



# NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL

INNOVATION, EXCELLENCE, OPPORTUNITIES & SUCCESS

THURSDAY 5TH NOVEMBER, 2018

TERM 4 WEEK 4

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## DATE/EVENTS

Homework Centre Mondays 3.30pm to 5.00pm Weeks A & B  
Thursdays Week A ONLY

Senior Study Evening 7.00pm to 9.00pm Wednesdays

Monday 5th November - Stage 5 Exams commence

Thursday 8th & Friday 9th November - Under 15's Netball in Orange

Monday 12th to Thursday 15th November - Northern Schools Steer Competition Narrabri

Monday 12th November - Stage 4 Exams commence

Friday 16th November & Monday 19th November - MID TERM BREAK

Monday 26th November to Thursday 6th December - Tongling Excursion

Tuesday 4th December - Formal Assembly

Wednesday 5th December - Room 1 & 2 excursion to Dubbo

## NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL



Stage 4 Visual Arts have been doing landscape paintings using either pop art or impressionism techniques. 4V have been the trailblazers with Tyson Deebank and Jack Melchior displaying unprecedented levels of independence and talent. Well done lads.

## **Principals Report**

Dear School Community,

These beautiful weeks of Spring have brought a freshness to the school and a view forward to the end of the year. In the coming weeks our school will have many events on including Netball in Orange, the Northern Schools Steer Competition, Schools Spectacular and our mid-term break.

During Week 5 I will be away from the school on some personal leave and taking part in a school evaluation process at Bateau Bay Public School. Mrs Bush will be Relieving Principal, Mrs Walsh Relieving Deputy Principal and Ms Stafford Relieving Head Teacher TAS/PDHPE. It will be school as normal, and our expectations remain high.

### **Stage 4 & 5 Exams**

All junior school students will be completing their Yearly exams and assessments during this fortnight. This is a great opportunity for all students to continue striving for great results in their courses and impressing the teachers before student reports are written.

For Year 10 students particularly, this is the chance to cement the results they desire for their Record of School Achievement (RoSA) and prepare themselves for the rigours of Year 11.

### **Course fees for 2018**

A final note for any family who may have outstanding course fees, for their children. As a school we have some heavy financial investments to ensure all students are provided with resources for their learning in all courses.

For students undertaking Elective courses, beyond the mandatory curriculum, those course fees are essential to cover our running costs. In the coming week we will be using a new payment system, via email, which is easy for families to pay fees through a computer, phone or tablet.

### **Western Region Secondary Principals Council**

On Thursday and Friday of last week I met with Principal colleagues from across our region's High Schools and Central Schools, at Gulgong High School.

Some of the key areas we reviewed and extended learning in were:

- ◆ Best practice in whole school compliance
- ◆ The ATAR and how to best guide student subject selections
- ◆ Professional accountability discussions
- ◆ Department of Education directions for 2019-2020

These professional learning days were terrific and a great opportunity to learn from experienced Principals and our Directors, Educational Leadership. Experience in this job is definitely a valuable commodity and the lessons learned from last week will help guide our Executive in their decision making and management practices.

### **Mid-Term Break in 2019**

We will be making another application for the Mid-Term break in 2019 and beyond. At this stage though we still don't have any clarity on whether this will be an approved activity in the years ahead. Negotiations are ongoing at the highest level of the Department of Education and the NSW AECG.

Please look out for any opportunity to provide feedback and thoughts on our application which once submitted, the application will be reviewed by our Director, Educational Leadership along with the Executive Director of the Wagga Wagga Operational Directorate, for approval.

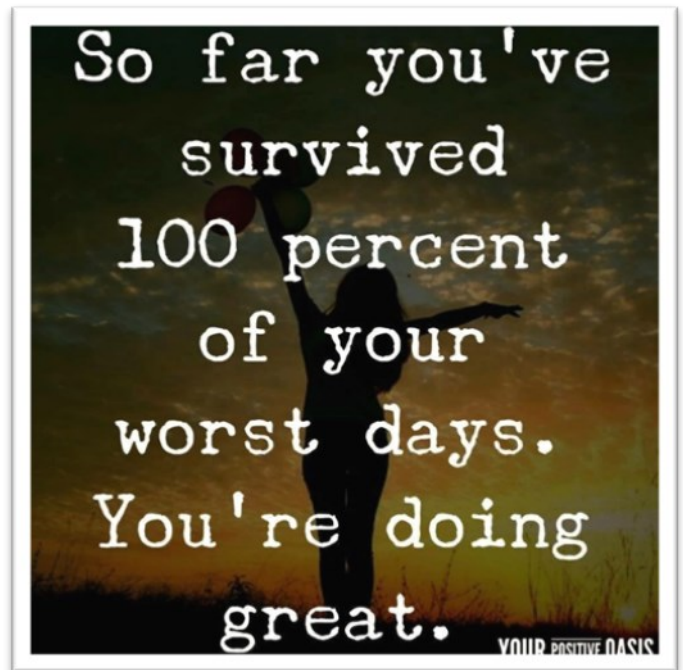
*Sometimes our lives have tough days, weeks and months.*

