INGLEBURN HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2016

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PRINCIPAL

Hello to the Ingleburn High School Community.

This is my first newsletter since I have returned back to Ingleburn High School as its proud Principal. I would like to share my first assembly speech with you.

Good morning staff and students

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the Tharawal people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today and pay my respect to Aboriginal elders past and present and extend that respect to Aboriginal people here today. This Acknowledgement of Country doesn't replace a treaty, native title or land rights, but it is a small gesture of recognition of the association with land and place of the First Australians.

Today I consider my return after 12 months as one of re-launching myself as the proud Principal of Ingleburn High School.

I have done a lot of thinking about what I have missed the most, what changes I will make and how I will continue my role as Principal and how this will unfold in the near future.

Recently I read about Linda Cliatt-Wayman, High School Principal in Philadelphia, U.S.A who has a mantra of Lead fearlessly and love hard ... which hit a note with me. Part of her philosophy about how we build relationships with children she savs ... "We must never forget that every single one of our students are still in their formative years, regardless of their school age and are often scared by what the world tells them what they should be, and no matter what the rest of the world tells them what they should be, we can always provide them with hope, our undivided attention, and unwavering belief in their potential and have consistent expectations." This current generation of students does not grasp the term 'should' but rather respond far better to the word 'could' when we want them to do something or change. How communicate as staff and students requires understanding from both sides and it is something I will endeavor to embed in all interactions across the school.

I want you to feel safe and secure in your learning and not see Ingleburn High School as just a place to go to every day but your local school that provides students with knowledge, mental training and resilience to navigate the world around them and be successful.

Your view of me has been frozen in time and you may only remember the last thing I said to you ... for example ... why aren't you in uniform, your mates will not pay your mortgage or are you OK what can I do to help. Well I can tell you that I am still a teacher first and foremost and my expectations that you do your best and be a safe and respectful learner has not changed. These are not negotiable and no excuses. You are responsible for your own learning and behavior but we will work together to achieve your dreams and aspirations. You need to develop the skills of emotional awareness and intelligence, self-regulation, impulse control and optimism.

You will hear me talk in more detail about success seeking and eliminating excuses and as students what you need to do to achieve it pure and simple but that is for a future assembly time.

I have kept in touch with the happenings at school and look forward to building on all the great things that have been achieved this year.

Year 7 I'm looking forward to meeting with you and hearing your stories about what Ingleburn High School has taught you during 2016.

Fantastic to see many new and beginning teachers which, I am sure, are all keen, passionate and wanting to change the world yesterday as we all were when we first started teaching. It reminds me of my first day of casual teaching here at Ingleburn High School in February 1985!!!! I look forward to learning from these generational experts as they will from me.

My energy, enthusiasm and vision for school excellence at Ingleburn High School and improving student performance has not changed and everyone's well-being will be central to my leadership with a futures focus on what is best for our students and staff in a holistic manner. This is my commitment to you.

I would like to thank Mrs Dolstra for relieving as Principal and the support she has given the school in my absence, Mrs Dolstra did it unwaveringly. To the staff ... thank you also for your continual support for improvement in a collegial and collaborative manner, so that Ingleburn High School will always strive for excellence in everything we do as teachers.



The influence you have on young people can't be denied and I'm sure every student and, in particular, the HSC class of 2016 value your commitment to them and will always remember you fondly long after they graduate Ingleburn High School.

Today marks another step forward in the life of Ingleburn High School. I am excited what the future holds for the learning community, making plans for the growing needs of our students and how we make our school the best in South Western Sydney.

As you go through your day I want you all to remember those words by Judy Garland from the Wizard of Oz fame "always be a first rate version of yourself not a second rate version of someone else".

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

This Memorandum to Principals was sent to me to share with parents from the DoE's Deputy Secretary, Gregory Prior.

Attendance of Students in Term 4, 2016

All students in Kindergarten to Year 11 are required to attend school until Friday, 16 December, the last day of teaching for 2016. Prior to this date, students in all year groups should be engaged in meaningful work based on the curriculum and syllabus requirements.

If parents are seeking permission for their child to be absent from school for a period of time the <u>Exemption</u> from School - Procedures should be followed.

As in previous years, students who complete the Higher School Certificate examinations in 2016 will be signed out from school on dates determined by principals to align with local school management practices.

If you require further information, please contact Sandi Simpkins, Director, School Policy and Information Management by telephone on 9244 5070 or email at schools.policy@det.nsw.edu.au.

Thank you for your ongoing support of student learning.

Gregory Prior
Deputy Secretary, School Operations and
Performance

UNIFORM

We are still having issues with girls wearing black tights or black shorts to school for uniform. Not only are these inappropriate but they have not been endorsed by the school community through our Uniform Policy. Parents will be rung to have them bring the right uniform to school or students will be given the pants or shorts for the day if this is the case.

