

SOUTH CREEK







OF HIGH SCHOOL

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 Term 1 issue of South Creek for 2022. I would like to thank the team of students supported by our teacher librarian, Kerri-Anne Brown, for their work in putting together this publication. As a community it is important that we celebrate our achievements together to continue to build upon our strong school spirit and culture.

I would like to thank the school community for their ongoing support throughout the term in responding to the ongoing

changes implemented by the New South Wales Government in response to COVID restrictions. As a school community we were extremely fortunate in comparison to other settings that struggled to cover classes. I believe this is due to our entire community's response and their willingness to look after each other.

During Term 1 our school, along with many secondary public schools in New South Wales, embarked on a fundraising project to support the Rivers Secondary College Campuses in Lismore, Vouch for Lismore. This campaign was launched to specifically support students and their families impacted by these devastating floods as there was an awareness that government assistance may be delayed. The college campuses have received over \$65,000 in donations including over 450 vouchers ready to be injected into local businesses as vouchers to use at independent supermarkets and fruit shops. Not only will this money be used to support families, but it will have a multiplier effect within the community. One of the principals emailed me, stating:

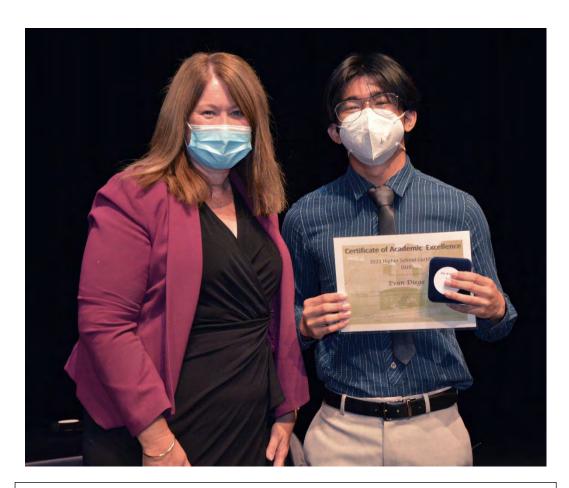
"While official thank you letters and certificates of appreciation are being finalised, please accept our deep thanks and gratitude. For every mufti-day, cake stall, fun run or generous donation, there has been a significant impact in buoying the spirits of our wider school community. These distributed funds are certainly not going to rebuild a house or replace a car, but they do make our families feel valued and recognised."

St Marys Senior High School hosted an Open Evening on 1 April 2022 to showcase our wonderful school to prospective families. Our student leaders were of course the stars, helping families to navigate their way around the school and sharing their experiences. Many parents commented positively on the tour guides and student faculty leaders.

Term 1 has continued to see our extra-curricular activities increase with SRC and club events, creative and performing arts events, sporting competitions and academic based events which you can peruse throughout this edition of South Creek. Our school is intensely focussed on playing our part in developing healthy young people who have a sense of humour, are kind, loyal, persistent, have a sense of camaraderie and high self-esteem.

I hope you enjoy this edition of South Creek as you explore the achievements of our students academically, on the sporting field, in the performing arts as well as the broader contributions they make to support the wider community through fundraising and raising awareness of important social issues. I am proud of the efforts of all our students and the staff at St Marys Senior High School and am privileged to be the principal of such an amazing school.

Sally Smithard Principal



Sally Smithard with Evan Diego 2021 Dux of St Mary Senior High School.

Student Representative Council Updates

During Term 1 the SRC have been very busy coordinating activities for Valentine's Day, Harmony Day and International Women's Day. Elections were also held for the 2022 Year 11 Student Representative Council members. There were many outstanding nominees. The successful candidates are shown below.



Cluster 2: Prudence Johnson and Sumayyah Qamar

Cluster 3: Jonathan Barnes, Randall de Leon, Drew Parica and Neha Prasad

Cluster 5: Thealey Dupaya and Jasmine Sabaten

Cluster 6: Charlotte Brown and Aadhi Senthi Kumar

Cluster 7: Rojin Altun, Hasala Uyane Hewage, Bryon Murphy, Holly Pembroke, Rene Sarraj

Cluster 8: Kayla Buen, Lexie Fernandez, Rinoa Laranang, Hannah Sluyter

We are delighted to welcome the new Year 11 Cluster Leaders to the team.

