

# Peel High School

## Newsletter



Issue 1 - Term 2 - Week 3

21 May 2018

### Schools of the Future visitors

Ms Ruythe Dufty (Director School Leadership – Peel), Mr Ahmed Deria (Director High Performance), Mr Frank Potter (Executive Director School Performance Rural North) and Mr Mark Grant (Executive Director Leadership and High Performance). with Peel staff and hospitality students during a recent visit.



### Secondary Schools Renewal Project hand over.

Ms Ruythe Dufty (Director School Leadership – Peel), Sam Rooney & Cathy Mitchell (Yr 12), Mr Rod Jones - Principal & Mr Kevin Anderson MP



### Calendar - Term 2

May 21	P&C Meeting 7pm
May 22	Subject Selection Evening ( Yr 8 & 10)
May 31	Parent Teacher interviews 3 -7pm Years 10,11,12

There will not be any canteen service on the last day of Term 2, July 6<sup>th</sup> due to canteen renovations.

### 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 Parents and Carers to our newsletter.

It has been a very hectic start to Term 2. Week 3 already. Time certainly fly's when you are having fun.

Could I formally congratulate and welcome Mrs Kristen Miller, our new Deputy Principal and Miss Laura Ness who has joined our English staff on their permanent appointments which started at the beginning of this term. These two positions were filled through merit selection process. I also have two further English teachers and the Head Teacher HSIE positions that will be filled through merit selection over the next few weeks.



Performance). It was very exciting to have two Executive Directors and two Directors looking at what we are doing in the areas of the Schools of the Future, Agriculture and Hospitality. A very enlightening and terrific day was had by all and I am very proud of the way our students and staff freely spoke with our guests and welcomed them. Mr Potter sent me an email the morning after the visit and part thereof follows; "Yesterday was a highlight, being able to see, not only the enthusiasm of the staff but also the connections with the students. Please pass on my sincere thanks and congratulations to all staff and students involved yesterday."



On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May we had the handover of the Secondary Schools Renewal Project, the refurbishment of the front of our school. Whilst this has been considerably longer than first anticipated, the work that has been completed is beautiful and is a real reflection of our school and what is happening inside. Mr Kevin Anderson MP came along and made a media release on the day.

Our school was very excited to welcome four distinguished Department of Education guests on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May. These were; Ms Ruythe Dufty (Director School Leadership – Peel), Mr Ahmed Deria (Director High Performance), Mr Frank Potter (Executive Director School Performance Rural North) and Mr Mark Grant (Executive Director Leadership and High

Over the course of the last few weeks our students have excelled in many different areas. These include, the ANZAC Day march, Science and Engineering Challenge, Agricultural Shows – including the Royal Easter Show, Sport and Dance. I would particularly like to congratulate Sarah Vermeulen in Year 11 for being selected in the NSW Public Schools State Dance Ensemble. Sarah will perform at the State Dance Festival at the Seymour Centre in September and also the Schools Spectacular at Qudos Bank Arena in November. Well done Sarah.

Now that the cooler weather has arrived, we tend to see a down turn in the wearing of school uniform. I would like to ask all parents and carers to support our school and insist that the approved winter uniform is worn. Not only does it reflect positively on our school in the community, but also promotes a feeling on unity and belonging for everyone that comes to Peel High School.

Until our next newsletter.

Rod Jones

Principal.

## English faculty report

There are exciting things happening this term in the English Faculty at Peel High School! Firstly, I would like to congratulate Laura Ness on being permanently appointed to the English team. Laura has been working with us since the beginning of last year and we look forward to her continued contributions to the school.

**Public Speaking** Erin Stewart is in charge of Public Speaking this year. Next week she will take two representatives to participate in the Plain English Speaking Awards for students in years 10-12 at Oxley High School. She will be looking for students in years 7-9 to participate in the Legacy Junior Public Speaking later in the year, so if you might be interested in this please speak to Miss Stewart.

**Debating** Debating is due to kick off again in the next few weeks, starting with the 9/10 Premier's Debating Challenge. The competition for years 7/8 is due to begin early Term Three. Miss Stranger and Miss Ness are coordinating these competitions. Please come and see them if you would like to participate.

