

Week 2 | Term 4 | 2020



Parklife

# NEWSLETTER

## From the Principals Desk



At the end of Term 3 we farewelled Year 12 in traditional academic gowns in what has been truly an incredibly unique year. The completion of high school is a significant milestone and we are very proud their achievement. I would like to acknowledge and especially thank our year 12 parents for their love and support, our dedicated teachers, year advisors Ms Semaan and Ms Hernandez, they have done a fabulous job over the past six years, and Ms Smith for jumping into the role more recently, and thank deputy principal Mr Moisisdis. They have all played a different role but equally important and they have all been phenomenal with their care and support. I would also like to congratulate HT Ms Draper and the Office staff, in particular Ms Ida for their time and efforts spent in making the Year 12 Graduation Assembly a special one.

I would also like to recognise and thank the wonderful outgoing student leadership team our captains Abigail and Jacky and vice captains Aleme and Truong, they performed the roles with distinction, honour and pride, in the St Johns Park way. In this incredible year COVID has interrupted our lives and presented new challenges for all of us, and in particular, I recognise the impact on Year 12 students not only in terms of their HSC preparations but also in having so many milestone events impacted. I encourage Year 12 take this opportunity to celebrate an amazing thirteen years of schooling and remember, that you have gotten through this, so you can get through any curveball life throws your way! Finally best wishes for the HSC and remember that Year 12 2020 will have a special part in the history of St

### Inside this issue

- Deputy Matters
- Student Wellbeing
- 2021 School Captains
- To the Class of 2020
- Year 12 Graduation
- Vaping fact sheet

### Important Dates

- Wednesday 28 October - Year 12 2021 Information Evening
- Wednesday 11 November - Year 11 Clearance
- Thursday 12 November - Year 10 Clearance
- Monday 16 November - Year 10 EX-10-SION begins
- Tuesday 17 November - Year 12 Clearance Day

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## Year 7 - 10 Yearly Examinations

A reminder to parents and students that Yearly Examinations are just around the corner. Students' exams are throughout Week 4 and 5 in certain subjects. Students should be thinking about the best way to prepare and develop a regular study routine.

Good luck to all students during their examinations.

## Farewell Year 12

Over the past 6 years, St Johns Park High school has provided our 2020 Year 12 graduates with many opportunities to grow and develop as individuals in preparation for life beyond school. We wish to acknowledge Year 12 and the crucial role they have played in building a strong and inclusive school community.

Students should be realistic with their expectations as to where the HSC leads. Not all HSC students will go on to university, but they can still have a wealth of excellent and satisfying career options. If they don't get the HSC marks they needed and still really want to go on to tertiary education later, there are many other pathways. Interestingly, the success rate of mature age students is much higher than for those who go straight from school.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank our community for their support of our young people. To the parents and carers – well done! You made it! Parenting is one of the toughest jobs in the world and you alone have raised Year 12 from infants to the young adults they are today. Take a moment to appreciate this achievement and celebrate alongside our students.

Thank you to our teaching and support staff. To Principal Ms Effie Niarchos and Deputy Principals, Year advisors Ms Helen Semaan and Ms Marianela Hernandez., to our Head Teacher Careers and Senior Pathways Ms Jane Andrew and to every staff member, your support of Year 12 over the past 6 years has been invaluable THANK YOU!

2020 Year 12 students have the opportunity to catch up with peers and teachers one last time at HSC Results BBQ Day on Tuesday 15 December @ 11am. We remind students to sign the COVID Tracing form at the front office upon arrival.

Congratulations on completing 13 years of schooling Year 12! We look forward to celebrating your future success with you.



Mr Steven Moisisidis



Mr Steven Daoud



Ms Nicole Sullivan



Ms Renee Carniato



## Vaccinations at SJPHS

As you are aware due to COVID 19, the 2020 Year 7 school program school clinics were suspended at the beginning of 2020 and then resumed after June. The students at St Johns Park High School had their vaccination on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The required interval between HPV- Gardasil 9 dose 1 and dose 2 is 6 months.

Therefore, all Year 7 students who were given HPV – Gardasil Dose 1 from June 2020 onwards will be offered HPV – Gardasil – dose 2 during Term 1, 2021.

There is no need for parents to take their children to the GP as all outstanding 2020 Year 7 vaccinations will be caught up through the school immunisation program in 2021.

If your Year 7 child missed their vaccination, please send the completed consent form to school, and they will receive their first vaccine in 2021.

