



Moree Secondary College delivers a rich and innovative curriculum where students are known, valued and cared for. Central to the implementation of a variety of educational programs is educational excellence for every student. At Moree Secondary College we ignite and inspire students to reach their potential as life –long learners.

connected communities  
*link up and learn*

## FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Week 4, 2021

# Back into the Classroom



We are excited to be back in the Classroom with our students.

Above is Year 11 ESSK \_1 in the refurbished Albert St Library with  
Mrs McLaren exploring literacy.

*We acknowledge the Traditional owners and custodians of Australia's lands, peoples and waterways  
We respectfully acknowledge those that have gone before us*



## Learning and Engagement Centre (L&EC)

The L&EC was established in Term 3, 2020 with the Year 9 Cohort (current Year 10's) as a Priority of the NSW Premier to improve student engagement, attendance, retention and HSC attainment. The L&EC focuses on delivering quality strategic individualised support and activities that enhance students' learning outcomes.

Students started off the year setting the room up. Painting a large sign to welcome visitors, painting the walls, covering chairs and making their room a comfortable and welcoming learning space.

In Term 2, Year 10 students, the focus was on achieving the HSC Minimum Standards in reading, writing and numeracy. The L&EC team developed and provided individualised support for each student to ensure they work towards achieving each of the standards as early as possible in their path to working towards their HSC in 2023. Congratulations to the following students who achieved all three standards in their first attempt: Michaela Copeland, Maggie Craigie-Connors, Iky Davis, Tijari-Ann Tighe, Reese Boughton, Spike Clements, Maddison Denyer, Noah Humphries, Matthew Hutchins-Copping, Brody Read and Mackayla Ward-Hodges. For students who need to work on a few more skills to pass, the L&EC staff have developed personalised plans for them to work on these skills and will re-sit when again this term.

In Term 4, we are looking at some different engagement programs including; boys cultural program with our Senior Leader Community Engagement Jason Brown, weaving program with local woman Mona Fernando and art program with our very own, Shanny Smith. Stay tuned for pics to come.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Classroom Teacher, Mrs Sam Gaukroger for her support, particularly the writing program, for our students to reach the HSC Minimum Standards. Although you have only relocated to Carol Ave, we all miss you.



## MATHEMATICS & PDHPE/CAREERS NEWS

We welcome all students and staff to the beginning of the final term of 2021. It has been a challenging year especially due to the closures occasioned by COVID-19. We are here to help each other and especially to assist our students in getting through the 2021 courses and examinations. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to approach staff with any questions or clarifications they may need.

Students will be completing their Final Course Examinations at different stages this term. Due to the disruptions caused by COVID-19 closures, some assessment tasks were not able to be conducted in Term 3. As a result, students should be aware that some content and weighting of the Final Course Examinations may be different from what was originally issued to them.

In the Mathematics/PDHPE/Careers department, we welcome Mr Kane Douch, who will be taking the PDHPE, PASS, SLR and Sports classes that were previously taught by Mr Beasley. Additionally, Mrs Bethany Twartz will be taking the 7B class for their core subjects, including Mathematics and PDHPE, while Ms Gatt will be on leave. Ms Larissa Duncan, who has been in our faculty previously, also joins us, taking on 8Y PDHPE.

### Stage 6 Mathematics

#### Year 12

Year 12 students officially left school at the end of Term 3. However, students are encouraged to attend classes and see their teachers whenever possible in Term 4 in the lead-up to their HSC, which is scheduled to start on 9<sup>th</sup> November. Teachers will be available during timetabled lessons up until the HSC commences.

The Mathematics Advanced and Mathematics Standard 2 examinations are both on Monday morning 15<sup>th</sup> November. Both examinations have 10 minutes reading time. And will commence at 9.20 am with Standard 2 paper lasting 2.5 hours while the Advanced paper will last 3 hours.

Students are encouraged to borrow a spare calculator for the examination as **no equipment can be borrowed during the examination**. As well, students should have a ruler, pencil (2B), eraser, sharpener and at least two black pens. Students are also encouraged to use a highlighter.

#### Year 11

All Year 11 students have commenced Year 12 work. In Mathematics Standard and Mathematics Advanced, students are still completing Year 11 work, but this should be finished within the first few weeks of this term. Year 12 courses cannot be commenced until this work is finished.

