

H I G H N O T E S



The Weekly Newsletter of Sydney Boys High School

Vol 24 No 01 02 February 2024

From the Principal

Welcome or welcome back!

Welcome to all our returning staff and students to what I am confident will be year of deeper learning and better achievement for High. I want to welcome our 180 Year 7 students and our 45 new students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11. I want to assure you of our commitment to foster your rapid and successful integration into the High culture. We have five priority actions. We nurture your **academic growth** through a wide range of subjects, courses, and competitions. We develop you as a **whole person** through the formal curriculum and a large variety of co-curricular activities. We try to promote in you a **sense of belonging** to High through encouraging full participation in our six-day programs. We endeavour to develop you as **global citizens and future leaders** through our community service and school leadership opportunities. We **support you in all your activities** through our numerous support staff, incorporated associations, committees, and governance organisations.



Our focus this year is on **paragraph conscious pedagogy**. We want to try and teach sentence building and combining explicitly to enhance the clarity, coherence, and quality of our written responses in all years. We have a small set of proven strategies that will be applied across the curriculum to support teachers and students in the collaborative task of improving whole-school literacy through sentence and paragraph building exercises. We have a **single paragraph blueprint** for developing more coherent and informative paragraphs.

Staff Changes

We welcome also our new staff members for 2024. Mr Kyle Caputo has been appointed as Head Teacher of English (replacing Cassandra Pride). Mr Zaf Valoulas is replacing Dr Andrew Carman for term 1. Mr Terry Fong is covering

the job-sharing arrangement for Ms Manolios and Ms Damianos. Ms Eden Boundy is covering the 0.4 unfilled vacancy in Visual Arts. Mr Wesley Beare is replacing Mr Gainford who has retired. Mr Aidan Ryan is covering the unfilled vacancy for Mr Scrivener. Mr Phillip Johnson has returned to the Languages Faculty to replace Ms Matsos who is on Long Service Leave.

Holiday properties works maintenance and upgrades.

Teaching spaces: Rooms 105 106 107 202 were all repainted. The window security grilles in 105 106 107 108 were all removed allowing more natural light in. Room 402 was completely refurbished. New sink tapware was installed in one of the art rooms. The ceiling acoustic panels in The Governors Centre upstairs conference room (904) were all reinstated. **Public spaces:** The back of the Great Hall foyer and stairwell were repainted and the floor revarnished. New cabinetry, sink and a hot water system in the First Aid room has been installed. **Grounds:** The Tennis Clubhouse on Cutler Drive (designed by Year 10 DT students from 2023) is nearing completion. Safety speed humps have been installed on the roadway between the Gym and the outside basketball courts. The electronic sign on the Cleveland Street side of campus has been installed. Our wayfinding project to improve our public-facing information is now complete. Thank you to Jim Crampton and John Prorellis for their work in the holidays to make all these things happen.

PARAGRAPH WRITING

Paragraph Conscious Pedagogy

A paragraph is a group of sentences about a main idea. A paragraph begins with a topic sentence telling us what the paragraph is going to be about. A paragraph has supporting sentences which develop the main idea, adding complexity, nuance and consequently, substance. A paragraph usually has a concluding sentence which restates and summarises the ideas in the topic and supporting sentences.

Dr K A Jaggar
Principal

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS



The following is information on all parent-teacher nights this year. Please note that for the day of all parent-teacher interviews, periods will be shortened, with the school day finishing early. **Boys from all years will be dismissed from class at 2:00pm on each of the dates listed below.** The light rail will run to normal schedules and there will be minimal supervision in the Junior Quad of boys waiting for any services.

