



We were pleased to see such a great turnout at our Senior Soiree last night in support of our talented Senior Visual Arts students. The display showcased the hard work and commitment these students have put into their HSC major works to produce some wonderful results. We are so proud of our Year 12s.



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Nathan Lawler
Principal

It has felt at times as though the rain began at the start of the term and has hardly stopped since. Nevertheless, despite the weather, there has been a great deal of learning and activity both in and beyond the classroom throughout the first half of Term 3.

I would like to acknowledge the significant effort that has gone into marking the Year 12 trial examinations, as well as the dedication our teachers continue to show in supporting our Year 12 students during this important stage of their schooling. I strongly encourage our HSC students to take advantage of the workshops available for all HSC English students each Monday afternoon in the Library until the end of term.

My thanks to both students and staff for their commitment and contributions.

NATHAN LAWLER
PRINCIPAL



Refugee Week 2025 Finding Freedom

On Tuesday 29 July, The Forest High School came together for an unforgettable Refugee Week Assembly, celebrating the resilience, courage, and contributions of refugees and migrant communities around the world. Our super talented performers: Pasifika Lei Dancers (Beka, Tanya, Isla, Lavinia, Maddie, Hope), Clara Guillon (French poet), Tenzin Namse and Tenzin Khenrab (Tibetan Youth Leaders), and Pedro Maria De Oliveira (Brazilian guitarist) shared narratives of culture, hope, and unity through dance, words, prayer, and music.

Thank you to our EAL/D and CAPA staff, and students for making today's showcase possible; and to Mr Argue and Interact Club for their incredible bake sale, in true solidarity and support of our local refugee communities. Together, The Forest High School have shown that freedom is not just a destination but a shared journey of acceptance, and community.

Well done everyone!

LAUREN WEATHERALL
Relieving Head Teacher of English
EAL/D Coordinator
International Coordinator



P&C Run Silent Disco for Year 7 & 8! 🎧

All Year 7 and 8 students are invited to our Silent Disco on Friday 19 September, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the school hall.

🍷 Snack bar will be open – so bring a few extra coins or card for drinks and treats.

Limited tickets available for purchase by Friday 29 August

Purchase your tickets [HERE](#)

We're also looking for parent/carers volunteers to help make the night a success. If you can lend a hand, please sign up here: [Volunteer Sign-Up](#).

FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER SILENT DISCO

**6-8PM YEAR 7 AND 8
IN THE SCHOOL HALL
\$20 PER TICKET
SNACK BAR WILL BE OPEN**



**LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
BY 29TH AUGUST**

CAREERS



Early Entry Parent Information Sessions

This term we welcomed Matt Dolan, Head Careers Adviser supporting schools across the Northern Beaches, who presented a highly engaging parent workshop covering:

- **Early entry into university**
- **Alternative university pathways**
- **Scholarships and financial support**

The evening was a great success, giving parents practical strategies and the chance to ask questions about how best to support their child's post-school options.

Start Your Future - A Successful Term and What's Ahead

This term also marked another successful round of **Start Your Future**, a program run through the NSW Educational Pathways Program. It allows students to experience up to 8 weeks of TAFE courses while still at school, building practical skills and exploring possible career pathways.

In Term 3, students took part in courses across carpentry, cookery, early childhood education and care, retail services, and hair, beauty & make-up.

Looking ahead to Term 4, programs will be offered in Weeks 2-9 in the following:

- Carpentry
- Hospitality
- Hair, Beauty & Make-up
- Events
- Real Estate
- Plumbing

Start Your Future continues to be a valuable opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience, explore different industries, and build confidence in their post-school choices.



You Should be a Cop Program - Years 10 to 12

We were delighted to have students from Years 10 to 12 at The Forest High School take part in the NSW Police's "You Should Be a Cop" program.

It was a 4-day experience that gave students a hands-on insight into policing careers, including:

- Crime scene simulations and physical fitness testing
- Visits from specialist police units
- Teamwork challenges and communication training
- Q&A sessions with current serving officers

It was a fantastic opportunity for students considering a career in law enforcement or community services.

