

# MILLER MESSENGER

## NEWSLETTER 11 JUNE, 2021

### UPCOMING EVENTS

15 Jun	IEC Homework Centre
15 Jun	Refugee Week
15 Jun	Senior Homework Centre
15 Jun	Women's Parents Group
15 Jun	Open girls netball
15 Jun	10 PASS Excursion
16 Jun	Refugee Week Tree Planting
17 Jun	Refugee Week Assembly
18 Jun	Souths Cares Junior Program
18 Jun	Refugee Week Parent activities
21 Jun	IEC Homework Centre
22 Jun	Womens Parents Group
22 Jun	Senior Homework Centre
22 Jun	IEC Exiter Presentation
23 Jun	Parent/Teacher night Years 7, 8,9 & 10
23 Jun	Links to Learning Workshop Catch up
24 Jun	Youth Frontiers
24 Jun	Year 8 Refil Film making
24 Jun	Literacy English class for refugee parents
24 Jun	Western Sydney Careers Expo



### Monday to Friday

**Office Hours** 8.30 am to 3.30 pm

**Telephone** (02) 9607 8669

**Fax** (02) 9607 9460

**Email :** Miller-  
h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Volume 34

Over the past weeks, as a school, we have achieved some fantastic things, and we relish the challenge of being a comprehensive high school in a culturally diverse community. We take pride in our inclusiveness and our commitment to the wellbeing of all students.

We believe that learning should be lifelong and that the Higher School Certificate (HSC) starts in Year 7 because we want Miller students to have good habits in education. We believe in our uniform because it is about identity and responsibility. We believe in involving our parents all the way because it takes a village to raise a child.

We take pride in our academic achievements, from university entrance to apprenticeships.

We take pride in the performance of our students in a wide range of extra and co-curricular activities, from sport to performance to achievement in academic competitions.

Importantly, working together as a team breeds a healthy competitive edge to shape and influence every aspect of how our school functions.

Teamwork in sport allows each player to work together to achieve a common goal that might win the game, get one over on a rival, or improve as a team.

#### Student Sporting Excellence

Such qualities predict well for a team and are evident in the Open Girls' Volleyball team's recent successes (in straight sets) against Fairfield High School and St Johns Park High School to join our Open Girls' Basketball team as Sydney South West champions.

Congratulations to Ms Golightly and team members Rachel Dunlop, Rosa Taoai, Mariana Ioane, Taluai Tuia, Danielle Dunlop, Grace Ah Cheung, Mary Salatielu, Angel Salatielu, Elisapeta Tuiavii and Mercy Pese on your achievement.

The tradition of sporting excellence continues at an individual level with Waimarie Martin and Paratisa Iakopo being selected in the Sydney Gold Girls' Rugby League team (the next level from Sydney South West and one below NSW Combined High School teams) to compete at the NSW Combined High School carnival next term.

Waimarie and Paratisa, along with Cedric Pese, should be tremendously proud of their accomplishment as they are the first Miller High School students to be selected in a Sydney Gold Rugby League team. During this week's whole school assembly, Cedric received a team photograph as a reminder of his achievement.

## FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK CONTINUED

### Public Speaking

For the first time this year, public speaking has been implemented into the Year 8 English program and supported by our newly furnished public speaking room, E16. Public speaking involves a speech that informs, entertains, or influences the listeners and improves student confidence, hones their research skills, and strengthens deductive skills and ability to advocate for a cause.

The state-wide Premier's Debating Challenge (for the Lloyd Cameron Cup) is a co-curricular activity to support the Year 8 public speaking program. The competition involves three round-robin virtual debates concerning two sides, one supporting a resolution and one opposing it, with the finals a straight knockout leading to NSW State Champion.

The price of success is teamwork, dedication to the job at hand and determination. Congratulations to Mr Nugent and the team Rewhenua Tattersall-Roore, Maryana Abdo, Amara Halwa and Eric Peov in their recent triumph over the highly-rated Cecil Hills High School team in debating the topic:

*'Admission to selective high school should be based on primary school records and not a test!'*

### Academic Excellence

Our community partners are pivotal in optimising student learning outcomes. As a not-for-profit organisation, the Public Education Foundation is a community partner providing life-changing scholarships to help students attain their full potential. Congratulations to Rasha Al Zahri, Yara Salman (Friends of Zainab scholarship) Roukaya Khayat (Western Sydney Leadership Dialogue scholarship) Evana Jibraeel (Agnes Borsody scholarship), who, along with other New South Wales public school students, received their Education Foundation scholarship certificates at a recent presentation ceremony at Sydney Town Hall.

