Principal’s Message

As Term 4 approaches the end of our school year, this will be my last communication with you via our newsletter this year. As I reflect on 2015 I am amazed as to how fast the year has gone by and I do this with pride and a strong sense of satisfaction for being part of a committed, hardworking and vibrant learning community. I will share our achievements at the school’s Presentation Day and I hope to see you all there to celebrate our achievements.

Excellence in HSC major work

Each year the Board of Studies and the Department of Education jointly select HSC works that are worthy of public viewing. I’m delighted to inform you the AGHS HSC nominations for consideration in 2015:

- ARTEXPRESS 2016
  Jessica Wilson
  Julie Moxham

Julie’s body of work for HSC Visual Arts, Entropy (Marteilia Sydneyi) has been selected to be included in ARTEXPRESS 2016, Art Gallery of NSW, Maitland Regional Art Gallery. It is important to acknowledge the following

  Design and Technology
  Megan Beneke
  Aimee Cam
  Riona Cusack
  Eloise Elton
  Jessica Grattan

Textiles and Design

Isabel Burcher. Isabel’s Major Textiles Project will be in the 2016 Rexstyle Exhibition at the Stitches and Craft show art Rosehill Racecourse from March 3 – 6. I encourage you to visit the exhibition and see Isabel’s creation.

It is worth noting:

- Never in the history of our school have we had 5 nominations for Design and Technology.
- the email from ArtsUnit, ARTEXPRESS stating: ‘From 9,033 students who submitted Bodies of Works for the HSC Visual Arts Examination 442 students were nominated for ARTEXPRESS. Your school can be proud of this achievement’. We certainly are!

Congratulations to all our students and their teachers for such incredible achievements.
Another year of inspiration and Creativity

Congratulations to all students involved in the:

- **Science EXPO.** Inspirational work presented by young AGHS women scientist told the story of our school’s learning culture and cutting edge teaching. Congratulations to the science faculty and their students.

- **Visual Art display.** What a pleasure to see once again the outstanding work of 7-12 students. Congratulation to CAPA staff for their dedication and creative guidance. The art works spoke for themselves.

- **Sporting success for Jessica Clark of Y11 who competed in the Pacific Games in Adelaide with the NSW Mixed Goalball team.** The team had a great tournament and brought home the Bronze Medal – congratulations Jessica!

My acknowledgement goes to all parents, caregivers and friends for their continuous support. Your positive comments and encouragement much appreciated.

**Multicultural Day**

Congratulations to the AGHS Multicultural Day Committee for their superb organization. The Day was proven to be a fantastic experience for all. It was a pleasure to host a group of students and teachers from Auburn Girls High School. The stories told by students from other cultural background, songs and dances performed by students were amazing. We reciprocated this visit on Friday 20 November. The girls had an incredible cultural experience. Congratulations to all students and staff involved.

**Student leadership**

Our Year 9 students have been involved in Peer Support training sessions. I’d like to congratulate all the students on their commitment and we look forward to working with them as they lead the Peer Support Program for our New Year 7 students. This year we implemented an Expression of Interest process as part of the Peer Support selection process. We were amazed with the quality of applications and our students
commitment to the program. The Peer Support program will run for the entire year in 2016. This will provide an opportunity for the year 9 peer Support leaders to build stronger relationships with year 7 students and to their leadership skills further. My personal thanks to Ms Fowler the Peer Support Coordinator and all staff involved for their endless commitment and for making a difference.

**Semester 2 Reports**

All reports will be issued to students on Tuesday 15 December, 2015. If for an unforeseen reason your daughter/ward will be absent from school on Tuesday, she can collect her report from her year adviser on Wednesday 16 December, 2015.

**Orientation Day**

We had the opportunity to welcome our new students for 2016 and their families Thursday 3 December. These events are successful because of the support of our staff and P&C volunteers.