LEIGH HAVENSTEIN
CAREERS ADVISER

Join us for the annual MADD (Music, Art, Dance, Drama) Showcase on Thursday, 28th August in the Hall. Doors open at 5:45 pm with the event starting at 6 pm. Celebrate the creativity and talents of our students from Years 7 to 12.



MADD 28/8 6pm

ENGLISH

What a Great Start to Term 3 in English!

It has been such a wonderful start to the term across the English faculty, and we couldn't be prouder of the effort, creativity, and energy from both our students and staff. Here's a snapshot of what's been happening:

YEAR 12

Our HSC English students have been working so hard on their Trial Exams well done on the focus and resilience you're showing. A big thank you also to our dedicated and highly experienced HSC English markers for the huge effort behind the scenes, it really does make such a difference. A reminder also:

- HSC English Intensive Workshops will run every Monday afternoon in the library (3:15pm - 4:00pm) starting from Week 6 until the end of term, please make the most of these sessions.
- NSEC HSC Masterclasses will also be running online via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 25 August at 4:00pm for English courses. Please check Sentral and Canvas pages for login details. These are invaluable opportunities to sharpen your skills, you don't want to miss out.

YEAR 11

With final exams in Weeks 9 - 10, now is the time to really commit to daily reading, revision, and building strong study habits for your HSC year beginning in Term 4. A very big thank you to Ms Chapman for her incredible dedication to Extension 1. The work her students are producing on Gothic literature is some of the most captivating and thought-provoking we've seen; watch this space in Week 10's newsletter for their thrilling final pieces.

YEAR 10

Drama, drama, drama! It has been such a joy to watch your performances and hear your thoughtful discussions on the power of script writing and live theatre. Thank you, Ms Chapman, for your tireless coordination of this exciting unit. A reminder to everyone that your next assessment is due Friday 29 August.

YEAR 9

Our Macbeth unit is well underway, and it's fantastic to see students rising to the challenge of Shakespeare's language and ideas. Thank you to Mr Woods, for guiding Year 9 through this iconic text. Your assessment is coming up on Friday 5 September.

YEAR 8

Year 8 are delving into contemporary worlds through their novel studies, learning how texts represent communities, people, and places in fresh and exciting ways. Thank you, to Ms Collier, for your organisation and support. Next assessment will be Friday 29 August.

YEAR 7

It's been wonderful seeing Year 7 immersed in the film study of *Satellite Boy*. Much appreciation to Ms Griffiths, for leading students through such an engaging unit. Assessments begin in Week 7, depending on class (check your Canvas page for final exam date).



HOMWORK HABITS AND BEYOND THE BELL

A reminder to all students, please don't forget to head to Beyond the Bell; and get early feedback on all your drafts - your wonderful teachers are here to help you refine your work and give you the confidence to succeed before the assessment big day.

FACULTY NEWS

We are so excited to welcome Ms Farrugia and Mr Allan to our English faculty this term! We are lucky to have their teaching expertise and passion for English literature on board. A special shout-out to Mr Allan, who is taking on coordination of our Debating program; sessions will run every Monday in A1014 come along, build your skills, and have fun. The debating season kicks off in just a few weeks 😊



YEAR 10 DRAMA EXPLORES *HITLER'S DAUGHTER*

This term, Year 10 English students have been working with Ms Nixon to study Jackie French's powerful play *Hitler's Daughter* as part of their Stage and Drama unit. Adapted from the award-winning novel, the play raises important questions about history, morality, and personal responsibility, encouraging students to reflect on the choices individuals make in difficult times.

Through a blend of script work, performance activities, and class discussions, students have been exploring themes of power, identity, and ethical decision-making. They have also been developing performance skills in voice, movement, and characterisation to bring the play to life on stage.