**Einstein Class** Year 7 classes are all currently studying a class novel. However, the lucky students in the Einstein class have been sorted by the sorting hat into Hufflepuff, Slytherin, Gryffindor and Ravenclaw - the Harry Potter houses! Make sure you work hard and earn all those house points!

**Homework** Just a reminder to all parents that while staff in the English faculty will set regular homework, the best way you can assist your child is by encouraging them to read. Be proactive and talk to your child about what they are reading or viewing. Asking questions will help your child think more critically, which is a huge part of the English course.

All the best for a fabulous Term Two!

## Vocational Education and Training VET

Four engaging senior students were nominated by their teachers to participate in the NSW Training Awards which culminates in a grand dinner and announcement of winners at the TREC on 29 June.

Cathy Mitchell for Primary Industries

Mitchell Adams for Construction

Josh Cripps for Information and Digital Media Technology

Sam Rooney for Kitchen Operations

Dressed to impress, the students participated in face to face interviews with a panel of three heavies at the Department of Industry in Tamworth. They spoke energetically about their personal interest in their chosen industry, throwing in facts, matters of interest, current technologies and experience to impress the judges.

Cathy said, "It was one of the best times I've ever had!" as she came away from the interview on a high that is rarely experienced by young people. "It was easy to talk about myself."

The awards are an initiative of the Department of Industry and Training Services NSW to increase recognition of students in vocational education. Those who participate say they have a greater level of confidence in speaking to people about their chosen industry. This in turn gives them a head start in transitioning to work after school, even to realise their dreams of starting their own business one day.

Peel High School offers nine VET subjects, some starting in Year 10, including Hospitality, Metals and Engineering, Entertainment, Retail, Automotive and the four represented by our very capable students at the Training Awards.

Susi Bell  
(Very proud) VET Coordinator



Dressed for the occasion are Mitchell Adams, Josh Cripps, Cathy Mitchell and Sam Rooney representing Peel High School in the 2018 VET Training Awards.

## From the library

The library is running a competition to encourage students to use 3D CAD software to create their own 3D prints. Competition runs until the 15<sup>th</sup> of June with students asked to create the most interesting wall hanging. All designs will be printed with no cost to students.



## Court Visits

Our Year 10 Commerce and Year 11 Legal Studies classes have been attending the Tamworth Court House throughout Term 1 as an introduction to their Law and Society studies. Students have had the opportunity to view District and Local Court Proceedings, even having a one-on-one chat with our new Local Court Judge on our last visit. Year 11 students were given the rare opportunity to view a Coronial Inquest recently which is a court not often seen in Tamworth. These visits are invaluable to the students learning about the processes and function of the Australian Legal System.



## Legal and Business Studies Excursion

Early in Term 1, Mr Rankmore and Miss Barnett took fourteen Year 12 students on a combined Legal and Business Studies Trip to Sydney.

Legal Studies students experienced the Downing Centre first hand (even viewing a Commonwealth fraud case). They also spent time at Parramatta Local Court, the Drug Court and undertook a workshop with Legal Aid. The highlight of the trip for the Legal Studies students was undoubtedly the tour of the Australian Federal Police building and getting an inside glance at forensic department, legal branch and even the shooting range!

Business Studies students undertook business case studies at Taronga Zoo and Luna Park. Students also attended IKEA and Decathlon which was a next level shopping experience that students from the bush will remember for a long time. The whole trip was a fantastic experience with an amazing group of young people. We know you're learning and experiences on this trip will assist you greatly in your final exams.

## SRC Leadership Camp 2018

On Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> May, 42 SRC Students travelled to Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Camp to participate in a range of bonding and communication activities, with hopes of bringing the students closer together.

We kicked off the day with speed dating where students communicated with each other on an individual level. This activity had students ask each other questions about their habits and interests. Students broke the ice with all other members of the group through this activity and it paved the way for a fun filled day.

