



MILLER MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER 28 MAY, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

29 May - 6 June National Reconciliation Week

1 Jun Women's Parent Group

1 Jun SSW KO Soccer Finals

1 Jun Barista Course

3 Jun Youth Frontiers

3 Jun Links to Learning

7 Jun Zone athletics day 2

8 Jun Women's Parent Group

9 Jun SSW Cross Country carnival

10 Jun Youth Frontiers

10 Jun Links to Learning

11 Jun Year 12 AH Study Day

11 Jun Under 15 Girls basketball



OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday

Office Hours 8.30 am to 3.30 pm

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Volume33

School pride is undoubtedly alive and well at Miller. School pride is about caring and it is about treating each other with Respect by understanding that being different is part of what makes us human. It is a feeling deep down inside of us. You can see it, hear it and feel each morning as you walk through the front gates of our school.

A vital measure of school pride is student leadership. Conspicuously, student leadership is about the art of motivating and influencing with the wearing of school uniform away of identifying with "community" and building "school pride".

While congratulating all students in terms of attitude, discipline and Respect, who wear our school uniform with pride each day, our whole school assembly in week 6 (the first in the school hall since March 2020) we acknowledged student leadership by presenting each member of our SRC and Prefect body with personalised school ties. An acknowledgement that will now become a school tradition.

A big thank you to Ms Atkins (Head Teacher Community Partnerships and Student Voice), Mr Nugent (Prefect co-ordinator) and Ms Vukic (SRC co-ordinator) for providing opportunities and experience to enhance the leadership skills of Miller students.

Having a sense of belonging is a common experience and means acceptance as a member or part. A sense of belonging to school is the degree to which students feel respected, accepted and supported by teachers and peers. A sense of belonging to the community improves motivation, health and happiness.

At Miller we value and prioritise belonging within our school and community. This was clearly evident on Wednesday 26th May, when our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students collaborated together to host our combined National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week assembly that was live streamed into classrooms.

With our cultural diversity a strength within each individual, I would like to recognise Dean Watson, Aaron Webber and Shakiyah'j Rankin as student leaders and for their public speaking skills to share their thoughts on the meaning and significance of National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week. The more student leadership is encouraged, the more it flourishes with the Acknowledgement of Country by Sally McPherson followed by a welcome dance performed by Carter Duffin and Rozesonda Riley, simply inspirational.

Our strong connections to the community were further evident with so many of our families and friends in attendance, and importantly benefiting by becoming more confident about the value of the important role they play in their children's education.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Ms Lawrence, Mr Scott, Ms Hughes, Ms Northcott, Ms Atkins, Ms Kaur, Ms Dinapoli, Mr Kumar and Mr Crichton and our Year 11/12 Entertainment Industry course students for your passion and support in building a sense of belonging within our school and community.

FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK CONTINUED

Earlier this term our Open Girls' Basketball Team achieved a courageous win against Oxley High School. This was an outstanding achievement, with the team progressing to the final 16 in the state to play Freshwater High School.

However, as each member of the team appreciates, it is not whether you win or lose. Winning or losing would mean that there is a destination.

A destination is not the same as a purpose. The purpose is how you play the game and I know that the girls in their hard-fought loss to Freshwater High School gave 110% and were holding their heads high at the end of the game.

National Sorry Day is an important day for our school and community and with the 2021 National Reconciliation Week **theme**, *"More Than a Word. Reconciliation Takes Action"*, fostering reconciliation discussion, activities and action I would like to share with you our school Vice-Captain - Jacob Kang's understanding of our core value, *Respect*, presented on a recent whole school Monday assembly.

Jacob said, and I quote:

"Every member of our school community has the right to be respected and the responsibility to be respectful. Being respectful to somebody means that there is no discrimination of any kind involved and to treat others as we would wish to be treated – with Respect. Being disrespectful means that you are treating another person unfairly, and therefore making the other person feel uncomfortable, or worse, insulted."

Some inspiring 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

YEAR 9 HISTORY ELECTIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCURSION AND DIG

On Friday, May 7, the students of Year 9 History Elective and Mr Charlier, Mr Podolsak and Practicum teacher Mr Farrow, travelled to the Chau Chak Wing Museum at the University of Sydney as part of their ongoing unit on archaeology, artefacts and historical sites

Before they toured the museum, students explored the University of Sydney's Camperdown campus, including the elegant, elaborate sandstone architecture and the various historic and modern learning spaces available to University of Sydney students

Once inside the museum, the students were guided through various exhibits showing artefacts (and some creative recreations in Lego) from a range of periods and cultures. This included a rare opportunity to view several ancient Egyptian mummies that form part of the historic Nicholson collection.

