

From The Principal ...

School improvement is a continuous process, centred on maximising learning outcomes for all students and strives for the best possible environment that promotes wellbeing and connectedness. School improvement is grounded in rigorous self-assessment and analysis of our school's current situation with respect to student outcomes, teaching and leadership practices. In 2020, the school conducted numerous surveys to gain insight and input from various stakeholders. These included two student surveys, one staff survey and a parent survey. In addition to this, thorough analysis of student data and collection of evidence from various sources have all contributed to an analysis of our current position as a large comprehensive public high school. This all contributes to the development of a Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) 2021-2024. The SIP has up to 3 strategic directions and associated improvement measures which form the basis of each planning cycle. One of these strategic directions for all public schools in NSW must be 'Student growth and attainment'. The remaining strategic directions are developed by each school to reflect and respond to their unique context. The school's three strategic directions are currently in draft form and will be consolidated toward the end of this term. The draft strategic directions will be presented for consultation at the next P&C meeting on Tuesday 2nd March. They are being developed in response to the input and evidence gathered in 2020.



Student Surveys – Tell Them From Me and School Based survey

The following was identified through student survey as strengths of the school:

- Grounds and facilities
- Positive relationships with teachers and/other students
- Library
- The teachers care
- Extracurricular options and activities
- Toilets and changerooms

The following was identified through student survey as areas for improvement:

- More all-weather areas to sit with proper seating
- More interesting lessons from some teachers
- More consistent discipline and rules in the class room

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From The Principal continued ...

- Too many assignments and tasks on the same day/week
- More programs/ activities to support mental health
- Facility improvements including furniture in some class rooms, the walkways, cover for the bike rack, shade at the bus bay and further improvements for the farm

Parent Survey – term 4 2020

The following was identified through parent survey as the main areas of strength:

- The positive and caring nature of staff
- Welfare support and programs
- Learning support and programs
- School leadership and collaboration
- School grounds and facilities

The following was identified through parent survey as the main areas for improvement:

- More frequent communication between teachers and parents regarding the learning progress of their child
- Whilst the majority 'do a good job' the quality of instruction by some teachers needs improvement
- Some staff need to strengthen their student discipline and class management techniques
- More programs and support for mental health

The points listed above were the most common themes of feedback. There were other individual comments and feedback that are still noted and considered in planning but were not commonly expressed from respondents.

As we engage in this development cycle, I look forward to working with our students, staff and community in planning for the future at Crestwood High School.

Therese Hourigan



From The Deputy Principal ...

It's the end of week four at Crestwood High School and already the pace has quickened. Last week Year 12 spent a very successful week at Jindabyne Sport and Recreation camp. This camp is normally conducted during Term 2 of Year 11. The centre piece of the week was their involvement in a 25 hour course called 'Life Ready'. This course provides Stage 6 students with the knowledge and ability to make good decisions based on relevant and accurate information. Year 12 participated in a range of outdoor activities finishing with a walk to the top of Mount Kosciusko. After a year of limited activity and social gatherings the camp was a great chance to reconnect. A huge thank you to Mr Lloyd and the dedicated team of teachers who went. Next up is the Year 7 camp in week 6 of this term at Stanwell Tops. Year 11 are in early Term 2 and in Term 4 Year 9. The camp program is without doubt a highlight of the school year.



The health and resilience of our school community is very much reflected in the wellbeing of our students. The last 12 months has been particularly difficult with a range of challenges to be faced by schools and their communities. At Crestwood High School we actively encourage all students to work towards being the best they can be. However, just like the rest of our community we all need to seek help on occasion. The NSW Government provides a range of services which can be accessed. At school, whilst our Year Advisors and Counsellor work to assist, they are well supported by a range of services that families can access at any time. Think about the screen time that students are being exposed to and work towards more physical exercise. Work with your student to keep their diet reasonably balanced. Have a look at the student wellbeing site hosted by the Department of Education to gain a better understanding of some of the resources that are available.



<https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/counselling-and-psychology-services>

Parent Teacher nights and other school /community events will be problematic this year. Until the Covid Pandemic fades Crestwood will continue to apply health protocols as required by the NSW Department of Health. If you come to school please come through reception and register there with the schools QR code. The uniform shop is open on Thursday mornings and by appointment, however, we will continue to monitor and record community members on site.

Last week Mr Groth wrote about programs such as the Duke Of Edinburgh Award program which is one of many opportunities that are available to our students. I encourage all to make the most of every opportunity both in and out of the class room. This year I'll be looking after Year 7, 9 and 11 and so will be looking to encourage them to get involved in as much as they can. As with life the more your student puts into their time at Crestwood the more they will get out of it.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY DAY – THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

On Thursday 25th February all students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 will have individual photographs taken and collated into a **digital split photo**. Students in Year 12, SRC and the Support Unit will be photographed both **individually** and in a **group** photo. The photographs include the names of all students.