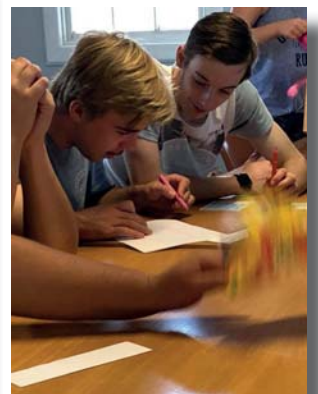
After morning tea we then continued to the Monkey Climb challenge which required teamwork, communication and consideration of others. With strong encouragement from the SRC, most students were able to complete at least one climb successfully. One amazing achievement was for Jayden Schaefer-Grainger who didn't hesitate to scale the Monkey Climb Challenge!

After a hearty lunch, the SRC embarked on the Amazing Race. Our four senior school leaders were the captains for the teams with students been allowed to select their own team. Tahlia Kirk's team (The Munchies) dominated the challenges and road blocks with sheer determination and teamwork. Girl power certainly ruled in this all female team! The girls won a pizza lunch here at school for their victorious achievement in the first SRC Amazing Race.

Highlights for the staff included watching students go out of their comfort zones and challenge themselves in so many areas. Students never gave up, worked as a dynamic team and came out of the day a much tighter knit group ready for an amazing year of leadership!

Triumph of the day goes to Lachlan Balsdon in Year 7 who dominated the maths challenge road block by completing the task in minutes – after he sat back and watched his team captain (and school captain) struggle with the task for at least 15 minutes. Gigantic effort for one of our youngest SRC members!

Written by the SRC Media Officers



## The Work of the SRC - Term 1

### Events

The SRC's first social event of the year was the Welcome to Year 7 Disney Pixar Disco.

We had over 200 students attend on the night which is our biggest event in many years. Students danced the night away to current hits and Disney classics with an awesome light show and effects thanks to Mr Walmsley and his production team. A huge thanks goes to the Senior Leadership Team for organising such an amazing night! Thanks also goes to all the SRC members who helped out in the canteen. Our next event will be in Term 2 with a movie night so stay tuned for more details!

On Tuesday in the last week of school, the SRC held a Funky Sock and Pizza Fundraiser to raise money for a family of Peel High School going through a really hard time at the moment. The SRC collected donations from staff and students throughout the day and sold pizza at lunch time raising a total of \$400. Hopefully the money raised will assist the family during this time.

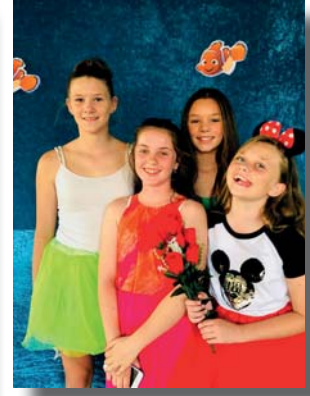
### School Purchases

From the fundraising and social events run by the SRC, we like to use the profits to go back to the school and community.

One ongoing program for the SRC is the funding of the lunch program here at the school. This program allows students in need to purchase food and drinks at the canteen when needed and is a vital part of our school's welfare system.

Our amazing Support Unit staff and students have commenced a recycling program here at PHS. To assist them in their collection of items from the school playground, the SRC purchased eight metal claw grabbers for the staff and students to use. We hope this small gesture helps keep this awesome planet saving work going!

The SRC have also presented to the PE Department a new perpetual house trophy. Each year the overall winning house from both carnivals will be inscribed on the trophy. The shield – named the Vanquisher Shield – will hang pride of place near Mrs Robinson's photo wall in the Administration office. The SRC hopes that this shield contributes to the building of house pride throughout the school.



**CYBER-SAFETY.....**

Here are eight easy ways to help your kids stay out of trouble in cyberspace.

