

MERCURIUS

The News Magazine of Fort Street High School

December 2015 Term 4

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Dear Parents, Carers and Fortians

The past month has been packed with celebrations, commemorations and achievements. Our Remembrance Day assembly is a pivotal point in the school year and this year we had another poignant layer gently laid over the ceremony.



A new honour board commemorating Fortians who fell during The Great War was unveiled by Vicki Gillett during the ceremony. Vicki

and her late husband were pivotal in organising the honour board that was unveiled at the ANZAC ceremony earlier this year. Robin Perry (School Archivist), Janice Eastment (HT Administration) and Chris Egan from the school's library undertook a major piece of research to identify other Fortians not listed on the original honour board. My thanks for spending, what was in some cases, quite a substantial amount of personal time undertaking this exercise.



At the same assembly the new SRC representatives were inducted as well as the House Captains. Please see the full list of SRC representatives and

House Captains and Vice Captains in this edition. I would like to thank the outgoing SRC executive for their outstanding work throughout

the year. Ava and Sarah are still attending the weekly meeting with the Principal and providing ongoing mentoring to the new executive.



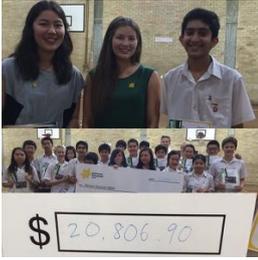
Phil Harper, Cheryl Beattie and Ian Reid were recipients of the Fort Street High School Distinguished Service Medal. Unfortunately Cheryl and Ian were overseas for the presentation. Phil Harper was the

inaugural IMP coordinator and much of his groundwork remains in place today, helping make the Instrumental Music Program the great success it is. Cheryl was an active P&C member and was the uniform shop coordinator for many years working closely with the school to help the students. Ian was also an active P&C member who spent a number of years as their Vice President. Ian became the backbone of the catering team that provided refreshments at Music, Drama and Art showcases. My thanks to the three recipients as their contribution to the Fort Street community has made it a richer and more vibrant place.



Catriona Arcamone, Head Teacher English, was nominated for a Department of Education Excellence award recently. She was chosen to receive the excellence award by a panel consisting of Directors and Principals. Catriona was

nominated for the way she has transformed the teaching of English and the resultant improvement in HSC marks over the last few years.



A team of Fort Street High School students recently undertook the Seven Bridges Walk to raise money for the Cancer Council. As a team they raised \$20,806.90. **Sunil Jassal**, who has

undertaken this walk for the past two years was the stand out fundraiser of the team. He raised over \$15,000 individually taking his tally for three years to over \$32,000. Sunil is an amazing Year 8 student who is also an SRC representative and represents the student body on the School Council.



Congratulations to **Jason Song** (Yr 7) and **Vivian Truong** (Yr 10) who were awarded medals at the International Competitions and Assessment for Schools (ICAS)

award ceremony. Both students were recognised for their highest scores in the state achievement in the writing competition. This is the second medal that Vivian has won. These competitions help enrich the academic program and help the school identify where the students are sitting in relation to students internationally.



I had the pleasure of attending the annual Schools Spectacular performance last Friday and was again amazed at the professionalism and creativity that this event showcases each year. Again we had a large contingent of Fort Street students performing either as featured artists, backing singers, stage band ensemble members, orchestra members or choir members. **Sefa Laga'aia** was a featured artist this year as was **Lauren White**. Both students displayed a performance maturity well beyond their years. Congratulations to all cast members and my thanks to the staff who have accommodated the many rehearsals these students have had to attend.

This is the last Mercurius for the year with the first edition being mailed out mid-January, 2016, as a hard copy. My thanks to all the staff,

students, parents and alumni who have made 2015 a successful year. I look forward to working with you all in 2016 when I return to my role as Deputy Principal. I trust that the summer break treats you well and you continue to use every day as a learning opportunity.

