FROM THE PRINCIPAL

VALE JOHN SIMMONDS

It is with great sadness that I report the unexpected death of our TAS teacher, John Simmonds, who died on 25 May at his home. John was a very well respected and well loved teacher who arrived at the school in 1990. John taught senior Engineering, and Accelerated Information Processes and Technology, as well as junior technology. His enthusiasm for his students and his subjects inspired many Techies to take up Engineering as a career at University. John was the Teacher’s Representative on our staffing panels, and would be very familiar to many P&C panel members. I will miss his considered and thoughtful insights into job applications. John was highly principled, and I relied on his discretion and candour. A number of staff at Tech have worked alongside John for more than 26 years, and their families have grown up together. John’s wife Jenny, a mathematics teacher at St George Girls predeceased him. John and Jenny’s son David was a Tech student, graduating in 2006. Our best wishes and sympathy are with David and his sister Natalie.

Mr Paul Copeland writes about John on Page 3 of Tech Talk where there is also a heartfelt message from one of John’s past students, Intisarul Hoque.

YEAR 7 SRC INDUCTION

Congratulations to Dean Casarotto, Zachary Favorito, Mahmoud Hamade, Nathan Yuan and Rayan Zaioor from Year 7 who were inducted into the SRC for 2016.
PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
Over the last two weeks the school has been very pleased to see so many parents attend our parent partnership meetings. Debbie Demetriadis, Head Teacher English presented the Year 9 English program and spoke about the BOSTES requirements for teaching the course. Parents were interested to know how to best encourage wide reading and creative writing.

Kirk Grinham spoke on the topic ‘Adolescents and Computer Games’ to a large group of Year 8 parents, and as a consequence was invited to appear on Radio National Tuesday 31 May at 9.30am. He talked with Ellen Fanning on the ‘Life Matters’ program on the issue. If you did not hear it, you can listen to the podcast on https://radio.abc.net.au/programitem/pg1d6oeO87

Our librarian, Ellen Campbell, gave Year 7 parents a tour of the library, which has been extensively refurbished, thanks to your generous support. The library is an extremely popular environment for our students to study, play chess and read the latest novels and journals, as well as access library catalogues and information across the world. Ellen presented Year 7 parents with the latest popular titles for Year 7 readers that are available to borrow. She informed parents that the most popular series that Year 7 enjoyed reading are: Magnus Chase Series and Percy Jackson Series by Rick Riordan, and the Brother Band Series by John Flanagan.

Many Year 10 parents attended an information session from our Careers Adviser, Arthur Zigas. Arthur gave a most informative session about curriculum choices for Year 10 as they move into Senior Studies, and what sorts of factors should be considered when choosing subjects for the HSC. Arthur’s advice is that students should go with their interests and passions, their strengths and with an understanding of what is required for them to achieve their career aspirations. This is a view fully endorsed by the school. Students who achieve good ATARS do so in any subject from Arts and Humanities to the Sciences. The key factors for HSC success are commitment and effort. As Arthur mentioned, students are best placed to choose their subjects: not parents relatives or tutors! More photos can be found on Pages 22-23.

SRC WEEK
Congratulations to the SRC who with their mentor, Paul Werner enlivened the school for SRC week last week. Samuel Cheok of Year 12 won the talent quest with his impromptu dance. $1,119 worth of pizza was consumed on Tuesday, along with $223 of garlic bread thanks to the brilliant organisation of the SRC. The touch football match between Tech and St George Girls was naturally won by Tech 5-3, although they assure me they played with fairness. Touch footy photos are on Page 26.

ENVIRONMENT TEAM
My congratulations to Dr V who after many months of absolute frustration finally received our seating for the shade shelter. Dr V spent much time, many phone calls, and completed a lot of paperwork to deliver on the project. My heartfelt thanks to the P&C for funding the seating, and to the environment team for keeping the hanging gardens alive. Tom Bradley our General Assistant was instrumental in securing the seating on the sloping ground, and it looks wonderful.

Jacqueline Lyons
Principal
TRIBUTE TO JOHN SIMMONDS BY PAUL COPELAND

It has been a difficult week, but, unsurprisingly, in true Tech fashion, we are rallying around one another as we mourn the passing of John Simmonds, or as I knew him Simmo.

When the news reached us just before recess on Wednesday, and even now, we were in a state of disbelief. Taking the call from his son was indeed an emotional experience for me. Ms Lyons assembled all staff together in the common room, followed by the students in the auditorium to make the announcement. It is a message that no Principal or leader ever wishes to make.

In his time at Tech, Mr Simmonds certainly formed many long-lasting friendships and established a reputation as a man of integrity. Teaching at Tech was an integral part of him, and his son is an Old Boy having graduated here 10 years ago. As the days have passed and reality takes shape, it has been wonderful to have so many members of our community share their favourite memories or impressions of him. As one student so beautifully put it – “He fired my passion for engineering. He was my mentor.” Mr Grinham received a phone call from a graduate from 2013 yesterday to ask if it was true. While this young man said he never did many Technology subjects, he did have Mr Simmonds for roll call – from his first day in Year 7 until his last in Year 12. More sobering is to know that after the same seating arrangements for 26 years, Mr Riley and Mr Gowan will temporarily have an empty seat between them in their staffroom. That’s a heck of a long time to work so closely with someone in such a demanding job as teaching.