The dates of the parent-teacher interviews are:

Year 12 will take place in Term 1 via zoom on:

Tuesday 27 February 2024

2:00pm – 4:30pm

Years 8 and 9 will take place in Term 2 via zoom on:

Monday 17 June 2024

2:00pm – 7:30pm

Year 7 will take place in Term 2 via zoom on:

Monday 1 July 2024

2:00pm – 6:00pm

Years 10 and 11 will take place in Term 3 via zoom on:

Monday 29 July 2024

2:00pm – 7:30pm

Booking interviews with your son's teachers

We use a web based electronic scheduling system for arranging interviews. This produces better results for all participants, especially more compact time schedules for both parents and teachers. The system works as follows:

N.B. The following dates are for Year 12 parents only. Parents of boys in all other years will receive their codes via email in Term 2 in the lead up to each evening – notification of these emails will be placed in High Notes next term.

- By 6pm Wednesday 14 February, all parents of boys in Year 12 will be sent details of the scheduling system and a unique code to be entered via email.

- This scheduling email will be sent to the main family email address currently held by the school for **all Year 12 students**. If you have not received this email by the morning of **Thursday 15 February** please check your junk mail or any alternative email addresses provided to the school by either parent.
N.B. The office regularly receives queries about undelivered parent-teacher emails when the email was in their junk mail. Please check there before contacting the school
- If your email address has changed from what had been previously advised, you should notify the school at office@sbhs.nsw.edu.au. Please indicate your son's name and roll call class (or date of birth) so that the information can be forwarded to you.
- Following the instructions in the email, on the Edval website you will see your son's teachers listed and you will be able to select those with whom you require an interview (if you hover over a teacher's name, the subject involved will be shown). At the same time, you can indicate your availability between 2:00pm and 4:30pm. You should provide this information **by 9am on Wednesday 21 February**.
- The overall schedule will be generated by the school and your individual schedule should be available for you to **download and print from 6pm on Thursday 22 February**.
- Interviews should not exceed five minutes' duration.* If there is insufficient time, a further appointment may be arranged for a later date.

Similar arrangements will be in place for **all other year group interviews**. Keep an eye on future High Notes for the timing of these processes.

Mr J Kay

Deputy Principal



Parent-Teacher Interviews

Music NOTES

2024 Welcome Back! + Music Performance Program (MPP) Term 1

Happy New Year! We hope you had a fantastic break!

Also, a warm welcome to new parents, guardians, and students to the Music Performance Program @ SBHS.

*Music Ensembles and private instrumental lessons resume from Week 2 this term i.e., from Tuesday 6 February (no ensembles on Monday 5 Feb due to the school's swimming carnival).

*Marching Band and Junior Strings will commence from Week 3 this term.

*Please note: new students to SBHS can start attending ensemble rehearsals and/or private instrumental lessons after Music Recruitment Night (and not prior).

Only current students in Years 8-12 attend ensembles and/or private instrumental lessons from Week 2.

The Music Department have exciting events planned for our students in the Music Performance Program this year:

***Friday 1 March (Term 1 Week 5B):** Hot Potato Band Workshop (All stage bands only).

***Friday 8 March (Term 1 Week 6C):** NSW Police Band Marching Band Workshop (All Woodwind/Brass & selected Percussion players from Concert & Stage Bands).

***Monday 24 June – Thursday 27 June (Term 2 Week 9B):** Music Camp @ Stanwell Tops (All music ensembles).

***Thursday 27 June (Term 2 Week 9B):** Music Camp Concert (All music ensembles).

***Friday 2 August (Term 3 Week 2B):** SBHS & SGHS Combined Workshop & Concert (TBC Music Ensembles).

***Sunday 8 December (Term 4 Week 8C):** End of Year Concert (All music ensembles).

Please note: Any additional events will be communicated to you via SZapp and High Notes.

*If you have any questions/enquiries regarding the Music Performance Program, we ask STUDENTS to come and speak directly to the Music Department for the first couple of weeks of this term only. The start of the year can be quite busy and music teachers may not be able to respond to emails within a reasonable time frame.

Music Recruitment Night for NEW Year 7-11 parents/guardians/students

The Music Department will be holding a Music Information Night on Thursday 8 February 6.30pm via ZOOM. The ZOOM meeting link will be sent via SZapp closer to the date. We encourage all new students, parents, and guardians to attend the zoom meeting as the music department will be going through the Music Academic and Performance Program (including enrolments/sign up/music ensembles etc.).

