

Week 10 | Term 2 | 2025

Parklife

NEWSLETTER

From the Principals Desk

Thank you for a fantastic Term 2. We have just passed the mid-point in the year and again I am excited to be putting the spotlight on some of the activities and events happening in our school to excite, engage, and inspire excellence in student learning.

Our dedication to excellence in STEM education is reflected in our Year 7 STEAM PBL. We provide opportunities for all students to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics project-based learning. I am excited to see the display of incredible student work early next term.

Year 10 students have a busy upcoming Term 3. We have arranged a series of events to help our students make informed choices about their senior studies. More details are included in this edition.

Thank you to Maha Adler, Donna Draper, Angela Waesch, and Tammy Austin for organising a terrific Reconciliation Week Morning Tea. I always welcome opportunities to strengthen our school community and connect with culture. Thank you also to Jane Andrew, Kerel Welch, Shata Prasad, and Diana Shamon, alongside our hospitality students for catering the event and for running the SJPHS Happy Being Café this term for our staff and students.

I look forward to meeting as many families as possible at the Parent Teacher Interview Evening on Wednesday 23 July 2025. Our Year 7-12 Parent Teacher Interview Evening is an important event as it provides an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with their teachers and support students to achieve their personal best. We hope to see as many parents as possible.

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Principal



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Important Dates

- Tuesday 22 July - Students return to school
- Monday 28 July - Sydney Opera House BUILD commences
- Wednesday 30 Jul - Senior Subject Selection Evening
- Thursday 31 July - Senior Subject Fair
- Thursday 7 August - BStreetSmart Road Safety Forum
- Monday 11 August - Senior Interview Day
- Monday 11 August - HSC Trial Examinations commences
- Friday 22 August - Special Education EPP Workshop



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New Look for Reports

From Term 2, we are introducing updated school reports for Years 7 to 10. The new format has been developed by the NSW Department of Education in response to feedback from parents and educators to make reports easier to read and understand. A new **achievement scale and descriptions** are included to provide a clearer picture of your child's progress. We welcome your feedback or questions about the new report format.

Formal reporting to parents takes place twice per year. A formal report will be issued at the end of Term 2 and Parent Teacher Interviews will take place at the beginning of Term 3. Another formal report will also be provided at the end of the school year.

Our school reports are issued electronically and can only be accessed via the St Johns Park High School Sentral Parent Portal, [here](#). The academic report is designed to provide accurate information about your child's learning. Your child's teachers have provided information about their academic achievements, commitment to learning, and social development. It is very important to recognise your child's success and progress in all areas of development. You are invited to contact the school if you would like further information about your child's report.

Year 7-12 Parent Teacher Evening

Parents and teachers are critical to the wellbeing and development of the students at our school. We acknowledge the important partnership we have with you and want to work together to ensure that students receive the best possible educational experience. Parents and students are invited to book an interview time, via the Sentral Parent Portal to discuss Semester 1 Reports and your child's progress. These interviews will take place during Term 3, Week 1, on **Wednesday 23 July 2025** from 3:00 pm in our school MPC. Each interview time slot will be 10 minutes long.

The Sentral Parent Portal Interview Bookings will open Wednesday 2 July 2025, at 9:00 am and will remain open until Wednesday 23 July 2025, 9:00 am.

Important Dates for Year 10

At the beginning of Term 3, our current Year 10 students will be asked to make some important decisions regarding their intentions for next year. Those students wishing to continue to the HSC will be asked to select the courses they wish to study. A program of events has been organised to assist Year 10 students in making considered choices about their future. The important dates are as follows:

'Brand Me' Preparing for Senior Subject Selection

Wednesday 25 June 2025

The day will provide students with information regarding options for senior pathways, an outline of Senior Subject Selection procedures, and a preparation session for Senior Interview Day. This will provide support for resume writing, dress for success, and interview skills.

Parent and Student Subject Selection Information Evening

Wednesday 30 July 2025

An information evening for our current Year 10 students and their parents will be held at St Johns Park High School in the MPC, commencing at 5:00 pm. The purpose of Subject Selection Evening is to provide information to assist students and families in their selection of senior courses for Year 11.



Deputy Matters

Senior Subject Fair

Thursday 31 July 2025

Students will be involved in a number of subject workshops where they can learn more about the courses offered to study in Year 11 and 12, career pathways in different fields, and have an opportunity to ask questions to experienced staff.

Senior School Interview Day

Monday 11 August 2025

Each student will attend an interview to discuss their intention for 2026. The interview will provide students with an opportunity to clarify their goals and to discuss on an individual basis their subject selection. On this day, students will attend school only at the time of their interview, dressed in appropriate business attire.

