



BLACKWATTLE BAY CAMPUS

# Bay Side

April 2019

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## Key Dates

30 April	Students return
1 May	Anzac Day Ceremony
8-9 May	Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews
10 May	School Photo Day
14 May	Year 11 Music 2 Evening 6.30 pm
21 May	Year 11 Music 1 Evening 6.30 pm
22 May	Careers and HSC Market
23 May	Splendour @ the Bay
30 May	Year 12 Music 2 Evening 6.30 pm

## Principal's Report

We are almost at the of Term 1 and it has been an extremely busy term at the Bay in terms of collaborative learning, sport and extracurricular events and activities. Year 11 students have almost completed their first term of Stage 6 studies and are completing their first assessment tasks. Year 12 are nearing the end of Semester 1 for the HSC. The new HSC assessment procedures for Stage 6 has resulted in no Mid-Course Examinations for Year 12 students. This has created additional teaching time for courses and the teachers and students are taking advantage of this, engaging in teaching and learning activities through to the end of the term. All faculties are ensuring students have experiences answering exam style questions in preparation for the HSC exams in October and November.

### Assessing and Reporting at Blackwattle Bay

Year 12 students and their parents will soon receive their detailed Semester 1 reports and they will be available in Sentral Parent Portal. Access to the Parent Portal can now be accessed via the school website. Bookings for Parent Teacher interviews will open in week 11. It is most important parents and students attend these interviews to have the opportunity of gaining valuable feedback from teachers and to discuss how each student can add value to their work in the coming months.

Year 11 students and their parents will receive the Year 11 Progress Reviews, which are a reflection of each student's transition to Stage 6 courses. These are also available in the Parent portal and based on this feedback some parents and students will be invited to a Family Interview with the Year 11 Well Being Team. Parents will receive a phone call to arrange for an interview date and time. These interviews are valuable for

establishing learning support for students and developing good relationships between the family and the Wellbeing team.

In mid-term 1 I had the opportunity to attend the awards ceremony at Parliament House for three of our Year 11 students who received scholarships from the Soroptimist Society. I was extremely proud of our three recipients Christine Nguyen, Carolina Cooksey and Sophia Favaloro who all wrote outstanding applications. They now have some funds to be spent on their education over the next two years. Their student profiles are included in a latter section of this newsletter.

### School Events

Term 1 feels like we are "Event City @ the Bay"! We have had the opportunity of meeting many of our school community through a number of our major events. On May 8 we enjoyed a wonderful International Women's Day Breakfast where guest speaker Tanya Plibersek spoke to our young women about the continuing high levels of domestic violence against women and suggested ways both governments and women around the globe can work together to ensure these alarming statistics are reduced. Student Ambassadors coordinated the food and the whole event and it was lovely to have so many of our mothers and carers join us on the day.

We have also held dinners for our Indigenous community and welcomed all our International students their parents and carers to another dinner in March. These are all great opportunities for the School Executive to connect with all sections of our growing community.

We finished March on a high with the celebrations of Diversity Day, celebrating Harmony Day, and again our students and staff coordinated a very welcoming event for our school community.

The formal assembly was particularly moving with speeches by a number of our students about the impact of the events in New Zealand on them and their families. In my speech I mentioned to the students how I felt our world was in better hands as this student cohort moves to become the active global citizens in the coming years. The beautiful mural developed by them over the last couple of weeks is a true reflection of the role they will play in making the world we live in a better place for all people. As a staff, we are all very proud of our students and the roles they are starting to take up.

**Jan Cuke**

**Principal (Acting)**



## Deputy Principal's Report

Year 12 students are half way through the HSC. We would highly recommend that students who have project submissions to submit in term 3 use the current term breaks to complete at least three quarters of their submissions, as Term 2 will go so fast before you know it the Trial examinations will have arrived. Students should have a timetabled, regular study pattern at home on top of all their homework and assessment tasks.