The unit has sparked thoughtful conversations about the role of theatre, not only to entertain, but also to challenge audiences and deepen their understanding of the world. Students have responded with enthusiasm, maturity, and creativity, demonstrating both analytical insight and dramatic flair. As students reflected "*Unforgettable and a fun way to learn!*"

We look forward to seeing how Year 10 continues to refine their performances and interpretations of *Hitler's Daughter* and other dramatic works as the unit progresses. Inspiring work Ms Nixon and a big well-done Year 10!

KIDS TEACHING KIDS, CRIME FICTION AT BEACON HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Recently, a group of our talented Year 9 English students took their learning beyond the classroom by leading a *Kids Teaching Kids* workshop at Beacon Hill Public School. As part of their Crime Fiction unit, students designed and delivered engaging activities that introduced younger learners to the key features of the genre, from mystery and suspense to the role of the detective.

The program encouraged our students to step into the role of teachers, planning lessons, guiding discussions, and supporting primary students in creating their own short crime stories. This collaborative experience not only deepened their own understanding of the genre, but also built confidence, leadership, and communication skills.

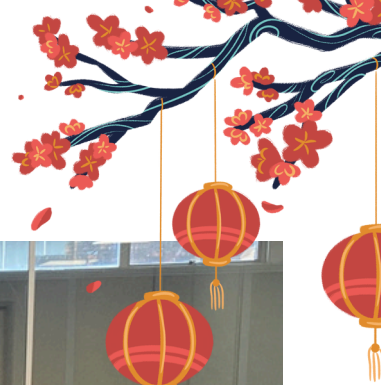
The Beacon Hill students responded with absolute joy and curiosity, enjoying the chance to learn from their older peers. Our Year 9 students represented the school with maturity, creativity, and a real sense of community spirit.

A huge congratulations to all involved, what a wonderful example of students sharing their passion for learning.

LAUREN WEATHERALL
RELIEVING HEAD TEACHER ENGLISH



Celebrating our Japanese Visitors



This term The Forest High School was delighted to host students and teachers from Hyogokenritsu Takarazuka Kita High School in Japan. The visit was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our international partnership, share cultural experiences, and foster lasting friendships between our two communities.

Our Japanese guests were warmly welcomed into classrooms across the school, where they participated in what they described by the guests as “the most fun and interesting lessons ever”. Many of our students also acted as buddies, guiding the visitors through daily school life and helping them experience the proud and inclusive ethos of our school.

A highlight of the six day visit was a traditional Aboriginal music and storytelling workshop led by Jagamara, a respected medicine man from the Northern Territory. Students were captivated by his stories and the Dreamtime knowledge he shared, gaining a unique and invaluable insight into the richness of Australia’s First Nations heritage.

Beyond the classroom, the group also enjoyed exploring Sydney’s natural beauty, including bushwalks around Frenchs Forest and the breath-taking views from Bluff Point. These experiences gave our guests a glimpse into the landscapes that make our local community so special.

The cultural exchange showcase, where all students presented heartfelt presentations also further reinforced the strong bonds of friendship between our schools. The exchange of gifts and warm words of thanks highlighted the spirit of connection that ultimately defined the visit.

Thanks again to all the staff and students of The Forest High School for their hospitality, kindness, and generosity throughout the week; and a special thank you to SLSO Callan Wee, for all your support in ensuring an unforgettable week for all involved. Experiences like this truly reflect TFHS commitment to global citizenship and intercultural understanding, preparing our students to truly represent and thrive in the global world. As stated by our guests on their final day “we never want to leave! We love it here so much!” 😊

LAUREN WEATHERALL
EAL/D COORDINATOR
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR



'Booked In' presents: Blind Date with a Book – Book Week Special!

