

St George Girls High School

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Monthly Bulletin

April 2012
Vol. 17 No. 3



**Parents & Citizens'
Association Meeting**
Thursday 26 April 2012
Staff Common Room
7pm

Mothers' Committee Meeting
Wednesday 2 May 2012
Library
10am

Mother Daughter Dinner
Saturday 5 May 2012
Georges River 16ft Sailing Club
Dolls Point
6.30pm

Commencement of Winter Uniform
Monday 21 May 2012

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome Back to Term 2 2012!

I hope that all our families had a safe and enjoyable break and that all students are returning ready to meet the challenges and to make the most of the many opportunities they will be offered this term. A glance at the Term 2 calendar reveals many exciting and stimulating learning and co-curricular activities for students and our parents to enjoy.

Mother Daughter Dinner

The annual Mother Daughter Dinner is fast approaching. It will be held on Saturday 5 May at the Georges River Sailing Club. For those who have not yet attended this function, I can assure both students and their mothers that it is a most enjoyable evening. It is an opportunity to celebrate the special bond between mothers and their daughters. Mothers, daughters, grandmothers and sisters are all welcome to come along and enjoy the evening. A night of fun activities, raffles, trivia, dancing and lucky door prizes not only ensures an action packed evening but is also a fundraiser for the school. This year the theme is Princesses so dust off those tiaras and come along! The ticket price includes a two course dinner, tea or coffee and cake. There is a flyer with all the details in this gazette. I look forward to seeing many students with their mothers on this special night.

Year 7 Transition to High School

Year 7 have completed their first term at St George. This is a cause for congratulations as they have settled in well and now are feeling part of our wonderful school. They have finished their peer support program and on their behalf I thank their "big sister" Peer Support Leaders for assisting our Year 7 students to leap into the uncharted waters of High School. The Year 7 camp was a great success. I have written to all Year 7 parents to inform them of their daughter's success in Term 1 and

to invite parents to express their opinions regarding the transition programs we have in place at St George. I would appreciate all Year 7 parents responding to the survey and returning it to the front office this week.

Winter Uniform

The official date for the start of winter uniform is Monday 21 May. If you need to purchase items be sure to do so early while stocks are available. Be aware that if long pants are worn they must be the style purchased through the uniform shop. Scarves are now available to buy in the uniform shop. If the weather turns very cold the girls are permitted to wear a plain black coat. The uniform shop is open every Wednesday between 12.45pm and 2pm. The uniform shop will also be open on Saturday 12 May from 9.30am until 11am.

Annual School Report 2011

Our school's Annual Report for 2011 was uploaded to the DET portal last term. It was also placed on our school website last term. The Annual Report is a comprehensive and thorough record of our school's performance and achievements throughout 2011. It includes student performance in NAPLAN, the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate as well as the achievements of individuals and groups of students, parents and staff. It also reports on parent, student and staff satisfaction with many aspects of our school and reports on the achievement of last year's targets as well as setting targets for 2012. It really is a most comprehensive snapshot of our school as it was in the year just past. I recommend you check out our website and have a look at it. We will print a small quantity of hard copies. Students who were named or photographed in the report will receive a hard copy as a memento to keep. Other copies will become our prospectus for the year. I wish to thank all staff, parents and students who contributed to the report.

P&C Fundraiser

A big thanks is due to our P&C and parent volunteers and their daughters who once again ran a Bunnings Fundraising BBQ late last term. All students benefit from the efforts of these supportive parents who generously give of their time to raise funds for our school. I extend a big thank-you to Annie Hong who organised the day and to all who came along to support the fundraiser. Have a look at some of the photos of the day.

The P&C Direct Giving donation paid by all families will go towards upgrading our hall's audio-visual capacity. The 2011 SRC will also contribute to this project which will vastly enhance our performance evenings.

Congratulations

I would like to congratulate the following students for achieving Gold Certificates indicating that they have received thirty Merit and/or Participation Certificates:

Rubsat Amin of Year 8.

Alice Hu of Year 9.

Amelia Causley-Todd, Michelle Feng and Shirley Shan of Year 11.

De Yi Wu of Year 12.