Kerri-Anne Brown SRC Staff Adviser

St Murys Sop Up Clubs Day 2022

What a tremendous turnout it was from both grades! With over 20 clubs of varying interests, the Club Pop Up Stalls held on 4 February 2022 provided an exceptional opportunity for all the members of the St Marys Senior High School community (especially the Year 11 students) to explore new opportunities and/or delve into their interests whilst being at school.

The student led clubs range from dancing to debating and are run by current Year 12 members and teachers. With regular notifications regarding the clubs on the school's Instagram, you can always keep yourself updated. Although the school previously posted a listing of all the clubs, here are just a few of the many clubs:

- · Anime and Gaming
- PRISM
- Basketball
- · Book Society
- · Comic and Manga
- Fatfish
- · Youth For Christ
- · Gentlemen's Society
- KPop
- Robotics
- · Table Top Gaming
- Badminton

INTERESTED IN JOINING AN EXISTING CLUB OR STARTING YOUR OWN?

Did you miss out on the fab day?

Well, there's no need to worry! The noticeboard inside the library contains EVERYTHING you need to know about joining an existing club or even creating your club. Alternatively, you can contact Angela Lievore in the TAS Faculty who can answer your questions.

Khushi Patel Year 12 2022

> Disclaimer. All the photos below have been taken with the permission of the recipients and have been sourced from the school's official Instagram (Subsequences) is















Yalentine's Day ⊰

With love in the air, and roses everywhere. With smiles and laughter, Who are you after?

With love in the air and roses shared, the spirit of Valentine's Day at SMSHS was absolutely everywhere! Whether you gave your friends or someone special a rose, sang along to the romantic tunes performed during the recess concert or just wore a cute Valentine's Day outfit, the joy of this special day was celebrated by all.

Some may say a whole day dedicated to love is bizarre, but Valentine's Day can also celebrate the platonic love between friends and family, and we saw just this among the SMSHS community: friends everywhere, enjoying each other's company and getting involved with the activities of the day, especially our Year 12 students, who made extra efforts to make the most of their last Valentine's Day at SMSHS by sending an announcement or delivery rose to their special someone. For those Year 11 students who didn't get the chance to buy any roses, there's no need to worry. There is always next year to finally confess to your hallway crush with

the help of an anonymous rose! It was also fantastic to see that everyone brought their Valentine's Day spirit by dressing in red, pink and white and donating to the charity of the day, the National Heart Foundation (NHF). For over 60 years, NHF has worked towards making Australia free of heart disease through risk reduction, support, and research. As а school care. community, we raised \$711 for The National Heart Foundation, tremendous thank you to all for your wonderful contributions!



Extraordinary performances were also put on by Year 12 Music students, hosted by the SRC and brought to life by Entertainment students.

Some thoughts from students about the day:

"My favourite part was definitely the extended recess where I got to sing along to some iconic v-day songs with my friends and see all the amazing performances!" - G.C

"One thing I liked, in particular, was being able to embarrass my friend with an announcement rose. Also, the musical performances were very enjoyable and really epitomised the meaning of Valentine's Day, a celebration of love and togetherness!" - Bianca Baniya

"I'm so happy that SMSH celebrates Valentine's Day with so much excitement and student involvement! It's definitely been one of my favourite memories of this year so far." - C.T

Thank you to the entire SMSHS community, and all who made the day possible, for a wonderful Valentine's Day!

Gourvika Kumar & Mariah Nicholopoulos Year 12 2022























Harmony Day

From the 21 to the 25 of March, SMSHS celebrated Harmony Week, a national celebration of Australian multiculturalism and an opportunity for all Australians to appreciate cultural variety and share what we have in common. It honours this diversity by encouraging acceptance, respect and the belief that people from all walks of life can contribute meaningfully to society.

On Monday, all SMSHS students wore orange to celebrate Harmony Day. This is because the colour orange is associated with Harmony Week and corelates with meaningful social interactions. Orange is also tied with the freedom of expression and the promotion of mutual respect. Throughout the day, donations were gathered for the Mama Lana's community foundation, which is an organisation that provides assistance to the homeless and underprivileged people in our community. Thank you to everyone who donated!

