

WELCOME TO TERM 2!



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I recently read a quote from poet and writer Maya Angelou that I wanted to share, as I believe it gets to the heart of what we are always striving for at NGC.

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

To me, this is exactly what education is meant to be. An ongoing opportunity to learn about yourself, other people and the world around you in a way that is never truly finished. As we gain knowledge and understanding about different topics, perspectives and walks of life, we should all continuously update our thinking.

Sometimes I think we can be scared of being seen to change their mind or mistakenly believe that true strength is about having unshakeable conviction in your opinions no matter what. I'd humbly suggest that it's the opposite - the mark of a truly evolved person is their ability to be curious, empathetic and open to change.

I see this brilliant way of thinking amongst our students all the time - after all, young people tend to be a lot more flexible and less 'stuck in their ways' than us older folks. It's wonderful to observe how they are always growing - in their skillsets, in their self-awareness and in their ability to consider the perspectives of the other people around them and take these on board. In other words, they are always willing to 'know better' and more than they did in the past. Then, once they have this new knowledge and understanding, they put it into action.

I tend to think that this partially comes from their own experiences of adversity and struggle. When you yourself have gone through challenges, you can better appreciate that we are all doing our best in any given moment AND we all have the ability to grow and move forward.

As a school, we are also constantly seeking to learn, embrace diversity and create the safest, most inclusive and affirming environment we can for our young people. This can look like:

- championing accommodations for our neurodivergent learners
- embedding cultural education and Indigenous perspectives across our curriculum
- having honest conversations when mistakes or misunderstandings occur and working together to resolve them with accountability and respect

This feels like a good time to reiterate that NGC is always open to your feedback and suggestions on how we can continue to grow. My proverbial door is always open and you can always email admin@ngc.nsw.edu.au if you have anything you'd like to share.

On another topic, I sadly have to inform you about the departure of our wonderful Uncle Mick. After more than 8 fantastic years of serving our school and young people, it's time for a new chapter in his journey.

As our Cultural Education teacher, Aboriginal Family Liaison Officer and Horticulture trainer, Mick has been able to connect with our young people with so much warmth, authenticity and tough love when needed. He has reliably achieved outstanding results even in the most challenging of circumstances, which is a real testament to the grit, initiative and empathy that he has in spades. Above all, he has been incredibly generous in sharing his culture with all of us. Mick's passion and deep knowledge have impacted countless students, guiding them to stand strong in their identity and tap into the community that surrounds them.

We have been so lucky to have him in our NGC family for so long. I will miss his quick-witted sense of humour, infectious laugh and can-do attitude, and sincerely thank him for everything he has done to help our school thrive.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 29th April for the start of Term 2!

Andrea, NGC Principal



2025 Term Start and End Dates

TERM	START	FINISH
2	Tues 29th April	Fri 27th June
3	Mon 21st July	Fri 26th September
4	Mon 13th October	Thurs 11th December



Deputy Principal Update

Well done everyone on completing Term 1 to the best of your ability. It was a full and exciting term and for our newer students, a period of adjustment and settling in. I hope you have all had a great break to recharge. Let's tackle this new term with commitment and enthusiasm as there will be plenty of new topics to explore, skills to master and assessments to focus on.

We always ensure that you know assessment due dates ahead of time and ask that you make contact with your teacher nice and early if you know you are likely to be away on any of these due dates. If you're in Year 10, 11 and 12 and you do not submit a task, you'll need to get a doctor's certificate that confirms your ill health. This is important because it means you won't lose unnecessary marks on your task!

In Term 2, we will also be bringing in a new system called 'Positive Behaviour for Learning Rewards' (PBLs). This will see staff nominate one student per day who has worked to the best of their ability. This might look like attending class, completing set tasks, being respectful towards staff and students, following school rules and helping others. This process will occur every day through to Week 6. At this point, we will collate them all and two of the nominated students from each class will be put forward for a special award. We are excited to see everyone doing their best and hopefully earning lots of nominations throughout the term.

Cameron, Deputy Principal

English

Stage 5 English: In Term 2, our Stage 5 English students will be studying William Shakespeare. We will look at a range of his works so we get a varied cross-section of different plays and key sonnets. In particular, we will study the comedy play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. We will read the play, analyse some of the scenes from it and view at least two different film versions. For their assessment, students will create a music playlist that aligns with one or more acts in the play.

Preliminary English: Our Preliminary English Studies students will be "On the Road" this coming term. We will be studying travel and considering different modes of transportation, destinations and planning requirements that you need to think about when going on a trip. For their assessment, students will plan a 7 day holiday outside of Australia. They will be required to plan an itinerary, arrange flights and accommodations and research activities for the holiday. In addition, they will create a three-post blog about the holiday as a creative writing task. To conclude the unit, we will study the film *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*.

