IN CONTACT



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF COLO HIGH SCHOOL

Term 3- Week 10 | 2019



EXECUTIVE TEAM MESSAGE:

By Mr Sargeant, Mr King and Mrs Wright

After 13 years of schooling our Year 12 students have graduated! For our 117 graduating students and their families the last few weeks have been filled with ups, downs, celebration, excitement, sadness and relief. There is no hiding the fact that completing Year 12 is a rollercoaster of emotion for everyone involved, including our teachers. However, it is important to reflect on the words spoken at thie years graduation ceremony - Mr Sargeant explained that "Your ATAR and HSC does not define you" and Mr Hanns added "only you can be you". You will always be a member of the Colo High School community and we wish you all the best in the next chapter of your journey. Good luck and farewell!

On one hand we farewell our 2019 School Leaders and on the other we welcome our 2020 representatives. We would like to congratulate and introduce you to: Oliver Abel, Jaylen Bilbija, Jeremy Yabsley, Bailey Langham, Alannah Sullivan and Saya Carroll.

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KEY DATES:

Term 3 Concludes

Friday 27 September

Term 4 Commences

Monday 15 October

2020 Aspirations Class Information Evening

Tuesday 15 October

HSC Examinations

Wednesday 16 October – Tuesday 12 November

The end of Term 3 also signals the end of Year 11 study and the beginning of the HSC journey for our 2020 graduates. Year 11 timetables will remain unchanged next term, however students should keep an eye on the Student Portal for room changes. While Year 11 begin to focus on their HSC during Term 4, our Year 10 students have their eye on the Year 10 Formal. Colo High School is one of only a handful of high schools who still offer a Year 10 Formal and provide an opportunity to farewell the students who have chosen an alternate pathway in 2020. Please remember that any course fees need to be finalised with our office before attending the formal. Student statements were emailed to parents this term and can be paid online or in person at the front office, however please avoid paying fees online during the school holidays. Please also ensure all library book and textbooks are returned or paid for.

The use of email is increasingly becoming one of the best ways for us to communicate with parents. If you are not receiving emails from the school please contact our office during school hours to update your details.

As you would be aware, our History block has undergone major renovation work to rectify water damage caused by heavy downfalls earlier in the year. The good news is that work is nearing completion and we should expect to have students back in the building during Term 4.

School finishes this Friday 27 September and resumes on Week A Monday 14 October. We wish you a relaxing and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you all back in Term 4.

Thank you!



Want to see great leaders in action? You should have seen Colo High's Yr 10 Leadership trainers in action! By Mrs Pattinson

Wednesday 18 September saw Year 5 students from our feeder primary schools learn about leadership. Approximately 30 volunteers from Year 10 led the workshops after completing their own training a few weeks ago. What incredible role models they were! Our Year 10 students continued to impress with their enthusiasm and ability to motivate even the most reluctant Year 5 students and help them to realise that leadership skills help all of us in life. Together they practised public speaking, team work and self-reflection whilst learning about the 'muscles' of effective leaders.

Thank you so much to the co-ordinators, Mrs Mackie (Bilpin PS, Principal) and Mr Wheat (Richmond North PS, Assistant Principal). This was a Colo Learning Community activity hosted by Richmond North Public School and assisted by so many of our wonderful local Principals and teachers (including our own Mr Sargeant who sizzles a mean sausage on the BBQ). Colo students showcased to the wider community skills that are so valued in public education – initiative, team work and communication.

Their Year Adviser Thomas Burke and I were very proud to be part of the day.













Music: By Ms Smith

Last weekend Colo musicians performed at the opening of Operation Art, a state wide visual arts exhibition for students from Kindergarten through to Year 10 held at Sydney Olympic Park. Colo High School was represented in both the Millenium Marching Band and the Pulse Public Schools Big Band, a very busy but rewarding day for all involved. Enjoy a little taste of the day from Year 11 student, Campbell Egan on our Facebook page.







