

WELCOME TO TERM 3!

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



I am writing this message to you all during NAIDOC Week. The 2023 theme is 'For Our Elders' and it has me reflecting on how important it is for all young people to be connected to their wider community and in particular, older generations who can share wisdom and act as positive role models. As First Nations people so powerfully remind us, this intergenerational connection can come from our extended networks of grandparents, aunts and uncles, caregivers of all kinds, teachers, support workers, friends, and political and spiritual leaders.

When we are able to access this kind of support, we are able to understand just how universal so many of our experiences are - regardless of our age - while also recognising the incredible strength, resilience and influence of those who have walked this earth before us. It's this connection that enables young people to forge forward, continue the important change-making work that is already in motion and make empowered decisions about how they want to actively contribute to our community in new and innovative ways.

During the past term, we were thrilled to welcome Brenda Matthews, a proud Wiradjuri woman, to NGC to facilitate a powerful workshop on weaving culture into our school. We discussed how we can connect to culture, Mother Earth and our highest self. We then watched a premiere screening of *The Last Daughter* at Avoca Beach Theatre. This documentary follows Brenda's journey of growing up with a white foster family before being returned to her Aboriginal family, and how she reconciled these two disconnected halves of her life. It was such an impactful, thought-provoking watch and we extend our thanks to Brenda and to Red Cross Avoca Beach for sponsoring the event.

As we head into Term 3, I encourage all of you to think about the positive influence that your elders have had on your life and what you have learnt from them. How can you be guided by these learnings and ensure that their legacy can live on through you, long after they may be gone?

Looking forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 17th July!

PS: Our 2022 Annual Report is now live on our website (<https://www.ngc.nsw.edu.au/annual-reports>). This covers all the incredible work our young people and staff achieved last year and includes multiple student case studies, bios on all our teachers and support team, and a TON of brilliant photos. We hope you enjoy reading it!

Andrea, NGC Principal

Term Start and End Dates

TERM	START	FINISH
3	Monday 17 July	Friday 22 September
4	Monday 9 October	Thursday 14 December

Term 3 Dates for the Diary

Parent and Teacher Night	Tuesday 1st August
Year 12 Graduation	Thursday 21st September
Rewards Excursion	Friday 22nd September

TEACHERS' REPORTS

Standing Strong Programs Update

Mob Pod: In Term 3, First Nations students will get the opportunity to develop, research and record a podcast through an exciting new Central Coast initiative, Mob Pod. Facilitated by Peppa Griffioen-Smith, an Aboriginal Gomeri woman from Moree with extensive podcasting experience, this weekly activity will help our young people develop professional skills that are highly transferable to media, journalism and Aboriginal affairs.

As well as discussing topics like sports, employment and education, there will be a particular focus on learning about the upcoming referendum on the Voice to Parliament and how this impacts First Nations communities across the country. By integrating this learning into a podcast format and interviewing key First Nations people on the Central Coast, students will build their technical skills, confidence and sense of cultural connection. At NGC, we believe it's so important to elevate the voices of our young people, and can't wait to see what they come up with behind the mic!

Shark Cage: Shark Cage is an innovative, trauma-informed program that assists young people who have experienced domestic and/or sexual violence. During Term 3, it will be facilitated for NGC students by Natasha Harmon from Catholic Care, with support from our own Case Manager, Lee T. Shark Cage will teach young people about their rights, improve their awareness and identification of abusive behaviours and the various ways they present, and show them practical strategies to respond to these behaviours and decrease the likelihood of entering into an unhealthy relationship.



Cultural Education: In Term 3, we will be continuing to help our young people connect to culture, community and Country through a variety of hands-on activities, yarning, men's and women's business, and cultural practices. Our Year 12 students have been focusing on the question 'What does your Dreaming look like?'. They have started to depict their Dreaming story through a visual design.

Through this process, we are considering that every action they take - and the positive or negative consequences it has - simply becomes part of their story. Mistakes and challenges can always be transformed into learning and growth. Our Year 9 and 10 female students have been practising the intricate craft of weaving and creating digging sticks. Looking forward to another great term ahead!

Rick, Lee T and Mick

TEACHERS' REPORTS

Parent Portal Update

Thank you to everyone who signed up for the Parent Portal in Term 2. 40% of you have logged on so far this year and I'm hoping we will see even more of you join us in Term 3! As we keep rolling out this service, I am confident that we will see even more of you join us in Term 3 and that you'll enjoy this simple, streamlined way to be part of your young person's educational journey.

The Parent Portal is designed to keep you up to date on attendances, timetables, parent and teacher nights and other school and community events. It also provides documents such as newsletters and excursion permission slips, and allows you to communicate directly with your young person's teachers via the Portal.

In order to register for the Parent Portal, you'll need a family access key. If you don't already have one, please email sentral@ngc.nsw.edu.au to receive your unique code. Should you experience difficulties or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at sentral@ngc.nsw.edu.au for assistance. I also look forward to hearing from you about your experience with our Parent Portal. Any feedback will be gratefully received!

