



On Tuesday 5th September we inducted our new School Leaders into their roles in a formal assembly attended by staff, students and families. It is encouraging to see the commitment these students and those of Year 7 to 10 are prepared to make for their school which they clearly feel proud to represent. I look forward to working with the new school leaders and would like to thank the outgoing representatives for their commitment over the past 12 months.

This year's leadership team has worked towards building stronger links between students, teachers and the wider community. School house captains lead the Swimming and Athletics carnivals encouraging house participation and attendance at these events. School leaders also supported staff on open night to promote our school to Primary school students and their families. In this role they escorted groups around the school answering questions and performing various duties as required.

Some members of the group have also been representatives on various school committees including where their participation has ensured student opinions are represented in the decision making of the school and that information delivered to the whole school is representative of all opinions within our school community.


I would like to formally thank all students who have been involved in the School Leadership team in the last term of office and in particular the members of the senior leadership group who have been outstanding role models. I look forward to working with the 28 students who have been inducted for 2017/2018. They have shown to be inquisitive and always willing to go above and beyond.

## Important Dates to Remember

P & C and Parent Forum	Wednesday 8th November
Year 12 Graduation Assembly	Thursday 21st September
School Development Day	Friday 22nd September
First day of Term 4	Monday 9th October
HSC Commences	Monday 16th October
Year 7 & 8 Yearly Exams	Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October
Year 9 & 10 Yearly Exams	Monday 30th October - Friday 10h November



I would like to thank Ms May and Ms Karabetsos, for always having the time to listen and provide constructive feedback to the Leadership team. Without their ongoing support and assistance the success of this Student Leadership Body would not be possible. I welcome Ms Larrea who has taken the role of Student Leadership Body coordinator for the 2017/2018 cohort.

 <b>MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL</b> <b>School Leaders 2018</b>	
<b>School Captains:</b>	Brittany Logan
<b>Vice Captains:</b>	Calissa Mazin
<b>Senior Leaders: (Year 12)</b>	Olivia Pauline Blake Melanie Porsha Jackie
<b>Senior Leaders: (Year 11)</b>	Lachlan Cryste Kira Liam Yee Mon Danny
<b>Junior Leaders: (Year 10)</b>	Chelsea Charles Chloe
<b>Junior Leaders: (Year 9)</b>	Venkata Tara Riley
<b>Junior Leaders: (Year 8)</b>	Bradley Eva Brionny

## Farewell Year 12

On Thursday 21st of September our school will be saying farewell to our Year 12 students and celebrating the completion of their secondary education through the auspicious graduation ceremony. It is a time filled with mixed emotions of both excitement and melancholy for the students. It is such a compliment to the staff and the school community to hear Year 12 students express sadness on their high school years coming to an end and leaving Mitchell High School. Although not wishing our students to be too upset it is pleasing to hear the sentiment of positive relationships and belonging to their school.

As most parents would be saying, the time has flown past and it was not long ago that these students entered Year 7, wide eyed and apprehensive of the unknown future high school was to bring. Six years later they have grown into exceptional young men and women who have made significant contribution to both our school and the community. On behalf of the school community I wish our Year 12 students the best as they approach the HSC exams and pursue their post school pathway. On behalf of Year 12, I would like to thank their year advisor, Mrs Witheridge who nurtured and supported them from 2012-2016 and Ms Mehic who gladly stepped in 2017 and Assistant year

advisor Mrs Shaw who has been an immense supporters and mentors to this year group.

Graduating class of 2017, we wish you everything that you so richly deserve in the upcoming HSC exams and the years ahead - it has been an honour and a privilege watching your progress and success!

## MHS School plan

We have begun the planning process to develop the 2018-2020 school plan and we invite all parent/carers and community representatives to be part of this process. Please join us at the next P&C and Parent Forum meeting on Wednesday 8th November 6.30pm or contact the school via telephone or email to have your say and contribute to what matters most the education and growth of the Mitchell High Community.



**Ms Marinis**  
**Principal**

## Tournament of Minds 2017

On Sunday 25th August, five teams from Mitchell High participated in the annual Tournament of Minds academic competition. Teams competed in the disciplines of Engineering Mathematics, Social Sciences and Language Literature. All five teams represented the school with immense skill and gracious professionalism, demonstrating the diverse capabilities of students at our school.

Four of the five teams were successful in achieving recognition for their work. We received Tournament Honours in Engineering Mathematics, Language Literature and Social Sciences. Team Social Sciences #2 were also awarded the Kenworthy Memorial shield, which rewards students who demonstrate an historical awareness or consideration in their presentation. Finally, team Engineering Mathematics #2 were awarded first place in their division. They will go on to the State Final in September. We are proud of the achievements of all our teams and thank them for their enormous effort.