We as a faculty are hurting but collectively, we will bounce back. And we will remember the fond memories we have of our days with Simmo.

I have known Mr Simmonds for over 10 years, and I can easily vouch for his reputation as a bloody great bloke. He had a deep and abiding love for Engineering education, a love that we shared. For many years we tag teamed the delivery of HSC Engineering Studies. Many may not know that on over 20 occasions, Ms Lyons and the staff of Tech entrusted him with the responsibility as the teacher representative on panels that would interview, recruit or promote staff. Indeed some of your parents, in their roles as members of the P&C may have worked with him here. In a process requiring great diplomacy and insight, we knew we could count on him to have his say in providing the best staff for you.

If you learn one thing from when someone’s death enters your life, it is that of your own mortality. You have one shot at life, gentlemen, so seize the great opportunities and make sure that you don’t waste or regret a second of it. Surround yourself with the things that and people who help make you feel good and make sure you learn and love as much and as often as you can.

Vale Mr Simmonds
Vale Simmo

Excerpt from Intisarul Hoque’s letter

“Mr Simmonds was an amazing teacher. He was uniquely calm and collected. He was a role model. He was selfless. He knew and cared for each student. Somehow Mr Simmonds demanded complete respect without saying too many words. He was an amazing teacher, and although I did not know him personally – he was an even better man.”

“Today I study engineering in university and will pursue it in my future career. I tell people I chose it because I enjoyed engineering in high school, but that’s a small truth. It was Mr Simmonds’ mentorship that made my experience what it was.”

“He taught me. He moulded me. I am where I am today because of his impact...”
YEARS 11 AND 12 ASSESSMENTS
Year 12 assessment week will be held during Week 7– Monday 6 June to Friday 13 June.
Year 12 Trial HSC will take place in Weeks 3, 4 and 5 of Term 3.
The next assessment period for Year 11 is Term 3 Week 2.

MID YEAR REPORTS AND PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Year 12 reports were issued recently and I trust that parents are working together with their children to take heed of any advice given for improving performance.
Parent–teacher afternoon for Year 7 was held on Friday 6 May. Thank you for taking the opportunity to meet with your son’s teachers to discuss his progress.
Parent Teacher interviews for Years 11 and 12 students will take place on Tuesday 7 June between 3.30pm–6.30pm.
Parent Teacher interviews for Years 8, 9 and 10 students will take place on Thursday 23 June between 3.30pm–6.30pm. Bookings will again be done online and the instructions for families to organise these meetings will be sent home with the students containing instructions with their unique access code.

NAPLAN
Year 7 and 9 completed their NAPLAN tests for Literacy and Numeracy in May. Results will be available for parents towards the end of Term 3.

SRC WEEK
SRC Week was held during Week 5, with a lot of organised activities for both students and staff to participate in. This is an excellent way of encouraging students to contribute to the school and have a good time in the process. Activities included an inter-school touch football match, Pizza Day and Talent Quest. Congratulations to all students who were involved in the planning and organisation of the week’s activities and thank you to Mr Werner for his tireless coordination of the week.

YEAR 10 PLANNING FOR YEAR 11 2017
Year 10 will be discussing and planning subject selection for 2017 and career paths through careers lessons this term. We will also be holding a Year 10 into Year 11 Information Night in Term 3 in August to provide up to date information on Preliminary and HSC requirements and assist the students in choosing their subjects for 2017. Further information will be available shortly.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL OR LATENESS TO SCHOOL
Explanations for absences from school or lateness to school should always be provided to the school by parents within seven (7) school days. This can be done in a variety of methods including replying to the school text message, sending in a note with the student, a phone call or email.
Reasons for absence and lateness are varied. Some reasons are deemed by the Department of Education as valid reasons and others are not. Notes are processed and the information will appear on Moodle. Valid reasons will appear on Moodle as Sick or Leave. Reasons deemed not to be valid will appear as Unjustified. Absences that have not been explained will appear as Note Owing.

Lastly, too many students are seeking leave from school to attend appointments during sport. We respectfully request that families look to schedule these appointments outside of school hours. Tech is an integral member of our Zone and student participation in grade teams means that they have made a commitment to the school, their coach and fellow players.

Kirk Grinham
Deputy Principal

Diane Wilson
Deputy Principal

Intranet Access

The school’s file servers are now managed centrally by the Department of Education.

One of the unfortunate consequences of this is that the Department does not allow parental login to access the school resources.

We are currently working on some systems that will make the calendar and course information available to parents via a combination of secure login and public visibility. In the meantime we ask for your patience. If you need to access the Intranet to see the calendar or your son’s absences simply use his login details and you will have full access to all a student can see.