Dance: By Mrs Skinner

Colo dance students have been achieving at a high level during Term 3 in both their elective course work and dance ensembles. The students' enthusiasm, dedication and commitment are to be commended. Their exciting results and achievements are listed below.

Hawkesbury Eisteddfod 2019

Congratulations to the 52 Colo dancers who competed at the Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod on Tuesday 20 August at Windsor Function Centre. It was a very successful day with all five dance routines securing places. Students performed brilliantly and were extremely professional on and off the stage. We are very proud of these hard-working students who achieved at such a high level. While all placed well in each section the highlight of the day was our Senior Dance group who were awarded 1st place with 95 Marks for their item "The Conscientious Objector". They also received \$100 for the school for their win.

Results:

• 1st place: Senior Dance Group

• 2nd place: Junior Dance Group

3rd place: Year 9 Elective 4th place: Year 11 Elective

• Highly Commended: Year 10

Elective



Dance Course Work Term 3

Elective students in Year 9 & 10 have presented fabulous composition assessment task dances this term. They were all of a very high standard and demonstrated developing skills in choreography with original and inventive ideas. Year 11 elective had their final dance examination presenting a solo composition and a solo dance focusing on dance technique and performance. Year 11 have made great progress and have prepared themselves extremely well for the HSC course.



School Spectacular

Congratulations to the following students who will be performing in the dance segments at this year's School Spectacular. Students will attend various rehearsals and perform on 22 and 23 November at Qudos Bank Arena. This is a wonderful opportunity for these students.

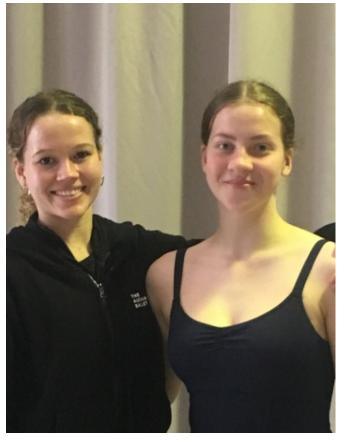
Year 10 students: Year 9 students:

Olivia Barker Keira Broderick
Danyka Charman Kayla Scholte
Ashleigh Collins Grace Shirvington
Sara Kirkwood Amy Slattery
Imogen Sinclair Zoe Sullivan
Chloe Snell Felicity Worger
Jed Parsonage.

Outstanding Achievements

Congratulations to Jed Parsonage Year 9, who performed brilliantly at the State Dance Festival at The Seymour Centre on Friday 13 September with the NSW Public Schools Urban Dance Crew.

Congratulations to Keira Broderick Year 9 who attended the Australian Ballet Workshop at AMPA Dance Studios in Alexandria on Tuesday 17 September, gaining valuable experience.



Congratulations Grace Barker, Year 10, Olivia Barker, Year 7 and sister Ashleigh, who demonstrated their incredible talents on the Channel 9 program "This Time Next Year" on Monday 9 September.



Upcoming Dance Events

- Hawkesbury Dance Festival Students in the Junior and Senior Dance groups have been selected to perform at the evening performance of the Hawkesbury Dance Festival at the Windsor Function Centre on Wednesday 23 October.
- Dance Elective classes are attending an excursion to see a professional performance by the Sydney Dance Company as part of their course work on Monday 4 November in Sydney.
- NSW Public Schools School Spectacular Colo Dance and Music students are performing at the Schools Spectacular
 on Friday 22 and Saturday 23 of November at Qudos Bank Arena. An excursion to view the Friday matinee
 performance has been organised for Colo students to attend. Students can collect a note from the Music staffroom for
 this excursion.