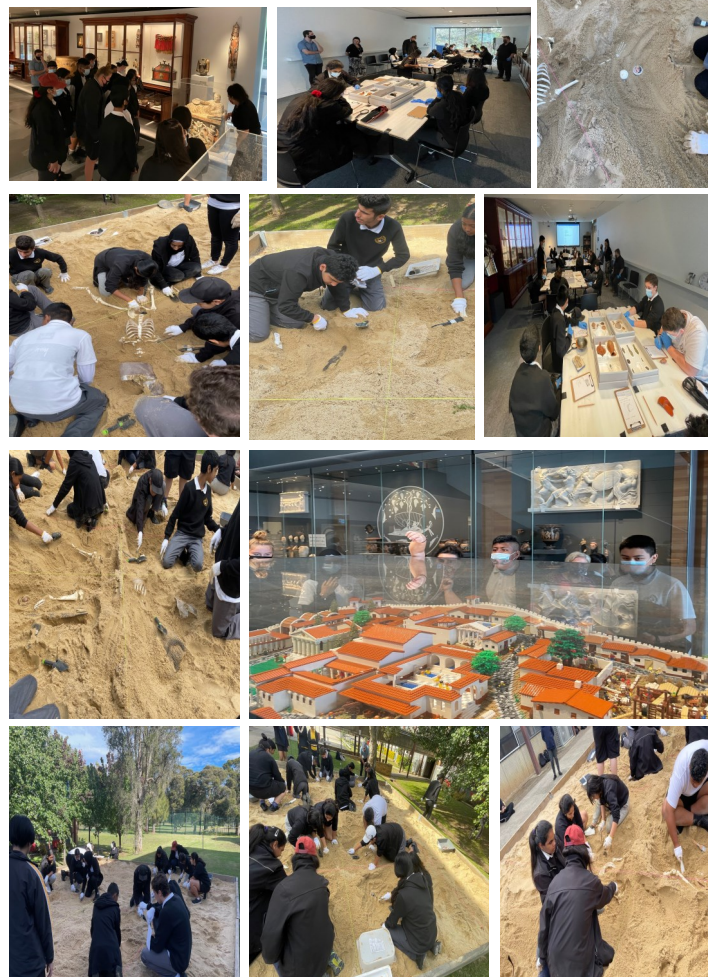
Subsequently, the students had the opportunity to handle a range of authentic artefacts from the museum's collection under careful supervision from a trained archaeologist. The Miller students asked thoughtful and insightful questions before presenting their preliminary findings to the group.

The students then had a chance to further develop these practical archaeological skills as part of their first formal assessment task on Thursday, May 20. Two simulated dig sites were prepared using a purpose-built sandpit. Each dig site included simulated human remains and a variety of artefacts, which the students worked collaboratively to explore using archaeological tools.

With mentoring and advice from Year 11 Ancient History students, the Elective History students carefully uncovered the 'remains' and artefacts, documenting each step of the process before carefully removing the artefacts for further analysis.

Over both days, all students demonstrated an exceptional level of focus, effort, and engagement, representing the best of the behaviour, diligence, and positivity we see from Miller students.

Mr C Charlier - English/History Teacher



PREFECT GROUP & STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

On Monday, the 24 of May, the Prefect group and the Student Representative Council members have presented their own Miller Technology High School ties. The ties given to students had each student's name printed on them to symbolise the unity reflected in their roles as part of the leadership teams of Miller Technology High School.

Uniforms give students a sense of belonging and create an identity for the school community. Wearing a uniform shows unity and enhances students' pride, not only in themselves but also in their school. Wearing a uniform is a badge of pride. It creates an identity for our school and is an essential part of being a school student. Wearing your uniform with pride shows that you are a respectful, inspirational, safe and excellent student.

The Student Leadership Teams of Miller Technology High School would like to thank Dr Edge and the school community for their generosity and Ms Atkins for her role in the organisation and design of the ties. The uniforms provided by the school have supported students in their ability to represent the school.



ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

Two weeks ago, our Zone Cross Country was held at Fairfield Showgrounds. Students from Miller Technology High School who competed at this wonderful event achieved some excellent results.

Many of them qualified to represent our region in the next stage of the competition. Some notable mentions go to Yousif Shamoon and Mustafa Hussein, who both finished third in their age groups. Also, well done to all other competitors and good luck at the regionals.