It is important for students to achieve a balance in their lives. Year 12 is not only about school and study, socialising, exercise and eating healthy foods are important for the wellbeing of our students. One of the less stressful moments in Term 2 is Splendour@Bay, on 23 May. This event gives our students time to get together with their peers and enjoy the fun activities organised for the day.

Some important submission dates for NESA Projects and Performance submissions.

Denise Nicola

Deputy Principal (Acting)

Subjects	NESA Submission Date	School Exhibition/ Performances
Society and Culture	5 August	
Industrial Technology	15 August	
Design Technology	19 August	
English Extension 2	23 August	
Drama	26 August Performances commence on this week TBA	1 August HSC Drama Evening in Lecture Theatre
Design & Technology	29 August	
Visual Arts	2 September	Opening Night 6 August
Music 1,2 & Ext	9 September Performances commence on this date TBA	12 Music 2 May 30 Evening 6.30pm  12 Music 1 25 June Evening 6.30pm
Languages	Weeks 3 – 9 July – September Conducted during weeks 3- 9 on Saturdays Refer to NESA site	



## School Leaders' Report

As Term 1 finally wraps up after numerous assessments, special events and the daily routine of classes, it is an excellent opportunity for the leadership team to reflect on such a successful term, which saw students from all three campuses of Sydney Secondary College coming together as one student body. Our Year 11 students have smoothly eased themselves into their Stage 6 studies, mixing well with their Year 12 peers, and events such as "Diversity Day", the "Talent Quest" and "Clean up Australia Day", amongst others, have given everyone the opportunity to meet new people and indulge in the multitude of activities on offer at the college. It has been great to see our Year 11 students taking up leadership roles in special interest groups such as the SRC and the school Ambassadors program, helping their Year 12 peers and alleviating some of their stress.

Diversity Day was, without doubt, an extremely special event on our school calendar. It showcased the multitude of cultures, backgrounds, languages, and experiences of the teachers and students at Blackwattle Bay campus. This day, filled with food stands, activities, guest speakers and the infamous talent quest was, from an organisational and team work perspective, extremely successful. It allowed the SRC, the leadership team, our Ambassadors and other students to work side by side with teachers and the executive staff to present a day which truly embodied diversity, an important school value here at Blackwattle Bay campus. Across our school students and teachers were able to voice their views on what diversity meant for them and how it could be showcased. In the end this day was highly successful and enjoyable.

In the morning, a touching assembly run by the SRC, with help from the school leaders, brought our school community together to listen to two incredible stories presented by our guest speakers Gretta Serov and Isaiah Dawe. These presentations gave us the opportunity to consider

the diversity around us and the importance of tolerance and inclusion. It was also an occasion, which gave us the opportunity to support fellow international and local students alike who shared interesting insights about their culture. Alida Ondo, for example, spoke with great pride and passion about Equatorial Guinea. A big "thank you" to everyone involved in making this important assembly happen, including members of our leadership team working with staff to invite guest speakers to the event.

The food stands represented various cultures with food prepared by both students and teachers. Highlights included the infamous barbecue run by the enthusiastic HSIE staff, the Mathematics Greek stand and the Languages stand with bubble tea and crepes made by Chinese, Japanese and French students and teachers. It was so pleasing to see students and teachers working together on stands to ensure everything ran smoothly. Again, a big "thank you" to everyone involved.



## SSC Blackwattle Bay Campus

A number of faculties made significant profits, some of which will go toward funding new initiatives in the school such as "Social Inc". Other stands, such as one promoting a book swap to raise funds for a literacy program for Indigenous children and the Timor stand, run by the wonderful Mr. George, raising funds for students travelling to Timor this year, truly highlighted the team work involved in this event. The clothes swap, organised by students in our Environmental Group, with help from Mr. Roberts, aimed to promote sustainability and was a great success, allowing students to step up and run initiatives on this day.

The day concluded with the annual Talent Quest, which highlighted the diversity of talent at Blackwattle. Acts ranged from acrobatic performances to special musical items and even a polished performance by a band of teachers! Everyone in the audience had a great time. A special "thank you" to the members of the entertainment team, led by Ms Thompson, who worked tirelessly to make this event perfect.