During day two of Harmony Week students participated in a chalk-drawing competition in front of the library, where they were tasked with creating an artwork that displayed diversity and unity. Thank you to everyone who came to the library and drew some amazing chalk art, and congratulations to the winners!

The school's Music students hosted a wonderful lunchtime music concert for day three of Harmony Week, singing and playing songs about diversity. Thank you to all of the wonderful teachers and students involved for hosting such an amazing concert for the entire school!

We'd like to thank the entire school community for celebrating Harmony Week and celebrating our school's diversity. It was amazing to see everyone come together to celebrate Harmony Day! Continue to be kind, respectful and caring towards one another and always do your best.

Aron Diwa & Aisha Mallick Year 12 2022













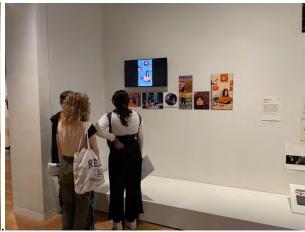
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Visual Arts Excursion

After months of COVID-19 restrictions, it was both a literal and emotional breath of fresh air when Visual Arts students were able to go on an excursion to the Art Gallery of NSW on 7 February 2022.

First on the agenda was viewing the ARTEXPRESS exhibition, the annual showcase of exemplary artworks by NSW Visual Arts students for their HSC major work. We were encouraged to write the titles and artists of works we resonated with and how we could develop our practice. Though it was surreal to realise it would soon be our turn to finish our own artworks, seeing the hard work and dedication of the 2021 graduates inspired many of our own ideas. Congratulations to Dave Chua, now a former SMSHS student, for his artwork "The Ebb and Flow of the Subconscious Mind" being selected for display in the gallery.





The main event, however, was viewing *Matisse: Life & Spirit, Masterpieces from the Centre Pompidou Paris*. Featuring more than 100 works spanning six decades of Henri Matisse's career, it is one of the largest single exhibitions of the artist's masterpieces ever seen in Sydney.

The works ranged from Matisse's early exploration of Fauvism, featuring bright and pure colours to convey deep emotions, to his later, more serene and distilled designs. It was a rare opportunity to experience the works of such a key figure in 20th century art, and it was a highlight to be able to sit in front of towering stained-glass windows from the *Chapel of the Rosary, Venice* (1948-51) in France.

Despite the excursion supplementing our case studies and major work for the HSC, the opportunity to experience art and culture firsthand was



refreshing and uplifting. A big thank you to Sharon and Adam who organised and supervised throughout the day!

Gabrielle Woodger Year 12 2022

PULSE Alive

Participating in NSW Department of Education's PULSE Alive, along with 65 talented singers from SMSHS on 14 February, was particularly special for me because of having participated in something similar when I was in high school. Then, in the 1960s, it was held in the Sydney Town Hall, and was solely a choral program with piano accompaniment. I'm still profoundly grateful for that experience of rehearsals culminating in the magical experience of the sound of a multitude of disciplined voices.

It was a different Sydney this time around, nearly 60 years later, with CityRail trains that you could follow with an app and watch them being cancelled in real time. The Ken Rosewall Arena, replacing the Town Hall of my memory, became the impossibly large rehearsal room where everyone was grateful for a safe place to sit as we rehearsed the program throughout the day. Every participant had earphones that enabled us to listen to the conductor, and a metronome track, vital for being on the beat in that reverberating arena.

What an evening. The program ranged from a dazzling young solo guitarist, though to the astoundingly overwhelming blast and choreography of the NSW Public Schools Millennium Marching Band (first established for the 2000 Sydney Olympics). And throughout the whole evening, dancers wove colour and grace, coordinating with the gasp-worthy lighting design and operation, all of which was served up by VET Entertainment students.

The complexity and execution of this event was a tribute to the key conceivers and organisers, as well as the teachers and students, who gave their all and reaped the reward of knowing that they had. Tess, our indomitable principal conductor, was the embodiment of grace and skill under extreme pressure, and was a model, for every student there, of what leadership looks like.

I was privileged to be amongst the talented students who had been prepared through the groundwork of Fatima and Michael, a dynamic duo if ever there was one. And I very much hope to see a recording of the program to appreciate Ruvarashe Mataranyika's featured singing, which could barely be heard from the wrong side of the speaker array aimed at the audience. Not to forget Philomena Lagman's confident compering and Ashleigh Rodriguez' featured dancing.

