



# SOUTH CREEK - TERM 3



**Mente Manuque**

-With mind and hand

# 2023

The South Creek Magazine is published once a term and celebrates the vision and values of the St Marys Senior High School learning community.

We are an ***inclusive***, kind, and supportive school which values diversity, independence and community.

We are an ***aspirational*** community which strives to achieve individual excellence.

We are ***respectful*** of our history, our people and our environment.

## **Acknowledgment of Country**

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land that makes up our school community, the Wianamatta people from Darug Country.

We also pay our respects to Elders past, present and future and extend our respects to all First Nation Peoples as well as everyone who visits our school.

We must always remember that under the concrete and asphalt, this land is, was and always will be Aboriginal Country.

Shani-Lee Bolt, Year 12 2018



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## Principal's Insights



Welcome to the latest issue for South Creek for 2023 where we acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of our students, staff and community.

As we celebrate these achievements and milestones, we can all reflect as a community on the work we have achieved academically in the classroom and through participation in extracurricular activities which have provided important lessons in time management, leadership and teamwork. It is also important that we reflect on our wellbeing to allow us to be better equipped to handle the demands of schooling. By adopting a balanced approach to our wellbeing, we can improve our concentration, be more productive and foster resilience.

Towards the end of Term 3 we celebrated our diversity through our Heritage Day celebrations. Our school was filled with colour and smiles as we celebrated our multicultural school population. This year we were fortunate to have special guests join us from Shalvey Public School to share their diversity through dance. Aunty Cino provided a special commencement to our celebrations through her Welcome to Country. The national costumes our students and staff wore highlighted our diversity and showcased the inclusive values that make our school so unique. Congratulations to the TAS / Computing Faculty and the SRC for their organisation and work on the day to ensure a smooth event, as well as Fatima, Michael and the Entertainment students for their support of the Heritage Day concert. The day finished with a carnival of colour, mess and music with a colour run coordinated by Jo and the PDHPE Faculty.



*Students from Shalvey Public School with SMSHS Captain, Destiny Sione.*

On the last day of the term, Year 12 students, staff, parents and community members came together to celebrate thirteen years of schooling with the Year 12 Graduation. What an amazing event! We hope that all who attended enjoyed the ceremony, especially the students who graduated. The logistics of organising this event is enormous, involving twelve months of meticulous preparation. I would like to thank all those involved in organising this event for creating such wonderful memories for our students and their families. I would also like to thank the Hillsong Convention Centre for their professionalism in ensuring the event ran smoothly. I would like to wish the Class of 2023 all the best as they complete their final examinations and move onto their next stage of their lives.



Congratulations and farewell to our School Captains Charlotte Brown and Destiny Sione as well as our Vice Captains Aadhi Senthil Kumar and Kayla Buen who have led our student body throughout 2023. They have demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities and a deep commitment to the advancement of our school community.

At the conclusion of our Major Works Assembly, our 2023 Student Leaders announced our new School Captains and Vice Captains for the 2023-2024 academic year. Following a rigorous process, I am pleased to introduce to our community the following students who have been elected as our incoming student leaders:

- School Captains – Allayna Anna Sachin and Ankon Dam
- School Vice Captains – Jahanzeb Rana and Zopiah Sulangi

I hope you enjoy this edition of South Creek. I am proud of the efforts of all our students and the staff at St Marys Senior High School and invite you to read this edition of South Creek.



Sally Smithard  
Principal

On Thursday 24 August, the Student Representative Council were pleased to welcome Students Leaders from schools in the surrounding area to our school for the Student Leaders Afternoon Tea.

The first activity for the afternoon involved some ice breaker activities so that students could get to know each other. This was followed by a yummy afternoon tea in the school cafeteria. The students listened to a guest presenter, Christelle Salimbangon, who completed her Higher School Certificate at St Marys Senior High School in 2020. Christelle presented an inspirational speech on her experiences after school in which she encouraged the students to use their strengths to meet life's challenges and to not be afraid to step out of their comfort zone.