I would like to congratulate the following students for receiving Principal Certificates:

Rubsat Amin, Cindy Chen (3), Christine Haitidis, Angela Kelepurovska, Johanna Kennedy (2), Lily Lasic Latimer, Tania Lu, Stephanie Noronha (2), Jacqueline Pham, Fiona Pylotis, Elisen Qian (2), Vivian Tao (2) and Tania Xue of Year 8.

Emma Chow, Bernice Chung, Siobhan Downey, Brenda Lam (2), Elizabeth Melkonian, Dhivya Nadarajah, Selina Su (3), Yi Wen Tan (2) and Angela Wang of Year 9.

Linda Zeng of Year 10.

Tanya Ali, Amelia Causley-Todd (5), Joyce Cheng, Kimberley Dan (2), Michelle Feng (10), Antonia Gage (2), Jewel Huang (5), Joyce Kwan, Claudia Lee, Sharon Lo (4), Kim Mai, Alanna Mao, Ria Mehrotra (3), Melanie Mercado (2), Janice Mung (5), Zoe Pan (2), Emily Peresiper (4), Shirley Shan (3), Ellie Stamatelatos (3), Natalee Venegas and Julie Wu of Year 11.

Dolly Ouyang (2) of Year 12.

Well done to all of these girls and to all who have experienced personal success this term.

Yours sincerely
Carole Knott

Deputy Principal's Report

As half-yearly reporting draws closer students in years 7 – 10 will have a number of important assessments which feed into these reports. While some assessments are conducted in normal lessons, with others (where the girls do not have a common time for multiple classes to sit the test) there will be a series of assessment days in which girls sit cross-course tests. Your daughters will be given plenty of warning to prepare for these assessment tasks and should be encouraged to plan their time accordingly. These tasks are an opportunity for your daughters to demonstrate what they have learnt and what they can do. No girl who has put aside sensible study time should feel intimidated by these tasks.

Years 7 and 9 have Australia-wide NAPLAN tests on 15 – 17 May. These tests are compulsory and all girls are to be in attendance.

Year 10 no longer sit School Certificate state-wide tests and will be awarded Record of School Achievement (RoSA) grades based on the series of assessment tasks outlined in her assessment booklet. These grades are submitted to the Board of Studies by the school at the end of the year to be included on her record.

Mr Morris

Careers

Career Education – Year 10

The introductory lessons in our Year 10 Career Education Program are focused around student's self awareness, goal setting for the future and identification of personal skills, interests and abilities. Throughout first term, students worked on creating a personal career collage. The purpose of the task was to aid self-understanding through creating visual imagery about themselves and their career ideas at this stage in life. The collages included words, photos, magazine pictures, symbols, drawings, ideas about the past, present, future, personality, abilities, interests, career goals, part-time work, work experience, family, travel, community or political involvement, work environments, qualifications, dreams etc. Below are two sample collages by Maggie Wen and Chadnana Narayan.



Work Experience

Year 10 will complete a one week block of work experience in Term 3. The dates of work experience are **6 – 10 August 2012**. Year 10 students have been working hard to secure a placement in an industry of their choice. Amy Li completed her work experience placement at the Tea Room in the QVB in November 2011. A case study of her supervisor is below.

Work Experience Case Study – Mira Kensington (alias)

When one ascends the winding staircase on the north end of the Queen Victoria Building, one will be greeted at the top of those stairs by the very grand and very regal Tea Room. Instantly enthralled by its old-world elegance, visitors are tempted to stay and indulge.



And managing this prestigious establishment is Mira Kensington. She confronts customers daily, both over the phone and face to face, and can have even the most troublesome guests leave satisfied. Mira can have them “eating out of her hand”, and she owes it all to her charisma, tolerance and affinity with customers. It is this, and her superb organisation and management that has lifted the Tea Room from its starting point almost eleven years ago to the place it is today.

Being a mother of two, Mira Kensington knows all about the importance of balancing work and a family life. Having to take care of two children has an enormous impact on her work, but she also says that it is much easier now that they are older.

But although her family continues to have a huge influence over her work, they are not complete strangers to it either. In fact, it was family that led Mira into her current job. Her brother owns the entire business, and what began as help grew into the management position she has today. Family members also drop in to work every now and then, so not only does Mira's family have an influence, they have a role as well.

