



Irrawang High School Newsletter

Promoting excellence in academic, cultural and sporting performance

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Issue 9

December 2019

From the Principal's Desk . . .

The end of the school year is almost upon us and on behalf of all the staff at Irrawang High School, I would like to thank all our Irrawang High School families for their support and contributions to our school. Many of you have attended information evenings, parent teacher nights or forums or you have been part of the P&C.



Your students also have been very busy not only with exams and assessment tasks but with the many extra-curricular activities that take place at school including performances, local tours, excursions, dance and so much more.

Over the last week, students from Years 7 – 10 have all received their reports. The standard of the achievement for our students seems to improve every year. It was a delight to see so many Certificates of Achievement and Certificates of Excellence at our school presentation assembly. The students were proud to receive these awards and in every case they are well deserved. It was another showcase of the fantastic talent we have here amongst our student body in academic, creative arts, sporting, cultural and humanitarian endeavours.

HSC 2019

We celebrated our HSC results with students and staff at a breakfast on 17 December. We were able to congratulate the success that our Year 12 students have had across a range of subjects. It was also a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the success that our Year 12 students have already had with students nominated for Callback (dance), and many who had already received early acceptance into university or have already been offered traineeships, apprenticeships and full time work. The Class of 2019 should already be proud.

2020

I hope each and every one of you has a wonderful Christmas and holiday vacation. I look forward to seeing you in 2020 when we will strive to do it all again and even better than this year. A reminder that staff return on Tuesday 28 January and students from Years 7, 11 and 12 return on Wednesday 29 January and Years 8, 9 and 10 students return on Thursday 30 January 2020.

Dates to remember : subject to alteration

DECEMBER

Wed 18 Dec LAST DAY OF TERM 4 for all students -
Merry Christmas Everyone!!

JANUARY

Tue 28 Jan First day of Term 1 for all staff : staff development day

Wed 29 Jan First day of Term 1 for Years 7, 11 and 12

Thurs 30 Jan First day of Term 1 for Years 8, 9 and 10

Fri 31 Jan School swimming carnival

FEBRUARY

Mon 10 - Fri 14 Feb Year 12 P1 work placement

Thurs 13 Feb Call back excursion
Elevate

Fri 14 Feb Onstage excursion

Mon 17 Feb Zone swimming carnival

Tue 18 Feb Year 7 welcome BBQ

Wed 19 Feb Stage 3 open evening

Fri 21 Feb School photos

Mon 24 Feb P & C meeting - 5:30pm in the Library

Mon 24 - Fri 28 Feb Year 12 HOS work placement

Fri 28 Feb Year 7 excursion : treetops and pool

MARCH

Mon 2 Mar School photos back-up day

Fri 6 Mar University roadshow

Mon 9 - Tue 10 Mar High resolves workshops

Fri 13 Mar School athletics carnival

Mon 16 - Tue 17 Mar High resolves workshops

Fri 20 Mar School athletics carnival back-up day

Mon 23 Mar Year 7 vaccinations

Mon 23 - Tue 24 Mar High resolves workshops

Wed 25 Mar Elevate : elevate parents

Thank you MarketPlace Raymond Terrace!

Huge thanks as always to all the MarketPlace businesses for their continuing support of our Community PBL and outstanding students and schools during 2019.



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NSW Government Schools · Term Dates 2019

Term 1	Tuesday 29 January - Friday 12 April
Term 2	Monday 29 April - Friday 5 July
Term 3	Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September
Term 4	Monday 14 October - Friday 20 December

School Development Days occur at the beginning of Terms 1, 2 and 3 and the last two days of the school year. Please check with the school, as schools may vary some of these dates.

P & C Association

P & C meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month at 5:30pm in the School Library. The next meeting will be on Monday 24 February 2020.

- This is a chance to meet other parents and learn what is going on at your child's school.
- Become involved in your child's school community.

Student achiever of the week

Congratulations to the following students on their excellent achievements:

TERM 4:

Week 6:

English: Alice Zammit, Madison Hadley, Emily Laws, Tyrion Mackey, Georgia Williams, Deakon Westley, Antwone Ryan, Allyssa Allen, Hayley-Rose Davies-Adam, Denzel Dickens, Pearl Scudds, Taliah Billett, Logan Robson and Brandon Dennett
Support: Shakeah Kearns, Kai Trebilco-McHarg and Gabriella Dok

Week 7:

English: Sahara Kirkman, Elouise Crossan, Jaxson Goward, Rhiannon Thoroughgood and Shaytarna Ping-Buckshiram
Mathematics: Ricki-Lee Murray, Danielle Smith, Ashlee Stuart, Jacob Mifsud, Trent Armstrong and Jake Olsen

Support: Otto van de Wijgaart and Sullivan Challoner

Week 8:

English: Emilia McKenzie, Henry Reginelli, Piper Noffke and Sarah Clarke

NSW Government Schools · Term Dates 2020

Term 1	Tuesday 28 January - Thursday 9 April
Term 2	Monday 27 April - Friday 3 July
Term 3	Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September
Term 4	Monday 12 October - Friday 18 December

School Development Days occur at the beginning of Terms 1, 2 and 3 and the last two days of the school year. Please check with the school, as schools may vary some of these dates.



