

# RiversideCurrents

July 2018



*"Being a strong leader involves the little things you do each day to create a positive and supportive environment for your peers and teachers. These small actions are as simple as giving someone a high five after they've done a killer serve in newcomb ball, wearing correct uniform to school no matter how cold it might be, or volunteering to jump up in front of the class to work out a question on the board even if you think you might get it wrong."*

Wise words about little signs of positivity and leadership which I am sure will inspire more students to nominate for the SRC.

Also, the 4 captains have chosen the characteristics of leadership that they believe are most important : initiative, teamwork and communication; overcoming challenges; and empathy.

They have offered to assist 2019 captain nominees unpack what these look like at school, ready for their interviews and speeches. They also want teachers to consider the commitment these aspiring leaders have shown to the school over all of their years here, not just in recent months. So, they will provide comments on the leadership experiences they have shared with the nominees on the application forms.

This truly is a fantastic improvement to the process driven directly by what the students saw as a need.

This is a great example of what Hannah our captain talks about as a 'student-driven SRC'. (see over)

I invite parents and friends to the assembly on Wednesday 5th September at 10.30 to hear the speeches of captain nominees. You will be amazed at how articulate our students are and enjoy their take on leadership. Please RSVP to secure seats.

Quad update: see page 12

Thanks to a holiday period with little rain, the quad work is progressing well. This week the foundations for the garden beds have been poured and the extensive deck areas mapped out.

The pour for the surface is the next big step on the agenda.

Belinda Kelly

## Principal's Report

Lots of senior news to share

Each month I meet with the yr 12 school leaders for breakfast and keep up to date with the thoughts and achievements of the Student Representative Council. It's a pleasure to hear of their initiatives which recently have focussed on improved communication about the SRC elections and clearer role expectations of the captains' roles.

So, all SRC voting information is now on a landing page on the student portal. The election process has started this week.

In particular I am proud of the fact that the leaders have added their own perspectives on leadership to this page in an effort to both inspire all students to consider themselves as leaders in some way and to take steps to minimise voting based on popularity only.

School captain, Hannah, and sports captain, Emma told the student body at assembly yesterday:

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Our SRC coordinators, Ms Kearney and Ms Parnian are excellent at encouraging our projects and supporting our initiatives. When we spoke to the others about their initiatives within the SRC, they mentioned it lacked the student-driven spirit that Riverside embodies.

A big thank you to our Year 12 SRC for putting in the effort and collaborating to ensure our afternoon tea was a success”

*“We discovered that at many schools the students were required to follow teachers’ instructions and the SRC was very teacher driven. However, our SRC is very student-driven. “*

**Hannah S. Captain**

Hannah S. and Hannah P. are in the fourth row on the right of the aisle.

**Senior Leadership Program - Hannah S.**

Hannah P. and I were fortunate to be invited to NSW Parliament House to participate in the 2018 Secondary Schools Leadership Program.

It was an incredibly insightful day into the politics of NSW as we discussed pertinent political issues with parliamentary members who represented different electorates of NSW.

Adding to our experiences, Hannah and I observed both the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly in session.

To conclude our day, we had the honour of meeting the Governor of NSW, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret’d), and his wife, Mrs Linda Hurley.

While exploring Government House Sydney with the friendly staff, we learnt about the building’s history and its residents, as well as the role of the Governor General. Overall, it was an excellent day to network with other young leaders and members of parliament.

Hannah and I are both incredibly grateful to have these opportunities and we look forward to involving ourselves at similar events in the future.

**Prefect’s Afternoon Tea - A Great Success.**

“An important part of our role as leaders is socialising and networking with high schools around Sydney. Riverside’s Year 12 SRC hosted our own Prefect Afternoon Tea in week 2 of this term.

We were quite proud of the turnout with 50 prefects coming along from both private and public schools! Through this, we were able to see the many different ways Year 12 Prefect Bodies are working to represent their respective schools.

We discovered that at many schools the students were required to follow teachers’ instructions and the SRC was very teacher driven. However, our SRC is very student-driven.



Hannah S and Hannah P with North Sydney M.P. Mr Trent Zimmerman

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A big thank you to our Year 12 SRC for putting in the effort and collaborating to ensure our afternoon tea was a success.

Hannah S. School Captain

Pictured below - some of the 50 prefects who attended the afternoon tea.