Please note that:

- All students have been given an envelope. Spare envelopes may be obtained from the library.
- You may choose to pay **online** or via the envelope by Photography Day.
- If you wish to order online, go to:
www.advancedlife.com.au and use the online code:
3R8 NLT 6XX
- Please indicate clearly – **Name and Year Group**.
- If using the envelope system where a family has more than one student at the school, separate envelopes will be required. The money, however, may be placed in the eldest student's envelope with a suitable notation.
- If a **group photo of all siblings** attending school is required, students are asked to come and collect a family photo envelope from the Library. **This must be paid online by Wednesday 24th February.**
- You may choose from a number of different packages (see envelope for details).
- If you are not completely satisfied with any of the photographs, the company guarantees to refund any money paid on the return of the photographs (see envelope for details).
- **These are formal school photos. Full school uniform is required for all photographs. Students are not to wear excessive jewellery or makeup. Hair should be neat and tidy.**
- All students will be photographed (both group and individual), regardless of payment, for student identification cards.



Student Photo Identification Cards

All students will have individual **Student Photo Identification cards** produced. These will include the student's name, year, date of birth and library bar code and may be used by students as a 'proof of age' card outside of school.

Replacement cards ordered after school photo day will cost \$8.00. Please contact the library in the case of lost cards.

- There will be another session of photographs being taken on Friday 5th March 2021 for those students who were absent.
- **Any Year 12 student who is absent on both days will need to supply the school with individual passport photos for HSC identification.**

SRC NEWS

Valentine's Day 2021

Crestwood High School's Student Representative Council (SRC) have successfully completed their first fundraiser for 2021. Students worked together to raise money for the Cancer Council through the selling of Valentine's Day Roses. The lead up, preparation and delivery of over 400 roses to students and staff would not have been possible without the collective efforts of the whole SRC team. Year 12 SRC members were able to provide valuable mentoring and modelling to the rest of SRC throughout week 2, which paved the way for success. With Year 12 SRC away on camp in week 3, it provided opportunity for Year 11 and junior SRC representatives to step up and ensure the smooth running of the event. This consisted of selling roses at recess and lunch, developing advertisement posters for around the school and social media as well as the packaging of roses and sorting them into homeroom piles for distribution.



SRC would like to personally thank SASS staff for their assistance in counting money and keeping records, Ms Tanya Costello in the print room for all the printing of tags and posters, Mr Daniel Train (GA) for assistance in setting up the store, the numerous students outside of SRC who volunteered to assist in preparing roses, and the English Faculty for the use of their learning space. The success of the event has meant Crestwood SRC have raised over \$1000 for the Cancer Council. The SRC would finally like to thank students and staff for their support of the event and contributions to the aforementioned charity. SRC hopes to return with another fundraising event later in the term to raise more money for the Cancer Council.

CRESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL



SRC NEWS

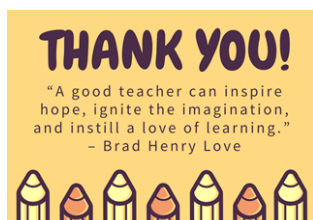
SRC – Crestwood Staff Appreciation



In 2021, SRC is working under a *Mind Kind* focus with efforts to support wellbeing of students and staff at Crestwood High School. The SRC recognises the importance of staff members, as they are valued professionals in our school who make learning successful. SRC have decided to spotlight 5 staff every two weeks to recognise their valuable contributions to student learning and wellbeing. Staff are nominated by each SRC grade. To show appreciation, staff chosen will receive a small token of thanks and be highlighted in the SRC section of the newsletter. Due to the overwhelming responses from SRC in this first issue, SRC have decided to recognise and show appreciation for 8 staff members.

Term 1 Week 4 – SRC Staff Appreciation

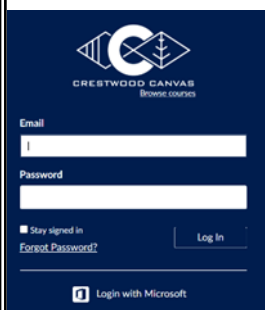
Ms Tanya Costello	Ms Costello can be found in the office. She is a member of the SASS team who assists to print school notes and resources.
Mr Anthony Davis	Mr Davis can be found in the TAS staffroom and is the Student Advisor for Year 8.
Mr Mathew Bennett	Mr Bennett can be found in the Maths staffroom.
Mr Bohan Yu	Mr Yu can be found in the Maths staffroom.
Ms Sharon Butson	Ms Butson can be found working at the canteen. She also assists in running the uniform shop.
Mr Christopher Lloyd	Mr Lloyd can be found in the Maths staffroom. He is the Head Teacher of the Maths faculty. He also is the Camp Coordinator, in charge of sound and lighting and the website manager for Crestwood High School.
Mr Joel Palmer	Mr Palmer can be found in the TAS faculty. He is the Student Adviser for Year 9.
Mrs Louise Clement	Mrs Clement can be found in the Support Unit Faculty.