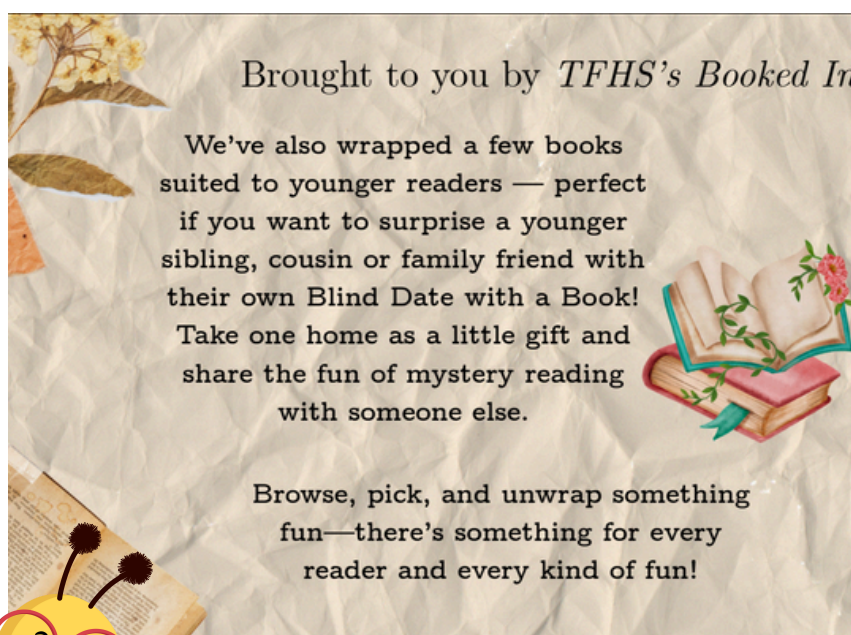
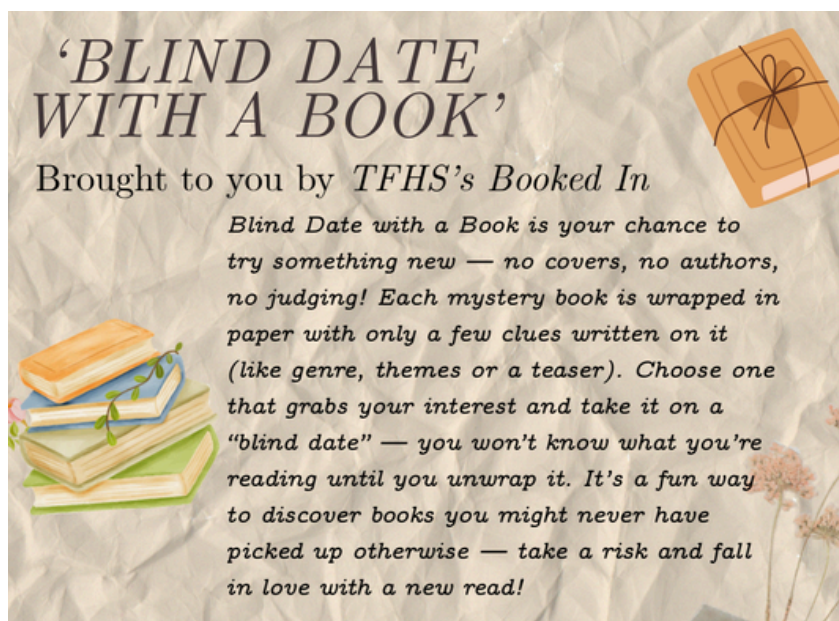
To celebrate Book Week (August 16–23) and this year's theme, "Book an Adventure," 'Booked In' (our school Book Club) has set up a special *Blind Date with a Book* display in the A Block hallway outside A1015.

Each book is wrapped so the title and author are a surprise - all you get are a few mysterious clues (genre, themes, teaser). Pick the one that sparks your curiosity and "book an adventure" into a story you might never have chosen otherwise!

We've also included a handful of mystery books for younger readers - perfect to take home as a gift for a younger sibling, cousin, or friend.

Come and grab your Blind Date with a Book before they're gone and start your next great reading adventure!

TAYLOR FOSTER
ENGLISH TEACHER



Year 11 Legal Studies



On Thursday 24 July, the Year 11 Legal Studies students swapped the classroom for the chambers of power, taking part in an unforgettable experience at NSW Parliament. Students made their way to Parliament for a two-hour educator-led session aligned with Part I: The Legal System of the Preliminary Legal Studies course. The visit offered a first-hand look at the workings of democracy in action, reinforcing key syllabus concepts such as the rule of law, separation of powers, and law-making procedures.