David Osland
Relieving Principal

Leadership positions 2016

SRC

President	Victor Tsang
Vice President	Olivia Le Khac
Secretary	Brianna Wilson
Treasurer	Edwin Hong Lam
Vice Secretary	Hans Choy
Vice Treasurer	Zoe Robertson
School Council Reps	Michelle Cheung and Sunil Jassal
P&C Reps	Mali Woods and Hugo Degotardi
Publicity Officers	Aurora Muir and Claudia Nguyen
Public Relations Officer	Alicia Gao
Charity Coordinator	Cole Johnson
Canteen Officer	Ashley Challinor

House Captains

Kennedy	Jessica Le and Jason Nguyen
Barton	Kate Cousins and Carlo Pane
Preston	Phaedra Carroll and Ike Schwartz
Mawson	Naomi Murn and Michael Senthilnathan

House Vice Captains

Kennedy	Jessica Boyley and David Du
Barton	Rachel Li and Otto Khoo
Preston	Arielle Bolton and Mitchell Clayton
Mawson	Sunny Zhang and Lyndon Wade

ASX Competition

154 Fortians from year 7 to year 11 participated in the Australian Securities Exchange competition in Semester 2. Each syndicate received \$50,000 in pretend money to invest in shares listed on the Australian Securities Exchange.

Richard Quach of year 9 achieved the highest profit from Fort Street High, ending up with a portfolio worth \$55,222 – a 10% increase in value in only two months! Richard traded extensively during the game, ending up with a portfolio of financial services companies.

The second placed syndicate was by **Geoffrey Ni, Shichen Mao and Jefferson Lee** of year 10, who ended up on \$54,758. These boys also traded frequently in a diverse range of companies in different industries.

The third placed syndicate was a very impressive effort from **Max Collingwood and Jonathon Kelley** of year 7, who ended up with \$54,571. These boys used a buy and hold strategy, investing early in Regis Resources, Medibank Private and Asciano (a transportation company), and then later investing in Bega Cheese and Beach Energy.

Only 30 out of our 72 active syndicates ended up with a profit, illustrating the challenging trading circumstances this semester. The ASX experienced some significant falls early in the game, and only started to recover towards the end. The All Ordinaries Index increased 1.9% over the course of the game. The best performing sectors were consumer staples, industrials, IT and utilities all up over 4%. The worst performing sectors were telecommunications down over 7% and energy down 4.6%. The top stocks were RRL - Regis Resources and EVN - Evolution Mining both up over 50% followed by UGL and NST - Northern Star both up over 40%. The worst performing stocks were DSH - Dick Smith down over 50%, LNG - Liquefied Natural Gas down 41% and ORG - Origin Energy down 34%

All Fort Street High School students are encouraged to participate in the competition in 2016. An email will be sent to all students' DEC accounts in term 1 with registration details.

Ms Jerrems Social Science



Beautiful Print Silent Auction

Matthew Martin framed print
in archival ink on A3+ Arches paper

At the IMP end-of-year concert
Sunday 13th of December 2015

Advance bids to Jane Fitzgerald
jite19@gmail.com

All proceeds to
Fort Street IMP

Year 9 Excursion to Barangaroo

The excursion to Barangaroo and surrounding suburbs was an informative and fun excursion. It was extremely hot and hard to walk around under conditions. The Barangaroo South region is currently undergoing renewal, consolidation and changing its industry. This is reflected by the major project of the 60 floor casino and residential buildings. We learnt about the key impacts and issues the area was undergoing and the stakeholders involved.



We covered Barangeroo's history and how the cityscape has changed over numerous period of time. All the information we gathered or learned from the tour guide is aiding us in completing an essay to a high standard. The hardest parts were getting there and fighting with all the annoying flies. This Geography excursion was overall hot and tiring but fun and informative.

Tina Chen Year 9

Who said Maths is unimaginative?

This year Fort Street High School students participated in the University of Wollongong "Maths via Digital Media Competition" wherein they created short videos engaging with a mathematical concept. They turned into mathematic presenters and showcased the creative, inventive side of mathematics.