World of work

The WOW school to work and life skills transition program for all Year 10 students, was recently held over three days at the Raymond Terrace Bowling Club. AJ from UQ Power in Newcastle was an inspirational, knowledgeable and exceptional facilitator as demonstrated by the very positive student feedback forms. A huge thanks to all the business/ community representatives below who had lunch with the students over the three days - we sincerely appreciate these amazing community partnerships.

Port Stephens Council, Real Futures Foundation, Raymond Terrace Bowling Club, Hunter Valley Buses, Bunnings Heatherbrae, Prospect Recruitment, News of the Area, The Greater Bank, University of Newcastle, MarketPlace Raymond Terrace and Irrawang High School

As always, a huge thanks to the The Real Futures Foundation and the Raymond Terrace Bowling Club for their ongoing and very generous sponsorship of this valuable Year 10 program.



Have you changed your personal details?

In order to keep our records up-to-date, if your student has any change in their personal details eg doctor, medical condition, emergency contact, telephone no., address etc, please inform the school ASAP.

Congratulations!

Warm congratulations to Ms Jenny Harding (pictured left) and Ms Kaylie Newell on their recent appointments as permanent teachers at Irrawang High School.



VISITORS TO IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL

Visitors should not enter school playgrounds without the issue of a visitors pass from the front office.

NB: Teaching staff are not always available, therefore it would be appreciated if appointments were made beforehand.

Supporting and linking tradeswomen (S.A.L.T)

A fantastic FREE workshop was recently held for 22 female students who are thinking about a potential career in the trades. We welcomed Flavia, Sonia, Diane, Maxine and Louise – all qualified tradeswomen - from SALT to teach our young ladies how to use tools.

The SALT organisation - funded by both state and federal governments - had identified that a majority of women who were succeeding in apprenticeships had been taught to use tools at an early age.

The workshop ran from 10am – 2.30pm with 30 minutes for lunch. Each group worked with one tradie. The day commenced with a safety induction, with all students wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) and following instructions from their tradie. They had great fun creating a timber box from measuring up, cutting and assembling. The tools and skills involved include measuring with tapes and set squares, cutting with a variety of saws such as hand saw, drop saw and jigsaw to assembling with drills, impact drivers, nails, screws, hammers, nail punches and different drill bits. Each tool was carefully explained with correct use shown and overseen.

The lady tradies run this school program across New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria, and we are privileged to have them at Irrawang High School today as workshop number 290, promoting trades amongst women.



News from sport

2019 Inter- School Sporting Challenge

Great to welcome our friends from HRHS to school this morning for our first combined sports competitions for a long time.

Games of touch, netball, basketball and futsal were enjoyed by all students, with cheer squads from both schools loudly supporting their friends.

A fantastic day and very well organised by our PASS students who planned the whole program for an assessment task.

And the overall winner today was..... sport!



Farewell

Farewell to these highly valued members of staff, Vicki Catt, Georgina Ward, Trent Colley and Kate Handley who are moving to greener pastures – some further than other. We wish you all the best and keep in touch!

Mr Trent Colley



Ms Kate Handley



Ms Georgina Ward



Ms Vicki Catt



Volunteers luncheon

Lovely to welcome our highly appreciated volunteers to our school recently for the annual Volunteers Lunch. It was an opportunity for Principal Mr Baxter to thank these wonderful people (many from the Lions Club of Raymond Terrace) who come in almost on a daily/ weekly basis to assist with Breakfast Club, Cafe Irrawang, Plan- it Youth, P&C and Literacy Support.

The meal was prepared by Ms Sewell's Year 12 Hospitality students as part of a Service Period, of which they must complete 12 over two years as part of their course. The beautiful meal was outstanding, thank you so much - the volunteers were very impressed and complimentary.

Also a big thank you to Colin Fisher our P&C secretary from Edgeworth Meat & More, who very kindly donated the delicious ham for our luncheon.



2019 presentation assembly

The 2019 Irrawang High School Presentation Awards were held last week to celebrate and acknowledge students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievements across many key learning areas.

Many special awards were also presented, several to immediate past students.

Wonderful to see so many families and friends attending the ceremony to share in the successes.

The CAPA stars shone again with their fabulous performances, and entertained the crowd as always.

A big thank you as always to all our special community partners, benefactors and sponsors for your ongoing support by coming along to celebrate our student's achievements.

Congratulations to all award recipients and to all involved.



