

# MILLER MESSENGER NEWSLETTER 14 JUNE, 2022

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

14 June	Zone Athletics Day 1
14 June	Homework Centre
14 June	Community Access Program
14 June	Women's Group
14 June	ANSTO Lucas Height Excursion
15 June	Year 8 Ancient Greece Incursion
15 June	Zone Athletics Day 2
15 June	IEC Settling in
15 June	SSI Allianz Refugee Scholarship
16 June	Love Bites Workshop
16 June	Rage Workshop
16 June	Managing the Bull
16 June	Australian Literacy & Numeracy
16 June	Music Program
16 June	Parents English Classes
16 June	VIVID Excursion
16 June	Subject Selection EXPO
17 June	Souths Cares Visit
17 June	NRL in League in Harmony
20 June	University Transition Program
20 June	RAS Program
20 June	Rugby League Training
20 June	Refugee Week 20-26 June
21 June	Homework Centre
21 June	Community Access Program
21 June	Women's Group
22 June	Treehouse Theatre
22 June	IEC Settling In
22 June	Open Girls Netball Knockout
22 June	Year 7 Camp
22 June	Year 10 interviews
22 June	History Study Day
24 June	Treehouse Theatre
24 June	NRL in League in Harmony



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# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Volume 44

#### Dear parents and carers,

As we enter the final weeks of the term my hope is that all students are well prepared and motivated to do well in achieving their educational goals. However, while our goal is to work together to provide our students with a rich learning environment, why is education important?

Education is important because it helps people become better citizens and to deal with the challenges faced in life as we grow and develop. Education is also the key to eliminating gender inequality, to reduce poverty, to create a sustainable planet and to foster global peace.

#### Student Academic Excellence

In broadening educational opportunities beyond the classroom our business and community partners play a vital role in assisting students to achieve their career goals and personal growth.

A valued community partner providing scholarships to assist students to overcome barriers to achievement created by social and economic disadvantage is The Public Education Foundation. Congratulations to Rand Margahi, Maryam Akko, Milaan Al Alqmi, Nour Alajia and Soleen Solaqa who, along with other New South Wales public school students received their well-deserved scholarships at the award presentation evening in week 6.

The Harding Miller Education Foundation is an important community partner offering scholarship in the advancement of women's education. Manasseh Mauga-Hall (Year 9) and her family were deservedly proud of her achievement when she was presented with a scholarship during the recent awards celebration at the National Australian Maritime Museum, Sydney.

One of our long - standing community business partners is the Australian Business and Community Network or ABCN with their highly acclaimed Accelerate Program Foundation Scholarships supporting exceptional students facing challenges that may have impacted on their ability to achieve desired tertiary pathways. Again, well done Rand Margahi as one of a select group of high school students from across Australia to be awarded a 2022 Foundation Scholarship.

As part of the program Rand recently attended the Accelerate Program leadership summit in Sydney to meet her business mentor and fellow scholars. During this week's school assembly, she took time to share her experiences with fellow students.

For me, besides the educational and career opportunities provided by ABCN, the message from Rand's reflections was very clear - that as a school and community we have many talented students who inspire us each day to do better by their endevours. During future assemblies I am looking forward to learning more about the opportunities the other scholarships provided in supporting Miller students in achieving their educational goals.

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK CONTINUED

#### **Sporting Excellence**

While collectively our school partners provide engaging and challenging opportunities pivotal for students to optimise learning the sportsmanship shown by the students selected to participate in the Bernera Zone Cross Country Carnival demonstrated a sound understanding and commitment to fair play and general goodwill when competing. On the day students were disciplined and poised to do their best. Congratulations to Mitchelle Chelimo, Yousif Shamoon, Rita Al Zuhairi, Dankha Dinkha, Abbass Dirani and Mervan Ibrahim on being selected to participate in the upcoming Sydney South West Cross Country Carnival.

#### School Infrastructure Update

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, there has been extensive construction work across the school to improve our physical learning environment.

The upgrade of lighting in all learning spaces to LED (lightemitting diodes) has been completed. The refurbishment of the toilets and amenities in Block D is on schedule and should be completed during the winter vacation. When completed, work on the Block C change rooms and amenities will commence.

The construction of the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) is well underway. The supporting columns have been erected, with the roof installation completed over the next few weeks. A quality learning environment is a priority and when the COLA is completed it will not only be a state-of-the-art outdoor facility to support curriculum delivery, but a facility the community can be proud of.