Home Economics: By Mrs Kumar & Ms Szymkow

Subjects offered in our faculty provide students with opportunities to build on their practical skills and ensure students are consistently engaged in Project Based Learning to enhance their educational experiences

Year 7 Transition Lessons

In Term 3 in weeks 4 and 5, the faculty ran taster lessons in Food Technology as part of the transition lessons. The students made pizza muffins and had an enjoyable hands on experience. The Year 6 students were fascinated by our commercial kitchen.



Year 10 Child Studies

Throughout the year students have been actively engaging in the Child Studies program by participating in physical experiences, such as swimming lessons and running reading groups at Kurmond Public School.

Safety concerns such as swimming and water safety have been a key course concept. Students were giggly and keen to get in the water with their make-shift babies (and one actual baby – our class mascot Callie!) to learn the importance of early water familiarisation and how to teach young children basic swimming skills. The Windsor YMCA was very accommodating and some of our students were even asked to consider completing work experience there.

Australian Reading Hour is an annual event and well supported by our Colo Learning Community. This year students were invited to Kurmond to work with young children, to encourage the love of reading and sharing reading experiences with others. Our students were fantastic! They read, coloured, played games and promoted positive behaviours with stickers and bookmarks. We look forward to being a part of this program again next year.

Year 9 Café Skills and Barista Class

On August 12, the Café Skills and Barista class ran a Café Day to experience the operation of a Café. The students prepared and served a variety of food and beverages including espresso coffees to customers. They effectively demonstrated the skills they had learnt over the course of the year and the students loved the opportunity that they were given.

The students are now planning their second Café Day which will be held in week 5 of Term 4.



Term 3 Principal's Morning Tea

Year 11 Hospitality along with some Year 9 Café Skills students were at their best during Week 6, with their stellar catering efforts for this term's Principal's Morning Tea. The quality of food and service attracted some positive feedback, which is always nice to hear. Principal's Morning Teas are a great time to celebrate the strong achievements of our students, but also give our food-oriented subjects real-life opportunities to practice catering for large scale events.

Schools Industry Partnership Awards Night

Schools Industry Partnership endeavour to provide all our VET students with work placements in various areas. They held their annual award night on September 17 at Tyndale College, Blacktown. Indiana Barrington, Year 12 was awarded a Certificate of Excellence for her outstanding practical work in the hospitality industry.

Watch the Space: Principal's Morning Tea Term 4

Our Year 10 Food Technology and Year 10 Visual Arts classes are planning a cross-curricular event for this year's Term 4 Principal's Morning Tea. They have been investigating Chinese foods and cultures and recently visited Chinatown and the Chinese Garden of Friendship to gain some food inspiration and capture images for a street photography display. Their combined class task will be coordinating the whole event, from menu design and service to the set design and event ambience. If you don't yet have your red awards ready – then now is the time! You will not want to miss this one!



Agriculture: Penrith Show 2019

On August 24 and 25 the Colo High School show team competed in the annual Penrith Show. Students had been preparing for the show for weeks, painting, researching and building a static display on agricultural education now and in the past. Days before the show they washed chooks and cattle, harvested vegetables and prepared sheep for exhibition.

Students arrived, bright eyed and bushy tailed ready to wash and prepare the sheep and cattle ready for judging and parading classes. These students all showed dedication, commitment and pride in their school during the two days of the show.

There were many competitions on both days and the students excelled in a number of areas.

The results are as follows:

