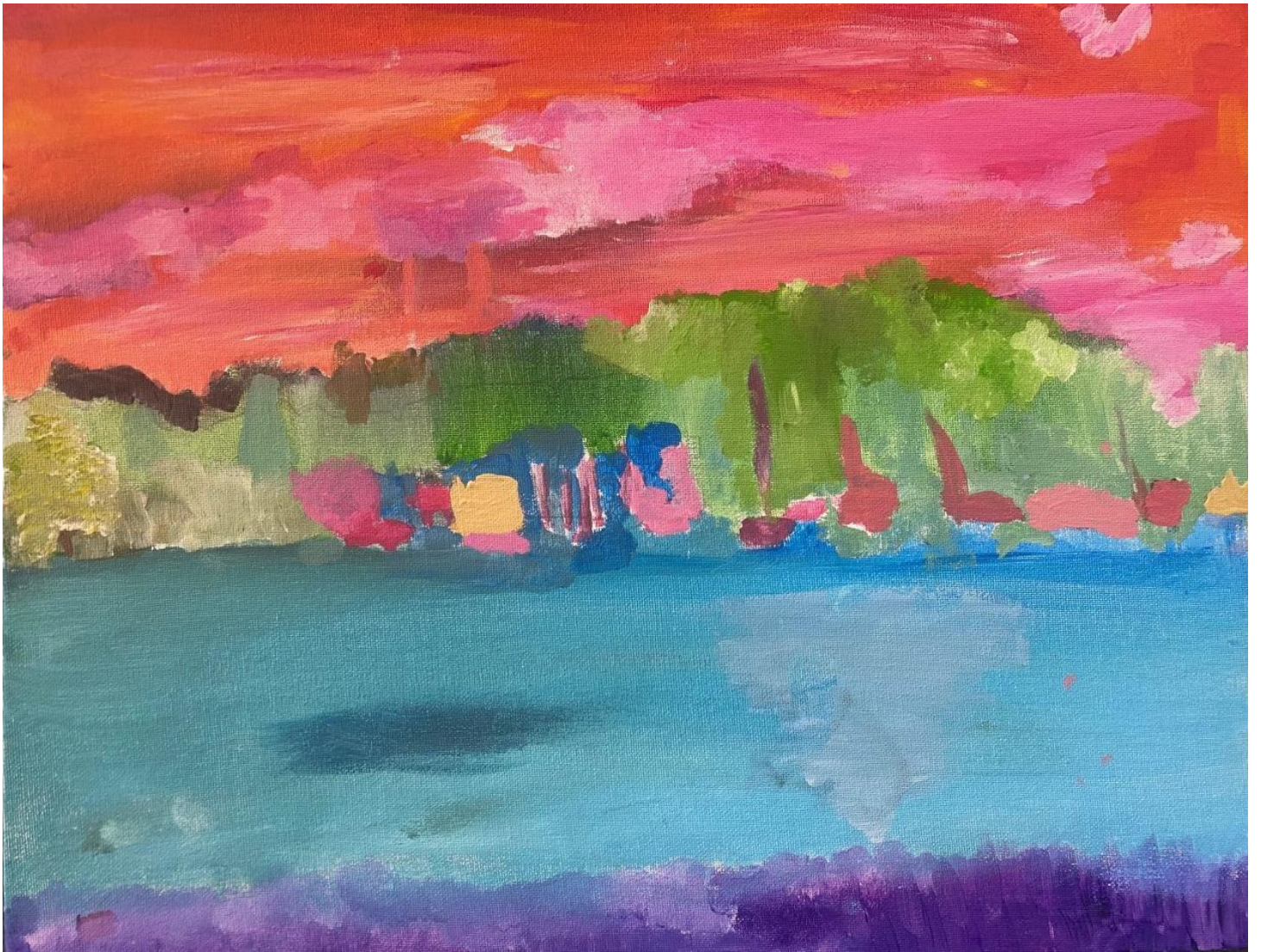


# YEAR 8 2023

## ELECTIVE INFORMATION



Artwork by  
Kitty Haughton Year 8



# ELECTIVE INFORMATION

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## Subject Selection Process:

1. **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July P2** – Students will be given a subject information booklet and an explanation of how to access web choice online. An email will be sent to all students' email addresses with an access code on Thursday 4 August.
2. Students are to go online to <https://my.edval.education/login> and use the web code emailed to your student portal email account.

