



South Creek

St Marys Senior High School Magazine



Term 2, 2019



The South Creek Magazine is published once a term and celebrates St Marys Senior High School's values of inclusiveness; life-long learning; catering for the needs of all; clear learning outcomes; staff professional learning; independent student learning; school traditions; innovation; linking our classrooms to the wider community; integrity and ongoing evaluation of our practices.

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

SMSHS 30th Anniversary

In 1988 it was announced that St Marys High School would become the first Senior High School in NSW and this year marks the 30th anniversary of St Marys Senior High School.

The 1988 South Creek magazine discusses the vision for the new senior high school, which is to provide a learning environment unlike any other school. Where a broad curriculum is offered, students will have greater freedoms but a high level of maturity and self-discipline will also be required.

The planning and building works for the new school included the demolition of all weatherboard buildings and the building of a 100 seat lecture theatre, cafeteria and study facilities for the senior students.

The image on the right shows the lecture theatre under construction in 1989.

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Principal's Insights



Welcome to the second issue for 2019 of South Creek. 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 well as providing a look at the term we have just had, it is hoped that this publication will form part of the history of St Marys Senior High School and will be used by generations ahead as a point of reference.

Term two at St Marys commenced with a very successful musical, *In the Heights*. The talent of our students were showcased over six performances with many students assisting behind the scenes in a variety of roles. Thank you to Fatima and Michael who drove the production with support from staff across the school. A special thank you to Angela and her Hospitality team for their support over the six performances.

This year our enrolment timeframes were altered resulting in expressions of interests being moved forward to fall in line with enrolment timeframes of other schools. We received more application this year than we had received in the previous three years and thank all students for the time and effort they put in to their expressions of interest. Our enrolment panel has met and all successful and unsuccessful letters have been posted out informing applicants of the outcome. We look forward to meeting the HSC class of 2021.

I am always impressed at the level of talent in public schools across New South Wales and St Marys Senior High School is lucky enough to have so many students with talents across vast areas. Congratulations to those students who progressed from our athletics carnival to Werrington zone and who will now move to the Sydney West Regional carnival.

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 invite you to this edition of South Creek for 2019.

Sally Smithard
Principal

Athletics Carnival 2019

On a cold morning on the 3rd of June, we had our annual Athletics Carnival. The early gloomy weather did not darken our fantastic day full of colour, fun and excitement. The sun decided to make an appearance, brightening the moods and motivation of students to get involved in the variety of events on offer. Students are to be commended on the great and bold use of Cluster colours, and also the effort of “squad” coordinating costumes. We saw a range of events across the day, in both novelty and competitive aspects, field and track. A number of records were broken on the day, with special congratulations going to students, Linae Williams, Chloe Appleby, Sarah Woods, Joshua Rodgers, Violet Wetsteyn, Olivia Hoffman, Yule Kwon, Michael Harvey, Jordan Peterson and Jacob Botros.

The competition between Clusters seen prolifically at the Swimming Carnival was again on show in the enthusiasm of students to get involved and earn points. The egg and spoon relay and sack races were the opportunity to show the sheer talent of some students, who were determined for victory. This great teamwork and collaboration highlights the great comradery we have at St Marys. A regretful congratulations also goes to Year 11 who defeated Year 12 by a significant margin in 12,692 points to 380 points.

CLUSTER RESULTS:

1st – Cluster 9

2nd – Cluster 6

3rd – Cluster 7

4th – Cluster 5

5th – Cluster 8

6th – Cluster 3

7th – Cluster 2



The Athletics Carnival overall was a wonderful day, and a great opportunity to spend the day with friends and peers. A special thanks goes to all the students who attended on the day and participated, not only in the competitive races, but also those who got involved in the fun novelty events. A big thank you also goes to Jo Brines and assisting teachers and students who helped make the day possible and enjoyable for all those in attendance.

Mackenzie Pelle
Year 12 2019



Welcome Back from the Mathematics Faculty

“I think it is time for some pi!”



Latha Deo

2019 has brought some changes for the Mathematics Faculty as we embrace the wonder of a new year. With the retirement of two long serving, experienced teachers, Margaret Wood and Carmen Lloyd, our faculty has welcomed two new teachers to St Marys Senior High School. Although it is sad to say goodbye to amazing teachers that have touched the lives of many students and teachers, this year we welcome Reuben De Rooy from Bass High School and Latha Deo from Doonside Technology High School. They have both enjoyed their first term teaching at St Marys Senior High School and are looking forward to getting to know their students.



Reuben De Rooy



This year also brings new challenges for all levels of mathematics with the introduction of the new stage 6 syllabus for the Calculus-based course for Year 11 and Mathematics Standard for Year 12. Teachers have been working hard creating new resources to ensure their students are given quality teaching and learning opportunities at St Marys Senior High School.

Late last term at the St Marys Senior High School Open Evening, the Mathematics Faculty welcomed possible future students to the school. It was great to have a chat with these young people and their parents.