- Beth Simmonds and Olivia Baird led the judges through our display and earned a highly commended award for our display.
- Jake Camenzuli led Peters, our steer, to a first place in his heat and then contested the championship, winning Champion Leppington Calf.
- Olivia Baird, Matthew Vella, Jessica Farrara, Joanne Camilleri, Jacob James, Maddison Ferrara and Sarah Butler competed in the Novice Cattle Parading with Olivia placing 1st in her heat and 3rd in the final, Maddison placing 1st in her heat, 2nd in the final and she qualified for in the championship.
- Emily Said, Josh Vella, Jake Camenzuli and Eliza McLaren competed in the Experienced Cattle Parading with Emily placing 4th in her heat and Jake placing 3rd in his heat.
- Entered in the sheep handling competition were Sarah Butler, Jacob James, Jessica Ferrara, Jake Camenzuli, Matthew Vella, Beth Simmonds and Seth Hoffman. Jessica Ferrara placed 4th in her heat. Matthew Vella placed 2nd in his heat and Beth Simmonds placed 1st in her heat and came 3rd in the championship.
- Sarah Butler and Beth Simmonds entered the individual sheep judging competition and Seth Hoffman and Matthew Vella entered the team competition. Unfortunately, no ribbons were won in these classes.
- Our Araucana rooster achieved 2nd place, our ram came 1st in his class, as did our heifer, Panda. Pherdinand the steer placed 2nd in his class.
- Our Rural Olympics team scored 229/ 250 points earning them a gold medal. The team was made up of Beth Simmonds, Joshua Vella, Matthew Vella and Emily Said.
- Seth Hoffman entered the individual poultry judging and Eliza McLaren and Jacob James entered the team event. Eliza and Jacob earned 5th place.
- I would also like thank all the show team members for making sure our display was always manned and that our animals were fed and watered during both days of the show.

A big congratulations goes out to all the students involved this year. You have made us all very proud.





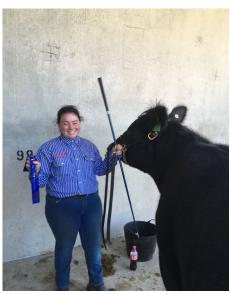


Agriculture: Penrith Show 2019













Unischools Steer Challenge Closing Ceremony 2019

Earlier this term, we reported on the success of our paraders at the Unischools Live Day Show. We would now like to share the final results of the competition following the closing ceremony for this competition.

Matthew Vella, Jake Camenzuli, Joshua Vella and Beth Simmonds entered the Junior Judging. Joshua Vella placed 4th in the senior speaking Judge section.

The Junior Beef Appraisal team of Sarah Butler, Joanne Camilleri, Jake Camenzuli and Olivia Baird and the Senior Beef Appraisal team of Joshua Vella, Seth Hoffman, Beth Simmonds and Emily Said achieved the best combined score to earn Colo the Champion Beef Appraisal Shield.

Pickles was judged against all other steers for his readiness for market and his presentation for the show ring. Emily Said led him in his classes. He placed 7th in his readiness for market class and placed 6th in the weight gain class averaging a gain of 1.3kg per day. Pickles also placed 6th in the carcass competition.

Joanne Camilleri and Beth Simmonds led three sets of judges through our display, stall and steer diary website in the Herdsman competition. In this section Colo placed 7th.

The Colo team as a whole placed fourth overall in the point score for the entire competition. A job well done by all. CONGRATULATIONS!!























Congratulations to Chloe Evans for playing at the NSW Girls CHS Tennis Championships at Inverell.







26th Annual Arndell Inter Schools Equestrian Carnival

Congratulations to Codi Hardiman who recently competed in the 26th Annual Inter Schools Equestrian Carnival for the first time. Codi competed in the Year 10 Open Rider and came away with 1st place. All first place riders across Year 10, 11 and 12 went on to compete for Champion. Codi rode beautifully and was successfully awarded Champion.

Codi then went on to compete with the Champion of Year 7, 8, and 9 for the title of Supreme Champion of the Senior Open Ring, and once again Codi rode absolutely beautifully and was presented with Supreme Champion Senior Open Rider!

We look forward to seeing Codi's future achievements.







FACULTY IN FOCUS: INDUSTRIAL ARTS By Mr Willoughby-Green

Term 3. Here it comes... there it goes! Quick as a flash, but boy we packed a lot into Industrial Arts this term.

Known here as 'Major Project season', this is the time when Year 12 students combine all of their knowledge and skills, including project management and problem solving with commitment and hard work to put together a high quality final product with a detailed portfolio. Months of designing, planning and countless hours both in and outside of class time have seen these students produce amazing results. Results that our students and their families should be very proud of.