### Term 3

<b>Week 3</b>	Thursday 4 August 2022	
		Year 7 into 8 Web Choice opens – 3 pm
<b>Week 4</b>	Tuesday 9 August 2022	Year 7 into 8 Web Choice closes – 9 am

**SUBJECT SELECTIONS CLOSE – Friday 12/8/22 at 9 am.**

## THE YEAR 8 CURRICULUM

In 2023, Year 8 students will study the following courses:

Course
English
Mathematics
Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship
Mandatory History
Personal Development / Health / Physical Education (PDHPE)
Technology (Mandatory)
Language – French or Japanese
Science
Sport
Elective Course (one)

Electives include (students' study one):

Elective Subject	Faculty
Agricultural Science	Science
Dance	PD/H/PE
Drama	Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)
Jewellery Design	Technology and Applied Studies (TAS)
Literature	English
Media Makers	English
Music	Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)
STEM	Science
Visual Arts	Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)

## MAKING ELECTIVE CHOICES

Students will study one elective subject in Year 8 and one language.

The Year 8 electives are designed as an introduction to different areas of study and to serve as preparation for further elective courses in Years 9 and 10. Students may wish to continue their study of their elective into Years 9 and 10 or select from other electives offered in the following years.

When choosing elective courses consider the following questions:

Which courses  
**interest** me?

Which courses do I **enjoy**?

Which courses may I want  
to do in Years 9 & 10?



Which courses do I **do well** in?

### PLEASE NOTE:

*As advised by the Department of Education "schools may charge students for the purchase of materials used and consumed in particular courses". Please note the cost associated with courses in this booklet. This should be kept in mind when making course choices (refer to page 16).*

There is no guarantee that all of the courses will be available. **The final elective courses to be offered will depend on the number of students requesting the course and the overall demands of the school curriculum and staff availability.** The final decision will rest with the Principal.

When you are ready to submit your selections go online to <https://my.edval.education/login> to make your selections. Your web code will be emailed to your student portal email account.

### Changing Courses

It is important that decisions regarding elective courses are made carefully as they are generally binding from the start of Year 8. Occasionally a change may be possible **before week 3**, Term 1 in Year 8 but generally, students are committed to electives until the course is completed.

**Alison Gambino**  
Principal

**Sophia Bromley**  
Deputy Principal

# AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

The need for food and fibre is continually increasing as the world population expands. The Agricultural Science course is not only about understanding and applying knowledge, but also, more importantly, understanding why certain techniques are used and why management practices are implemented.

Students explore issues of welfare, sustainability, productivity, technologies and marketing by examining a range of plant and animal enterprises.

Throughout the Agricultural Science course, students develop the ability to solve problems, plan, organise and conduct scientific investigations, research, collect and collate information, work as a member of a team and communicate information to a variety of audiences.

Students will spend time both in the classroom and on the school's agriculture plots as theory is supported by practical experiences. The industries used as case studies may include, but are not limited to;

- cropping
- egg production
- apiary



**For further information, please contact Dr Griffin or Mr Morton-Ramwell via the school email should you have any questions.**

# DANCE

Under the guidance of our experienced senior Dance teacher, Linda Fabbro, students will experience and enjoy dance as an art form through performance, composition and appreciation. The course enables students to express ideas creatively and to communicate physically, verbally and in written forms.

Pittwater High School has an outstanding dance performance space consisting of a sprung floor, dance bars and mirror wall.

Two-thirds of the dance periods will be practical. The course content includes:

Appreciation	Study of different forms of dance and appreciation of such in a social and cultural context.	40%
Composition	The art of choreography, self-expression and communication through dance.	35%
Performance	Skills in dance technique and communication.	25%

Benefits of studying Dance as an elective include:

- an avenue for physical activity
- the development of teamwork, communication, problem-solving skills and self-expression
- increased confidence and self-esteem
- an improvement in Dance performance/technique.



