



From the Principal

This week we welcomed back a number of our junior boarders and some more senior boarders back to campus. It's so exciting to see the next stage of our return to boarding implemented. The girls are set up in White House and all seem very excited to be back. The junior boarders will be having tutoring assistance for the remainder of the term.

HSC Master Classes have been going well for our year 12 students. We also have our staff member Ms Ryan in the boarding house to help the Year 11s during prep. I encourage all girls to take the opportunity to access this extra tuition.

I am happily watching as the sporting restrictions are easing in NSW and at this stage hope that everything will return to normal for NEGS sport in Term 3. Sport is a huge part of NEGS life and I know that we all crave a return to something that will make life seem a little more normal.

These are indeed tough times and I'm sure that we all have had our moments of anxiety and doubt. However, I am confident that the NEGS community will navigate their way through the current

crisis and I don't have to look far for inspiration. Parents and carers are clearly and forever making sacrifices for their children despite fire, drought and pandemic. The girls have been forced to adapt to remote learning and show a level of discipline to study that is rarely required. Boarders are struggling with restrictions and showing great resilience and commitment. The entire NEGS staff have shown that they are both dedicated professionals and truly passionate about our school. I thank the school community for the values and character it is displaying and I am confident that much better days lay ahead.

MR MARK FLYNN
NEGS ACTING PRINCIPAL



From the Head of Boarding

The Saumarez House girls have made the most of their long weekend in, enjoying lots of cooking, many visits from Mr Flynn's dogs Morty and Rosie, a trip to Dangar Falls including a bush walk and visit to the corner store for ice cream, caring for the new 100 baby chicks in the Ag plot and an afternoon of tie dying and hot chips with Ms Cambridge. Thank you to Mr Rose for volunteering to drive the bus to Dangar Falls on Saturday.

The benefits of our expansive and beautiful campus have been even more appreciated than ever during these restricted times. Our grounds have provided our boarders with access to large outdoor spaces for exercise and relaxation without concern, allowing them to enjoy some lovely sunny (although chilly) weather.

On Monday Mrs Bruce and I welcomed back another 24 boarders into White House, the girls have returned excited and ready to resume their normal schooling routine.

To all of our boarders accessing remote learning, we look forward to having you all back with us on campus in Term 3. If you have a photo of your view or a few words of your experience from schooling at home, please forward to head.boarding@negs.nsw.edu.au so we can share it with our school community in the next newsletter. We would love to hear how you are going at home.

MRS JODIE JACKSON



NEGS Welcomes New Staff Member Ellie Ryan

This year NEGS was fortunate enough to be joined by Ellie Ryan in our HSIE department. Ellie teaches Legal Studies and Business Studies in the senior school and also runs Years 11 and 12 prep in the boarding house. Since starting at NEGS Ms Ryan has shown herself to be incredibly committed and hard working. To quote Mr Flynn "we are very lucky to have such a dedicated young teacher".

COULD YOU PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND?

I grew up in Inverell and then after school did a gap year in England working in a prep school. When I returned to Australia I studied a double degree of Arts and Law, majoring in international relations and creative writing. During that time I went on two overseas exchanges: one to Mexico and one to Sweden.

Once I graduated I worked in Newcastle for two years as a lawyer at a community legal centre and then moved to Darwin to work as a legislative drafter for the government. I worked in that role for four years. At some point I realized that the contribution I wanted to make to society and the skills that I wanted to utilise day-to-day would be better realised as a teacher so I studied a Masters of Teaching through UNE. It was not an easy decision, but it was a good one. I like the variety of the job and the enthusiasm of the staff and students here at NEGS.

WHAT HOBBIES DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

I am pretty keen on sport and played a lot of AFL in Darwin. I am hoping to play for a local team once sport starts up again. I have also taken up the trumpet again after not playing since I was in high school. At the beginning of the year I was really enjoying playing with the NEGS senior band - the NEGS Sisters.

WHAT DOES ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE MEAN TO YOU?

Academic excellence to me is about seeking new ideas or experiences and being brave enough to make mistakes in pursuing those ideas and experiences. It is not about seeking perfection. NEGS students are generally very good at this already and I think part of the reason is because most of them have extracurricular interests that require them to be dedicated and to keep going even when something is difficult. From what I have seen, NEGS students take a brave and enthusiastic approach to education as well as to their outside interests and such an attitude stands them in good stead to achieve academic excellence throughout their lives.

Music News

It's been fantastic to have welcomed back some of the smaller ensembles to Music over the last few weeks. The guitar group have particularly enjoyed being able to play their songs and learn new skills over Thursday lunchtime. It has also been lovely to hear other musicians gradually resuming their practice in the Music block, filling the air with their beautiful sounds.

The return of more students into the classroom has definitely made a difference to the energy of the activities. It's fantastic to see the students enjoying being back in the company of their friends, making music happen.

Reminder for all to keep a watch for what ensembles are allowed to start again under COVID-19 guidelines. Guitar group is on Thursday lunchtime, NEGS Sisters will resume in the Wednesday MPP time. Mrs Spillane's marimba group will run on Thursday mornings at 8.00am and Saumarez Strings will be on Tuesday lunchtime beginning at 1.00pm. Both of these groups will begin again in Week 8 of this term. No vocal groups or choirs will be starting back up until we are notified that we can restart.

The Stage 3 and 4 band program run on Thursday will resume in Term 3 for students from Years 5 to Year 8.

NEGS Engage App

The Engage School App is a free iOS or Android "app" for use with mobile 'phones and tablet devices. It provides a much better user experience compared to trying to access the Engage Parent Portal on a phone or tablet web browser.

The app is available to download from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. We have uploaded a guide NEGS Engage School App - Parents Guide to the documents section of the Engage Portal to assist parents.