*If they haven't destroyed you, then they have made you stronger.*

*Be grateful for the strength we gain from those tough times and keep moving forward.*

Have a great fortnight in sunny Nyngan.

*Michael Gibson  
Principal*

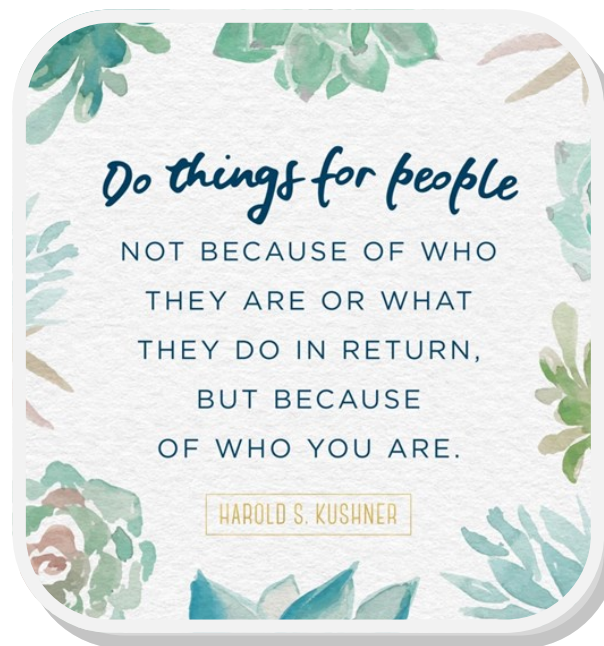


## Deputy Principal News

Welcome to Week 4. It is a busy time with junior exams starting and finishing up programs towards the end of the year. Our CIN leadership team will be in the school this week to collect data on our 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the evidence based learning project. It is always an exciting time to see the benefits and impact our improved teaching and learning is having within our school. Students at Nyngan High School are lucky to have such dedicated teachers who are striving to better themselves in order to create increased learning opportunities for our students.

One of our main core values is to have respect and I would like to remind students how important this value is. School is an excellent place to practice respect on a daily, if not hourly basis. Respect is also about being truthful and acting responsibly. Everyone regardless of race, nationality, gender or socioeconomic status makes mistakes at some point. Some may be small and some may be large, however, without these mistakes we cannot grow. Believe it or not, without mistakes we may make little or even no progression in our lives. The important thing is how we deal with these mistakes and the first step is 'owning' them and taking responsibility for our actions. If you can own up and accept your mistakes so will everyone around you.

This respect will be gratefully accepted and help build further empathy and positive relationships, as our focus for Positive Education suggests. Last week to build stronger connections, the staff shared with each other struggles they were facing. It was a lovely sharing session and it makes us feel less alone in our problems. As the saying goes: *a problem shared is a problem halved*. This week we are focusing on doing things for other people. Sometimes we only do things because we want something in return or we feel obliged. Why not just do it because you have the power to change someone's day?



Have a great fortnight and do something for someone else just because you can.

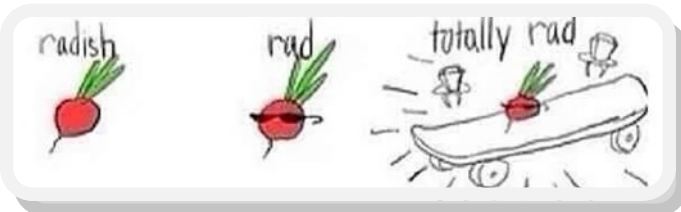
**Angie Bush**  
**Deputy Principal**

## Science/Learning Support Report

Term 4 is now in full swing and there is a lot happening across the school in the Science and Learning Support Faculty!