She enjoys it much more compared to her previous occupations as well. Being directly involved in the decision making is preferable to Mira, as opposed to working as a small part of a large and complex corporation. In fact, she has plans to continue in hospitality, and is determined to make her brother's business succeed, achieving to the best of her ability. Mira knows that it can also be left as a legacy for the next generation to inherit, if they wish.

Although Mira Kensington enjoys her working days in the luxury of her office, she knows that there is still much work to be done, regardless of which part of hospitality she partakes in. “Be prepared to work hard,” she says.

By Amy Li

Green Corner



Clean Up Australia Day 2012

On the 15th and the 16th of March approximately 60 students volunteered their time to “Clean Up Australia”. The event had been rescheduled due to rain but fortunately our postponed date was one of the sunnier days of this month.



On day 1, armed with gardening gloves and rubbish bags and in good spirits we cleaned the full length of the footpaths of the 4 roads forming the perimeter of the school.

On day 2 the clean-up group marched down the road to clean up Hogben Park.



Overall, about 26 bags were filled and some got quite heavy. We picked up countless cigarette butts, McDonald's wrappers, plastic bottles, tissues, Woolworths catalogues, a lot of pathetic pieces of foam and paper – even a ceramic plate!

Both clean-ups were a great success and a worthwhile effort. Fingers crossed, the areas stay reasonably clean for a while and a big thank you to everyone who came long as well as Ms Duffy and Ms Jones for supervising.



Everyone who participated will be receiving a “Clean Up Australia Day” certificate as well as a school service certificate.

Also the Enviro Club purchased four Clean Up Australia Day Caps. All participants went into a draw.

The lucky winners are:

1. Irina Tyan 8E
2. Raisa Islam 10B
3. Alison Cheng 11A
4. Ellene Win 10E

By Amelia Mertha
Year 11

Earth Hour



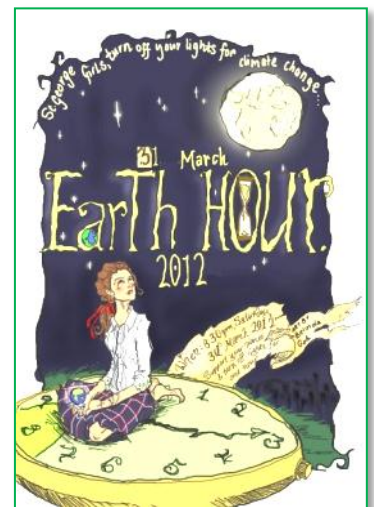
Not just an hour.....

St George Girls High School participated in the Ausgrid Earth Hour schools competition which commenced on 26 March and will run through until the end of week 2 of term 2.

The actual Earth Hour event was held on Saturday 26 March 2012.

With the cost of power \$\$\$\$\$\$ as well as the carbon footprint we should all assess our wasteful use of power.

So what will you do to reduce your carbon footprint?



Art by Belinda Goh



Parents and Citizens' Association

Firstly, a big thank you to **Ms Aspin**, Technology Coordinator for her guided tour of the school's ICT facilities plus a highly entertaining presentation on the school website, the school intranet and other features, such as Google Analytics that can indicate the range of countries from where the website is accessed – quite incredible really! Our girls are very lucky to have this ICT network at their disposal 24/7 and teachers such as Ms Aspin to support and enhance their learning.

Our first **fundraiser BBQ** held at Bunnings Rockdale on Sunday 25 March was very successful, raising well over \$1200 for our students. As always, the event was expertly coordinated by Ms Annie Hong and well supported by our many parent and student volunteers (see *attached photos*). Thank you everyone! Our next fundraiser BBQ is planned for Sunday **19 August** with a third proposed for late October/early November (TBA).

*** **More fundraising news** the **Sydney Entertainment™ Book 2012-2013** is now available and has an exciting addition this year ... the new *Wish Card* offer which will allow EB Members the opportunity to save 5% EVERY TIME they shop at Woolworths, Big W, Dan Murphy's, Woolworths/Caltex Petrol Stations and more !! (see *attached flyer*) ***

The next P&C meeting will be held on **Thursday 26 April 2012** in the Staff Common Room at 7pm (this is immediately after Anzac Day). For parents new to the school, please park in Victoria Street and enter the school via the front gate. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available prior to the meeting.

