

MILLER MESSENGER NEWSLETTER 24 MARCH 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Volume 57

5 April

Prefect Meeting

Come & Try Athletics Day for Students with Disabilities

6 April

Parent's English Class

Souths Cares Program

Homework Centre 3 - 5pm

ANZAC Day Ceremony

7 April

School Holidays Start

26 April

Students Commence Term 2

Youth Week

27 April

Parent's English Class

Souths Cares Program

28 April

SRC & Prefect Group Photos - Hall

4 May

Souths Cares Program

Cross Country Carnival

5 May

Women's Group

11 May

Souths Cares Program

ROSE Assembly

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday

Office Hours: 8.30am to 3.30pm

Telephone: (02) 9607 8669

Fax: (02) 9607 9460

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

Dear parents/carers,

As a school and community with over 30 different language and cultural backgrounds Harmony Day and Week is a time not only to celebrate our diversity, but what we have in common. It is also a time to commit to being a champion of harmony.

When we think of something that is in a state of harmony, we think of the components coming together to produce a pleasing or complete whole. We may think of old and new architecture blending in harmony; we think of science and nature working in harmony.

Perhaps most commonly, we think of the sound of harmony when we listen to music. It is the musical dimension of harmony that most powerfully brings home its meaning. Traditionally, the term in music refers to two or three pitches sounding simultaneously, with the pleasing sound to be found in the conforming to compositional principles. Harmony, in other words is a process, an understanding – and not merely a result.

This is especially true of Australia's multicultural society. Our diversity is extraordinary, and our harmony indisputable. Australia is at one, home to the world's oldest continuing culture, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and more than 270 other ancestries. More than 25 per cent of us were born overseas; an additional 20 per cent having a parent also, who was born overseas.

The aspiration of harmony is central in the quest for human rights with a good deal of debate recently about the nature of human rights. Human rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status.

Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from oppression and suffering, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and much more. Importantly, within the debate it must be remembered that human rights are interdependent, in that the enjoyment of one will depend upon the enjoyment of others. Therefore, all human rights contribute to a person's dignity and wellbeing.

Harmony Day, an Australian government-declared observance day that began in 1999, is for us, an occasion for celebration. Our Harmony week activities created a feeling of belonging and strength of community that comes from cultural respect and friendship, very much part of our school's core values.

During Monday's whole school assembly Uncle Harry Callaghan from the Gandangarra Land Council conducted a smoking ceremony with students from the Intensive

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK CONTINUED

English Centre and High School, in their first language, reflecting on their understanding of the Harmony Day message, 'everyone belongs'. Also on the day, with excitement and pride students and staff were able to wear their national dress or something orange, such as a shirt.

The colour was chosen because traditionally it is a symbol of social communication and meaningful conversation. The colour further signifies the freedom of ideas, shows support for diversity, inclusiveness, and the encouragement of mutual respect. A gold coin donation supported Australian Red Cross to help bring people and communities together in times of need.

Tuesday, 21 March was Harmony Day. Celebrations included, a reading corner in Hot Shots Café in the morning, a Lolly Jar Guessing Competition, SRC Colouring in Activity and Gelato Bar at recess and lunch time in the Café. Traditional dancing was a highlight, not only on Harmony Day, but during the week.

Miller staff were also involved in a fun activity, the faculty staffroom door decorating competition. Judging was conducted by our Women's Community Group under the guidance of our school's Community Liaison Officer, Ms Shiba with the winners to be presented with their certificates and medals on our final whole school assembly for the term, Week 11.

The week concluded with a community celebrative event. As in previous years the strengths of our school and community connections were evident with over seventy parent, carers and friends in attendance. The Arabic, Assyrian, African, Afghan and Pacifica student's dance and music performances were inspirational and awe-inspiring.

In working towards making our school a great place to learn and to have fun, I would like to thank all the staff and students involved in the presentations, organisation, and planning. It is my hope with diversity as our strength, we can look beyond differences and know that we are part of something very special. However, we must also remember that embracing 'diversity' may require us to overcome our own fears and pre-dispositions. To do so, requires inner

courage and strength!

To finish, as I look back on the past week and with the theme for Harmony Day - 'Everyone Belongs' reinforcing inclusiveness through diversity to enrich our lives, I would like to leave you with the lyrics from the last verse, of what some would call our unofficial National Anthem - 'I'm Australian' written by Bruce Woodley (The Seekers) and Dobe Newton (The Bushwhackers).