It is extremely important that students make their own choices about which subjects to choose. In selecting their subjects, students should consider their interests, level of ability, and future career requirements.

Should you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Head Teacher Careers and Senior Pathways, or your child's Deputy Principal.

Upcoming Restrictions to Social Media

The Australian Government is protecting young Australians at a critical stage of their development, through world-first social media age restrictions. This will introduce a mandatory minimum age of 16 for accounts on certain social media platforms and will take effect by **December 2025**.

More information about the upcoming changes can be found on the next page.

Congratulations Nathan Tang!

We are excited to congratulate Nathan Tang in Year 10. As a long-time Scrabble player, Nathan is ranked fifth in NSW. He will be participating in the Australian Junior Scrabble Championship, bringing together over 65 students from over 20 schools.

Nathan has also been selected to represent Australia in the World Youth Scrabble Championship in Malaysia. We are proud of Nathan's commitment to his craft and we wish Nathan the best of luck for his upcoming matches!

We wish our school community a safe and happy holiday break. We look forward to welcoming our students back for Term 3 on Tuesday 22 July 2025.



Dep. Principal

Ms Nicole Sullivan
(M, Tu, W, Th)



R/ Dep. Principal

Ms Donna Draper
(F)



Dep. Principal

Mr Steven Daoud



R/ Dep. Principal

Mr Paul De Carli



Dep. Principal

Ms Maha Adler



Social Media Age Restrictions

Social Media Ban for Under 16 Years of Age

The Australian Government is protecting young Australians at a critical stage of their development through world-first social media age restrictions.

The Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024 introduces a mandatory minimum age of 16 for accounts on certain social media platforms, forming one part of a broader strategy to create safer digital spaces for everyone.

The change aims to strengthen existing measures for protecting young users, especially where there are particular risks associated with accessing potentially harmful social media content and features such as persistent notifications and alerts that have been found to have a negative impact on sleep, stress levels, and attention.

The onus is on the applicable service providers to introduce systems and processes that ensure people under the minimum age cannot create or keep a social media account. This means there will be no penalties for age-restricted users who gain access to an age-restricted social media platform, or for their parents or carers.

The age restriction requirements will take effect by **December 2025**. Details about how they will operate, how and when they will be enforced, which services will be affected, and other relevant information will be developed throughout 2025. The information will help young people, parents, carers, educators, and the online industry understand and prepare for the change.

Mandatory minimum age

Service providers will have to take reasonable steps to prevent those under 16 years old from having accounts on certain social media services.

New penalties

Service providers that do not comply with the new minimum age will face civil penalties, and the penalties for breaches of industry codes or standards have been increased to ensure they take their responsibilities under the Online Safety Act seriously.

What does this mean for young people?

Most social media services currently have a minimum age requirement of 13 for account holders. However, current measures to enforce the minimum age are often absent or ineffective. There are also community concerns that young people who are 13 to 15 years old are too young to be exposed to the types of harm and deceptive design features that can be experienced on social media.

The new law puts the onus on social media platforms, not parents or young people, to take reasonable steps to ensure fundamental protections for under 16s are in place.

eSafety is mindful of the need to balance the safety of young people with a broader range of digital rights, including those that enable online exploration and expression and reinforce privacy protections (a fuller analysis of this issue is available in our age verification background report). With this in mind, we will consult with young people, and their parents, carers, and educators about the implementation of the law, its impacts and the best way to support them through the change.

For more information, please visit the eSafety website, [here](#).





Robotics Team Representing Australia

Fairfield City supporting our Student Robotics Team

Our robotics team, proudly representing Australia in the 2025 Universal Robotics Challenge, was honoured to be invited to the Fairfield City Council Services Committee Meeting to receive a generous donation in support of our upcoming trip to Japan.

A heartfelt thank you to Fairfield City Council Mayor Frank Carbone, Fairfield City Council Deputy Mayor, and Dai Le MP for Fowler, for their generous donation in support of our robotics team. Thank you for championing young innovators in our community and investing in the future of STEM!



Lolly Jar Guessing Competition Winner

Thank you to our amazing school community for your support. Our Lolly Jar Competition ran for two weeks and raised \$213 to support our Robotics Team's upcoming trip for the 2025 Universal Robotics Challenge! A huge congratulations to our winner for guessing the exact number of lollies!