Please note: SZapp is the main communication platform for parents and guardians to receive music news/notifications regarding the MPP. Please download SZapp from the Apple App Store or Google Play and subscribe to MUSIC. Installation guide can be found in the school's high notes.

Music Storage Room

A reminder to all students in the Music Performance Program:

*The music storage room is ONLY used to store music instrument(s).

*Please do NOT block the pathway inside when leaving instrument(s) in the Music Storage Room.

*Please make sure to place your instrument(s) neatly in the appropriate instrumental bay(s).

*Please ensure students have a clear name tag with their name/year on their instrument case.

*Students and parents are reminded that SBHS does not provide instrument insurance or cover. The Music Department will not take responsibility for loss or damage whether on or off the school property.

*Non-music instrumental items/accessories will be removed without any warning.

Parent/Guardian/Student Communication

Parents and Guardians: Please download **SZapp** from the Apple App Store or Google Play and subscribe to 'MUSIC.' Installation guide can be found in the school's High Notes.

Students will be notified of any music news and notifications via the Music Performance Program CANVAS page and Clipboard. Students are responsible to read and keep updated of any Music Performance Program related events/material on a regular basis.

Attention Music Ensemble Students: If you are in the Music Ensembles Program and have not yet received a Music Performance Program Canvas invitation, please email the Music Department: KimS@sbhs.nsw.edu.au

Please note: Students will also be notified of any music related events during ensemble rehearsals.

Sarah Kim

Music Performance Program MIC

2024 Music Ensemble Schedule

MONDAY (Before School)	TUESDAY (Before School)	WEDNESDAY (Before School)	THURSDAY (Before School)	FRIDAY (Before School)
Intermediate Concert Band 7.45am – 8.45am Governors Centre	Senior Concert Band 7.45am – 8.45am Governors Centre	Junior Stage Band 7.45am – 8.45am Room 101	Intermediate Stage Band 7.45am – 8.45am Room 101	Symphonic Strings 8.00am – 9.00am Room 101
Guitar Ensemble 7.45am – 8.45am Room 201		Senior Stage Band 7.45am – 8.45am Room 201	Symphony Orchestra 7.45am – 8.45am Room 201	Chamber Choir 8.00am – 9.00am Room 201
			Junior & Senior String Quartet 7.45am – 8.45am Room 202	Marching Band 8.00am – 9.00am MPW <i>Terms 1 & 4 only</i>
			Junior Strings Ensemble 7.45am – 8.45am Room 203 <i>Terms 1 & 2 only</i>	
			Philharmonic Orchestra 7.45am – 8.45am Room 204	
(After School)	(After School)	(After School)	(After School)	(After School)
Guitar Ensemble 3.20pm – 4.20pm Room 201	Marching Band 3.20pm – 4.20pm GH/MPW <i>Terms 1 & 4 only</i>	Percussion Ensemble 3.20pm – 4.20pm Governors Centre		Jazz Ensemble 3.20pm – 4.20pm Room 201

Please note:

* The above schedule is subject to change at any time. The Music Department will inform students asap via Clipboard and the CANVAS Music Performance Page of any changes/updates.

* Guitar Ensemble: Students who are unable to attend one of the rehearsals can join the alternate session

* Marching Band: Rehearsals only run in Terms 1 and 4 only. Compulsory attendance is required for students in Concert Bands, Stage Bands (Woodwind & Brass players) and selected Percussion Studently (no piano + guitar students)

* Students must schedule private instrumental lessons at a different time to music ensemble rehearsals

* An attendance rate of 80% is required per semester to obtain Award Scheme Points

* Music Pocket: Attendance of 5 full years is required. New students in Years 8-11 will need to speak with the Music Department