Thank you for your support in this matter

Martin Riley
Head Teacher Computing Studies

PARENT PARTNERSHIP meetings
School Common Room - 9am

DATES FOR TERM 3

Year 7  The School Wellbeing Team
Thursday 28 August

Year 7/ Australian Federal Police ThinkUKnow
Presentation on
Cyber Safety/Cyber Bullying
Thursday 11 August

Year 8  Presentation on
Cyber Safety/Cyber Bullying
Thursday 11 August

Year 9  Australian Federal Police ThinkUKnow
Presentation on
Cyber Safety/Cyber Bullying
Thursday 11 August

Year 10 UAC - University Entry Requirements and Demystifying those Myths
Tuesday 16 August
As I write this article for Tech Talk many of our students are currently about to sit for their half yearly exams. As a result of these exams many students find their stress levels on the increase. To help alleviate the symptoms of stress, students are encouraged to have an effective study timetable in place. Mindfulness techniques which focus on breathing and physical exercise have also found to be very useful tools for stress reduction.

School counsellor, Ms Berezovsky recently gave a presentation on the hot topic of mindfulness to Year 12 at their last Wellbeing Assembly. Students learnt that being relaxed and focussed helped to improve your ability to fight illness and your brains ability to work. Students learnt breathing exercises for clearing your mind as well as the benefits from physical exercise. At the end of the presentation students were informed about a Mindfulness app called Smiling Mind which can be downloaded via iTunes.

**U-TURN THE WHEEL**

On Tuesday 10 May all of Year 11 participated in the Driver Education program NRMA ‘U-Turn The Wheel’ which is organised by Rotary Clubs throughout NSW. The program has evolved over the years to include the most pertinent issues around driving and safe use of our roads. The course has always been well received by our students who interact well with the presenters and go away with a fresh outlook on their driving and safety. Photos can be seen on Page 24.

**YEAR 11 CAMP**

I was fortunate enough to go away with Year 11 on their last school camp and a great time was had by all thanks to the organisation of Ms Ryan and Ms Blake. During the day the students were able to participate in a range of physical and challenging activities that promoted team building, cooperation and encouragement among the students. At night the students heard from Dr Prue Salter on study skills and were entertained by the hypnotist, Matt Hale. The behaviour of our students was outstanding and made it that much easier for the instructors and supervising teachers who were on camp.

Dr Prue Salter from Enhanced Learning Educational Services ran the study skills session with Year 11 on the first night at camp. The session focused on helping students identify changes and improvements they could make to their approach to their studies in order to maximise their results in their final years of school. The main areas covered with Year 11 were setting up an effective home study environment, managing resources for school (both paper and digital), working effectively at home and dealing with distractions, managing time efficiently, using the diary as a planning tool, making brain-friendly study notes and using a wide variety of active study techniques to suit individual learning styles. Parents are encouraged to review the handout from the session with students and discuss the main areas identified where changes need to be made.

Parents can find extra study skills tips from the website: [www.enhanced-learning.net](http://www.enhanced-learning.net) using the parents’ link. Dr Salter also has free downloadable resources under the freebies section of her website.
DIGITAL NUTRITION

On Thursday 19 May Sydney Technical High School and St George Girls High School combined their P&C meeting together to hear from presenter Jocelyn Brewer on the topic of Digital Nutrition. Jocelyn is a trained Social Science teacher and is now currently working as a school counsellor/psychologist. Jocelyn’s thesis in 2009 explored the impacts of increasing access to Internet enabled laptops on a cohort of Year 10 boys and the emerging area of Problematic Internet Use (PIU) colloquially known as ‘Internet Addiction’. In 2013, Jocelyn created the concept ‘Digital Nutrition’ which is a framework aimed to guide parents and consumers to understand the virtual nutritional values of the online media content we consume through our use of apps and games on tablets and screen technology.

In order for us to have a healthier, more considered relationship with technology we should try to keep the following three principles (Mindful, Meaningful and Moderate) in mind and apply them to our online activities.

For further information on the three Ms of Digital Nutrition as well as parenting tips visit: www.digitalnutrition.com.au

Nick Stokes
Head Teacher Wellbeing

School Dance
14 June

Tickets for the School Dance are on sale at lunch time in the quad.

Tickets - $15
FAREWELL TO YEAR 10 ADVISER
This year, we bid Leah Farr a temporary farewell as she embarks on the journey of motherhood. Leah and her husband welcomed their baby boy, Lachlan Farr, on 23 April 2016. We thank her for the time and effort she has committed to the year group and wish her the very best for the coming year.

RELIEVING YEAR 10 ADVISER
For those who may not know me, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Nin Eath and I am a Social Science Teacher. I have had the pleasure of teaching many of the students in this year group in Geography and Commerce as well as interacting with many others through school activities such as grade sport on Wednesday afternoon, sport carnivals and Year 9 camp. I am excited and looking forward to being Year 10’s relieving Year Adviser over the next two terms.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE
During Week 2 of this Term, all Year 10 students participated in Work Experience. For a majority of students, this was their first experience in the working world and I am so proud to have received some excellent appraisals from their workplaces and supervisors. I had the opportunity to visit some students while they were on Work Experience and got to see firsthand how well Year 10 students adapted to the working environment.