We are one, but we are many.

And from all the lands on earth we come.

We'll share a dream and with one voice.

"I am, you are, we are Australian."

"I am, you are, we are Australian."

Please continue to check our other online communications, including the High School (https://miller-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/) and Intensive English Centre (https://milleriec.schools.nsw.gov.au/) websites, MTHS Facebook page and School Stream. We are also contactable through our email -miller-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or Miller IEC at miller-i.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

If you have any immediate needs or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the main High School office (Office Hours 8.30am-3.00pm).

Regards

Dr Ken Edge - Principal

HARMONY WEEK

This year our school celebrated Harmony Day through a number of exciting and educational activities. Harmony Day is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

During the week there were a number of fun activities including cultural dancing, coffee and hot chocolate, gelato stall, lolly guessing competition and a parent's afternoon tea. The foundation of all activities was to celebrate cultural diversity and emphasise that 'everyone belongs'.

Ms E Mrkela - IEC Teacher

HARMONY WEEK



























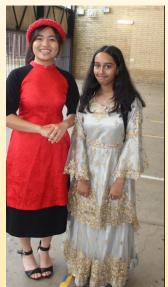






























HARMONY WEEK













































HARMONY WEEK





















HARMONY DAY DOORS

As part of this year's celebrations all staff were invited to have fun by decorating their staffroom and office doors and compete for a pizza lunch.

The doors reflected the spirit of Harmony Week and highlighted the value we place in being a kind and supportive school community.

Well done and thank you to all the participants!

And the winner is The Front Office!!!!

Ms C Best - EAL/D Education Leader

















MTHS BOYS' SOCCER TEAM

An inspiring effort from the MTHS Open Boys' Soccer Team, defeating a strong Lurnea High School Team. Coming back from 2–1 to win 2-3 in the last minute of extra time. Great work by everyone, especially Jamal Alkhatib (Y11) and the captain, Ali Ibrahim (IEC)!



Mr P Patana - IEC Teacher

IEC SPELLING BEE

Students have been competing in a Spelling Bee competition. There are three rounds that they have to overcome. They receive a different list of words to study for each round, increasing in difficulty as it continues. These students have passed Rounds 1 and 2 and will be competing in the final round next week. Which speller will reign supreme?



Ms C Rousseau - School Practicum Coordinator (IEC)

YEAR 9 FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Year 9 Food Technology classes been very excited to learn new culinary skills. They are learning about healthy eating for the unit Food Selection and Health and preparing healthy dishes during practical periods.

Throughout the year, they will be practicing simple to complex recipes. Students will be developing their own recipes and cooking by themselves for their practical assessment tasks. I'm very proud to see their amazingly presented dishes. Taking responsibility is shown by cleaning their cooking area.

Ms D Gill - TAS Teacher









YEAR 8 TECH MANDATORY S

Year 8 TM S are doing the Food Glorious Food unit for Technology Mandatory in Term 1. The students are learning about hygiene and safety in the kitchen as well as healthy eating for teenagers. The unit and cooking lessons have been very enjoyable.

Ms D Gill - TAS Teacher





BASS OUTING TO SPLASH PARK

On Tuesday 21st March, Bass class participated in their first community access activity.

We travelled on the school bus to Middleton Grange Splash Park.

Despite the overcast day everyone had a great time playing and socialising amongst the fountains and sprinklers. The big bucket was everyone's favourite!

The boys enjoyed playing basketball on the full-size court, and we were all grateful that the rain stayed away.

Community access is an important and valuable part of our program in Support. It allows our students to develop several skills including social skills and living skills such as handling money, road safety and moving around safely in the community.

Ms J Keyes - Support Faculty Teacher









HOMEWORK CENTRE

Every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon in the Library, 3pm - 5pm, Miller Technology High School holds Homework Centre for all year groups. This is a chance for any student to receive free one on one or group tutoring with their teachers. It is also a great opportunity for students to have a safe space whilst working on their own. Students come down to Homework Centre to better understand classwork, get feedback on assessment tasks and get help with homework. Mrs Sayers and Miss Pollard are very proud of all the students who come down to Homework Centre and work very hard to achieve academic excellence. If any student would like to participate in Homework Centre, please see Miss Pollard in English or Mrs Sayers in Science for a permission note.