The students concluded their afternoon tea with a competitive jeopardy game. Overall our guests and Student Representative Council had a fun afternoon networking. Congratulations to the Cluster 5 leaders, Jasmine Sabaten, Angel Elinta, Allayna Anna Sachin and Jiya Raniga, on their coordination of a very successful event.

Kerri-Anne Brown  
SRC Staff Adviser





# Wear It Purple Day

## What is Wear It Purple Day?

**Wear It Purple Day** is an annual LGBTQA+ awareness day that we celebrate in Australia and at St Marys. This day is of huge significance for the youth of Australia and the issues many face. This day is about celebrating the importance of inclusivity and having the right to be proud of who we are and who we are becoming, by expressing our feelings of individuality. Wear It Purple Day strives to foster supportive, empowering and inclusive environments for the LGBTQA+ community and everyone is invited to celebrate the significance of this day.

Wear It Purple Day was founded in 2010 in response to young adults and teenagers facing bullying and harassment connected to their sexuality and gender identity. This day was created to show the youth across the globe that there is hope, and there are people in this world who accept and support them for who they are.

At St Marys Senior High School we celebrate Wear It Purple Day by wearing the colour purple in support of the LGBTQA+ community and to appreciate and love everyone for who they are. The SRC paired with the PRISM Club in our school to celebrate this special day. They have spent their time before school decorating the school and our special St Marys bench with the rainbow flag and cute little decorations to show acceptance of all in our school community.



Dee Bishwa  
Year 12 2023

## HSC Drama Showcase Evening

The week before the Term 3 Trial Examination period began, students in the Year 12 Drama cohort were doing some additional and adrenaline pumping preparation for their examinations. They presented their Group Performances and some Individual Project Performances for friends and family in our annual HSC Drama Showcase Evening.



L to R: Parker Mahoney, Kayla Buen, Devinas Ofehengaue, Cass McCandless, Rexie Querubin

This provided the perfect opportunity for students to hone their skills in controlling the actor/audience relationship and helped build their confidence in the pieces that they had been working so diligently on creating throughout their HSC studies.



Above: David Miguel



Above: Kayla Buen



Above: Charlie Kanny



Above: Devinas Ofahengaue



Lto R: Elaiza Estanislao, Esha Nandika, Kasandra Quiban, David Miguel, Amasha Packeer

Family and friends were wonderfully supportive, giving excellent feedback and the extra bit of confidence they needed to embark on the next steps of the HSC journey – the Trial Examination performances in Week 3 and the actual HSC Performance Examinations in Week 7. Thank you to Michael and the VET Entertainment students for their support as lighting and sound technicians, stage managers and stage crew.



Above: Elaiza Estanislao



# CAPA HSC Practical Examinations

Term 3 is an intense term for the Creative and Performing Arts students, as this is when the practical components of their HSC Examinations are due as submissions or live performances.

The first subject whose students were required to complete the practical component of the exams was Dance. Over two days in Week 4 (the middle week of the Trial Examinations!) the five Dance students presented their HSC works in performance and composition, which included an interview for each course component, completing 80% of their HSC Examination.

Drama was next up in Week 7 with our twenty-three Drama students submitting their Individual Projects and presenting their Group and Individual Performances to a team of three HSC markers, completing 60% of their HSC Examination. As stipulated by NESAs, our students performed these exam pieces in front of an audience of no more than thirty people, consisting of the lucky Year 11 Drama cohort and their teacher. Drama is the only HSC course that has a compulsory group component for their examination and the only performance course that requires an audience.



*HSC Music 1 Cohort 2023*

After our annual HSC Body of Work Exhibition in the MPC in Week 6, our forty-two Visual Arts students' Bodies of Work were submitted and bundled up so they could be couriered to the NESAs marking centre, completing 50% of their HSC Examination. When HSC major works are at stake, students quickly learn how to wrap and package the fragile pieces securely!