SUBJECT SELECTION
Thought should be given towards your senior subjects. Use what you have done so far this year to gauge your interests, strengths and weaknesses to determine a combination of subjects you would like to undertake as part of your HSC.

IMPORTANT DATES
1. Year 10 to 11 Subject Information Night will be held on Tuesday 19 July 2016.
2. Year 10 Academic Adviser Interviews will be held on Tuesday 26 July 2016.
3. Year 10 to 11 Subject Selection deadline on Friday 29 July 2016.

Nin Eath
Relieving Year 10 Adviser
year 10 work experience
Hi All
We are already into June and half a year has flown past. The Year 11 boys went on their well-deserved camp after completing their first assessments for the year. The camp was well attended and as the grapevine has it they had a ball with a hypnotist also in attendance.

The Year 12 students will be sitting for their second assessments for the year in the 2nd week of June and this will be the last assessment before the trial exams. I am sure all of the Year 12 students will be putting in their maximum effort to get through these final months of school.

COMBINED P&C MEETING WITH ST GEORGE GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

A big thank you to all the parents from St George Girls High School and Sydney Tech who attended our combined P&C meeting held on 19 May 2016 at St George Girls school hall. It was well attended with over 150 parents, students and teachers from both schools.

The guest speaker for the evening was Jocelyn Brewer a psychologist who has worked with teenagers and technology for the better part of the last decade. Jocelyn outlined that technology is here to stay and we have to learn to control it rather than be its slave. She stated that setting limits and guidelines for teenagers using technology is very important and to obtain the input from them when setting these. Jocelyn stated that consistency was very important and guidelines have to be clear and detailed with some room for flexibility. She warned against using screen time as a currency.

Jocelyn explained that the teenage brain seeks risk and seeks instant gratification and was not good at working out the consequences of its actions. She also stressed the importance of communication and trust in the parenting relationship. Jocelyn also recommended the use of monitoring software and apps and also pointed at some trusted sources of app and game reviews which could be used by parents.

Jocelyn concluded with the 3 Ms of Digital Nutrition:-
(1) Mindful use of technology
(2) Meaningful use of technology
(3) Moderate use of technology.

Most parents attending would have gone home and devised a digital contract with their teenagers and I am sure all attending would have found this presentation useful in dealing with teenagers and technology.

A big thank you to the St George Girls High School P&C for hosting this event.

WORK HEALTH SAFETY (WHS) ISSUE

A WHS issue involving a staff member has still not been resolved after several representations to the Department of Education and our local member. We will keep pursuing this matter until a satisfactory outcome is achieved.
GONSKI FUNDING
We have made representation to our elected representatives in support of the Gonski funding initiative. This is the major source of additional funding for our public schools. This has made a real difference in many schools including at Sydney Tech.
In an election year please make representations to your local state and national representatives at every opportunity to ensure that the Gonski funding is continued to its maturity.

NEXT MEETING
Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7 June at 7.30pm in the Common Room. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Trevor Trotman, Head Teacher, Mathematics. Trevor has been at Sydney Tech for more than a decade and has been the driving force behind the advances achieved by Sydney Tech in the field of Mathematics. I am sure that all parents would gain from his presentation as Mathematics is one of our most popular subjects.
This will also be our financial meeting where funding requests from various section of the school will be discussed.

TAX YEAR
With the approach of the end of the tax year it is always a good time to consider donating to the school building fund which is a fully tax deductible donation. The school building fund funds the critical infrastructure needs of the school.

CONTACTING THE P&C
The email for contacting the P&C is sydtechparents@gmail.com Please send your suggestions, queries etc to this email. The new website is back up and running and soon we will have the facility to upload the agenda for upcoming meetings on the P&C sub tab under the ”About STHS” tab.

Please ensure that all of you check out the official STHS Facebook page. We are looking for more likes. Please be aware that there are several unofficial Facebook sites claiming to be the STHS site. The official site can be identified by the school emblem as the profile picture and the foundation stone as the background.
Hope to see you all at our next meeting.

Arosha Ratnayake
P&C President
WORK EXPERIENCE 2016
I am pleased to report that 148 students in Year 10 ventured out into many fascinating workplaces early last month, in pursuit of individual learning experiences. Students returned to school with many interesting stories during their time experiencing what it is like to work. Some students are now employed casually and have been invited back to the workplace during the school holiday period, whilst for others work experience had confirmed their interest in pursuing employment in specific industries. More photos on page 9.

CADETSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Professional Cadetships Australia: Technology Cadets
Cadets will work at the Westpac Group in Sydney while studying at university in computer science, information technology or information systems. Applications are now open and close 17 June 2016.

