



# MILLER MESSENGER

## NEWSLETTER 9 MAY, 2022

### UPCOMING EVENTS

9 May	University Transition Program - Year 12
9 May	Rugby League Training
9 May	Year 7 Immunisations
9 May	Open Girls Volleyball
10 May	Macquarie Mentoring Program
10 May	NAPLAN
10-20 May	
12 May	RAS Program
12 May	Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation Music Program
12 May	Year 7 Casula Powerhouse Excursion
12 May	Open University Shield
13 May	NRL in League in Harmony Workshops
13 May	Souths Cares Visit
13 May	Principal's Network Meeting
16 May	University Transition Program
16 May	RAS Program
16 May	Rugby League Training
17 May	Macquarie Mentoring Program
17 May	Community Access Program
17 May	Visual Merchandising Store
17 May	USYD Year 10 Future Focus
19 May	Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation Music Program
19 May	RAS Program
19 May	School Athletics Carnival Day 1

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Volume 42

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to another term of enjoyable learning opportunities, where our students learn together and build new connections and relationships.

I am also delighted to welcome our Intensive English Centre students who have chosen to continue their educational journey in the high school and those enrolling from other schools.

As a culturally diverse community, we are looking forward to supporting and working with you and your families during your time at Miller.

One of the most important aspects of being a quality teacher is dedication. Miller teachers not only listen but also coach and mentor their students. With everything they do helping each student in their care shape and achieve academic goals, a big thank you to those teachers who gave up time with family and friends during the autumn vacation to assist Year 12 in their HSC preparations. Study workshops and completing major works and projects were a focus.

Many teachers were also deeply engaged in preparing lesson materials for the term to provide the best possible learning for students. The dedication of our staff is valued and much appreciated.

The Term 2 School Development Day was an opportunity for staff to strengthen connections and to support student wellbeing through a deeper understanding of our RISE core values. In keeping with the focus on wellbeing, staff also completed mandatory CPR and anaphylaxis training.

#### Staffing Term 2

While at the end of the last term, we farewelled several staff taking up positions in other schools, I would like to welcome back from leave Mr Monaghan. Along with Ms Romic and Ms Noble, he will be supporting curriculum delivery in the TAS faculty. I would also like to welcome you back after extended leave, Ms Bertucci, to the PD/H/PE faculty.

With increasing enrolments, Ms Tu will be moving from the EALD faculty in the high school into the Intensive English Centre.

The school timetable needed to be revised over the autumn vacation with these and other staffing changes. Thank you to Mr Shea, Ms Nand and Head Teachers for your time and effort in supporting these changes.

#### Mother's Day Celebrations

Mother's Day is celebrated worldwide, with traditions and dates varying depending on the country. The first celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honour of the mother goddesses of Rhea and Cybele. Mothers and motherhood were also celebrated during an early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday".



### OFFICE HOURS

#### Monday to Friday

Office Hours : 8.30am to 3.30pm

Telephone : (02)9607 8669

Fax : (02) 96079460

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

## FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK CONTINUED

Another alternate observance of Mother's Day is Ethiopia. Families gather each autumn to sing songs and eat a large feast as part of Antrosht, a multi-day celebration honouring motherhood. In Thailand, Mother's Day is always celebrated in August on the birthday of Queen Sirikit, the mother of all Thai people.

Following on from these traditions, Mother's Day is celebrated in Australia on the first Sunday in May. A time to honour the mother of the family, motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society.

On Thursday, we invited our mothers to an afternoon Mother's Day event, and it was heart-warming to see so many in attendance. The celebrative luncheon was a time to strengthen bonds and relationships with their sons and daughters and acknowledge the significant role mothers worldwide play in their children's education.

The planning and organisation of the afternoon required a considerable team effort. A huge thank you to the Refugee Support Team for your passion in making the afternoon such a memorable time for our mothers and their sons and daughters.

### NAPLAN 2022

During week 3, students in Years 7 and 9 will be undertaking NAPLAN testing. NAPLAN stands for 'National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy'. It is a secure assessment with the tests being set and marked externally by the school with strict rules on how they must be administered. There are four components tested:

- Reading comprehension
- Writing
- Language Conventions – spelling, grammar, punctuation
- Numeracy

From the assessment results, we can identify common strengths and weaknesses across the school to inform grade and whole school planning. Target areas are identified for improvement in literacy and numeracy, so we are constantly adapting our teaching to suit the needs of our students.

NAPLAN is not an event that we want students to be worried about, with preparation completed as part of regular class-work. For more information, visit [www.naplan.edu.au](http://www.naplan.edu.au) or contact Mr Mai (Relieving Head Teacher English) or Ms Ayrton (Head Teacher Mathematics).

### Improving our physical learning environment

Good facilities in schools should be designed to nurture students' intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development. Over the past months, there has been extensive construction work across the school to improve our physical environment.

The lighting upgrade to LED (light-emitting diodes) in administration areas and learning spaces is nearing completion. The Metro renewal program involving the refurbishment of the toilets and amenities in Block D is scheduled to be completed mid-term. Once Block D amenities are completed, work on the Block C change rooms and facilities will commence.