In other news, the Environmental group organised a group of 25 students for a "Clean Up Australia Day" event on Friday the 1st of March. The group walked around Blackwattle Bay, clearing up loose rubbish and litter with the purpose of reducing the amount of rubbish that would otherwise impede the functioning of the local ecosystem. The group was lucky enough to be joined by Jamie Parker, Member for Balmain, as they made their way around the boardwalk with the help of Mr. Roberts, the Environmental group coordinator. The day was ultimately a

huge success even though we were shocked by the amount of litter we collected! We will be working toward finding a better way to collect rubbish around our school to reduce our impact on our local environment.

Finally, with the conclusion of studies quickly approaching for our Year 12 students, organisation for the end of year celebrations and memorabilia is underway. This includes the Year 12 yearbook and the year 12 formal. Students, leaders and the finance team of the school are working together to ensure that Year 12 leaves unforgotten. They have been accepting expression of interest forms and will soon complete this process.

As we look to yet another term approaching quickly, after a short break for Easter, the leadership team will not be slowing down. On the second day, back we will hold our Anzac Day assembly and this will be followed by many more events including the fabulous "Splendour at the Bay" event.

Happy holidays to you all.

Maddie Fox, Dylan Godwin, Lia Perkins  
and Simon Peyrachon





## Support Unit Report

Students and staff from the support unit would like to thank everyone who bought one of our cards at our stall on Diversity Day. The cards featured photographs of artworks created by students in our Visual Arts classes and included drawings in oil pastels, soft pastels, monoprints, mixed media abstracts and collages made with ripped watercolour paper, brown paper, tissue paper, textured papers and gouache.

We sold around 100 cards on the day with orders for more! Sufia Khan, Abby Matthews and Kaitlyn Shroder, whose work was featured on many of the cards, worked hard on our stall on the day and spoke to customers about their artmaking process and individual artworks. The money we raised will be donated to East Timor.

**Ms Maria FitzPatrick**

**Teacher, Special Education Faculty**



**"Still Life in warm colours" Oil pastels  
Abby Matthews 2019**



**"Abstract in blue and green" Oil pastels  
Soulomon Zammit 2019**





**"Boogie Shmoogie" Oil Pastels**  
**Matthew Morvan 2019**



**"Colourburst" Soft pastels**  
**Sufia Khan 2019**



**"Abstract in soft colours" Soft pastels**  
**Jacob Pezzulo 2019**



**"Still Life" Monoprinting and soft pastels**  
**Sufia Khan 2018**



**"Tree collage" Paper and gouache**  
**Soulomon Zammit 2019**



## **Wellbeing Report**

Term 1 has been very busy and successful for the Wellbeing Team at SSC Blackwattle Bay. We are currently developing and repeating wellbeing initiatives to support our students through the busy HSC process.

Students still attend mentoring or year meetings on a weekly basis and these sessions have a clear wellbeing and study skills focus. There are online Edmodo year groups and all of the support resources are available to all students at all times! We will finish the term with a guest speaker, Paul Dillon from DARTA who will present to our Year 11 students as part of our Life Ready Program. This is a state-wide 25 hour program designed to support student health and wellbeing. Paul has over thirty years' experience in his field and the response from students to these sessions last year was overwhelmingly positive. Paul Dillon also has an extensive website, which also features a blog for parents and for students. He answers many essential questions and provides the latest information around drug and alcohol safety. Please use the link below if you would like to explore it. <http://darta.net.au/blogs/>



### **Term 2 New and Returning Initiatives.**

We are very excited to welcome back our friends from *Youth Frontiers* and *Raise Mentoring* to support Blackwattle Bay students. *Raise Mentoring* is a small group-

mentoring program we are offering to select Year 11 students during terms 2 and 3. This is the second time we have offered this style of mentoring and found it to be a wonderful future- focussed opportunity for students.