Canvas Learning Management System at Crestwood High School

We are currently working through implementing a new learning management (LMS) system across all faculties called Canvas. This system allows us to manage and deliver content, assignments and lessons online, and will eventually replace the existing platforms such as Google Classroom and Edmodo. This system synchronises with Sentral, automatically populating courses with students and parent contacts and allows staff to embed content from Education Perfect. It allows students to complete worksheets, quizzes and assignments and submit them through the Turn-it-In plagiarism software, all within the Canvas environment. Canvas will provide us with one system for digital online delivery, negating the need for multiple logins, passwords, class codes and learning platforms.

Our staff have undergone training and continue to develop their understanding of the system. As a result, some staff members and faculties have begun delivering content using Canvas, whilst others are still developing their skills and are creating engaging and meaningful content that will be published to students in near future.



You may have received an email informing you that an assignment or task has been posted, accompanied by a request to log in to Canvas. The parent/guardian (called an Observer in Canvas) function is an aspect of the system we are still developing our understanding of. As a result, we have decided to temporarily disable this function until we develop a deeper understanding of this aspect of Canvas. We recognise that this is

a powerful function for parents/guardians and will enable it when we can inform parents on the use of this aspect of the system.

All students will by now be using Canvas in at least one subject and most will be accessing content in multiple subjects. In the meantime, it may be beneficial that you have a conversation with your child about Canvas and have a look at how they are using the system at school.

Mr Matthew Smith

Head Teacher- Technology Futures

P&C Update— February

We held our first meeting for the year last week and it was fantastic to see so many people attending, including quite a few new faces.



Our **next P&C meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd March at 7pm in the main staffroom.** As part of the agenda, we will begin discussing how to best allocate the considerable P&C funds to projects in the school. In the past the P&C has helped with funding air conditioning, smart boards and data projectors, industrial technology benches, upgrading the TAS kitchen and refurbishing flexible learning spaces. If you would like to be part of these discussions and decision-making process, we encourage you to attend the next meeting which will also include the AGM.

Our P&C dates for this year are as follows:

<u>Term 1</u>	<u>Term 2</u>	<u>Term 3</u>	<u>Term 4</u>
9th February	4th May	3rd August	5th October
2nd March (AGM)	1st June	7th September	2nd November

Any enquiries for the P&C can be sent to crestwoodhighschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

STUDENT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The statement of accounts were emailed home to families this week.

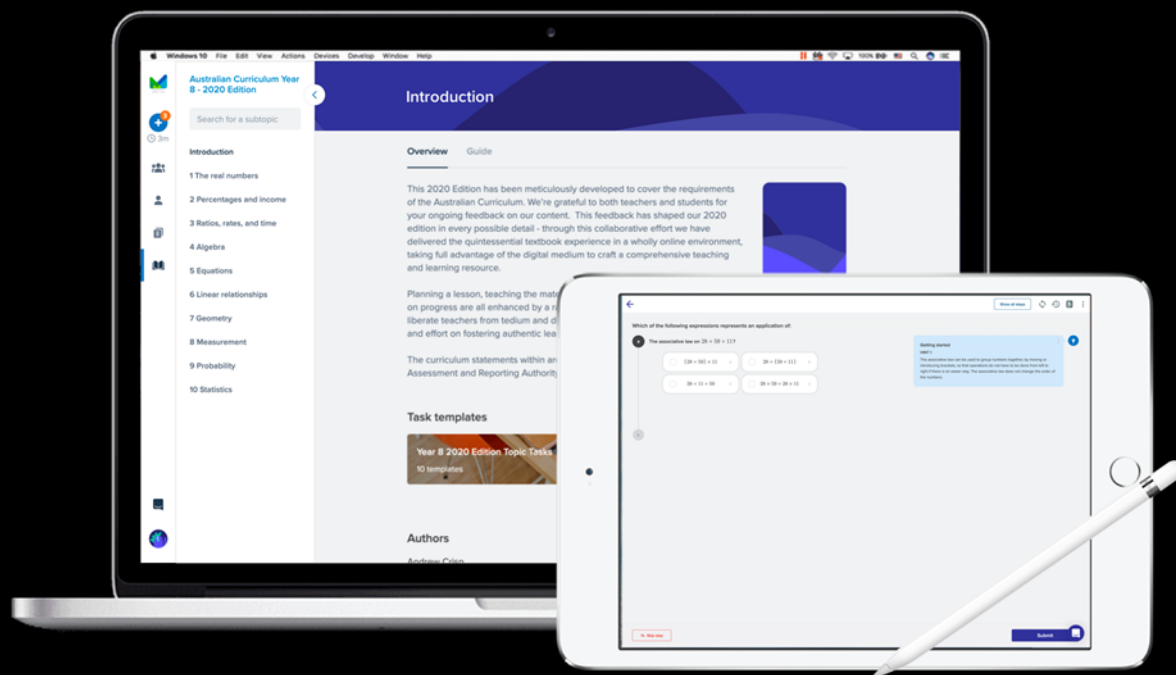
To make a payment please head to the Crestwood High School website—

<https://crestwood-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/> and click on the 'Make a Payment' tab at the top of the page.