Students will have their first assessment task in all subjects later this term. Mathematics Standard 2 will have an in-class examination which will be held on Friday 26.11.21 (Week 8) in Session 3. Mathematics Advanced will also have an in-class examination to be held on Friday 3.12.21 (Week 9) in Session 2 and Numeracy will have an assignment which will have to be submitted at the beginning of their lesson on Monday 6.12.21 in Session 1.

Students are reminded that the best way to prepare for an examination is to do questions from multiple sources showing all working and marking their answers. Reading over their work will not assist them at all. Students must practise questions to improve their understanding and enable them to apply their knowledge.



All students have been issued with an Assessment booklet detailing ALL subjects and their Assessment Tasks. It is the student's responsibility to contact their teacher in the first instance for a variation/appeal form if they are unable to attend or submit a task on any given date.

### Stage 5 Mathematics

Students in Year 9 and 10 will be preparing for their Final Course Examinations, which will take place in week 6 this term. They should be proud of their efforts this year in continuing to learn through the many challenges that 2021 has had – a plague of mice, flood, and COVID-19 lockdowns. We encourage our students to continue to persevere, do their very best, and finish the year with a sense of achievement.

Students in Year 10 will also be selecting their subjects for next year. They are advised to think seriously about their choices and discuss them with their parents/ guardians and teachers.

### Stage 4 Mathematics

In Mathematics, Year 7 students have just started a new topic on "Measurement and Computation of Length, Perimeter and Area", where they will study the measurement systems used in calculations in a range of settings. This will be a great opportunity for these students to see the relevance of Mathematics in a range of real-world situations, including how measurements can be applied in building, painting, sporting, farming and so on. This is the second last topic scheduled for Year 7 this year.

This week, Year 8 students will be starting their last topic of the Stage 5 course, "Data Collection, Representation and Analysis". This will enable students to appreciate the way data is collected, presented and used in a range of everyday situations, including skills to know when data may be biased or misleading when they watch news, read newspapers or the Internet.

Both Year 7 and 8 students will be doing their Final Course Examinations in Week 5 this term. These examinations will include content from both Terms 3 and 4, so students are advised and encouraged to study hard for them.

### Stage 4 PDHPE

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are unable to go off site for sport this term, which means students will be participating in sports at the Carol Avenue campus. We are looking forward to students participating and having fun. Year 7 students were already having fun hitting sixes galore, well done to Clinton O'Neill for a great batting innings and Miss Smith for getting the catch of the day. Year 8 students had a wonderful basketball session this week, thanks to David Edwards for keeping the score and leading his team to victory.

### Stage 6 PDHPE

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Year 11 students have begun their HSC course with Core 2 (Factors Affecting Performance), which can be a challenging topic with some very science-based concepts to it. Students have shown a good understanding initially, so hopefully that trend will continue as we delve deeper into the content this term.

Year 12 students have undertaken an immense amount of study thus far and we are aware they are feeling the heat., but they are improving. A combination of completing blank syllabus, past HSC questions, jeopardy labs, family feud and a whole bunch of Kahoots have kept them engaged with the seemingly never-ending content of this course.

Would really like to take this opportunity to thank the Year 12 PDHPE class, who have been Mr Trainor's first Stage 6 cohort. Mr Trainor acknowledges that this group has been an excellent class with plenty of personality, who were also able to buckle down and get the work done when required. We wish them all the best of luck with their HSC, but more importantly whatever path they choose to follow after school.

## Careers News

### Year 9 Work Experience

Week 7 of this term is the proposed date, commencing 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Moree Secondary College is currently under Level 3 restrictions and therefore cannot have our students taking part in Work Experience.

If this changes, students will be notified immediately so we can implement our Work Experience program.

### Online resumes

Year 10 are currently adding to their online resumes to update the information in them. Year 9 will start their resumes next week.

If anyone in other years needs a resume, see Ms Klan and we can work together to do one promptly. You will need to have asked someone to be your referee and obtain their permission to put their name on your resume.

### Holiday work

The time is coming to organise holiday work if you are saving for the future.

- The harvest this year is BIG! Older students ask around for work.
- Supermarkets and other stores plan ahead for casual holiday workers. Go see them now.
- If these are not your choice, put on your thinking cap and create your own opportunities. Mowing, shelf stacking, child minding, housework and tutoring are a start.
- Don't be afraid of cold calling. Go to a business and ask if there are any holiday opportunities. Make the phone call. Network by asking family and friends who own businesses. Tell employers your skills. You may just get a job!