If you have any questions, either contact Mrs Draper (Head Teacher Welfare) at school on **96108035** or the

Immunisation Coordinator | Public Health Unit South Western Sydney Local Health District

P.O.BOX 38 Liverpool BC 1871

Tel: 1300 066 055 | Fax 02 9794 0838

## HSC Student Advice

We know our students and staff have worked hard for the HSC. The safety of our students and staff remains of utmost importance. This year, extra arrangements are in place to ensure that any disruption due to COVID-19 will have minimal impact on HSC exams.

Our school has put in place a number of contingencies to help ensure exams run as smoothly as possible.

The exams have been scheduled and our school has arrangements in place for exams to proceed as planned. It is important that students review their timetable and plan well so they turn up for their exams on time, healthy and rested.

Any student with a pre-existing condition that presents similarly to flu-like symptoms, should be planning now and speak to their doctor/GP. The GP can provide a medical certificate ahead of the exams to ensure they are not sent home.

If on the day of the exam, your child feels unwell with flu-like symptoms, they should stay home and get tested. HSC students are prioritised for COVID-19 test results.

It's important to note that all students will be asked if they are well before entering exam rooms.

We want all our students to sit their exams but sometimes things happen. If your child is unwell and misses their exam, contact the school. Students who are unwell will be eligible for the [illness and misadventure](#) provision with NESAs.

If there are any changes to exam arrangements, we will communicate with the HSC students through [stjohnspk-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:stjohnspk-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or **02 9610 8035**. This will be the *only source of communication* for these types of notifications. If in doubt, please call the school.

We wish all our students well in the upcoming exams.



# Introducing our Captains for 2021

## Our School Captains & Vice-Captains of 2021



My name is Vivian Hoang and I am proud to be St Johns Park High School's School Captain of 2021. I have been a part of our school community since Year 7 and I am privileged to lead and strive for excellence in the following school year.

Throughout my high school journey, I have faced many challenges that has helped me grow into the person I am today. As I continue to learn everyday, I aspire to be a mentor, preparing and helping those around me in times of uncertainty.

Something you may not know about me is that I enjoy dancing. What I love about dance is that it teaches you a lot about yourself through discipline, dedication and teamwork.

The lessons I've learnt has motivated me to continue to venture out for bigger and better things. One of which is to promote a Safe and Respectful environment for students to be great Learners.

Stepping into this position, I aim to dedicate my time and effort into making our school a safer and better place for everyone. I may not be a miracle worker and neither will I promise any unrealistic changes to the school, but I aim to be an approachable person and contribute to all strategic plans for the following school year.

I look forward to 2021 as we all are in this journey together.

Yours Truly,

**Vivian Hoang, 2021 School Captain**



I'm Thomas Tran and I am your School Captain of 2021. As I reach the end of 12 years of schooling, I hope to support my younger peers with new experiences and opportunities.

My past results and past experiences continue to motivate me. After falling from being top at maths to near last, I've taken that experience and 'much' regret to push even further towards my goals. What I've learned from these past twelve years are to experience everything, attempt all questions, volunteer whenever you can and to become involved with your aspirations. The fear of failure will come to haunt you when the time comes until you have learned from past experiences.

From experience, I've learnt to develop a passion for sports. What drives me is the competitiveness, the passion, discipline, results and variety of playstyles. Sports is a universal language and it is a perfect environment for connections to be built.

As your School Captain, I hope to create opportunities for people to connect, for friendships to be made and to encourage school spirit. From this position, I aspire to develop into an individual who is ready for challenges and worthy to fulfil my role as School Captain.

As we progress towards 2021 my question for you, 'What do you hope to accomplish in 2021?'

**Thomas Tran, 2021 School Captain**



# Introducing our Captains for 2021



My name is Jennie Truong and I am privileged to be the Vice-Captain of 2021. Since the first day I entered our school gates, I have always been eager to work towards gaining a position where I could set a good example to my younger peers. I wanted to contribute my time to support and assist those in need, which has motivated me into becoming an active member of the Student Representative Council. This has positively shaped the leader I aspire to be.

Life is unpredictable. It can throw curveballs at any point in time or place. This is where my passion for netball comes into play. From the age of 8, netball became a very important part of my life. It was my therapy, my getaway, my passion. Netball allowed me to communicate, collaborate, problem solve and become resilient. Through all the ups and downs of life, netball allowed me to be free, let loose, have fun and be myself. This is one of the many reasons why I have gained the skills that I will apply as your Vice-Captain.

