

# The Heights School

# **NEWSLETTER**

**ISSUE 2** | 20 February 2020

> Educating young minds

> Serving our community

> Instilling values and embracing our future



The Heights School has completed the \$3.5 Million upgrade to student facilities, providing vital new learning spaces and opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

Additionally, The Heights School has received a \$10 Million grant to provide brand new buildings with state of the art furniture and equipment to enhance student learning. Planning has already commenced.



A Fair Go Have a Go, Go Hard, Keep Going! Go Together

# **ISSUE** HIGHLIGHTS:

- Governing Council AGM
- Student Wellbeing Team
- 2020 Ritsumeikan Global Summit
- Year 5-8 Splash Carnival

#### **DIARY DATES**

- 20/2 VISTA Year 8 Boys BasketballYear 7 Excursion SuperloopAdelaide 500
- 21/2 STAR Group Meeting Night (Observatory) SAPSASA Softball Carnival VISTA Year 8 Girls Basketball
- 22/2 Ignite Program Testing
- 24/2 Catch-Up School Photos
- 25/2 Stage 2 Fitness Excursion: Surfing - Middleton Beach
- 26/2 Governing Council AGM (6.00pm)
- 28/2 SAPSASA District Swimming
- 3/3 VISTA Senior Boys Indoor Cricket
- 6/3 Whole School Sports Day

See more **UPCOMING DATES** on the next page

<u>Click here</u> to view our online calendar

# CONTACT

The Heights School

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Fax: (08) 8263 6072

E: dl. 1430.info@schools.sa.edu.au

www.theheights.sa.edu.au



/heightsschool



# AN INVITATION

Parents and Friends of The Heights School Community are cordially invited to the Celebrate the success of 2019

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2020 6.00pm

Find out what we aim to improve in 2020

Conference Room (Administration Building)

To nominate for Governing Council

please email Dani Dunne,

dani.dunne687@schools.sa.edu.au
to obtain a nomination slip or collect
one from the Front Office.

Nominations are to be returned to Dani by 9.00am on Wednesday, 26th February 2020 prior to the AGM.

Choose to be a part of the Governing Council to support future improvement priorities

#### **UPCOMING PUPIL FREE DAY**

Enjoy nibbles

and a drink

Please be advised that the first Pupil Free Day for 2020 has been scheduled for **Tuesday 10 March** (**Term I, Week 7**). Confirmation of additional Pupil Free Days and School Closure Day will be published very soon.

#### **SCHOOL PHOTOS**

#### Did you miss having your school photo taken?

Catch-up photo day will be Monday the 24th of February.

Students may go to the resource centre and report to the photographers as directed by their home group teachers. Family photos will be taken at lunch time. Siblings must present their family photo envelope for photos to be taken.

Please contact MSP on 8132 1148 for further information.





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# **UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### **SCHOOL TOURS 2019**

School tours are held from 9.00am-10.15am as listed below. Bookings are required via our website.

Wednesday 8 April Term 1, Week 11
Thursday 7 May Term 2, Week 2
Monday 27 July Term 3, Week 2

#### **OPEN EVENTS**

Booking are not required.

Wednesday 25 March 6.00pm-7.30pm Thursday 26 March 9.15am-10.30am



**AROUND OUR SCHOOL** 



# The Heights School Preschool to Year 12

- > Educating young minds
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The Heights School has completed the \$3.5 Million upgrade to student facilities, providing vital new learning spaces and opportunities in Science, Technology, Enginering and Maths (STEM)



# You are invited to our **OPEN EVENTS**

Wednesday 25th March **6:00pm to 7:30pm** 

Thursday 26th March 9:15am to 10:30am

Learn more about our Ignite Program, and our \$10 Million grant to provide brand new buildings with state of the art furniture and equipment to enhance student learning



#### The Heights School - Preschool to Year 12

Brunel Drive, Modbury Heights 5092 | Ph: 8263 6244 | Fax: 8263 6072 Email: dl.1430.info@schools.sa.edu.au | www.theheights.sa.edu.au



#### REPORTING A STUDENT ABSENCE

Students are absent from school or late at times for all sorts of reasons. Could you please let the school know if your child is going to be late or absent and the reason, so we can record the absence correctly and keep track of where students are during the school day.

