



# MILLER MESSENGER

## NEWSLETTER 13 MAY, 2021

### UPCOMING EVENTS

17 May 2021	IEC Homework Centre
17 May 2021	Years 7 & 9 NAPLAN
17 May 2021	Parent Pathway Workshop
18 May 2021	Senior Homework Centre
18 May 2021	Women's Parent's Group
18 May 2021	Years 7 & 9 NAPLAN
18 May 2021	Zone Cross Country Carnival
19 May 2021	Parent Information Session
19 May 2021	Macquarie University Experience Online
20 May 2021	Links to Learning - Year 8
20 May 2021	Youth Frontiers - Year 8
20 May 2021	Literacy English Class
20 May 2021	Ancient Greece Day - Year 8
21 May 2021	Families in Culture
21 May 2021	Under 15 Boys Basketball
24 May 2021	IEC Homework Centre
24 May 2021	National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week
25 May 2021	Women's Parent Group
26 May 2021	National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week
27 May 2021	Youth Frontiers - Year 8
27 May 2021	Literacy English Class
27 May 2021	Year 10 Immunisations



#### Monday to Friday

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### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Volume32

Each week I have the opportunity to talk with many people, principals and teachers from other schools, parents, our community partners and, importantly, Miller students about what our school stands for and what we have accomplished. This is evident in the quality of teaching and learning we offer and messages that promote collaboration, honesty, success, joy, and accomplishment - all features of positive school culture.

Such a positive school culture was evident during our athletics carnival in week 3, with students enjoying participating and striving to do their best to create many fond memories. Staff were also excited to see the bigger picture with the high levels of student participation, building confidence, promoting health, wellbeing and leadership skills.

However, such events require a team effort in planning and organisation. A big thank you to Mr Hodgson and Mr Gutierrez, the PD/H/PE staff house leaders Ms Persenitis (Daintree), Mr Stojkovski (Kakadu), Ms Alessi (Franklin), Mr Caddy (Uluru) and all staff involved for your passion, commitment and excellent organisation. The pizza day and BBQ coordinated by Ms Pollard, Ms Vukic, Mr Yacoub, Ms Porter, the SRC and Year 12 formal committee and the staff versus student relay added to the spirit of the carnival.

Congratulations to the overall Boys Champions Ahmad Alkhatib (Daintree) and Connor Woods (Daintree) and the overall Girls Champion Wiamarie Martin (Uluru) on your achievement with the overall House Champion Daintree.

Participation in sport also increases educational engagement and achievement with outstanding successes again in recent weeks demonstrated by Miller students in Rugby League and Basketball.

Congratulations to Cedric Pese, selected in the Sydney Gold Rugby League team (next level from SSW and one below CHS) to compete at the Combined High School carnival next month. Cedric is exceptionally proud, as he is one of three Bernera Zone students and the first Miller student to be selected in the Sydney Gold Rugby League team.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK CONTINUED

As we know, our Open Girls' Basketball team achieved an outstanding goal at the end of the last term as Sydney South West champions to reach the final 32 teams in the State Knockout competition. Team sports help teach accountability, dedication and leadership, which was evident last week when Mr Stojkovski and the girls travelled to Tamworth to play the highly rated Oxley High School team.

Their win over Oxley High School that has progressed them into the final 16 in the State was an outstanding achievement, especially considering that the school bus had mechanical problems causing the team to arrive late into the evening on the day before their game.

As a school, we provide many co-curricular opportunities to enable students to develop attributes and skills to achieve their potential as human beings and as members of society. School and community partnerships are also pivotal in optimising student's learning and are a foundation for equity in society.

Settlement Services International (SSI) and Allianz Insurance is one community group that provide generous scholarships to students and families from refugee backgrounds to achieve independence and to assist them in reaching their potential. Congratulations to Yara Salman (Year 11) on being one of eight NSW high school students selected from 200 applicants to receive an SSI - Allianz scholarship. I know Yara is very proud of her achievement and is keen to discuss at a future assembly the opportunities that the scholarship will provide.