Irrawang High School giving tree

On November 1 our school in association with Rural Aid, launched the Christmas 'Giving Tree' seeking personal care items for our farmer friends in the Murrurundi area. We were overwhelmed by the school community response, so a HUGE thank you to everyone who have brought in items, including Aeroguard, shampoo & conditioner, deodorant, tissues, hand wipes (to replace showers) moisturiser, body wash, band aids etc etc etc.

In addition to the actual items donated we held three fundraising activities for a gold coin donation – a 'dress as a farmer' day', a 'parma for a farmer' day (thank you P&C) and a Woolworths MarketPlace sausage sizzle. Woolworths donated everything for the BBQ including the time of Mrs Jenner. With the cash raised from those events, the school purchased BP gift cards to be spent at the only service station in Murrurundi and BP Salt Ash donated another \$250 in cards plus a \$100 gift hamper.

Student leaders Nick, Sierra, Abbey and Tom long with Mr Tonks and Mrs Fagan delivered the items to the farmers pop up pantry in Murrurundi on December 17. This tiny town with a big heart has been on Level 6 water restrictions since July 2018. The pantry services an area of a 120km radius, from Tamworth to Denman, with over 100 farming families coming in weekly to 'shop' with every item in the pantry donated. Some of the farmers can only afford to come into town every three weeks because of the cost of fuel so the BP fuel cards will come in very handy.

Such a privilege to be here and see how this community pulls together to help the farmers.



Mayoral academic scholarship program

The Mayoral Academic Scholarships program is a partnership between Port Stephens Council and local businesses to support the next generation of business and industry leaders in Port Stephens and opens for applications on 13 December 2019 closing on 17 January 2020.

The investment of one scholarship from a local business can make a big difference to a young person setting out on the next stage of their academic journey. Whether it is a year's worth of text books, a laptop computer, or student accommodation – this contribution goes a long way to support local students and encourage life-long learning.

Each year, the Mayoral Academic Scholarships Program offers scholarships to students from across the Port Stephens Local Government Area, embarking on their first year of tertiary study. In 2020, 18 scholarships valued at \$2,000 each generously sponsored by local businesses help local students realise their potential.

<https://www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/live/community/grants-and-scholarships/mayoral-academic-scholarships>

KIDS free SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN



WEEK 1

Paint Workshop

Monday 6th January to Friday 10th January
Times: 10am to 4pm

Kids can get creative with coloured sand and make a true piece of art to take home.



WEEK 2

Paint Workshop

Monday 13th January to Friday 17th January
Times: 10am to 2pm

Monday	Ceramic Robot Money Box
Tuesday	Ceramic Sea Horse Money Box
Wednesday	Ceramic Tractor or Unicorn Money Box
Thursday	Wooden Key House
Friday	Ceramic Caterpillar Planter

*Craft is limited daily to one per child per day and the first 100 children ages 2 to 14.

WEEK 3

Colouring Workshop

Monday 20th January to Friday 24th January
Times: 10am to 2pm

Monday	Colouring Paddle Sticks
Tuesday	Monster or Unicorn Keyring
Wednesday	Colouring Frisbees Marvel or Butterflies
Thursday	Colouring Princess Crown or Western Mask
Friday	Colouring Frisbees Marvel or Butterflies

*Craft is limited daily to one per child per day and the first 100 children ages 2 to 14.

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* many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL



ABSENTEE NOTE

(to be returned to Roll Call Teacher first day back after absence)

STUDENT'S NAME: **Roll Group:**

Year: **Date of Absence/s:**

Reason for Absence: ☐ Sick ☐ Leave ☐ Other

.....
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Signature Parent/Caregiver: **Date:**

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.....
.....

Signature Parent/Caregiver: **Date:**

IHS supporters

Does your child need an extra hand with English or Maths?

Sometimes children fall behind at school. They may have moved from another state, changed classes, or something else has happened in their life beyond your control. For whatever reason they then begin to struggle with their work at school, with their homework and with their exams. This can be frustrating for both them and you as a parent.

Kip McGrath specialises in helping children catch up to where they need to be in English and Maths. The resources we use are specifically designed to do this job. And the reason we only use qualified teachers, is that they have the tools and skills to accelerate your child's learning, so that any gaps are closed as quickly as possible.

We complement what is done at school to help your child. Your school gives your child an essential foundation in education across a wide range of subjects and developmental activities. Our job is to give your child an extra hand when they need to catch up ... for whatever reason. So together we can help your child reach their full potential.

Kip McGrath Education Centres Raymond Terrace
48 William Street Raymond Terrace NSW 2324
4983 1000 raymondterrace@kipmcgrath.com.au

Kip McGrath

www.kipmcgrath.com.au/raymond-terrace

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RFF

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The Real Futures Foundation is a non-profit organisation which has an established track record of helping to inspire and motivate students in Port Stephens to either stay in school and increase their educational engagement and attainment, or choose a positive pathway that enables successful transition to employment, further education or training.

Scotty's
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RAYMOND TERRACE

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