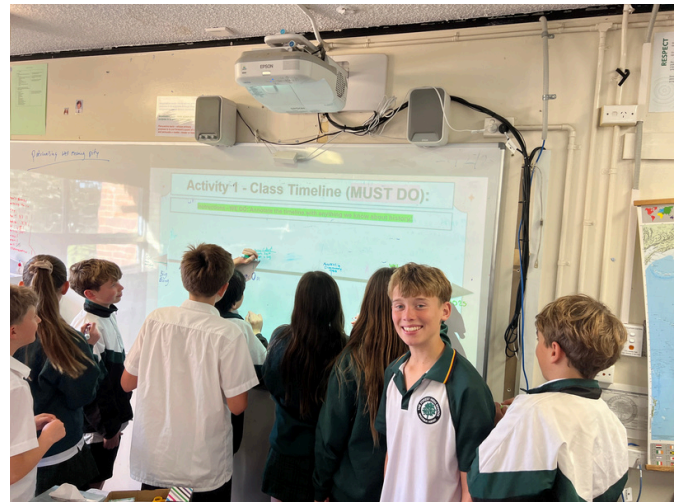
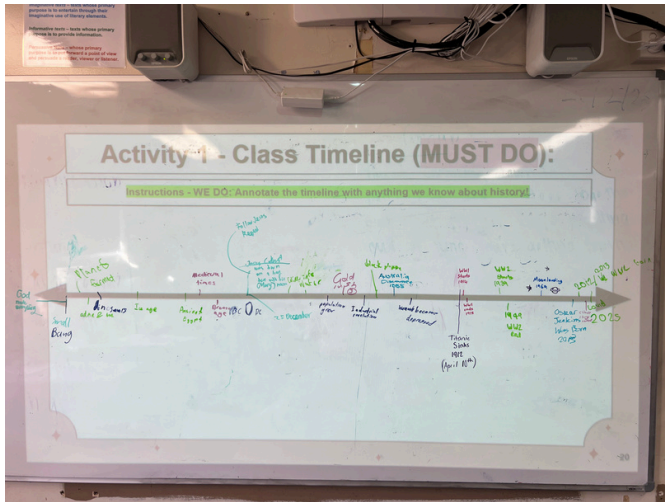
Inside the historic Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council chambers, students participated in a mock parliamentary debate to pass a bill regarding first-home buyers. From drafting legislation to debating its merits, students took on the role of elected representatives and experienced the complexities of the legislative process. This experience deepened students' understanding of how laws are made, the role of government, and how legal institutions reflect society's values. The group then returned to school before lunch, filled with new insights and a deeper appreciation for the role of Parliament in shaping our society.

CALYPSO HANLEY
HSIE TEACHER





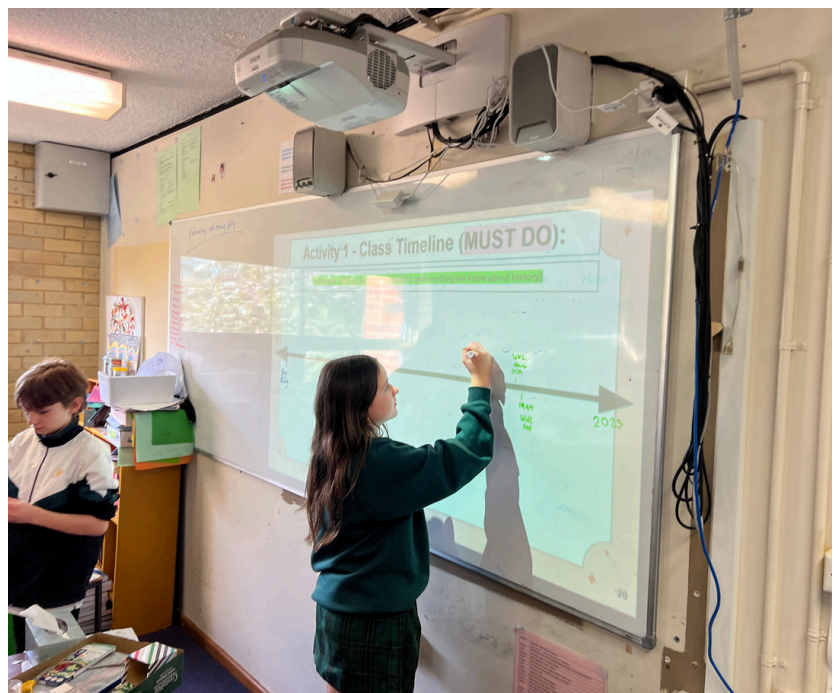
Year 7 HPGE Historians travel through time