If you did not receive your Statement of Account, or have any questions, please contact Olivia Coyne, the Administration Manager at the school.

Mathematical Musings

The Mathematics faculty are making use of the online program Mathspace again this year to provide additional practice and support to our students. Teachers may be using this for in class or homework tasks. Students are encouraged to utilise this resource to find further revision questions or as an online textbook with explanations of content.



Homework club, which is run Monday lunchtimes in Room 32, will be commencing from Week 5. Each session will be supervised by a member of the Mathematics faculty to provide additional support to our students completing their homework or who require further explanation of a concept.

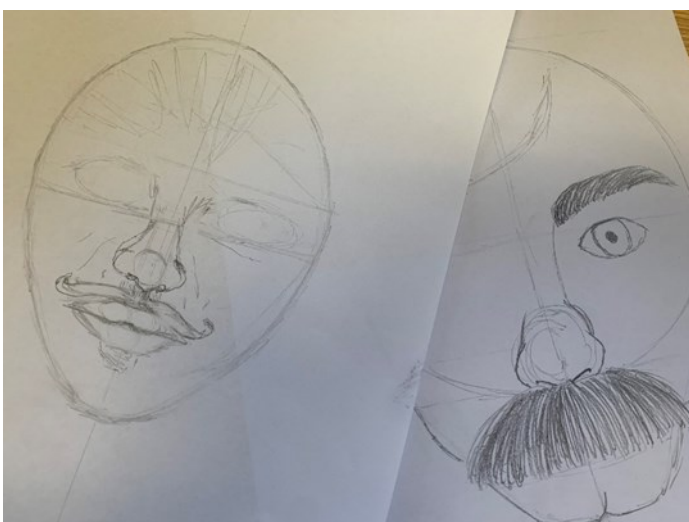


For any parents out there wanting finally to have a sure fire way of winning board games against their children, here is an excellent video on how to Win Guess Who 96% of the time!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FRlbNOno5VA>



This term in English, Year 8 has the pleasure of reading and creating dystopian worlds. Within such a unit, students are exposed to the current ongoings of their world and are called to reflect on their social, political, and personal surroundings. Tackling such ideas as the morality of utopian



or dystopian ideologies, Year 8 is expanding their understanding of their wider world and actively taking steps in being active members of their world.

8ENR recently completed a writing exercise that allowed them to reflect on whether the concept of 'utopia' can ever actually exist, we discussed the extreme states of both utopias and dystopias and how each can be seen positively and negatively. Students were then encouraged to

reflect on what constitutes an ideal world and what their ideal world may look like, and what conflicts this could cause.

We have further been exposing the students to a plethora of dystopian works such as George Orwell's 1984, Suzanne Collins The Hunger Games, and Aldous Huxley's Brave New World. 8ENR had a focus lesson on descriptive writing within 1984 and drew the descriptions given allowing them to understand the importance of descriptive writing when world building. Many students chose to draw the 'big brother' poster which allowed for an in-depth discussion about the power of descriptive writing in creating a clear and distinguished image.

It has been lovely to see young minds begin thinking about their own beliefs, their values, and what has shaped them and seeing students engage in active and passionate discussions about relevant issues. Students have been actively engaged and ready to participate in these intelligent and complex discussions.



HSIE Happenings

This fortnight in History...

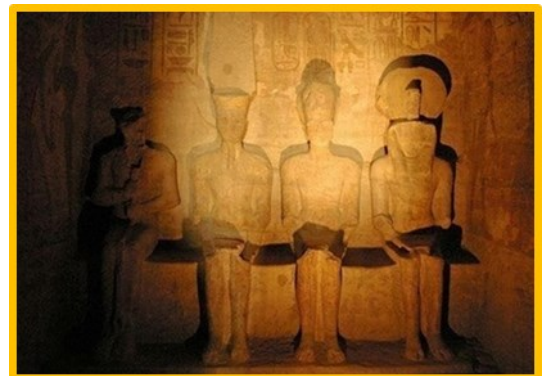
20 Feb, 1962 – Astronaut John Glenn becomes the 1st American launched into orbit. Travelling aboard 'Friendship 7' spacecraft, he completes 3 orbits in a flight lasting just under 5 hours. This successful flight was followed by President John F. Kennedy's call to land an American on the moon before the decade's end.

The movie *Hidden Figures* is based off this historic event.