Chartered Accountants Cadetships
Companies offering cadetships to Year 12s.
http://charteredaccountantsanz.com/guide

CSIRO Registration for Indigenous Cadetships
Paid holiday work placements as well as full-time study at Uni.

ABC Indigenous Technology Intern and Scholarship Opportunities
In Electrical Engineering, Information Technology, Project Management or Telecommunications. Call 02 8333 3073.
http://www.abc.net.au/careers/cadetshipsandworkexperience/indigenous_engineering_scholarship.htm

Accounting for Year 12 SRF Cadetship
Paid work while you study either full or part time.
UNSW Scholarship Information Evening
22 June 2016, 6:15-8pm, Sir John Clancy Auditorium, UNSW Kensington
The event is for Years 11 and 12 students and their parents. There will be information on the different scholarships available and the application process. To register for the event, follow the link below.

Teach.NSW
NSW Department of Education future teachers advice including scholarships for current Year 12s.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Australian Youth Orchestra
Auditions start from the 5 August.
Australian Youth Orchestra presents tailored training and performance programs each year for aspiring musicians, composers, recording engineers, orchestra managers and music journalists aged 12 to 30 years. The program offers AYO’s international tour. In addition, AYO offers programs that provide young musicians the opportunity to perform around the country, work with world-class musicians and conductors, perform in the finest concert venues and meet like-minded musicians.

What Sort of Doctor Do You Want To Be?
This article outlines the pathways to medical schools and how to specialise in a specific field of medicine.
https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/medicine/medical-specialties

How Much Money do Occupational Therapists Earn?
The article provides information on the earning capacity of occupational therapists and contains links to videos providing more information about this profession.

Royal Australian Chemical Institute Career Profiles
Love chemistry and see career opportunities.

Whitehouse Institute of Design is offering Free Workshops
Running in the evenings and on Saturdays, to try your hand at Illustration. Go to the website at: www.whitehouse-design.edu.au for the list of dates / times and for online Registration, or contact enquiry@whitehouse-design.edu.au for more information.

INTERESTING WEBSITES

CareerMe App
Free app to plan your career with different industries and training required. For Apple and Android.

Neuvoo
Neuvoo is an online jobs board advertising job vacancies in Australia and over 50 other countries.
http://au.neuvoo.com/en
**VOLUNTEERING**

**Red Shield Appeal**

28 and 29 May 2016

The annual Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal is on again and looking for volunteers to help door knock. For those interested follow the link to find out how you can be involved in your local community.


**COMPETITIONS AND PRIZES**

**Voiceworks Submissions Open**

Be published in Voiceworks – Get paid to write!

- Nonfiction closes 12 June.
- Fiction, poetry and completed nonfiction pieces closes 19 June.
- Graphics and comics closes 17 July.


**Footpath Library EPIC! Short Story Competition**

The Footpath Library brings good quality books to homeless people around Australia. They run this short story competition to bring awareness of their cause to students around the country.

The 2016 theme is ‘Friendship’.

The competition opens on the first day of Term 3 and closes 30 September. [https://www.footpathlibrary.org/competition/2016-short-story-competition/](https://www.footpathlibrary.org/competition/2016-short-story-competition/)

Arthur Zigas

Careers
NEWS AROUND SCHOOL

Open Basketball Knockout Team

Open Soccer Knockout Team

Cross Country Age Champions
Anzac Day

“A soldier does not fight because he hates what is in front of him, he fights because he loves what he left behind.” - G K Chesterton

Welcome to the 2016 Sydney Technical High School Anzac Day Assembly. We are gathered today to pay respect to the servicemen and women of Australia and commemorate the Anzac Spirit. In past years we have commemorated the Centenary Anniversary of the Gallipoli Campaign, we have told stories of the bravery of those in the many wars in which they had fought. Sadly, we have sacrificed many Australians, but those Australians, despite which war, which enemy they battled, whether they won or even lost, fought with the same fervour for their country as one another. The Anzac Spirit will forever be known as the spirit the Diggers honoured, the spirit that stood the test of time. Please take this time to remember the courageous soldiers of the Anzac Spirit.

Now what really is Anzac Day? Anzac Day is a day to commemorate both men and women who made sacrifices for our country’s freedom. We are here, on Anzac Day, not to justify the devastation of war, not to justify the deaths during war, not to justify that war is glorious. You may still be wondering, “What exactly is the ANZAC Spirit?” The ANZAC Spirit is a force that many feared and honoured during war. In WW1, ANZAC Soldiers sacrificed themselves for the French people of Villers-Bretonneux. Since the end of the war, the people of Villers-Bretonneux have hung a banner that pays homage to the ANZACs and their fighting spirit. The banner respectfully states: “Thank God for the Australians.” However, this passionate spirit is not unique to WW1, it is evident throughout WW2 and the Vietnam War. It is not only the French, or the Americans, or the British who should thank the ANZACs. At Tech, we can learn from the ANZACs and their admirable attributes. As Techies, we can follow in their footsteps, we can show humour, loyalty, mateship and fervour. The ANZACs must also be acknowledged for fighting for our freedom and for our country. We, as modern day Australians, are free today because of the ANZACs, because of the ANZAC Spirit. To help to understand this ultimate sacrifice of the ANZACs, John Maxwell Edmonds once said: “Tell them of us and say: For your tomorrow, we gave our today.” Lest We Forget.