As I have said before, if families require student assistance for uniforms please contact me to discuss how we can help with uniform requirements.

Thank you for your support and co-operation with this matter.

LATENESS

A reminder to parents that if students are late to school after Roll Call they must sign in at the Front Office through the new Sentral Kiosk.

SCHOOL ACCESS

For many years we have attempted to guarantee the safety of students by restricting access to the school site. Parents ARE STILL putting the safety of students at risk by dropping-off or picking-up students at the rear of the school.

Access to the school site is restricted to parents and community members who have business to conduct in the school.

In future, number plates of cars ignoring this restriction will be provided to the Police and summary action taken. The Local Area Command has asked that we do this as some parents are ignoring the safety of students within school grounds.

This term will continue to be very busy and there is lots happening and it will be shared in our next newsletter.

Mr Rob Cheadle Principal



Next P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting is **Wednesday 26 October.** Come along meet new parents and enjoy some home baked treats for supper.

Sue Roberts P&C President



YEAR 11 LEGAL EXCURSION

On Friday 26 August, students from Year 11 Legal Studies had the opportunity to visit Campbelltown Court House, as part of the teaching and learning program at Ingleburn High School.

The purpose of the excursion was to provide students with the chance to observe the operation of both Local and District Courts, and to bridge their theoretical understanding of the law with its real world application.

Ms Nguyen and Mr Levkovski met students in the morning at Ingleburn train station and departed just after 8:00am to head towards Campbelltown Court House.

The day began with a swift, but mandatory, security check through the Sheriff's metal screening before moving into the Heritage Court Room where students were given a tour of the courtroom layout and a basic overview of the court system. A few lucky students were even allowed to sit in various positions in the court, entertaining different roles such as judge, court monitor, judge's assistant, witness, solicitor and prosecutor. No one sat in the dock and assumed the role of the accused, thankfully!

Our senior students were fascinated to hear about the underground passageway that connected the dock, where the accused is held in court, to the downstairs prison cell of the Heritage Court Room. They were also particularly curious to learn about the various ways to apply for jobs at the Court House.

At the end of the tour, students broke into smaller groups and sat in on court sessions, hearing cases that ranged from minor offences such as appeals to drink driving, to more serious offences like accessory after the fact to robbery. Students also observed cases that dealt with domestic violence, resisting arrest, and even more contemporary issues like abuse on social media.

The Court Officer noted how engaged and pleasant our students were. Various staff including a Magistrate Judge and Prosecutor commented on the mature way in which the Year 11's conducted themselves throughout the day. It is always a pleasure to hear positive feedback about students from distinguished members of the public.

At the end of the day, these experiences are about enhancing students' ability to distinguish between civil and criminal court procedures, and helping them to identify the various roles of legal personnel involved in the court process. Our students gained these abilities and many more, having connected what they saw in action with their own experience of mock trials and inclass learning.

Overall, it was an exciting and eye-opening day for our students, many of whom stated that they were keen to come back and listen to court cases in their spare time. The trip was a great success in sparking the interest of students in the legal profession!

Ms T. Nguyen HSIE Teacher



Some of the Year 11 students on the train to Campbelltown Court House.



Year 11 Legal Studies students in front of Campbelltown Court House on a chilly Friday morning, just before going through the Sheriff's metal screening at the entrance.



PLAYGROUP SESSION 2

Written by Grace Ford (Year 10 Child Studies student)

Mrs McMurdo's Year 10 Child Studies class held their second playgroup on Monday 19 September. Parents and their children gathered for a morning full of fun.

The children participated in many exciting activities such as play dough, colouring in and biscuit decorating. The session ended in both the students and children happily playing with the parachute outside. The weather was lovely and everyone had a smile on their face. Overall, it was a fantastic playgroup for everyone involved. We are looking forward to our next one.

Please see Mrs McMurdo for more details on the next playgroup. We'd love to see you there!







SUPPORT UNIT CAMP

Last term the students from the Support Unit went on camp to Wooglemai Environmental and Education Center.

They had three days of fun filled activities including bushwalking, archery, high ropes course and team building challenges.

Some quotes from the students are: "Camp was the best.", "Camp was crazy, fun and weird all at the same time."

Everyone was exhausted by the end of camp but everyone had a great time and built on existing friendships.









HOMEWORK CENTRE

Ingleburn High School is now running a homework centre up to and including Week 6, Term 4. The centre will operate every Thursday from 3:10 – 4:10 pm and will be held in the school library. Mr Levkovski will coordinate the homework centre and will keep a student attendance roll of every session.