**JULY - AUGUST 2018**

**Mon July 9 - Mon. July 23 School Vacation**

- **Mon. 23 - Teachers return for Term 3.**
- **Tues. 24 - Students return for Term 3.**
- **Wed. - Fri. 25 - 27 Regional Orchestra Tour Singleton**

**AUGUST**

- **Wed - Fri. 1 - 3 Ski Camp**
- **Wed. 8 - Years 7 & 8 Parent / Teacher meetings**
- **Mon. 13 - HSC External Dance exams begin**
- **Thurs. 16 - Ryde Eisteddfod Jazz Ensemble**
- **Tues. 31 - Junior Visual Arts & Music Soiree**



**Dance Success**

Company Blue's item - The Space Between - has been accepted into the State Dance Festival, as a representative of Dance in the Sydney North region.

The dancers, who are in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 will be performing on Tuesday 11 September and Friday 14th September.

**Pick the Ceramic**

Year 8 have enjoyed researching pop artist Claes Oldenburg and creating their own food sculptures. They celebrated their food sculptures with a banquet bringing food items to compare to their sculptures.

Pictured below, the ceramic food as part of the table decoration with the real food items.





### Year 11 Environmental Science at Field of Mars

As part of the newly introduced HSC Environmental Science course, students are required to undertake field studies. Recently Year 11 visited the Field of Mars Study Centre to look at introduced species and their impact on the natural environment.

Sighted were a fox den and lantana and cottoneaster - all introduced.

The girls noted that there are some benefits to the introduction of Lantana in that small birds use the dense foliage as cover to protect them from predators. With this in mind, the cleared Lantana is left in situ so that smaller birds can hide in it.

The centre is in close proximity to housing and features interesting regions within the Turpentine forest with gullies of introduced species.





### Drama Mentoring

The Year 11 Drama students have been working with the Year 9 Drama class, assisting them with their group playbuilding performances.

Each group has been given a social issue to explore and the Year 11 students have been working with the Year 9s to help develop this.

This has been a fantastic opportunity for all students to develop their skills and share their knowledge, and it is clear that all students have been engaged with this initiative.

Year 11 and year 9 drama students pictured left.

### Arts Alive Festival

Students in the Year 11 and 9 Drama classes auditioned for the Arts Alive Festival recently. Year 9 Drama auditioned with a comedy piece with an exciting plot twist.

Year 11 Drama created a dynamic ensemble piece about amateur actors breaking into a theatre to steal a casting list.

They incorporated many styles of theatre into their piece and used movement and voice effectively in their energetic performance.

Year 11 Drama were successful in their audition and will be performing at the Arts Alive Festival on Tuesday 31st July.



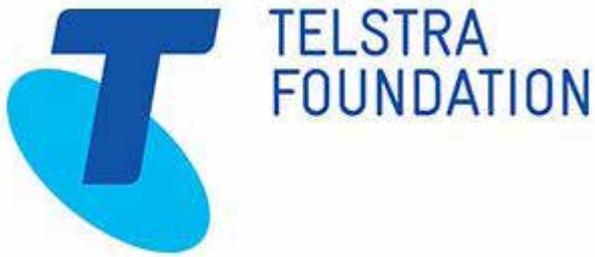
### Stolen at Parramatta's Riverside Theatre

Year 12 Drama students were able to attend a performance of Stolen which is one of their core HSC texts.

Students found this to be a valuable experience and spent many lessons afterwards analysing the interpretation in class.

We were fortunate to have front row seats and many Riverside students were invited on stage at the start of the performance to interact with the actors and help put parts of the set together.

Viewing this performance was a wonderful opportunity for students as they headed into their Trial Examinations.



### Great news! Telstra Kids grant

We are delighted to announce our success in receiving a Telstra Kids grant. Telstra Kids helps kids thrive in their connected world. Riverside Girls High School will receive a \$1,200 grant for the nominated project/activity, 'Inventing is Learning: Making, Tinkering, and Engineering'.

Our Telstra Kids grant will be used at Riverside to encourage students to try out new ideas, learn new skills, and create and build things.

The maker projects include a variety of craft and art supplies, construction tools, building materials and top of the line laser cutters, sewing and quilting machines, full capacity wood working equipment, Arduino microprocessor electronics, computers, software, SLR cameras, 3D printers and Robotics. It's also about access. Makerspaces provide access to tools, resources and humans to help drive innovation and entrepreneurship.

During the Maker projects unit students develop their own inquiry questions about topics they wish to explore. It gives them an opportunity to find their passions, engage in personalised and inquiry-based learning, and utilize their creativity. Students formulate their driving questions, perform research, create a project, and formally share the project when it's completed.

Huge thanks to Suzie Billiris from Telstra and a Riverside parent, who is the referrer, for applying for the funding for us.

### Model U.N.

In July, I was privileged to go to the 2018 SUSMUN (Sydney University Model United Nations) conference.

As the representative for Greece in the European Union, I got to debate the implications of Brexit: the United Kingdom exiting the EU, with a group of students from different schools, each representing a different country.

We were first given a draft proposal with a selection of articles and subsequent clauses which dictated the instructions around Brexit.