The Music 1 performance examinations were the last in the list, taking place in Week 8. Students and teachers (who accompany many of our students in their performances) smashed out 172 performances for the markers over three intense and exhilarating days, completing 70% of their HSC Examination.

Our relieved and slightly frazzled students and teachers successfully navigated a full and satisfying HSC Practical Examination period in Term 3, and we are proud of every single one of them and their achievements.

# Nominations for Outstanding HSC Works for NESA Showcases - *Callback, Encore, OnSTAGE*

The NESA HSC showcases celebrate student achievement by reflecting the creativity and innovation of HSC students.

At the end of Term 3, the practical components of the Dance, Drama and Music 1 HSC Examinations had been finalised, and St Marys received nominations for the possible selection of student works for all three subjects in their respective NESA showcases.



Above: Prudence Johnson



L to R: Jeevi Bola, Paige Morrison, Bailey Hayward

Congratulations to Prudence Johnson who received a nomination for her entire performance program for Music 1 for possible inclusion in the HSC Showcase, Encore.

Congratulations to Hannah Sluyter who received two nominations for Dance for possible inclusion in the HSC Showcase, Callback – for her Core Performance and Major Study Performance works.

Congratulations to the Drama students who received five nominations for Individual Project Performance and three group nominations for Group Performance for possible inclusion in the HSC Showcase, OnSTAGE.

**Group Performance nominations:** 'Hell Is Other People' (Jeevi Bola, Bailey Hayward, Paige Morrison), 'Fangirls AKA H.A.R.R.Y' (Prudence Kenny, Charlie Kenny, Kloe Lane, Jerialdine Layweh), 'Where Were You?' (Charlotte, Brown, Aaliyah Marangon, Maddison Speer, Jazel Verdadero).



L to R: Prudence Johnson, Kloe Lane, Jerialdine Layweh, Charlie Kenny



Below: Charlotte Brown



Below: Hannah Sluyter

**Continued next page...**

## Creative and Performing Arts



Above: Prudence Johnson

Our nominees will be notified in Term 4 if they have been selected to present their works in the NESAs showcases early next year. Congratulations to these nominees for this recognition of their achievements, and to all students who completed this component of their HSC examinations. You make us proud!

**Individual Project Performance nominations:** 'Tiggy Entwhistle' (Charlotte Brown), 'SHE.' (Bailey Hayward), 'Lady Day' (Prudence Johnson), 'Oenone' (Aaliyah Marangon), 'Decadence' (Jazel Verdadero).



Above: Bailey Hayward



Above: Jazel Verdadero

## Upcoming CAPA Events

*Keep an eye out for these upcoming CAPA events in Term 4 2023...*

- **Drama Excursion** - Drama students will be accompanying Nicole and Mel to see Belvoir Street Theatre Company's production of *Lady Day at the Emerson Bar and Grill*.
- **Iconic** - Tuesday 12 December, 6:30pm in the MPC.
- **Lunchtime Concerts** - Music students hone their skills and build their confidence in concerts for their peers on Wednesdays at lunch time. Entertainment students provide the technical support and operations for the concerts.

# HSC Visual Arts Body of Work Exhibition

As the final milestone in the Visual Arts Class of 2023, on Thursday 24 August Year 12 set-up the annual HSC Visual Arts Exhibition to share their hard work with parents, teachers and their peers. From planning to take down, the student-curated exhibition aimed to present all HSC Bodies of Work close to their completion as the final flourish of their senior Visual Arts journey.



The Visual Arts cohort set out to format the layout of the exhibition including the construction of recently purchased mounting boards for two-dimensional artworks and an engaging formation of tables and drama blocks to exhibit sculptural pieces. In addition to this, with the

kind assistance of the media team, time-based forms were displayed on the 'big screen' to showcase each form by every student. Mindful of the HSC Drama performance examinations and through considerate organisation, all works were carefully transported and proudly displayed in the MPC. The result was an organised eclectic collection of visual representations of students' personal worlds, concerns and narratives. Their personal claim over the presentation of their work demonstrated the comprehensive student understanding of and engagement with their creative pieces and an audience.