A dedicated student succeeds at this time needing to not only produce a quality Major Project for HSC Marking, but also sit their Trial Examinations as well as complete coursework in preparation for their HSC written exams early in Term 4. Well done to each of our Year 12 Industrial Arts students, we are proud of your efforts and accomplishments. We hope that our students will be able to apply these important project management skills in their future endeavours.



FACULTY IN FOCUS: INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Photos of Major Projects from the 2019 Year 12 Industrial Technology classes continued:



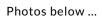


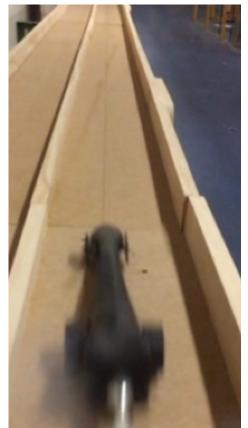




A busy time, but the next generation of STEM / Industrial Arts students began their journey. Numerous Year 7 students have completed their first unit 'STEMgineering' in technology, with others just beginning for the remainder of the year. This unit of work is designed around the idea that anyone can be an engineer, that is, get handed a task/challenge/problem, research and investigate ideas, test and try possibilities, fine tune those ideas and come up with the best solutions. We believe these are good skills for life and excited that our class work provides positive and engaging learning opportunities.

CO2 dragsters and robotics are two ways to learn such skills. Design and make model cars that can shoot down a track at 60 km/h and learn to control and code small robots to perform tricks and get through challenges.... sounds more like fun than learning, and we certainly have fun teaching it.









FACULTY IN FOCUS: INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Photos of Major Projects from the 2019 Year 12 Industrial Technology classes continued:

Year 9 Building & Construction have inherited the Outdoor Classroom project started by construction classes last year. This mammoth project supported with school funding, is designed and built entirely by students in fifty minute chunks one lesson at a time. Logistically very challenging, incorporating various forms of seating, a deck, bridge and dry river bed, there is plenty to learn about, in a real world setting. Students have again taken on skills of concreting, fencing and landscaping with gusto. The teamwork is a pleasure to watch. Well done. Our goal is to finish and present this big project to the school for use next term.



LIBRARY REPORT: By Ms Buchanan

Here are two letters from famous people – writer Neil Gaiman and entrepreneur/adventurer Richard Branson – addressed to young people, on why reading matters.

...

Dear Person Reading This,

A writer can fit a whole world inside a book. Really. You can go there. You can learn things while you are away. You can bring them back to the world you normally live in. You can look out of another person's eyes, think their thoughts, care about what they care about. You can fly. You can travel to the stars. You can be a monster or a wizard or a god. You can be a girl. You can be a boy. Books give you worlds of infinite possibility. All you have to do is be interested enough to read that first page.

Somewhere, there is a book written just for you. It will fit your mind like a glove fits your hand. And it's waiting. Go and look for it.

Neil Gaiman

...

Dear Book Lover,

Let me take you on an adventure. We're not going by plane, train or spaceship — instead we're staying right here on this page. These words can provide you with the greatest adventure of all time, if you let your imagination run free.

I've seen the world in all its glory. I've crossed the globe by plane, sped through stunning landscapes on trains, sailed the high seas by boat, and skimmed some of the world's tallest peaks in a balloon. And with Virgin Galactic I hope to gaze back on Earth from space. But before I was able to do all this, I learned as a child that adventure doesn't have to be physical.

Some of my biggest and most exciting escapades have sprung from the pages of books. I've journeyed into the frozen heart of Antarctica with Robert Falcon Scott; experienced the courage of the troops on the battlefields of Stalingrad; walked the Long Walk to Freedom with Nelson Mandela; spent long summer days sailing on the Swallow and the Amazon; and let the wild rumpus begin Where the Wild Things Are.