We chose whether we were *For* or *Against* the majority of the draft proposal, and then we got straight into debating the proposal.

Multiple amendments were made with some disagreements between countries but when the amendments were voted for there was a majority in favour of the motion and even some unanimous votes.

I was opposed by the majority of the countries but I was able to keep my cool and get my point across even though I was unsuccessful in having my edit passed.

I went to SUSMUN not knowing really too much about how the model UN worked and not being very confident. I didn't know about how Model UN worked before I went there but all the people were super welcoming and supportive.

I was able to have so much fun, make new friends and I even got an honourable mention at the end of the day.

Rosie L.



## Quad Update

So the rain went and the mud remained but finally..... it dried up and work recommenced.



### Orchestra Go Bush- Inaugural Regional Band Tour.

Riverside is proud of its musical tradition and is unique in supporting its own orchestra.

Under the leadership of the talented and passionate Ms. Wang, the orchestra embarked on a tour of schools in Singleton, Hunter Region.

A phone call from Singleton High School music teacher enthused about the importance to her students in years 8 - 12 of experiencing a real orchestra consisting of students like themselves.

Students back at school entered assembly on Wednesday to a film of the orchestra playing at their concert on June 14. According to many, this is some of the best music heard from Riverside musicians.

# TUNING IN TO TEENS

## EMOTIONALLY INTELLIGENT PARENTING



### 5 SESSION PARENTING COURSE FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

Would you like to learn how to:

- Communicate effectively with your teenager?
- Understand your teenager?
- Help your teenager with emotional intelligence and managing emotions?
- Prevent some teenager behaviour problems?
- Teach your teenager to deal with conflict?

**VENUE:** Chatswood Community Health Centre  
57 Hercules St, Chatswood

**DATES:** Mondays 13<sup>th</sup> August - 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (5 sessions)

**TIME:** 6.30pm - 9.00pm

**COST:** \$150 - subsidised rates available re: financial difficulty

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

### BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL:

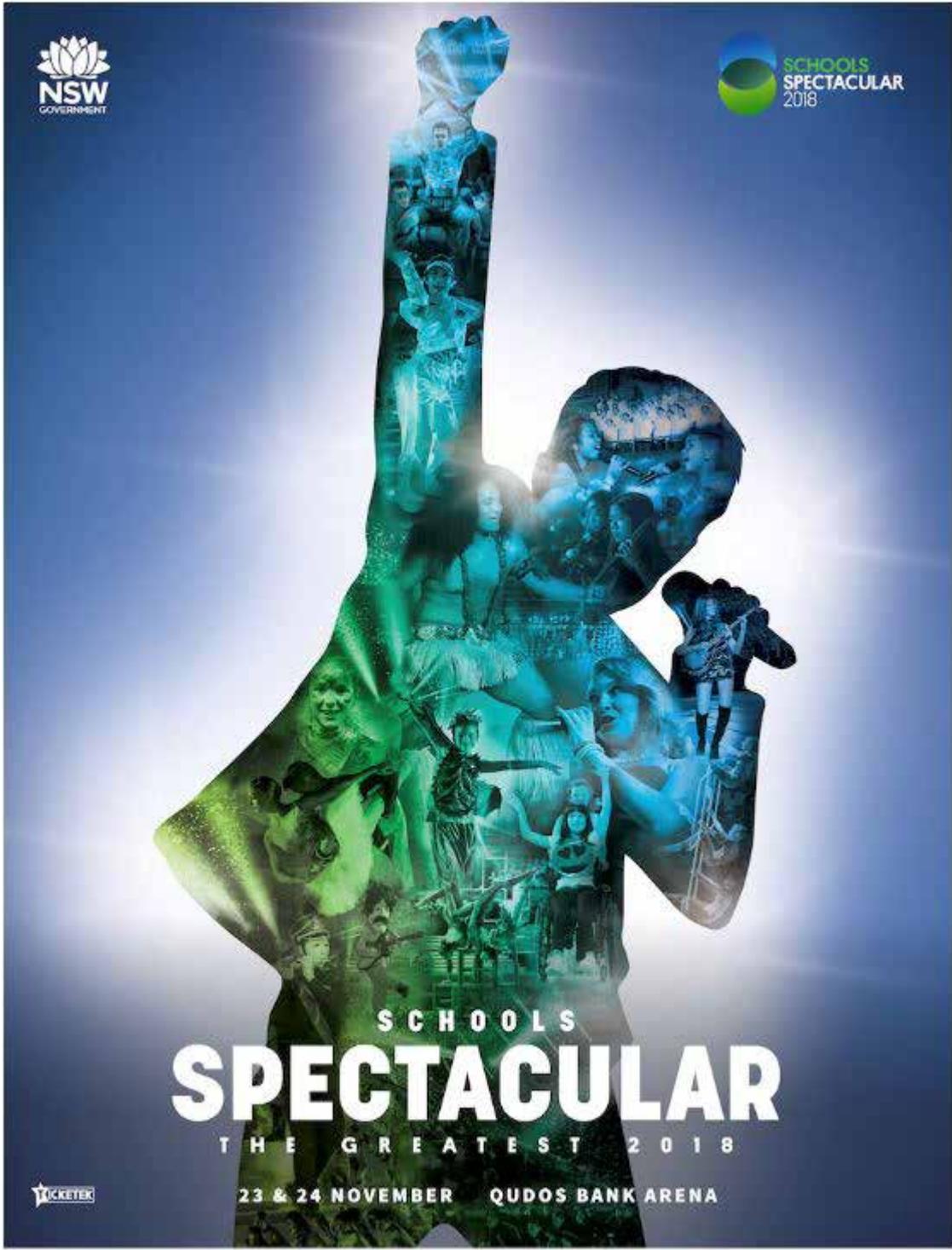
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The 5 session course will be facilitated by a qualified Parent Educator from **Child and Adolescent Parenting, Northern Sydney Local Health District**