Izabelle Valencia  
Year 12 2023

Ready for the exhibition to be viewed by loved ones and the wider school community, the HSC Visual Arts cohort were proud of their consistent efforts and perseverance in creating sustained and conceptually strong works that were finished to the highest quality. On behalf of the exhibiting students, we would like to thank all staff involved; Adam, Sharon, Nicole, Fatima and Michael for their never-failing support for the exhibition as well as the families, friends, peers and staff that attended the exhibition to experience the skillful student work that the class of '23 had to offer.

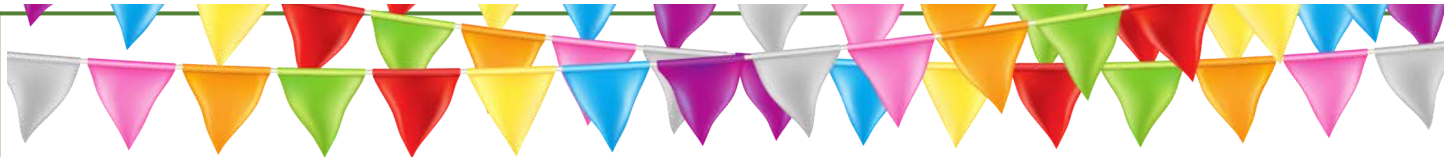
# Heritage Day

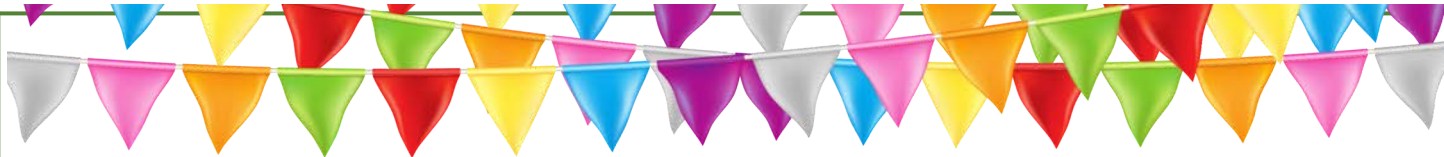
Heritage Day is a special day that offers an opportunity to raise public awareness about the diversity of the world. Here at St Marys Senior High School, it is a day to also celebrate the diversity within our school and share our pride in our heritage. Our school wouldn't be the same without the numerous cultures that make our school stand out and make it what it is today.

This year, our Heritage Day celebrations began with an assembly in the MPC. The assembly featured a flag parade, and special guest performers from Shalvey Public School. There were also many diverse performances from the students at our school. The MCs taught the visitors from 'outer space' a lot about the different cultures on Earth.

During the extended lunch, students were able to purchase food from the food trucks, participate in cultural activities and listen to an outdoor concert. The day ended with the colour run. Thank you to the SRC for their coordination of Heritage Day. It was a most enjoyable way to finish the term and make lasting memories of our time at St Marys Senior High School.







Olivia Salt and Madeline Ubera  
Year 12 2023

# R U OK? Day

On Thursday 14 September, Cluster 2 hosted R U OK? Day, a day promoting the non-profitable Australian charity that encourages people to stay connected and have conversations that can help others through difficult times in their lives. Students were encouraged by the SRC to wear yellow mufti, promoting the St Mary Senior High School spirit of supporting a good cause. Furthermore, students were also encouraged to bring in a gold coin donation where, as a collective, we were able to collect a total of \$337.00 in donations.