In keeping everybody safe, a reminder to students that they are not allowed to enter any fenced - off areas and must adhere to teacher directions around the construction sites.

#### Subject Selection 2023 - Thursday 16 June 2022

For Year 10 students selecting Preliminary and Higher School Certificate (HSC) course subjects can be tricky. While on the one hand it is great to be able to choose which subjects (refer to the HSC Subject Selection Information on the school website) to study, the flip side is that those chosen should support a career pathway after graduating from high school.

However, while there is a need to study the right combination of subjects to qualify for the High School Certificate, if a student is thinking about going to university, then they may require an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank or ATAR. If the aspirations of a student are to enrol into a competitive university course, then subject selection is important to help maximise their ATAR. To graduate with a Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification there is other criteria to meet, such as work placement. Students in Year 8 are also provided with an opportunity to start considering their future learning pathways through the provision of a range of elective subjects for Stage 5 (Years 9/10). Besides the core subjects, students select two elective subjects from the range of options available (refer to Stage 5 Subject Selection Information on the school website), with the opportunity to study a Stage 5 Vocational Education course in Year 10.

For students and their families making subject choices is one of the most important decisions in schooling. When making decisions, whether in Year 8 or Year 10 consider subjects which:

- You have interest
- You have experienced past success
- May lead to your preferred career pathway
- Optimise opportunities to reach your potential.

Students are also encouraged to discuss subject choices with their teachers, and other members of staff. Staff do understand student strengths and will be able to give them guidance on the appropriateness of their subject choices.

However, while the final decision will rest with the parent and student, availability of a particular subject is dependent upon several factors, including availability of staff and physical resources such as specialist classrooms, and class size numbers.

Please spend some time to review the inspirational teaching and learning in this edition of the Miller Messenger. Also, a reminder to check our various online communications, including the High School (<u>https://millerh.schools.nsw.gov.au/</u>) and Intensive English Centre (https:// milleriec.schools.nsw.gov.au/) websites, MTHS Facebook page and School Stream for updates.

If you have any questions or needs, please contact the main school office. Our staff are always happy to help.

Regards,

#### Dr Ken Edge - Principal



### HARDING MILLER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Harding Miller Education Foundation is an Australian charity that supports high potential girls across Australia through a \$20,000 scholarship and a dedicated Mentor over four years of high school. The program gives these girls the tools and resources they need to complete high school and reach their potential and build direct pathways to tertiary education.

In 2021, the Foundation received over 550 applications from motivated girls needing a scholarship from over 200 schools. It gives us great pride to have our Year 9 student Manasseh Mauga-Hall as one of these recipients.

On Monday 30 and Tuesday 31May 2022, the Harding Miller Education Foundation celebrated the newest students from New South Wales to join their Scholarship Program. Students from across the state and their guests came together at the Australian Maritime Museum to celebrate this fantastic achievement.

Over the two days, scholars came together and participated in workshops designed to extend student's higher order thinking and problem-solving skills. Students also had the rare opportunity to learn about career pathways in engineering and finance fields. Employees from John Holland (Australia's leading Engineers) and Mastercard shared their career journeys with the girls. Scholars also had the opportunity to tour the HMAS Onslow submarine and marvel at how many service members were housed in such confined living quarters for months at a time. When discussing this with Manasseh, she stated, "It was amazing. I can't believe how small everything is inside."

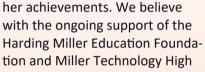
There is no doubt that the highlight of the two-day event was the Award Ceremony held at the Australian Maritime Museum on the Monday evening that Mrs Geraldine Mauga-Hall, Ms Benitez and myself were invited to attend. Overlooking the beautiful Darling Harbour and the dazzling Vivid Festival lights, we were treated to a canape supper. Once the ceremony began, scholars and their guests were delighted with ethereal performances by the Australian Girls' Choir and various speeches.

The Keynote speaker Allison Borne shared her professional journey with the audience. Her speech was positive and exciting and illustrated to the girls how the path to success is not the same for everyone. The audience also heard from a young lady Hibba, a prior Harding Miller Scholar. During her speech, Hibba shared how the scholarship program had not only provided her with valuable financial support but also more importantly multiple opportunities to network with others and how this was essential in her success to date.