**Health**  
Northern Sydney  
Local Health District





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**Bookings now open at Ticketek**

## Attention: Parents/supervisors of Learner drivers

### Do you want to help your Learner driver?

As young people approach driving age it is important they and their parents/carers are aware of what to expect as a Learner driver, and how to achieve the 120 supervised driving hours in their logbook.

In conjunction with the Roads and Maritime Service (RMS), the City of Ryde is holding a **free** two-hour workshop on the evening of Wednesday 8 August 2018.

**This workshop offers practical advice and information to parents/carers and supervisors** on how to help Learner drivers become safer drivers. We also recommend that the Learner driver attend.

The workshop will provide information about:

- The Safer Drivers Course
- Understanding the Graduated Licensing Scheme and the current laws of L and P licence holders
- Handy hints for completing the *Learner driver log book*
- Understanding the benefits of supervised on-road driving experience
- Tips for supervising Learner drivers
- Young driver issues

The workshop details are:

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 8 August 2018
<b>Time:</b>	6:30pm to 8:30pm
<b>Location:</b>	Level 1A, 1 Pope St, Ryde at Top Ryde City shopping centre, above Ryde Library (3 hours free parking available)
<b>Cost:</b>	FREE
<b>Bookings:</b>	9952 8222

**Please note that bookings are essential as places are limited.**

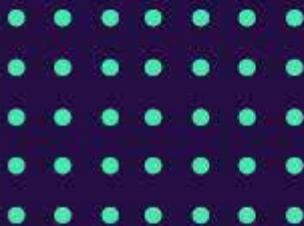
For more information on this workshop, contact Council's Road Safety Officer on 9952 8222 or [lpears@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lpears@ryde.nsw.gov.au).

Riverside Girls High School  
Creative and Performing Arts  
Proudly Presents



# Junior Soiree

AN EVENING OF  
VISUAL ARTS AND MUSIC  
PERFORMANCES



Tuesday | July 31st |  
4:30PM-7:30PM

School Hall

Irena Anna Filla  
Music teacher

45 min / \$30

Piano lessons  
Keyboard lessons

5 Bayview Crescent  
Henley 2111  
(5 minutes from Henley Community Centre)

[fillir.wixsite.com/education](http://fillir.wixsite.com/education)  
[fillir@email.cz](mailto:fillir@email.cz)  
0423 040 659





### Hi Girls, Welcome back to term three.

As we know social media and technology is taking over our lives. We are introducing the 7 day free challenge which allows us to take a step back and look at our media usage.

The **7 day free challenge** is a week challenging ourselves to cut back on social media use and reconnect with the people around you. This doesn't mean completely blocking out social media, like instagram and snapchat, but just trying to allow yourself to focus on things that aren't online and to look up from the screen.

You help set the rules for this challenge, so whether you think cutting out 30 minutes a day or a whole 7 days, will make you take a look at your social media usage, is up to you.

Once you enter, you can vote for the charity of your choice to fund-raise for. To raise money you can get people to sponsor you for the challenge, for example, a sponsor might give you \$1 for each hour that you successfully regulate your screen use and adhere to the rules of the challenge.

Just by entering the challenge you will be put in the running to win a prize. However, there will also be prizes to be won for the people who raise the most money. Some of the prizes include; beautician vouchers, hairdresser vouchers, book vouchers, yoga vouchers and so much more.

We encourage you all to give the "7 day free" challenge a go. Try to step out of your comfort zone and see life outside the screen.