Supporting our students to pursue their interests and passions



Year 7 Wellbeing Excursion

Year 7 Excursion - Featherdale Sydney Wildlife Park

Our Year 7 students had a wild time at Featherdale Sydney Wildlife Park! Students loved learning about animals and spending the day with friends. A big thank you to our amazing Year Advisors for organising the excursion and to the teachers who joined them!



Prioritising student connection and wellbeing outcomes



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EPP Barbering Workshop

EPP Look and Learn Barbering Workshop with Ministry Barbers

St Johns Park High School hosted a successful industry pathway workshop under the Educational Pathway Program, Look and Learn with MJ.

Students from the Cowpasture schools attended, sharing a common passion - barbering. Students shone as they shared their knowledge and skills with each other under the guidance from MJ. All students were awarded a Certificate of Achievement and were able to take their barber head mannequin home. A special thanks to the fantastic barber MJ, EPP Head Teacher Nicholas Chambour, Renee Hill, and the St Johns Park High School Careers and Transition Team.



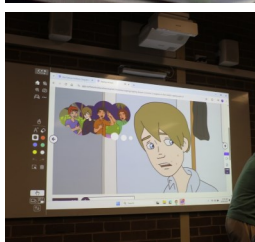
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OurFutures Vaping Program

Year 8 OurFutures Vaping Program

Aligned with the PDHPE curriculum and based on the effective OurFutures prevention model, the OurFutures Vaping Program cuts through misinformation using a comprehensive harm-minimisation and social influence approach to empower young people to avoid vaping. Our Year 8 students participated in this program and found it to be a highly valuable experience.



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WSU Fast Forward Program

Year 10 WSU Fast Forward Program

Our Year 10 students took part in the Western Sydney University Fast Forward Program, designed to boost confidence, academic skills, and career planning. It's all about building awareness of tertiary education and a lifelong love of learning. Thank you to Western Sydney University and our teachers for organising this great opportunity!



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Choose Home Economics!

Stage 4 Cook Like a Chef Elective

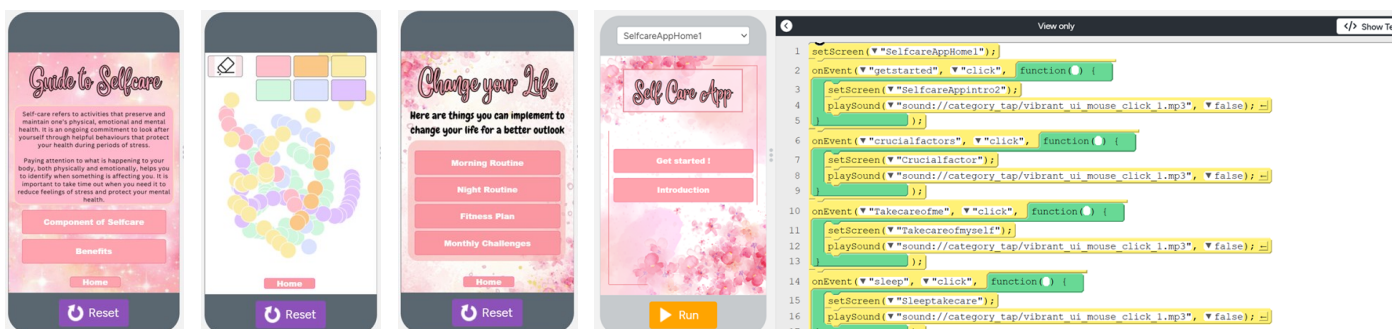
Get ready to roll up your sleeves and step into the world of culinary creativity with the Cook Like a Chef unit! This exciting course will introduce Year 8 students to the art of crafting delicious dishes, including vibrant soups and starters, café-style foods perfect for any menu, hearty dinners, and indulgent desserts. Students will learn how to prepare a variety of dishes, focusing on both the practical skills and the creative flair that goes into making food that is both beautiful and tasty. From the fundamentals of food preparation to the finishing touches that turn a dish into a masterpiece, this unit will spark students' passion for cooking and inspire them to think like chefs.



Stage 4 Digital Technology 1

Unlock your creativity and problem-solving skills with the stage 4 Digital Technology 1 course! Year 7 students will dive into the exciting world of digital innovation, learning health and safety protocols, essential computing terminology, and hands-on coding with App Lab. Through engaging projects, students will explore app design and development, gaining real-world experience in managing digital projects from concept to creation.

These courses empower students to think critically and digital technologies, using abstraction to break down complex problems and develop innovative solutions. With a focus on JavaScript programming, students will gain fluency in coding, automate tasks, and apply their skills to real-world challenges. By the end of the unit, students will design and develop their own smartphone application, showcasing their ability to turn ideas into functional digital solutions.



