



## A Farewell from the Principal

Dear NEGS Community,

What a privilege it has been to be the 13th principal of NEGS - challenging, exciting, rewarding and as every educator craves, making a difference in the lives of young people. That has always been my intent and I will carry this passion with me wherever I go.

In my final week here, I would like to acknowledge and thank the NEGS Board for their support and wisdom; the NEGS Staff for their unwavering loyalty and professionalism; the NEGS parents for entrusting me with your most precious children; the NEGS Old Girls for their resolute passion for their Alma Mater; and most importantly, every NEGS student who has been at the School during my tenure - they represent all that is good about humanity and have been, and continue to be, the most exceptional young people I have had the privilege to know.

For my entire teaching career I have always believed that the most valuable of any skill is that of resilience. Of course the entirety of this 'skill' has been tested in spades during the COVID-19 pandemic, whereupon the entire NEGS community is receiving a masterclass in what it means to be agile in the 21st century.

As Marise McConaghy, principal of Strathcona Girls Grammar so astutely observed in her article "There are some silver linings in the pivot to remote learning," The Age, in no time at all - but with incredible amounts of hard work - teachers have "dramatically pivoted the way they conduct their work and deliver learning to

children." McConaghy goes on to analyse the various aspects of a school's response during the pandemic and it encapsulates perfectly what I am witnessing at NEGS. It is a moment to be proud of the culture that we have all built together. I commend the article to you.

I have also attached for your reading a fantastic article on "Encouraging altruism and connection in the face of a crisis." Hopefully it will have some strategies for you in these unpredictable times.

Finally, I encourage you all to support Mark Flynn as he so ably steps into the principal's role upon my departure. His leadership at NEGS will be particularly valued with all the disruption related to COVID-19 - a steady hand at the tiller, and a leader who knows the team... gold - or in Mark's case, red and green.

Thank you to you all for the great seven and a half years I have had at NEGS; you all have my best wishes as the School moves into its next phase.

MRS MARY ANNE EVANS  
NEGS PRINCIPAL

## Hello From Your New Acting Principal- Mr Mark Flynn

Dear Families,

It is an honour to be Acting Principal at NEGS. A school that I believe truly encompasses our core values of Integrity, Responsibility and Excellence. These are certainly not just words at our school, but are central to our holistic approach to education and the anchor to academic achievement, sporting success and personal growth.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mary Anne Evans all the best for her next chapter. She has been at NEGS for 7 years and at the helm of our wonderful school for 4. She is a passionate advocate of girls' education and has been an exceptional role model for our students. The staff have benefited from her strong leadership and she leaves behind a community that have felt empowered by her governance.

Our 125th year has certainly been a time of immense change and unforeseen challenges. True to form, our teachers and students have embraced remote learning and have shown great resilience, positivity and empowerment. Our beautiful campus feels very quiet and we look forward to welcoming all students back as soon as possible.

Stay strong, united and positive, and please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.



MR MARK FLYNN  
NEGS ACTING PRINCIPAL





# JUNIOR SCHOOL *Update*



## From The Head of the Junior School

Dear Junior School Families,

Welcome back to an unusual start to Term 2. We would especially like to welcome our new Junior School students: Dylan, Brigitte, Kenan, George, Jonathan and Philippe.

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter and the students received my letter and chocolate in the post.

It was great to walk around the classrooms today and to see and hear all the students so excited to be back, alas, remotely online. Please remember if parents need to attend work and you don't have care for your child, we are here to help.

For the first two weeks we will continue delivering our remote learning online from 9.00am - 3.20pm, following the students' timetable to help aid parents at home and the continuing education of your students. We hope by week 3 we can start introducing student groups back to school to recommence face to face learning. As we get closer to week 3 we will notify families regarding the particular days students are to return.

For students (Transition to Year 6) who are attending over the next two weeks we ask parents to:

Only use the Junior School car park for drop off and pick up. Parents are to remain with their car and not enter the school grounds. For younger students who may need assistance there will be staff on duty to help you at the gate.

Students are to use the provided hand sanitiser at the rear gate as they enter.

Students are to sanitise their hands each time they enter a building/ classroom and practise safe hygiene whilst at school.

If your child shows any signs or symptoms of a cold or flu they will not be allowed at school. We ask parents to be contactable throughout the day in case your child becomes sick and needs to be picked up ASAP.

We cannot wait to have you all back on our beautiful school grounds.