We are also currently working with Glebe PCYC on *Fit4Life*, a sports program designed to promote health and wellbeing for teenagers. So there are lots of opportunities at Blackwattle Bay.

### **Wellbeing tip:**

University studies identify students who exercise do better at their exams. - Professor Timothy Olds, School of Health Sciences

Try to get at least 30 minutes' exercise on most days of the week. Students who exercise do better in their exams, and are happier and healthier. You don't have to go to the gym, or run marathons - even a brisk walk is good for you. You should also spend less time sitting and break up long periods of sitting by walking around to stretch your legs, getting up to have a snack or going outside for few minutes.

Good learning depends on sleep. Most students should be getting at least eight hours' sleep each night. Students who learn new material and then have a good night's sleep remember what they have learnt much better than those who don't sleep or get poor sleep. Poor sleep can also lead to greater risk of illness, obesity, and depression.

**Ms Rachael Hill, Head Teacher Wellbeing**

## **International Students News**

### **Carers Dinner Event**

On the 18th of March twelve International students and their carers attended the International students and carers dinner event in our school kitchen foyer. Students and their carers enjoyed the food and the relaxed atmosphere and were provided with detailed information about the school, the Higher School Certificate and how to access support from the school's executive staff, teachers on the International Student Support Team and staff representatives from the Department of Education International Department.

**Ms Chang Liu**

**International Student Coordinator,  
Teacher LOTE Faculty**



## **Environmental Group Update**

### **Clean-up Australia Day**

The Environmental Committee conducted a Clean-up Australia Day event on Friday, 1st March 2019. Students, teachers and the community headed outside with rubbish bags in hand to clean up the Blackwattle Bay foreshore. Our team of volunteers collected kilograms of rubbish which included plastic straws, glass bottles, and fishing lines. The theme of the event was "change starts with you". It was through our collective efforts that an estimated 15 thousand tonnes of rubbish were removed from parks, beaches, bushland, suburban streets and waterways across the nation.

**Mr Christopher Roberts, Teacher HSIE Faculty**



## Student Profiles

### Carolina Cooksey: Sydney Secondary College

Carolina is a motivated, driven and engaged student, who takes an active role in her school community. After successfully auditioning for the *Year 10 NSW State Drama Ensemble*, she was engaged in weekly rehearsals leading to a final performance at the *State Drama Festival*, an experience which was both enriching and engaging.

She has also participated in SRC coordinated events within her school community, organising fundraising events for charities like Twenty10 which donates its proceeds to LGBTIQ+ youth.

Along with three other students, from Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus, she also participated in regional debates, as part of the NSW Premiers Debating Challenge.

Carolina hopes to successfully complete her HSC, as she believes education has the power to create change on both a personal and broader level. Her current career aspiration is to work as a human rights lawyer. She hopes to make a difference in the lives of others, as so many of the people in her life have done for her.

### Christina Nguyen: Sydney Secondary College

Christina has always loved learning, whether it is in a classroom setting or through the internet. She is a conscientious student who puts her whole effort into her studies.

Christina is a volunteer with the *Chris O'Brien Lifeline Artie Program*, where she helps set up art projects for people going through chemotherapy. She also volunteers with the *Vietnamese Cultural School* and has participated in many performing arts activities.

As her Grandmother does not speak much English, Christina helps her with interactions with neighbours and within the community, using her knowledge of both English and Vietnamese to facilitate necessary communications.

Christina would like to study Japanese in her final two years at school to expand her knowledge and understanding. At university she hopes to obtain a degree in commerce or business as well as a degree in languages. In the future she hopes to become a fully qualified interpreter and translator, working with businesses and communities to extend their knowledge of Asian cultures.





**Sophia Favaloro: Sydney Secondary College**

Sophia's determination and dedicated hard work have helped her overcome difficulties she has experienced with her learning. This determination has contributed to her commitment to the school community where she was a school leader in year ten. She uses every opportunity to advocate for mental health support and general care for the student body. She was nominated by her school to participate in the *Linked-In Leadership Program* and the *Rock and Water Martial Arts Program* for independent girls.