Sitting in the audience with Mrs Geraldine Mauga-Hall, Ms Ngan Le Tran (HMEF Coach), and Ms Benitez watching Manasseh walk across the



stage to receive her award was truly inspirational. We are all so proud of Manasseh and her achievement



School, Manasseh will prove to be an outstanding community and professional leader in the future.

Ms Porter Girls Program Coordinator









### PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION



A scholarship is a wonderful and valuable opportunity that the public education foundation offers to students, teachers and parents, helping them to cover all educational needs. I was impressed when I recognised that I was one of the winners of the Agnes Borsody Scholarship.

On Tuesday, 31 May, two teachers, myself and other students went to Town Hall to receive the awards for recognising the hard work we have put in.

I was so nervous when I saw the big hall and a bunch of different students and parents. I was scared, however, I was able to come out and receive the award in front of many people. I was brave enough to look at them and smile. I have learnt from this occasion that working hard can take you up to the top, and recognising excellent work is the most significant thing. Being brave and strong will build your strong personality.

Getting every single opportunity that comes out in your journey is essential. This single and small opportunity might take you to the world you dream of.

Maryam Akko - Student Year 11

### ZONE CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

The Zone Cross Country Carnival was held on Friday 27th May. Miller Technology High School sent 31 students who all competed at an extraordinary level. Six Students were successful in qualifying for Sydney South West Cross Country!

We are so proud of our hard-working students who participated in the carnival. It was fantastic to see so many eager students take on the challenge of running 3km, 4km or 6km.

Mr B Hodgson Sports Coordinator– Year 12 Advisor



# WOMEN'S GROUP

Women's Group participants are having a wonderful time learning new skills this term by actively participating in various sessions.

The sessions include Hearing Australia, Candle Making and Zumba sessions. As part of the sessions, we also discuss issues regarding group management.

In addition to our excellent sessions, the Literacy English class has restarted, and it has always been the most favourite program. We have had many attendees who show their passion and determination to continue learning valuable English language skills.

The parent community is very grateful for the support and opportunity provided by Miller Technology High School. Thank you to Dr Edge for visiting our sessions and the ladies in the front office for always making the parents feel welcome.

We continue to work together with our community to benefit our students, parents and other community members.

Ms Shiba Miller Technold

Miller Technology High School Community Liaison Officer















# **HOMEWORK CENTRE**

Every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon between 3 pm and 5 pm, some of Miller's dedicated teachers are down in the Library helping students with their School work at Homework Centre. Students are given a quiet place to study, group tutoring, and one-on-one tutoring during this time.

Tuesday afternoons are open to Years 9-12 (with some exceptions for younger years), and Thursday afternoons are dedicated to our seniors (Years 11 and 12).

It is impressive to see all these Years 9-12 students motivated to achieve the best possible education they can be given. I want to thank the excellent teachers at Miller for giving up their time to help our students achieve great things!

If any student wants to be a part of this fantastic resource, please have a signed permission note (obtained from the English or Science staffroom) and bring it to Miss Alessi in Science or Miss Pollard in English. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Ms B Alessi Science Teacher Year 11 Year Adviser 2022







# **OPEN GIRLS FOOTBALL**

On Monday, the 6th of June, the Miller Technology High School Girl's Soccer Team participated in the Open Girl's Football Northern Central Venue Day. The team played two tough matches against Liverpool Girls High School and Sefton High School. Despite the excellent performance, the team lost 5-0 in the first game against Liver-

pool Girls High School. The girls were resilient and determined to win and used the lessons of the



first game to push through and secure a 10-2 victory over Sefton High School. Congratulations to the players who gave their best under cold and windy conditions.

Ms N Gulic - Head Teacher Wellbeing

### YEAR 9 RED SCIENCE CLASS

Students of 9 Red Science undertook a sheep's Brain Dissection last week for the topic of Body Coordination and Control. This was done to better understand the complexity and fragile nature of the Animal Brain.

### Mr A Darmanin Science Teacher



### YEAR 10 WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY FAST FORWARD

Our Year 10 Western Sydney University Fast Forward students had a blast at the Liverpool Campus. After a few ice breaker activities on the top floor, they toured the different levels and completed tasks challenging their teamwork, communication and other transferable skills. After lunch, the final challenge awaited. Our students had to perform a song about their transferable skills, university, and living in a VUCA (volatile, uncertain, complex, ambiguous) world.