Reading broadens the mind, heightens the senses, and enlivens the spirit. It gives us hope, drive and inspiration. Make it a habit, give it unrestricted access to your imagination, and you will be presented with opportunities and possibilities beyond your wildest dreams. As one of my favourite authors, Dr Seuss, wrote: Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Imagination is one of humanity's greatest qualities — without it the world would be a very dull place. Let the words of a book guide your imagination, and the spirit of adventure motivate you to set goals, push yourself, thrive in the face of hardship, and achieve epic feats. And when you do get the opportunity to travel, take a book with you. Books can be wonderful teachers, saviours during wait times, and companions on the road. Plus, they often hold memories of where you have been, recalling experiences and emotions of times spent exploring.

Read and choose your own adventure, and the whole world will be yours, at the ends of your fingertips.

Yours,

Richard

The source for the two letters is the book, A Velocity of Being: Letters to a Young Reader, edited by Maria Popova and Claudia Bedrick. An edited extract can be found here:

LIBRARY REPORT:

Each of our Year 7 and 8 roll classes comes to the library for roll call twice in the term, for an extra opportunity to find and borrow books. (Junior English classes come once a fortnight).

In the second half of the term, I've been talking with the Year 7 and 8 students about the opportunities that reading offers. The metaphor I've been using is of a well; that each of us has a well in which is stored all we have read and all we are reading. Then, when the time comes to write or speak, we can draw on that well for words and ideas and ways of expressing these.

Nobody can fill our well for us – it's a task for each individual. Students who read little or nothing have emptier wells, and fewer resources when it comes to their schoolwork now or their future studies as senior students, or in TAFE/further education. Fewer resources means greater limitations on the ideas they can express and the ways in which they can express them. Shorter sentences. A restricted vocabulary. Self-imposed, self-chosen. Not only for creative writing, but for essays, speeches, all writing, all self-expression.

Whereas those students who read, who ride on dragons and laugh with the wimpy kid and journey with hobbits are also coming across words they may not know, in a context where they can make an educated guess about them and add them to their vocabulary.

They are discovering multiple ways in which stories can be told. Every book in the fiction section of our school library – around five thousand of them – every one starts differently. Different points of view, different characters, different voices, different words. Each one a fresh adventure – who/what/where/when/why. The English language is an extraordinary and rich one. Stories are not only fun, engaging, engrossing: they are important.

As students, teachers and parents/guardians we need to fill that well we each have, so it is a rich source on which we can draw to express ourselves in speech and writing in our busy and varied lives. And the key to this is regular reading. Twenty minutes a day is an achievable and worthwhile goal.

The photos will show you some of the newest additions to our school library. Books to make our students laugh, dream, wonder and think; books that are worlds to explore; books to feed the imagination with words and with ideas. Enjoy.









CAREERS REPORT: By Mrs McNair

Term 3 is always an exceptionally busy time, particularly for Year 12 students. Not only are they wrapping up their studies prior to their HSC exams but also making their final decisions on which university undergraduate degree or college course to choose. With UAC opening in April this year, many students took advantage of the opportunity to make their selections early so that they could focus the remainder of their academic year on study. And as a result of the May Careers Market many more took the opportunity to visit various institutions' Open Days to find out more about what they had on offer and to ensure that it fitted their future career needs. This year students have selected undergraduate degrees to accommodate a wide range of interests ranging from Border Control to Cybersecurity. It's been great to see more students apply and receive places in various Leadership and Achievers programs across different universities and being more aware of the immense range of scholarship opportunities available to them.

Senior students are reminded to check their school emails regularly as some of the best apprenticeship offers come through at this time of the year. These are often sent to other schools so act quickly if you find one that interests you.