Tournament of Minds is a problem-solving programme for teams of students from both primary and secondary years. TOM is one of the fastest growing international school programmes with the involvement of thousands of participants. TOM aims to enhance the potential of our youth by developing diverse skills, enterprise, time management, and the discipline to work collaboratively within a competitive environment.

Mrs Mahony, Mrs Brown, Ms Bell and Ms John have worked with teams to develop their collaborative, critical & lateral thinking, and performance skills throughout Terms 2 & 3 this year. TOM@MHS is comprised of students undertaking the Year 9 High Achievers program and is open to other students in Years 7 and 10 who nominate themselves for teams.

## Tournament of Minds State Finals

Sunday 10th September saw a team of seven Mitchell High students compete against teams from across New South Wales in the Tournament of Minds State Finals. Competing in the Engineering Mathematics discipline, Danny Makhoul (10), Cindy Li (10), Sarvpreet Singh (9), Sameer Mohiuddin (9), Jayden Bell (9), Dhwani Shukla (7) and Annabella Grogan-Fsadni (7) spent the day at the University of New South Wales where they worked with only three hours to develop a performance and an air-powered launching machine.

The students performed brilliantly and represented the school with pride. While they did not walk away with an award this year, the students had an enjoyable, rewarding

day and showcased how skilled Mitchell High School students are. We look forward to another great year of competition in 2018.



***Mrs Mahony, Mrs Brown, Ms Bell & Ms John  
For Tournament of Minds at Mitchell High***

## School Industry Partnership Award 2017

On Tuesday the 5th of September, three year 12 Vocational Education students were awarded certificates for their outstanding performance during work placement and a consistent effort in their respective subjects over the period of two years. Katya Floyd and Nanahenma O'Garey-Larbie received awards for Hospitality Food and Beverage and Chloe Calandruccio for Retail Services. These awards were presented at the School Industry Partnership Awards function held in Penrith.

Congratulations Katya, Nanahenma and Chloe!



***Mrs Prasad  
VET Co-ordinator***



## Welfare News

### Pacific Islander Program

Joe Tau provides learning, social and emotional support to our Pacific Islander students and provides an important link with parents and the community. He meets with small groups of students, provides one-on-one support and is available to assist parents with the school needs of their children. Joe has introduced the school to different programs providing increased student opportunities and cultural engagement, one of which is the 'Lean on Me Program'. The focus of the program is youth wellbeing, self-esteem and awareness of others.



### AIME

Three Year 12 students, Daniel Dellow, Guistino Annetchini and Trae Jaeggi, recently graduated from the AIME program. AIME stands for Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience. These students have been regular attendees since Year 9 and were presented with an AIME hoodie in recognition of their commitment to the program.



## PBL News

Mitchell High School recently supported the RU OK? campaign. The focus is on giving others the opportunity and time to share what they are feeling so they have a sense of connection and belonging. Having such a conversation could change a life. It is important to:

- Give the person your full attention
- Listen without judgement
- Encourage action

For more information and tips, visit [ruok.org.au](http://ruok.org.au).

### Miss Cate Head Teacher Welfare

## PDHPE

This term in the PE faculty it has been a very busy one. Students have been busy completing their practical Dance Assessment Tasks. Year 7 focused on integrating Sport movements into their Dance. Year 8's focus was on Dance Film, Year 9 Movies and Year 10 Michael Jackson. The teachers were blown away by the talent that was on display throughout the various year groups. Students were to perform in small groups displaying ability to work in a team environment and working on various aspects of movement composition.

During Health lessons, the Year 8 cohort completed the WSU Salsa program. SALSA (Students As Lifestyle Activists) is a peer-led education program that provides high school students with the necessary knowledge and skills to maintain a balanced and healthy lifestyle. The SALSA program uses an innovative student-centred approach where students become the drivers of both the teaching and learning processes in a supportive environment. The University students trained our Year 10 leaders in a one day program. These students then delivered a 4 week series of lessons based on healthy eating and an active lifestyle to the Year 8 students in small groups. This enabled various students to display their ability to lead a group and also allowed the Year 8 students a different forum to discuss the important health issues. We are very lucky to have this link with Western Sydney University and value this program's implementation into the future.

Year 10's health focus is on Partying Safely. There are many key issues being addressed and we hope our students value this and make safe decisions. In Term 4, the students will have the opportunity of being involved in the 'Blue Datto' presentation. The Blue Datto Foundation aims to protect the lives of young Australians through innovative road safety education. The aim is to change the culture of

young drivers by altering attitudes and behaviours. This program will be on students have been given the note and need to return this to Mrs Spadina in the PDHPE staff room.