Perhaps it was because of COVID, but there was a particular sense of achievement in this program that lifted it beyond the routine extravaganza. Many heaved sighs of relief but there was no denying the positive vibes that pervaded that space, that night.

John Baltaks CAPA Faculty

DRAMA TERM 1

OnSTAGE

This term, Year 11 and 12 Drama students had the amazing opportunity to go to OnSTAGE at the Seymour Centre, Chippendale. This annual showcase involves several Band 6 Drama performances from the previous year's HSC, as well as a display of the exemplary Individual Projects from Design and Critical Analysis. This was an incredible opportunity, especially being able to learn from the previous year's candidates and apply that knowledge to our own learning this year.

RESILIENCE ARTS PROGRAM

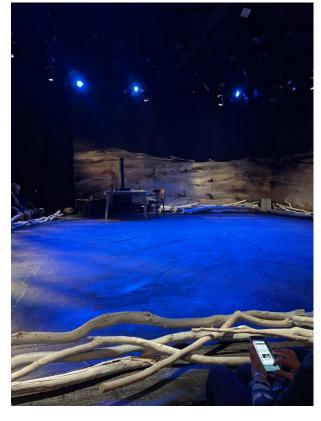
I recently had the opportunity to participate in The Arts Unit's new program: the Resilience Arts Program. Non-metropolitan students were involved in three days of workshops, but due to COVID restrictions, metropolitan public-school students had a day of experiential learning. I participated in a slam poetry workshop to start the day, where we learned about the trade from an industry perspective. The pinnacle of this experience was definitely seeing Hamilton at the Lyric Theatre, followed by a Q & A with some of the cast. This was an invaluable experience which I was so grateful to be a part of.

BELVOIR ST THEATRE'S 'YOUNG BELVOIR AMBASSADORS'

This year I have had the incredible opportunity to become one of Belvoir St Theatre's Young Belvoir Ambassadors. This not only involves being able to see Belvoir St Theatre Company productions with a group of like-minded young people, but also an opportunity to learn from the some of the great minds behind the scenes of some of these productions. I have had so much fun at the two meetings we've had so far and can't wait to keep building my relationship with the wonderful company of Belvoir St Theatre.

Brooke Young Year 12 2022







Brooke Young



L to R: Isaac Heath, Jessica Topp & Brooke Young

SPORTS WRAP UP

Students have been very eager to represent St Marys Senior High Schoolin a variety of sports this term. They have all competed with great enthusiasm, sportsmanship and school spirit. Many students have been very successful in their chosen sport and have been selected into Werrington Zone sporting teams and also Sydney West teams. Here are a few highlights.

SMSHS Swimming Carnival

We still faced some restrictions at the beginning of the year with regards to holding our school swimming carnival. We were hopeful that we would be able to hold the carnival for the whole school but unfortunately, we had to run a competitor only event again.

It was still a great day, even in the rain, and the standard of swimming was outstanding and a pleasure to witness. Our Year 11 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation students officiated the day as part of their course and did an amazing job.

The following records were broken on the day:

Jordan Amies 17 years 50m Freestyle - 29.02 17 years 100m Freestyle - 1.04.28

17 years 100m Backstroke - 1.14.71





Werrington Zone Swimming Carnival

Our swimmers did a remarkable job representing SMSHS at the Werrington Zone Swimming Carnival. All athletes qualified for the Sydney West Championships which were held on 18 March.

A special mention goes to Jordan Amies and Matthew Fava who were named 17 years age champions. Well done also to Jordan Amies on breaking the 100m breaststroke record in a time of 1.19.38.



Standing (L to R) – Hasala Uyane Hewage, Hale Roy, Celeste Roldan, Samuel Hanrahan, Alexandra Fleming, Jordan Amies, Kia Critchley

Kneeling - Matthew Fava

Cricket

Congratulations to Ritish Sethi who was named in the NSWCHS 2nd 11 Cricket Team and Daniel Gauci who was named in the NSWCHS 1st 11 Cricket Team to compete at the NSW All Schools Cricket Championships. Daniel Gauci has also been named as a member of the Under 17's NSW Cricket team. Well done to both students.