**Clearance forms**

All students in Years 7-10 issued with their year clearance form. As part of this process all students are required to return all school resources issued to them for their current year. I remind parents/caregivers to finalise any outstanding school fee payments prior to the sign out day. If you wish to discuss your financial commitment for 2015 please do not hesitate to contact me during school hours.

**Attendance of students in Term 4, 2015**

All students are required to attend school until the last day of teaching, Wednesday 16 December 2015 and engage in learning activities based on the curriculum and syllabus requirements.

**Presentation Day**

The Hornsby RSL venue for this year’s Presentation Day will be held on Friday 11 December. All students and their families should have received information about the Presentation Day via email. Please check your email and if you have not received the information contact the school office.

I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas break and a prosperous 2016.

Elizabeth Amvrazis
Principal
From the Deputy’s Desk – Maria O’Harae

It has been a great honour over the course of 2015 to share in the learning experiences of our talented students. I have been privy to numerous, wonderful learning activities showcasing high levels of engagement and the outstanding capabilities of our students.

Curriculum

I extend a warm welcome to our new Year 7 students for 2016, their parents and caregivers. The 2016 Year 7 students have been welcomed through a range of orientation activities and classroom visits over the term.

Reports will be distributed to all students on Tuesday, 15th of December.

Early 2016 all students will be issued with an assessment book highlighting procedures and dates for all assessment tasks throughout the year. This is a valuable tool which provides support for planning and time management. A soft copy will also be e-mailed to parents

Wellbeing

Our focus for 2016 will be to further develop Positive Psychology principles as the wellbeing framework to support the cognitive, emotional, social and physical wellbeing of our students. Currently we have provided professional learning for our year advisers and head teachers on positive leadership. More information on the initiatives for 2016 will follow

Presentation Day

Hornsby RSL is again the venue for this year’s presentation day, to be held on Friday, 11th December. This special event gives us the opportunity to celebrate our students efforts and numerous achievements. I look forward to seeing you all there.

I wish you a merry Christmas and a safe holiday.

Maria O’Harae
Deputy Principal
From the Deputy's Desk – Mark Robinson

2015 has certainly been a challenging year with a huge wave of educational reforms and demands that have been placed on the NSW Public Education System. This has placed a huge strain on the resources of many schools within NSW, as they try to find solutions to many issues that confront them with limited budgets, time and personnel. Teaching and learning at Asquith Girls High School, has not suffered during this demanding year, due to the professional, dedicated and committed attitude of its teaching staff. On that note, I would like to acknowledge the continued quality teaching that is displayed by the teachers at AGHS who have continued to work tirelessly to support our students this year. Our teachers do so because they know the students value and appreciate their efforts. I have witnessed teachers reflect on their practice and actively seek to refine and enhance their teaching practice to ensure that their lessons provide the appropriate level of learning adjustments, differentiation, rigour and challenge to best support the learning needs of all students. I wanted to also thank all of our casual and temporary teachers who have also been part of our AGHS community this year. Schools simply could not function without this core group of reliable and quality teachers.

In addition to thanking the teachers of AGHS, equal recognition has to be given to the team of the strong and efficient School Administration and Support Staff (SASS). I am grateful to our SASS team who have been instrumental in continuing that the school continues to run as smoothly and efficiently as possible in all facets of administration as well as managing the sick bay and offering some wellbeing support to students (and parents) from time to time. The Administration staff run the school and I am grateful to be working and collaborating with such a quality group of individuals, who collectively work to maintain the strong profile of our school through all of their varied interactions with our parents and community over the year.

As this is the final newsletter for 2015, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents and caregivers of AGHS for their support of the school in so many ways. I have enjoyed working with you all again this year, getting to know you better and working alongside you all in a range of capacities over the year and am grateful for the trust they have invested in me and their support of all school activities and events.