Striving for excellence is trying to do your best, and all students must try to do their best and produce exceptional work. Doing so increases confidence and self-esteem, results in praise, good grades, and many other benefits.

Those who strive for excellence will have longevity in their endeavours with our Recognition of Student Excellence (ROSE) Assembly, a time to acknowledge these endeavours. With our new audio-visual capabilities, the assembly was live-streamed into classrooms, and I would like to congratulate all of the award recipients on their achievements.

The active ongoing participation of families in their children's education leads to improved achievement, higher self-concept and more positive attitudes toward school and learning. Importantly, our student's need to know that they are not making their educational journeys alone. I want to acknowledge the parents/caregivers in attendance at the ROSE assembly and the mothers and their daughters. They attended our Mother's May celebration in honour of mothers in all families and motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society.

Establishing positive relationships between school and home requires a cooperative effort to sustain a common purpose. A big thank you, Mr Brunton and the ROSE assembly team, and to Ms Hossieny, Ms Mrkela and the Refugee Support team for your passion and commitment to make these events such memorable occasions for our families and their children.

Our teacher always works hard to improve the standard of your children's education. With our school's vision of '*promoting growth and development*' focusing on what we do, I would like to leave you with our School Captain's - Media Al-Suhail student understanding of our core value – Excel delivered recently whole school assembly. She said:

"Excellence is not about the highest, best or fastest. It is about consistency, personal effort, and personal bests. If you know in yourself that you did the best that you could, then you are excellent and, if you are excellent, you will see positive results.

Rome was not built in a day. School is about consistent excellence, not short bursts of excellence. So, together, let us aim for excellence every day this term – and let us make Miller excellent in term 2, 2021."

Should you have any questions regarding school operations, please contact the main office.

Regards,

**Dr Ken Edge - Principal**

## IDAHOBIT DAY - 17 MAY 2021

Today, Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 is officially IDAHOBIT day. You are probably asking yourself what is IDAHOBIT day? It stands for International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia. One of the wonderful things about human beings is that we are all different. What a boring world it would be if we all looked the same! As a Deputy Principal who has worked at MTHS for 16 years I have always been so proud of our school and the acceptance we show to one another. We are INCLUSIVE, meaning that we accept everyone no matter where they are from, the colour of their skin, the language they speak, the religion they follow or their sexual identity or preference. Myself, and all of the staff here will support and show kindness to all students no matter what. Every student has a right to come to school and feel safe and happy and get the best possible education.

We are not trying to change anyone's beliefs or make them think that they are wrong. How-

ever, one concept is universal and that is RESPECT. No matter what we all believe in, we have a responsibility as good human beings to show each other respect. At the end of the day, the message is clear, we all have the right to feel accepted.

My final message today is to go ahead and be the best possible version of yourself and remember to always try to put yourself in another person's shoes and show kindness and empathy. By doing this, you could change someone's life for the better.

**Ms Lawrence - Deputy Principal**



## ROSE ASSEMBLY



Miller Technology High School celebrated the success of our students during our Reward of Student Excellence (ROSE) assembly held on the 5th May 2021. It has been 18 months since the school community has had a chance to conduct a ROSE assembly.

125 students were rewarded for their outstanding achievements during Term 1. They were recognised for their application across our 4 core values of Respect, Inspire, Safe and Excel. 32 students were awarded Silver certificates, 3 Gold Certificates, and 2 students received the school's highest award, Platinum.

We also welcomed to the school 46 parents, caregivers and community members to help us celebrate our students' achievements. The Occasional address was delivered by Razan Bahnam, our 2020 School Captain. Razan spoke about the challenges that she experienced in her life and offered strategies to all students to help cope with the challenges they may encounter in life.

The event was 'life streamed' to all classes. We had an excellent music item presented by Year 11 music, and Mr Critcher curated and presented an audio-visual package of CAPA 2020.