Sophia was a member of the school debating team and helped establish a

new writing group called *Typo*. She also helped with the school play by becoming Assistant Director to the drama teachers. She helped with staging ideas, and designed the lighting used throughout the production.

Outside of school, Sophia actively volunteers at the *Sydney Story Factory* where she has helped tutor young students to extend their writing skills. She also completed a work experience placement there and has developed a love of story-telling in all its forms. She hopes to complete a Bachelor of Arts at university and pursue a career in the Arts.

# Faculty Reports

## Science

It's been a very busy and exciting start to the year for our year 11 and 12 scientists at Blackwattle Bay. We have been fortunate to have two new permanent members of staff join our teaching team. Kirsty Francis, who has joined us from Leichhardt campus, will be delivering programs in Physics, Chemistry and Investigating Science. Sarah Brown has joined us from Homebush Boys and will be delivering Biology and Earth and Environmental Science. We are very excited to have these two wonderful teachers on board.

Our Year 11 Investigating Science classes were lucky enough to visit Taronga Zoo on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March in order to investigate animal behaviour for their first depth study assessment task. The excursion gave our students the opportunity to attend lectures by experts in the field of behavioural science to build on syllabus content. Our students found these lectures, in a new setting, most interesting. They also visited a range of exhibits to directly observe and record the behaviours of animals bred and raised in a zoo environment. The highlight of the day was an almost private seal show during which our students learnt about animal conditioning and the kinds of quantitative and qualitative data zoologists need to collect about animals in their care. It was a day packed with deep learning opportunities and most importantly fun! The data collected from the Zoo visit will form the basis of the depth study assessment tasks.

The Year 11 Earth and Environmental Science class enjoyed an action-packed day at the Field of Mars on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Here, students were able to collect first-hand data in the field

for their depth study report on human impacts on the natural environment.



Students investigated the biotic and abiotic features of the area and had a lesson on prior land uses and current management practices. The field trip required students to walk long distances through beautiful bushland, so they were very fortunate to have had great weather for the day. The field work also gave them an experience of what it is like to be an environmental scientist.

In Term 2 we will be looking forward to some more exciting excursions for both our Year 11 and Year 12 students. Our Year 11 Biology students will be visiting the Field of Mars for a day of study about ecosystems for their depth study and our Year 12 Biology students will be visiting the Museum of Human Disease to develop their understanding of infectious and non-infectious diseases.

2019 also sees us celebrating The International Year of the Periodic Table. The Periodic Table of Elements was discovered by Dmitri Mendeleev in 1869 and has been one of the most significant achievements in science.

**Ms Traci Lewis**

**Head Teacher, Science Faculty**



## Drama

Congratulations to Year 11 Drama student, Stephanie Ye who has auditioned and has been selected to participate in the Arts Unit, NSW Public Senior Drama Ensemble.

Stephanie will be participating in a weekly rehearsal session with other student actors which will culminate in a grand performance at the Seymour Centre on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> October of this year. We wish her well and look forward to the Drama Ensemble performance in October.

**Mr Leo Sorbello, Drama Teacher, CAPA Faculty.**

## Music

Year 12 Music 1, 2 and Extension students have been experiencing some of the best Music has to offer this term in preparation for their HSC practical and written exams.

### Encore @ Sydney Opera House

Students had the opportunity to see the best performances and compositions from the 2018 HSC cohort at the Opera House showcase *Encore*. The students showcased received Band 6 and above for their work, giving our students a good idea of the level of performance required for their own HSC.



### Music 2 @ Meet the Music

Our Music 2 and extension students also had the opportunity to attend the latest *Meet The Music* concert series at the Sydney Opera House. They had the rare privilege of watching a famous trumpeter, Wynton Marsalis, and the Lincoln Centre Jazz Orchestra from New York City. The *Meet The Music* concert series aims to give students the opportunity to experience a symphony orchestra live and watch new Australian and overseas artists perform pieces to help them with extended response writing and listening tasks.