MR ANDREW TRAVERS  
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

## NEGS Newsletter

2020 TERM 2 | WEEK ONE



**NEGS**  
MORE THAN  
A SCHOOL

**125**  
YEARS  
1895-2020

## COVID-19 UPDATE

Thank you to all of our students, parents and staff for your continued support with our remote learning model during the Covid 19 pandemic. As announced by the NSW Premier Ms Berejiklian last week, she stated that "health advice continues to be that schools remain open, and parents, teachers and students can be confident that school is a safe place". We continue to closely follow the advice from all relevant government authorities.

With that in mind, Term 2 Weeks 1 & 2 will be delivered remotely to our school community as it was in the last two weeks of Term 1 that is: those students who can, will learn remotely from home, however the School will remain open for students who need to attend.

As per the NSW Government announcement, from Week 3, May 11 onwards, there will be an easing of restrictions and all senior day school students will be able to attend the NEGS campus full-time. At the moment, we advise that the Dining Hall will remain closed.

Junior School students shall be rotated to attend the Junior School campus. Next week more information will be sent to Junior School families about which days students will receive their face to face learning.

The return of boarding students will be addressed later in the term. As you can appreciate, this is a continually fluid situation and as more information comes to hand, we will notify you as soon as possible of any affect this will have on you and your child.

It is important to note that all lessons will still be online to ensure equality of delivery for all students. A huge thank you to our teachers who have worked tirelessly over the holidays to prepare to deliver online learning.

## E-SAFETY

With students now spending more time online learning and staying connected to family and friends, it is more important than ever that we help our children to use this great resource while staying safe online. The Government E-Safety website has a huge amount of resources to assist parents with new content being added everyday. We encourage all parents to look at this website <https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/covid-19>



### NEGS REMOTE LEARNING HANDBOOKS

[For Senior School Students](#)

[For Junior School Students](#)

## CONTINUOUS LEARNING GUIDE

### for Students



*Establish a daily routine to support your learning*



*Identify a comfortable, quiet space so you can work effectively and successfully*



*Check online communication regularly*



*Complete assignments with integrity and academic honesty, showing your learning*



*Communicate with your teachers regularly*



*Use our values: responsibility, excellence, and integrity to help you make decisions and choices*



*Communicate and support your friends and classmates regularly*



*Take breaks, play, be active*



*Speak with adults at home or through school if you need support or help*



## Term One

*NEGS had a strong start to the year in sport and some of the students achievements included:*

- *Chelsea Thornton* was selected in the 2020 Hockey NSW U18 Women State Field Team. Chelsea was also selected to attend the 2020 National Futures Camp at the Australian Institute of Sport in March with 60 of Australia's leading U18 hockey players.
- *Olivia Clarke* and *Lydia Farrar* were selected in the NSW IGSSA 16 and Under Hockey side
- *Brielle Ball*, *Olivia Clarke* and *Hayley Lennon* were selected in the Northern Inland Academy of Sport Hockey squad.
- *Ruby Loosemore* brought home 2 silver medals and a bronze medal from the IGSSA swimming championships. She also qualified for the CIS swimming championships.
- *Jorja Curry*, *Lauren Wilczak* and *Ella Russell* were selected in the Northern Inland Academy of Sport Netball squad.

## Term Two

*NEGS will be continuing to follow the advice of the government organisations in relation to sport. There has been announcements made in the last week including the following:*

- Hockey New England plans to restart their competition on 18th July.
- Armidale District Netball Association plans to restart their competition on Saturday 25th July
- City2Surf has been rescheduled to Sunday 18th October

*It is vital that while students are learning remotely that everyone continues to try and meet the physical activity guidelines. These include:*

- Accumulating 60 minutes or more of moderate to vigorous physical activity per day involving mainly aerobic activities.
- Several hours of a variety of light physical activities;
- Activities that are vigorous, as well as those that strengthen muscle and bone should be incorporated at least 3 days per week.

The April pushup challenge is nearing completion. Keep an eye out for May's challenge.







## Anzac Day

The NEGS Community marked ANZAC Day 2020 by the laying of a wreath at the School's war memorial in the Chapel of St Michael and All Angels.

The memorial is an Honour Board listing the ninety-four Old Girls who served in World Wars One and Two. Dedicated at a special service in November 2005, three of those listed attended the service with their families. We continue to thank them, and the countless other Australians who served each year on this special day.

It was so special to see the many ways students within our community honoured the ANZACS this year.

