PG 2

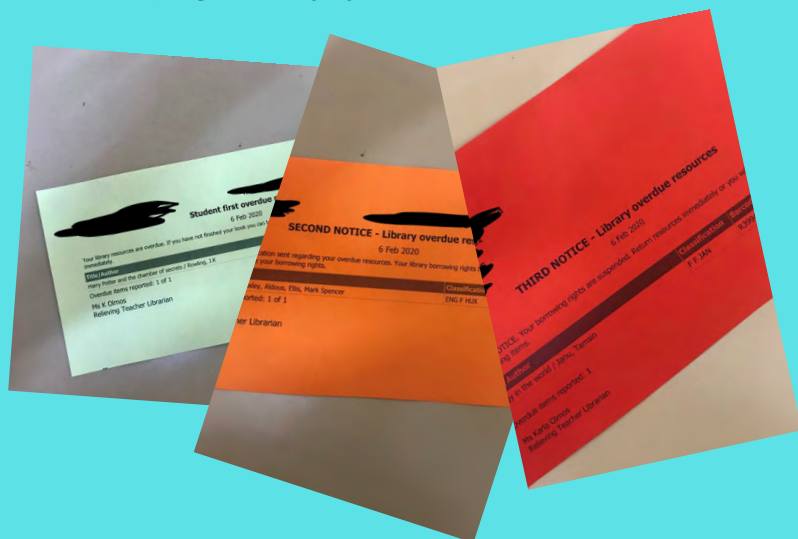
AN OVERVIEW OF OUR LIBRARY SERVICES - PG 3

A New Year for CHS Library

by Ms K Olmos

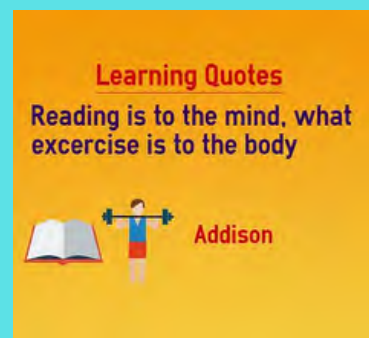
The role of libraries has changed significantly since the dawn of the Internet. Many schools are closing their libraries and moving purely online. Physical books are a thing of the past. I believe this is a real shame. Libraries are a place of community and support. Whatever stereotypes of libraries you may have from your school days I can assure it is not like that anymore! We have an opportunity at Crestwood to further develop this centre for learning not only for our students but also our staff and wider community. I look forward to continuing on the path to building this further in 2025.

Please enjoy this fortnight's issue where we outline our services for our community.



IF A STUDENT HAS NOT RETURNED A TEXT FOR A PARTICULAR SUBJECT:

If a student has a text outstanding for a subject they are studying (for example, a novel that they studied in English last year), the library will not loan out the new text until the old one is returned.



Bring Your Books Back On Time!

Overdues are managed on a fortnightly basis. It is essential that students adhere to the loan periods as other students may have reserved the title and as a communal resource, it is only fair that titles are available to all. We also manage many of the texts for the various faculties in the school. A student's learning can be impacted if the child has not returned a text from a previous course/year.

Each year we conduct a stocktake to count the materials that are lost, damaged and overdue. It is vital that we have all titles back in the library in order to do this.

To reiterate, all loans are for a two week period, unless otherwise stated, and should be returned by the due date. This can be found in the back of the book on the "Date Due" slip. We have a traffic light system to better help students understand how urgently their book needs to be returned.

FOR ALL NON-FICTION/FICTION/GRAPHIC NOVELS THE FOLLOWING APPLIES:

GREEN (First Notice): These slips are given to the student in roll call. This means the student has a text that is 1 week overdue.

ORANGE (Second Notice): This is also given to the student in roll call. This colour means the title is two weeks overdue. The student's borrowing rights are also suspended until all items are returned.

RED (Final Notice): A letter will be sent home to a parent or guardian. The student's borrowing rights are suspended until all items are returned. If the book cannot be found the student will be required to pay for a replacement copy either online or via the Student Services window.

ID Cards Are Essential!

Every student is issued with an ID card each year after school photo day. All students are required to have this card to borrow. If they do not have their most current card they can use an old one from a previous year. Senior students in particular are required to have them to sign in and out of study periods. With some periods having many students in them, it makes the process quicker if they use their card rather than go through the system manually. At this stage Year 7 need only bring in their timetable to borrow until such time as they get their ID Card.



MEET YOUR CAREERS ADVISER



At Crestwood High School Mrs Christina Fisher is your Careers & Transition Adviser, VET, EVET & SBAT Coordinator, Year 11 Work Studies & Year 10 Careers Teacher.

ABOUT ME

I am passionate about inspiring my students to learn, grow, and achieve their full potential. I believe that career education is the key to unlocking a brighter future for every student, and I am committed to helping you navigate the exciting journey of exploring career options, setting goals and making informed decisions about your future in a safe and supportive learning environment.

QUALIFICATIONS

- BEd Visual Arts & Career Education
- Grad. Dip. in Careers Education and Development
- MA Education & Work

LOCATION



The Careers Office
Crestwood HS Library

CAREERS HELP

Need help with career planning, university applications or exploring your future options? Questions or help with VET, EVET, TAFE, Apprenticeships & Traineeships, Work Experience, Work Placement or Work Trials.

I'm available 5 days a week
- **no appointment needed.**
Time: During Recess, lunch, study periods & by appointment

Feel free to drop by, ask questions, and get guidance on your next steps.