**Ms Jessica Thompson**

**Teacher, CAPA Faculty**





## Construction

### Sydney Secondary College

### Blackwattle Bay Campus

### Construction Students – “A Class Apart”

When David Sunderland took up his new role at the school as the Technology and Applied Studies Teacher, he knew that he had talented students in his class, but how could he inspire them to raise the bar?

“Challenging students to achieve excellence through positive participation in learning in a vibrant senior school setting” is the clear message on the school website. Set on the shores of the beautiful Blackwattle Bay, Sydney Secondary College boasts a unique inspiring location, and the Year 11 construction class of 2018 proved that they were a class apart.

The key to success as a teacher is to find ways to connect with your students and inspire and encourage them to believe in their own abilities. When David took up his role at the school teaching construction, he felt that his students needed a project to work on to illustrate their talents and to work together as a team. With this in mind David set up a “Taster Day ” during which students got the opportunity to work on refurbishment projects, planning, building, overcoming barriers and providing solutions to make each project a success.

As part of the course competency set by the RTO, students needed to demonstrate certain skills in their construction class to allow them to gain their Certificate II Construction qualification. In order to be able to return to complete the class in Year 12, students had to complete Year 11 successfully or else risk dropping out of school.

One of the projects students had to work on was building a tool box out of a piece of wood. This took the students approximately five weeks to complete, and David could see first - hand the dedication, commitment and talent that the students possessed. “The students absolutely loved it and they bonded as a team during the project.”

Not satisfied with just one project, the students also created mallets and also got the opportunity to refurbish some classrooms in the school. Both male and female students worked together to complete each project and the pride taken by students in their work can be seen by the high-quality craftsmanship in each project. All students returned to their course this year and after completing this final year successfully, they can begin work as a third-year apprentices.

**This article was supplied by a writer from the Southern Sydney Business Education Network (SSBEN).**



**Year 11 Construction Students**



**Cameron Billich Year 12 Construction**



**Mallory Greenslade-Silver Year 11 Construction**

### **Year 11 Construction White Card Training**

This training enabled our students to recognise potential risks in workplaces, often full of safety hazards, many of which can occur during activities such as rigging lights and dealing with large amounts of electricity. During the training, the importance of maintaining a safe workplace was emphasised.

## VET Entertainment

Year 11 and 12 students in VET Entertainment have had a busy term connecting with industry at a number of events. As part of the course students need to remain engaged with current trends and events so they are prepared for work in the Entertainment industry.



**Year 12 watch “Peter Pan Goes Wrong” at the Lyric Theatre.**

This activity helped students develop an understanding of staging elements and the fly system in operation.

**Year 11 & 12 were part of the studio audience of “This Time Next Year” at Fox Studios.**

This excursion gave students the opportunity to see how television is made and to view big camera and vision setups.

**Ms Jessica Thomson Teacher CAPA Faculty**



## Extra-Curricular Activities

### Chess Club

#### Friday lunchtimes in the Library

Every Friday at lunchtime there will be a Chess Club meeting in the Library. There will be both internal and external competitions throughout the year.

Don't miss your chance to be the Chess King or Queen of Blackwattle Bay Campus!



“Turn your lunchtime upside down”

Mr James McCue

Teacher, Maths Faculty.

### Crafty Hive

“The Crafty Hive” is a new knitting and craft initiative. We meet on Tuesdays in Week A at lunchtimes

Ms Thanh Tran

Teacher, Science Faculty

**A workshop to inspire  
your creative skills**

**The best place to Bee**

**Tuesday 26 March**

**@ lunch time in the  
library**

*bring your knitting needles*



## Sport @ the Bay

*NSWCHS Rowing* was held in Grafton on Monday and Tuesday 25 and 26 February 2019.

