

RiversideCurrents

March 2018

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The Principal's Report

"To empower a young woman is to enable her to discover her potential in life and to believe she can achieve whatever she sets her mind to". Hon. Tanya Davies, NSW Minister for Women and the Ageing.

These words resonate very strongly within the Riverside community. Our students are continually provided with learning opportunities and experiences to develop their self-belief. The Yr. 12 leaders who attended the U.N. Breakfast on International Women's Day (with their Year Adviser, Lisa Edwards, pictured above) heard this message from the Honorable Tanya Davies, NSW Minister for Women.

Our students resoundingly applauded this statement because they know that female empowerment means hope for a world where women achieve parity and equality.

Minister Davies and other guest speakers including Radha Sharma from the U.N. talked of the empowerment of women meaning empowerment of a community and of a country. Their examples told of women being "agents of change" in communities where regaining dignity was paramount for women and families made homeless by natural disasters and therefore vulnerable whilst living in refugee camps relying on male leadership. Their examples of brave, committed women encouraging male camp leaders to provide links to services and education were thought provoking.

The message to our leaders was clear, "without action hope remains hope". As student leaders they were inspired to speak up for causes they believe in and for empowerment through education. As a school we will continue to follow the tradition of attending the IWD breakfast where the year 12 leaders hear the messages that resonate within them and bring these messages to our school assemblies and classroom debates.

Your school: your community

1. The P & C conducted a survey to determine the community's preferences for languages to be taught by the permanent teacher replacing Ms. Austin. French was the resounding first preference followed by Spanish and Italian.

The results were tabled at the March P & C meeting.

2. The opportunity to work closely with parents at the school planning meeting and hear feedback on their priorities has been very illuminating and encouraging.

Parent and student constructive feedback:

- Creative and critical thinking should be the driving force of all we do
- Collaboration – what does it actually look like? Students need to know
- Information about the curriculum be provided at the beginning of each term in every subject: this term students will study
- Making school reports more relevant for students: a focus on where to next; a reflection statement from students before the report goes home
- More opportunities to resubmit work after receiving feedback from teacher – more likely to take risks initially
- 7-9 assessments overhaul as seems like lots of busy work
- Positive feedback about the structure of the yr 10 major science project
- More open ended tasks
- Focus on teachers using the language of growth and not marks. Students in Yr. 7 do not want to hear about the HSC

The plan will be available online from Term 2.



Economics Goes to Ryde

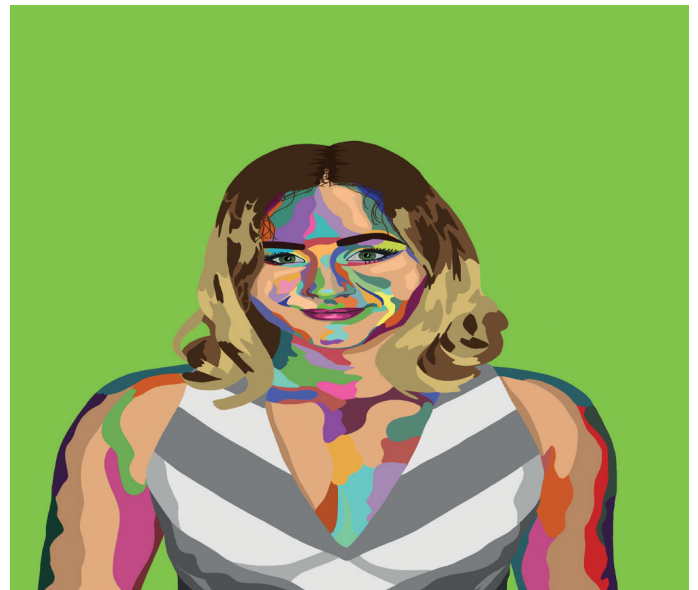
Recently our thirteen HSC Economics students once again joined with Ryde Secondary College's Economics students to participate in our second collaborative HSC Economics Workshop.

Mr Ward and Mr Farag from Ryde Secondary College and our own Ms. Edwards led sessions on HSC topic 2 'Australia's Place in the Global Economy' including:

- * balance of payments;
- * exchange rates;
- * free trade and protection.

This included using past HSC questions and results data to provide a dynamic, interactive and sometimes competitive environment as students worked individually and in groups to find answers to the most difficult HSC questions.

