



Harmony Day 2019

Harmony Day, which took place on Wednesday March 20, is perhaps the most significant and exciting day on the annual Sevenoaks Senior College calendar because it allows students and staff to celebrate their richly diverse cultural heritage. The shared values of the College community - such as acceptance, tolerance and unity - were recognised through the "Everyone Belongs" theme for 2019. Kayleen Hayward delivered the Welcome to Country to start the day before the first performance - an original song delivered by Phil Walley-Stack of the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation, which was accompanied by an entertaining student dance.

A range of other enjoyable activities then followed, including hip-hop and Bollywood fusion dancing, popiah making, African drumming, henna tattooing, Asian umbrella painting, a West Oz wildlife interactive display and decoration of message stones. Staff, students and their families then generously contributed to a delicious international food buffet, which allowed students and staff to sample an impressive array of new and exotic cuisines while they were entertained by fabulous student performances. As always, the celebratory and vibrant mood of Harmony Day allows the College community, which is comprised of students from over 40 different cultural backgrounds, to unify in a respectful and inclusive manner.



Uniform Packages

Sevenoaks Senior College Uniform packages are now available for purchase from the administration office for \$120. The package includes a white summer shirt, blue summer shirt and College jacket.

Fee Collection

College fees help us to fulfil our duty of providing a quality educational experience uniquely designed for each student here at Sevenoaks. Therefore, it is critical that fees are paid in a timely manner. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact the school to arrange a payment plan.

Studiosity

Sevenoaks Senior College students are reminded that they can now enjoy the benefits of a partnership with the Cannington Community Library; many students have already taken advantage of this opportunity. As members of the Community Library, our students can access the *Studiosity* service, which provides online tutoring for students studying ATAR courses. Online membership which allows students to use *Studiosity* can be accessed via the notices on Connect. We encourage all students to take advantage of this fantastic chance to work in close collaboration with such a well-resourced facility.

Paying your child's fees and charges

Here are some options to help you make the decision about how to pay your child's fees & charges:

Option 1: Qkr! app

This is our preferred method of making payments to the College. App can be downloaded on your Android or i-phone. Register, find school, register your child and make payment(s).



Option 2: bpoint

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sevenoakssenior>

Log on to the above website to make payment for your child.



Option 3: credit card

Alternatively, you can contact the College to make a payment and also register your Visa or Mastercard credit card details to set up regular payments until your child's fees are paid in full.



From the Principal

Dr Kath Partridge



We understand that as a multicultural campus many of our students come to us from all walks of life and from all over the world – including New Zealand, our close neighbours. In fact, we have students from over forty different nations who bring to our college new ideas, different perspectives, cultural norms and faiths; that is what makes us who we are – a College that respects, nurtures and appreciates the talents and potential of our young men and women from here and across the globe. We have been so saddened and shocked by the terrible events that took place in Christchurch on Friday March 15.

Staff and students at Sevenoaks embrace and celebrate our diversity and we know that as an inclusive and caring community we will support each other, our families and community as people come to terms with the trauma and devastation of this dreadful event. As you can see from the photographs in this newsletter our Harmony Day Festival provided an important opportunity for us to come together as a College and appreciate the rich diversity of our student population. It was a time to reflect on how lucky we truly are to enjoy the friendships and opportunities that exist at our wonderful College.

Our term two calendar provides students with a blend of academic and sporting opportunities. Year 12 students will participate in Externally Set Tasks in week 2 of Term 2 and it is vitally important that all Foundation and General Year 12 students sit these tasks (teachers will let students know when these tasks will be occurring). Our usual Semester two change-over of courses will occur in week 8 of this term (19 June) with Year 11 and Year 12 students sitting examinations in weeks 6 (Year 12) and 7

(Year 11). I urge students, across all programs, to attend every class, submit your work on time and to the best of your ability, and do the homework that is set. Make sure that if you need help or if you are not sure of the work you need to do, speak with your teacher or Advocate. Advocates and classroom teachers are always close at hand to provide students with support and advice.

I am looking forward to meeting parents and caregivers at our Progress Report night in week 10 of this term (10 April, 3.00pm – 6.00pm). I urge parents to come along and speak with teachers about your child's progress. It is very important that we work together to help your son or daughter reach their potential. On that same evening we will also hold our P&C AGM in the College Conference Room (5.00pm). I would love parents to come along to this meeting. We often struggle to get a group together, so your involvement would really be appreciated.

Finally, a reminder that I am available to meet and speak with parents and care givers so please feel free to make an appointment to see me.