2024 Term 1 Music Events Calendar

WEEK	DATE/TIME	EVENT	MUSIC STUDENTS INVOLVED
2	From Tuesday 6 February	ALL private instrumental lessons and music ensembles resume rehearsals	Music Performance Program
2	Tuesday 6 February	Welcome Evening for New Parents, Governors Centre, 5.30pm	Junior String Quartet Senior String Quartet
2	Thursday 8 February, 6.30pm	Music Recruitment Night, ZOOM	Year 12 Music Prefects
2	Friday 9 February, 10.25am	Welcome Year 7 & Summer Sports Assembly, Great Hall	TBC Elective Piano Students
4	Tuesday 20 February, 9.40am	Senior Awards Assembly, Great Hall	TBC Elective Piano Students
4	Tuesday 20 February, 7.00pm	Presentation Night	TBC Musicians
4	Wednesday 21 February, 9.40am	Junior Awards Assembly, Great Hall	TBC Elective Piano Students

Music Events are continually added and/or are subject to change.



Captain of Boats Report

After a well needed break over Christmas, the rowers were back in action during the latter half of the summer holidays. Some of us were hungrier than ever after three weeks off, eager to continue our pursuit and chase new heights. Others needed some more time getting back into the rhythm of training, gradually wiping off rust they'd built from time away from the sport.

As per usual our holiday training began with a round of selections highlighted by the infamous 2km erg test. The results were mixed, with pride on the faces of the boys who achieved personal bests and secured their places in their respective crews, and disappointment in the minds of the many boys who regressed. The results of these selections made something glaringly obvious: you are a product of your preparation. And I hope every rower remembers this lesson heading into our first regatta of 2024 this Saturday.

A major highlight of the holidays was our Nepean Training Camp out in Penrith. Over the course of three days and two nights, the boys gained tremendous mileage in mixed eights and CHS crews. Miles which will inevitably pay off come race day. Rowing on the endless, glassy surface of the Nepean River flanked by beautiful scenery of Australian nature was a delight, and a welcome change after years spent on the waters of the Paramatta.

The camp wasn't just all rowing though, with plenty of downtime in between sessions we made sure to make the most of each other's company. From mucking about and throwing dimes to each other in the pool to swinging from tree branches and back-flipping into the river the camp was not without it's fun. It was a great experience for the Senior A squad to grow closer and build comradery, so I thank Mr Barris for his organisation of the camp.



Another highlight of the holidays was our training session on the sand dunes at Wanda Beach. A coach of mine told me that back when he was training, sand dune sessions made him "come home as a different man." Although I'm sure our squad didn't share the same vehement experience, the challenging nature of the session mixed with the variety it provided from the repetition of rowing was a test. The circuit of sand dune sprints and body weight exercises hammered us. And just as we'd revel in the moments spent gasping at the top of a dune, our coaches call us back down and do it all again. But this built in comradery within us and that trust in one another will be integral over the final stretch of the season.

With a great return to training in the books, we now must look towards the final seven weeks of the season as we prepare for Head of the River.

Michael Li.12E



2024 School Bus Information Guide for Parents, Guardians and Students

Transdev John Holland are proud to operate a range of school bus services on behalf of the NSW Government. This guide provides information about our services and how to get assistance if you need it.

Where do I find information on available bus services?

All regular route and school bus information can be accessed via www.transportnsw.info.

You may utilise the Trip Planner function to identify which route services will take your child where they need to go (*remember to toggle the 'School Bus' mode option under the 'Refine' menu*) or download route maps and timetables for both regular route services and school bus services.

In addition, your school has been provided with your School Bus Timetable, which provides you with the current timetable of all your allocated school services.

How do I apply for a School Opal card/school travel pass?

All school students must travel with a valid School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card. Students may be eligible for free or subsidised travel to and from school or TAFE under the School Student Travel Scheme.

School Opal cards/school travel passes are issued to eligible students by Transport for NSW. For details, visit the [School Student Transport Scheme](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-student-travel-scheme) website or phone 131 500.

If a student isn't eligible for a School Opal card, they must use a valid Child/Youth Opal card.

Please note: Transdev John Holland Buses has no involvement in this process and any queries on this matter should be directed to Transport for NSW.

Why is it important for students to tap on and off?

It is a condition of use that all students tap on and off with a valid Opal card each time they travel.

