

# Peel High School

## Newsletter



Issue 11 - Term 4 - Week 9

18 December 2017



### Random Acts of Kindness

Left to right : Ania Braiding, Mikala Ellis, Lily Gregory & Alex Jenkins

Last week the Senior Leadership Team accompanied by Mr Jones and Mrs Herdegen spent the morning handing out coffee cups with a Christmas message and either a hot chocolate sachet, tea or coffee bag, sugar and a few sweets, to random strangers at both Shoppingworld and Peel Street.

It is the first year that Peel students have embarked on the program and plans are in place to make it an annual tradition. Congratulations to all the students who took part on the day.

### *Merry Christmas & Happy New Year*

Wishing everyone a safe and relaxing Christmas break

Dates below show school recommencement dates for Term 1 2018

Staff - Monday January 29

Year 7, 11 & 12 - Tuesday January 30

Year 8, 9 & 10 Wednesday January 31

### REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS & CARERS

As a safety precaution, should you need to drop any items off to your child during school hours please drop them into the front office.

Students are not permitted to meet you outside school grounds or wait near the front or back gates/fence to collect items from you.

This is a safety issue.

### Parents please note:

Before School our playgrounds are unsupervised until 8.20am each morning and then only minimal supervision until Roll Call at 8.50am.

### Front Office Hours

8am to 3.45pm (Monday to Friday)

### Payment Office

8.30am to 3.30pm (Monday to Friday)



## Principal's Report

Welcome to our last Newsletter for the year.

Term 4 has certainly flown by. Our HSC students have completed their exams and received their results.



The HSC Exam Presiding Officer commented on what outstanding young people these students were during the course of their exams. We know what fantastic young men and women they are but it's always nice to hear it from an external source. Congratulations Year 12.

I recently conducted a merit selection process for our new Head Teacher TAS. The successful candidate is Mrs Nor Chareunsouk-Hartley from Bonnyrigg High School in Sydney. Nor was an outstanding candidate and is very excited about relocating her family to Tamworth over the summer break, ready for the start of 2018.

Also on staffing, it is with regret, but also pleasure that I can announce that Mr Pat Sullivan, one of our Deputy Principals has been successful at merit selection and will start the new year as the Principal of Barraba Central School. Congratulation to Pat and we are all confident he will be an outstanding Principal. Big loss for us.

Our school recently saw the first round of new furniture arrive as part of the 'Schools of the Future' initiative at Peel. This new furniture is in the Library and we are evaluating it to see what we might purchase in 2018 for our class rooms. It looks fantastic and so far and is proving very functional. Students and staff are really impressed with our selection. My thanks to Mr Sullivan, Mrs Kalluder and Mr Keenan for the work they did to purchase the new furniture.

I have had the opportunity over recent weeks of visiting a couple of classrooms and it is terrific to see students engaged with their teachers with some positive learning taking place. We have a wonderful staff at Peel High School and

I consider myself very fortunate to lead this great group of people.

At our last P&C meeting for the year, the President announced that they have finally acquired 60 acres of land on Warral Rd for the school Agriculture program. This process have been on going over the last 10 years and has finally been signed over to our P&C. Congratulations to Ashley Castles (President), Greg Parker, Bill Campbell and all of the past and present P&C members who have contributed to making this happening. We now have 140 acres for our school farm and agriculture programs.

As you will have seen on the front page of this issue our senior leadership team took part in some Random Acts of Kindness. Thank you to all the students that participated. It was a pleasure to accompany you on the day.

The uniform situation at present is quiet good, but there is always room for improvement. I would like to ask all parents and carers to support our school and insist that your child is in full school uniform each day. They look so good as a group of young people when everyone is in our uniform.

Wishing all of our Peel families a safe and enjoyable Christmas break.

Rod Jones

Principal

## HSIE Faculty Report

2017 has been a very successful year for the HSIE faculty. Our dynamic team has been actively involved in a variety of professional development including HSC marking, piloting the schools of the future initiative, the establishment of the Tamworth History teachers association and involvement in state wide professional teaching associations.

HSIE continues to offer a diverse range of subjects and teachers are utilised for their specific skills to enable the best outcomes for our students.

This year HSIE was able to enjoy success in the HSC with students achieving Band 6 results and generally exceeding above state average.

Curtis Wolrige, who achieved a Band 6 in Society and Culture and Extension English, said that it was important for students to follow their strengths.