This term, our talented Year 7 High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) students kicked off their Investigating the Ancient Past unit, in true historian fashion, with curiosity, colour, and creativity! Using archaeological thinking, students collaborated to construct a gigantic timeline stretching from the time of dinosaurs to their own birthdays, including major milestones like the Moon landing, the Gold Rush, WWI and WWII, and even COVID.

The activity launched our exploration of key historical concepts such as continuity and change, and chronology, while also building excitement for the ancient civilisations we'll study next. It was a perfect example of how classes at The Forest foster high expectations and deep engagement, with every student encouraged to stretch their thinking, ask big questions, and make connections across time. Students don't just study history at the Forest, they experience it.

CALYPSO HANLEY
HSIE TEACHER





Our Year 11 Society and Culture students have been busy applying ethical research practices as part of a Term 3 class task, which involved creating a podcast series exploring Adolescence in Different Cultures.

Working in groups, students developed their own sets of interview questions to speak with individuals from various cultural backgrounds different from their own. Each group conducted an in-depth interview, analysed the responses, and transformed their findings into an engaging audio segment.

The podcast, *Here, There and Everywhere*, shares authentic cross-cultural conversations about identity, the adolescent experience, and the ways culture is maintained. Thank you to our Year 11 Society and Culture class interviewers, and our guest interviewees for sharing their experiences and insights, helping to bring this podcast to life.

ZALI VAN DER VEER
HSIE TEACHER



COMMERCE MARKET DAY

**TUESDAY 26TH AUGUST @ LUNCH
UNDER THE COLA!**

Come Enjoy:



Snacks



Drinks

Crepes



Cookies



Lollies



**Carnival
Games**

***Bring cash for purchases & join
the fun with your friends!***

Book Week

CELEBRATING BOOK WEEK (16-23 AUGUST) WITH OUR STUDENTS' FAVOURITE BOOKS! THE THEME THIS YEAR IS *BOOK AN ADVENTURE*.



PDHPE

Congratulations to our U15 Girls Netball team who put on an impressive performance against Wadalba Community School in the knockout competition in Week 1. Despite the 30-22 loss, the girls played well and showed great team spirit.



WOMEN'S HEALTH PRESENTATION

On Wednesday 20 August we welcomed Dr Gabrielle Sachs, specialist medical officer Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Northern Beaches Hospital to The Forest High School. Dr Sach's presented to Year 10 girls on everything to do with Women's Health. She spoke of her medical studies and journey into Medicine, followed by a Q&A session answering many anonymous questions that the Year 10 girls had prepared. It was an informative session where all students walked out with a better education on Women's Health and how to access help if needed. The PDHPE department are working towards strengthening our connections with Northern Beaches Hospital so students understand more about all the Public Health Services available to them as well as promoting the many career paths open to them in the Health Sector. Many thanks to Dr Gabrielle Sach's for her time and Dr Sophie Putt