Excellent results were achieved including:

7 Gold medals:

Maxine Franz- **Championship Women's single scull.**

Namkhai Stylianou- **Championship Men's single scull.**

Zoe Reid- **Women's U17 single scull.**

Oscar Tierney, Marco Cirjak, Oliver Ryan, Namkhai Stylianou, Cox: Augustus Tierney - **Championship Men's coxed quad scull.**

Augustus Tierney, Finn Mckendry- **Men's U17 double scull.**

Maxine Franz, Zoe Reid- **Championship Women's double scull.**

Marco Cirjak, Namkhai Stylianou- **Championship Men's double scull.**

4 Silver medals:

Augustus Tierney, Finn Mckendry, David Lee, Andreas Migdalias, Cox: Oscar Tierney- **Men's U17 coxed quad scull.**

Andreas Migdalias- **Men's U17 single scull.**

Maxine Franz [SSC], Zoe Reid [SSC], Aimee Wagner [BLAX], Miku Johnson [SSC], Grace Johnson [MACHS], Niamh Hopkins [MACHS], Aimee Jeffrey [MACHS], Ashley Luland [MACHS], Cox: April Shannon [MACHS]- **Women's Inter-regional Eight.**

Oscar Tierney [SSC], Augustus Tierney [SSC], Andreas Migdalias [SSC], Oliver Ryan [SSC], Solh Peltier-Powell [DULHS], Finn Mckendry [SSC], Marco Cirjak [SSC], David Lee [SSC], Cox: Jesse Newton [SSC]- **Men's Inter-regional Eight.**

1 bronze:

Jesse Newton, Kaelan Crawford- **Championship Men's Pair.**

Individual awards:

Maxine Franz - **Most Outstanding Female Competitor at C.H.S Rowing Championships.**

Namkhai Stylianou- **Most Outstanding Male Competitor at C.H.S Rowing Championships**

Our school was represented by 13 athletes among a total of 154 athletes who competed at the carnival and we came home with a total of 12 medals and 3rd place on the medal tally. This was a significant achievement on the part of our students.

Frances Smith was outstanding at the Bligh Zone Swimming Championships on 25 February at Enfield Aquatic Centre. Frances was the G 17-19 Age Champion and placed first in 200fs, 50 back, 50fs, 200IM, 100fs and 50fly. She also placed second in the 50m breaststroke.

Frances has qualified for the NSWCHS Swimming Championships in her final year of school and was placed second in the 100 fly at the recent Sydney East Swimming Championships at SOPAC on 19 March. Veronica Pagliacci is an outstanding volleyball player and recently represented Sydney East School Sports Association at the NSW Volleyball Championships in Newcastle on 12-14 March. She was voted the MVP for her team and was

given commendation for her attitude and assistance in officiating. Great work Veronica.

James Olson-Keating was placed first in the NSW All Schools Triathlon championships at Penrith on Thursday 28 February. He then flew to Tasmania to compete in an Oceania U21 Triathlon where he placed 18<sup>th</sup>. A fantastic achievement James. Well done!

Our girls' netball team has qualified for the Sydney East final 8 series for the second year in a row. Our girls made an outstanding effort and defeated teams from both Wiley Park Girls' High School and St George Girls' High School.

Our girls' and boys' basketball teams have both been experiencing great success with both teams making it to the central venue stage of this competition.

#### **Enrichment activity**

Lunchtime sport with badminton on Mondays, volleyball on Wednesdays and basketball on Fridays continues to be an important initiative to help our students achieve a balance between the pressures of academic studies and leisure activities. Outdoor table tennis on our two new tables has also proved popular with our students.

Cameron Jones and Sarah Brine are trialling for the Sydney East hockey teams on 28 March. Our rowing students are also competing in the National Rowing Championships at SIRC Penrith 23-29 March. We wish them well in these competitions.



**Frances Smith, a swimming champion.**



**James Olson-Keating, a superb athlete.**

Mr Peter George

**Sport Coordinator**

**Teacher PDHPE Faculty**