You can report your child's absence in the following ways:

- Phone the school on 8263 6244
- Email student services on dl.1430.studentservices@schools.sa.edu.au

If your child arrives late to school or needs to leave early, it is very important that they go to Student Services and sign in or out, so that we know when students are on site. Could you please provide a note in your child's diary or email Student Services if your child needs to sign out early for any reason, as we need parental permission before we can let your child leave the school grounds.

Similarly, a note or email is also helpful when your child signs in late so we can mark the absence correctly, otherwise it will be marked as an unexplained absence.

Thank you.

**Student Services** 

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## STUDENT WELLBEING TEAM

We would like to introduce the Student Wellbeing Team. Our Wellbeing Team members are Suzanne lerace (Student Wellbeing Leader), Daniel Brzezinski (Student Wellbeing Leader) and Noelle Wallis (Christian Pastoral Care Worker). We work closely with our students, staff and families to ensure a mentally healthy community whose members support each other and maintain a positive, solution-focused approach.

At The Heights School, ensuring student wellbeing is a priority for all staff. The Wellbeing Team is guided by the Wellbeing for Learning and Life Framework to support and promote wellbeing across our whole school community. We work proactively to ensure we are providing the most up-to-date and evidence based initiatives such as 'Be You – Building Mentally Healthy Communities', our 'Play is the Way' behaviour education philosophy, values education, student Personal Development curriculum and the Successful Start program.

The Student Wellbeing Team also facilitates the Student Representative Council (SRC) in close consultation with our teaching staff. This year is going to be very exciting, with the SRC members having an increasing role in whole school events such as Harmony Day, RUOK? Day, lunchtime activities, assemblies, whole school improvement and the learning environment. The nomination and election process are currently underway!

Another important aspect of our role is to support students through life's challenges, such as friendship conflicts, concerns at school, mental health concerns and other personal difficulties that may face our children and young people from time to time.

If you would like to speak to a member of the Student Wellbeing Team, please do not hesitate to do so. Our contact details are:

daniel.brzezinski598@schools.sa.edu.au

suzanne.ierace378@schools.sa.edu.au

noelle.wallis558@schools.sa.edu.au

Alternatively, you can contact us via the school number on (08) 8263 6244.

#### Successful Start

In Week 1-2 the Primary Years classes have been focusing on settling into their new classrooms through our Successful Start program. It has been so wonderful to visit each class and observe the students getting to know each other, making new friends, learning about the importance of acting in a safe, respectful manner and pursuing our personal best in our learning. Skills learnt through this program include problem solving skills, building resilience and how to manage our 'big feelings' in a safe manner. Students will continue to work on these skills throughout the year.

Suzanne Ierace, Daniel Brzezinski and Noelle Wallis













## 2020 RITSUMEIKAN GLOBAL SUMMIT

On the 29th of January 2020, we arrived at Kansai International Airport in Osaka, Japan. For the week we were able to experience school and daily life in Japan as students. Fortunately, we were able to visit many popular attractions that many tourists and locals enjoy. Some of the main sites were - Fushimi Inari Shrine, Dotonbori, Yasaka Shrine, Kayu-koji Shopping Arcade, Nishiki Market and many others. We also got the chance to try out many different traditional foods such as udon noodles, takoyaki, ramen, sushi, Japanese McDonalds, sukiyaki, tokatsu and miso soup. It was all very delicious! During our school life we were able to make many new friends from different countries and learn about their cultures, while also sharing ours. We learnt how to play the traditional three-stringed instrument, how to write traditional Japanese calligraphy and how to better understand different cultures. The school had many facilities that were superb, from their traditional rooms to their underground swimming pools. Though we were not able to experience all these areas in the school. We found it quite interesting that the Japanese students wore indoor shoes whilst in school, that they have ten-minute breaks in between each class, they also attend school on Saturdays. Some other interesting factors about the Japanese culture was the fact that they were all friendly and had the will to help strangers.

We both thoroughly enjoyed the experience and feel that we have a greater understanding of different cultures around the world.

We would like to especially thanks Mr Gill and the Department for Education for supporting this trip and to Mr Parsons and the staff of many different schools for organising such a valuable and unforgettable event. We would also like to thank our host families for the excellent hospitality and kindness towards us during our stay.

We were also able to get to know each other better through the II-hour flight there and 32-hour flight back. Although the Novel Coronavirus was an ongoing issue around the world, we still made it back through Hong Kong with relative ease.