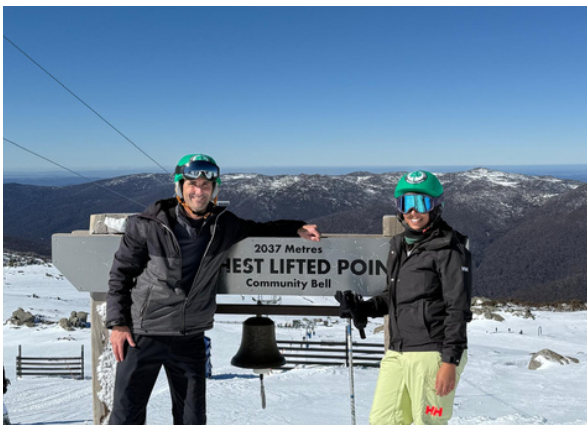
JANE FORSTER
PDHPE TEACHER

Year 10 Ski Trip



WE TOOK 32 STUDENTS AND 4 BRAVE STAFF ON OUR ANNUAL SKI TRIP THIS YEAR. WE HAD SOME DICEY WEATHER ON THE WEDNESDAY BUT WERE MET WITH BLUE SKIES ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY. THE STUDENTS HAD A GREAT TIME ON THE SLOPES WITH A FEW STUDENTS SEEING SNOW FOR THE FIRST TIME. WE ALSO HAD OUR ANNUAL POOL COMPETITION WHICH WAS WON BY ARCHIE B AND MR CONNERY. I AM VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT FROM THE STAFF MR GOODWIN, MISS BONOMI AND MR CONNERY FOR THEIR SUPPORT ON THIS TRIP.

GENEVIEVE NESTOR
RELIEVING HEAD TEACHER PDHPE



SCIENCE

At the end of last term, Year 11 Science students had an interesting and valuable field trip to the Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre in Ku-ring-gai National Park as part of their Year 11 Geography and Biology courses.

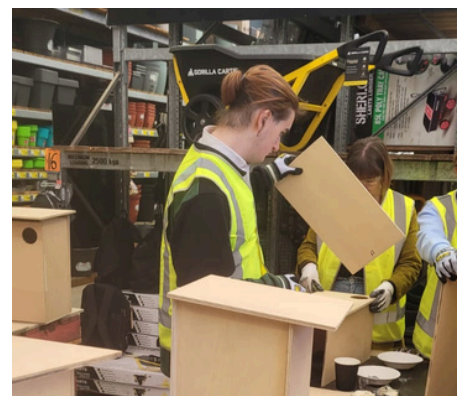


SUPPORT

It has been a very busy start to Term 3 with lots of activities on and off site. Some of our students have commenced a TAFE short course in Commercial Cookery. Other students are involved in a pathway program learning valuable job skills for the future.

Here at school lots of timber work and gardening, as well as cooking tasty things to eat. The SUPR3 class also visited the Sydney Disability and Workability Expo at Sydney Showgrounds – meeting new people and making contacts and connections, as well as coming away with some fun promotional freebies! In Week 5 our students also helped out at One Meal Northern Beaches, packing 50 meal bags and peeling potatoes for the fresh meals they deliver weekly to people in need in the community. We are looking forward to what the next 5 weeks shall bring.

REBECCA NEW RELIEVING HEAD TEACHER SUPPORT







YEAR 12 MAJOR PROJECTS

Last week, our Industrial Technology – Multimedia and Timber Products students completed their HSC Major Projects, followed this week by our Textiles and Design students. Next week, Design and Technology projects are due, and students are working hard on finalising them. These works represent months of hard work, problem-solving, creativity, project management, perseverance, and resilience. We wish our Design and Technology students all the best as they complete the final stages.

We congratulate all our Year 12 TAS students on their efforts and look forward to showcasing the Industrial Technology projects at our exhibition on **Thursday 28 August, 5:30–6:30pm** in the DBLC and Room D1015. Please note: Textiles and Design projects will not be on display as they are sent away for external marking, but we hope to display them once they are returned.

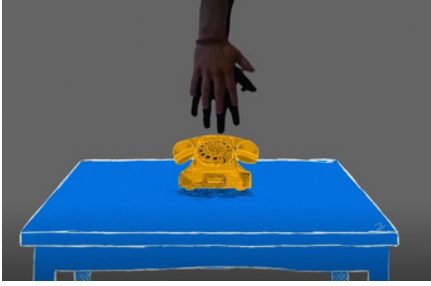




HSC MAJOR PROJECT SHOWCASE

Please join us in celebrating the achievements of our 2025 Industrial Technology Timber & Multimedia and Design & Technology students in an exhibition of their HSC Major Projects.