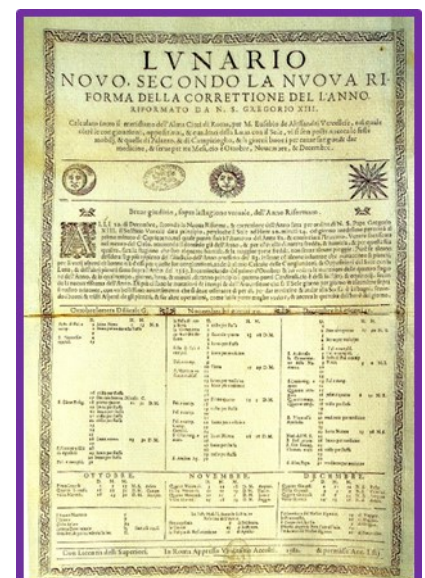
21 Feb 1916 - The Battle of Verdun begins on the Western Front, lasting until 18 December, 1916; making it the longest single battle of WW1.

22 Feb - 'Festival of the Sun' at Abu Simbel (Ancient Egyptian temple) – the temple was designed so that on 22 February and 22 October, the rays of the sun would penetrate the sanctuary at the very end of the temple and illuminate the sculptures on the back wall, except for the statue of Ptah who always remained in the dark.



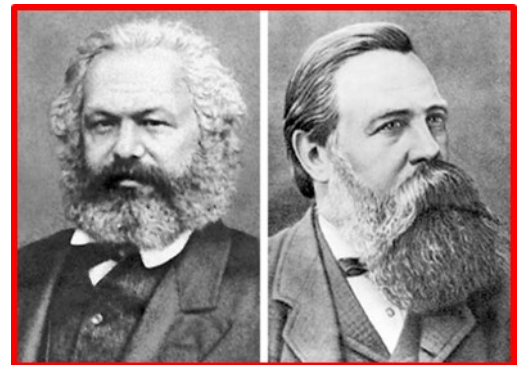
22 Feb 1928 – 1st solo flight from England to Australia lands in Darwin, 15 ½ hours after take-off.

24 Feb 1582 – The Gregorian calendar, or New Style calendar, is created by Pope Gregory XIII (this is the calendar we currently use to organise time and dating).



HSIE Happenings

26 Feb 1606 – 1st known European landing in Australia by Dutch navigator William Jansz at Pennefather River, Cape York, Northern Australia.



26 Feb 1848 – The *Communist Manifesto* pamphlet was published by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. This document has had a monumental effect on Modern World History, forming the basis of ideologies and government system around the world, including China and the former Soviet Union.



26 Feb 1991 - Tim Berners-Lee introduces WorldWide-Web, the first internet browser.

1 March 1961 – President John F Kennedy establishes the Peace Corps. An organisation sending young US volunteers to developing countries to assist with health care, education and other basic human needs.



1 March 1975 – Colour television transmissions begin in Australia.

2 March 1965 - Operation Rolling Thunder commences; an aerial bombardment campaign conducted against North Vietnam during the Vietnam War, from 2/3/65 until 2/11/68.

HSIE Happenings

4 March 1804 – The Battle of Vinegar Hill. Irish convicts from Rouse Hill lead the Australian colony's only significant convict uprising.

For more information on the Battle of Vinegar Hill, visit:

National Museum of Australia website...

<https://www.nma.gov.au/defining-moments/resources/castle-hill-rebellion>

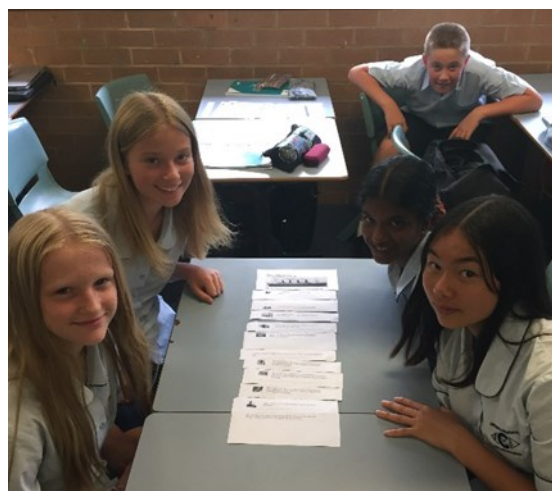
or visit the memorial at **Castlebrook Memorial Park, Rouse Hill:**



Year 8 History...

Year 8 have having been learning key foundational historical concepts including counting in centuries, chronological order and timelines.

Below, 8H sorting out (in chronological order) the Titanic's sinking.



HSIE Happenings

Year 11 Modern History...

Year 11 Modern History are currently studying the assassination of US President John F. Kennedy. The topic involves students assessing the evidence in order to contest and construct the historical narrative. As part of their analysis of the evidence, the class recreated the assassination in order to investigate whether a bolt action rifle (in our case a wooden prop) could reload and fire the supposed number of shots in the supposed time frame from the actual event.