The core business: the students

It was great to see our Year 12 students return back to officially sign-out of school and collect their official school reference. I was so pleased to see that all the girls were happy and relieved that their Higher School Certificate journey was over with many reporting that they felt very pleased and confident with their performance. I am sure this will be evidenced when we receive their results in December, however, what is important is that the girls felt satisfied with their level of effort and that they gave it their best in order to achieve their personal best. I know that we will all be very proud of the graduating class of 2015, not only for their HSC Academic results, but for the quality and independent young women they have all become.

A personal message for the graduating class of 2015 - the hard lesson in life is that you must always make the path for yourself. There is no secret society out there that will tap you on the shoulder and show you the way, because the true secret is, that your life will not be defined by the society that we have left you. Take every opportunity that comes your way. Take chances and challenge yourself, but most of all continue to be there for each other. The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary. Promise me that you will work hard at life but most of all remain yourself. Be unique. Make a difference.
Finally, to our admirable students, the group of 919 quality young women who have demonstrated to us all what it means to be part of this wonderful Asquith Community. Thank you all for your contributions to the school and for continuing to represent the school with such dignity and pride. You have all demonstrated the key values of our school throughout 2015; the academic excellence you have displayed within the classroom, your commitment to co-curricular activities, the effort you have put into your studies and the leadership you have all demonstrated in and outside the classroom. You have all played a role in earning our school the outstanding reputation it deserves and will also ensure that its long standing reputation continues into the future.

A time for reflection and relaxation

Finally, I would like to wish all our community a safe, relaxing and well deserved end of year holiday. I am looking forward to returning back in 2016, which will be full of new and exciting challenges and hurdles for us all. I know it will be a successful and positive year as the Asquith community are all in it together.

Mr Robinson - a very proud Asquithian
VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION

The Annual Visual Arts Exhibition was a great success again this year, with work exhibited from all students studying Visual Arts and Photography from Year 7 through to the Year 12 Bodies of Work. The exhibition was officially opened on Wednesday the 25th of November in the school hall and was attended by a great number of proud parents and caregivers as well as members of the wider community.

I would like to congratulate all the artists that exhibited their impressive range work at the exhibition, from Year 7 up and especially our Year 12 students, as well as their parents, family and teachers who have supported them through their creative and artistic journey. I would like to also extend my congratulations to the students who received awards on the night, celebrating their impressive artistic achievements from 2015.

Congratulations to HSC Visual Arts student Julie Moxham for her acceptance into Art Express 2016. Her work will be on display at the Art Gallery of New South Wales from 16 Mar – 15 May 2016. Jessica Wilson also received a nomination for Art Express 2015 due to her exceptional output in the HSC Visual Arts course.

- The Creative and Performing Arts Faculty, Asquith Girls High School
ART EXHIBITION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER
PRESENTATION DAY CEREMONY 2015

Dear Parents and Caregivers,
Asquith Girls High School invite you to our annual presentation day ceremony, an event that celebrates the outstanding achievements of our students in all areas of school life. Details are:

Date: Friday 11 December 2015
Time: 10.15am for 11am start
Location: Hornsby RSL

To honour the hard work of students receiving awards, ALL Asquith Girls High School students are expected to attend the ceremony so that the recipients can be presented their awards and receive public recognition for their success. The required dress is full summer uniform, including correct black leather lace up shoes.

Morning organisation
Students are to arrive at the RSL’s Ashley Lane entrance no later than 10:15am. They will be escorted inside and seated by teachers for the ceremony by 10:45am. Minimal supervision will be provided at both the venue and school prior to 10.15am. Students who attend school will be accompanied by a teacher to Hornsby by train. Students will need to bring money for transport if required. Parents and students need to be aware that City Rail school train passes will not be valid at Hornsby Station.

Afternoon organisation
At the conclusion of the ceremony, there will be a roll call. It is anticipated that students will be dismissed from the venue at approximately 1:30pm. If you require your child to return to school, students will be accompanied by a staff member back to school via train and minimal supervision provided until 3pm.