HSC English: In Term 2, Year 12 students will learn all about music. The unit of study is *MiTunes*, which focuses on the literary value of songs and lyrics, as well as artist biographies. The class will study the concept album *The Wall* by Pink Floyd. In addition, we will also look at the musical *Bran Nue Dae*. Finally, students will be attending a viewing of the film *Billy Elliot: The Musical* at Avoca Theatre.

Kirk, English Teacher

Maths

Stage 5 Maths: In Term 2, we will be wrapping up our research and application of trigonometry ratios before moving onto a unit on Numbers of any Magnitude. Students will discover how we can use tools and instruments to figure out and express measurements and come up with approximations. They will then learn how to identify and apply the properties of similar figures and scale drawings to solve problems. Understanding scale factor and similar figures are key skills when it comes the workforce, as well as working with and working out directions. Finally, students will be introduced to the foundational concepts of algebra. This will show them how to find out unknown quantities and measurements.

Year 11 Numeracy: Our Year 11 students will continue to explore how numeracy is embedded within their daily lives. We will focus on what data and statistics are used for in our society and consider how this information can be displayed and analysed. Students will then move onto reviewing the concept of time and delving into how crucial it is for how we organise our work, schooling and home lives.

Year 12 Numeracy: In Term 2, students will be diving into how statistics and probability are significant across many aspects of our society. They will research these concepts through a variety of activities and practical experiments inside and outside the classroom. Students will then explore rates and ratios and how they are used in our daily lives, such as in cooking, fuel economy and wages.

Kat, Maths Teacher

History

During Term 2, Stage 5 will begin a unit of work on 'Human Rights and Freedoms'. We will review WW1 and WW2 and consider Australia's role in the United Nations. Then we will focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ongoing struggles for human rights and self-determination, including the impact of the Stolen Generation. Students will also learn about the African American Civil Rights movement and what all people are owed under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. I'm looking forward to some great discussions!

Kirk, History Teacher

Geography

In Term 2, we will build upon the "Sustainable Biomes" unit we started in Term 1, as we explore the numerous challenges associated with feeding the world's growing population. We will examine global famines and consider potential solutions to improve farming practices and food production.

Kat, Geography Teacher

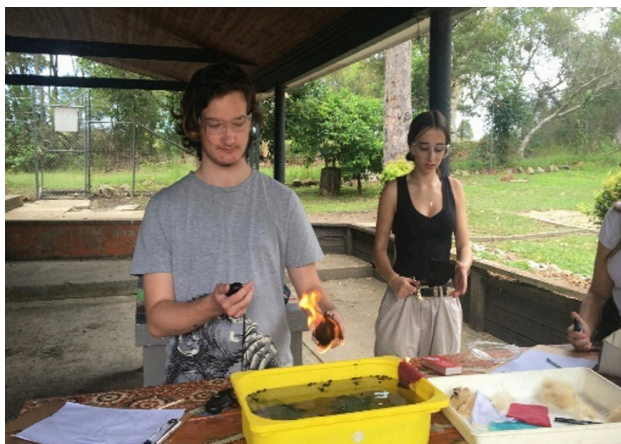
Science

Stage 5: Our Stage 5 students have had a fantastic start to the year as they developed their understanding of Electricity and Energy Transformations. I was particularly pleased to see that many of their Assessment 1 scientific reports, related to the Constructing a Model investigation, were completed to a very high standard. Moving into Term 2, Stage 5 will learn about the structure of Atoms and the historical developments which led to our current understanding of Atomic Theory. We will also evaluate the benefits and problems associated with industrial and medical uses of nuclear energy. Finally, students will carry out first-hand investigations focused on the different types of chemical reaction. Their Assessment 2 task in Week 7 will be an 'Assessment of Learning' based on the two Physics and two Chemistry units of work.

Preliminary Investigating Science: We will continue with our work on Cause and Effect during the first six weeks of Term 2, where we will explore the importance of observation and the collection of quantitative and qualitative data. Students will engage in water testing at various locations around the Central Coast to investigate the connection between water quality and its effect on plant and animal life. In the final few weeks of the term, we will begin Module 3: Scientific Models. Students will learn how scientific concepts can be represented through visual models and how these models can be adapted and improved over time through processes like peer review. They will complete a Depth Study Assessment Task by the end of Term 2, where they identify a problem to be solved and then research, design and construct a model that is capable of doing so.

HSC Investigating Science: I want to congratulate our HSC students on their Secondary Source Investigation assessment on the continual cycle of technological development. They each completed wonderful powerpoint presentations/speeches to the class about a topic of their own choosing and I was very impressed with the final products! Moving into Term 2, students will complete the unit, Module 7: Fact or Fallacy. They will learn how the scientific process is the most powerful tool available for generating knowledge about the world, as it uses evidence and measurement to find truth. As a human endeavour, science is subject to human failings which can contribute to fallacies, misinterpretations and occasionally, fraud. Scientists compensate for these potential human failings by questioning evidence, re-testing ideas, trying to replicate results and engaging in peer review. Throughout this unit, students will investigate factual or fallacious claims through first-hand and secondary source investigations and will evaluate these based on scientific evidence.