This helps to ensure accurate patronage data is available, which is monitored by Transport for NSW. The more accurate data we have on patronage, the more we can ensure adequate services that meet the needs of your school community.



What behaviour do we expect on board our services?

Students must follow regulations when using public transport. All students must act in a manner that ensures both their comfort and safety and that of other passengers.

Transport for NSW has developed a set of Guidelines for Managing School Student Behaviour and associated Student Code of Conduct. The aim is to ensure the safety and well-being of school children, other bus passengers, road users and bus drivers alike.

Further information and the full Student Code of Conduct can be read [here](#).

What can parents or guardians do to help?

Please ensure that your child has a valid Opal card for travelling to and from school, ready for when school returns in Term 1, 2024. Apply for a School Opal card or school travel pass [here](#).

Encourage your child to have their card ready when boarding and to tap on and off every time they use a public bus service and follow the Student Code of Conduct.

What if my child has lost property on a school service?

Visit the Transport for NSW [Lost Property webpage](#) to report a missing item. Our drivers regularly check our buses for lost property.

All lost property is logged and our Customer Experience Team will contact you directly if your missing item has been located and let you know where you can pick it up from.

How do I discuss my child's school services or request changes?

The best way to resolve any issues that you or your child/children are experiencing with our services is to discuss it directly with your school in the first instance.

We actively encourage direct communication with schools and will do our very best to resolve any matters as quickly as possible, working with your school in doing so.

If you wish to lodge feedback, complete the web form at transportnsw.info or phone 131 500. Your feedback will be processed and we will respond to you as soon as possible.



CHILDREN'S CROSSINGS

Understanding the rules



Children's Crossings are special part-time crossings that operate during school zone hours. They offer extra protection for our vulnerable road users and are often manned by School Crossing Supervisors.

- When in operation, orange Children's Crossing flags are displayed on both sides
- When you see the flags, you must slow down and stop before white stripes or STOP lines to give way to pedestrians
- You must remain at a complete stop until ALL pedestrians have left the crossing
- When you see a School Crossing Supervisor holding a STOP – Children Crossing sign, you must slow down and stop
- You must wait until ALL pedestrians have left the crossing and the supervisor signals that it is safe to continue
- In a queue of traffic, no part of vehicle can stop on a pedestrian crossing
- Passengers are not allowed to get in or out of vehicle (same rules as No Stopping zone)
- Many children's crossings are combined with a pedestrian crossing. When flags are removed, pedestrian crossing rules apply
- Pedestrians must walk between the two red and white posts on either side of the road

Minimum penalty of \$587 and 4 demerit points

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY WITH CHILDREN

Kids need a hand in traffic

Pedestrian injury is a leading cause of injury among children in Australia. They are counting on us to keep them safe near vehicles and around busy traffic environments.



Why do kids need a hand in traffic?

- Children are small, hard to see and can behave unpredictably
- Children are unable to judge speed and distance of oncoming traffic
- Children are still developing ability to recognise and respond to danger
- Children are often distracted and forget to look for hazards at intersections or busy roads

How can parents and adult carers give children a hand in traffic?

- Hold hands until age of eight, when crossing and near busy traffic settings
- If your hands are full, ask them to hold onto a stroller, trolley, bag or clothing
- It is a good idea to closely supervise children until they are at least 10 years old
- Encourage them to cross at pedestrian crossings or signalised intersections, where possible
- Always ensure they get in and out of car via safety door (rear footpath side, never the traffic side)
- Never call out to children from across the road as they can dart across without checking for hazards
- When doing school run, always drop off or pick up children on school side of the road in designated areas
- Set a good example by modelling behaviour at all times as children invariably look up to adults for what to do
- Talk to them about observing and identifying dangerous situations, discuss strategies, travel routes and making safe choices



Help children become safer pedestrians. Be vigilant and take care around young children

School Pick-Up Drop-Off Zones

Understanding the rules

School Pick-Up Drop-Off Zones are for your child's safety, your convenience and help reduce congestion. They are always on school side of the road.