### New Online DoE Enrolment System

The NSW Department of Education has announced an Online Enrolment System rolled out from Monday 7 June 2021.

The Online Enrolment System is designed to provide flexibility for parents to submit an enrolment application online, which best suits them. Application for enrolment can be made (except year 6 into 7) through our school website under the 'Enrolment' tab. The Online Enrolment System is also accessible on mobile devices, including iOS and Android.

### Homework Centre

As a reminder, if your children need support with their classwork, an assessment task or refining study skills to achieve their academic potential, the homework centre is operating in the school library on Mondays from 2:30 - 4:30 pm and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Please contact Ms Alessi, Ms Liu or Ms Vukic for further information about the support available.

As a principal, I firmly believe that nothing in life that is worth doing is ever easy. Everything from attaining sporting or academic goals to career goals takes hard work. Inspiration can spark and sustain the drive you will need to get through. To be inspired is to be stimulated. Inspiration is energy! You cannot help but feel better about life.

Inspiration is a funny thing, and with a world full of inspirational people, I would like to share with you our School Ambassador - Joy (Jounga) Kim's understanding of our RISE value *Inspire*, presented on a whole school assembly earlier this term.

Joy said, and I quote:

"Inspiration awakens us to new possibilities by allowing us to overcome certain limitations and be open to new experiences. Inspiration improves people's beliefs in their own abilities, self-esteem and optimism. Some people, for instance, may avoid trying new things as a result of a lack of experience, but they can be inspired by the experiences of other people to try new things in their lives, which also can be a significant turning point for their lives.

For all of us at Miller, inspiration gives us energy – we feed off each other.

And if we share this positive energy, we will all succeed together."

Inspirational words to reflect upon.

Should you have any questions regarding school operations, please contact the main school office (02 9607 8669).

*Regards,*

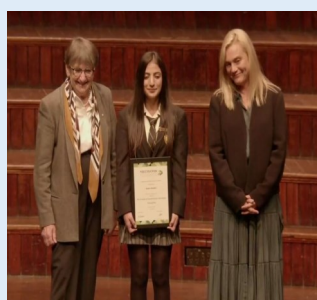
**Dr Ken Edge**  
(Principal)

## PROUDLY PUBLIC! PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNUAL AWARDS

Congratulations to our five students who were awarded a 2021 Public Education Foundation Scholarship. Yara Salman, Rasha Alzahri and Majida Alajia were awarded a Friends of Zainab Scholarship. Evana Jibraeel was awarded an Agnes Borsody Scholarship, and Roukaya Khayat received a Western Sydney Leadership Dialogue Scholarship. It was great to see people from all walks of life come together to celebrate excellence, commitment and achievement in public education.

*"There are millions of people, refugees, who have experienced the same conflicts and struggles I did. They have the same potential to defy the odds and achieve great things. I am privileged to have been given a Public Education Foundation scholarship that can help me put aside my limitations and push to see what I can do while I'm still in year 11 and help people. The scholarship money has enabled me to buy stationary, a desk, drawer, chair, printer and pay for various school expenses. For people in a new country like me who face financial hardship, this scholarship helps. It makes me feel supported and accepted."*

**Evana Jibraeel, Agnes Borsody  
Scholarship Recipient**



## ONLINE ENROLMENT SYSTEM

We are excited to announce we will be rolling out the new Online Enrolment System from Monday 7 June 2021

The Online Enrolment System is designed to provide flexibility for our parents to submit an enrolment application online and at the time that best suits you. The application can be accessed on all browsers and mobile devices including iOS and Android.

The online application process is currently restricted to:

- Enrolments into **local** schools only
- Children who are Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens or permanent residents
- Children who live in NSW.

We offer our support and encourage you to complete your application to enrol online. If, however, you do not feel comfortable completing an application online, a paper copy will be available for collection from the front office or can be downloaded from the Department's [going to a public school site](#).

Further information about online enrolment can be found on our website.