Ms B Sayers - Science Teacher













WELCOME PROGRAM

Starting in a new school can be both exciting and intimidating, especially for newly arrived migrant and refugee students as they transition into the mainstream school environment. That's why Miller Technology High School offers a program for new students to help them acclimatise to their new environment and feel more confident and prepared for their academic journey.

One such program is called "The Welcome Program," which is usually held a few weeks before the start of each term. The program is designed to introduce new students to the school's policies, expectations, resources and support systems, as well as to provide an opportunity to meet fellow students and staff members.

Led by the Refugee Transition Coordinator, Ms Romic in collaboration with the community Liaison Officer Ms Shiba and Ms Liu, the program offers a positive and welcoming experience for students, ensuring they feel connected to their new community.

During the three-hour session, students are introduced to school routines, staff, and expectations about behaviour and learning. They receive important information about the student handbook and a scientific calculator, as well as details about school uniform, bell times, activities, school rules and expectations, staff, homework, assessment tasks, and a tour of the school by the newly appointed SRC members. Year 9 and 10 students also had the opportunity to select their electives.

The program also provides an opportunity for students to meet with important school staff members such as the School Principal and Sports Coordinator Ms Christie, who provided information about sports electives available to Year 9 and 10 students. Throughout the session, students are encouraged to ask questions and seek support regarding the upcoming term.

The program culminates in a shared lunch for all participants, which provides an opportunity for students to connect with each other and feel a sense of belonging in their new community. The impact of the Welcome Program is significant, with students feeling more confident and supported as they prepare for the

next stage in their schooling.

A special thanks to the Head Teacher of Community Partnership, Ms Atkins for organizing the SRC members, and to the School Captain, Marten Khamo, and Vice School Captain, Zioa Al Khamees, for sharing their own experiences as IEC exciters back in 2016. Their contribution to the program is invaluable, and we thank them for their ongoing support.

In conclusion, the Welcome Program is a vital component of ensuring newly arrived migrant and refugee students feel supported, safe and connected in their new school environment. The collaborative efforts of the team are commendable, and I thank them for their commitment to this important initiative.

Ms S Romic - Refugee Transition Coordinator Ms S Shiba - Community Liaison Officer





Y11 ANSTO EXCURSION

Year 11 Chemistry and Physics students visited the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) on Tuesday, March 14 as part of their indepth study investigation assignment. Mr Caddy, Mrs Sayers, and Mrs Abu Swireh each led a group on a tour with ANSTO facilitators to learn about scientific research and its applications in medicine. Students had the opportunity to participate in the practical component in order to collect data to be further discussed in class and to enhance their understanding of the module one topic.

Ms M Abu Swireh - Deputy Principal









CAREERS

Courses & Workshops for Students

TAFE NSW |Students can bring their art to life with GIFy creations. Mixed media artist Essa will host a free three-day workshop (12-14 April) at @PowerhouseParramatta for high school aged students to design and transform playful mixed media collages into shareable GIF animations. The workshop is free, but bookings are essential: www.maas.museum/event/creative-studio-essa/

SEVENmile Ltd Enterprise in the Community, now in its 4th year, is delivered in conjunction with the Regional Education Industry Partnerships team at NSW Education. An experiential learning program designed for 15-17-year-old students, culminates in a presentation event where students present solutions to the real-world business problems of local business owners. Find out more at www.sevenmile.org.au

UNSW GIE Club April school holiday robotics workshop for girls in Year 7 – 9 Limited places remain in the FREE robotics workshop on Tues 11 April for girls in Year 7 – 9. Facilitated by Robogals UNSW at the UNSW Kensington campus, this hands-on interactive workshop runs from 10am – 11.30am. There is also the option to join a FREE iCinema immersive tour after. More info: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/unsw-girls-inengineering-club-robotics-workshop-tickets-578288966867

Discover ACU Students can participate in free Discover ACU events to get a taste of university life before enrolling in uni. Students can choose an interactive workshop from their degree of choice, meet staff and current students, explore their local campus and get helpful tips on preparing for university. Registrations open now: www.acu.edu.au/aboutacu/events/discover-acu

University of Sydney International Science School 2023 It's back, live and in-person |Join top science students from around the world for two weeks of inspiring talks by world -renowned scientists, visits to cutting-edge research facilities, hands-on experiments and activities, and a packed program of social events. ISS2023 will run from 2-15 July 2023 – science-mad students in Years 11 and 12 in 2023 are encouraged to apply. Applications close 6 April 2023: www.bit.ly/USYDISS23

Resources for Students

Careers at Council Careers Advisers and students looking for information about job opportunities in local government, and any related qualification requirements, should visit www.careersatcouncil.com.au Careers at Council lists the job vacancies of over 100 councils in NSW and features videos and career path stories of many of the sector's employees.