“The three HSIE subjects that I studied enabled me to be more interested in the world. Everything I learnt helped me to become a well-rounded global citizen.”

Curtis, who is the first person in his family to finish High School, plans to study Communications/Law at the University of Newcastle.

There are plenty of changes underway for the HSIE faculty in 2018. There are new syllabi to implement in Ancient and Modern History. For the first time Peel High will offer an Aboriginal Languages course. This course will be taught

by Michelle Clare, who is a welcome addition to the faculty in 2018.

The faculty would like to extend its best wishes for a safe and happy holiday period to all the Peel community.

Mrs Miller  
HT HSIE

## From the library

Top 3 most popular fiction books for 2017 are:-

***My Life as a Hashtag***  
by Gabriella Williams



***Valentine*** by Jodi McAlister

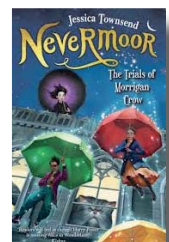


***Sword Art Online*** by Reki Kawahara, Bee-pee Abec



Thinking of what to put under the Christmas tree?

***Nevermoor*** by Jessica Townsend is an intriguing fantasy suitable for any one that loves Harry Potter. Full of magic and “wunder” it’s a must read for 2017!



## TAS Faculty Report

### Rotisserie building program

Our BBQ rotisserie program has been running for three years now and is still popular with students. It first began with five brilliantly designed and built working rotisseries and Industrial Arts now average two constructed each year and students certainly love to test them out and learn the basic operations before they proudly take them home for their family to enjoy. We hope to be introducing additional newer flat pack slot together firepit/spit designs (pictured) in the future which will be very popular for parents, teachers and students.



### Construction

Year 12 Construction have finished their Stud wall framing unit and have now started their tiling unit, learning to lay wall and floor tiles which will be a very valuable skill not only for working as a tiler but to have the ability to fix tiled surfaces with the need to hire a tiler which can be expensive. One student has gained a building and construction apprenticeship in 2018 after successfully completing work placement for the subject this year.



### Year 10 Industrial Technology Metal

Mr New's year 10 Metal class has been working flat out completing their Major project before the end of the year so they can enjoy the fruits of their labour and creativity during the semester. We have had a large variety of creative ideas this year. Pictured are students progressing toward the completion of their projects.



### Food Technology

During the past few weeks Mrs Townsend's food technology classes have demonstrated their capability and talent by successfully completing their assessments. Pictured is the year 10 food service and catering class treating staff with their creations and service skills for morning tea. Year 9 café class with their dessert challenge masterpieces and Year 9 food technology learning to make cakes from scratch. Some very valuable skills for life.



### Construction White card

The Construction General Induction White card will be held earlier next year moving from Term 3, week 3 to mid Term 2 to allow the qualification to be gained before work experience which allows students to work on a construction site. Students as young as 14 can participate in the 1 day course and I will be asking for nominations at the end of Term 1 2018. Preference is given to preliminary Construction students as this qualification is mandatory for the Construction course.

### Elective Fees for 2018

TAS elective subjects are not compulsory, but require fees for each subject area to be paid for the supply of materials such as wood, metal, food, and fabric. Other costs include consumables, and the maintenance of tools and machinery in Home Economics and Industrial Arts facilities. As of February 2018, students' elective subject fees must be paid in full by week 5 in Term 1 or students will not be permitted to commence practical work until a payment plan has been negotiated, or they will need to choose a non-fee paying subject. Please understand the cost involved with your child's selection of numerous electives. We appreciate your support, any queries please give myself or Mr Jones a call to clarify any issues.

Massive thanks to the talented TAS staff and Barb the kitchen wizard assistant who have worked so hard this term.

Tim Caterer

Relieving Head Teacher TAS (Technological and Applied Studies)

### Year 8 Visual Arts Students support Wishing Tree Appeal

The students of 8E have been spreading the Christmas cheer to make sure that no one misses out this Christmas. In their Visual Art class they have handmade Christmas decorations which they sold for a gold coin donation during lunchtime in the HSIE Quad, with all proceeds going to the Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal.