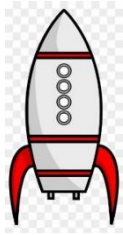
With assessment tasks coming and going, students should always remember,

“Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently”
Henry Ford

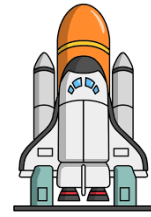
Never fear making a mistake, the problem only comes from not learning from it.
The Mathematics Faculty

Mente Manuque – With mind and hand

South Pacific Regional Robotics Tournament



FIRST
ROBOTICS
COMPETITION



The FIRST Robotics Competition was announced on January 5 for the 2019 competition year. The theme DESTINATION: DEEP SPACE takes place on the planet Primus where two alliances compete to gather cargo pods and repair their spaceships during sandstorms before returning to their hab platform to climb at the end of the match.

Each round takes two minutes and thirty seconds, with the first fifteen seconds played either autonomously or with the robot operators using video to control their robots through a sand storm.

This is the thirtieth season of *FIRST*® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). High school teams design and construct a robot to best achieve the game goals in six weeks and then compete at regional and national competitions.

St Marys has been involved with the competition since 2012 and has participated in the FRC (*FIRST*® Robotics Competition) and FTC (*FIRST*® Technical Challenge) each year. Team 4614 (St Marys) and their robot “Big Cheese” took part in the South Pacific regional tournament which was held at Sydney Olympic Park from the 15th to the 17th March. There were 62 teams from across Australia and around the world from places such as China, USA, Taiwan and many more.

Team 4614 entered the competition with hopes of meeting their goal of implementing a smart and effective game strategy with a robust robot and just having a lot of fun. After a series of 83 qualification matches, with randomly selected alliances, the top eight teams have the opportunity to pick alliance members for the quarterfinal matches. St Marys team 4614 (Purple Monkey Dishwasher) ranked 10th from a field of 62 teams and was among the final eight teams for the play off in the finals. St Marys graciously accepted to Captain the sixth alliance, and proudly took the opportunity to ally with two fellow FIRST teams, Team 4270 – Crusaders from Honolulu Hawaii and Team 6996 – The Koalafied – Prembroke School, Adelaide. Needless to say the alliance were ecstatic and took advantage of the planning time to come up with effective strategies for the quarter finals. Unfortunately, the alliance was not successful in the play offs, a loss for the history books. Team 4614 have come away from this tournament knowing that a good game strategy is one way to beat a technically much superior alliance. At the event the students were amazing, their cooperative spirit, team work, friendliness and support for all they met was just outstanding. Team 4614 are now planning game strategies and modifications to their robot for the next tournament in July 26th, 27th and 28th “Duel Down Under” at Macquarie University.

Team 4614 are always looking for new team members especially from Year 11. The really cool thing about *FIRST*® Robotics Competition is.....**all skill**



Mente Manuque – With mind and hand

levels are welcomed and needed, technical or non-technical. All student team members are encouraged to bring any skills they already have, like programming, electronics, metalworking, graphic design, web creation, public speaking, videography, sewing and many more. *Team 4164 welcomes all new members, with or without special skills.*

Come along and join us, bring your skills, learn new skills and enjoy socialising with the team. New members are always welcome so come along and have some fun with us. Team 4614 meets every Monday and Friday after period 4 (Room AR1015).



A very big thank to Macquarie University for their sponsorship of Team 4164 and the Senior Executive and Staff at St Marys Senior High School for their encouragement and support.

Team 4270 – Crusaders – Honolulu Hawaii

Team 4614 – Purple Monkey Dishwasher - St Mary Senior High School

Team 6996 – The Koalafied – Prembroke School, Adelaide

Paul Fante
Robotics Club Co-ordinator

Mente Manuque – With mind and hand

In The Heights: A Review

St Marys Senior High performed the school's first full-scale musical production in thirteen years, *In the Heights*, earlier this term. The production ran from the 1st of May to the 4th of May and was witnessed by many members of the school community, students and teachers from a variety of other schools as well as members of the public.

The hours of work that the cast, crew and teachers dedicated to the production as well as their extraordinary talents were all evident in the quality of their performances and their ability to captivate the audience song after song.

Members of the audience had countless praises for the production:

"I thought the musical was very heartwarming and a real tear-jerker. It really made us understand the importance of family and diversity and understanding one another. The cast portrayed the characters very well."

Iris Merdegia

"It was a great experience watching the students of this school develop and immerse themselves into the characters that they played. Their work ethic is a representation of the school's spirit and how we value the arts in not only our education but also our identity."

Marvin Urbano

Furthermore, there is much appraisal to be said about the production setting, especially the set-up of the stage and how the cast was able to involve audiences in an depth experience. The set dressing was embellished with special touches like projections, moveable props (that piragua cart, courteously managed by the tuneful Grant Perez!) and of course the incredible hairdressing station. These physical aspects of the musical were authentically produced. This exemplified the cast and teachers' hard work.

Although Patrice (co-writer), and I watched the Year eleven cast, we were not deprived of talent. In any case, it was refreshing to see our younger grade perform in such a daunting setting. We were thankful enough to experience our fellow Year twelves sing and dance too. The entire cast was amazing in making sure there wasn't a dull moment. It truly takes such a special bunch of students to work so readily for a musical that consumes much of one's time. Each individual who sang, danced, and played an instrument occupied a huge role in ensuring the harmony of every performance. Special mention to JC Ogoy who had us laughing the entire night with his hundreds of costume changes.