Students will be offered assistance with homework, assignments and assessment tasks. They will be supervised in the confines of the school library and they will be allowed to access all of the library resources, including the use of the computers and the Internet. The school's welfare and discipline policy will apply whilst the students are using the school facilities during this time.

We believe that this is a great opportunity for students to get on top of their school work and to help them meet the course requirements for the subjects that they study. A homework centre permission note is attached to this newsletter – please fill in the form and return it to Mr Levkovski in the HSIE staffroom.

If you have any further questions, please contact Mr Levkovski on 9605 6165.

Mr D. Levkovski
IHS Homework Centre Coordinator



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENT NEWS

AIME

The Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME) had its Year 12 graduation ceremony on 16 September! Congratulations to Tahnee Ping on her successful completion of this program after four years of attending workshops. There is one final date for Years 9, 10 and 11 students on **Wednesday 16 November.** This is a change of date from 25 November due to University room availability.



WSU PENRITH EARLY ENTRY TEST

In a previous newsletter I wrote about Tahnee Ping of Year 12 completing this process. At the end of Term 3 we were informed that she was successful in securing an early entry placement to WSU studying Tourism and Events Management in 2017. Congratulations Tahnee!!



QANTAS SBATS 2017

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders students in Year 10 were invited to apply for places in the QANTAS School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship Program for 2017. After applications, interviews and medicals Rachel Arthur, Zackary Dunn and Maddison Dunn have all been successful in gaining paid positions to commence in 2017. Well done!!

NAIDOC ASSEMBLY

Thursday 11 August saw Ingleburn High School's NAIDOC Assembly. George Rose, a former Indigenous All Star, attended as our guest speaker. The assembly was run by Aboriginal students and Tahnee Ping spoke on this year's theme "Songlines: The living narrative of our nation".

Following the assembly George stayed and participated in an Indigenous v Non-indigenous student's touch football game. Both sides tried very hard but the Indigenous students team was triumphant with a final score of 3-2.

A big thank you to George and Shaun from the NRL School to Work Program and Ms Bromley and Mrs Te Tai for organising the teams. Thanks also goes to Ms Williams and Lachlan Natapu of Year 12 for refereeing the match.





AFL INDIGENOUS ACADEMY

During the last school holidays Uncle Charlie, Merinda and the team from the AFL Academy took three students, Emanuel Marshall-Watson, Bradley Conroy and Latisha Gaghan on camp. During camp, students participated in a range of cultural sporting and social events – a great time had by all!! Thanks to Uncle Charlie and the AFL Academy for providing this opportunity.

NAIDOC COMMUNITY OF SCHOOLS DAY

On Wednesday 10 August fourteen students from Years 8 to 10 participated in activities at Sackville Street Public School to celebrate this year's NAIDOC week. Five of our Year 10 students: Jake Bucknall, Rachel Arthur, Maddison Dunn, Zackary Dunn and Tanisha Carr cooked the BBQ for all 500 students attending and did a fantastic job!!

Students participated in a range of activities including a smoking ceremony, singing the national anthem in an Aboriginal dialect and didgeridoo playing. Thank you to Mrs Te Tai for her supervision of students on the day.

HSIE NEWS

On 19 August seventeen students in Year 12 attended the WSU Enrichment Day for Geography and Society and Culture. They were given case studies and hints and tips to help them in their final exams. Students were also able to participate in an early entry examination at the end of the day. Congratulations to the following students who have all been offered early entry into courses offered by the School of Social Science at WSU:

Davana Fraser Bayley Fitzgerald Navneet Kaur Cameron Binnie Briana Kelly Ashleigh Westerland



ANTI-RACISM – A MESSAGE FROM THE ANTI-RACISM CONTACT OFFICER

Ingleburn High School has a strong commitment to Multicultural Education, equity and equality. These beliefs permeate our school and Department of Education policies including Anti-Racism Policy, Cultural Diversity and Community Relations Policy, Multicultural Education in schools, Aboriginal Education and Training Policy and the Complaints Handling Policy, amongst others. This ethos is embedded in our teaching practice and not only is it taught explicitly to students, but it also forms part of our expectations of the safe, respectful learners that attend Ingleburn High School.

Any member of the school community has the right to lodge a complaint and seek a resolution if they have been the victim of racial vilification in the school context. The resolution of such complaints can be either formal or informal depending on the severity and frequency of the abuse. It is my duty as an Anti-Racism Contact Officer (ARCO) of Ingleburn High School to handle such complaints and to provide mediation, education and monitoring that leads to reduced recidivism of racial abuse in our school.

If any student experiences such vilification, they are encouraged to speak to their teacher and to see myself in the HSIE Faculty in AR0036. If you have any questions regarding our Anti-Racism Policy or the resolution process, please contact me through the school's front office on 9605 6165.

Mr D. Levkovski Anti-Racism Contact Officer