All our students and guests were then invited to an afternoon tea to celebrate the event.

Thank you to all the staff and students who were involved in our very successful ROSE Assembly. It takes a big team to organise this event, and I would like to thank all of you. To Ms Cohilj for her diligence, efficiency and professionalism in collating all the awards, organising the program and printing the certificates. To Mr Nugent and Ms Atkins for working with the student leadership team, preparing scripts, rehearsing with students and making sure they are in full school uniform. To Mr Wood and his entertainment crew for the production and streaming work. To Mr Critcher for the production and presentation of CAPA night. A big thank you to Ms Singh, Ms Kaur, Ms Dinapoli, Mr Ibrahim and Ms Northcott and the hospitality students for preparing and serving all the food and drinks. To Ms Dickerson for organising the gifts and Ms Nadan and her students worked back stage to organise the certificates.

**Mr Brunton - Deputy Principal**





## ATHLETICS CARNIVAL - 2021

"The Miller Technology High School Athletics Carnival was held over two days in week 3 with many incredible students participating and showing their athleticism. Running, jumping and throwing skills were on display as students competed individually striving for success, yet also participating to earn house points for the coveted "Overall House Group Champions".

A big congratulations to our overall female champion Waimarie Martin and our joint overall male champions Ahmad Alkhatib and Connor Woods, all these students qualified for zone in 8 events! Finally, I would like to congratulate DAINTREE for winning the overall house group champions award for earning the most points over the two days. Daintree has now gone back to back in winning the Athletics Carnival - who will stop them next year??

Lastly, I would like to thank all students who participated and made it a wonderful day and a bigger thanks to Miller Technology High School staff who helped organise and run the carnival.

Yours in sport,  
**Mr Hodgson and Mr Gutierrez**

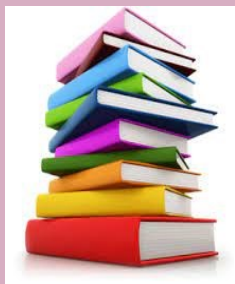




## WELLBEING - BREAKFAST CLUB

The Wellbeing Team is happy to announce that Breakfast Club has returned. Staff and SRC students will be serving packaged breakfast items such as muesli bars and juice to students in A block outside the café every morning from 8:30am. Students can also help themselves to a free reading book to take home.

As a school, we recognise the importance of a healthy breakfast to ensure students have the energy and focus to engage with their studies throughout the day. We are happy to see many students enjoying our Breakfast and A Book Program of a morning before school. Thank you to all staff and students who help to make this amazing program happen.



**Ms N Gulic - Head Teacher Wellbeing**



## OPEN GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Week 2 of this term, myself (Mr Stojkovski) and our Open Girls Basketball team headed out to Tamworth to participate in a top 32-team knock-out tournament. We headed out on Tuesday morning for an overnight stay and played the game against Oxley High School on Wednesday morning. Unfortunately, a couple of hours into our trip our school bus broke down and we were fortunate enough to be stuck at a petrol station and other shops so we could have lunch while we waited for assistance. After a few hours we were on the way thank you to Mr McCoy and Ms Siczak for organising another bus and we arrived at Tamworth by 9pm.



On Wednesday morning we had breakfast and visited the famous "Big Golden Guitar" for a few quick photos before making our way to Tamworth Sports Dome.

Our girls played well in the first two quarters but were behind on points at halftime. In the third quarter our team captain Rachel showed her leadership and lead the team in scoring and we took the lead by the end of the third quarter. In the last quarter, Danielle, Grace and Santasia assisted in the scoring and excellent defence to extend the lead and win the game. The final score was 47-33 and a big congratulations to the girls for their resilience and passion on and off the court. As a team, the girls did an amazing job to get the win and place Miller Technology High School in the top 16 schools in New South Wales. Our next game will be in week 6 and Miller will be hosting Freshwater High School to make it to the next stage of the tournament.