Mr A Stojkovski



OPEN BOYS SOCCER TEAM

Outstanding performance from the Open Boys Soccer Team with a 4-1 victory over a powerful and respectful Holsworthy High School. Central Venue will be on June 1 2021, where the top 8 teams in Sydney South West will be competing to be crowned the champs. We'll be ready! *Mr Gutierrez (Coach)*



SRC ELECTIONS 2021-2022

The SRC elections for 2021-2022 will be held in Week 3 of Term 3. If students are interested in applying to be a member of the Student Representative Council, they are to see their Year Advisors throughout the week to obtain a nomination form. Once the nomination form is completed, it must be submitted to Ms Vukic or Ms Pollard in the HSIE Staffroom by Monday the 7 of June, Week 8. Each nomination form will be up for review, and successful applicants will be contacted and provided assistance in writing their speech.

Good luck to all prospective nominees.

Ms H Vukic

MURDER, MADNESS AND MAYHEM AT MACBETH

On Friday 14 May, our Year 11 and Year 12 students were invited to participate in an evening excursion to Campbelltown Town Hall Theatre. The purpose of this excursion was to watch the play, *Macbeth*, by William Shakespeare. The play is studied as part of the Year 11 Advanced English course, and this opportunity allowed students to engage fully with the text as originally intended.

The on-stage drama left many of our students mesmerised, and the excitement was palpable throughout the entire performance. One highlight of the night was when Mr Shea and Ms Porter became part of the act. Due to Covid restrictions the staff and students had to wear masks for the duration of the performance, but it was a slight inconvenience compared to the excitement and gratitude the students expressed at the end of the night.

The Campbelltown Theatre Group performance consisted of cast members with varying experience ranging from professionals to first-time actors. At the end of the play, the actors, sword play coordinators and Director provided us with a 20 minute Q&A section during which our students were allowed to ask questions about the performance. During this segment, the English staff and I were highly impressed with the calibre of the enquiries made and the genuine interest our students held in terms of the play's production.

During the evening, many students revealed that this was the first time they had ever seen a live play before. The entire excursion was a huge success, and every student and staff member enjoyed the night immensely. Our school's excursion was fully funded and incurred no cost to the students, which was even better! I want to thank Ms Prasad, Mr Shae, Ms Pollard and Mrs Kullar for assisting me to coordinate the event and a huge thanks to Dr Edge and Mr Mai for allowing me to offer the students this fabulous experience – I can't wait for the next one.

Ms Porter - English Faculty



NATIONAL SORRY DAY AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

On Wednesday, 26 May, Miller Technology High School Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students hosted our National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week combined assembly. Observed annually on 26 May, National Sorry Day remembers and acknowledges the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities, which we now know as 'The Stolen Generations'.

National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, achievements and contribute to building a reconciled Australia. This year's theme is **More than a word. Reconciliation takes action.**



At Miller, we held an assembly in the school hall, which was also live-streamed to all classes. The assembly was led by Dean Watson, Aaron Webber, and Shakiyah Rankin. Our assembly began with an Acknowledgement of Country by Sally McPherson, followed by a welcome dance by Carter Duffin and Rozesonda Riley. We marked Sorry Day by lighting candles as a symbol of us remembering and recognising the Stolen Generations who were taken away from their families and communities. Following the assembly, parents were invited to spend lunch with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, their student buddies, the Student Representative Council, and teachers. The marvellous food we ate was prepared by our catering students, who may have a future in cooking.

Although not all students could view the assembly directly, they were able to participate via live stream in their classrooms. This year, we paid homage to and celebrated Indigenous Australians while maintaining our respect, and it was a huge success!

Written by 7 English Emerald and Ms Hughes



FOCUS PROGRAM

Over three weeks in May, 20 female students from Year 11 were invited to participate in the ABCN Digital Focus Program. This program offers female student leaders the opportunity to be mentored by senior women in business and it is always an outstanding success. Initially piloted by Minter Ellison Lawyers and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, the program now provides hundreds of young women with the opportunity to gain insight into the skills needed to be successful leaders within the business sector.

We have a long and proud history of participation in this ABCN program. As usual, Samantha Tan & Maree Drury from ABCN delivered exciting face-to-face workshops face combined with online meetings with the Microsoft mentors using Microsoft Teams. During the online meetings, the mentors shared their strategies for developing leadership qualities, engaging and leading staff, and assisting the individual students to acknowledge and build on their leadership qualities.

Throughout the three week program, our students collaborated with their mentors to build their resilience, understand essential leadership qualities and develop their leadership styles whilst developing their skills through communication and collaboration.