College Ball

On February 23, Sevenoaks students and their partners gathered at the Novotel Langley Hotel to celebrate the College Ball. The "Oriental" theme of the event inspired the beautiful table centrepieces and decorations. Students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to dine, dance and socialise; a particular highlight was the addition of a photo booth which allowed students to capture lasting memories of the evening. The excellent behaviour, lively atmosphere and glamorous attire of the students set a tone of positivity for the evening and students are congratulated on their impressive conduct.



Stay on Campus Initiative

As always, the school year has started with much excitement and activity thanks to the *Stay on Campus* initiative, which involves numerous engaging and enjoyable events during recess and lunchtimes. Activities, such as the creation of Valentine's Day cards and cookie decorating, painting of lanterns to mark the Lunar New Year, table tennis and chess competitions, hip-hop dance classes, slam poetry, and activities relating to the National Day of Action against Bullying, are designed to encourage students to remain on the school site during their breaks and provide them with opportunities to become actively involved in the College community. Students are commended on their enthusiastic participation in these *Stay on Campus* activities.

Wayne Lyon Scholarship



The Wayne Lyon Memorial Scholarship provides two students with a \$1000 scholarship each year. One scholarship is to support the education and academic pursuits of a student and the other is for a student who demonstrates an active interest in the environment in the Canning region. Recently, the two recipients of these honours, Ryan Exell and Smriti Singh, were introduced to Mrs Tracy Lyon, who presented each student with their scholarship. We congratulate these worthy recipients.



Ten Aboriginal secondary students from around Australia who are enrolled in the Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation's Follow The Dream program, including Sevenoaks' own Rebecca Delaney and Matthew Harris (pictured front left) took part in a special event in mid-January. The group flew to Canberra for the inaugural Economic and Social Policy Summit, hosted by the Australian Treasury. During the week-long summit, students were paired with mentors and learnt about Treasury's role in advising on key policy matters, how the department supports the government to make important budgetary decisions and the impact Treasury has on issues important to everyday Australians. Participants also explored potential career pathways in government, tour parliamentary institutions, and visit local landmarks. The newly-formed partnership between the Australian Treasury and the Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation seeks to provide opportunities for Aboriginal students who are interested in social studies, economics and mathematics and who are interested in the many career opportunities in Treasury. Rebecca and Matthew, who won the Leadership Award for the Summit, are both appreciative of the chance to participate in such an exciting endeavor and found the experience to be a valuable, insightful one.

Follow the Dream: Australian Treasury Camp



Student Guild Elections



We congratulate the students who were recently elected by their peers and staff to represent the entire student body as Guild members. The Year 12 Guild members (pictured left) include Jack Le (Head Boy), Wendy Buhari (Head Girl), Beneen Al Asaadi, Carols Fobizi, Ashish Ashish and Shane Tido. Year 11 Guild elections were also held recently and the successful nominees include John Sarana, Mohammad Saif Kaimkhani, Nieza Sagandoy, Mae Soe, Elaine Chin and Matthew Harris.

Our newly elected Guild members have enthusiastically embraced their responsibility as leaders through their keen contributions to College life and their exceptional role modelling. The Guild has already organised a number of fundraising activities and Stay on Campus events and participated in a Grip Leadership conference during Week 8. They are eagerly anticipating a special two night camp which involves an exciting program designed to help them further develop their leadership skills and bond as a cohesive group.

New Vice Principal Welcome

The College is thrilled to welcome Katie Edwards as the new Vice Principal, replacing David Proctor who retired at the end of 2018 after a long and fruitful career. Katie comes to us with a wealth of experience and knowledge gained through her previous roles. After initially training and working as a Physical Education teacher in England, Katie was appointed the Head of Department at schools in Essex and London. She then travelled round Australia in a campervan for a year, after which time she secured positions at Hamilton SHS, Applecross SHS and Gosnells/Southern River College. She was Head of Health and Physical Education and Deputy at Lynwood SHS for seven years and most recently worked for five years as the Senior School Associate Principal and Acting Principal at Darling Range Sports College.

Katie expresses that she is "very excited at being given the opportunity to be the Vice Principal at Sevenoaks Senior College which has an outstanding reputation in supporting senior students to *find their future*". Katie adds that she is particularly impressed by the 'young adult ethos' at the College, the highly professional and dedicated staff, the diverse array of opportunities and pathways available for students to access and the exceptional support offered to assist the students to reach their potential. Katie explains that, "my goal is to build on the well-established practices at the College and continue to support our students to gain the qualifications and necessary skills required to provide them with a successful foundation for their futures". We look forward to Katie being part of the College community for many years to come.



