

## From the Principal's Desk – Term 1 Week 7 2022

Dear parents and carers,

We have faced so much together this term in dealing with COVID safeguards in returning to school and the widespread local flooding over the past weeks. With this new challenge, unlike many other schools and communities in NSW, there has been minimal storm damage, with work already underway to repair affected learning spaces.

### International Women's Day

We all set goals for ourselves, and we work hard to achieve those goals. Recognising and celebrating success is a very powerful motivator for individuals and teams because it reinforces the meaning behind all that hard work, and it shows appreciation for the achievements. This, in turn, boosts our self-esteem and it motivates us to take the next step towards achieving the next goal.

With this understanding at the forefront of all that we do, International Women's Day is a time to celebrate women's achievements, to raise awareness of the role women play in society, as well women's empowerment in shaping their future. A big thank you to Ms Porter and our school captain Evana Jabraeel, senior prefects Rood Dawood and Santasia Tuavao and school prefect Ammar Ibrahim for sharing with the school community on assembly this week their understandings of the importance of International Women's Day.

### Sporting Achievement

Our **RISE** core values, Respect, Inspire, Safe and Excel reflect our school's attitudes, beliefs, and ideals. At the heart of the school to foster a sense of purpose and clarity is the core value Excel. When we Excel, we are "always trying to do better in fields of endeavour". Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in Bernera Zone sporting teams to compete in Sydney South West tournaments in the upcoming weeks.

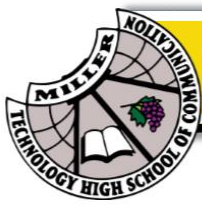
Open Girls Basketball: Danielle Dunlop, Grace Ah Cheung and Santasia Tuavao.

Open Girls Netball: Danielle Dunlop and Grace Ah Cheung.

Boys U15 Years Rugby League: Isaac Orji and Solomon Falefata.

With excellence in the sporting arena never an accident, but the result of intelligent effort, congratulations to Danielle Dunlop and Grace Ah Cheung on your selection in the Sydney South West Girls Open Volleyball team to compete in the Combined High School Championships later this term.

The spirit, the will to win, and the will to excel were further highlighted by Miller students at the recent Bernera Zone Swimming Carnival. Congratulations Kerem Tuncbilek on being capped 13 Years Boys Age Champion, with Lena Hasouni from the IEC a narrow second in the race for the 15 Years Girls Age Championship.



## Student Leadership

At Miller there are many opportunities outside of the classroom, some on-going that students can become involved in. One of those opportunities for students to grow – academically, creatively and socially to meet life's challenges with confidence and assurance is being an active member of the Student Representative Council (SRC).

In acknowledging our democratic values, I would like to recognise all the students who stepped-up to take on the challenge to deliver a speech to staff and their peers during our recent SRC elections.

The speeches were well prepared with students, reflecting on their life experiences and understandings of what makes an effective student leader. In conversations with the newly elected SRC members last week, they are very excited about being elected and are looking forward to the induction ceremony to be conducted in week 8. A big thank you to Ms Vukic, Ms Atkins, Ms Pollard and Ms Northcott for your passion and drive in promoting student leadership in the school.

## Teacher Achievement

Our community partners provide resources and experiences focusing on such areas as academic study, career pathways and mentoring, community service, health and nutrition, visual arts and sport. The Lebanese Muslim Association (LMA) is a community partner providing programs to supplement student school experiences. Programs such as THRIVE support our newly arrived migrants and refugee students in their transition into the Australian community and enhance student learning outcomes by providing mentors for our after-school homework centre.

LMA's portfolio is always expanding with the recent Annual Teacher Appreciation Award ceremony recognising teacher and school contributions to excellence. Congratulations to Ms. Liu and Ms. Tu who each received a *'Transition Co-ordinator Award'* with Mr. Patana receiving a *'Hero Teachers Award'*.

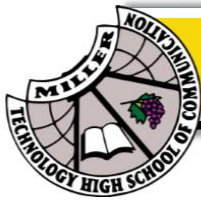
Miller Technology High School was also nominated as a finalist in *'School of the Year Award'* in recognition of the commitment of all staff in enhancing students' personal development and mentoring.

## Year 7 Project Based Learning

Providing opportunities for our parents/carers to learn more about what their children are doing at school enables our school to provide the best possible education for all the young people in our care. In building these important partnerships between school and home, Wednesday's showcase was a great celebration of student achievement with the Year 7 Project Based Learning (PBL) showcase.

I know the Year 7 students were very excited as they shared with their families what they learned as they journeyed through the real-life problem with the theme – *'Fire and Water'*.

At this point I would like to acknowledge Mr. Caddy, Ms. Atkins, Mr. Shea, and Danny and Diego from our community partner, Curious Works for their multi-media work and all the teacher mentors



involved. You have been inspirational in capturing the students' imagination as researchers to gain a deeper appreciation for the subject at hand.

## School Visitor Check-in

All parents and carers are most welcome on school site. However, in line with our school's COVID Safe protocols, visitors must sign-in through the main school office using the School Visitor Check-in QR Code. If visitors are unable to check-in with the QR Code they must use the iPad (on the right-hand side at the front counter) to enter their details.

In finishing, I would like to share Rand Margahi's personal understandings of our RISE core values that she so clearly voiced in her Year 11 SRC election speech. She said:

"I strongly believe that Miller Technology High School is the most amazing school that I have ever been enrolled in.

The reason being is because there is love, compassion and most importantly teamwork found (all) around the place!

I was able to identify these traits by seeing how the teachers, staff and students worked so hard together to get through the challenging times of the pandemic and are still doing so."

Powerful words that were undeniably delivered with much passion and sincerity!

Please continue to check our various online communications, including the High School (<https://miller-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>) and Intensive English Centre (<https://milleriec.schools.nsw.gov.au/>) websites, MTHS Facebook page and School Stream. We are also contactable through our email - [miller-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:miller-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or Miller IEC at [miller-i.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:miller-i.school@det.nsw.edu.au).

As usual, if you have any immediate needs or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the main High School office (Office Hours 8.30am-3.00pm).

Regards,

Dr Ken Edge  
(Principal)