I may not be a genie but I can guarantee that I will always try and work to the best of my ability to do what's best for you and our school community. With this amazing opportunity, I offer my full attention, hard work and dedication to ensure everyone can be who they want to be and feel accepted. I aspire to be the voice for both students and teachers, a role model to the younger peers and someone you can rely on to get tasks done.

I am more than ready to apply and share all my knowledge and experience to not only encourage other students to become the best version of themselves, but also to work alongside students and teachers to improve our school environment.

Much love,

**Jennie Truong, 2021 School Vice-Captain**



My name is Brendan Duong and I am your 2021 Vice-Captain. As a proud member of this school community, I am privileged to lead and represent the school through leadership, events and programs.

Out of the leadership team, I am not the most popular, nor am I the most experienced. I feel privileged to be part of a team who treat each other with the same level of respect and kindness as they would expect from one another.

My goals are to finish high school to a high level and attend university and follow a career path where I will be happy and successful. I can thank many important friends and loved ones in my life for motivating and inspiring me to work towards my dreams and aspirations.

A big part of my life is lion dancing. Through my time lion dancing over the past four years, I have gained many opportunities to connect with our community. I have learnt many valuable aspects of being part of a team such as dedication, communication and the willingness to take the lead for the success of the team.

My goal as a school leader is to create an environment where everybody is happy and proud to be a member of St Johns Park High School. I aspire to encourage a safe, respectful school where all students can learn and have fun. For those who are curious, confused or in need of assistance, I will always be ready to help in any way I can. I cannot wait for 2021 and I hope to work with many of you along the way.

Looking forward to seeing you and thank you,

**Brendan Duong, 2021 School Vice-Captain**



# Farewell to the Class of 2020



## A message from our teachers to Class of 2020

The Careers And Library Faculty wish to extend our support to you all for your upcoming HSC exams and life beyond our school gates.

It has been an extraordinary year for everyone with many challenges to overcome.

We admire your strength in facing these challenges and hope that 2021 brings you all positive results enabling you to shine in your chosen pathways.

Take Care

**The Careers & Library Team**

Congratulations on your wonderful achievement. You have faced many challenges and set back this year and showed yourself to be strong, focused and capable.

Every single one of you has passed through our English halls each year and during that time, we have had the joy of sharing in your learning and success. You have been an amazing year group and we wish you all the very best.

**The English Faculty**

We wish you all the very best on the next part of your journey. We hope you will surround yourselves with people who will encourage you and make you laugh, just as you have made our classrooms happy, rewarding places to be during your time with us.

We are proud of all you have achieved. Good luck on your next adventure!

**The Special Education Faculty**





# Farewell to the Class of 2020

Let's take a step back in time to Orientation Day, December 2014 when most of you ventured through the gates and Front Office of St Johns Park High School for the first time.

With nervous faces and little legs, this was your first introduction to High School.

Now it's October 2020 and you will be wandering out the gates with confidence - and much longer legs, as you finish your last years of schooling.

The School Administration Staff have loved getting to know each and every one of you. It has been a pleasure to watch you grow from timid pre-teens to mature young men and women who we are proud to have helped along the way.

Some things the office ladies would like you to remember long after you are gone; remember to use your manners always, take your hat off when in doors and don't forget your ID wherever you are!

As you prepare to sit your HSC exams and contemplate life beyond the school gates remind yourselves of how amazing you are, take your opportunities with both hands and be the very best that you can possibly be.

Much love,

**The Office Ladies**

XXXXXXXX

Congratulations Year 12 on your well deserved achievements! Our faculty would like to wish each one of you success and happiness with all that your future will bring. Be resilient, set your goals high and dream big.

Good luck!

**The TAS Home Economics Faculty**

What a wonderful bunch of students you are! You made lots of memories the past 6 years, definitely cherish them.

Congratulations on everything you have achieved. We are proud of each and every one of you for facing adversity and coming out stronger than ever. Our team will DEFINITELY miss all of your visits to the staffroom to say hello. We wish you all the best for your future endeavours and we hope that you grow into strong independent adults.

Stay safe, be kind and keep smiling :)

**With love, from the Enrichment Team**



**Ms McNaughton**

Graduation isn't the end of a tough journey. It is the beginning of a beautiful one :-)

**Mrs. Mutschall**



# To the Class of 2020

## Excerpts from the Year Advisors Graduation Speech

Welcome Year 12. It is my pleasure to welcome you as Year 12 graduates of 2020. Welcome to you, to your family, to your friends.