Asquith Girls High School takes great pride in the continued success of our students. We look forward to displaying and celebrating these achievements as a community.

All award recipients will have been notified via letter (email) on Monday/Tuesday 30/11 and 1/12.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school

Luke Fulwood
Head Teacher (English)
MULTICULTURAL DAY

Multicultural Day 2015 was a colourful celebration of cultural diversity. The hot weather didn’t discourage students and staff from wearing an array of multicultural dress inspired by the traditions of many nations. Gold coin donations were made to raise funds for our sister school in the Panjshir Valley of Afghanistan. This annual event is a great opportunity for the school community to share rich experiences, appreciate difference and raise funds for a very worthy cause.

This year’s event saw the welcome addition of many talented students from Auburn Girls High School who joined in the day’s events. The highlight of the day, the concert, included performances not only from students of Asquith Girls, but several of the guests from Auburn, as well as students from Asquith Boys High School.

The concert began with students carrying flags from many nations into the hall. Beautifully costumed performers showcased many different styles of dance, including African, Afghani, Bollywood, Korean, Nepalese, Scottish and Japanese. Some styles were traditional, some modern but all were entertaining.

Songs were performed in many different languages, including Chinese pop songs sung by Chinese international students, Cantonese and Korean ballads and French and German pop songs performed by language classes. The song ‘I will’ was performed by the junior choir.
Tax File Numbers are needed when students start a job, have a bank account once they turn 18, apply for government benefits or apply for government assistance when they are studying after school. Schools are no longer allowed to process Tax file Number applications from students. The following link explains how students can apply for a Tax file Number.


Mr Borri

Two Auburn Girls students gave moving accounts of their experiences as refugees. We learned that they had to overcome many challenges to settle in Australia. Ms Virginie Vignas, formerly our French teaching assistant, reflected with humour on the differences between living in France and Australia. Jillian Edwards of Year 8, told us about her childhood in the USA.

Katrina He of Year 11 wowed the audience with her skill playing a traditional Chinese instrument, a guzheng. Aimee Langeveldt of Year 10 demonstrated a fierce karate routine. A dazzling fashion parade closed the concert, showcasing students in traditional, colourful and creative outfits.

Culturally inspired activities kept everyone busy during lunch, including international food stalls, a ‘teachers versus students’ soccer match (the students won 4-0) and other fun activities such as decoration with henna tattoos and an anime screening.
Year 5 HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE DAY

On the 5th of November Asquith Girls’ hosted their annual Year 5 High School Experience Day. Girls from surrounding primary schools were invited to participate in activities co-ordinated by staff to show them what student life at Asquith Girls’ High School is like. The girls were split into small groups and taken to different lessons by a Year 8 mentor. This allowed them to meet new girls which they potentially could be coming to school with in Year 7 in 2017.

Each group was able to participate in a range of different activities from AGHS faculties. This may have included cooking mini pizzas in Food Technology, stencilling in Art, circus skills in PDHPE, using the Bunsen burners in Science, making 3D shapes in Maths and perfecting literacy skills in English. They were also exposed to many ‘normal’ high school activities such as day changing periods and different teachers for different subjects to give them a taste of high school timetables.

At lunchtime games were organised by the AGHS Prefects which allowed the girls to mingle outside of their groups and learn about leadership opportunities within the school.

Overall it was a very successful day that all students enjoyed. A special thanks to Dr Ganeson for organising the event and all teachers involved in classes who provided engaging and stimulating activities that the Year 5 students can look forward to when they come to AGHS.

Tash Barrow
Senior Prefect for Media and Events

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Year 11 GEOGRAPHY EXCURSION – BOBBIN HEAD

On Wednesday 28 October, Year 11 Geography went to Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre to complete fieldwork for their case study on Mangroves as an ecosystem at risk.