**Mr A Stojkovski**



## CAREERS

**iCanMed:** Free UCAT Webinar (Yr. 11 & 10 Students). The UCAT is a critical component for medical/dental interview & course offers, but many high-achieving students score poorly every year due to insufficient planning. This webinar will cover 10 common prep mistakes and how to plan the next 7-8 months, plus how to solve Section 1-5 UCAT questions (+ mini mock test). Register: [www.icanmed.com.au/webinars](http://www.icanmed.com.au/webinars)

**TAFE NSW First Step Manufacturing:** For students aged 15-24 unsure of their next step following/exiting school. This is a fee-free, supportive pathway program to help students find their passion. Introduction to Advanced Manufacturing will run July 12 and August 19, 2021 at TAFE NSW Wetherill Park. Designed for beginners, this course focusses on creation and development of 2D & 3D objects. Find out more <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/first-step-program-youth-skills>

**Wednesday Webinars | 4pm AEST every Wednesday within NSW school term** Join USYD staff and student online each Wednesday afternoon to learn more about what the University of Sydney can offer you! Upcoming webinars include; Early Offer Year 12 (E12) Scheme; Which music degree is right for me?; Design computing portfolio pathway; Sydney Law School student panel | <https://www.sydney.edu.au/study/events-for-prospective-students/undergraduate.html>

**AIT - Academy of Information Technology** AIT will be exhibiting at several Careers Expos over the coming weeks. Whether you are interested in Film, Animation, Games, or Mobile App Development, AIT staff and students will be on hand to answer any questions you may have and show you how you can turn your ideas into a creative career that you will love. If you miss AIT at the Expo's or contact AIT on (02) 9211 8399 or via the website: [ait.edu.au](http://ait.edu.au)

**JMC Academy To learn more about creative courses and the creative industries** JMC Academy is having an open day on Saturday 22nd May. See live performances, recording sessions and film and TV demonstrations and can talk to current students and lecturers. To register, go to <https://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/events/open-day-events/sydney-campus-may21-open-day>

**Western Sydney University** - The College is the official pathway provider into Western Sydney University. Complete a pathway program at The College to go into your second year at Western. Applications are now open. Visit the page to find out more: [https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/the-college.html?cid=em:CAA-news-TC-page-EGMT\\_Apr21](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/the-college.html?cid=em:CAA-news-TC-page-EGMT_Apr21)

**Western Sydney University** – Scholarships Western offers a wide variety of scholarships recognising academic excellence, community involvement and leadership skills. Scholarships are also available for motivated students experiencing disadvantage. Visit the Scholarships page for more information and to register interest: [https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/why-western/scholarships.html?cid=em:CAA-news-scholarships-page-EGMT\\_Apr21](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/why-western/scholarships.html?cid=em:CAA-news-scholarships-page-EGMT_Apr21)

**Western Sydney University** - HSC True Reward Early Offer Program HSC True Reward is for Year 12 students completing their HSC and provides an early offer into Western based on HSC results, instead of a scaled ATAR. HSC True Reward is offering students entry into university based on Year 11 results or Year 12 results. Find out more here: [https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/hsc-true-reward.html?cid=em:CAA-news-HSCTR-page-EGMT\\_Apr21](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/hsc-true-reward.html?cid=em:CAA-news-HSCTR-page-EGMT_Apr21)

**Apprenticeships R Us:** Wanting to get into the NSW automotive industry but not sure where to start? Try a FREE pre apprenticeship program then choose to enrol in one of the available apprenticeships including;

- Light Vehicle Mechanic
- Heavy Vehicle Mechanic
- Panel Beater
- Spray Painter
- Parts Interpreter

Contact Apprenticeships R Us (02) 9891 6900 [www.apprus.com.au/pre-apprenticeship](http://www.apprus.com.au/pre-apprenticeship) [career@apprus.com.au](mailto:career@apprus.com.au)

**Ms Benitez Careers Adviser NESAC Coordinator**