**For further information, please contact Mr Johns, HT PDHPE, via the school email should you have any questions.**

# DRAMA

Drama in Year 8 is designed to develop students' confidence and build character through a number of individual and group performance **scenarios**. The course also fosters the interest of those who wish to participate in the development of **crew roles** as well. The activities include improvisation; student developed plays and presentation of published scripts.

Drama is part of the Key Learning Area of Creative Arts. It also opens a gateway for *self-expression, trust in one's own voice, collaboration, overcoming anxiety and self-consciousness*, as well as developing *personality traits and social skills* at this crucial stage of adolescent life.

Students will have the opportunity to perform in costume and make-up, particularly on Dance / Drama Night in the second semester as well as in class activities. The course includes:

- Improvisation
- Play building – self-devised and scripted
- Accent workshops
- Script reading
- Performances
- Students perform in front of a range of audiences
- Experience of a dramatic performance.

The course will include at least ONE **excursion** to a professional theatre production.

Assessment is continuous and is 70% Practical and 30% Theory.

**For further information, please contact Mr Gleeson via the school email should you have any questions.**





# JEWELLERY DESIGN

With a focus on silver jewellery, students will design and construct a range of wearable items. Students will be assessed on their research, design and manufacture of practical objects.

The projects undertaken will be chosen to promote the sequential development of skills and reflect an increasing degree of student autonomy as they progress through the course. In this course, students will study modules to develop their knowledge and skills in the use of materials, tools and techniques related to the creation of artistic metal projects with an emphasis on silver jewellery.



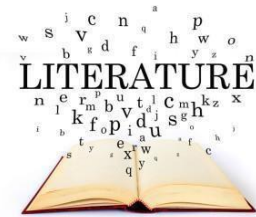
**For further information, please contact Ms Samojlowicz, HT TAS, via the school email should you have any questions.**

# LITERATURE

This subject will focus on fostering a passion for literature. Students will explore a series of carefully selected texts around a particular theme, idea, context or genre. As students start to develop a well-rounded understanding of the unit focus, they will be directed toward creating a product to demonstrate their understanding.

The product could include:

- A short story/series of short stories
- A blog of reviews
- An adaptation of a particular text/genre/context
- A visual representation
- A graphic novel



Students will be encouraged to pitch their own ideas in consultation with the teacher and peers. The subject will foster a love of inquiry-based learning, encouraging students to take calculated educational risks. It will also reignite a love of reading among students allowing them to delve deeply into the texts set for discussion. Students will become analytical thinkers, versatile writers and creative problem-solvers, engaging with the world through the prism of great writing.

**For further information, please contact Ms Keen, HT ENGLISH, via the school email should you have any questions.**

# MEDIA MAKERS

Media Makers is a course designed to teach students about the modern-day world of media in all its forms. With a focus on media and visual literacy, students are challenged to engage with the world of media around them and as they begin to understand it and its purpose, produce their own content that reflects that understanding. The sequencing of the course will lead into Year 9 courses such as Film Studies and Journalism.

The instruction will be hands-on, with co-operative and collaborative learning activities taking precedence. This mimics the way media is constructed by teams of professionals in advertising agencies and production companies.

The course will be semesterised, with the first semester focused on the commercial side of media making, particularly print and digital advertising.

Semester Two will look at the artistic and informative aspects of media. There will be a focus on investigative news reporting and documentary film. Students will be learning the purpose of these formats and will create their own content demonstrating their grasp of a range of media techniques.



**For further information, please contact Ms Keen, HT ENGLISH, via the school email should you have any questions.**

# MUSIC

Elective Music in Year 8 is designed to develop the student's skills in music through a range of experiences that encompass the three main areas of Performing, Composing and Listening.

Students will major on an instrument (or instruments) which will be the focus for all individual and ensemble performance activities. Students can choose to either continue with an existing band/string instrument or to further build their Year 7 skills on piano/keyboard, guitar or vocals.

The course covers a broad range of musical styles including Rock, Pop, Classical & Jazz.