CONTACT ME



christina.fisher@det.nsw.edu.au



(02) 9639 7422 ext. 111

Careers 2025

Term 1

- Week 3 Friday 21/02/25 My Future Careers & Job Expo
Years 9 – 12 Periods 1 – 4
- White Card Course - Year 9-11 (3/3/25) 20 students
- Weeks 6 & 7 (10/03/25 – 21/03/25)
Work Studies Work Placement (Years 11 & 12)

Term 2

- Week 2 Monday 5/05/2025 My Future Tertiary
Information Expo – Years 10 – 12 Periods 1 – 3
- Week 3 (12 – 16 May 2025)
Year 10 Work Experience

Term 3

- Early Entries – Year 12 - Various closing dates till 30
October. (Term 3 & 4)
- Subject Selection Interviews – Year 10

Term 4

- Weeks 1 & 2 During Year 10 Careers Classes
Financial Literacy Workshops A
- Weeks 3 & 4 During Year 10 Careers Classes
Financial Literacy Workshops B
- Week 7 Year 10 Work Experience (Optional)
- Weeks 6 & 7 – Year 9 Work experience sessions (Core
classes)
- Early Entries – Year 12 - closes 30 October.

VET 2025

Term 1 / Easter show / School holidays

- Week 3 - (Thursday 20/02/25) Work
Readiness Seminar (AusSIP presenting)
- Week 3 - (Friday 21/02/25) Year 12 Hospitality
Students catering for expo all day.
- Week 11 Friday only (11 – 22 April 2025)
Year 11HOS1&2 Hospitality Placement B1

Term 2

- Week 3 - (Monday 5/05/25) Year 12
Hospitality Students catering for expo all day.
- Week 4 (19 – 23 May 2025)
Year 11HOS1 Hospitality Placement B1
- Week 5 (26 – 30 May 2025)
Year 11HOS2 Hospitality Placement B1
- Week 6 (2 – 6 June 2025)
Year 11HOS1&2 Hospitality Placement B1

Term 3

- Week 2 (28 July – 1 August 2025)
Year 11HOS1 Hospitality Placement B2
- Week 3 (4-8 August 2025)
Year 11HOS2 Hospitality Placement B2
- Week 4 (11 –15 August 2025)
Year 11HOS1&2 Hospitality Placement B2



EVET 2025

Term 1

- EVET Meeting – Week 2 Thursday 13/02/25
- Week 3 – EVET Classes Start
- Week 3 - (20/02/25) Work Readiness Seminar (AusSIP
presenting)

Term 2

- EVET Work Placements (Individual Year 11students)

Term 3

- EVET Work Placements (Individual Year 11students)
- Week 2 – EVET Applications open
- Week 8 - Year 10 & 11 - EVET Applications close
- Week 10 Pre-selection preparation classes

Term 4

- Weeks 1 – 3 – EVET pre-selection tests & interviews
(Year 10)
- Week 7 – Round 2 EVET applications open

P&C Canteen News

Volunteers

NEEDED

**CAN YOU VOLUNTEER A
FEW HOURS ONCE A
MONTH?**

Any parents who are willing to
help out at the canteen please

contact us at:

96397422x117 or

0415684431 (Ania)

crestwoodhs-can@2153pandc.onmicrosoft.com



SAVE TIME with our ONLINE CANTEEN!

Crestwood High School

accepts online orders using Munch Monitor

Setting up an online account is easy!



1. Go to **www.munchmonitor.com**
2. Click **REGISTER**
3. Enter
 - School ID: **cwhs**
 - Password: **munch2153**
4. Enter your **email address**
5. Enter the **password** you want.
Make sure you can remember your password
6. Review and tick on the **Privacy Policy**
7. Click **Register**
8. Click on the **Activation Link** in the email we sent
9. Follow the steps to **create your Parent Profile**
10. **Add Students** to your account
11. Click on **Account Top-up** to transfer money into your account
12. **You are now ready to order online!**



Quick Information

Using MunchMonitor Parent Portal Online Ordering

- You can place orders online up to 4 weeks in advance
- Top-up your account online using Debit/VISA/MasterCard
- List allergies to alert canteen staff
- You can order anytime you want using web browsers such as Chrome or Safari
- You can use desktops, laptops, tablets or smart phone with internet access
- It only cost \$ 4.65 (incl-GST) per school term for the family account
- No sign up fee
- No transaction fee

Giving Student Snack Money using MunchMonitor

- In the Student Profile, tick YES in ALLOW SNACK MONEY
- If you selected DAILY ALLOWANCE, enter the daily amount and the days to use
- If you selected WEEKLY ALLOWANCE, enter the weekly amount
- You can set banned food items from the menu
- **Students use their Student ID cards which are scanned and registered to their MunchMonitor Student Profile.**
- If you currently have an account for a student attending another MunchMonitor school, you will need to create new profiles on your current account for the new school, to do this go to MY ACCOUNT/PROFILES then you will see the student profiles appear, you need to select Add a New Student, complete the first section of the profile but when you reach the school details you need to select Crestwood High School from the dropdown list and enter the school ID & Password provided on this sheet.

Call us at **1300 796 190** or email us at **help@munchmonitor.com**
if you require further assistance.

MunchMonitor...making your school day easier

UNIFORM SHOP



We hope you had a wonderful holiday and wish everyone a successful year ahead. A warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and their families, as well as our returning students and those transferring from other schools!

Online Orders



Due to high order volume and limited storage, please collect your order promptly. Thank you to those who already have.



Orders can be collected from the uniform shop each Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Any other time from the canteen.

*Our opening
hours...*

Thursday 7:30 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
(during the school term)

To access our online store, please go to:

<https://crestwood-high-school-uniform-shop-107119.square.site>

Please forward all enquiries to: crestwoodhs-uni@2153pandc.onmicrosoft.com