

# PITTWATER HIGH SCHOOL

BE RESPECTFUL

ASPIRE

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18 December 2018

## STOP PRESS: OUTSTANDING HSC RESULTS 2018

Jane Ferris: Principal's Report

The Class of 2018, with 112 students sitting HSC exams, achieved amazing results. Of 37 courses studied, 65% were well above the state average. For example, accelerated **Aboriginal Studies** was 18% above the state average with 94% students achieving a Band 5 or 6 compared to 23% in the state. **French Beginners** were 13% above the state average with 71% gaining a Band 6 compared to 22% in the state. **Industrial Technology** was 9% above state average with 22% gaining Band 6 (state 6%) and one student's major work selected for the **Shape Exhibition at the Power House Museum**. **Agriculture** was 9% above the state average with 29% gaining a Band 6 compared to 7% in the state. Indeed PHS was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the state with only selective schools, agriculture high schools and private schools ahead of us. Other exceptional results were in Visual Arts, Society and Culture, Ancient History, Modern History, Textiles and Design, Accelerated Hospitality, General Mathematics, Music and extension courses in English, Maths and History. These fantastic results have led to us being placed 155<sup>th</sup> overall of all schools in the state, a rank above many neighbouring private schools. Comparing like for like, full comprehensive coeducational public schools only, Pittwater High is 13<sup>th</sup> in the state.

We are also very proud of the incredible achievements of **Jaz Cremin who topped the state in General Mathematics** with 100% in her HSC – a course with over 30,000 students. In addition, Jas came 8<sup>th</sup> in the state in **Earth and Environmental Science**. She also is the recipient of the **Premier's All Rounder Award** with Band 6s in all her courses, and received an ATAR of 98.75. Jas hopes to study Science/Law at either University of Sydney or Macquarie University, the latter having just offered her a scholarship.



# OUTSTANDING HSC RESULTS 2018 CONTINUED

One thing the data available to the public does not show, is the amazing growth this cohort has demonstrated over the years. As a group, they really settled into their studies in the senior years, showing a real connection to each other and the school. Teachers are to be thanked for going beyond their duty in giving immeasurable support to students, whether in reading drafts, supporting through meltdowns or ensuring quality lessons. Some students faced difficult circumstances this year while others did not have a natural aptitude for study. But the clear personal best for these students with sound marks in the 70s and/or 80s is truly a great accomplishment.



We look forward to seeing as many of these students as possible at our HSC Morning Tea this Wednesday at 11.00am. Also 50 students have qualified and been invited to our High Achievers Recognition Assembly on 11 February 2019.

## Congratulations, and a safe and happy holiday

Congratulations to all the award recipients from Presentation Evening last week. It gives me such joy to see you all succeed and achieve your personal best. Take the time to reflect on the great opportunities that you have at Pittwater High School and never take your education for granted. Thank your parents for encouraging you and thank your teachers for the learning they provide. As your reports are sent home today, start thinking about the learning goals you will set for 2019.

For those of you not at Presentation Evening, we have included the annual highlights on the next page.

