



# Irrawang High School Newsletter

*Promoting excellence in academic, cultural and sporting performance*

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## Issue 2

## March 2020

### From the Principal's Desk . . .

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding, as our school community addresses this challenging and unprecedented situation.

Things certainly changed for all of us from the 23 March. It is imperative to know that the school is



following the advice and direction of the Government. That is why Irrawang High School is still encouraging all families to keep their children at home if possible. The things we do now as a community, we do to protect the most vulnerable members of our community to the COVID 19 pandemic. It is just that, a pandemic. We must take the advice from government seriously and all do our part. Do not ponder too much on the advice you find on social media. The hype causes more anxiety and the false sense that this is an apocalypse, which it is not. Trust the advice from our health experts, it is a health pandemic. Seek information from government websites and the World Health Organisation. Keep washing your hands and social distancing for your own safety and the greater good of the whole community.

Our teachers are endeavouring to provide innovative and engaging lessons to allow for the continuation of your child's learning. To help support the implementation of online learning in the home, please look back through the daily updates I have provided. These can be found on the schools website. <https://irrawang-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

We strongly recommend you watch the SchoolTV Special Report on Online Learning, featuring Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, [https://schooltv.me/wellbeing\\_news/special-report-preparing-homeschooling](https://schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-preparing-homeschooling)

This program outlines the key role parents and carers have in implementing online learning. Parents need to make sure their children do not see this period as an extended holiday. They do need to provide structure to their day to facilitate the online learning experience.

# From the Principal's desk cont'd

Please say hello to your children from the staff. We miss them! We miss the energy, the enthusiasm, the connection to learning that brings out those little moments, those ah ha moments in time, when you see a child grasp a concept for the first time. I refer to those moments as the little gems. They're precious and teachers hang onto those moments. It is the part of the job that drives us and motivates us as educators. We look forward to returning to business as usual for those moments. I will continue to provide regular updates via email. Many thanks for your understanding and most importantly during this time, remember to take care of yourself and your loved ones.

This newsletter contains articles and photographs covering the month of March 2020 when much of this time was business as usual. All photographs submitted were taken before social distancing laws were introduced.

## Student Achiever of the Week

Congratulations to the following students on their excellent achievements:

### Week 5:

**Mathematics:** Liam Hawking, Hannah McFadyen, Ellie Ping, Zakary Bull, India Cockle and Angelina-Jade Cousin

**Support:** Connor Christian and Maisie Dimmick

### Week 6:

**Mathematics:** Reece Barber, Boden Drummond, Holly Fairlamb and Sophie Kent

**Support:** Angel Nicholas, Connor Christian and Brayden Wales

### Week 7:

**CAPA:** Zachary Hunter, Lillie Hunter, Ellie Martin and Huxley Rowe

**HSIE:** Joceyln Farnham, Corey Allen, Oscar Smith, Seth Dunwoodie, India Cockle, Meghan Vogt, Fletcher Laughton, Ryan Heiss, Brendan Wilson, Monique Randall, Keira O'Brien, Corbin Riddle, Olivia Dee, Chloe Burns, Amber Eldridge, Jessica Palfreyman,

Liam Sherriff and Kasey Stone

**Mathematics:** India Cockle, Finlay Canavan, Sarah Farrow, Jed Edgar-Jones, Skylar Aldred and Emily Green

**Support:** Jack Gauci, Kai Trebilco-McHarg and Geoffrey Griffis

### Week 8:

**Support:** Tavis Armstrong and Jerrome Teasdale

### Week 9:

**Support:** Tavis Armstrong and Jasber Kucera

# 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 2020.



RAYMOND TERRACE COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE

# S·T·A·R·S

EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, EVERY TIME

MARKETPLACE LOVE THIS PLACE FOR SUPPORTING PBL WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY



## NSW Government Schools · Term Dates 2020

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Term 1</b> | Tuesday 28 January - Thursday 9 April  |
| <b>Term 2</b> | Monday 27 April - Friday 3 July        |
| <b>Term 3</b> | Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September   |
| <b>Term 4</b> | 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.

## P & C Association

P & C meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is the AGM and is on:

**Date:** Monday 25 May 2020

**Time:** 5:30pm

**Where:** School Library

- 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.