Staff members must also be commended as their talents and dedication to this project guided the cast and crew in producing amazing performances show after show. This includes the formidable combination of Fatima De Assis, Michael Nolan and Donna Sayah — who dedicated vast amounts of time and effort to choreograph and produce such an enjoyable show. Their expertise in different areas of the creative industry evidently shone through the students' performances. The entire production team, as well as the Arts Faculty - also comprising of: Luigi Serra, Sharon Francis, Janette Little-John, Benita Maby, Charlene Ebjer, Nicole Bonfield, Sharon Lang, Daniella Delfin, the Orchestra and the Entertainment Student Team must be commended on their teamwork and the evidence of their hard-work!

Each individual who offered help and participated during the making of this show should feel absolutely proud as a sacrifice of their own personal time truly created a beautiful experience for each and every patron who viewed the production. This was truly a celebration for the school and of its diversity. What a wonderful 30th anniversary for our community!

Patrice Clemente and Christine Dela Cruz
Year 12 2019



Creativity Blossoms in the Library



The focus in the library this term has been on providing opportunities for students to develop their creative skills.

Pictured to the left, Kyla King, Lady Emery Emperado, Samatha Zhungu, Eden Sialeipata and Nathan Luk are making some amazing constructions out of the lego available in the library for the students to use.

Students also have the opportunity to create their own picture book and enter the annual SMSHS picture book competition. This activity is in support of Children's Book Week, which will be in week 6 Term 3. The theme for book week this year is "Reading is my Secret Power" and the picture book entries should try to incorporate this theme. All entries must be submitted by the last day of term, Friday 5th July. The award ceremony for the competition will take place on Thursday 29th August at recess.

We were very fortunate to have local author, Penny Reeve, visit the school and facilitate a workshop on the processes involved in creating picture books. Through the workshop, the students became more aware of the interconnection between the texts and the images in conveying the author's message and that the intended audience of these complex texts is not just younger children. Penny's presentation provided scaffolding and support for those students interested in entering the picture book competition.



Penny Reeve also spoke to interested students at recess about her new Young Adult novel *Out of the Cages*, which is available to borrow from the library. Her novel is set in Nepal and addresses the issues around human trafficking and rehabilitation. In her presentation she discussed her inspiration for the novel and her hope that by addressing these topics through her fictional text, readers will be inspired to confront these conditions and create a better world for all.

MSA Day

On May the 30th the Muslim Student Association organised a fundraiser for the MATW project. The MATW or Muslims Around The World Project was founded by the late Ali Banat in 2015 during his battle with cancer. The organisations main focus is to provide relief and aid to poverty-stricken communities worldwide. The MSA wanted to support this organisation as it was during the holy month of Ramadan which is a time where everyone is encouraged to be more charitable.

In order to raise money for this amazing organisation they made a mufti day for everyone to wear all different colours as they wanted to celebrate diversity. They also organised henna stalls so you could get different henna tattoos for a donation. The designs and tattoos were beautiful, and everyone welcomed the chance to take part in another culture.

This day saw the school community recognizing and accepting the Muslim culture. Overall from the school's involvement, the MSA and its members are proud to announce that they raised \$1200 from this event. Overall this day was an amazing success and the MSA wants to say thank you to all those that participated.

Tara Neilsen
Year 11 2019



Bring It On!

Bring It On is about bringing people together to work collaboratively to form a dance in an urban/hip-hop style. Our team aims to have an amazing set to perform for a competition, and work as a team to get the job done. We have a lot of fun but are also productive, because we enjoy dancing together and can't wait to perform in front of and against other schools.



St Mary's Senior High, Bring It On dance team have been working really hard on dance sets, with the help of our hardworking team leaders.

Sydney Heat 2 will take place at Blacktown Leisure center on Saturday 22 June and we will be representing St Marys Senior High proudly at 7pm.

Stay tuned for the results from Heat 2!

By Amber Iles, Georgia Miller, Isabella Newman, Naomi Colburn

Youth Change Makers Day



Tom Huggett and Mohammad Rifai
pictured with Jane Goodal

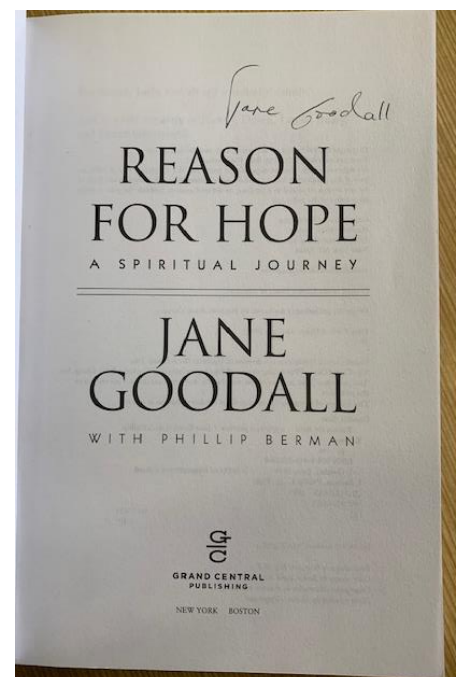
On May 7th, a few of our lucky St Marys students along with other schools were chosen to attend the 'Compassionate Leadership and Effective Advocacy Conference' at Macquarie University, hosted by the Jane Goodall Institute Australia and the Macquarie University Centre for Environmental Law.