The fieldwork included fauna quadrants, water quality testing and crab catching and releasing, it was extremely beneficial in our studies of ecosystems at risk. Our terrific guide, Brad, was able to give as a great insight into the mangrove ecosystem in terms of its purpose and importance as a natural buffer for storms, wastes and pollutant products. This led us to better understand traditional and contemporary management strategies of the mangrove ecosystem. We also visited historic Aboriginal carvings, and came to greater appreciate the Indigenous Australian cultural heritage, and the importance of relationship with the land.

Overall everyone had a fantastic day, and a big thank you goes to Ms Humphreys for driving us to Bobbin Head.

Y11 Geography Students
SCIENCE EXPO 2015

A wonderful educational evening was had by all on Wednesday 18th November.

In the second decade of the 21st century rapid change is affecting all aspects of our lives. It is predicted that in the next 10-15 years 40% of the current jobs will not exist.

According to the committee for economic development in Australia, “Creating a culture of innovation must be driven by the private sector, educational institutions and government.”

The Australia government has a well-established plan that is just starting to appear in educational institutions, called STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

In the near future a new form of labour pool and market will form where individuals, project teams, or even entrepreneurial companies from all over the world will bid on high-value tasks and opportunities.

The job market will require individuals to be creative, tech savvy, adaptable to rapid change and resilient.

The nature of education is no longer to have the teacher as the expert who passes on knowledge, Google can supply that! A teacher’s role is to facilitate independent learning skills, to foster inquiring minds, to encourage collaboration, to promote effective use of ICT and to expect personal best.

Science Expo embodied all of those aspects, it was a celebration of our girls research and ideas in the field of science.

The Science Faculty collaborated brilliantly together with students to bring together a diverse presentation of magnificent science ideas.

Visitors enjoyed our guest speaker, Kerrie Basclain, who gave an engaging speech about her field of molecular biology and also provided insight into some famous Australian scientists who have made a difference to the world we live in. Kerrie is a role model to the young female scientists we have at AGHS.

Our team of independent judges made up of parents and ex-students, all with science backgrounds, did a thorough job (in the heat!) to make well informed decisions for the winners of the various prize categories.
Parents, guests and teaching staff wandered through the expo engaging in intellectual conversation with our display participants and in doing so learnt a little more about Science.

At the end of the evening it was evident that all of the girls had made a magnificent attempt to engage in Science.

Awards were given as follows:

**Best Communication Skills** - Shreya Dhoopad for the scientific investigation, “Plop plop fizz fast”

**Most Original** - Rebekah Grimmond for the scientific investigation, “The science behind multitasking”

**Best Use of Space** - Grace Roberts & Emily Tenkate for the scientific investigation, “Does whitening toothpaste work?”

**Best Practical Application** - Neve Parsons & Eleanor Fuary for the scientific investigation, “Alternative Energy Source – solar panels”

**Excellent Support Material** - Anu Krishnaswami & Paniz Pasfar for the scientific investigation, “Optical Illusion”

**Most Improved** - Zhiqing Wang for the scientific investigation, “Effect of yeast on fruit sugars”

**Most Improved** - Emma Stanton for the scientific investigation, “Saponification”

**People’s Choice** - Sophie Thomson & Amber Prince-Wright for the scientific investigation, “Fruit Battery”

**Young Scientist Award** - Erin Yelland for the scientific investigation, “How microwaves affect germination”

Many thanks go to our guest speaker Kerrie Basclain, our judges Kerrie Basclain, Sandra Tavener, Jill Gleave, Keith Osborne, Jessie Bagga and Jyothi Pradeep, Ms Fang, the event coordinator, to the science teaching staff and Ms Stanford, and of course to all the participants for taking the time to make the expo a great event.

Next year we hope to see more girls being part of this event and with creative science being put at the forefront.

Mr Paul Devonshire
Head Teacher Science AGHS
On 7th October, Year 7 hosted a History incursion called the History Detectives Day. Year 6 students from both Hornsby North Public School and Mount Colah Public School attended. Year 7 mentored the Year 6 students in groups, analysing the three History Mystery stories and hunting for clues to use as evidence to prove different hypothesis.