They obviously were a hit as they sold out in no time at all! Congraulations to Mrs Sherlock and 8E



### Hospitality Students compete in Cooking Competition

Recently two of our star Hospitality students put themselves out there and competed in their first cooking competition in Inverell. Sam Rooney and Ronald Goodchild of Year 11 produced four serves of entree, main and dessert under a strict time limit. Both boys worked hard, showing excellent creative cooking and time management. While they didn't get a place both boys should be extremely proud of their efforts.



## Year 11 SLR Excursion



Year 11 SLR students recently explored Warrabah National Park as part of their Outdoor Recreation unit. The students were responsible for organising their own sleeping arrangements and meals, as well as organising games for the group. We hiked, swam, sang songs and scared one another in the dark! We survived and had a nice, relaxing break from civilisation.

Miss Marnie Watson  
SLR Teacher

## GINGER BREAD HOUSES

Gingerbread house-building and cookie decorating brought out the best and worst of 7H. What a good time last week.



## Goodooga Excursion

Well the Goodooga guys and gals had a glorious time on their trip earlier this month. We stayed on site at Goodooga Central School, and got to visit Walgett, Lightning Ridge, Weilmoringle, Brewarrina, Back O'Bourke, Hebel, Dirranbandi and St George.

We travelled many kilometres and had some of the most enlightening banter with the kiddies. Despite some long hours on the Peel bus, the highlights of the trip were getting to know our incredible students and learning about Indigenous culture in NSW. How lucky we are to do what we do!

Thanks to DJ Stanto for organising the trip!



**ARRIVAL ON TIME:**

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students don't miss out on the important learning activities scheduled early in the day when the students are most alert
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Gives students time to greet their friends before class and therefore,
- Reduces the opportunity for classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as partial absence and must be explained by parents or carers in the same way as other forms of absence.

**MUST MY CHILD ATTEND ALL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING SPORT)?**

YES. Sport and other physical activities help the healthy physical and mental development of children. Sport and sports carnivals are normal school activities and students must attend.

Students are NOT encouraged to use sport afternoon to attend appointments. Participation in sport is an important part of their development and education.

Should a student be absent from sport, a note or primary carer phone call must be received by the Back Office prior to 12pm. Students who consistently fail to attend sport may receive a request for documentation to justify absences during sport. **If documentation can't be presented to the school, the absences may be recorded as unjustified.**

**CONSEQUENCES:**

At Peel High School the consequences or impacts of unexplained or unjustified absences might include the following:

- Ineligibility to represent school in sporting teams
- Ineligibility to represent school in extra-curricular activities
- Exclusion from Year Days and non-mandatory excursions, and;
- Exclusion from school functions such as school discos.
- As per Peel High School policies, students who have paid deposits, or part thereof, for excursions may not be able to have any money refunded if their behaviour or attendance is unacceptable.

**ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS:**

All students should:

- Aim for 100% attendance
- When absent, provide a justified reason for the absence
- Be on time and ready for all school activities and lessons
- When late, make sure you sign in at the Back Office
- Ensure they go through the Back Office if sick and need to go home early



## Attendance Policy

### **School Attendance – “It’s not OK to be away”**

All children have a right to an education. Only by regular school attendance can students make the most of educational opportunities, leading to greater social and economic outcomes.

Schools, in partnership with parents/carers, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff and the Peel High School Head Teacher of Attendance, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SCHOOL WHEREVER POSSIBLE:**

- Provide a safe learning environment enabling students to achieve the best possible outcomes
- Work with parents, carers and the local community to increase student attendance
- Monitor all student attendance and work with students and parents/carers to improve attendance where a concern has been raised
- Provide support through the school Welfare Team to address concerns leading to poor attendance
- Promote the benefits of regular school attendance
- Deliver quality curriculum based lessons
- Implement a reward system for 100% attendance and improved attendance
- Provide parents/carers timely feedback on all daily absences and fractional truancy

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT:**

- Attend school consistently and actively participate in learning opportunities
- Whilst present at school attend all lessons promptly
- Attend school wearing the correct school uniform
- To comply with the school's welfare and discipline code

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARENTS/CARERS:**

- The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents (including carers) ensure that children are enrolled at and regularly attend school.
- Provide written or verbal confirmation regarding student absences. If a student has more than 3 unexplained/unjustified absences in the previous 5 week period, that student will be placed on the Attendance List and will be unable to participate in extra-curricular activities until attendance improves.
- Work alongside Peel High School to promote 100% attendance.