A reminder to Year 10 about their Crossroads Camp. This year the camp will be at Fitzroy Falls from Wednesday 29th November till Friday the 1st December. The cost is \$355 where the students will be completing the mandatory Crossroads program. Payment and permission notes due in by 8th November to the PE staff room. If you have lost your permission note, please get a new one outside the staff room.

Year 11 students had the opportunity to complete their First Aid certificate this term. This accreditation lasts for three years and is a valuable and life saving tool. The students were outstanding during the course and are now equipped in helping to save a life.

The PDHPE staff would like to take this opportunity to wish our year 12 students all the very best in the upcoming HSC. It has been a pleasure teaching each and everyone of you and we wish you all the very best in the future.

**Mrs Spadina**  
**Head Teacher PDHPE**

## Labscene

### 2017 R.A.C.I. Australian National Chemistry Competition.



Over 88,678 students from 1,350 schools from 17 countries took part in this year's Competition - a truly International event in Chemistry education.

We had 45 students from Mitchell High School participate in the Competition this year.

The awarding of certificates of merit is described below:

**HD Excellence** - Award of Excellence for outstanding performance

**High Distinction** - The top 10% of students in the state

**Distinction** - The next 15% of students in the state (10% - 25%)

**Credit** - The next 15% of students in the state (25% - 40%)

**I'm proud to announce that this year we received:**

**1 Distinction and 1 Credit – Well Done!!**

### Year 7 2017

Ayeshah BAIG- Credit

### Year 11 2017

Zhihuan (Mike) LUO- Distinction

Congratulations to all students who participated in this year's Chemistry Competition.

If you are interested in participating in the 2018 Chemistry Competition – it will be run on Tuesday 2nd August 2018 and will cost \$6.00

**Mr Debrincat**

**HT Science**

## Making Memories – Year 8 Camp 2017

On September 13th 2017 83 Year 8 Students headed off to Stanwell Tops for the first Year 8 Camp. Blessed with three sunny days, students engaged in a range of activities that tested their determination and perseverance. Some students overcame their fear of heights as they braved the giant swing or abseiled off a cliff. Student's developed new friendships and learnt to work as a team as they competed in the Survivor Challenge or helped their peers through the Tree Tops High Ropes Course. Night Activities pitted teams against each other for some friendly competition with cheers and laughs for the victors and defeated alike. As our three days came to an end, many students reflected on the memories made and new friendships formed.



**To see more of what the students and teachers got up to on camp click the link below**

<https://www.facebook.com/MitchellHSBlacktown>



## Rock pathway project

A BIG thank you to our students, staff and parents/carers for visiting the rock painting stall during Heritage Day. The painted rocks will make up a bright and colourful pathway as part of our school's Positive Behaviour for Learning initiative.

Local businesses have assisted in this project by donating rocks! Prospect Flower Power and Blacktown Bunnings have been our biggest supporters. We feel blessed to be working in a community where businesses see the value of contributing to school projects.

Students have been very generous with their time. Miss Kwan's Year 7-10 Visual arts students have contributed to the project by transporting the rocks, washing and drying them. Some classes have painted a based coat using exterior house paint. These rocks were used during Heritage Day. We aim to get 1200 + rocks painted by the end of the project.

Keep your eyes out on this project!





## Peer Support

Friday 15th September saw a day of Peer Support activities delivered by Year 10 Peer Support Leaders to our Year 7 cohort.

Thankfully the sun was shining and it allowed the students to work in the R.E.A.L space, our outdoor learning area. Students worked in groups discussing, completing worksheets and activities on three main topics:

1. Behaving with Integrity
2. Anti-bullying
3. Challenging Thinking

A big thank you to the Year 7 students that took part in the day, Year 10 Leaders, teachers that took part in supervision or covering lessons. And a special thank you to Mrs Spadina and Mrs Shaw for assisting on the day.

**Miss Barber**  
**Learning and Support Teacher**



## NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

In Week 6 of this term, Mitchell High School students in Years 7 and 9 sat the practice NAPLAN Online tests. There was a writing test and an 'omnibus' test that included a mixture of questions from the reading, numeracy and language conventions tests. Students were able to see what NAPLAN Online will be like and compare it to their experiences of doing the paper-based tests earlier in the year. They were asked to provide feedback in a short survey at the end of each test.

The School Readiness Test process was important to allow us to test our school devices (laptops) and internet connectivity with the NAPLAN locked-down browser before the actual NAPLAN Online testing begins for Years 7 and 9 in 2018. As well, we could practice running the testing using the new procedures and instructions. We are pleased to report that the process went quite smoothly, though we learned some things that will help us to make the testing even better for next year.

We would like to thank the Year 7 and 9 students who were so cooperative, patient and diligent during the NAPLAN Online readiness tests and pass on our congratulations on their outstanding behaviour.