We had the presidential motorcade 'drive' along the 'road' (which included two secret servicemen, Governor Connally of Texas and his wife, President Kennedy and his wife Jackie Kennedy) and Lee Harvey Oswald up on the 6th level of the Texas School Book Depository ready to assassinate the President. Students timed each other's firing time.



HSIE Happenings

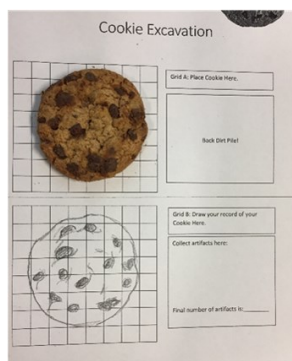
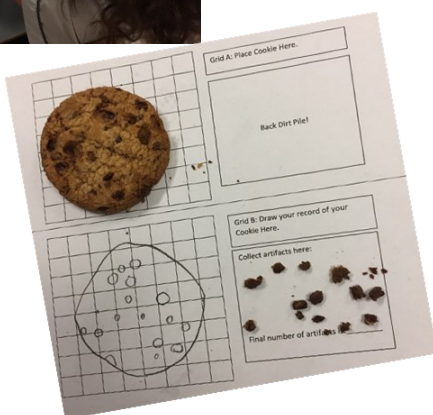
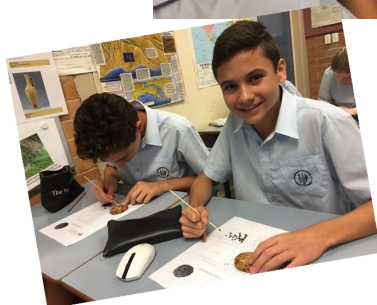
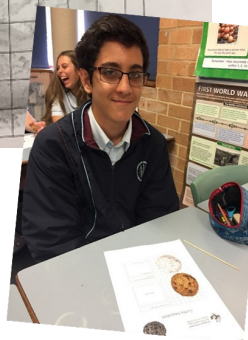
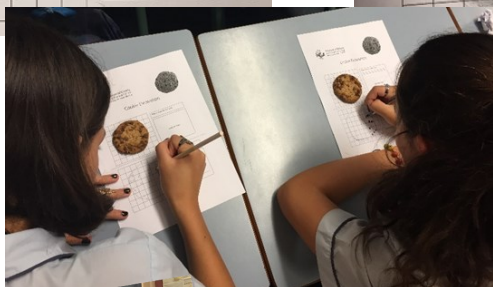
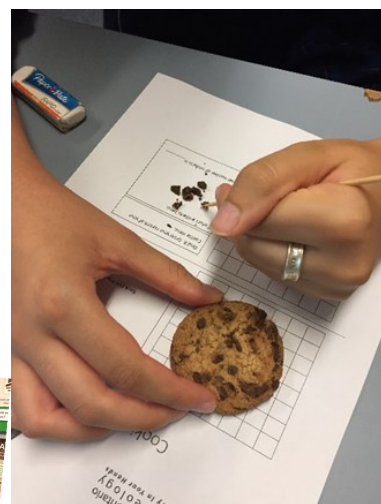
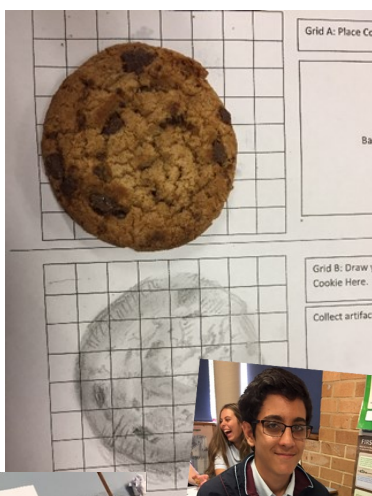
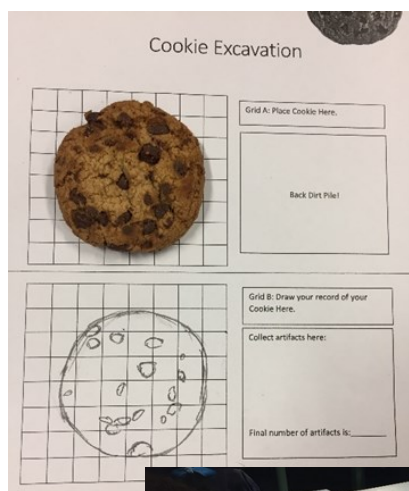


HSIE Happenings

Year 9 History Elective...

History Elective are currently investigating what History as a discipline is. This week, they have studied archaeology and the process of excavating artefacts from sites.

Students were given the task to excavate artefacts (chocolate chips) from the soil (cookie) using a pick (skewer). Before commencing, students had to draw a sketch of the site. All students agreed by the end of the activity that in order to be an archaeologist, takes great patience and a lot of attention!



HSIE Happenings

Year 9 Geography...