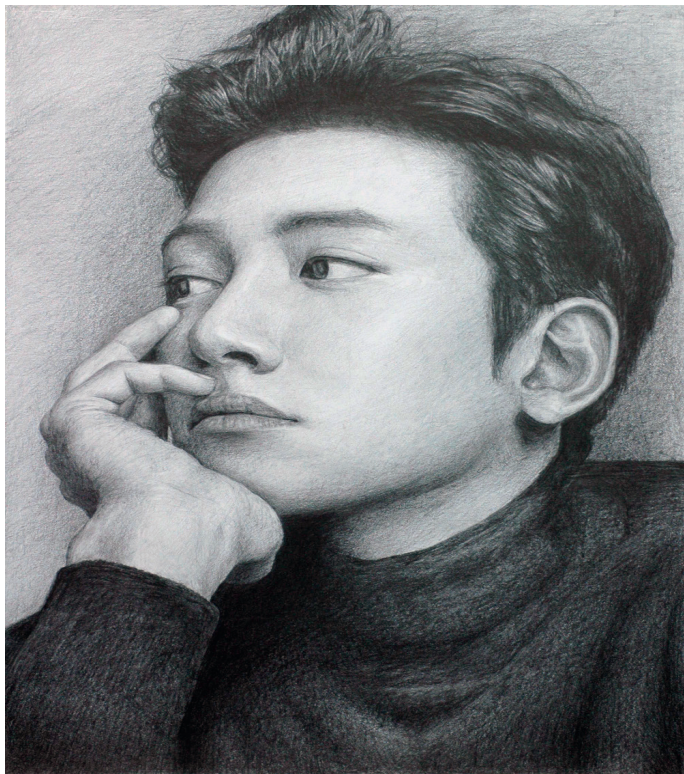
Once again the day was a huge success, with both student connections and economics understanding strengthened. Three more Economics workshops are planned for this year.



Psychedelic Portraits To Order

Jayda Carter (class Of 2017) has determined to utilise the technique she acquired working for her Visual Arts major work. She uses oils to transform a portrait into a psychedelic representation.

She has established her own company , *Rosicheeks*, and hopes to attract clients for her unique portraits.



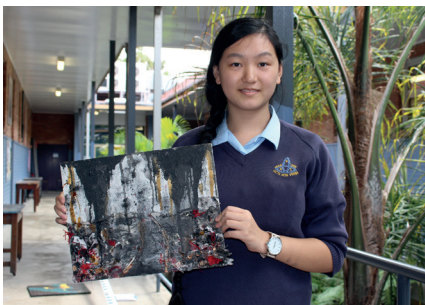
Young Archie Entrant

Student, Jessica Hwang (year 12) has entered the drawing (left) in the "Young Archies" competition.

The Young Archie competition invites budding artists between the ages of 5 and 18 to submit a portrait. There are four age categories: 5-8 year olds, 9-12 year olds, 13-15 year olds and 16-18 year olds. Beginning in 2013, this annual competition is judged by the Gallery's community engagement manager and a guest judge

Archies is a diminutive of Archibald which is the valuable prize awarded annually by the trustees of the NSW Art Gallery for an outstanding representation of a celebrity, well known identity or person of influence to the artist.

Jessica's portrait depicts a pensive image of a well known Korean actor.



Year 11 Non - Representational Industrial Landscapes

The artist of influence for the Year 11 artwork was an artist by the name of Anselm Keifer. The case study being investigated was Conflict.

Keifer's work dealt with the atrocities of WW1, Hitler's reign/Germany's identity and the concentration camps imposed on its victims. His work also explored references to mythology and religion.

His work was heavily texture based and driven by media as symbols to express his feelings towards this war and the effects on the countryside and its victims.

The students were able to really connect with this theme 'Conflict'. They reflected on how to create a similar war scene packed with rich symbolism with a dehumanised colour palette.

APRIL - MAY

- Tuesday 3 - Year 9 Parent - teacher meeting . 4.00 p.m.
- Thurs. 5.- Year 11 study skills seminar
- Fri. 6.- School X country
Fri. 13. End of Term 1.

School Vacation . April 16 - April 27

- Mon. 30. -Term 2 begins - teachers return
- Tues. May 1. -All students return for Term 2.
- Wed. - Fri. 2 - 4. Wee Waa students visit
- Tues. 8- 4.00p.m.GATS 2019 yr.7 student testing
- Wed. 9 - Riverside Athletics carnival. Homebush P & C meeting. 7.00 p.m.
- Tues. 15 - Yr 7 & 9 Naplan language & writing
- Wed. 16- Yr 7 & 9 Naplan reading
- Thurs. 17 - Yrs 7 & 9 Naplan numeracy
- Fri. 18- Yrs 7 & 9 Naplan catch-up
- Fri. 25 - Zone X country



CAPA Expo - Looking for Artistic Helpers

I am looking to secure a range of different parents who currently work within the Visual Arts, Photography, Design, Music, Film industries for a CAPA Expo held at Riverside on June 7, 8 and 15.