This program provided us the opportunity to select two workshops that strengthen our understanding of the world around us. This enlightens our ability to strive for humanitarian action by demonstrating our knowledge to others. The workshops included topics such as Climate Justice, Indigenous Environmental Activism, Illegal Wildlife Trade, and The Legal Rights of Nature. Being surrounded by empowered youth and informed individuals has been incredibly uplifting and is proof that humanity is stronger together when we fight for what is right.

These outstanding lectures were followed by a roundtable featuring Dr Jane and other leaders in sustainability. They graced the student audience with their inspiration and wisdom, discussing the many approaches we can take to combat serious environmental concerns; issues such as misinformation, how our legal system could change for the better, having effective advocacy, future projects and how to cope with hopelessness.

One piece of advice that struck me the most, is how we treat those who are unaware of injustices in the world; every generation learns how to view the world in their own way. In order to achieve effective activism, we must first show compassion to society's way of being - we cannot judge people on their individual behaviour, otherwise no one would listen. Ignoring someone's opinions simply because they oppose yours is not demonstrating an effective leader. If you don't talk to them, how do you expect them to change? We have our own individual perspectives, and so do others. If we listen and maintain compassion, it might educate us in finding solutions we never thought possible. For more inspiration, Dr. Jane has giving our school a copy of her book "Reasons for Hope" and can be borrowed from the school library.

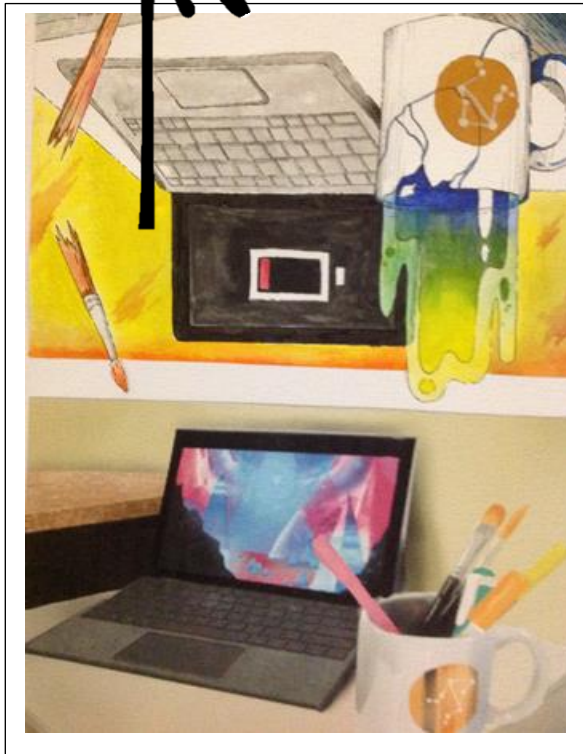
Iris Meredigia
Year 12 2019



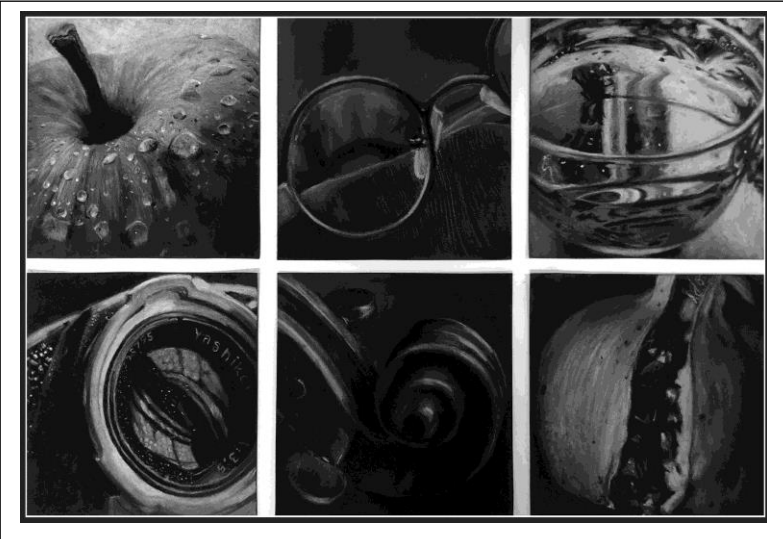


“STILL ENOUGH” Library Exhibition

If you haven't had a chance to see the “Still Enough” exhibition I recommend you do as the skill and creative prowess of our Year 11 Visual Arts student are now on show. Students have been studying the “Vanitas”, Modernism and the impact of modernity on artist and their innovative practices to inform their own practices of the Still Life genre. The exhibition is also a chance for the Year 12 Curatorial team to put into practice their understanding of showcasing works for display before they need to consider their own Bodies of Work in the HSC. The role of the team is to choose the works, prepare them for display (Framing) and then display the works. As a team they are required to work collaboratively and creatively to put the exhibitions together. They are also responsible for choosing two works based on outstanding artmaking practice and Curators Choice award. This year the team has recognised Kyle Foufas for Best Practice and Zac Reeve for Curator's Choice, but for your say, head on down to the library and cast your vote.