Volleyball

The girls' and boys' volleyball teams both finished 2nd at the Werrington Zone Volleyball Gala Day on 9 February. All team members displayed great athleticism and sportsmanship and were excellent representatives of St Marys Senior High School.

Well done Anjel Delos Reyes, Mikhaela Mendoza, Daphne Sunga, Cecilia Luke, Devinas Ofahengaue, Crystal Lui, Brooklyn Cassettari-Brown, Nathaniel Guzman and Avishant Narayan who were selected to represent Werrington Zone at the Sydney West Volleyball Championships.



Standing (L to R) – Leia Gillman, Devinas Ofahengaue, Cecilia Luke, Crystal Liu, Anjel Delos Reyes, Destiny Sione

Sitting (L to R) – Daphne Sunga, Mikhaela Mendoza, Anna Fifita (absent from photo)



Standing (L to R) – Rafael Delos Santos, Rajeet Patel, Zaid Pawaskar, Brooklyn Cassettari-Brown, Ted Tran, Nathaniel Guzman, Randall De Leon, Reuben Dela Cruz, Joshua Quispe

Sitting – Avishant Narayan

Hockey

Congratulations to Kia Critchley on her selection into the Sydney West Hockey Team. Kia will compete at the CHS Hockey Championships in late May, and we wish her the best of luck.

Baseball

Congratulations to Cooper Easthorpe who was named captain of the Sydney West Baseball team to compete at the CHS Championships. Unfortunately, this event was postponed due to the weather, and it is now scheduled to take place in August. We would like to wish Cooper the best of luck.

Basketball

Once again SMSHS competed very strongly at the Werrington Zone Basketball Gala Day. We had three teams in the competition with the boys finishing 1st and 2nd and girls finishing 2nd.

Congratulations to Harrison Turner, Kaelem Peterson, Ethan Pascual, Reuben Dela Cruz, David Mikhaiel, Brooklyn Cassettari-Brown, Jordan Paynting, Lyndon Romana, Jess Harrison, Grace Clarke, Alyssa Hamersam, Savannah Tanu and Nicolaine Velasquez on their selection in the Werrington Zone Basketball Team to compete at the Sydney West Championships.

Congratulations to Harrison Turner, Kaelem Petterson and Ethan Pascual who were also selected into the Sydney West team to compete at the NSWCHS Championships early in Term 2.

The boys and girls basketball teams have had great success in the knockout competition this term. They were victorious in their first three rounds of the knockout competition and qualified for the Sydney West Final 8 Gala Day. The boys played extremely well at the Gala Day and were crowned Sydney West Champions. They will now travel to the South Coast to play their next game.





<u>Back row</u> – Savannah Tanu, Moala Fifita, Grace Clarke, Anna Fifita

<u>Middle row</u> – Louise Sulit, Aaliyah Chhuy, Moniq Castanares, Alyssa Hamersma

<u>Front row</u> – Jess Harrison, Nicolaine Velasquez

<u>Back row</u> – Lyndon Romana, Brooklyn Cassettari-Brown, Harrison Turner, David Mikhaiel, Jordan Paynting, Ritesh Kayastha Faizaan Ahmad, Safeer Sheikh, Supercoach Adam Bernthaler

<u>Middle Row</u> – Saahib Singh, Sylvester Lie, Ralph Ferrer, Ronan Limguangco (bench duties), Harnoor Jagirdar, Ethan Pascual, Ronald Lorenzo

<u>Front row</u> – Kuda Musokaway, Aaron Vicedas (bench duties), Reuben Dela Cruz, Ben Vidad, Kaelem Petterson

Netball

The girls netball team were very competitive at the Werrington Zone Gala Day finishing second. The girls displayed fantastic skills and great sportsmanship.

Congratulations to Alexandra Fleming, Charlize Risse and Emily Snelling on their selection into the Werrington Zone team. Well done, girls.

Standing - Zoe Brison-Schroeder, Haylee Vella, Charlie Kenny, Alexandra Fleming, Jess Gallen, Sharanya Roy

Kneeling - Chloe Chetcuti, Charlize Risse, Emily Snelling



Gymnastics

Congratulations to Jasmine Footit who placed equal 1st on floor and 1st on vault at the Gymnastics State Championships. Jasmine was named State Champion Women's Artistic Gymnastics and will now go on to represent NSW at the National Championships in May. We wish her the best of luck.