## EDGE WORKSHOP - EPPP



We had another “Giving Students the EDGE for Work” workshop at school, run by Careers Consultant Sharna Dawson. These workshops are day-long workshops that get students “job-ready!” The workshops are a fun and engaging way to introduce students to the world of work and what employers are looking for in young people seeking employment.

Students learnt about everything from good hygiene practices, how to tackle a job interview, and how they present themselves and communicate with employers. Thanks to Sharna and her team and the employers who visited! #EPPP

**Ms Benitez - Careers Adviser & NESACoordinator**

## BARISTA TRAINING

Barista Training Course was sponsored by LMA-Lebanese Muslim Association at CBD College Town Hall. Eleven students from Hospitality (Food and Beverage) were selected to participate in this course. This training was intensive as students were required to master the total trades of being a good Barista.

The sessions were filled with fun and exhaustion, as students were expected to be on their feet the whole day- The genuine feel of a Barista. Students were given insights into policies and procedures related to café culture. The most exciting session was when students were involved in learning “Coffee Art”. Students also had to complete online modules to be deemed competent and were awarded certificates upon completion. Now, these students are fully trained to work in the school café every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday on a roster basis.

**Ms A. Singh - Transition Adviser**





## FAST FORWARD EVENT - YEAR 9

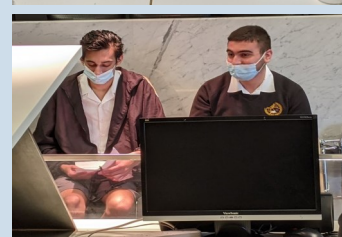
Our Year 9 Fast Forward students attended "University Day" and visited Western Sydney University, Campbelltown campus. After some ice breaker games, the race was on around campus to solve a mystery. Students learnt about their multiple intelligences and how these relate to future career/education pathways. Students developed their teamwork, communication, interpersonal and problem-solving skills throughout the day and learnt how these could help you succeed in the future. @westsydufastforward #FastForwardatWestern

**Ms Benitez**



## USYD YEAR 10 FUTURE FRIDAY

Year 10 had a great time at the University of Sydney for Year 10 Future Friday! Students participated in practical tasks in the Law School and Faculty of Engineering and then checked out a computer lab to explore USYD's own online Year 10 subject-selection modules. Thanks to @sydney.OutreachAndAccess, our students have a stronger understanding of the course and career options after high school. #USYDFutureFriday





## MEDIEVAL DAY - YEAR 8

On the 20th of May, Year 8 were involved in an event called Medieval Day. We were taught briefly about the Ancient World. The Ancient World is a period that covers the earliest known civilizations to the fall of the Roman Empire in 476 AD. The presenter, James Adams had students dress up as Greek and Roman soldiers.

I was dressed up as a Celtic warrior alongside two other students dressed as Roman soldiers. Celtic warriors were depicted very as arrogant and presumptuous. Their armour resembled this idea. The helmets were generally (at least, the one I wore) had a boar placed on the top of the helmet. The idea of the boar is to show that the wearer was ferocious, robust, fast and almost invulnerable, like a boar. It also had wings near the ears. Year 8 found the event entertaining and would do the event again. They enjoyed holding the weapons and the final fights. The final fights consisted of Mr. Podolsak and Mr. Kass and two other students who had the chance to fight Mr. Kass.

***From Gabriel Gonzales  
Student Representative Council  
Year 8***





## COMPUTER LITERACY PROGRAM FOR PARENTS

All of these parents had little knowledge of using computers and are highly engaged and determined to improve. They feel confident that they will learn to use computers by the end of this program. They aim to support their children with their school tasks and maintain contact with our school.

Later on, parents will create their email accounts and access services and support to them and their children, such as Active Kids and Creative Kids Vouchers. "This is just great for us parents, and we are very thankful for the support that Miller High offers to us," said one of the participants.

Thanks to our Principal Dr Edge and our Community Liaison Officer Ms Samira Shiba, this opportunity is available to parents and the community.

Mr Patana



## WOMENS GROUP

The Women's Group program is a community engagement program at Miller Technology High School, which began in 2017 in partnership with Liverpool Health Women's Centre. The program aims to support new arrival families, especially those from a refugee background, in their settlement process and develop connections between the community and the school.