Stage 4 Digital Technology 2

Take your digital skills to the next level with Stage 4 Digital Technology 2! Year 8 students will build on their foundation from the Digital Technology 1 course by further exploring health and safety, key computing terminology, and the fundamentals of the internet. Students will dive into web design and development, learning to code using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, and will gain hands-on experience in managing digital projects from start to finish.

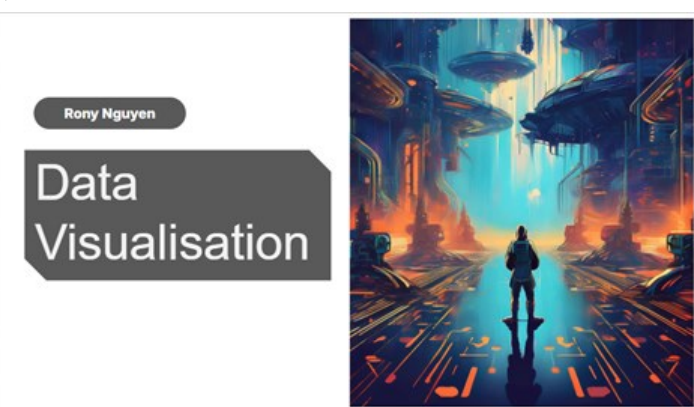
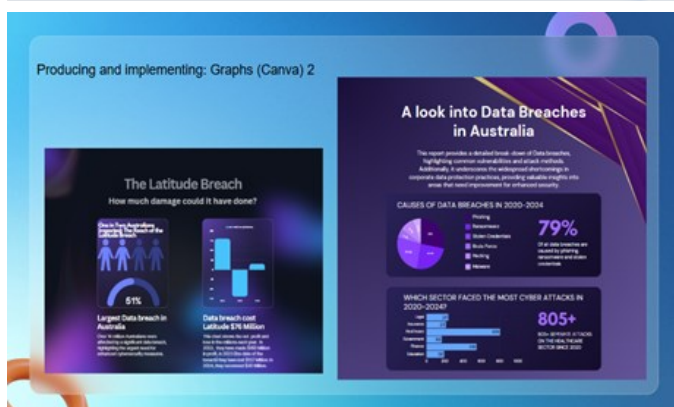
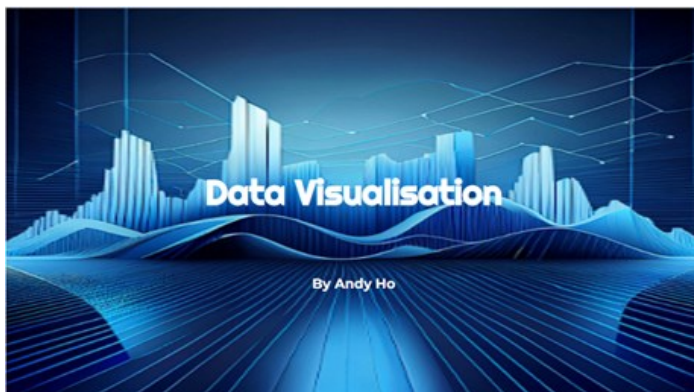
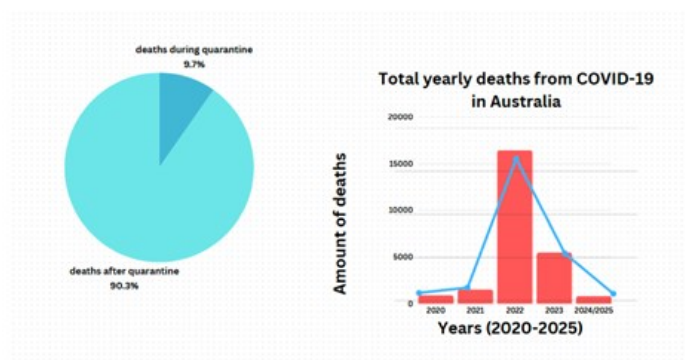
This course empowers students to become innovative digital creators, using abstraction to break down complex problems and develop effective solutions. With a strong focus on coding, students will gain fluency in web development, automate tasks, and apply their skills to real-world challenges. By the end of the unit, students will design and build their own fully functional website, developed using only a text editor and incorporating a spreadsheet budget to address the real-world need of tips for 'Moving Out of Home'.