**THURS 28TH AUG, 2025
5:30-6:30PM
TFHS DBLC & D1015**



STAGE 4

Year 7 and 8 students have now rotated into their alternate Technology focus areas for the term. It has been great to see the progress of those in Textiles, particularly in developing pattern literacy and working together to cut patterns, take measurements, and assemble fabric pieces.



STAGE 5

Food Technology

Students have been exploring Food Trends, preparing dishes such as Buddha Bowls and Açai Bowls. They are learning how trends develop, are marketed, and presented, while also reflecting on the nutritional aspects. This unit helps students build real-world skills to become informed consumers and make healthier food choices.



STAGE 5

Industrial Technology - Engineering

Year 9 students are building their workshop skills through the design and construction of a steel desk caddy. They are practising cutting, machining, and joining techniques, with a focus on accuracy, safe equipment use, and attention to detail. These skills are a strong foundation for future pathways in engineering, trades, and design, while also developing problem-solving and project management skills.

We are proud of the achievements across all stages this term and look forward to sharing more TAS highlights in the next newsletter.

AMANDA WALSH
HEAD TEACHER TAS



2025 TFHS Annual Fashion Show

THE 2025 TFHS ANNUAL FASHION SHOW WAS AN INCREDIBLE SUCCESS, WITH STUDENTS FROM YEARS 8-12 PRESENTING THEIR OWN ORIGINAL DESIGNS TO A CAPTIVATED AUDIENCE. THIS YEAR'S SHOWCASE FEATURED THEMED PROJECTS INCLUDING COASTAL CHIC, COACHELLA COUTURE, STAR OF THE EVENING, IN THE HOOD, THE LITTLE BLACK DRESS, AND THE IMPRESSIVE 2024 YEAR 12 MAJOR TEXTILES PROJECTS. FROM SKETCH TO FINAL STITCH, STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED CREATIVITY, SKILL, AND DEDICATION, PRODUCING GARMENTS THAT REFLECTED BOTH CURRENT TRENDS AND INDIVIDUAL FLAIR. WE ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THEIR NEXT CREATIONS IN THE 2026 FASHION SHOW.

JACKIE AROYAN
TAS TEACHER



P&C NEWS

A huge thank you to everyone who donated a plate for our Term 2 Teachers Thank You Morning Tea. The staff were truly touched by the generosity and thoughtfulness of our school community, it was a beautiful way to show our appreciation for all they do.

Our next morning tea is scheduled for Friday 19 September, and we look forward to once again coming together to celebrate our amazing teachers.

Earlier this term, the P&C Executive Team had the opportunity to do a site visit at the new school. We were all incredibly impressed with the progress, and the views are absolutely spectacular! Our students are very lucky to have such a fantastic learning environment.

In even more exciting news, we are buying a bus! We've received a quote to have the school and sponsor logos added, and we're hoping to have it up and running this term. This is a major step forward in improving access and opportunities for all students.

Thank you for your continued support, we couldn't do any of this without our wonderful school community

Warm regards,
Kelly Barr-Jones
P&C President



Term 3 2025 Events

27 August - Year 10, 11 & 12 Minimum Standard Testing

28 August - MADD Night 6pm in the School Hall and TAS Major Project Showcase - 5.30pm-6.30pm in the DBLC & D1015

29 August - Year 8 Medieval Day & Coastal Landscapes excursion

3 September - Diversity & Inclusion Sub-Committee Meeting - 7pm

10-19 September - Year 11 Yearly Exams

11 September - RUOK Day

22 September - Year 11 Picnic Day

23 September - Bob Philpott Touch Football Cup

24 September - Year 12 Farewell Breakfast & Celebration

25 September - Year 12 Graduation & Formal

26 September - Last day of Term 3