Overall, it was a great day to not just spend time with friends, but support them too, whether it's for upcoming HSC examinations or personal matters. Great job to everyone who took part in the school event, and a big thanks to all SRC members who contributed both time and effort into putting everything together, as this day wouldn't have been possible without them.



**St Marys Senior High School Captains and SRC (photograph taken from 'St Marys Senior High SRC' Instagram Page).**

Anthony Fava

Year 12 2023



## Major Works Assembly 2023

On Tuesday, 19 September, we were delighted to host the Annual Awards for Excellence in Major Works for the 2023 Higher School Certificate.

The keynote address was delivered by Rebecca Kershaw, a former student of SMSHS, who captivated the audience with her insights and experiences from the worlds of dance and drama. Awards were presented in multiple categories, including Computing Studies, Technology and Applied Studies, Human Society and its Environment, and Creative and Performing Arts. The samples of their work displayed behind them as they received their awards were viewed in awe, particularly by students about to embark on Major Works of their own. Interspersed with the awards were extraordinary musical performances by our talented award recipients, showcasing their skills and highlighting the outstanding dedication they have shown to their craft during their time at SMSHS.

The assembly concluded with the announcement of the Captains and Vice Captains for 2024 by the 2023 Captains and Vice Captains. Our special guests, award winners, and their guests were then invited to enjoy a morning tea in our school library at the conclusion of the assembly.

Congratulations to all our award recipients for 2023 - your hard work and dedication have truly paid off.



*The 2023 Captains and Vice Captains announcing the 2024 Captains and Vice Captains.*

# Major Works Assembly 2023

| Name              | Course                |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Hafsa Fahad       | Design and Technology |
| Izabelle Valencia | Design and Technology |
| Koray Vasfi       | Design and Technology |
| Gurjeevan Bola    | Drama                 |
| Charlotte Brown   | Drama                 |
| Bailey Hayward    | Drama                 |
| Prudence Johnson  | Drama                 |
| Aaliyah Marangon  | Drama                 |
| David Miguel      | Drama                 |
| Paige Morrison    | Drama                 |
| Jazel Verdadero   | Drama                 |
| Harshitha Anar    | History Extension     |



# Major Works Assembly 2023

| Name              | Course              |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Kendra Cuevas     | Music 1             |
| Joshua Guevara    | Music 1             |
| Farrell Hagan     | Music 1             |
| Prudence Johnson  | Music 1             |
| Leila Mamaril     | Music 1             |
| Gabriel Paleracio | Music 1             |
| Drew Parica       | Music 1             |
| Elise Begbie      | Society and Culture |
| Bailey Hayward    | Society and Culture |
| Anureet Pabla     | Society and Culture |



# Major Works Assembly 2023

| Name                        | Course                          |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Rikhil Prasad               | Society and Culture             |
| Jasmine Sabaten             | Society and Culture             |
| Jazmine Susi                | Society and Culture             |
| Gilaxsan Gilbert Sagayathan | Software Design and Development |
| Christine De Laza           | Textiles and Design             |
| Phoebe Julia Deliso         | Textiles and Design             |
| Cheriedan Arias             | Visual Arts                     |
| Elise Begbie                | Visual Arts                     |
| Gurjeevan Bola              | Visual Arts                     |
| Farzana Haque Kazi          | Visual Arts                     |
| Princess Arienne Torralba   | Visual Arts                     |
| Izabelle Valencia           | Visual Arts                     |





**The 2023 Captains and Vice Captains with the 2024 Captains and Vice Captains**

Back: Aadhi Senthil Kumar, Charlotte Brown, Destiny Sione and Kayla Buen

Front: Jahanzeb Rana, Allayna Anna Sachin, Ankon Dam and Zopiah Sulangi

## An Eventful Term...

# Year 12 Spirit Week !

As Year 12 2023 began to prepare their goodbyes amongst signing shirts and signing books, Year 12 Spirit Week was organised to help commemorate their final few days at SMSHS. The last week, Monday 18 to Friday 22 September was successfully dedicated to this with many students participating in the events organised by the school and the SRC.