<b>Performing</b>	Students will have the opportunity to choose a variety of repertoire for their chosen instrument in order to grow as confident performers. They will learn how to interpret musical symbols and concepts, express themselves musically and develop solo and ensemble techniques.
<b>Composing</b>	Students will learn how to compose in a variety of musical styles using traditional and non-traditional notation. They will have the option to compose music specifically for their instrument or in an area of particular interest, which is a fantastic opportunity for aspiring singer-songwriters. The online programs of Noteflight and Soundtrap are available to students for all composition activities.
<b>Listening</b>	Students will listen to examples from different musical styles and learn to analyse the use of musical concepts. This enables students to develop an appreciation for a wide range of music and further assists their understanding of their own performances and compositions.

All students are welcome in this course regardless of their musical skills, knowledge or experience, as it caters to the interests and needs of the individual.

Year 8 Music is a highly practical subject where all students are encouraged to get involved and share their passion for music.



**For further information, please contact Dr Hardy, HT CAPA, via the school email should you have any questions.**

# STEM

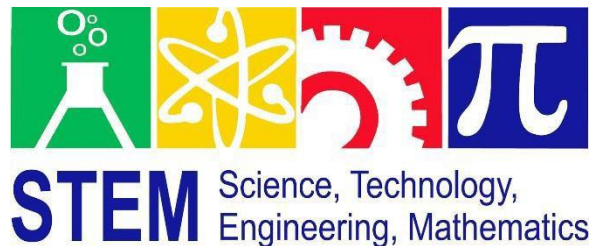
STEM education is the learning of Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics through inquiry and project-based learning.

The importance of STEM disciplines for the future economic and social well-being of Australia cannot be underestimated. International research indicates that 75 per cent of the fastest growing occupations require STEM skills and knowledge.

The importance of STEM subjects to Australia is indisputable. Future employment opportunities for our students will be enhanced with STEM based knowledge and we are excited to be able to offer this opportunity to the students of the school.

Students will gain and apply knowledge, deepen their understanding and develop creative and critical thinking skills within an authentic context. Possible STEM learning areas may include but are not limited to:

- Coding
- Robotics
- Projectiles
- Rocketry and space vehicles
- Roller coaster design
- Innovative toy design
- Racing vehicle design



Students will:

- Gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge.
- Develop and apply skills in scientific investigation, design and the application of technology and mathematical concepts.
- Develop skills in documenting progress, using ICT technologies.

**For further information, please contact Ms Krilich, HT SCIENCE, via the school email should you have any questions.**

# VISUAL ARTS

In Visual Arts students are able to develop their visual literacy skills in a world increasingly devoted to visual platforms of communication. This is a skills-based course aimed at increasing students' confidence with techniques and the manipulation of materials.

In the Year 8 course, there are opportunities for students to develop works in a wide variety of materials and themes, working in 2D, 3D and 4D forms.

Students will continue to explore and experiment with a broad range of drawing and painting mediums and will be introduced to a range of new mediums. Investigations of the practices of artists will be undertaken to support the themes and techniques explored during practical lessons.

This course is predominantly practical with some research and written components to help students develop a deeper understanding of the art world.

**For further information contact Dr Hardy, HT CAPA, via the school email should you have any questions.**



# LANGUAGES – French or Japanese

In Year 8 all students will study either French or Japanese.

The study of a language in Year 8 will enable students to communicate with others and to reflect on and understand the role of language and culture in their own life and in the lives of others.

In both language courses, students will engage in a variety of learning activities, including communication tasks, games and project-based learning.



**For further information, please contact Ms Hemmerle, FRENCH, or Ms Lustig, JAPANESE, via the school email should you have any questions.**

## ELECTIVE FEES FOR YEAR 8 2023

Before making your choices, please read the subject information carefully.

Understand that your first choice may not be available and that other choices may be used instead. Only classes with sufficient numbers will be formed.

### ELECTIVES

The curriculum breadth and timetable will be developed on the basis of the choices students make. Some courses may not run (due to insufficient numbers). The school will endeavour to accommodate a student's preferred choices, and only use the reserve preferences if required.

There are **consumable costs** associated with some elective courses. The costs must be paid at the commencement of each course and are not optional.

## Consumable Costs

Elective Subject	Cost
Agricultural Science	\$55
Dance	\$50
Drama	\$40
Jewellery Design	\$50
Literature	\$20
Media Makers	\$20
Music	\$50
STEM	\$50
Visual Arts	\$80
<b>All students:</b>	
Language – French or Japanese	\$26