Year 9 World History
INTO BATTLE
They charged into battle,
Without a shadow of doubt
Of who they were doing this for,
Their country which they loved and fought for
They were the Anzacs

Their belief was strong,
Their trust was true,
They had to think it was the right thing to do,
They were the Anzacs

They wore their uniform with pride,
Their head held high,
Knowing they were going in blind,
But for their country they did it
They were the Anzacs

What are now corpses,
Were people who loved and were loved
Saw the sunset glow,
Laying row on row in the trenches
Apprehensive of the battle to come,
But to appreciate the person they had become,
To fight for freedom,
To fight for their country -
which they loved so dearly,
They were the Anzacs

by Peter Zaninetti-Taplin
It was our last chance to enjoy and grow with our friends and cohort before the challenge of the HSC.

Narrabeen Camp was an opportunity for Techies’ in Year 11 to relax after our first senior exam week and reflect on what had just hit us. The camp contained activities, some more painful than others, that are typical of school camps - high ropes, canoeing and not getting any sleep. Those activities gave us an opportunity to grow and see the things that we can do when we challenge ourselves and step outside of our comfort zone.

Matt Hale, esteemed hypnotist comedian was our entertainment for the second night of the camp. However, the night proved to be more than just comedy. Prior to his appearance the notion of hypnotism was met with scepticism by many of the students. The events of the night made us laugh but also taught us about the potential elasticity of the mind, and how to relax effectively.

The message taken away from the event was our ability to control our emotions in times of stress. The previous night, Dr Prue Salter had lectured us on the reality of the HSC. She described the HSC as; “the two years of your life most filled with study, in the two years in which you least feel like studying.”

For some students this was a reality check that left Techies wondering if they were ready for the HSC and if they had fulfilled their potential as of yet.

The message of the entire camp was our ability to work together and get through the biggest challenge of 2017, as well as the ability to take control and relax in times of great stress. These skills and the nature of the year mean that we will excel in our future endeavours.

Sebastian Guitierrez-Hood

year 11 camp
u-turn the wheel
Touch Footy
STHS and SGGHS
Style - SRC Week
UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 14 | HURSTVILLE CIVIC CENTRE

S T H S T G E O R G E

STHEG

SIXTEEN

BRUTUS. ∘ RAVINE ∘ SHARKA
SYDNEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

Invite you to...

MUSICALÉ 2016

Tuesday 28 June - 6.30pm
Featuring...
Sydney Technical High School
Concert and Stage Bands
Intermediate Concert Band
Strings, Choral, Small Ensembles and Soloists

Cost: $4 Concession, $8 Adults, $20 Family
Supper will be provided for a small cost and satisfaction is free.

AUDITORIUM
Forest Road, Bexley. Parking on the front oval via Forest Road

Principal: J Lyons  Phone: 9587 5899

STHS Music Students, Teachers and Parents thank you for your support
Sydney Tech has a new website.

**ONLINE PAYMENTS:**
To make online payments just click on the ‘online payment’ link in the top right hand corner of the HOME page above the SEARCH box.

Payments are quick, easy and convenient, with the added bonus of no processing fee.

**TECH TALK:**
To locate Tech Talk on the website, click on NEWS on the home page, then click on PUBLICATIONS and Tech Talk will be downloaded there along with other publications relating to the school.

We also have a school Facebook page
If we are unable to use our Alert SMS Message System, important communication will be available on Facebook.

[https://www.facebook.com/sydneytechnicalhighschool/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/sydneytechnicalhighschool/?fref=ts)
Parent Line — Adolescent
Autumn 2016

Parent Line NSW
Newsletter for High School parents

Parent Line is a unique telephone and online counselling and support service for parents and carers. We cover issues with babies, children and young people up to 18 years of age, all over NSW. Our counsellors are professionally trained and specialise in working with families.

What do young people need?
Lots of recent research shows:

- Young people want to talk about tough issues with family.
- Young people also need to learn how to stay safe.
- Young people respond best to parenting that is not overly harsh but neither is it unduly lenient.
- Young people want parents that are available to them even if they don’t talk to parents that much.
- Not sure how to navigate these needs and wants? Our counsellors can help find strategies that best fit with each family and engage parents and young people more positively.

5 signs of a healthy family

While every family is unique, researchers find there are common signs of healthy families:

1. Members are committed to one another.
2. Families engage in positive communication.
3. The family spends significant time together.
4. Members show affection to one another.
5. The family actively engages together to resolve issues. (paren ‘88)

Our counsellors can help families develop these ways of being together. Simply call us on 1300 1300 52 or email a parenting question to info@parentline.org.au.