### Ms Benitez Careers Adviser & NESA Coordinator







### **YEAR 12 - FUTURE FOCUS**

Our Year 12 students attended a "Future Focus" day and participated in several activities at the University of Sydney. Students gained confidence in thinking about life post-high school, learnt how to find information relating to course requirements effectively, and took part in a workshop about scholarships and admission pathways at the University of Sydney.

### Ms Benitez Careers Adviser & NESA Coordinator



### **OPEN GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**

Miller Technology High School Open Girls Volleyball competed in the Sydney South West knockout com-

petition at Munro Sports stadium. They won their first two games against Cecil Hills High School and Bonnyrigg High School. However, they lost their third game against Fairfield High School.



We have now retired our incredible year 12 volleyball players, Danielle Dunlop, Grace Ah Cheung, Talaui Tuia, Trinity Hall and Mary Salatielu.

Ms M Golightly PDHPE - Relieving Head Teacher





### CAREERS

### Year 8/10 Subject Selection Expo – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022

The Year 8/10 Subject Selection Expo will be held on Thursday, 16th June from 4.30-6pm. The Subject Selection Expo will give you and your child the opportunity to speak with teachers about the subject areas they may be interested in choosing for 2023/2024

Faculties will be showcasing their subject areas providing you and your child with a better insight into each subject area. There will be a short information session at 4.30pm upstairs in the MPC for all Year 10 and their parent/ caregivers. Year 8 students and parents/caregivers will start at 4.30pm in the Hall.

# The University of Sydney E12 Early Offer and Scholarship Webinar

The E12 scheme gives students from regional/rural schools, those from low socio-economic areas or experiencing financial hardship, a chance to get an early conditional offer, gain entry with a lower ATAR score and receive a \$5950 scholarship. Join USYD on Tuesday 21 June 6pm - 7pm. Register here - https://tinyurl.com/4k477b7s

### AFL SportsReady

Right now, AFL SportsReady has loads of great opportunities, with amazing employers like Netball NSW, Lawrence and Hanson, Accenture, Motorola and more. Please share the Job's Board with any of your 2021 school leavers that may be interested in kick starting their career through a traineeship. Visit the jobs board now - <u>https://</u> aflsportsready.com.au/jobs-board/

### JMC Academy Canvas Art Award

2D and 3D art competition. Students need to interpret the brief and include the motif of a yellow umbrella. Entries close 17th July 2022. For more details go to <u>https://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/canvas-art-award-2022/</u>.

### Western Sydney University

Year 12 students can now apply for their course preferences directly through the Western Portal for free. Find out more information about scholarships, pathways and more. Visit: <u>https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/</u> <u>study/how-to-apply/hsc-undergraduate-applications?</u> cid=em:EGMT-CAA-news-portal jun22.

#### **Technical Services Transport for NSW**

Are you looking for exciting engineering opportunities with Transport for NSW where you can gain paid full-time work and Nationally accredited qualifications either through TAFE or Western Sydney University College? Then please contact <u>TSELTPGovernance@transport.nsw.gov.au</u> for more information about the currently offered courses.

#### UNSW Sydney Year 12 Degrees and Scholarships

Information Evenings, June 21 & 23, please feel free to register here: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/unsw-year-12-degrees-scholarships-information-evenings-tickets-344123882797</u>.

### LATE TO SCHOOL PROCEDURES

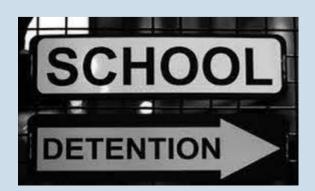
We have had a great response to our new late to school procedures. Students are making a great effort to arrive at school on time. We are working hard to ensure that our students are prepared for the next phase in their lives, the workforce. It is so important that they all get into a very good pattern of attendance and being on time is key to this.

Please continue to provide your children with notes explaining their lateness if necessary. We understand that from time to time, situations arise and coming late to school is unavoidable. However, please refrain from excusing their lateness if they have just slept in or did not get themselves organised in time to arrive at school on time. For these matters, they will still be required to attend after school detentions if they are late on more than two occasions in any week.

We thank you all for your support in assisting our students at Miller Technology High School to improve their attendance.

Ms Lawrence Deputy Principal





# YEAR 7 - SHAPE POEMS