## Information from Hunter School Sport Association (Hunter SSA)

The media release from Mark Scott, Secretary - NSW Department of Education, on Sunday 15 March indicated a 'phased social distancing strategy' is to be implemented from Monday 16 March 2020. As part of this strategy 'Sports and Initiatives events will be temporarily ceased until further notice'. The Hunter SSA advises that the following trials/championships/knockouts will not proceed -

1. Hunter Primary Rugby League Opens & 11 years trials
2. Hunter Primary AFL trials
3. Hunter Secondary Rugby League 18 years & 15 years trials
- 3a. Hunter Secondary Netball Trials and Knockout day
4. Hunter Secondary Squash trials
5. Hunter Secondary AFL trials
6. Hunter Secondary Touch Open Boys & Open Girls trials
7. Hunter Primary Hockey Boys & Girls trials
8. Hunter Football Boys trials
9. Hunter Primary Netball trials
10. Hunter Secondary Golf trials
11. Hunter Primary Football Girls trials

All Zone/District, Hunter, NSWPSSA and NSWCHSSA activities will be 'temporarily ceased until further notice'. This includes NSWPSSA and NSW CHS Swimming and Diving Championships.

Advice from the School Sport Unit is that all Primary and Secondary knockouts should also cease until further notice.

Thank you for your assistance and understanding regarding this matter.





# News from Clontarf Academy

It happens often, however we always love hearing about the excellent behaviour of our IHS students out in the community.

Recently we received a call from a member of the local community, expressing her delight in seeing a group of 20 young men and three parents collecting rubbish along the Raymond Terrace foreshore. The Clontarf Academy boys took the initiative to have their own Clean Up Australia event, starting at 7:15am and finishing an hour later with a BBQ breakfast.

Clontarf Director, Poss and Operations Officer, Luke are understandably proud of their young men as is the whole school.

Well done gentlemen!





# New sports visors

In 2018, Sports teacher Mr Hughes was looking for a logo for his student bowling team. Then in Year 7, Ashlee Stuart came up with the idea of a “W” for Wang, short for Irrawang.

Fast forward twelve months and Year 10 was participating in an Inquiry Based Learning unit around sun safety, where students were asked to create a project that ended with a product. A resourceful group of young men now in Year 11, with assistance from Mr Hughes, designed and marketed a school sports visor based on student research in the House colours for Moy, Bramley, Osborne and Dawson.

The concept is owned and designed by the students. The visors are for sale from the sports faculty for only \$10 each.

Congrats to all involved, the visors look fantastic.



# Learning and support teachers

We have a team of dedicated learning and support teachers (LASTs) at Irrawang High School who work tirelessly behind the scenes supporting your children in many ways. Collaboration between teachers, support staff, students and parents/carers ensures the needs of students are met. The IHS team addresses the learning support needs of individual groups of students through the co-ordination, development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of educational programs such as:

- LEXIA – a technology based phonic program to enhance reading which can be accessed at home
- QUICK SMART – a program to develop word recognition, reading fluency and comprehension skills
- INDIVIDUALISED TESTING – to target student's needs

Meet the team and their roles:

**Suzi Morris –**

Supporting students' educational needs at school; out of home care; consultation with outside agencies; literacy testing and disability provisions for the HSC.

**Michelle Liddell –**

Distance education; supporting students with English as a second language, literacy intervention and Lexia.

**Alyssa Allen –**

Quick Smart program – a literacy intervention program.

**Miriam Avery –**

Works collaboratively with the Learning and Support and Ngarralbaa teams to create individual support plans for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.



Pictured from left: Ms Liddell, Ms Allen, Ms Morris and Ms Avery

The team are happy to speak with parents on an individual basis and are always at every parent/teacher meeting. If you would like to speak to the teachers please contact them on 4987 4687.



# Good hygiene

Following the advice from NSW Health, Irrawang High School (HS) is implementing a range of strategies to promote good personal hygiene and reduce possible transmission.

This includes:

- Handwashing (soap is available in all toilets)
- Morning assembly has been postponed
- Maintaining good ventilation of classrooms by opening windows
- Reminding students about personal hygiene measures including face contact, cough etiquette ( in elbow) and handwashing

Irrawang HS staff and students feeling unwell and experiencing flu like symptoms are advised to stay at home.