Vidar, Business Manager

English

Stage 5 English: In Term 3, Stage 5 will be learning about First Nations people and their rich culture that has endured for tens of thousands of years. This will include an in-depth study of culturally significant stories and ceremonies, considering how language, art and musical instruments are used to pass on traditions and customs, and exploring the use of tools and weapons in everyday life to hunt, gather and care for Country. For their assessment, students will be creating a totem on decorative boomerangs which represents who they are.

Preliminary English Studies: In Term 3, Preliminary students will be studying - and trying out - several different art and poetry forms. They will write about each of these and be assessed on their understanding.

HSC English Studies: To finish their final term of school, Year 12 students will be studying *The Big Screen*; an exploration of the 'teen film' genre. In particular, we will be focused on *'The Breakfast Club'*, which is all about breaking stereotypes and forging friendships. Additionally, we will be preparing and revising for the HSC exams, which will take place in Term 4.

Kirk, English Teacher

History

In Term 3, Stage 5 History students will be studying the environment and the rise of the sustainability movement over time. We will learn about different types of farming, pesticides and threats to our environment on a local and national level, and consider what we can do as Australians to protect it so that it can nourish - and be enjoyed by - future generations to come.

Kirk, History Teacher

TEACHERS' REPORTS

Science

Stage 5: At the start of Term 3, we will complete the Types of Reactions unit, before moving on to learn about our Dynamic Earth. This is a very relevant topic, as changes on and beneath the surface of the Earth affect our quality of life and the incidence of natural disasters. The final unit for Term 3 is a mandatory individual Student Research Project. Class time will be allocated to clarifying questions or problems to be investigated, and to assist students as they develop hypotheses and identify variables to be controlled, measured or changed to ensure their investigation is a fair test. The students will carry out their investigations, evaluate evidence and form conclusions and will communicate their findings as a scientific report.

Preliminary Investigating Science: After completing the Scientific Models unit in the first weeks of Term 3, Preliminary Investigating Science students will begin their final unit on Theories and Laws, which will cover the differences and similarities between scientific theories and laws, and how these are formulated, accepted and applied in a range of scenarios. Year 11 students are reminded that the Assessment 3 Open Book Examination will be a selection of Modules 1, 2, 3 and 4 questions from past Preliminary Examination papers and will be held in Week 9 of this term.

HSC Investigating Science: Following the completion of the investigation activities in the Facts or Fallacy unit, Year 12 will begin Module 8: Science and Society, which is their final HSC unit of work. We will explore how scientific research can be influenced by belief systems, ethics, cultural perspectives, societal norms and economic interests, as well as discussing how scientific developments can be regulated to avoid any harmful, negative outcomes to the wider community. In Week 8, all students will sit the Assessment 4 'bought in' trial examination to consolidate their understanding and clarify areas that need revision. To achieve their non-ATAR accreditation, they will then sit their Final HSC Examination at the start of Term 4.

Janice, Science Teacher



Mathematics

Stage 5: Our Mathematics students will be looking at Algebraic Expressions and Indices, and Linear and Non-Linear relationships. They will learn how to apply algebra to solve everyday problems, and use a cartesian plane to represent different situations. Within these units, students will access and utilise a range of technological tools to aid in their application of these mathematical concepts.

Year 11: In Preliminary Mathematics, students will work through on Module 2 of the course, which focuses on fractions and decimals and their role in everyday life. They will consolidate their understanding of what a fraction and a decimal are and how they are used, before using them in real-life scenarios like cooking damper.

Year 12: HSC students will continue their exploration of rates and ratios in everyday life. In their assessment, they will demonstrate their understanding by producing six photos that illustrate the rule of thirds in a fun and creative way.

Kat, Mathematics Teacher

TEACHERS' REPORTS

Geography

In Term 3, Stage 5 Geography students will examine the patterns and trends in population movements and the increasing urbanisation that is impacting countries across the world. They will also discuss reasons for internal and external migration and the consequences of those movements. Students will have the opportunity to visit a sustainable farm and learn how Australia is implementing sustainable farming techniques to mitigate the impact of an ever-growing population.

Kat, Geography Teacher

Photography, Videography and Digital Imaging

Our Year 11 students have continued to develop their photography skills through some impressive images that experimented with depth of field, various camera angles and the 'rule of thirds'. During Term 3, Year 11 will be learning about multiple mixed media artists who create layered photographic arrangements in the style of Photographic Cubism. We will then move onto video production with the introduction of stop motion animation.

Year 12 students have been studying the history of film and focusing on the genre Film Noir. To bring this to life, we examined the techniques and themes of 'The Dark Knight'; a modern take on film noir. In Term 3, students will explore a concept or theme of their choice and develop an individual body of work. These images will form part of the photography exhibition at the end of year graduation.

Patty, PVDI Teacher