We had four Year 7/8 group entries:
Circles (Year 7) – **Tiffany Tieu, Carmen Wen, Jessica Yoon, Angelina Lee**

Algebra (Year 7) – **Anson Lee, Phillip Shurupov, Michael Smith, Oliver Edstein**

Equations (Year 7) – **Lara Vance, India Treweek, Bridget Gard, Sabine Chin-Lowe**

Inequations (Year 8) – **Georgio Hawi, Patrick Wu, Zhen Jia, Nicholas Utojo**

and three Year 9/10 group entries:

The Penpal from China: The Distance Formula (Year 9) – **Chris Chung Yan Cheng, Simon Tang, Alex Guan, Joshua Liam Lam**

Trigonometry Through The Ages (Year 9) –
**Alexander Migdalias, Dante Burn, Adrian
Castillo, Rahel Sahni**

Parabolas (Year 9) – **Sophia Sun, Eileen
Yongxin Li, Marina Qian Li, Yu Cheng Zhang,
Jiamin Guo**

However, we were restricted to only one submission for each year group, so our Mathematics Faculty had the very difficult task of selecting the final submission. The following two entries were chosen:

Algebra by Anson Lee, Phillip Shurupov, Michael Smith, Oliver Edstein

Parabolas by Sophia Sun, Eileen Yongxin Li, Marina Qian Li, Yu Cheng Zhang, Jiamin Guo
All the videos were of a very high standard and creatively explored their topics. By thinking, planning and creating these videos, the students were able to take a mathematical concept and unravel it to engage and connect with mathematics in an interactive level. I'm very proud of all of their efforts and of the intelligent and imaginative ways in which they portrayed mathematics.

Congratulations to our Year 9/10 entry that was successfully selected as a finalist and will attend a presentation night on the 9th of December 2015 at the University of Wollongong. Stay tuned to the next Mercurius when we will announce the result of that presentation night!

**Senida Krcic
Mathematics**

Important Dates

December

- 7 2016 Year 7 Orientation Day
- 9 SRC Christmas Dance
- 11 Year 7-9 Recognition Assembly
- 14 Year 7 Picnic
- 16 HSC Resuts
- 16 Last day of term for students
- 17 Staff Development Day

January

- 26 Australia Day Public Holiday
- 27 Staff Development Day
- 28 Year 7 students and Year 10 and 11
Peer Support return
- 29 All students return

February

- 1 Swimming Carnival
- 4 School Photo Day
- 8 IMP Committee meeting
- 10 P&C Meeting
Year 7 Parent Welcome
Year 7 and 8 Dance and Trivia Night
- 11 Year 7 Vaccinations
- 15 Catch Up Photo Day
- 19 Speech Day
- 24 Open Morning
Year 12 Parent Teacher Evening

P&C News

2016 P&C Executive Committee

The Annual General Meeting of the Fort Street High School (FSHS) P&C was held on Wednesday 11th November in the school library at 7:30pm.

The following FSHS parents were elected to the 2016 P&C Executive Committee. Thank you to Mr Osland for acting as returning officer.

Position	Appointed
President	Natasha Pollock
Vice President	Elizabeth Campbell Dime Spasovski
Treasurer	Lucy Young
Secretary	Amanda Elliott
Uniform shop co-ordinator	To be appointed
Fundraising co-ordinator	Si He
Canteen Committee P&C Rep	Melanie Bruniges
School Council P&C Rep	Pauline Leung
School Foundation Rep	Pauline Leung

Welcome and good luck for 2016!

We would like to extend a big thank you for all the hard work and time the 2015 P&C Executive Committee have donated to the school. THANK YOU!

Position	Name
President	Elizabeth Campbell
Vice President	Dime Spasovski Richard Bean
Treasurer	Lucy Young
Secretary	Amanda Elliott
Uniform shop co-ordinator	Position vacant
Fundraising co-ordinator	Si He
Canteen Committee P&C Rep	Natasha Pollock
School Council P&C Rep	Pauline Leung
School Foundation Rep	Pauline Leung

P&C meetings provide a forum for parents to discuss the school's operation with the Principal and share their ideas with the school community. Parental involvement in the school community enhances the excellent services the teaching and support staff already provide.

P&C meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (during school term) and all parents/carers are welcome to attend. **The first P&C meeting for 2016 will be held on Wednesday 10th February 2016, at 7:30pm in the school library.** We hope to see you there.