Most notably, we are fast approaching the examination period for both Stage 4 and 5! What better time to get out those old notes and brush up on those earlier topics; teachers will gladly provide guidance and support to all willing students.

**Stage 4** continue experiments to test different forces and shapes, as they work toward using Tinkercad software to design and print a racing dragster throughout the term! While this bubbles along in the background, all classes are now jumping right into their Guided Research Project, which will see them investigate the factors which affect the growth of radish seedlings.



Classes have had big input into the experimental design and method, with a few classes even hoping to test the effects of cola and coffee on plant growth (and hopefully some may take on a lesson about how too much sugar and caffeine may affect the health of a living organism!).

All students are strongly encouraged to take their work home using USB drives, email, or Google documents to get a leading edge on their research and report presentation! I would also like to remind those students aspiring for that 100% of a few things: result that drafts can be submitted for marking before the due date (in exchange you will receive helpful feedback and advice); your teachers LOVE answering your questions about the task; and the marking criteria is available to all students as both a print copy and digital copy. I can't wait to see everyone's great results!

Also this week (can we fit any more in?!) we had the **VALID test** for all of Year 8. This is a computer-based, multimedia test. All students will receive a personal report on their results in Term 1, next year!

**Stage 5** are presently hard at work on an in-class research task, in which they are investigating current issues affecting our world. Students were given a few options, allowing them to pursue a topic that is of interest to them; including The Greenhouse Effect, Loss of Biodiversity and Waste Management.

Each student will evaluate the impacts of these issues from various angles and make a decision about the moral and social impacts of addressing (or not addressing!) these issues. This task is due at the end of the week, and again, students are encouraged to take work home and start conversations with friends and families about these complex issues.

**Stage 6** are almost fully adjusted to being the big fish and enjoying their science studies, with Chemistry students enjoying a marked increase in practical experience (and moderately stronger acids) as they investigate equilibrium systems and uncover *YET MORE LIES* I told them in Junior Science about how chemical reactions work!

Physics are investigating circular motion and finding great satisfaction in those elegant formulae (and presumably having a lot of fun... swinging things around in circles? Not sure, I leave the physics in the very capable hands of Mr Joel White!)

**Learning Support** continue working hard with their trademark enthusiasm and sense of curiosity and fun! They are looking forward to joining us in the Dragster Challenge, developing their computer skills and getting their creative and problem solving hats on!

A big thank you to our wonderful students who come to class prepared, interested, and give every task their all. You take risks, ask questions, and you value your learning- you are the reason we come to work every day!

On Behalf of the Science and Learning Support Faculty,

**Miss Alison Strong**  
**Science Teacher**



## TAS/PDHPE Report

Weeks 3 and 4 in the TAS/PDHPE staffroom have been busy with staff members completing Teacher Professional Learning, HSC Marking and students out on Work Placement and representing the school.

You may have noticed that Mrs Walsh was MIA throughout Week 3 taking up residence in Goulburn as a HSC marker for the Primary Industries HSC exam. It is such an honour to have her represent Nyngan High as a marker and I am sure she has had a great time. Back on the home front, we have had several senior students complete their work placement around the Bogan Shire. A big thanks to the Bogan Shire Council for always supporting Nyngan High School students!

Along with Stage 4 and 5 examinations coming up we have our Under 15s Netball girls representing the school in Orange. They have been training weekly and we look forward to seeing their results. Thanks to Mrs Walsh and Janine for taking our girls away.

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November, Miss Stafford, Mr Dal Forno and our entire Stage 5 cohort will be participating in the 'Largest Simultaneous Mental Health Lesson' with an entry into the Guinness World Records book. Keep an eye on the schools Facebook to see the fun they have on Friday!!

### ***Miss Stafford (Relieving HT)***

**A little word from Mrs Walsh:** A huge thank you to Miss Stafford for relieving in my absence. HSC marking was great. It is very refreshing to focus on your subject area for which you are passionate about for a week with like-minded teachers. Goulburn was a lovely spot to visit and mark in.

Yesterday I was fortunate enough to attend a day in Dubbo focusing on using GPS with Cows. I can not wait to put this in to practice next year and watch where our stock are going.



### **ABOUT THE GPS COWS PROJECT**

A key issue facing regional, rural and remote communities around the world is the low level of digital literacy among some cohorts of students. This is particularly the case for students involved in agricultural studies where it is commonly perceived that digital literacy is not relevant to their future occupation. However, this perception is far from the truth, as the reality of farming today means students who intend on entering the agricultural workforce must have excellent comprehension of technology. The agricultural industry is changing with the ever-increasing use of technology across the supply chain demanding a workforce with higher degree skills in STEM and digital literacy to facilitate the transformation of this sector.