Our guest speaker for the meeting will be **Ms Castle**, Head Teacher Technological and Applied Studies (TAS).

For the Diary: The 2012 combined P&C meeting with Sydney Tech P&C will be held on Thursday 24 May 2012 in our Staff Common Room (7pm).

(Please see the attached flyer for details, including our guest speaker).

We look forward to meeting you at Thursday's meeting, especially parents of Year 7 and 11.

Michael Costello President 0408 195 739	Mark Yan Secretary 0410 665 198	Aparna Hegde Treasurer 9385 1569
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Mothers' Committee

Last Meeting – Wednesday 4 April

Thank you to Ms Leto, Relieving Head Teacher TAS for attending our meeting as Guest Speaker and Ms Knott, school principal, for providing the committee with a regular update on what has been happening around the school.

The annual *Mother Daughter Dinner* will be held on Saturday 5 May at the Georges River Sailing Club and the theme for this year's dinner is **Princesses**. The Committee extends a warm invitation to all the girls of SGGHS to bring your mother, sister or grandmother to join in a wonderful school tradition to celebrate Mothers' Day. The information flyer and ticket purchase slip are included in the Gazette and ticket sales will close on Tuesday 1 May. The venue caters for a limited number of guests, so please purchase your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

The Mothers' Committee is also asking for donations to make up assorted baskets and gift hampers to be raffled on the evening and all donations will be accepted by the school office. All funds raised from the evening are returned to the school, so your support is greatly appreciated.

Uniform Shop News

The changeover to Winter Uniform will occur on Monday 21 May 2012. So now is the time to come into the shop and get your Winter Uniform.

The uniform shop will have a special opening on Saturday 12 May from 9.30am to 11.00am prior to winter changeover. Payment is by cash or cheque only. (No EFTPOS facilities.)

The Uniform Shop is also open every Wednesday at lunchtime during term from 12.45pm to 2pm.

The Blazer is an optional item for all girls in Years 7–12 and is priced at \$165. The red school scarf is also available for \$10. Both items are especially suitable for travelling to school on chilly mornings.

The Mothers' Committee always meets the first Wednesday of the month (except during school holidays).

New members are always welcome. Our meetings are very informal and provide a great opportunity to be involved with the school community, meet other parents and find out what is happening at school from the Principal and Guest Speakers.

Involvement with the Mothers' Committee is a rewarding and worthwhile experience, should you be able to reschedule or take a couple of hours out from your work or other commitments and come to our meetings.

Next Meeting – Wednesday 2 May at 10am in the Library

Lisa Tulau President 0407 007 211	Maria Radcliffe Treasurer 9533 5303	Donna Kwong Secretary 0407 319 222
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St Georgians

Our Annual Reunion Luncheon – open to all ex-students of St George, as well as former staff – is almost upon us. We will meet again at the St George Leagues Club, at noon on Saturday 28 April. Invitations have gone out to our members and replies are coming in. If you have a friend, relative or neighbour who came to St George, be sure to tell her to contact us about attending. Our reunions are lots of fun, and we amuse the staff with our loud rendition of the school song. Trust the jolly girls!

We are also embarking on a project to collect small reminiscences for our archives, with a view towards the 100 year anniversary coming up in 2016. We'd like a small piece with some memories of St George Girls High. A favourite class, a beloved teacher, a small vignette of a day in the life of a St Georgian at school. Even a terrible day – did you ever get into Big Trouble?? Future generations want to know. If you would like to pen a small story, we'd love to hear from you. Convince your former St Georgian family and friends to do it too! You can email us at TheStGeorgians@hotmail.com, or contact us on the numbers below.

The St Georgians meet in Room 5, at 7:00pm on the fourth Thursday of each month during school term.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, 26 April. We are always keen to meet new members, and look forward to seeing you there!

Pam Appleby
President
9587 0355
(after 6pm)

Diana Renton
Treasurer
9580 3282

Melissa George
Secretary
9522 2527
(after 6pm)

From the Finance Office ...

- All excursion fees will be accepted at any time up until the payment due date, but will not be accepted **after** due dates.
- All excursions **must** have signed permission notes attached to the **outside** of the payment envelope.
- The preferred method of payment is by credit card or EFTPOS.
- School Contributions will be accepted by the Finance Office at any time.