An excursion to Long Reef Beach, Collaroy has been organised for Year 9 Geography students to collect data for an investigative study. **This excursion meets the mandatory fieldwork requirements of the Geography course.**

Students will work towards achieving syllabus outcomes for the topic ***Environmental Change and Management***. This excursion allows students to investigate coastal processes and examine the effects of human development & the process of storm erosion on sand dunes. They will undertake an investigation into management strategies to address these issues.

FULL SCHOOL SPORTS UNIFORM is required.

Date: Friday, 19th March, 2021

Permission note & payment are to be returned by **Monday 8th March, 2021.**

Please refer to the excursion note for further details.



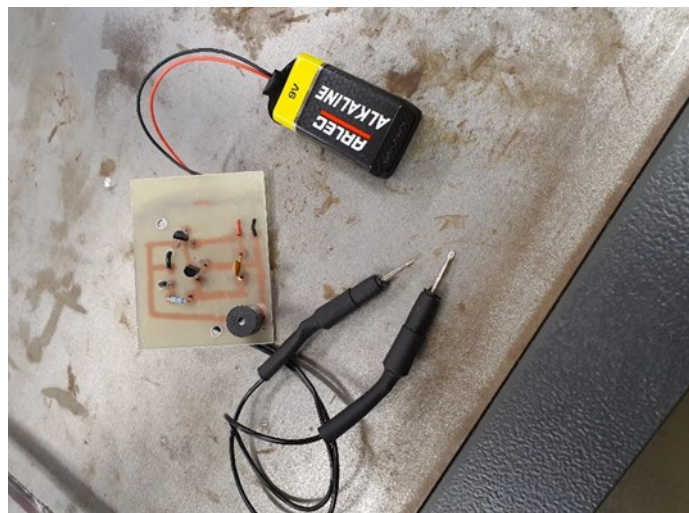
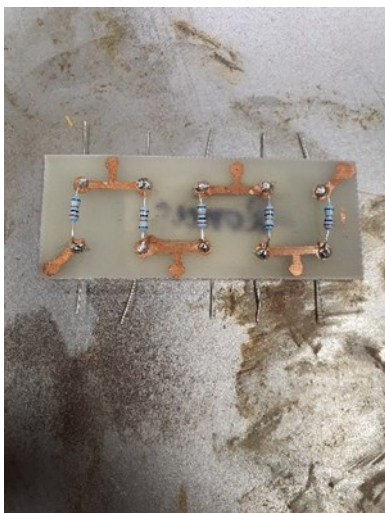
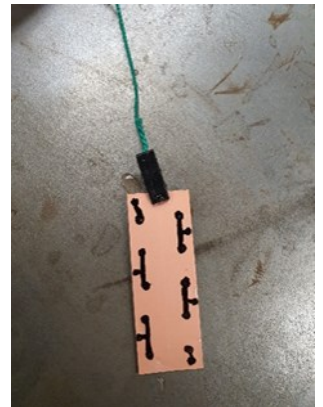
Talented Football Program



TAS TIMES

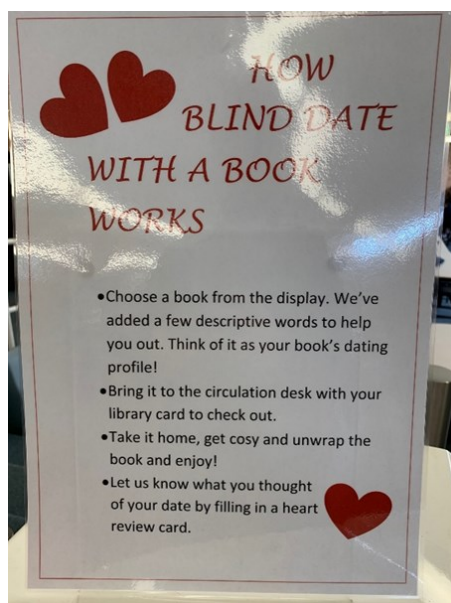
Year 9 Electronics have hit the ground running, working hard on the completion of multiple introductory projects. Industrial Technology is very practical skills driven and this has suited many within the class. The first activity they completed was a simple series circuit that included a 9V battery, resistor and an LED light. This project gave students the opportunity to develop an understanding of electron flow, as any component soldered in the wrong direction would lead to an incomplete circuit. It also gave them a chance to learn the importance of tight clean joins and correct heat in the soldering process.

Students have also worked on the construction of a resistance bridge. This is an important project, as it gives the students the opportunity to etch copper PCB board and make their own circuit boards. The end product helps students calculate the value of resistors and how to add their values in series circuits. With these new skills complete, students are now going to move onto the construction of a continuity tester. They can use this to test circuits for their future projects. They will also be constructing a proximity alarm by the conclusion of Semester 1.



The Latest from the Library

Love was in the air in the lead up to Valentine's Day, and there were a lot of students falling for books in the library! There was a "Blind Date With a Book" program, and the responses were enough to warm a heart made of stone.