Classroom Feature

Classroom Feature - Stage 6 Enterprise Computing

Our new HSC Enterprise Computing course is well under way with students having learned about Data Science and Data Visualisation. In the Data Science unit, students developed advanced skills in the use of spreadsheets and databases, learning to analyse and manipulate complex datasets. In the Data Visualisation unit, students developed skills for the telling of data stories using visualisations to showcase and support their data analysis. The students are now working on their Enterprise Project solutions to real-world business problems.



Providing students with opportunities to succeed and thrive beyond the school gates

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SRC's Biggest Morning Tea

Biggest Morning Tea for Cancer Council

SRC was honoured to host a Biggest Morning Tea in support of the Cancer Council. This annual initiative encourages communities across Australia to come together over morning tea to raise funds for life-saving cancer research, prevention programs, and support services for those affected by cancer.

Thanks to the generosity of our school community, we were able to raise valuable funds and awareness for a cause that touches so many lives. From every donation to each baked treat shared, your support made a meaningful difference. We extend our sincere gratitude to all students, staff, and families who contributed to this event - whether by donating, baking, volunteering, or attending. Your kindness and participation are deeply appreciated. Together, we've shown the power of community in creating positive change.



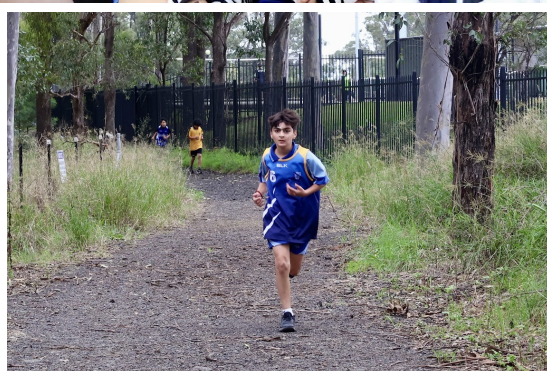
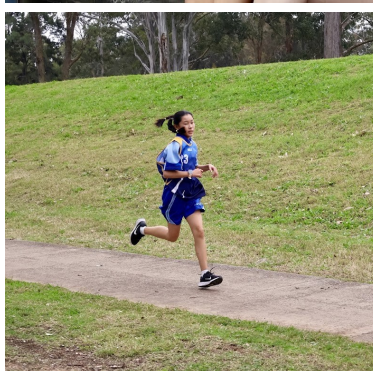


Zone Cross Country Carnival

Lansdowne Zone Cross Country Carnival

On Thursday 29 May 2025, our school took on the Lansdowne Zone Cross Country Carnival at Fairfield Showground. Our student athletes pushed through tough terrain and fierce competition, showing incredible endurance and team spirit.

A huge congratulations to the five students who qualified for the SSW Cross Country. We're so proud of all our runners for representing our school with heart, determination, and pride.



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Teacher Tag

House's Teacher Tag

The House Team kicked off Session 1 of Teacher Tag: The Playground Edition with loads of energy! Students raced to find hidden keys by getting to know our teachers and brushing up on playground rules. A big shoutout to our current record holders with an impressive time of 6 minutes and 53 seconds. Thank you to our wonderful teachers and amazing House Team for making it happen!



Creating a safe and supportive environment



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Basketball Court Refurbishment

Basketball Court Refurbishment

At St Johns Park High School, we are committed to improving our facilities to enhance the learning and wellbeing of our students. As such, the basketball courts will be refurbished over the course of the year. This will be a multi-stage project.

The first stage, which commenced on Saturday 7 June 2025 involves the removal of the shade sails and upright poles, along with the ratification of the plumbing, drainage and retaining walls. These essential works will improve the overall functionality and safety of the courts.

To ensure the safety of our students during this process, safety fencing will be constructed to restrict access to work areas. While we anticipate some inconveniences, these upgrades are vital for ensuring our facilities meet the needs of the school community. We are committed to keeping our community up to date throughout the process.

If you have any concerns, please contact the school on 02 9610 8035.



Sydney Helping Angels Food Hampers

Food Hampers Available

Sydney Helping Angels is a local charity providing support to families in need.

Every Wednesday, volunteers come together to prepare food hampers for those who could use a helping hand. If you are struggling, Sydney Helping Angels is here to assist.

Families can register for a hamper by texting 0410 807 970 with their name, address, contact number, and number of family members, or join the Sydney Helping Angels Facebook group, [here](#).





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wesley mission 

St Johns Park High School ensures the privacy of students, parents, and staff in our publications, including social media, our website, and e-newsletters. If permission was not given, or you wish for your child's information not to be included, contact the school via email.

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