Today is a celebration of your journey, your journey spanning 13 years or so. We thank you. Ms Hernandez and I are honoured and humbled to have been a part of that journey.

For the past 6 years, here at St Johns Park High School, I have watched you grow and shine in your own way and at your own pace. And I hope that you continue to grow and you continue to shine in everything that you do.

Slightly biased I may be, however, this year group is undoubtedly the best year group St Johns Park has ever had. An enduring rapport amongst yourselves, your teachers and your school community is a testament to your positivity, to your maturity and your strength of character.

This year, your final year has thrown many curveballs and yet you have managed to stay focused and united. So I say now, go and be your own person. Be the driver of your life and accomplish great things, however small they may seem. Believe in yourself.

I end with these words by Dr Seuss.

“You’re off to great places. Today is your day. Your mountain is waiting. So get on your way!”

I would like to take just one quick moment to thank my dear friend, my BFF, Ms Hernandez. You have been a rock, a mentor, a confidant. You have not only directed and led these wonderful children, but you have also supported me, and in a heartbeat, I would do this all over again if I had you by my side and these beautiful children.

Thank you.

*Ms Helen Semaan*







# To the Class of 2020

## Excerpts from the Year Advisors Graduation Speech

Good morning Year 12. What a pleasure it is to stand here with you in this moment.

Personally, supporting you as Year Advisor has been the most rewarding years of my work life. I remember clearly addressing you on a very hot Orientation Day back in 2014. I remember saying that our role as Year Advisors was to ensure you have a positive experience in the following 6 years. I hope today, as you and I reflect, that you feel this was achieved. I am so proud of your efforts and feel privileged to have been a part of your schooling years.



Giving the short time I have to address you today, I want to let you know how proud I am of who you are. I believe it takes more than academics to build strong character and I can see it in your interactions over the years. The kindness each one of you has shown me, the offers of assistance, the good mornings, the how are you's, the thank you's, the genuine apologies, this made my days, my weeks, my months, and my years.

These moments to check in have been so important as a teacher, as a member of our school community, and as a person. The courage to ask those you care about if they are doing okay can be life-changing. The need to speak up when you aren't doing so well is also a skill I love, and implore you to continue to work on. You've made it this far with your circle of support, your families, friends and the school community. You need to remember and honour that support when life continues to evolve you. I wish you the courage to speak up when it feels overwhelming because there is always, always someone to turn to.

To those anxious of the future, please don't be worried that you don't know what you're doing. Rather, be patient with yourself. Focus on finding the time and effort to do the things you love and enjoy, and soon enough you will find what it is you want to do.

Your efforts and actions speak volumes about how well you were raised and what you value. So I'd like to take a moment to thank the families of the graduates of 2020, for their confidence in our work as Year Advisors. Our greatest wish is that you could be here with us in person today.

Congratulations beautiful people. Thank you for the laughs and your compliments. I can't wait to see what you achieve.

With all my love, I wish you good luck.

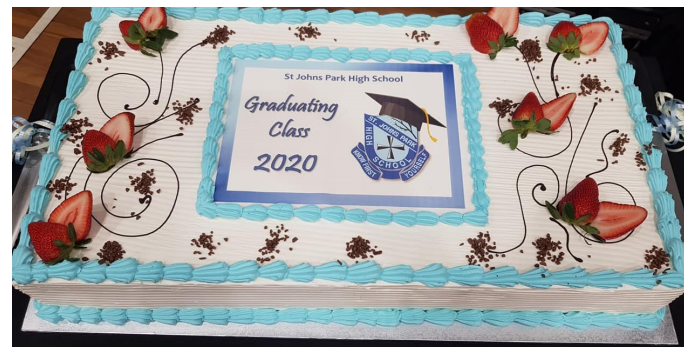
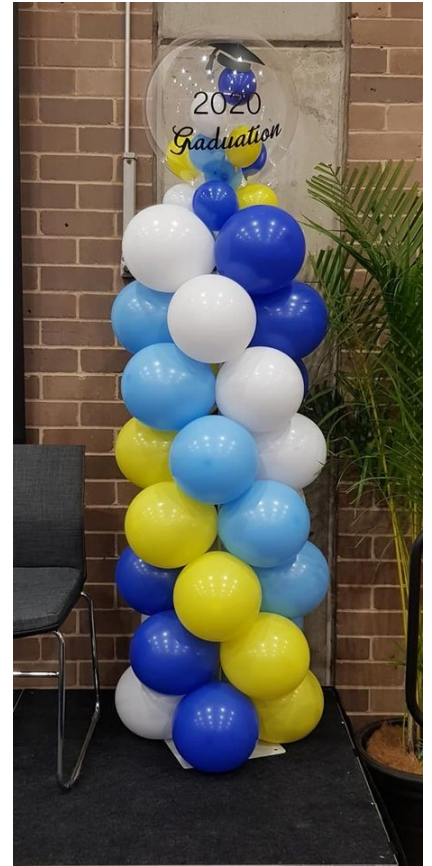
*Ms Marianela Hernandez*