2018 ATAR Achievements and Awards

The College is very proud of the achievements of the 2018 ATAR students; particularly notable are the Subject Excellence Awards presented to Ronald Tun and Ashleigh Saringer (pictured right) for their exceptional performances in the English and Maths Application ATAR WACE examinations respectively. These prestigious awards are provided by the School and Curriculum Authority to students whose raw exam results are in the top 0.5% of all students across the state in a particular course. This effectively means that Ronald's examination mark fell within the top 55 of over 11000 students and Ashleigh's Maths Application result was within the top 40 from some 8000 students. This is a remarkable performance and a testament to the hard work and commitment of Ronald and Ashleigh. Ronald, the College DUX, achieved an ATAR of 99.05 as well as a SCSA Certificate of Distinction and Ashleigh scored an ATAR of 95.05 and a SCSA Certificate of Merit.

Other impressive ATAR results included Jia Ying Ku and Lydia Gultom (94.95), Kaynah Partosa (92.90), Paola Cuaresma (90.00), Renee Doncon (90.00), Nalinie See (89.90) and Neil Zuniega (89.75). These high results were rewarded with a number of very generous financial scholarships. The most significant of these include the Curtin Excellence award of \$5000 for three years for Ronald Tun, the Step Up Bonus of an extra 5 ATAR points and \$15000 each for Jia Ying Ku and Lydia Gultom, the UWA Fairway's \$3000 to Neil Zuniega and Kaynah Partosa, Murdoch First \$2000 for Paola Cuarasema and Renee Doncon and \$500 UWA Excellence Award to Ashleigh Saringer.



Further to the individual performances of students, the College is also very proud of the collective results achieved by the Career and Enterprise ATAR students of 2018, whose combined scores placed them within the top 15% of the state for that particular course. Career and Enterprise teacher Lynn Cooke, who also holds the highly respected position of Chair of the Curriculum Advisory Committee which oversees delivery of the subject for the entire state, attributes the success of the students to a "greater focus on exam techniques and how to approach questions to maximise marks". Lynn adds that, "student attendance at the CAE tutoring sessions offered twice a week to clarify and enhance understanding of content and techniques" was also key to their successful performance in 2018. The lunchtime tutoring and extra-help sessions for a range of ATAR courses continue to be offered this year and current students are encouraged to access these regularly.

Pathways Programs

All ATAR students are very well supported by the College to meet the demands of these rigorous courses through specially designed programs titled Pathways to Year 12 (for Year 11 students) and Pathways to University (for Year 12 students). The Pathways programs, delivered every Wednesday afternoon, are designed to equip students with the specific organisational, study and homework skills required for successful completion of the ATAR courses of study. Topics covered in the Pathways programs include memory techniques, note-taking expertise, revision, planning, plagiarism, study-timetable management and examination strategies. Attendance and active participation in the programs are vital to academic success and improving student performance.

The first Pathways to University session for current Year 12s was particularly important and engaging because the graduating 2018 ATAR students returned to the College to discuss their own Year 12 journeys and to share top tips for academic success, including subject-specific approaches. The session (pictured below) was very well-received by the Year 12s who found the authentic insights offered by students extremely valuable. We sincerely thank the 2018 Year 12 ATAR students for their contributions to the first Pathways to University session and for their willingness to support their former Sevenoaks peers by sharing their useful words of wisdom. We wish them all the best as they embark on their own tertiary studies and post-school experiences.



Calendar of Events – Term 2 – 2019

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
April/May 1	29 PD Day No students	30	1 Yr 12 Pathways: Elevate Education	2	3
2	6	7	8 Yr 11 Pathways: Elevate Education	9	10
3	13 Yr 12 Externally Set Tasks	14 Yr 12 Externally Set Tasks	15 Yr 12 Externally Set Tasks	16 EYr 12 Externally Set Tasks	17 Yr 12 Externally Set Tasks
4	20 Yr 12 Externally Set Tasks	21	22	23	24
5	27	28 Harmony and Diversity Module 3	29	30	31
June 6	3 WA Day Holiday	4 PD Day No students Yr 12 Exams	5 Yr 12 Exams	6 Yr 12 Exams	7 Yr 12 Exams Yr 11 Exams
7	10 Yr 12 Exams Yr 11 Exams	11 Yr 12 Exams Yr 11 Exams	12 Yr 11 Exams	13 Yr 11 Exams	14 Yr 11 Exams
8	17	18	19 Semester 2 Courses begin	20	21
9	24	25 Harmony and Diversity Module 4	26	27	28
July 10	1	2 NAIDOC Week Celebrations	3 Semester 1 Report Evening 3pm-6pm	4	5

P & C: New Members Welcome!

In Week 10, the P&C Annual General Meeting will take place at 5:00 pm during Progress Report Evening.

Do you think you can contribute?

We encourage new members to join the P & C, where the best interests of your children are prioritised.

Progress Report Evening

3-6pm April 10: Week 10

P&C AGM: 5:00pm