The GPS Cows program (GPS Cows) is a collaborative project bringing together researchers, industry professionals and educators in both Australia and the USA who understand the importance of, and are passionate about engaging students in agri-tech. The aim of GPS Cows is to increase the knowledge and skills of high school students in emerging agri-tech, specifically tools and systems which provide animal location and behaviour data, and to encourage them to consider tertiary study and a career in the agricultural sector. It is also hoped that the international collaboration will demonstrate to students the importance of agriculture globally and increase their knowledge and appreciation of the industry in other countries.

***N Walsh***

***Head Teacher TAS/PDHPE/Careers***



## Maths/CAPA News

**Stage 4** are currently working on the percentages topic. **4E** embarked on a spreadsheet activity as their assessment and their diligence and application was amazing. Stage 4 will have their semester examination next week on either the 14th or 15th November. To revise for the exams, students are encouraged to read their notes, do previous assessments again and utilise Mathematics.

**Year 9** have been working hard revising for their Yearly Examinations which will cover topics of indices, measurement, equations and financial mathematics. Their current topic of study has been financial mathematics which involves calculating the tax payable for differing salaries with various deductions.

**Year 10** completed their semester exam yesterday and they performed admirably in all aspects of the exam. They are currently working on properties of geometrical figures where they are expanding on their knowledge of parallel lines, triangles and quadrilaterals.

**Stage 5** are currently working on financial mathematics which involves calculating weekly wages including situations where penalty rates are applicable. They will soon be knuckling down in preparation for their Yearly Examinations.

**Year 11 Mathematics** ie Abbey, has completed the Preliminary Course. So far this term she has studied geometry and geometrical applications of calculus, which constitutes one of the largest percentage of questions in the HSC.

**Mr White's Year 11 Mathematics** is underway. Participants have taken to the new trigonometry topic with flair, showing great promise for future tasks. Keep an eye out for their new investigation task, where we will be finding answers to the mythical golden ratio.

**My Year 11 class** have gotten off to a flier. Anne and Mollie are killing it and Karlie has been a welcome addition to the class, providing a myriad of tips on applying foundation and mascara. Terry is his usual chatty self, whilst Colin, Toby, Wyatt and Jacob have been working about as hard as expected. Moisha will soon find her footing and I believe she has the potential to become an engineer. Or maybe even an employee of some sort.

**Congratulations to Year 12** on completing your HSC! We are proud of the effort and perseverance you have demonstrated and we hope you are too. We would appreciate you returning all resources you have borrowed ... no questions asked! Please remember if you need assistance in the future, we are always here to help.

**So far in Stage 4 music** this term we have been exploring the music of Africa. Students have been immersed in polyrhythmic activities using various membranophones and idiophones and performing rhythmic ostinatos in both small and larger class ensembles. Later in the term students will learn more about traditional score conventions through the use of notation software to compose their own polyrhythms. Two of the Stage 4 classes, **4O** and **4V** will look at making their own membranophones. Traditionally membranophones use animal skin for the drum head. Some of the boys have volunteered to bring in goat skin but I think we'll stick to muslin cloth!

**Congratulations to: Amber Dutton, Ashleigh Hall, Kahlie Hedges, Kailee Jackson, Whitney Pack and Dakota Williams-Hedges** who will be representing Nyngan High School in the **School Spectacular at QUDOS Bank Arena**. The girls are a part of the Aboriginal Dance Ensemble, along with another 150 students, and they will be rehearsing and performing in Sydney from Monday 15th November to Saturday 24th November. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Veneta Dutton for taking on this massive, but very rewarding, responsibility. We look forward to the many photos and stories you will share upon your return.

This fortnight we would like to acknowledge the well-presented bookwork, bringing of equipment and/or completion of homework, of: **Zane Bailey, Amy Motley, Ella Rose, Serenity Sheather, Abbie Smith, Anastasia Walsh, Piper Ashton, Saranna Fisk, Max Hoare, Jack Gadsby and Sonny Calton**. Well done to everyone and thank you for taking pride in your bookwork.

*A little puzzle for you to think about this fortnight:*

*Dawn is 12 and her brother is 8. How old will Dawn and her brother be when the sum of their ages is 40?*

**L Matheson**  
**Maths/CAPA**