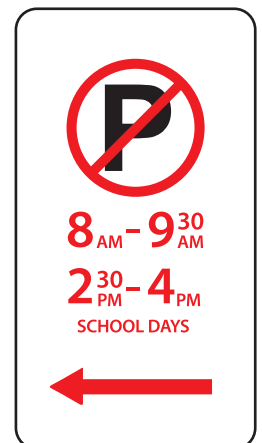
RULES

- School Pick-Up Drop-Off Zones and 'No Parking' zones operate under the same conditions – vehicles may stop to drop off or pick up children for a maximum of 2 minutes
- Driver must remain in or within 3 metres of vehicle
- Zone applies only during hours of operation



REMEMBER

- **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE:** To assist with traffic flow, drivers should remain in the car whilst children get in and out
- **BE TIMELY:** If your child does not get in or out of the vehicle within 2 minutes, you must leave and re-enter the No Parking zone
- **STAY IN SEQUENCE:** Don't cut in the queue. Pick-up or Drop-off your child close to the top of the zone, allowing vehicles following you to enter the zone in an orderly manner
- **SAFETY DOOR:** Always ensure children get in and out of the vehicle via safety door (rear footpath side door). Back seat is always safest for children to travel in. Make sure all children have their restraints securely fastened before driving off
- **NO U-TURNS:** Do not make u-turns in busy school zones. They are dangerous and put children at risk. (Fines and demerit points apply)
- Never use mobile phone in School Pick-up Drop-off Zone (Fines & demerit points apply)



School Pick-Up Drop-Off Zones need cooperation to ensure the safety of all children. Please drive carefully around school zones.

SCHOOL ZONES

Understanding the rules

School zones operate between 8am - 9.30am and 2.30pm - 4pm during school term. A speed limit of 40km/h as well as increased fines and demerit points apply during these hours.

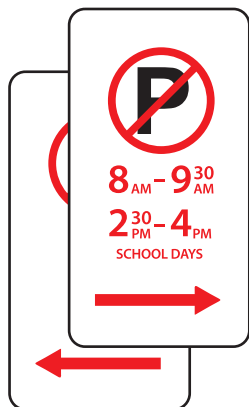
NO STOPPING

- Stopping is not permitted at any time
- Dropping off or picking up passengers is not permitted
- **Minimum penalty \$352 and 2 demerit points**



NO PARKING

- Drivers may stop to drop off or pick up passengers for a maximum of 2 minutes
- Drivers must remain within 3 metres of vehicle
- Vehicle must not be left unattended
- **Minimum penalty \$196 and 2 demerit points**



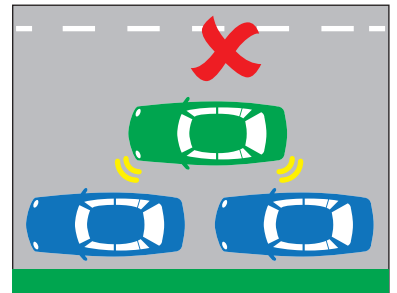
BUS ZONE

- Stopping is not permitted in a bus zone
- Dropping off or picking up passengers is not permitted
- **Minimum penalty \$352 and 2 demerit points**



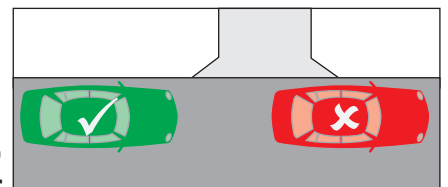
DOUBLE PARKING

- Stopping next to legally parked vehicles is not permitted
- Dropping off or picking up passengers is not permitted
- **Minimum penalty \$352 and 2 demerit points**



DRIVEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

- It is illegal to park on or across a driveway, footpath or any other vehicle access
- **Minimum penalty \$352 and 2 demerit points**



MOBILE PHONES

- It is illegal to use mobile phones while driving
- **\$469 penalty and 5 demerit points**



**School zone rules are for your child's safety.
Please drive carefully and park legally.**