I am seeking their assistance to run workshops with approximately 20 students in each for approximately 2 hours. These workshops would be repeated to a different set of students throughout the 3 days.

The volunteers would need a working with children check done and number. I am planning to have a planning session with them once known.

Go Foundation

Taleisha S. has won a scholarship with the GO foundation (Goodes and O'Loughlin) the two Sydney Swans players who are now advocates for education opportunities for indigenous youth.

This award entitles Taleisha to financial support for the two senior years at school and should go a long way to her realizing her dream to be a journalist – that is her current dream at least!!

At the presentation it was surprising to hear that only 9 public schools across NSW are represented in the successful scholarship awardees.

Riverside is very proud to acknowledge Taleisha's outstanding achievement. Taleisha and Michael O'Loughlin pictured with her aunty (below) and with Adam Goodes and Ms. Kelly (above).



Reminders to All Parents - For Your Information

- Please apply early for any holiday leave outside the allocated school holidays.
- Leave is usually only granted, at the discretion of the Principal, in unusual circumstances.
- All students need an alternative travel plan in case they miss the school bus. It is recommended that parents provide their daughters with the number of the public bus and time of pick up from the Victoria Road bus stops.
- The office cannot organise transport home except in an emergency.
- Students need to have an emergency contact who can oversee their travel home if parents are not able to be contacted.





Voulez-vous échanger votre famille contre une famille française?

Emma and Ellen during their visit to Paris as part of their 6 week exchange to Le Vesinet, near Paris, France.

The scheme is arranged and supervised by the Hunters Hill, Le Vesinet Friendship Committee.

Students from schools in this area are able to apply to spend 6 weeks at Christmas time to the sister municipality of Le Vesinet, 20 minutes from the heart of Paris.

Students spend several weeks at a school and live the real French experience.

It is expected that students accepted for exchange will in turn host a French student in their homes and school for 6 weeks.

A Brief word from Ellen

I chose to participate in this scheme because it is run by the Hunters Hill and Le Vésinet council meaning it is a more intimate experience. It is also cheaper than many other exchanges run by large companies and well organised and supervised.

There were many challenges and unforgettable moments—going to a French school, French art museums, monuments, and experiencing Christmas in another country to name a few.

Overall, my confidence with the French language has improved but more importantly I have learnt more about myself and another culture. It feels like I have a double identities now because I have a sense of belonging here, and there.

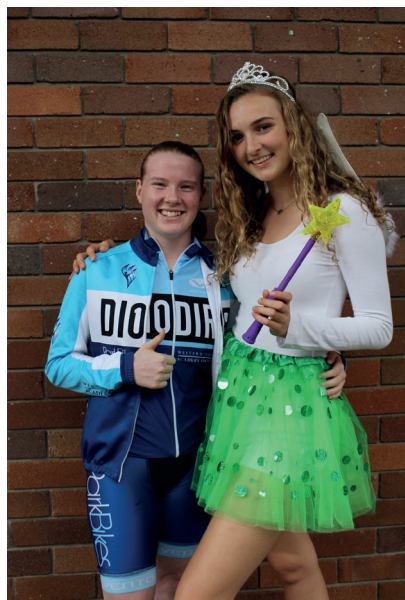
There are differences and similarities between France and Australia. For example, the atmosphere of the school I attended is quite different to the one at RGHS. French teachers seem stricter and their teaching methods seem less creative. There is a big emphasis on hierarchy in French schools and the canteen was just like one shown in a French textbook! Students also wear mufti and are given more freedom in schools.

I don't have room to describe all of the amazing advantages of going on this exchange. If you are someone who likes a challenge and wants to broaden your horizons, I would highly recommend this experience. - Ellen R.



An information evening will take place at Hunters Hill Town Hall on Wednesday May 2nd at 7.00 p.m. all welcome.

Contact: Wendy Menrimoj 0451152970



McKenzie House Charity Day.

Riverside students have an amazing level of social intelligence and respond brilliantly to charity events.

During the year each of the four houses organises a charity day identifying one or more charities to whom they will give the money which they collect.

McKenzie's mufti day raised over \$800 for the Mahala Charity.

Students were asked "What do you want to be when you grow up?" and dressed accordingly.

School captain, Hannah, aims to represent Australia as a sprint cyclist while house captain, Ava, wants to be a fairy!