Top 5 concerns in 2015

Last year, we were most often asked about:

1. Mental health
2. Reducing parent/young person conflict
3. Technology
4. Peer relationships and bullying
5. Impact of parental separation and family violence

NEW Parent Line Online

We want to make it as easy as possible for busy parents and carers to connect with us and obtain the information they need. We now have Online Counselling via our website at www.parentline.org.au. You can email us a question using info@parentline.org.au or find us on Facebook for our latest tips and useful resources.

1300 1300 52
7 days a week
info@parentline.org.au
www.parentline.org.au
A fair, just and prosperous nation for all our children

We, the undersigned organisations, are committed to ensuring that every Australian child has an equal opportunity to realise their full potential in life through the provision of a well-resourced, high quality education.

We believe, therefore, that it is imperative for current and future Commonwealth governments to join with all state and territory governments to fully fund the Gonski needs-based school funding model.

Gonski is designed to lift all schools to a national minimum resource standard and provide extra funding for individual students in need of greater support.

If fully funded, Gonski will establish a new, higher benchmark for government investment in Australian schooling, and help build the foundations for a fair, just and prosperous nation for generations to come.

We believe such a great cause warrants the full support of all political parties and candidates for election to parliament.
Are you having trouble accessing our School Website???

If you are, you may need to clear your browser history. Follow these instructions.

Click on the little cog in the top right hand corner

Click on ‘Internet Options’ second bottom on the list.

Go to Browsing History

Click ‘Delete’. Click on ‘OK’.
All OPAL Card enquiries should be referred to Transport NSW - School Student Transport Scheme. If you have lost your card, moved house or you need to change your transport details/provider, please use this helpful link:

apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts

As much as we would like to help, we are not able to deal with these enquiries at school.

Please do not park across any private driveways or school driveways, in our surrounding streets, when dropping your children at school or collecting them from school.

Also do not drive into any of our school carparks to stop or park.
Message from the School Administration Office

Just a reminder that the School Office is open for payments and enquiries during school hours – 8.15am – 3.05pm.

Payments by students should only be made before school, between Period 1 and 2, at Recess and at Lunch. Payments will not be taken after the bell has gone at the end of the day.

Payments can also be made via our online payment system located on the STHS website. (Top right hand corner of the HOME page.)

STHS SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Second Hand Uniform Shop is run by volunteers. The Second Hand Uniform Shop is located in Vera’s Cottage.

During the school terms, the Second Hand Uniform Shop is open on the Second Tuesday of each calendar month, from 10.30am - 12 noon.

The next date for the clothing pool this year will be on Tuesday 14 June 2016.

Come along and grab a bargain. If you have any donations of used uniform items, please send them to the Office.

Sick Bay and your Son

If you receive a phone call from the office informing you that your son is unwell and in sick bay, you must attend to this promptly and collect your son as soon as possible.

Your son cannot be left in sick bay for lengthy periods of time.

Change of Mobile Phone Numbers and Addresses

If you have changed your mobile phone number or address, please contact the school immediately so that we can update our records.
Attention Parents:
School Attendance and Leave

Parents are required to explain their children’s absences from school promptly within seven school days to the school.

An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within seven school days from the first day of any period of absence.

It is Departmental Policy that if your son needs to leave the school early for an appointment, then a letter must be brought to the school and it must be signed by one of the Deputy Principals before the start of the school day for leave to be granted.

If you send an sms about your son’s absence, please put his name, class and reason for absence.

Please be aware that it is a legal requirement that ALL visitors on school grounds during school hours report to the School Administration Office for sign-in and sign-out.

This includes parents and caregivers.

http://www.linkedin.com/company/sydney-technical-high-school
Lily Street Bridge replacement
6 Month Road Closure

Our works will impact the local area from Monday 11 April 2016 – Wednesday 30 November 2016.
Here’s what you need to know.

What we’re doing
As part of the ongoing construction of the Lily Street Allawah overbridge we will be closing down Lily St Bridge for a seven month period to allow for the installation of integral members of the new bridge.

Access to the Lily Street Bridge via cars on the south bound lane will be blocked at the Durham Street intersection and all traffic north bound will be completely blocked at Railway Pde.

Pedestrian access will be limited to the station overpass for access between Railway Pde and Lily Street.

We understand that this work will have an impact on you and your neighbours. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

How this affects you

Work will take place from Monday 11 April 2016 – Wednesday 30 November 2016.

Road closures
Planned road closures will include Lily Street Bridge between Railway Pde & Roberts Lane, from 11 April 2016 – 30 November 2016. To eliminate vehicle congestion, Lily Street will also be closed at Durham Street to southbound traffic. Local detours will be sign posted and traffic controllers will be on duty to direct motorist.

Noise
These works may create additional noise during the day and night of the weekend. We apologise for the inconvenience this may cause.

Equipment may be delivered to the worksite outside of this time. Due to travel restrictions on large vehicles, some of these deliveries may need to take place at night.