**At a glance**

- Don't let your child post photos of themselves wearing their school uniform – it can be enough to identify your child's school.
  - Ensure your child never organises to meet up with any strangers they have met online.
  - Talk about what websites are appropriate with your child so they understand and make the right choice.
  - By publishing without thinking, your child's innocent work online may be something that comes back later to haunt them.
  - If your child starts being secretive about what they are doing online, check it out.
1. **Keep computers out in the open**  
Your child may think twice about looking at inappropriate websites and won't be able to chat to their friends all night while you think they are doing their homework.
  2. **Mind your business**  
Remind your child to keep information such as their name, address, phone number, school and even your credit card number to themselves. When signing up to a chat room, they should use a screen name that is a nickname and not easy to work out. The same goes for choosing passwords – don't make them easy to figure out. If your child is going to put photos on the internet, ensure they don't show them wearing their school uniform – this can be enough to identify your child's school. Also ensure that any photos are not the type that would attract unwanted attention from strangers.
  3. **Just because it's on the internet, it doesn't mean it's true**  
Make sure your child uses multiple sources for research, and is careful not to plagiarise.
  4. **Stranger danger is online, too**  
Ensure your child never organises to meet up with any strangers they have met online. If they really want to meet up, encourage them to talk to you about it first and insist on going along with them. Remind your children to also be wary opening emails from strangers. They could contain spam (online junk mail), a virus (which will harm your computer), or be from a stranger looking for trouble.
  5. **Get a filter**  
Internet filters can help block inappropriate sites for children. None are completely reliable and it's best if you talk about what websites are appropriate with your child so they understand and make the right choice on their own.
  6. **Encourage your child to talk with you about their online experiences – good and bad**  
This will make it easier for them if they see something inappropriate or are emailed something unsuitable. If they are embarrassed to tell you, persuade them to at least tell a teacher or another trusted adult.
  7. **Good manners also exist online**  
Talk about this with your child and it may lead to a decline in bullying behaviour, not to mention the many disagreements that children have with each other.
  8. **Forever is a long time**  
A lot of blogs and websites maintain information as part of cyberspace forever. By publishing without thinking of the future, your child's innocent work online may be something that comes up later on and may negatively impact their career and personal life.

**Danger signs**

- Your child constantly sits on the computer in chat rooms or instant messaging, from straight after school to very late at night.
- Your child begins showing unexplained money or items that come from "a friend you don't know".
- Your child starts being secretive about what they are doing online – this could include anything from minimising screens as you walk past, to not letting you see their blogs/chat/social media sites.

**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

# CANTEEN PRICE LIST



You can order your own Salad Wrap or Sandwich

Orders taken before recess for lunch  
**WINTER MENU TERMS 2 & 3 2018**



## PRICE LIST



### HOT FOOD

Chicken & Gravy Roll	3.50
Chicken Burger w/ Lettuce & Mayo	3.50
Chicken Caesar Burger w/ Lettuce, Cheese, Bacon & Sauce	4.00
Cheese Burger (Meat Pattie, Cheese & Sauce)	3.00
Beef Lasagne	3.50
Travellers Pie (Plain & Cheese & Bacon)	3.50
Potato Pie	4.00
Sausage Roll	3.00
Tomato Pasta (topped w/ melted cheese)	3.00
Bacon, Egg & Cheese Roll & BBQ Sauce (recess only)	3.00
Chicken Fingers	.50
Chicken Crackles	.50
Scallop	.50
Garlic Bread	1.50

### SNACKS

Chocolate Muffins	1.80
Plain Lamingtons	1.80
Chips	1.50
Cheese & Biscuits	2.50

### DRINKS

Plain Milk 600ml	2.00
Small Flavoured Milk	2.50
Large Flavoured Milk	3.50
Water 600ml	1.00
Pump 750ml	3.00
Small Juice	2.50
Large Juice	3.00
Dares	3.80
Hot Chocolate (Before School)	2.00

### ROLLS, WRAPS & SALAD

Chicken Caesar Wraps & Tubs	3.50
Ham or Chicken Salad Wraps	3.50
Egg & Lettuce Sandwich	3.00
Chicken, Ham or Salad Tubs	4.50

### TOASTED SANDWICHES

Cheese	2.00
Cheese & Tomato	2.50
Cheese, Ham & Tomato	3.00



Lunch Orders can be left at the Canteen before School or at Recess.

**DAILY SPECIALS ARE AVAILABLE**



## 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.