## Special Education Faculty

The Support Unit have had a wonderful year of learning so far and despite the lockdown and Covid restrictions last term, it has been filled with a variety of learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. We are definitely all so pleased to now be back at school learning and seeing one another in person. While Zoom was fun, it certainly was a different experience and a new way to connect.

This year one of our support classes moved over to the Albert Street campus. The students have a new refurbished classroom next to Clontarf and Music. With fantastic new furniture and cooking facilities. Tyrese recently has made some homemade pizzas and he said they tasted as good as Dominos.

Students going into Yr 10, 11 and 12 in 2022, from the MC and IOIS classes at Carol Avenue, have also begun transitioning every Friday as there will be another support class at Albert St campus next year. They all had a fantastic morning, met lots of people and did cooking with Miss Ros.

During English classes in the unit, students have been doing an author study and reading novels. IM and MC have been studying the book "Nanberry" written by Jackie French. This text is a historical fiction story set in the past. The setting is real and includes some historical characters from Australia's past. It includes cultural history and values.

IO/IS have been reading "Charlotte's Web" by E.B White. This is a beautiful story about love, loss and friendship and students have enjoyed reading about Wilbur and Charlotte, completing various written activities and learning about the life cycle of spiders.

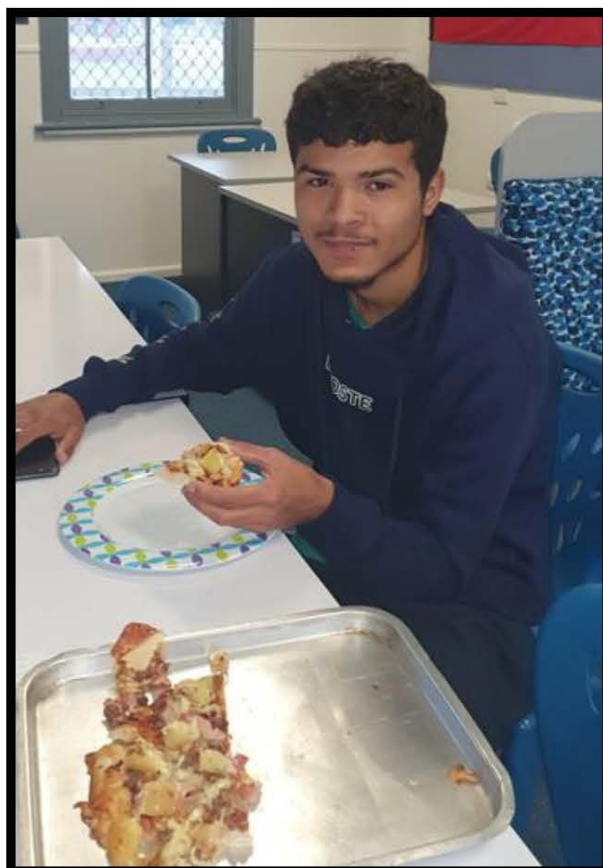
In art we have incorporated cultural values and are studying Badger Bates and his vinyl prints. Students have created some fabulous artwork and are looking forward to creating their own prints.

All classes have been learning about "Water in the World" and the water cycle in Geography. How fascinating is it to think that we are basically drinking the same water the dinosaurs did millions of years ago?

In History, all classes have been studying the Mongol Expansion. We have so far learnt about what life as a Mongolian Nomad is like and have just started researching the infamous leader Genghis Khan.

Science has been very interesting as all students learnt and conducted some interesting experiments around the topic "Matter". We learnt about the properties of solids, liquids and gases, made slime and observed the effect when bi-carb soda and vinegar are combined.

With the Olympics just behind us, during PE lessons we have been playing some games that were part of the Olympics. Handball (not the one with the squares) has been a popular choice. This game is very competitive and requires good teamwork. Students in the unit love to be active and take any sports





opportunity they are given. The practical PE lessons are extremely active and enjoyable for both staff and students! Students have also thoroughly enjoyed drumming and riding the bikes.

The garden is thriving this year and the students from all classes and staff enjoying working in it and keeping it weeded and watered. Everyone loves to eat the various produces we grow and it has been fun having a little friendly competition between classes to see who can look after the garden and grow the best vegetables.





# Farewell Year 12, 2021

We wish you all the best for your HSC and future endeavours. You are commended for your persistence, patience and hard work during these trying times!