Within this program, different sessions are catered for women to support them in their everyday functioning in the community with community organisations, teachers and SLSO in collaboration with the Community Liaison Officer at our school. We had more than 25 parents who formed parts of this program and came into school once a week participating in Community Kitchen, Computer Course, English Classes and educational excursions. During the COVID crisis in 2020, this program could not function to its full capacity because of the restrictions. Every effort was made to stay connected with all participants via emails and phone calls. All the women expressed that they were eager and desperate to come back to our school to continue with the Women's Group program.

The success of this program surpassed all expectations. Our school community has every intention to continue to improve opportunities for parents to be active participants in our school and the wider community. They will support them and their children to embrace their new life in Australia by making them feel safe and welcomed.

**Ms S Shiba**

## CAREERS

**Year 12 students can now apply for the Susan & Isaac Wakil Foundation Scholarship** Susan and Isaac Wakil Foundation scholarships seek to support motivated individuals with demonstrated merit, who are facing hardship, to realise their career goals and contribute to a better and brighter Australia. The scholarships provide financial assistance to high potential students in Year 12 who intend to continue studying either at TAFE or University after finishing their Higher School Certificate. The scholarships assist with the transition into and progress through post-school education e.g. University bachelor degree, TAFE accredited apprenticeship or a TAFE Advanced Diploma. Applications close 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 <https://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/susan-isaac-wakil-foundation-scholarships-2/>

**Year 12 students can now apply for the Friends of Zainab Scholarship** The Public Education Foundation's Friends of Zainab Tertiary Scholarship is for refugee students currently in Year 12 in 2021 intending to enter university or TAFE in 2022 – and gives an annual bursary of up to \$2,000 for a maximum of two years of full-time university or TAFE study. Applications close 3<sup>rd</sup> August [https://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/friends\\_of\\_zainab\\_tertiary\\_scholarship/](https://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/friends_of_zainab_tertiary_scholarship/)

**Inspiration Education:** Inspiration Education's HSC Trial Preparation Lectures @ UTS! Inspiration Education are running a series of two-hour subject-specific lectures for Year 12 students in the upcoming July holidays (28th June - 5th July). Presented by expert HSC Teacher/Markers and prices start at \$60 per lecture, including notes. Places are limited so registration is essential. RSVP <https://inspired.edu.au/july-hsc-trial-preparation> or call 1300 677 336.

**SAE Creative Media Institute SAE Create for a Day Workshops** SAE Creative Media Institute SAE Sydney is opening its doors this July for the SAE Create for a day workshops, a one-day program to expand your skills and get you working on inspiring creative projects in the fields of Animation, Audio, Design, Film, Games, Music Production or Song writing. 3 July 2021 | 10AM - 3PM; \$25 per person (incl. GST). Buy ticket now: <https://bit.ly/3yDrAZs>

**Powerhouse and TAFE NSW offer free digital and creative skills workshops for Western Sydney students:**

Workshops are available to Western Sydney high school students (28 Jun to 2 Jul) will focus on working with Visual Abstract Storyteller & Designer, Anna Fraser. In this 5-day Creative Studio workshop, students in years 7-10 will learn from Anna's wealth of experience in Visual FX Design & 2D Animation. This workshop is free, but bookings are essential. <https://www.maas.museum/creative-studio-winter>

**Charles Sturt University Online Study Expo:** Charles Sturt University Online Study Expo – come along to Charles Sturt's online study expo to see where online study can take you! Experts will provide information on the application process, building a strong network with our online support systems and give you a look at their user-friendly student portal and online library. The expo will be held on Sun 20 and Tues 22 June. [study.csu.edu.au/online-study-expo](https://study.csu.edu.au/online-study-expo)

**The University of Sydney:** Wednesday Webinars, 4pm AEST | Upcoming webinars include: Become a Dalyell Scholar, Languages at Sydney, Economics at Sydney, Your Future in Business, Pathways to medicine and health. For dates and to register visit: [www.sydney.edu.au/ug-events](https://www.sydney.edu.au/ug-events)

**WPC Group Free 3-day Employability skills bootcamp:**

WPC Group are offering a unique three-day online workshop, designed to improve employability skills including Resume Writing to Mock interviews. Running June 22, 23, 25 via Zoom this program is linked to real job opportunities and is completely FREE! Completion incentives also available. T&Cs apply. Contact Bill: [bparker@wpcgroup.org.au](mailto:bparker@wpcgroup.org.au) or 1300 760 099 - more dates are available.

**Ms Benitez**

**Careers Adviser & NESAC Coordinator**