Light
Due to working at night additional lights will be in place to undertake these works. Due care will be taken to minimise light spill when undertaking works outside daylight hours.

Traffic and parking
Heavy vehicles will be using local streets to access parts of the rail corridor. Primary access points with traffic control will be at Carlton Parade, Railway Parade and Station Lane.

Station Access
Access to Allawah Station will be maintained at all times during these works. Pedestrians will be directed via sign posts and message boards on the temporary routes.

Buses
Buses will be diverted around the local detour route also with several key bus stops affected. Please direct questions regarding the relocation of stops and effects to your service to the service provider.

Avoid slips and falls when travelling around the network. Slow down and mind your step on platforms, and when boarding and alighting from trains.
Rockdale City Council has informed the school that the Council’s Parking Officers will be enforcing parking restrictions on a rotational roster system throughout the school year. Please take note of the following signs and associated fines.

Also do not drive on to school grounds when dropping off or picking up your son.
BUILDING FUND

Tech High, established in 1911, was originally located in a building in Mary Ann Street, Ultimo, and known as Ultimo Central Technical School. The Official Opening of the new school buildings on McConnachies Paddock, Forest Road, was performed on 2 August 1958. Our school buildings are always in need of upgrading and renovation. The priority areas for our Building Fund in 2014-2015 are to upgrade staff and student toilets. Currently our bathrooms do not meet environmental standards, waste water and electricity. Your contribution to the fund will enhance student and staff well-being and contribute to an improved school environment. There are various amounts you can donate or you can suggest your own amount. All donations over $2 are tax deductible.

LIBRARY FUND

The school has established a school Library fund. This fund is designed to enhance student learning and improve access to up to date resources from a range of different media. Our school Library is in constant use by students and teachers for research, private study and building general knowledge.

Currently, our school library is undergoing refurbishment so that both the environment and literature available are up to date and suitable for 21st century learning.

Your contribution to the fund will enhance our ability to provide inspiring and essential reading for our students. All donations over $2 are tax deductible.

Yes I would like to contribute to the Sydney Technical High School [ ] Building Fund [ ] Library Fund

☐ $130.00
☐ $250.00
☐ $500.00
☐ $750.00
☐ ................................ (write amount you wish to donate)

I wish to pay by ☐ Cheque (enclosed) ☐ Parent Online Payment (POP)

OR debit my credit card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card No: .......................................................... Expiry Date: ☐ ☐ / ☐ ☐

Security Code: ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Cardholder’s Name: ................................................................. (please print)

Signature ........................................................................................................... Student’s Name: .................................................................

Payments can also be paid by telephone on (02) 9587 5899.

All donations over $2 are tax deductible.
ADVERTISING

If you have a special occasion coming up, contact Choosypix Photography.

Antonia Hayler is the Managing Director of the company and is one of our volunteer parents at the school.

Choosypix specialises in Weddings, Christenings, Birthdays, Family occasions, School Formals and Sports events.

Contact Antonia:
Mob: 0410 584 066
Email: choosypix@yahoo.com.au

2016 Nanzan Cultural Visit

Techies! Host families needed!

Have a spare bed or spare room???
STHS is looking for 8 to 10 families to host 8 Japanese students for 2 weeks [or 1 week].

When: Friday 22 July – Sunday 7 August
(17 days 16 nights)

Details: 2 Weeks of hosting - $500.00 gratuitous payment
1 Week of hosting - $250.00 gratuitous payment

Why host? *Earn points for the Wykeham Award!
*Learn about another culture in your very own home

NO JAPANESE SKILLS NECESSARY!!!
GET INVOLVED!

If interested or if you need further information, contact Ms Wendy Mac
Email: wendy.mac@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 9587 5899

If you have a special occasion coming up, contact Choosypix Photography.

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Contact Antonia:
Mob: 0410 584 066
Email: choosypix@yahoo.com.au
SCHOOL CALENDAR

JUNE

3  Alumni Cocktail Party, 5-7pm
7  SRE: Year 8 - Period 1, Year 7 - Period 2
7  Years 11 and 12 - Parent/Teacher Interviews
7  P&C Meeting - 7.30pm, Common Room
8  UNSW Maths Competition
9-10 Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition
13  Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
14  SRE: Year 9 - Period 1, Year 10 - Period 2
14  UTS Lunch Talk
14  School Dance
15  ICAS Writing Competition
17  Zone Cross Country
20-22 Ensembles Camp
23  UTS Bachelor of Accounting and IT Coop Scholarship Lunchtime Talk
23  Years 8, 9 and 10 Parent Interviews
27-28 Zone Athletics Carnival
27  Interact Refugee Week - Mufti Day
28  Musicale Performance, 6.30pm
30  UNSW General Information Lunchtime Talk, Year 12

JULY

1  Humanitarian Day
1  Last day of Term II
18  School resumes for Teachers
19  School Resumes for Students

For a full list of school activities please check the calendar on the school intranet.