Students were filled with high hopes, anticipation, trepidation, and curiosity as they selected and unwrapped their books, with only a few key words to guide them in their selection. As is often the case with blind dates, there were a few mismatches, several tepid reactions, and some powerful connections made. There's nothing quite as magical as watching the chemistry develop between two new friends!



Canteen and Canteen Committee News

- A warm welcome to our new volunteers who have now had their first day on canteen duty and to those who will be joining our team in the coming weeks.
- Our special thanks to those who contacted us to become volunteers in response to reading the last Infoline. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!
- We still however have vacancies on our roster to fill. Currently we are seeking volunteer helpers on the 1st and 3rd Mondays, 2nd Tuesday, most Wednesdays and the 4th and 5th Thursdays of the month to work alongside another volunteer and our Daily Coordinator and Canteen Assistant on duty.
- Volunteering is a great way to meet other parents and school staff. Morning tea, lunch and lots of laughs provided in our large air-conditioned canteen. If anyone can spare a few hours between 10am and 1.30pm on any of these days please ring our friendly canteen staff on 9639 7422 Ext 117 or email the canteen at crestwoodhighschool-can@pandcaffiliate.org.au
- A reminder to all students new to our school that we do not have online lunch ordering.
- Students are advised to order their lunch either before school or at recess at the lunch order window. All you need to do is write your desired food and drink choices from the menu list available on the paper bag provided. Canteen staff will give you a numbered tag which you bring back to the same window at lunch time and hand into staff in exchange for your lunch order.
- Ordering your lunch is the best way to avoid disappointment and guarantee you get the food and drink of your choice before stocks are sold out by over-the-counter sales.
- If any parent is interested in becoming a member of the Canteen Committee please ring our Canteen Committee Convenor Brenda on 0437 991 202 or alternatively leave your details via the canteen phone number or email address above. We are a sub-committee of the school's P&C and meet once per term. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 23rd February at 6.30pm. Please ring either number above for venue details. New members always welcome.

SPORT NEWS

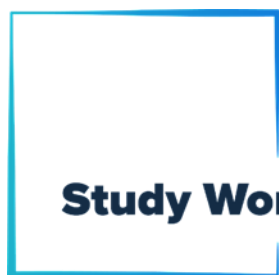
Crestwood students enjoying their Grade Sports and Recreational Sports activities in Week 4!





Electronic Careers Newsletter that Crestwood High School are linked to:

Sign up to receive your electronic careers newsletter with the information you want. Please sign up using your **personal email** rather than your DET one so you can keep getting information in Year 13. Parents can also sign up. Details on how below.



Study Work Grow

Study Work Grow

Website: www.studyworkgrow.com.au (Formerly: mhscareers)

School username: Crestwood

Password: **CRWHS19**

All students will need to resign up to this site as it has been revamped and your old passwords etc no longer exist (Years 11 – 12 & parents who previously sign up in the last 3 years)

&



www.jobjump.com.au

Click on purple button – I'm new (top right hand side)

School username: Crestwood (name will appear when you start typing)

Password: giraffe

UNIFORM SHOP

Hello from the Uniform Shop.

- Firstly, my apologies for the lack of sizes available in our Jacket line. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, it is taking longer to have them manufactured than we first thought and it seems we won't have size 16 in stock until the end of March and the Medium Jackets at a later date. Due to this we have decided to have a **clearance** of our Girls Cardigans and Uni-sex Jumpers.

*Cardigans are available in XXS, XS and Small. These cardigans are very soft and stretchy so worth a try on if you need a Medium size. **Selling for \$5.00 each.**

*Jumpers are available in size 10, 14 and 20 only. Our jumpers are made out of premium wool and are very warm. **Selling for \$20.00 each.** (Limited stock available).

- The Uniform Shop has been fortunate to receive a donation from **Kmart** of \$100.00 which we have used to buy Storage crates for our Storeroom. Thank you to **Kmart** for being so generous and to Mrs Debbie Duffy and Ms Deb Hatfield for making this happen.
- We currently have many Qkr! orders waiting in the Canteen for collection. After you make an order on Qkr! it will be processed the next Thursday and can be collected from either the Uniform Shop that recess or afterwards from the Canteen. Please have your child pick up their order as soon as possible.
- The Uniform Shop Committee would like to thank Mrs. Jenny McIntosh for joining our team of Volunteers. It was a pleasure working with you yesterday, thanks again Jenny. Also, Mrs Lourdes D'Costa and Mrs Hannah Ahn put in many hours yesterday in the very hot and heavy pursuit of organising our Storeroom using the donated Crates from Kmart. It is already looking so much more accessible. Thank you, ladies, you are amazing.
- The Uniform Shop is open every Thursday during the School term from 7:30am -11:00am.
- Email address is: crestwoodhighschool-uni@pandcaffiliate.org.au