2020 Important Dates

TERM TWO

Year 7 and 10 Vaccinations	11 June
Last day of Term 2	25 June
Holidays Commence	26 June

TERM THREE

Boarders return	20 July
Term 3 classes commence	21 July
'Girls Night In' for all Year 7 2021 students	14 August
Year 12 Valedictory Day	24 September
Last day of Term 3	24 September
Holidays Commence	25 September

TERM FOUR

Boarders Return	11 October
Term 4 classes resume	12 October
HSC written examinations commence	20 October
HSC written examinations end	11 November
Junior School Speech Day	3 December
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols	3 December
Speech Day	4 December
Last day of Term 4	4 December
Holidays Commence	5 December

Sports News

In exciting news for NEGS sport, the NSW Government has announced that community sport for 18 years old and under can resume across NSW from 1st July. As a result our Hockey and Netball IGSSA teams will get the opportunity to compete in Sydney. This comes as a great relief in particular for our Year 12 athletes, getting the opportunity to compete for their school one last time. Olivia Joyce in Year 12 has provided some insight into what it means to her and the rest of the Senior IGSSA netball team.

'Even though we are still limited in what we can do, returning to team training has been the most exciting thing to happen so far in 2020. I know that all of the netball girls were so excited and driven to have an awesome season at the beginning of this year, but COVID-19 left everyone anxious about whether or not there would even be a 2020 netball season. It is so fulfilling to see that everyone has tried their best to maintain and build on the skills and strength and conditioning we developed at the beginning of the year whilst in self isolation, and I don't think that a return to training could have come at a better time.'

The atmosphere at training and the support, dedication and motivation that is being radiated by everyone is unreal! Upon returning to training we wanted to place a big emphasis on culture and team spirit, and it has been so well received by each and every one of the girls in the netball squad. If anything, COVID-19 has made the team environment stronger, and given everyone more reason to work really hard to achieve the goals we set out at the beginning of the year.'

2020 is my last season of school netball and naturally I, like all of the year 12 girls, was so disappointed to think that we might not get an opportunity to represent our school in the sport we love for the last time. We were reminded to remain hopeful, and told that our hard work would not go unrewarded, so I think that everyone just kept chipping away so that when we could finally return we were ready to go. I cannot put into words what it means to get to play a final season of netball for NEGS, and feel so blessed to do so surrounded by all of the girls on the team this year.'

For me, my passion for netball brought me to NEGS, however my passion for NEGS is what makes me excited to play in my final year. I will forever be grateful for the support that all of the netball girls received from the coaching staff and teachers in such a trying time, and cannot wait to see what the 2020 NEGS netball teams achieve.'

This is also great news for all of our students as it means they will recommence sport next term. More information will be released soon.



COVID-19 Update

SCHOOL GYM REOPENING

The gym will reopen for Year 11 and 12 Students from at 3.30pm on Friday, 12th June for the rest of Term 2. Usual school gym rules apply plus additional COVID-19 rules.

UNWELL STUDENTS

We request that you do not send any student to school who is exhibiting ANY signs of illness or states they are feeling unwell.

We also ask that if you answer 'yes' to any of the following 3 questions, that you keep your child at home and contact the Health Centre (6774 8700) to discuss.

- Has anyone in your household been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
- Has anyone recently returned from traveling?
- Does anyone in your household have any of the following symptoms? Fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue or shortness of breath?

In the event that a student needs to be tested please inform the school immediately. Before returning to school we require a certificate from their GP stating they have returned a negative result for COVID-19 and are fit to return to school. If your child receives a negative result, we still ask that you keep your child home until all symptoms of illness have passed.

Despite some reports from the Government about social distancing in schools, our situation is different as we are considered a residential facility. Restrictions about no adults on campus remains the same as does the restrictions for drop offs and pickups.

The situation remains fluid and all changes are made in consultation with the advice from the Australian Government Department of Health, NSW Health, Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).



Reconciliation Week

To celebrate Reconciliation Week our Senior School Indigenous Youth Leadership Program (IYLP) recipients were invited to take part in a Virtual Breakfast via Zoom, on Thursday, 28th May. This breakfast was hosted by The Smith Family and took place in the Kay Hiscox Room. We were joined by IYLP partnering schools in NSW, QLD, NT, SA and VIC. Chief Executive Officer of The Smith Family, Dr. Lisa O'Brien also joined us to talk about what this years' theme "In This Together" means to her. The girls enjoyed crumpets, pancakes, English muffins, milo, juice and a selection of fruit.

Uniform Shop

Open Tuesdays and Thursdays
8:30am - 4:00pm



NEGS ON THE ROAD

Come and discuss what NEGS can offer your daughter.

Director of Enrolments, Muffie Sproat invites you for coffee at

The KHH Nursery and Tea House in Narrabri
The Stone's Throw Cafe in Walgett
The Town and Country Club in Moree

RSVP via email to enrolments@negs.nsw.edu.au or phone (02) 6774 8700

The KHH Nursery and Tea House in Narrabri

DATE
Wednesday 17 June
WHERE
201 Maitland St,
Narrabri NSW
WHEN
10am-3pm
RSVP
by Monday, 15 June

The Stone's Throw Cafe in Walgett

DATE
Thursday, 18 June
WHERE
58 Fox St, Walgett NSW
WHEN
8am-1pm
RSVP
by Tuesday, 16 June

The Town and Country Club in Moree

DATE
Friday, 19 June
WHERE
7 Frome St, Moree NSW
WHEN
9am-2pm
RSVP
by Wednesday, 17 June

NEGSNewsletter

2020 TERM 2 | WEEK SEVEN



NEGS
MORE THAN
A SCHOOL

125
YEARS
1895-2020