Firstly we were all sorted into groups. Different groups did different activities. One of those activities was the search for clues around the school. Our groups had to find clues to use as evidence to prove that if the school was discovered 500 years down the track it could be proven that AGHS was a coeducational school!!!?? We had to find sources and come up with evidence to prove this hypothesis, for example, the PE shorts and men’s toilets which could suggest that boys attended the school.

Some Year 7 students acted in plays, contributing to the historical sites. They would act while students walked around the sites, asking students to make their own conclusion about how the person died or what happened to them. One of the historical sites was about how Tutankhamun died and the other two were about Chinese emperor Qin Shi Huang di’s death and assess whether he was a good or bad emperor.

We would like to thank Ms Sekula’s Year 10 class and Mr Lewis’ Year 11 Entertainment class who enthusiastically worked, along with the history teachers, to set up the props for the History Museum in the hall. They were fantastic at arranging the props creatively, taking ownership of the task, and saved the HSIE staffroom from the countless hours of work and frustration.

A very special thank you to Ms Sekula and Ms Lewis for offering their support, practical help and supervising the setup of the museum, providing extra props to make the museum look amazing. It was a wonderful example of the Asquith community working together as a team.

Eira Powell and Emily Blewitt
Year 7 Students
Guest speakers on Interfaith dialogue

One section of the HSC Studies of Religion course is on interfaith dialogue. This refers to interaction and cooperation between people of different religions. Two members of the Women’s Interfaith Sharing Hornsby (WISH) group recently came and spoke with the class about the way the group operates and why interfaith dialogue is important. Mrs Margaret Steele and Mrs Helen Chapman explained how the group, which has been running since 2009, provides a place for women to have a conversation and learn about different religions. Different topics are chosen for each meeting. The class gained a better understanding of interfaith dialogue and its importance in promoting peace and empathy, as well as a basis for people of different religions to work together to solve global problems. We thank Mrs Steele and Mrs Chapman for giving up their time to speak with the class.

Mr Borri

AUBURN GIRLS STUDENT EXCHANGE

On Friday the 20th of November, a group of thirty girls from Year 10 and two students from Year 11 visited Auburn Girls High School to raise multicultural awareness. When we arrived at Auburn, we were greeted by two Auburn Girls, Chamile and Alisha, who showed us around the school and then led us to the Common Room, where we were allocated into groups. As we were walking around the school we noticed a ‘Student of the Month’ wall which we found to be an innovative and rewarding idea as well as the chalkboard wall, which students could write on to express their ideas. We participated in a range of different activities such as receiving henna designs on our hands, Pacific Islander dancing, African dancing, Lebanese belly dancing and drumming. The Year 11 students who were from the various cultures taught us about each of the traditions and customs of their countries and religions which allowed us to consider different perspectives and understand the similarities and differences between each of us and to respect these as unique. The dancing sessions were particularly engaging and fun as we shook our hips to the music! We were served different types of food throughout the sessions which included samosas, charcoal chicken, yams, African spicy curry and bread, baklava and much more. We were taught about the various customs and traditions of the different cultures, like Afghan weddings, Pakistani weddings as well as Turkish customs. The exuberant atmosphere and jovial nature of all the girls was highly uplifting, and even took our minds off the hot weather (which dried our henna surprisingly quickly). In between sessions we reflected over what we had learnt and even got to contribute our cultural perspective; we taught them a few Bollywood moves, which they enjoyed. The girls were very welcoming and it was a valuable and memorable experience where we learnt about different cultural lifestyles, through an engaging medium. Overall we found the experience to be very enlightening, opened our minds to a new perspective and we would do it all over again if we had the opportunity!

By: Simran Paul and Tania Koeferl Year 10.
Year 9 Food Technology

Term 4 has seen Year 9 Food Technology study special occasions.