Queeny Kaivelata



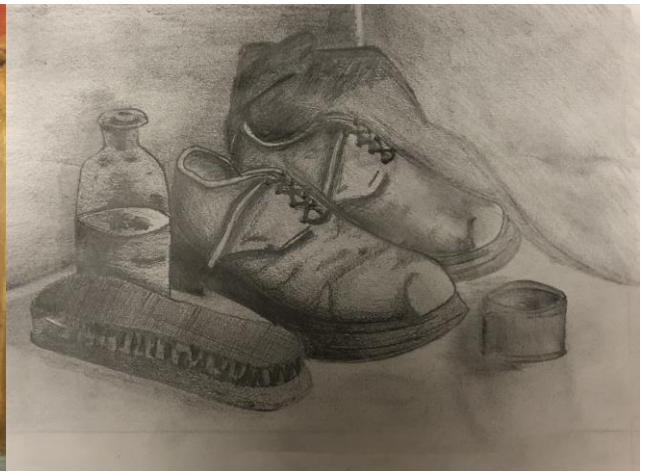
Kyle Foufas



Zac Reeve



Morgan Iddles



Molly Godsell



Tea' Donovan



Victoria Harry



Lily Walton

HSC Intensive Studio Practice @ National Art School

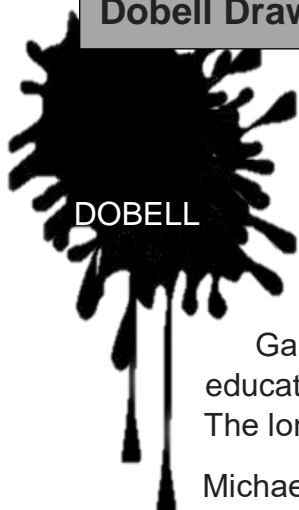
We have two Year 11 Visual Arts students giving up their holidays to attend National Art School HSC Intensive Studio Practice this year. The NAS HSC Intensive Studio Practice is endorsed by the NSW Education Standards Authority and has been offered by NAS to Year 11 Visual Arts students in all government and non-government high schools since 2000.

During the July holidays the NAS HSC Intensive Studio Practice allows student to work within a specialised discipline using a broad range of media and art making processes to refine their ability to interpret and evaluate their own and others' artworks.

Later in the October holidays students engaged in sustained critical reflection and evaluation, gaining practical skills in preparing for, mounting and curating an exhibition. Remy Hannan and Emma Cutts worked very hard at the end of Term One to pull together a portfolio for the submission and at the commencement of Term Two were informed that their submissions were successful, so if you see these ladies around congratulate them on their efforts.



Dobell Drawing School Student Reflections



Students reflect on their experience at the Dobell Drawing School at the National Art School:

Jennifer Greenaway: "I thoroughly enjoyed my time at the National Art School. Being surrounded by likeminded people in a beautiful area of Sydney was an amazing experience."

Gabriel Cacapit: "The Dobell Art School was a wonderful experience, to be educated by professionals and to meet new people with the same interests in art. The long trip from St Marys was well worth it."

Michael Tan: "Spending four full days at the National Art School (Dobell) seemed long, although the opportunity to participate and experience such an event has really helped with developing my skills as an art student. Initially questioning what more could I learn, I quickly realised the smaller concepts in relation to my practical abilities that are still able to be worked upon. Teaching us to always step back and re-evaluate our works, spending a few days dedicated to learning in an environment supported by peers with similar mindsets, really sets the atmosphere for a good time with nothing to lose."



Grant Perez and Josh Obliga at Dobbell Drawing School National Art School 2018

In Concert

In Week 4, over 50 music students from Year 11 and Year 12 performed as part of the 800-voice mass choir at the Secondary Schools Choral Concert, "In Concert" at the Sydney Town Hall. In Concert is an impressive choral and instrumental music showcase featuring Australia's premier Public Schools Music Ensembles and the Combined Secondary Schools Choir at the beautiful Sydney Town Hall and this featured guest artist, Casey Donovan. Students performed music from the movies including Double Trouble from Harry Potter and Duel of The Fates from Star Wars, three spirituals with orchestra and soloists, as well as two of Casey's hits Listen With Your Heart and the Australian classic You're The Voice.



Focus On Music

In Week 2 our Year 12 music students had the opportunity to present part of their intended HSC program for friends and family in the school's Multi-Purpose Centre. This event gives our students the chance to develop their performances ready for their Trials in Week 9 and Higher School Certificate practical examinations in Term 3. This event also gave our Year 11 Entertainment students the chance to show their skills in technical operations as their first stand-alone internal work placement.



Belvoir St Theatre Drama Workshops

On Friday, May 10th the Year 11 and Year 12 Drama classes engaged in extensive, constructive workshops run by a Belvoir Theatre Company representative, Nell Ranney. The workshops focussed on the advancement of dramatic performance techniques and conventions, and the introduction of activities to aid the creation of developed, theatrical performances. Students were encouraged to fully immerse themselves in these activities, strengthening bonds and relationships that consequently translated into the performance-based activities.

The connection between performers was significantly and visibly improved, with classmates feeling an interconnected, non-verbal appreciation for their movements and decisive actions that ultimately demonstrated an immediate refinement and cultivation of raw, theatrical talents and personalities. Furthermore, value and appreciation for iconic, pronounced dramatic pieces was deepened and widened, with an introductory activity solely focussed on expanding students' knowledge of performative works and media. Perhaps most notably, students were equipped with an array of practises that benefitted the shared creative psyche of the classes.