These are sensible measures to protect our students, staff and community.

Irrawang HS will continue to provide updates to our community and respond to the advice from NSW Health.



## SOLDIERS POINT MARINA



### - SCHOOL LEAVERS SCHOLARSHIP -

Soldiers Point Marina takes great pleasure in announcing the Soldiers Point Marina Scholarships for school leavers. Applicants will be short listed to motivated 15-18 year olds showing commitment to their career goal. Successful applicants will be eligible for awards of up to \$1,000 for much needed financial support.

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For all enquiries regarding Soldiers Point Marina scholarships please email: [hrrspm@live.com.au](mailto:hrrspm@live.com.au)  
or complete the application form online: [www.soldiersptmarina.com.au](http://www.soldiersptmarina.com.au)

CLOSING DATE: 30TH JUNE 2020

Soldiers Point Marina, PO Box 493, Salamander Bay NSW 2317  
PH. (02) 4982 7445



# 2020 athletics carnival

Under a magnificent blue sky, the 2020 Athletics Carnival was held recently and deemed a great success. Big thank you to the Raymond Terrace Athletics Club – the ground was magnificent.

Our students displayed their best PBL behaviour at all times.

House winners:

- Moy – 1271
- Bramley – 823
- Dawson – 712
- Osbourne – 672





# Technology free fun

Board games have been purchased and the library has been reconfigured during recess and lunch for students to enjoy each other's company playing games. Friday is screen free day.



# Ramp up writing program

Literacy Sprint is a part of the Ramp Up Writing program for students in Years 7-10 at Irrawang High School, with the goal of the whole program to build confidence in students' writing.

The topic for Literacy Sprint No 1 was Simple Sentences, for No 2 - Compound Sentences, No 3 Complex Sentences.



## 2020 Hunter/Central Coast Entertainment Book

The 2020 Hunter/Central Coast Entertainment 100% Digital Book is out now and only \$69.99 for a single city. So many discounts.

20% of all sales are helping towards the cost of the IHS Year 12 formal.

Buy now and get an extra 3 months membership.



Please click on this link to order your book - great idea for a gift!

<https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/347u71>

### 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.

### 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.



# News from English

As the faculty prepares for digital and remote learning, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the highlights from the term so far. These include the quality teaching and learning that has taken place in both our physical and online classrooms and the enthusiastic participation in extra curricula activities such as the Anime Club each and every week. The picture book workshop with author and illustrator, Liz Anelli was also very popular and put Year 7 in great stead for their picture book projects.

I would also like to acknowledge all the hard work, commitment and dedication of the English Faculty to ensure the continuation and delivery of quality digital learning materials and lessons via Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams and the hard copy work packs. To our students and their families, we thank you for navigating and embracing these new digital platforms.

I hope that everyone is taking care and staying safe and if there is anything that we can assist you with in relation to learning in English, please contact the English staff. We are all in this together!

Ms H Sheriff

Relieving HT English



**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

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

**Date:** .....

**IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL**



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**IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL**



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**Reason for Absence:** ☐ Sick ☐ Leave

☐ Other

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

**Date:** .....

Offer available only to Irrawang High School students.



@TMA Raymond Terrace  
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**Special Irrawang HS Offer!**  
4 weeks of classes +  
FREE Uniform only  
\$39.95!

**2 for 1  
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# 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](http://www.kipmcgrath.com.au/raymond-terrace)

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Raymond Terrace

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  *love this place*



# IHS supporters

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Gain experience from the best of the best with World Champion Natasha Scott, Australian Rep Matt Baus & former State Reps Jason Stokes and Lennon Scott.

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Open on weekends for casual Cafe' dining, sit among the peaceful gardens and spoil yourself or friends with delicious coffee and hearty food. The Rectory is the perfect setting for your next event

Unwind • Indulge • Celebrate 48 Sturgeon Street

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(02) 4983 2060

Terms apply. See in club for details.

**ANYTIME FITNESS**

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RFF

Making futures real for our youth

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**  
**CINEMAS**  
**RAYMOND TERRACE**

**The DECK**  
YOUTH VENUE

3:30 - 6:30  
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
12 - 18 Y/O'S

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Email: thedeck@psfans.org.au

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***RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324***

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