UNIVERSITY OF
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Health Psychology Unit

Managing HSC Stress Program

The Higher School Certificate can be stressful for many students. However there are things that you can do to get through Years 11 and 12 with less stress and reduce the impact that stress has on your academic performance.

The UTS Health Psychology Unit has been running **Managing HSC Stress** programs for many years now and is pleased to be able to offer this program again in **Term 2 2012**.



The **Managing HSC Stress** program is a group program that assists students to better manage the stress of the HSC by teaching a broad range of skills that can be helpful in any stressful situation. Students also have the opportunity to learn from and assist each other.

The program can also be useful for students who are struggling with anxiety, low self-esteem or low mood.

When?	Tuesday afternoon 8 th May, 15 th May, 22 nd May, 29 th May
Time?	4 – 5.30pm <i>Afternoon tea will be provided.</i>
Where?	Health Psychology Unit Ground Floor, 174 Pacific Highway St Leonards <i>The Health Psychology Unit is a 5-10 minute walk from St Leonards train station. Buses 252 and 290 stop right out the front. Metered & time-limited street parking is available in surrounding streets.</i>
Cost?	\$90.00 (\$22.50 per session) <i>Private Health Insurance may apply.</i>
Register?	Registration is essential as numbers are limited. To register call 9514 4077 or email Health.Psychology@uts.edu.au



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Where?	Health Psychology Unit Ground Floor, 174 Pacific Highway St Leonards <i>The Health Psychology Unit is a 5-10 minute walk from St Leonards train station. Buses 252 and 290 stop right out the front. Metered & time-limited street parking is available in surrounding streets.</i>
Cost?	\$90.00 for 4 weeks <i>Private Health Insurance may apply.</i>
Register?	Registration is essential as numbers are limited. To register call 9514 4077 or email Health.Psychology@uts.edu.au

Personal Details & Payment

Name: _____	Payment method
Age: ____ Year at School: ____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque, payable to the Foundation for Life Sciences
Address: _____	OR charge my <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Email: _____	Amount: \$ _____
Student phone: _____	Card Number: _____
Parent name: _____	Expiry date: ____ / ____ / ____ (MM / YYYY)
Parent phone: _____	Card holders name: _____
	Card holders signature: _____

☐ Please tick here if you plan to claim a rebate from your private health insurer.



Coming Events

Monday 23 April	School Development Day, Staff Only
Tuesday 24 April	Students Return ANZAC Day Observance Gazette issued school website
Wednesday 25 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Thursday 26 April	Parents and Citizens' Association Meeting, Staff Common Room, 7pm St Georgians Meeting, Room 5, 7pm
Friday 27 April	Year 7 Sports Expo, School Gym, 8.45am – 11am Years 11 and 12, Careers Excursion, UTS Broadway, 8.30am – 3.15pm Knockout Cricket, Port Hacking HS, 9am – 3pm
Saturday 28 April	St Georgians, Annual Reunion Luncheon
Monday 30 April	Year 12 Modern History Lecture Day, City, 9am – 2.30pm
Tuesday 1 May	Athletics Carnival FUTSUL Regional Championships, Marrickville, 9am – 4pm
Wednesday 2 May	Mothers' Committee Meeting, Library, 10am FUTSUL Regional Championships, Marrickville, 9am – 4pm
Wednesday 2 May – Thursday 3 May	Year 7 Assessment Day
Wednesday 2 May – Friday 4 May	Year 11 Camp
Thursday 3 May	Year 12 Drama Excursion, Sydney Theatre Company, 11.30am – 3.10pm
Saturday 5 May	Mother Daughter Dinner, Dolls Point, 6.30pm
Wednesday 9 May – Thursday 10 May	Year 8 Assessment Day
Saturday 12 May	Uniform Shop Open, 9.30am – 11am
Monday 14 May	Year 12 Reports issued.
Tuesday 15 May	NAPLAN Bloodbank
Wednesday 16 May	NAPLAN
Thursday 17 May	NAPLAN
Friday 18 May	Year 9 Assessment Day Year 10 Assessment Day Bloodbank
Monday 21 May	Commencement of Winter Uniform

It is important that payment for excursions is made to the Finance Office prior to the payment deadline