Joining in the fun were the administrative staff who wanted to go back to a less stressful time when they were school students.

They each adopted the Riverside uniform and were, several times, stopped by staff who not recognising them in mufti asked, "What are you doing going into the office?"



The ASEAN Youth Forum with Julie Bishop. M.P.

The ASEAN Youth Forum celebrated the relationships between Australia and South-East Asian nations, while exploring the complexity of International Relations through focus points on refugees, trade and climate change.

Beginning the day with a quick game, and then proceeding to opening statements hurriedly- we were all very nervous, but undeniably excited. We soon split up into pairs for each focus point and debated ASEAN regulations with fellow delegates even having the opportunity to create our own.

The only resolution, voted upon by all nations from the Refugee sector was proposed by a Riverside representative:

“Myanmar, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Singapore and the Philippines calls upon all ASEAN nations to establish a mutual beneficiary trade network for increased political discourse and affiliation, and sovereign humanitarian fund allocation dominantly on refugee resources, education, and infrastructure with all processions to be legally documented and accessible to all ASEAN nations”.

As young people, the ASEAN Youth Forum left us pondering the difficulty of International collaboration, but undoubtedly opened our eyes to its importance for the assurance of safety, security, and growth in an international scope.

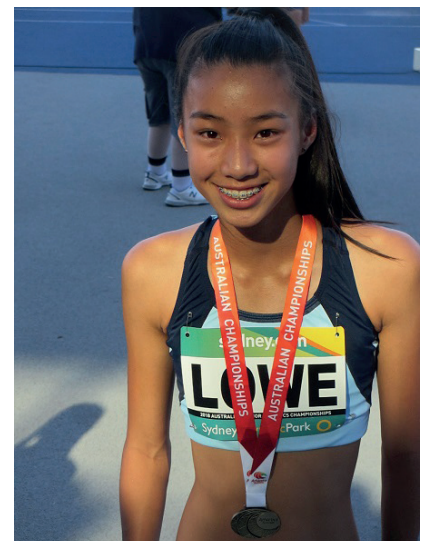
We were delighted to meet the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Honorable Julie Bishop, M.P. a truly charming, impressive woman.



Australian Juniors Athletics Champion - Alyssa L.

Fantastic results for Alyssa L at the Australian Juniors Athletics Championships recently. She represented NSW in the U16 90m Hurdles and finished 10th overall.

She also completed in the U16 Long Jump and finished with the Gold medal and National title! Congratulations!





How to Control Stress

A special meeting with year 12 introduced Dr Margo Orum, Director and Psychologist at Life Resolutions Ryde, who spoke about exam stress and time management to reduce anxiety.

She was excellent and provided a handout to all students.

Linda Gilford, School Counsellor, introduced herself and outlined her role and accessibility as School Counsellor.

Hannah Sandison, School Captain, gave a 'you are awesome' pep talk, and Ms Edwards distributed the Excel HSC Survival Guide.

Our aim was to provide active support to our Yr 12 students in the lead up to many assessment tasks being due. Feedback from a follow up survey has shown it was a great success.

KO Softball Results.

Riverside played Asquith Girls HS in the 2nd round of the knock out softball competition.

Our team this year was a combination of girls from Yr 7 through to 11. It was great to see the younger players mixing so well with the seasoned Yr 11 veterans.

Unfortunately we were totally outclassed. However, there were a few flashes of brilliance during the match from our team. If we could have harnessed those golden moments Asquith would have had a battle on their hands. As it was, Riverside lost to a much better team on the day 3-24.

Not to worry girls, there's always next year!

PS. A special shout out to Nicole Markowiak and Dale Brodrick for helping with transportation. Thanks ladies.



Youth Jukebox on RRR

Earlier this term, Scarlet, Caitlin and Tasnia became radio presenters on 2RRR, 88.5 FM's Youth Jukebox program.

Every Monday, the three girls head over to the radio station and chill out for an hour, listening to music, talking about anything from the latest tech trends, arts and culture, upcoming events and global issues that are relevant to youth.

They do all of the panelling themselves so sometimes it can be challenging, but luckily they can help each other to deliver a good show.

It is an amazing opportunity to have as they are given a lot of freedom and choice in what they are able to broadcast. It is also great, because what sixteen year old can say they have a radio station?

If you would like to support us tune into our program every Monday, 4-5pm on 2RRR 88.5fm or like our facebook page 2RRR Youth Jukebox.



Michele in Kagoshima

Michele is a Year 12 student who took a bold step late last year and found her happy place.