Janice, Science Teacher



Photography, Video and Digital Imaging

What a positive start to the year! Our PVDI students have had numerous chances to hone their photography skills at stunning locations across the Central Coast, including Norah Head, The Haven, The Entrance, and the Japanese Gardens. They are beginning to deepen their understanding of image composition, enhancement and manipulation through Photoshop Elements.

In Term 2, we will explore the essential concepts of the 'Exposure Triangle' - Aperture, Shutter Speed, and ISO. By learning to balance these elements, students will develop the skills needed to manually capture interesting and impactful images. As we approach the end of the term, we will have a blast exploring the creative technique of Light Painting.

Patty, PVDI Teacher



PDHPE and SLR

Stage 5 PDHPE: In Term 2, we will be completing a unit called Self and Relationships: Raising The Bar. This will help students understand strategies to cope with and respond to life's challenges, be the best version of themselves and support other people. There will be a big focus on personal growth and resilience and how to cultivate positive relationships that are based on inclusivity, equality and respect.

For the practical component of the PDHPE course, students will pick two events to be assessed on, out of long jump, 50-metre sprint, shot put, discus and javelin. Within this, we will be looking at criteria like stance, grip, body position, fluidity of movement and distance/time achieved. I think this will be a great way for students to have more choice, fairness and flexibility around how they are assessed, depending on the skills that come most naturally to them. We will finish off the term with some fun novelty events. I can't wait to see how everyone goes!

Year 11/12 SLR: In the first part of our Athletics module, students will develop a stronger awareness of athletic programs through a 360 degree observation. They will investigate types of athletic events, ways to improve their own performance and the ethical and organisational responsibilities of participants.

We will put this theory into practice through a range of activities where students will be able to combine speed, strength, skill and endurance. From lightning-fast sprints and gruelling long-distance races to powerful throws and soaring jumps, students have the opportunity to showcase their full athletic potential. They will choose two events to complete to the best of their ability and this will constitute their mark for Part B of their assessment task.

Mike, PDHPE and SLR Teacher

Vocational Education and Training

There are so many fantastic training and career-related learning opportunities on offer over the coming term! Below, I've pulled together a list of webinars, courses and information/open days being delivered by external providers that are available for our NGC students to attend. Take a look and if any of these spark your interest and you would like to learn more, talk to me (Anthony) directly or email anthony@ngc.nsw.edu.au for additional information.

TUESDAY 6TH MAY: Fashion Institute Sydney's Virtual Information Evening. 5.30pm via Zoom

WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY: 'Launch Your Career in Live Production and Immersive Events' Webinar. 11am via Zoom.

TUESDAY 13TH & WEDNESDAY 14TH MAY and TUESDAY 20TH & WEDNESDAY 21ST MAY: Engineering Trade Taster; a 4-day engineering project to build a checker toolbox and discuss carer options

MONDAY 19TH - FRIDAY 23RD MAY: 'Girls Can Too! Construction' Course - Regional Industry Education Partnerships Program to develop skills and awareness of career options

MONDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 30TH MAY: Construction Trade Readiness Course - Regional Industry Education Partnerships Program to develop skills and awareness of career options

THURSDAY 29TH MAY: 'Get on Track with Rail' course - Regional Industry Education Partnerships Program with ARTC and Transport NSW to understand career opportunities in the rail sector such as customer service, engineering, construction and train driving

TUESDAY 3RD JUNE: Transport for NSW Industry Day - apprenticeship opportunities and demonstrations in Civil Construction, Heavy Diesel Mechanical, Electrotechnology and more

THURSDAY 5TH JUNE: 'Launch Your Career in AI' Webinar. 10am via Zoom

SATURDAY 14TH JUNE: NIDA Open Day

TUESDAY 17TH JUNE: Ultimo TAFE Fashion Design and Technology Open Day. 11am - 2pm

FRIDAY 20TH JUNE: Macquarie University Incubator and Young Wisdom Student Start-Up Bootcamp - a free 1 day program where young people can work with entrepreneurs to learn more about following their entrepreneurial dreams and developing startup ideas. Places are limited to 6 NGC students, so register interest ASAP!

Anthony, VET Manager

Inclusive Education - Introducing Silver Class

In Term 1, we introduced a new Silver class for primarily Year 9 and 10 young people who require a more intensively supported environment than our mainstream NGC classes. While all our classes are designed with practical, personalised learning at the centre, Silver Class helps those students who need more individualised attention due to disabilities, developmental differences or social challenges.

This class combines content from both the Stage 5 and Stage 5 Life Skills curriculums with hands-on projects and skill development, with one teacher (Samm) responsible for delivering all key learning areas. So far, it's been a great success! Some recent highlights have been our visit to the War Museum and our real-world application of financial mathematics (like fractions, interest and depreciation) through a visit to the Lexus dealership in Sydney. It's been amazing to see the students thrive and gain confidence through these experiences!

Samm, Silver Class Teacher