Their assessment task was to design and create a cupcake suited to a celebration of their choice. Students demonstrated outstanding decorating skills and maturity in their organisation and initiative.

As an extension to their special occasions study, they were required to plan and hold a high tea for staff. Both Food Technology classes invited staff members available in that lesson, spent one period preparing the delicious food then another period serving to present staff members. All students worked extremely hard to achieve an amazing result which all staff and students were happy with.

Both Year 9 Food Technology classes have improved their skills and organisation immensely over the past year and should be commended for their efforts. Well done girls!
**P&C Uniform Shop**

The uniform shop now has Anatomic Tuff-Pack backpacks available. These are ideal school bags and are anatomically designed to prevent back injury.

Anatomic Tuff-Pack®

Incorporates our water repellent Duragard™ fabric with an Anatomical Back System™ and an internal spinal rod for posture stability, a padded laptop pocket and a soft base.

Discounted Price $65.00

RRP $89.95

Still with the uniform shop; we could do with some helpers on Orientation day, 3rd December. If you can spare an hour or so please email Uniforms@aghspandc.org.au.

The last meeting for the year is on the 9th December. Please bring a plate of nibbles, a bottle of your favourite drink and a friend to share :-) The meeting will be quite relaxed and we promise that there will be no requests made on any first time attendees.

Jonathan Crowther
Vice President AGHS P&C
President@AGHSPandC.org.au
www.AGHSPandC.org.au
www.facebook.com/AGHSPandC
CONGRATULATIONS
TO
JESS CLARK Y11
BRONZE MEDAL - GOALBALL
AT
PACIFIC GAMES IN ADELAIDE
Thank you to everyone who participated and dressed up especially to Year 11 for their attendance. It was a really successful morning. Fundraising continues through to 7th December.
Introducing the School Opal Card

The School Opal card gives eligible students free or discounted travel between home and school, using the train, bus and ferry services you nominate in your application.

The School Opal card replaces the old paper School Student Transport scheme (SSTS) travel pass.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible for a School Opal card, students need to be NSW residents and may need to live a minimum distance away from their school:

- Years K-2 (Infants) there’s no minimum distance
- Years 3-6 (Primary) 1.6km straight line distance or 2.3km walking or further
- Years 7-12 (Secondary) 2.0km straight line distance or 2.9km walking or further

Who needs to apply?

Most students or parents won’t need to apply for the School Opal card. The School Opal card will be sent to a student’s school automatically at the beginning of the new school year in 2016.

However, a new application is required if:

- The student is just starting school or has not had a pass for travel before
- The student is progressing from Year 6 to 7 (incoming year 7 2016 who have already completed the blue paper form and returned it to the school need not complete an online application)
- The student is changing schools, including going between primary and secondary school
- The student’s personal details have changed (eg address)
**How to apply?**

**Step 1**  Complete the application at transportnsw.infor/school-students

**Step 2**  Print, sign and submit the form to the school for endorsement

**Step 3**  The school will then forward the application to Transport for NSW for processing. Once approved, Transport for NSW send the School Opal card to the home address given in the application.

The application may take several week and the applicant’s email address is required.

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**SCHOOL OPAL CARD**  **CHILD/YOUTH OPAL CARD**

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**Better Together**

The School Opal card is only for travel to and from school. So it’s a good idea to get a Child/Youth Opal card for travel after hours, on weekends or during school holidays.

**Child/youth Opal card benefits**

- Concession fares across the Opal network
- Free travel after eight (8) paid journeys each week
- Fares capped daily at $7.50*
- Fares capped weekly at $30*
- Fares capped at $2.50 on Sundays*
- Set auto top up and link it to your credit or debit card so there’s always enough value on the card to travel

*Excluding Sydney Airport station access fee

**Find our more and apply at opal.com.au** or pick one up from an Opal Retailer
## IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

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