The construction of our new **covered** outdoor learning area **or** COLA commenced this week.

This purposefully built sports facility (basketball/volleyball) and outdoor learning area will nurture a healthy learning environment, helping students feel connected, supported, and engaged.

### Changes to school lateness procedures

Students need to develop habits of arriving on time at school. This ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities when they are most alert early in the day.

Further, research has shown that being late for school can harm a student's learning. Being just 10 minutes late every day adds up to hours of learning lost over a year.

In addressing lateness, our school policy has been revised.

- Students who are late on **TWO** or more occasions in any given week are now required to attend a Thursday after-school detention in the following week between 3 pm and 3:45 pm.
- Parents will be notified by text message on the Friday of each week if their child is required to attend this detention.
- If your child is unable to attend this detention, you will need to contact your child's year group Deputy Principal to discuss an alternate time.

We are committed to ensuring that your child achieves their absolute best at a school. Excellent, on-time attendance is a significant part of achieving this goal. Don't hesitate to contact your child's year group Deputy Principal if you have any questions about our attendance or lateness procedures.

### Reducing the risk of illness this winter

As previously communicated, it is important to note NSW Health's advice to reduce our risk, not only of COVID-19, but also other illnesses that may affect our school this winter, including the flu. We can protect our families and community by:

- Take a RAT before visiting vulnerable family members or large gatherings and events.
- Staying home if unwell.

## FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK CONTINUED

- Keeping up to date with vaccinations – including the flu vaccine, which is now available from your local GP, pharmacy or Aboriginal Medical Service. Flu vaccines are free for all children aged six months to under five years or for a small charge for those aged five years and older.
- Get tested immediately for COVID-19 if you become symptomatic and isolating until you receive a negative result.
- Practise good hand hygiene by regularly washing with soap and water.

Please spend some time reviewing this information and 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, Miller Technology High School Facebook page and School Stream for updates.

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).

Please contact the main school office if you have any questions or needs. Our staff are more than happy to help.

Regards,

**Dr Ken Edge**  
(Principal)



## FAMILIES IN CULTURAL TRANSITION

FICT has resumed for our newly arrived families. Families In Cultural Transition is run over ten weeks and provides families with information on various topics for everyday life in Australia.



The first picture is of a new group. The Module was Introduction & Settlement small group but very interactive. They are sharing their stories and their fears and hopes.



The second picture was of the last Module (Employment). It was great. In the end, they received their certificates & they were delighted.

**Ms H Sadiq - Intensive English Centre**

## MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

'Wishing you a Happy Mother's Day and a day free of household chores,' these words from Dr Ken Edge welcomed guests to our Mother's Day celebration with the Miller Technology High School community.



Over 35 mothers attended, celebrating with their sons and daughters at school by sharing lunch and then connecting with other mothers by spending the afternoon making jewellery.

Mothers expressed their gratitude to Miller Technology High School and commented that this was their time to celebrate. A big thank you to all who were involved in the event!

**Refugee Support Team**





## TAFE YES+ PROGRAM

At the end of Term 1, three Year 10 students attended a TAFE YES+ (Youth Engagement Strategy) program in either Children's Services or Hair/Beauty. The program is a special blend of training and hands-on activities delivered by TAFE's expert teachers. Our students were able to attend 9 days straight, while still maintaining their classwork by engaging with their teachers



online. Congratulations to Khaleda, Lina, and Sara for their commitment to the program and their studies!

**Ms M Benitez**  
**Careers Adviser & NESAs Coordinator**

## CHAU CHAK MUSEUM - 14 MARCH



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This term, the Year 9 Elective and Year 11 Ancient History visited the Chau Chak Museum at Sydney University. The Year 9 class undertook a course on how archaeology uses science to examine human remains. The class focused on the remains of two mummies from Ancient Egypt. Ancient Egyptians are mainly famous for their pyramids, pharaohs, mummies, and tombs, which flourished for thousands of years. Ancient Egyptians believed in life after death, but only if their body was preserved in a life-like form. Mummification was a practical response to pass into the next world. At the Chau Chak museum, the Mummy Room contains the coffins and mummies of two people who lived in Egypt between 1200 BC and 100 AD. Their names are Meruah and Horus. The use of the Cat Scan machine has allowed us to view inside of the mummies without removing their bandages. This technology allows us to respectfully learn about their daily lives, including nutrition, health, disease, and the use of magic amulets and their cause of death. Each one of the mummies has a different story. By studying the mummies of Meruah and Horus, we speak their names again and remember who they were in Ancient Egypt. While on the other hand, Year 11 Ancient History focused on handling and examining objects "artefacts" that originated from places such as Pompeii, Ancient Rome and Greece, and objects from the Stone Age that are more than 10,000 years old. This activity will prepare students for their first assessment task that will involve students undertaking their archaeological dig. Both classes had a fantastic lunch from a Thai restaurant and ate delicious ice cream during the excursion. They all enjoyed the food and appreciated it. The excursion was great. Everyone loved it and learned a lot from it, for example, how mummies were preserved. Students even got a tour of the University which made everyone even more excited to study it in the future. We also got to go into the "Vice-Chancellors Room", a room that looks almost identical to the one in Harry Potter the movie series. The weather there was challenging, it was an adventure for us to cross the road with all the heavy rain pouring, but it was fun! Everyone was interested in this excursion and gained new information about Archaeology, Ancient Egyptians, and artefacts. Our next excursion will be this Thursday to the Holocaust Museum.