A number of Year 10 students as well as senior students also secured apprenticeships across a range of trades while many Year 9 students are gearing up to obtain their 'White Cards' (General Construction Induction Card) in readiness for Work Experience on construction sites later this year and next year. Parents need to be aware that online White Cards are no longer allowed by the Department of Education / SafeWork NSW. It is the Department's expectation that students will use a White Card issued by SafeWork NSW, (formerly WorkCover NSW) when a White Card is required, including for workplace learning. SafeWork NSW mandates face-to-face delivery of the White Card.

Three Colo High students received top places in TAFE TVET courses as part of their HSC studies and will be presented with their certificates at Presentation Evening. Congratulations go to Caleb Fairweather (Electro-technology) Zoe Luthy (Human Services - Aged Care) and Nicholas Plew (Mechanical – Light Vehicle).

Graduation Night for Health Services (Acute Care) students at Nepean Hospital was quite an event with Anika Muir successfully completing her course as part of her HSC.

Students from Years 7 to 10 did another wonderful job this term assisting in our community service program, Positive Paws at Guide Dogs. Glossodia. Our Term 3 mentors, Felicity Worger (Year 9), Emma Roache (Year 10) and William Pattison (Year 7) assisted new students and all demonstrated just how much they have learnt in eight weeks in puppy and dog handling skills. Congratulations go to Kayla Scholte (Year 9) and Taeja Holley (Year 10) who were selected as Term 4 mentors. The work that the students do is invaluable in the pups' initial training prior to beginning their Guide Dogs training or moving on to become Therapy or Assistance Dogs. Colo High School is very proud to be able to contribute toward assisting this amazing organisation and students are rewarded with an insight into an aspect of the animal industry and careers that often go unnoticed as well as leadership and teamwork skills.

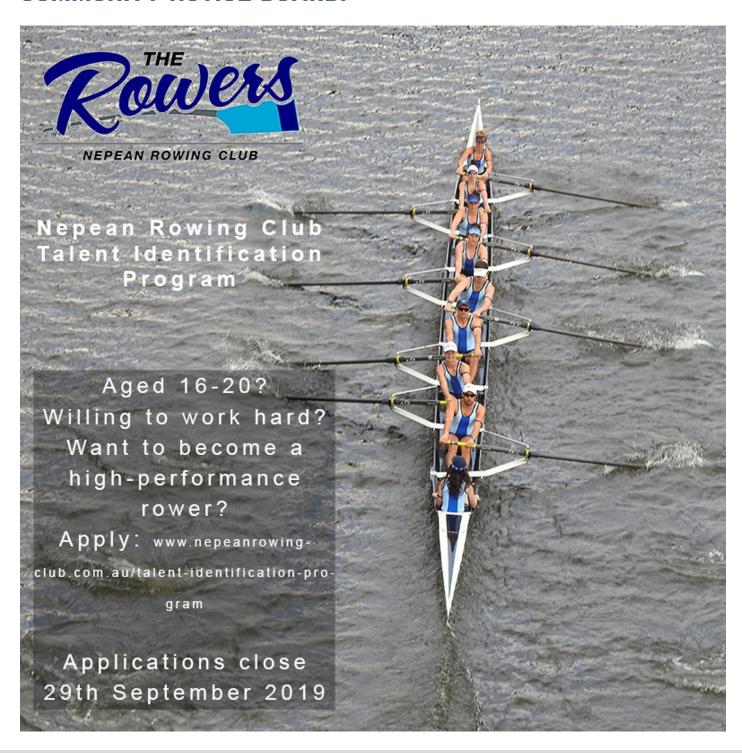
And a big thank you to Mrs McKinley and our Front Office Staff for volunteering their time to assist in the program.

If you would like to help the Guide Dogs by becoming a community Puppy Raiser, information is available at: https://www.guidedogs.com.au/guide-dogs/puppy-raising.





COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD:



USEFUL LINKS:

Canteen Menu
Uniform Shop Price List
Parent Portal
School Enews

Facebook Instagram