Congratulations to Alysse Duffy who placed 1st in the Junior Under 22 International Tumbling State Championships.

Futsal

We entered two teams into the NSW Futsal Championships this year. Unfortunately, it wasn't our day at the competition; however, the boys had a great time and developed many new skills.





Cross Country

The Werrington Zone Cross Country was held on Wednesday 27 April. Our students competed very strongly with all of them qualifying to compete at the Sydney West Championships in Term 2.

Results from the day -

16 years girls - 1st Caitlyn Griggs

17 years girls - 1st Malakie Hammoud, 2nd Jess Gallen, 4th Chloe Chetcuti

18 years girls - 1st Kia Critchley, 2nd Charlotte Blaikie

17 years boys - 1st Bailey Hagarty, 2nd Daniel Gauci, 5th Brock Reed, 6th Gabriel Laygo

18 years boys - 1st Matthew Fava



Standing - Matthew Fava, Chloe Chetcuti, Caitlyn Griggs, Jess Gallen, Charlotte Blaikie, Gabriel Laygo, Daniel Gauci, Bailey Hagarty

Crouching - Malakie Hammoud, Kia Critchley, Brock Reed

Yours in sport

Jo Brines, Maree Phelps, Jesse Vassallo & Katelin Ellyard PDHPE Faculty

Introducing the Year 11 South Creek Production Team for 2022

Wareesha Nadeem

Hey there, my name is Wareesha Nadeem and I am one of the Year 11 new members of the SMSHS South Creek Magazine Production Team. Being a student with a strong passion for journalism, art, writing, photography, and editing, I was very delighted to hear about the magazine production team. I thought it would be a great idea to join this team as it would allow me to work on many new skills in writing and editing, spend time doing what I enjoy, and learn collaborative working. This would help me to take my mind off the stress of schoolwork and do



a bit of what I love. It is also a great way of participating in extracurricular activities and having experience in a range of new areas. I am very excited about this opportunity over the next two years, and I am looking forward to being a part of the team representing SMSHS in the community!

Samihah Ali



Hey St Marys! I'm Samihah, one of the new Year 11 members of South Creek, here to capture any memorable moments over 2022 and 2023. I've always had fun designing, editing, and brainstorming new ideas which is why I decided to join the team! Can't wait for you guys to see the new and upcoming issues for this year, they'll definitely be something to look forward to!

Jaiapar Singh

Hello there. I'm Jai, one of the new Year 11 members of the South Creek Production Team. I have always had an interest in aspects that members of South Creek Production Team are expected to do such as editing, photography, and most importantly journalism. I believe that my skills can further be honed by consistent participation by being part of this team. I very much look forward to being part of this team and being an integral part of the St Marys Senior High School community.



Our Staff Teams

Principal: Sally Smithard

School Council President: Sonia Matthews

School Captains: Jade D'Souza

Joanna Simeon

School Executive:

Deputy Principal (Year 12) Danielle Ervine Deputy Principal (Year 11) Leah Havord English Julie Robinson Mathematics Simone Pett Science (Rel) Andrew Mabey **Commercial Studies** Salochna Reddy HSIE Shara Walsh CAPA Nicole Bonfield TAS / Computing Matthew Topp Luigi Serra LOTE PDHPE (Rel) Joanne Brines Secondary Studies Liz Hemmings Learning and Wellbeing Melissa Jacka First Australians Leah Havord Business Manager (Acting) Rebecca Zinghini School Administrative Manager (Rel) Lynette Deuis

Student Advisers:

Year 12, Surnames A-G Wendi Kambolli Year 12, Surnames H-O Nicole Leona Year 12, Surnames P-Z Jesse Francis Year 11, Surnames A-G Sharon Francis Year 11, Surnames H-O Nicola Preston Year 11, Surnames P-Z Ellen Worgan

Learning Support: Margo Daly

Carmel Harriden Nicole Leong Carly McPherson

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

Swapnil Dey Arundhati Dhali Samihah Ali

Aron Diwa

Gourvika Kumar Aisha Mallick

Mariah Nicholopoulos

Khushi Patel Chloe Salarda

Cynthia Thai

Wareesha Nadeem

Jaiapar Singh

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