**Mrs Starink & Miss Scheerhoorn**





# Teaching someone to drive can be a **happy** experience.

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a **FREE** two hour workshop.

**The next workshop in your area will be held:**

2017 TIME & DATES:	VENUE:	BOOK NOW ON:
<b>Wednesday 25 October</b> 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm	<b>The Hub, Mount Druitt</b> 9 Ayres Grove Mount Druitt	<b>9839 6014</b>
<b>Tuesday 31 October</b> 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm	<b>Max Webber Function Centre</b> Cnr Flushcombe Road & Alpha St, Blacktown	or online at: <b>EVENTBRITE</b> <a href="http://www.eventbrite.com/e/supervising-learner-drivers-tickets-37082983201">www.eventbrite.com/e/supervising-learner-drivers-tickets-37082983201</a>
<b>Wednesday 1 November</b> 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm	<b>Dennis Johnson Library</b> 2 Sentry Drv Stanhope Gardens	

**Helping learner drivers  
become safe drivers**





# You're the Driver...



## ...you're responsible!

### Driver education workshops



**FREE**

#### The Mount Drutt Hub

6.30 pm - 8.30 pm

PART A - Thursday, 2 NOVEMBER

PART B - Thursday, 9 NOVEMBER

#### Maxwebber Library Function Centre, Blacktown

6.30 pm - 8.30 pm

PART A - Monday, 6 NOVEMBER

PART B - Monday, 13 NOVEMBER

#### Dennis Johnson Library, Stanhope Gardens

6.30 pm - 8.30 pm

PART A - Wednesday, 8 NOVEMBER

PART B - Wednesday, 15 NOVEMBER

#### BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

☎ 9839 6014 or Book online

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/youre-the-driver-workshops-tickets-37056188056](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/youre-the-driver-workshops-tickets-37056188056)

Update your understanding of the road rules and  
brush up on your safe driving knowledge at our **FREE**

You're the Driver workshops.

For further information please contact Council's  
Road Safety Officer on 9839 6363

 **Blacktown City Council**

[www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au](http://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au)



# MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL

Delivering excellence through innovative & unique learning opportunities for student success

A: Keyworth Drive Blacktown NSW 2148  
T: 9622 9944 / 9622 8926  
F: 9831 2805  
E: [mitchell-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mitchell-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
W: [www.mitchell-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mitchell-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)



14 February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

## DONATE YOUR FREE 2017-2018 BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL PLANT ALLOCATION TO MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL

If you pay Blacktown City Council rates and would like to donate your free allocation of 2 plants to our school, please fill in the below and return this form back to the Mitchell High School Administration Office as soon as possible. Alternatively, you can email your signed form to: [mitchell-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mitchell-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) and attention it to Ms Lindsay. These donated plants will be used for planting on school grounds.

Your donation will appreciated by students and staff of Mitchell High School.

Regards

Ms E. Marinis  
Principal

I/We \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer(s) Full Name on Blacktown City Council Rate Notice

reside at \_\_\_\_\_

House Number / Street Name on Blacktown City Council Rate Notice

Suburb

Postcode

have NOT collected my 2 free plants from Blacktown City Council this financial year and would like to donate them to Mitchell High School for planting on school grounds.

Parent/Carer Signature

Date





# HOMework CENTRE

ON EVERY WEDNESDAY,  
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY  
IN THE LIBRARY

- TEACHERS AND SENIOR PREFECTS  
ASSIST WITH HOMEWORK AND  
ASSIGNMENT ENQUIRIES
- USEFUL STUDY TIPS PROVIDED
- COMPUTERS AND BOOKS AVAILABLE

FROM 3:10 - 4:10 PM



**MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL**

Delivering excellence through innovative and unique learning opportunities for student success

Principal: Ms E. Marinis  
Address: Keyworth Drive Blacktown 2148  
Telephone: 9622 9944 / 9622 8926  
Fax: 9831 2805  
Email Address: [mitchell-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mitchell-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Website: [www.mitchell-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mitchell-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## STUDENT CONCESSION CARDS 2017 / 2018

### Are you 16 years of age or over?

**You need to collect your Student Concession Card**

Students who are 16 years of age or over are now eligible to collect their **2017/2018 Student Concession Cards** from the Mitchell High School Administration Office. These cards can only be collected **during lunch**.

Any student, who misplaces their Student Concession Card during the year, will need to re-apply for a new one by collecting a form from the Administration Office. This form is lodged by the student at their nearest railway station, emailed or faxed, with a replacement cost of \$28.00.

Please contact the Administration Office on the above number if you have any queries. Thank you.

Ms Halls

School Administration Officer