*Thank  
you*

*We thank Ms Semaan and  
Ms Hernandez for their excellent guidance,  
dedication and service over the past 6 years*



# Year 12 Graduation





# Year 12 Graduation



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## Vaping / Electronic Cigarettes

### What are vapes/e-cigarettes?

Vapes/ e-cigarettes are battery-operated devices that resemble tobacco cigarettes, heating liquids such as nicotine, flavourings and other chemicals to produce a vapour that users inhale. Liquids used in these devices varies across a range of chemicals and may or may not contain nicotine.

Vapes/e-cigarettes are often shaped and coloured to look like everyday items such as pens or USB memory sticks.

These devices can be purchased online or at tobacconists and can also be obtained from people supplying kids with vapes in shopping centres and parks.

In recent studies, there has been an increasing number of teenagers using these devices that contain nicotine which is highly addictive.

### Our school action

At St Johns Park High School, we continue to implement a "no smoking" policy to our students.

All students have been briefed on the dangers of using vapes/ e-cigarettes. Students have also been educated about the dangers of using tobacco products in PDHPE class as part of the school curriculum.

Our staff are prompted to be vigilant and are reporting any behaviours that indicate a student is involved in this type of activity.

For more information, visit:



### The Effects

- Increased risk of developing respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.
- Growing evidence that e-cigarette use is a precursor to smoking in young people.
- Nicotine can increase the risk for future addictions to other drugs.
- Nicotine can cause harm to parts of the brain that control attention, learning and mood and has the potential to delay the brain development of an adolescent.

*The well-being and safety of our students is our priority as we aim to provide a safe and supportive learning environment where every student is known, valued and cared for.*

*We are encouraging parents and carers to have conversations with their child(ren) about the consequences of these devices.*





# HOUSE & PR Recruitments

## LOOKING FOR RECRUITMENTS

HOSUE and the Public Relation team are looking for new members to join our wonderful teams to serve our wonderful school.



### HOUSE Mission Statement:

To be the strongest student voice in raising school spirit & a sense of belonging



### Public Relations Mission Statement:

To be the strongest student voice in creatively connecting our school with the wider community.

As a valued member, you will learn to improve collaboration, communication, creative and critical thinking skills whilst building strong bonds to serve our community.

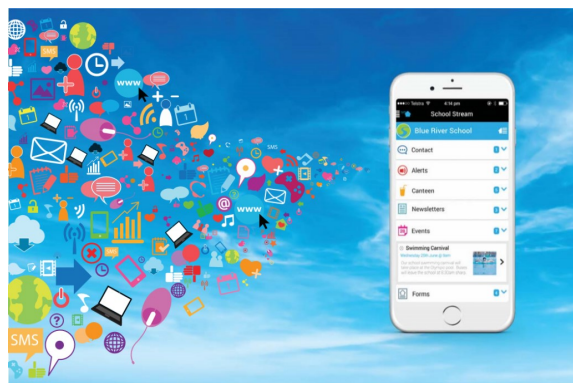
Please write your name on the door of Mrs Waesch's office.  
Hope to meet you soon!



We wish our Year 12 students all the very best as they begin their HSC Examinations

## Download our School App School Stream

Available on iPhone/iPad iOS and Android Play Store



St. John's Park High School ensures that student, parent and staff privacy in our newsletter is maintained. If photographs or written material offend or permission was not given please contact the school and notify Lisa Ida or Renee Carniato. We apologise for any inconvenience.

### St Johns Park High School

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[www.sjohnspk-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.sjohnspk-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)



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School Stream App

# Excellence in Education



## ST JOHNS PARK HIGH SCHOOL

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