Our Belvoir representative offered a multitude of dramatic exercises used professionally in the industry, to motivate and inspire creative thinking, to increase total character immersion, and furthermore develop or evolve performance ideas and concepts. A popularly received activity included the 'School-of-Fish' which involved students forming a diamond shape and mirroring one-another's movements in perfect synchronisation, switching 'leaders' throughout; not only testing the performer's internal metronomic clock, but also the expanse to one's imaginative abilities regarding the improvisation and physical actualisation of new, unique, and original movements and gesticulations under pressure.

Additionally, another well-received activity included the 'Speed Writing Exercises', which involved students writing prompted imaginative, narrative pieces that were then used as stimulus for dramatic tableaus and acted short skits. This activity encouraged students to access a more theoretical aspect of dramatic thought, and then physicalise this into a practical demonstration. This activity will prove a vital resource in the Year 12 Drama HSC when they are called to use experiential workshops and classwork as evidence for their essays. Furthermore, this activity made students aware of methods of developing physical dramatic pieces while employing other literary, or theoretical strengths; emphasising the importance of using the full extent to everyone's diverse skillset; exhibiting how all talents and abilities can be utilised in the performance creation process. This workshop has since proven to have a successful impact on students, especially with Year 12 Drama students who have been able to employ these activities into the constructive process for their HSC Group Project, as they not only improve their performative abilities, but also deepen the driving values and underlying messages of their pieces.

The entire Drama cohort is very thankful to our Head Teacher of the CAPA faculty, and furthermore the Belvoir representative who were able to organise and execute this successful, and highly advantageous workshop; which proved a universally enjoyable and valuable experience.

Angelique Minas
Year 12 2019



ASMR High Schools Career Day at the Garvan Institute

This year, SMSHS students were invited to attend the Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) High Schools Career Day event, which was held at the Garvan Institute for Medical Research in Sydney.

The goal of this event was to showcase a range of career opportunities in the health and medical sector to high school students from around Sydney. The speakers included:



- Mr Greg Watkins (*Biomedical Engineering PhD Candidate*, University of Sydney)
- Dr Nural Cokcetin (*Postdoctoral Researcher*, Institute of Infection, Immunity and Innovation/University of Technology Sydney)
- Associate Professor Paul Baldock (*Group Leader- Skeletal Metabolism*, Garvan Institute of Medical Research)
- Ms Athina Manakas (*PhD Candidate and Fulbright Scholarship Recipient*, University of Sydney. *Medical student*, Australian National University)
- Ms Rachelle Balez (*PhD Candidate*, University of Wollongong. Selected for 2018 Homeward Bound Women in Science leadership initiative)
- Dr Kym Mina (*Director- Genetics*, Douglass Hanly Moir Pathology)
- Mr Aaron Adonopulos (*Medical student*, University of Sydney)

Each scientist spoke of their journey to reach their present destination, their medical research areas to date and their aspirations for the future. Their research varied greatly, from developing new metrics to improve speech synthesis for the cochlear implant recipients, to the medicinal value of raw pure honey both as an antimicrobial and prebiotic molecule; from stem cell research into neurodegenerative disease to understanding the biology of bone cells, also identifying the communication pathways that exist between these cells and other organs of the body. Our students were inspired by each of the speakers' enthusiasm for science and were given opportunity to ask questions of each scientist both as individuals after each presentation and later as a panel.

This was an extremely valuable experience for our Year 12 Investigating Science, Extension Science and interested science students, and hope that we will be invited to attend this inspirational event in 2020.

Year 11 Investigating Science

In May, the Year 11 Investigating Science students visited CMRI (Children's Medical Research Institute, Westmead) and WCH (Westmead Children's Hospital), to view medical professionals conducting scientific and clinical investigations. An introductory lecture enlightened students on the many areas of research at CMRI, and the many links to the genetic code of DNA. The students were immersed in current scientific methodologies and cutting edge technologies employed by medical scientists. Lead scientists in a number of different ongoing projects at CMRI presented their studies to our students, demonstrating their adherence to scientific method. Their tour included:

- ProCan – a world first cancer research initiative to crack the genetic code of cancer cells which includes development of new technologies
- Investigation into the reduction of the harmful effect of cancer treatments on cells other than cancer cells
- A past student from SMSHS working in the field of Bio Molecular Chemistry outlined her investigation of genetic transfers using various bacteria, and invited the students to view her work space

At WCH, students were guided through various areas of the hospital by very knowledgeable volunteers. Students were given ample opportunity to ask questions throughout the tour.

Next term, the Year 11 Investigating Science students will be fundraising for CMRI as part of their Depth Study hours. This will allow the students to experience the funding issues that research scientists endure, first hand.

Thank you to the staff at CMRI and WCH for a very interesting and inspiring excursion.



Year 12 Biology Excursion

On the 4th and 5th of June 2019, Year 12 Biology made their way to the UNSW Museum of Human Diseases as part of their Depth Study. The freezing wind and rain did not deter the spirits of students but they gratefully welcomed the warmth upon entering the museum. The cohort was divided into two groups, each one going to different activities.

The Museum staff facilitated a 30-40 minute presentation regarding identifications of disease, prevalence of diseases. This strengthened their understanding of case studies in Science. With the Museum exhibiting over 2500 disease human tissue specimens, the sight was confronting and most of the time, not a sight for sore eyes. The initial shock was replaced with awe as students viewed the diseases displayed.