**By Maryana Abdo - Year 9 Elective History**



## CAREERS

Check the Miller Technology High School Careers Website to locate university, TAFE and any other type of course across Australia, get information about the HSC, search for job vacancies and much more. <https://millertechnologyhighcareers.com/>

**AATIS In celebration of National Careers Week** AATIS is producing videos spotlighting select industries. In these videos AATIS will interview key industry participants and delve deeply into all things relating to careers and career development. Be sure to check out the Australian Apprenticeships Pathways website [aapathways.com.au](http://aapathways.com.au) each day during 16-22 May as videos are released.

**UCAT Preparation Australia 19 May 2022** - UCAT, Interviews and Pathways into Medicine / Dentistry. UCAT NIE presenting a FREE webinar about UCAT, interviews, and pathways into medicine and dentistry. This is NOT an advertising seminar. The session is packed with invaluable information. Register: <https://www.nie.edu.au/ucat-free/free-ucat-information-sessions> Ph: (02) 4367 0404 / [enquiries@nie.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@nie.edu.au) / [www.nie.edu.au](http://www.nie.edu.au).

**TAFE Pathway Brochures** – the links for these informative brochures has disappeared from the TAFENSW Website. They used to be in the schools section. Click on the link and download the guides [Here](#) and store them in files for your students to refer to.

**Western Sydney University** Registrations for Western's Undergraduate Certificate online courses are open to the community. With the short courses in Health, Information Technology, and Environmental Sustainability potential to lead to a Diploma and even an undergraduate degree the choice is yours. Find out more at: <https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/courses/short-courses-online> ?cid=em:EGMT-CAA-news-UGC apr22.

**Institute of Health and Nursing Australia (IHNA)** is a healthcare training that envisions to create jobs and improve people's lives. IHNA aims to ensure students in Grade 11 and 12 a satisfying career in nursing, health, and community services. Explore more: <https://ihna.edu.au/> Top courses: Diploma of Nursing, Certificate III Pathology Collection, Diploma of Mental Health.

**Torrens University Australia – Open Days** Torrens University and Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School's Open Days on 7 & 14 May are the perfect opportunity to chat to the academics about Torrens Work-Integrated Learning, find a course that matches your career goals with help from the Course and Careers Advisers and explore the campuses to see the facilities Torrens offers. Read more: <https://www.torrens.edu.au/whats-on>.

**UNSW Sydney UNSW Year 10 Subject Selection Evenings**, May 3 & May 12, Online. Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/year-10-subject-selection-and-information-evenings-tickets-310235692307> UNSW hope to see you there!

**Academy of Interactive Entertainment Career in Games & Film, Open Day** at Academy of Interactive Entertainment Saturday 14th May Considering a career in games or film? Discover AIE's courses in Animation, Film, Programming and Game Design. Learn about entry requirements and career pathways. 10am-3pm, 33 Mountain St, Ultimo, NSW, 2007. Rego required. RSVP: [https://aie.edu.au/aie\\_event/open-day/](https://aie.edu.au/aie_event/open-day/).

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**MedEntry UCAT Prep UCAT Handbook** At [MedEntry.edu.au](http://MedEntry.edu.au) under "Free Resources" tab. Available to parents, aspiring Medical students and Careers Advisers. Print and use or contact MedEntry if you need a hard copy. This comprehensive handbook offers advice on the pathways, UCAT strategies, interview techniques and more.

**The University of Notre Dame Australia** Applications for Notre Dame University's Young Achievers Early Offer Program are now open! Application close Friday 30 September 2022, with offers being released from July to October 2022. Apply Direct <https://www.notredame.edu.au/study/early-offer/early-offer>.

**ACU Guarantee** opening date Guarantee your place at ACU before your Year 12 exams. ACU Guarantee offers eligible Year 12 students a place at ACU based on their Year 11 results. Applications open Monday 18 July 2022. To learn more about the application process, tune into ACU webinar on Wednesday 27 July at 6 – 6.30pm. Register: <https://bit.ly/3L7XjY>.

**Western Sydney University 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\\_Apr22](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/hsc-true-reward.html?cid=em:CAA-news-HSCTR-page-EGMT_Apr22).

**NSW Department of Education Scholarship programs for future teachers** Do you have students interested in teaching as a career? Subscribe to be notified when scholarship programs with the NSW Department of Education open or new program information becomes available: [tinyurl.com/scholarship-alerts](http://tinyurl.com/scholarship-alerts)

Help is available



Youthbeyondblue  
1300 22 4636



Kids Helpline  
1800 55 1800