She undertook a 3 month exchange to the Japanese island of Kyushu to the town of Kagoshima which is a 2 hour flight from Haneda, the main Tokyo airport.

Michele worked hard for months before leaving to save the money she needed for her overseas learning experience and will always appreciate the generosity of her family in helping her to achieve her ambition.

She lived with a family of five, three sisters, a mum and dad. The family were very average Japanese, dad worked for a recycling company while mum was the home keeper.

Michele shared this experience with Harrison, another Australian student from Wagga Wagga.

The students chose the English study course which focussed on english language, communication, general studies and experience.

Michele enjoyed the school environment very much. She found it friendly and relaxed with the students working diligently especially when they came home where they worked on their homework for several hours each night.

All lessons were in Japanese and Michele copied everything carefully from the blackboard and then translated what she could into english.

The house she lived in had been built by her host family and was very comfortable. She said that Kagoshima is a typical country town far removed from the busyness of the large cities like Tokyo and Osaka.

The day began very early for her host mother who rose at 5.00 a.m. to prepare food for the family for the day. Rice, a staple in Asia, was grown on the family's own rice field.

"It was a place where I was happy to spend every day" Michele said and she hopes to save to return sometime in the future.

The picture above shows Michele and Harrison with some of their Japanese classmates and (below) with her extended Japanese host family.



20B Barnstaple Rd Five Dock (Next to Tigers Five Dock club)

Five Dock Park Tennis Centre  

Jeff Viskovich Tennis School

Tennis Australia Qualified and Certified Coaching



Directed by a certified club professional coach

2018
After School Term 2 classes
 Starting Monday 30th April through Friday 4th May
Saturday Morning classes
 Starting 5th May
 All classes 1 hour per week for 10 weeks
 Max 7 per group **Cost \$160**
ANZ Tennis Hot shots Free T-Shirt

- Children 5-16 years of age
- Beginners to Advanced players
- Training squads for competition players

For booking and enquires please contact Jeff Viskovich 0408 169 543 jeffviskovich@gmail.com

2018
Autumn Holiday Camp
 April 16th to 19th
 (Monday to Thursday)
 9am - 1pm
 \$140 per child (\$35 per Day)
FREE sausage sizzle

- **Private lessons available**
 \$35 - 1/2 hr, \$70 - 1 hr
 For Children and adults, all standards and ages
- **Cardio Tennis**
 New program for adults and teenagers
 great fitness workout

Court hire \$20/hr, \$22 with lights

All programs under the direction of **Jeff Viskovich**
 Former ranked Australian and overseas touring player
 Tennis Australia club professional coach
 (Any classes cancelled due to rain, can be made up on another day)

TENNIS COACHING ENROLMENT FORM

Please complete and mail to: **PO Box 3423 Waremba NSW 2046** or Email: **jeffviskovich@gmail.com**

Child's name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: Home _____ Work/Mobile _____ Email address _____

Parent's Name: _____ School attending: _____

Ability level (approx): Beginner Advanced Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Preferred days and times: _____



Riverside Girls Go Global at the University of Sydney

As part of an exciting initiative of the University of Sydney's School of Languages and Cultures, Riverside's Year 12 LOTE students were invited to participate in this recently established annual event.

"Languages at Sydney: Go Global" was aimed at LOTE students in Year 11 and 12 with a view to inspiring them to continue their language studies at university level after all the hard work they put into studying a language for the HSC.

This initiative, which coincided with the University of Sydney's Open Week, provided an opportunity for students to enjoy the fun and welcoming O-Week atmosphere and activities as well as to allow students to sample the programs and languages that the University of Sydney has to offer.

Activities included an introduction to languages at the University of Sydney, career and exchange opportunities for language students and two language-specific immersion tutorials.

Students attended their first immersion tutorial in the language they are currently studying at HSC level, participating in a French or Spanish Intermediate/Advanced level lesson. However, they certainly demonstrated their curiosity to explore other options as they chose an array of languages for their second immersion tutorial, including Arabic, Classical and Modern Greek and Spanish.

The afternoon not only gave students a chance to see, feel and experience university life as a language student but inspired them to pursue their language studies by emphasising the value and relevance of multilingualism, multiculturalism and diversity competence in an increasingly globalised and inter-connected world.



Congratulations to Stem Camp Participant, Rosemary L.

Drawing 60 young women from across the state, the STEM Camp for Girls, 2018, held at the University of Wollongong, was a great success.

Riverside was represented by Rosemary L from Year 11.

The camp focuses on the STEM areas, Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and hopes to encourage participants to consider pursuing one of these subject areas in post school study.