Before the course commencement, only 63% of the students viewed themselves as potential leaders, and 44% were aware of their individual strengths. After completing the course, this statistic increased to 94%. The students found the program highly beneficial, and some of the comments made by the students included

- *"The most useful thing I learnt was that my failures don't dictate my future and that my past failures can help me learn."*
- *"My mentor taught me never to give up. There will always be opportunities for us. If we miss them, we can try again."*
- *"I am/can be boss of my time. I can manage it."*
- *"Such a great program, and it helped me so much with self-confidence and learning how to be your leader."*

After participating in the program, the Microsoft/ABCN mentors commented:

- *"I enjoy the interaction with the students and learning from them. They often have very inspiring stories and so much to give"*
- *"I felt awesome after every session!"*
- *"I have learnt so much from the girls!"*
- *"The biggest change in the students was their confidence grow week on week, and they are willing to share more and have discussions."*

The student participants were all selected as a direct result of their continued personal commitment to our school community. Yara Salman, Evana Jibraeel, Maya Al-Saheel, Shamiram Mikhael, Teresa Tran, Huda El Ali, Dung Phung,

Raneen Al-Galmash, Rasha Alzahri, Milaan Alqmi, Lara Al-Zuhairi, Courtney Grant, Telliha Lehmann, Olivia Yaldo, Sally McPherson, Mahboba Hussaini, Rahaf Alkhateeb, Anastacia Poulakidas Wilson, Rood Dawood and Douaa Al Hamoud were outstanding representatives of our school and they are all to be congratulated for their maturity, participation and commitment for the duration of the program



Ms Tanya Porter - Miller Technology High School

Girls Program Coordinator



CAREERS

School Leavers Information Kit (SLIK)

The [School Leavers Information Kit](#) has all of the resources and information needed to help young people explore the education, training and work options available to them in 2021.

School Leavers Information Service

The Information Service provides support to young people to explore their education, training, and employment interests, and provides the following services: guidance to navigate the [School Leavers Information Kit](#) and the Your Career website – www.YourCareer.gov.au; free personalised career guidance sessions for school leavers aged 15-24 years with a qualified career practitioner over the telephone. Operating hours are from 9.00am to 7.30pm (callers local time) Monday to Friday.

How can the School Leavers Information Service be contacted?

- Call 1800 CAREER or 1800 227 337
- Email schoolleavers.nci@dese.gov.au
SMS 'SLIS2021' to 0429 009 435

Australian Catholic University

Experience ACU is a free event allowing prospective students to participate in workshops and activities tailored to their study area of interest. Students can explore their local campus, meet staff and students and get helpful tips on preparing for university.

Blacktown Campus

Wednesday 30 June 2021 (9:30am – 1pm)

[Register now](#)

Schindler Apprentice Information Night 2021

When you join Schindler, you become part of a global family that is one of the world's leading providers of elevators, escalators, and moving walks. Through a world-class program, over four years you will take on regular structured in-house training, gain a formal electrical trade qualification and learn from a network of the industry's leading experts... Schindler will elevate your career.

Monday, July 12, 2021

6:00pm - 7:00pm AEST

[Register now](#)

A reminder to Year 12 students considering a career in medicine or that you can still register for the UCAT ANZ 2021 until 31 May 2021. Registration for UCAT is via the Pearson VUE website

UCAT ANZ 2021 Registration link - <https://www.ucat.edu.au/ucat-anz/ucat-anz-2021/>
[Sign up for UCAT NIE Newsletters](#)

UCAT and/or Interview preparation resources or services

[UCAT NIE RESOURCES AND SERVICES](#)

[Complete UCAT Preparation Courses](#)

[UCAT and Interview Preparation Books](#)

[Comprehensive UCAT Online Preparation Platform](#)

[Medical Interview Training](#)

Western Sydney University - Open Day on Sunday 15 August, 2021 is a chance to discover everything Western has to offer. Explore course presentations, meet academics and current students, visit HSC hub and find out all about Western's early offer pathway, HSC True Reward. For details and to register your interest visit here: https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/openday.html?cid=em:EGMT-CAA-newsletter-openday21-page_May21

Guarantee your place at ACU - even before your Year 12 exams. The ACU Guarantee program offers eligible Year 12 students a place at ACU based on your Year 11 results. Applications will open June 2021. <https://www.acu.edu.au/acu-guarantee>

Find your way into ACU with the new ACU Foundation Studies! - The new Foundation Studies program is another pathway into ACU. This free program is currently offered to domestic students at our Blacktown Campus, but acts as a pathway to degrees at any ACU campus provided you meet minimum GPA requirements for your chosen course. Click here <https://www.acu.edu.au/study-at-acu/admission-pathways/foundation-studies>

TAFE NSW - TAFE NSW Degrees Scholarships Program 2022 TAFE NSW is excited to announce the launch of its inaugural Degrees Scholarship Program for 2022! Five generous scholarships are on offer for students who will commence studying their bachelor degree next year. Application dates and further details will be released soon. Register your interest to be the first to hear <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/degrees>

Ms M Benitez - Careers Adviser & NESA Coordinator