It didn't stop there though as student ambassadors presented their thoughts and advice to those who wish to apply to UNSW or other universities. Friendly and willing, the ambassadors welcomed questions about the pathways, courses UNSW offers as well as offered insights on making new friends, study tips and involvement in clubs/societies.

Not only did this visit help Year 12 Biology inform and challenge them about their lifestyle choices, it also gave us an insight into university life for those who wish to pursue further education. Dare I say, killing two birds with one stone?

Regina Laxamana
Year 12 2019



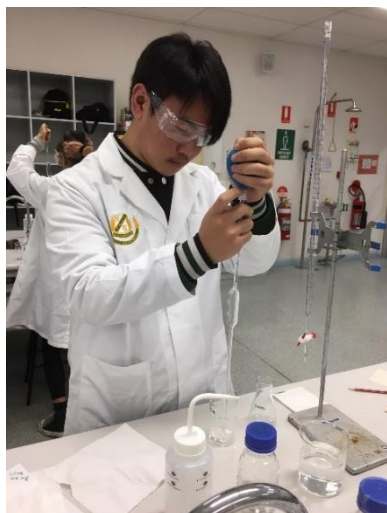
2019 SMSHS Titration Team

2019 has been a terrific year for the St Marys Senior High School Titration Team. Many of our Year 12 Chemistry students were involved in this program, developing their skills in titration, calculation and working as a team, to become highly competitive in this competition. These students attended regular tutorials before school on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings throughout terms one and up to and including week seven of term two.

Twenty-five students were selected to compete in the NSW Titration Competition in eight teams of three and one reserve. Our venue was Western Sydney University Hawkesbury Campus, and our placings were 4th 6th and 7th of the first seven places announced. One of our students achieved a perfect score and another was 1 mark off; truly amazing.

The Titration Team has been developed as a Science Leadership Program, and members are given the opportunity in class to teach their peers 'the art of titration' when this area of analytical chemistry is covered in the Year 12 Chemistry Syllabus.

All of our students involved in the Titration Team have demonstrated great commitment to this successful and valuable program, and must be commended on their efforts for 2019.



Mente Manuque – With mind and hand

Pipe Band Prowess

Congratulations to Clare Adamson in Year 11 who went to New Zealand to compete in a national music competition. Clare competed at the New Zealand National Pipe Band held in Dunedin Championships in Grade 3. For those that don't know a lot about pipe bands, they consist of bagpipes, snare drums, tenor drums and bass drums. Clare plays the bass and tenor drums.

This competition is held once a year and brings together the best pipe bands from around New Zealand and Australia. Clare played with Manawatu Scottish Pipe Band, who are based in Palmerston North on the North Island of New Zealand. They came 2nd in their grade, as well as 2nd best in the drum corps. Congratulations Clare!



SPORTS WRAP UP

It has been another busy term of sports. We have had many students excelling in both individual and team sports. I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff for coaching these teams and the staff members who contribute by covering classes when our coaches are out at competitions. I know our students appreciate everything we do for them.

Swimming

Our swimmers continued to dominate in the pool at the Sydney West Swimming Championships held in March. Some standout performances were,

Megan Cooper- 1st 100m Butterfly
1st 50m Freestyle
1st 100m Freestyle
1st 200m Freestyle
1st 100m Breastroke
1st 100m Backstroke
1st 200m Individual Medley
16 years girls age champion

Teone Fava – 1st 100m Breastroke
2nd 200m Individual Medley
3rd 100m Butterfly

Brianna Archer-Fisher – 2nd 100m Backstroke
2nd 50m Freestyle
3rd 100m Freestyle

Angus Bolton – 1st 100m Backstroke
2nd 100m Breastroke

Megan Cooper, Teone Fava, Brianna Archer-Fisher and Trinity Fuller –
1st 4 X 50m Relay
1st 4 X 50m Medley Relay

All swimmers qualified to compete at the NSWCHS Swimming Championships in April. Angus Bolton could not attend due to prior competition commitments. Standout performances at the competition were Megan Cooper – 2nd in the 100m freestyle and the 4 girls (Megan, Teone, Brianna and Trinity) – 2nd in the 4 X 50m relay.

All girls then competed at the NSW All Swimming Championships in May. All swimmers should be extremely proud of their achievements this year.



Touch Football

The Werrington Zone Touch Football Gala Day was cancelled this year due to rain. The zone team then had to be selected from paper trials. We had 8 students selected into the teams to compete at the Sydney West Championships. Congratulations to Alison Gallen, Emma McCahon, I.D., Sophie Robson, Chloe Appleby, Rebecca Fawkes, Blake Bennett and Kevin Andrews.

Boys Soccer

The boys' soccer team competed very strongly at the Werrington Zone Gala Day, going through the day undefeated.



Congratulations to Kusi Boamah, Vincent D'Ermilio, Oliver Clancy and Jacob Botros on their selection into the Werrington Zone team who competed at the CHS Championships.



Congratulations to Jacob Botros who was also selected into the Sydney West team to compete at the CHS Championships.

Netball

We had so many talented netball girls this year that we entered 2 teams into the Werrington Zone Gala Day. One team was undefeated and named Zone Champions and the other team were runners up.

Congratulations to the following girls who were then selected into the Werrington Zone team to compete at the Sydney West Championships – Violet Wetsteyn, Abbey Gordon, Sophie Robson, Alison Gallen, Laura Carpenter, Hayley Barsby, Ellersae Martin-Chase and Tegan Dunn.