On Monday, Past vs Future Day, students were able to either wear old school uniforms or dress up as what they aspire to be in the future. Many people wore primary and high school uniforms as well as clothing that aligned with their future career goals.

On Tuesday, Year 12 students had the opportunity to wear their white polo school shirts for the final time as the school gathered to attend the Major Works Assembly. Many students received awards commending their achievements in regards to their major works in a variety of subject areas.

On Wednesday, an eventful day, students had the opportunity to dress up as their favourite staff member to show their appreciation. In addition to this, teachers received letters from their students, which were written in Week 7 Cluster, to show gratitude for their efforts. Also, students had the opportunity to participate in the Year 12 vs Teachers Netball Game, which was great fun for all those involved.

Finally, on Thursday and Friday, Year 12 students attended their Grad Rehearsal and Graduation (held at Hillsong Convention Centre), marking their final days as high school students with emotional farewells and congratulations. Joined by family and friends, Year 12, Class of 2023 said goodbye to thirteen years of schooling and entered the next chapter of their lives.



Students VS Teachers Netball Game



Year 12 Graduation



Past VS Future Day



Student-Teacher Appreciation Day

Patricia Nashed  
Year 12 2023

## Our Staff Teams

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Principal:                            | Sally Smithard  |
| School Council President:             | Sonia Matthews  |
| School Captains:                      | Charlotte Brown<br>Destiny Sione  |
| School Executive:                     |   |
| - Deputy Principal (Year 12)          | Leah Havord   |
| - Deputy Principal (Year 11)          | Danielle Ervine   |
| - English                             | Julie Robinson  |
| - Mathematics                         | Simone Pett   |
| - Science (Rel)                       | Andrew Farrugia   |
| - Commercial Studies                  | Salochna Reddy  |
| - HSIE                                | Shara Walsh   |
| - Creative & Performing Arts (CAPA)   | Nicole Bonfield   |
| - TAS / Computing                     | Matthew Topp  |
| - LOTE                                | Luigi Serra   |
| - PDHPE (Rel)                         | Joanne Brines   |
| - Secondary Studies                   | Lucas Widdison  |
| - Learning and Wellbeing              | Melissa Jacka   |
| - First Australians                   | Leah Havord   |
| - Business Manager (Acting)           | Rebecca Zinghini  |
| - School Administrative Manager (Rel) | Angela Demaio   |
| Student Advisers:                     |   |
| - Year 11, Surnames A-G               | Sussan Allaou   |
| - Year 11, Surnames H-O               | Wendi Kambolli  |
| - Year 11, Surnames P-Z               | Luigi Serra   |
| - Year 12, Surnames A-G               | Adam Bernthaler   |
| - Year 12, Surnames H-O               | Lauren Hasna  |
| - Year 12, Surnames P-Z               | Jeff Larsen   |
| Learning Support:                     | Susan Allaou (F)<br>Carmel Harriden(M, T)<br>Melissa Jacka<br>Carly McPherson (T, W, T)<br>Ashlee Pleffer (M,T) |
| Student Support Officer:              | Surmeet Kaur  |
| Careers Adviser (Rel):                | Cheryll Ruskin  |

## Contact us



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St Marys Senior High School Official Site -  
Facebook



St Marys Senior High School -  
Skoolbag App

## South Creek Production Team

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Kerri-Anne Brown – Teacher Librarian  |              |
| Avilash Tharmanesan<br>Dee Bishwa<br>Olivia Salt<br>Izabelle Valencia<br>Madeline Ubera<br>Shafia Hasan<br>Patricia Nashed<br>Wareesha Nadeem<br>Ayesha Tayyab<br>Marwa Noori<br>Maahee Desai<br>Anthony Fava | Neha Maharaj |

Thank you to all the  
staff and students who  
contributed articles for  
this edition of the  
South Creek Magazine.