HSC4Me Premium resources for Year 12 students Written by the most experienced teachers & markers, HSC4Me is full of resources that will boost student's knowledge & skills. The app delivers easy to follow guides & resources including: video snapshots, interactive quizzes & practice questions, worked examples and solutions, study notes, sample papers, answers & exemplars. Learn more at www.inspired.edu.au

Information Sessions for Students & Parents

Western Sydney University On Wednesday 26 April from 5pm, Western is holding a Discover Western Webinar on Medicine. The webinar will explore the Doctor of Medicine, entry requirements, graduate employment prospects and life at Western. Join: www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/student-life/events/western-webinars

Western Sydney University Registrations are now open for Open Day 2023. Join WSU on Sunday 2 July for your chance to win 1 of 3 e-gift cards valued at \$1,000. Open Day is an opportunity to discover all Western has to offer, explore presentations and student panels, meet academics and current students, find out about Western's early offer pathway, HSC True Reward and more:

www.westernsydney.edu.au/openday#register

Study at ACU webinars |Join ACU online to have all your questions about studying at ACU answered. The webinars will detail how to apply, discuss non-traditional pathways to uni and the opportunity to hear

CAREERS

students talk about what life is really like at ACU. Register now: www.acu.edu.au/study-at-acu/future-student-events/study-at-acu

The University of Sydney Year 10 Information Evenings On-campus and Online | Come along to one of the Information Evening sessions to chat with current students and alumni, and to learn about subject selection, admission requirements, entry schemes, pathways, fees, scholarships, and the support services offered from expert staff and a UAC representative. Register for an oncampus session: www.bit.ly/USYDIE Register for the online session: www.bit.ly/USYDIEO

Australian College of Applied Professions | Join an online information session or Mini Class, hosted by ACAP. Information sessions cover all you need to know about studying a particular course in Psychology, Counselling, Social Work or Criminology. Register for an information session to receive details on both series of online events: acap.edu.au/events

Job & Work Experience for Students

Chemical Engineering Work Experience at the University of Sydney Hosted by the Faculty of Engineering's School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, work experience placements are available for Year 10 students who want to learn more about chemical engineering. The placements will be held from Monday 29th to Wednesday 31st of May 2023 and places are limited. To find out more and to register your students: www.bit.ly/USYDEngWE

Traineeships, Cadetships, Apprentice- ships - Information & Opportunities

Professional Cadetships Australia Applications for Business Cadetships are open and close on 24 May. Cadets combine university study with paid work at leading companies. Applications for Technology Cadetships will open on 2 June. www.professionalcadets.com.au

Study and Work Traineeship Opportunities If you are looking for traineeship opportunities so you can learn and earn at the same time, check out what www.studyandwork.com.au has on offer.

Ms M Benitez - Careers Advisor & NESA Coordinator

ANZAC DAY - APRIL 25



COMMUNITY NOTICE



Are you aged 5-15 years?

Do you have a passion for animals?

Want to make some new furry friends?

Then join the RSPCA NSW Education Team for the upcoming School Holiday Program!

rspcansw.org.au







SESSIONS INCLUDE

- A behind-the-scenes tour of our shelters
- Making enrichment toys
- Meeting a variety of shelter animals
- Talks from various roles at the RSPCA
- Exploring how our Inspectors perform rescues and enforce the law

PROGRAMS





UPPER PRIMARY (8-11 years)



Sydney Adoption and Education Centre

201 Rookwood Road, Yagoona NSW 2199

To express your interest, please visit our website: rspcansw.org.au/what-we-do/education /school-holiday-program/

If you would like more information, contact the Education Team on:

- (02) 9782 4478
- education@rspcansw.org.au



TERM 2 RESUMES FOR ALL STUDENTS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26