The Sydney West Championships were held on the 28th March and the Werrington Zone girls played exceptionally well taking out the title of Sydney West Champions. Congratulations to Violet Wetsteyn who was then selected into the Sydney West team and then further impressed selectors to be chosen to part of the Combined High Schools team to compete at the NSW All Schools Championships. Congratulations Violet.

The girls have also performed extremely well in the Sydney West Knockout Competition. They won their first game against Wyndham College and then progressed to the final 16 knockout gala day. After a number of highly competitive matches the girls were named Sydney West Champions. They will now be competing at the CHS Knockout Championships to be held in Woolongong in August. Good luck girls.



Fast Five Netball

This year we entered two teams into the Fast Five Netball Competition. This is a mixed team with some variations to the traditional netball rules. There are 'shooting zone' where players can choose to shoot to get 1, 2 or 3 points for the shot and a 'power play' where all points scored by the team in that time are doubled. The students had a great time and would definitely play it again.





Zone Athletics

The Werrington Zone Athletics Carnival was held on the 18th and 19th June at Blair Oval. We had a record number of students representing St Marys Senior at the carnival which was great to see.

Some standout performance included –

16 years

Joshua Rodgers - 1st triple jump
1st high jump
1st long jump
1st 100m
1st hurdles



Linae Williams – 1st high jump,
1st 100m
1st 200m
1st 400m
1st hurdles
16 years girls age champion

Sarah Woods – 1st triple jump
1st long jump

Chloe Appleby – 1st 1500m

17 years

Niran Ravikumar - 1st 800m,
1st 1500m
1st 3000m

Violet Wetsteyn – 1st 17 years discus
1st javelin
1st shot put

Olivia Hoffman – 1st triple jump

Caitlin Brines – 1st high jump

Emma Bonwick – 1st 1500m

Jacob Botros – 1st high jump

Tirth Amin – 1st discus

Kevin Andrews – 1st 400m



Michael Harvey, Yul Kwon, Jordan Petersen, Joshua Rodgers –
1st 4 X 100m relay

These students will be representing Werrington Zone at the Sydney West Athletics Carnival next term.

Good luck to all.

Lianna Davidson of Year 11 is one talented athlete. Earlier in the year, Lianna competed at the Australian Athletics Championships. Lianna won silver in the under 20's javelin and gold in the under 18's javelin with a massive throw of 54.61m (1m past the record). Lianna will now represent Australia at the Oceania Championships. Congratulations and good luck Lianna.



Water Polo

Congratulations to Angus Bolton who has been selected into the Sydney West water polo team to play at the CHS Championships. Good luck Angus!

Congratulations to Flynn Moss on being selected in the Australian All Schools Girls Team for Water Polo!



Werrington Zone Cross Country

The Werrington Zone Cross Country was held on Tuesday 7th May at the Sydney International Regatta Centre. We had 9 students competing and all students qualified to represent the zone at the Sydney West Cross Country Carnival.

The results from the Zone Cross Country are as follows –

Mente Manuque – With mind and hand

Linae Williams – 1st 16 years girls

Chloe Appleby – 2nd 16 years girls

Claire Wilkes – 8th 16 years girls

Vasant Taragambadi – 6th 16 years boys

Joshua Rodgers – 9th 16 years boys

Niran Ravikumar – 1st 17 years boys

Blake Bennett – 3rd 17 years boys

Emma Bonwick – 1st 17 years girls

Caitlin Brines – 3rd 18 years girls

The Sydney West Cross Country was held on the 12th June at Eastern Creek Raceway. Athletes at this level are highly competitive and our students gave it their best. Congratulations to Niran Ravikumar who came in 5th and will be competing at the NSW All Schools Cross Country in late July. Good luck Niran.



Congratulations to Thomas Tyrrell who placed first in submission grappling in the NSW Aus Sub. This is the only tournament for 15-17 years under 85 kg.



Congratulations to Emma Bonwick who won gold at the Western Sydney XC Mountain Bike Championships.



Our Staff Teams

Principal:	Sally Smithard
School Leadership Team:	
- Deputy Principal (Year 11)	Danielle Ervine
- Deputy Principal (Year 12 - Rel)	Leah Havord
- English	Julie Robinson
- Mathematics	Simone Pett
- Science	Lidija Radovancevic
- Commercial Studies (Rel)	Salochna Reddy
- HSIE (Rel)	Rebecca Langham
- CAPA	Nicole Bonfield
- Computing	Matthew Topp
- LOTE	Luigi Serra
- TAS/PDHPE (Rel)	Angela Lievore
- Secondary Studies	Liz Hemmings
- Student Services (Rel)	Peta Bailey
- First Australians	Leah Havord
- Sport and Recreation	Joanne Brines
- School Administrative Manager	Rebecca Zinghini
Student Advisers:	
- Year 12, Surnames A-G	Mitchell Baker
- Year 12, Surnames H-O	Lyn Tuckwell
- Year 12, Surnames P-Z	Jesse Vassallo
- Year 11, Surnames A-G	Luigi Serra
- Year 11, Surnames H-O	Andrew Mabey
- Year 11, Surnames P-Z	Nicola Preston
Learning Support:	Carmel Harriden Dianne Pyne Nicole Leong
Careers Adviser:	Lyn Tuckwell

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