From all of us at Pittwater High School, we wish you a safe and happy Christmas



# PITTWATER HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS 2018

- ◆ Outstanding HSC results 2017: 84% of students achieved results in one or more subjects in the top two bands.
- ◆ TAS Exhibition featuring major works from Textiles, Timber, Multi Media, Graphics and Design Technologies.
- ◆ 2 students' *Major Textiles Projects* selected for inclusion in TEXTSTYLE Exhibition; 3 students' *Industrial Technology Multimedia Major Projects* and 1 student's *Industrial Technology Timber Major Project* nominated for INTECH Exhibition . All also nominated for SHAPE 2018 plus one student's *Design and Technology Major Design Project* .
- ◆ Successful completion of the year 11 Accelerated Hospitality HSC course by 16 students.
- ◆ Year 10 Careers Expo at PHS for year 9 students.
- ◆ Introduction of Elevate in the senior school with on-line video's to support student learning
- ◆ Opening of Cabrananga—our new inclusive education centre with three classrooms.
- ◆ Over 200 students attended High School Experience Days from Mona Vale and Newport Primary Schools.
- ◆ Year 10 student won the preliminary prize for Aboriginal Studies Association of NSW.
- ◆ 6 students competed in the NSW Mock Trial.
- ◆ Inaugural Year 10 Food and Beverage Cert 1. Students opened and operated school café 'Gary's Place'.
- ◆ D & T students 2017 HSC *Major Design Project* exhibited at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS).
- ◆ 2 sailing teams competed at the State Championships.
- ◆ Continuation of the chess program competing in local tournaments. Purchase of giant chess set.
- ◆ Years 7, 9 and 11 camps designed to build positive relationships, resilience and collaboration. Also introduction of year 10 ski trip.
- ◆ Leadership activities included Multicultural Day, Spirit Week and events promoting student wellbeing
- ◆ Implementation of the Aiming High program for students in Year 8 – 10.
- ◆ Year 10 students attended the Royal North Shore Prevention of Risk Related Trauma in Youth (PARTY) day.
- ◆ Brainstorm Productions presented to Year 7-8 on cyber-safety, bullying and respectful relations.
- ◆ Year 8 and 9 students successfully participated in the Raise mentoring program sponsored by Pittwater RSL.
- ◆ Year 8 and 9 students attended a Black Dog presentation on managing mental health.
- ◆ Year 10 were involved in a series of presentations as part of the Boys/Girls Day.
- ◆ Leadership camp for SRC and Prefect Team, to develop leadership skills and plan student activities.
- ◆ 40 students from Years 7-11 participated in the Da Vinci Decathlon—winners in one category.
- ◆ White Ribbon Day whole-school activities. Money raised for Women's Shelter in Manly.
- ◆ Positive Mental Health & Resilience Programs in Years 7 and 10.
- ◆ Combined Grade Sport Boys & Girls teams achieved excellent results.
- ◆ Record number of staff participants and over 100 students participating in the annual PHS biathlon.
- ◆ Junior and Senior art exhibitions, Junior and Senior Drama and Music Nights.
- ◆ Year 10 and 12 students selected for State Drama Camp and students selected for State Music Camps.
- ◆ Performing Ensemble Program: Symphonic Band competed in the highest level of the NSW State School Band Championships; Orchestra performed in highest level at Sydney Eisteddfod; Symphonic Band and Orchestra performed at local public schools on a mini tour. Student participation in School Spectacular, Arts Unit, State Music Camps, tour to Port Macquarie, Manly Jazz Festival, Northern Beaches Instrumental Festival.
- ◆ Year 7 extension students completed projects in STEM – they created a game to promote environmental sustainability, building challenge and technology based investigations.
- ◆ 20 Year 7 students participated in the QuickSmart program targeting numeracy. Two of the past students obtained a Band 8 in the Year 9 NAPLAN for numeracy.
- ◆ Year 12 students attended the "Girls Do the Maths Day" at UNSW.
- ◆ 44% of the 230 students who participated in the ICAS Mathematics Competition gained a distinction or credit and one student gained a High Distinction.
- ◆ Agriculture students represented the school at the annual agriculture camp
- ◆ Year 8 and 9 students participated in the Maths Challenge Day at Brigidine College.
- ◆ Year 9 Holroyd High School Cultural Exchange Program.
- ◆ Inaugural PCS Short Story Competition—3 winners from Pittwater High School.
- ◆ NAPLAN 2018 reading results at highest level in 5 years, well above state average.
- ◆ Poetry in Action incursion for all Year 7 and 8 as well as Year 11 and 12 Standard English. Also theatre excursion for Year 12 Standard to enhance study of their play set for study. Year 11 student place-getter in Mosman Youth Awards.
- ◆ Premiers debating Competition—Year 7 success. Also Year 8 public speaking competition.