We hope that the next years Ritsumeikan Global Summit goes well and can be as enjoyable and successful as this year.

Mr Robin Parsons, Malachi Ashby and Beda Hwang









# LIBRARY NEWS

#### **National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS)**

On Wednesday 18 May at 11.00am, The Heights School will be participating in the annual National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS). This event involves students and the wider community throughout Australia reading a picture book written by an Australian author and illustrator. The selected book for 2020 is "Chicken Divas".



This is a fun activity that promotes the value of reading and literacy while addressing key learning areas of the Australian Curriculum.

Book Week this year is happening Week 5,Term 3: August 22 – 28. The theme is "Curious Creatures, Wild Minds". We will have fun working with the theme. More details of Book Week will follow later in the semester.



#### Premier's Reading Challenge - Middle School

In 2020, as always, all Middle School students are expected to take part in the PRC which means that they read 8 books from the PRC selected list and 4 books of their own choice. This year for the first time Year 7 will become part of the Middle School cohort which extended up to Year 9. Students are strongly urged to check the website (www.prc.sa.edu.au) as besides lists of books, some listed by topic, there is notification of competitions and activities as well as the opportunity to correspond with other students across the State about their reading. Finally, I would like to thank all Middle School teachers, especially Mr Gray, Mr Markou and Ms Rothery who have helped make the Challenge such a success with their students.

Ms Potts

## **VISUAL ART NEWS**

In Visual Arts the year has started well. Our classes have settled and students have found inspiration to start learning new skills and creating some outstanding artworks. Here are some snapshots.



Catherine Bourn, Visual Art Teacher

Year 10 Art Using a variety of media and techniques to create animal skin textures. Students are analysing how artists use the elements of art to create their artworks.



Year 8 Art Watercolours drawn and painted from life and inspired by artist Fiona Hiscock. Students are getting ready to decorate some hand built ceramic vessels with their designs.

## SPORTS DAY 'DRAW YOUR HOUSE MASCOT' COMPETITION 2020

Do you enjoy drawing instead of long jump? Do you have team spirit but don't like shot put? Do you want to earn your house some extra points without having to run 400 metres? Enter our 'Draw your House Mascot' Competition!

Our House Mascots are:

Aquila Dingoes,

Corvus Redbacks,

Hydra Sharks,

**Draco Crocodiles** 

Rules for entry: A4 sized

- Name and HG or Class written on the back 2nd Place = 75points
- Submitted to Art Office by Friday Week 5

#### Categories for Place winners:

- Years P-4
- Years 5-8
- Years 9-12
- Staff

#### Points Awarded:

- 1st Place = 100points
- 3rd Place = 50points
- 4th Place = 25points
- 2 Participation points per entry

All works will be displayed during Sports Day. Every point matters! Start drawing!

Mrs Sztekel and Miss Bourn



#### YEAR 5-8 SPLASH CARNIVAL

Our 2020 Splash Carnival for Years 5-8 students was held on Wednesday the 12th February at Salisbury Swimming Centre. With the return of favourite events such as the swim/walk relay, rope pull and the peg scramble, 2020 also introduced a series of new events. Students competed in Freestyle, Breaststroke and Backstroke 50 Races. They challenged their peers to a game of Finska and collaborated to beat opposing houses in Stand-up Water Polo. Students also had the chance to participate in Elimination; a novelty event requiring speed, persistence and teamwork. The pool was packed with students when it came to Free Swim time and once again students lined the banks of the pool for their chance to tackle the Inflatable Fun Run.

Our annual Staff vs Student 50m Freestyle Relay witnessed the male teaching team taking home the glory and our boys team finishing 2nd with the Flinders University Student Teacher Team in 3rd. It was once again an event that had all eyes on the pool and the noise of encouragement for both students and staff. Congratulations to all students and staff who participated in Splash Carnival 2020 and made it a wonderful day!

Thank you to all staff members for your support with Splash Carnival. I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding work of our Year 10 helpers. Without their support the running of the carnival would not have been possible.

#### Congratulations to our winning House the Corvus Redbacks:

Corvus Redbacks (Red) 457, Draco Crocodiles (Green) 445, Aquila Dingoes (Yellow) 409, Hydra Sharks (Blue) 403.

Nick Schild and Georgina Sulley-Beales, Sports Coordinators







# **COMMUNITY NOTICES**