### **WHAT IS A JUSTIFIED REASON FOR BEING ABSENT FROM SCHOOL?**

Justified reasons for absences may include the student:



- Having an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably, these should be made after school or during holidays)
- Being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- Being required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstances (such as attending a funeral)
- Being sick, or having an infectious disease
- Any other leave permitted by a doctor or psychologist for ongoing mental health or general health concerns (documentation must be provided to the school to support this leave)

**ABSENCES FOR REASONS SUCH AS SOME OF THE FOLLOWING MAY NOT BE JUSTIFIED:**

- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minor family events such as birthdays
- Hair cuts

**LATE ARRIVAL NOTICE TO PARENTS:**

Peel High School sends out mobile text messages to primary carers when students arrive late to school. This is to ensure parents/carer's are aware of their child's late attendance on any given day.

Parents and carer's can now promptly respond to explain their child's late arrival to school.

Mobile text messages will also be sent to primary carers indicating a student's absence if communication has not been received by the school that morning explaining the absence.

We thank all parents and carers for their ongoing support of the Peel High Attendance Program and our efforts to provide positive learning outcomes for our students.

**KEEPING THE SCHOOL INFORMED:**

If your child has to be absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for the absence. To explain an absence the **student's primary carer may:**

- Send a note or email to the school
- Telephone the school's Back Office
- Visit the school and speak to someone in person
- Respond to the text message sent by the school

**The Principal (or delegate) of the school has the right to question an explanation given for a child's absence from school. Where a pattern of absence is identified, the Principal (or delegate) may request parents/carers to submit documentation justifying absences in the future. If documentation can't be presented to the school, the absences may be recorded as unjustified.**

**HOLIDAYS:**

Parents and carers are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. If this is necessary parents should discuss these absences with the Head Teacher of Attendance at which point an Attendance Exemption from attendance at school may be put in place. This will ensure that these absences are not permanently recorded as unjustified.

## PEEL HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

Our uniform shop is open for business each Monday and Thursday from 8.30 to 10.00 am

We are located in the Administration Block

### SCHOOL UNIFORM

White school shirts are to be worn on **Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays**

The **GREEN SPORTS POLO** is **ONLY** to be worn on Wednesdays and during PE practical lessons as required by teachers

#### Summer Uniform

**Girls:** Short tartan design skirt, or black dress shorts, white cotton shirt, short white socks, black leather shoes, black knitted cardigan or jumper.

**Boys :** Black shorts (drill cotton), white cotton shirt, short white socks, black leather shoes, black knitted jumper.

#### Winter Uniform

**Girls:** Long tartan design skirt or black slacks (no tights), white cotton shirt, tie, black cardigan or jumper, black stockings or white socks, black leather shoes.

**Boys:** Long black cotton trousers, white shirt, short black socks, black leather shoes, tie and black knitted jumper.

*Note: Junior and Senior ties available for purchase from the back office.*

#### **Sports Uniform**

**Summer - Girls & Boys:** Bottle green polo shirt with gold emblem. Black sports shorts with Peel embroidered on, white socks, gym shoes/ sand shoes/ joggers.

**Winter - Girls & Boys:** Summer uniform plus green embroidered emblem sloppy joe and plain black track suit pants (these are worn over the usual sports uniform on cold days).

### PEEL HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM



Summer

Winter

Sport

Jacket



The Peel High School P&C Uniform Shop is open Mondays & Thursdays from 8.30am-10am  
Payments can be made via Cash, Credit, EFTPOS or Cheque (payable to Peel High School P&C)

For further enquiries call the Peel High School on 67657 088

## Peel High School Variation of Routine Report Proforma

We have included a copy of our VOR report for the purpose of informing parents/carers and students that we would like the opportunity to report on students involvement and successes in activities outside of school events, such as sporting representations and community service involvements.

As the school is not always aware of participation in events outside of school, for them to be acknowledged it is the students responsibility to collect a copy of this form from the front office prior to the event and return it to the office after participation in your activity including information that is outlined on the form.



## Peel High School VOR Report

### DETAILS OF EXCURSION

<u>DETAILS OF EXCURSION</u>			
Name of Excursion / Visit			
Learning Area		Teacher in Charge	
Other Staff Attending			
Dates and Times			To

*Orientation States:* who was involved in the event, what it was, where and when it happened.

*Sequence of events:* States a series of events that happened from start of the retelling. The events are retold in the time order that they occurred.