Teaching and Learning Newsletter

NAPLAN Tests for Years 7 and 9 Students

NAPLAN Tests for all students in Years 7 and 9 will be held next week. The schedule is:

- **Tuesday 10 May** Language Conventions and Writing Lessons 2 and 3
- **Wednesday 11 May** Reading Lessons 1 and 2
- **Thursday 12 May** Numeracy Lessons 1 and 3

All students must have a B or 2B pencil, a pencil sharpener and a clean eraser.

Study Skills Programme for Years 7 and 10

Last week Dr Prue Salter from Enhanced Learning Educational Services (www.enhanced-learning.net) ran a study skills session with Years 7 and Year 10, building on the work done in the previous sessions.

The Year 7 session reviewed the skills covered at the parent/student evening in Term 1 expanding on the area of ‘how to study’. With exams coming up this term, students are encouraged to choose 1-2 subjects every day to review in preparation for the exams. This could take the form of making study notes on their work from Term 1, starting to learn and memorise the content and practising the skills of the subject.

The Year 10 session also focused on the upcoming examinations helping the boys identify learning styles. Were students a visual, auditory or kinaesthetic learner (or perhaps a combination of these) and what did this mean for the study techniques they used? You may like to ask your son what they discovered about their own learning style.

Parents are encouraged to review the handout from the session with their son and discuss the main areas identified and what changes need to be made in the lead up to the Semester One examinations. Parents can also find extra study skills tips on the website http://studyskillstoptipsparents.com/.

All students at our school also have access to a comprehensive study skills website to help them to develop their examination skills. Go to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and enter the username: forstgregsonly and the password: 60results. The relevant units for preparation for the exams are Summarising, Active Studying, Preparing for Exam Blocks, Test-Taking Techniques and After Tests and Exams.

Holiday Programmes Available for Gifted and Talented Students

**Learning Labs, University of Wollongong**

Learning Labs is an academic enrichment holiday program for students in Years 7 to 10 offered by the University of Wollongong. The University offers workshops that cover a range of academic fields. The program is developed and presented by University Academics or Specialists who are leaders in their field, with workshops being innovative, challenging and targeted to stimulate the interests of high achieving students. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to socialise with like-minded peers within a university setting.

- **When**: 6th - 7th July 2016
- **Time**: 9.00 am - 3.30 pm
- **Where**: University of Wollongong, Wollongong Campus
- **What to bring**: Food, drinks, hat, sunscreen and stationery supplies
- **Fee**: $160

More information can be found at http://www.uow.edu.au/in2uni-myway/learninglabs/index.html

**GERRIC Programme, UNSW**

GERRIC offers a range of programs for gifted and talented students (generally students who are capable of performing in the top 10% of their age-peers). GERRIC holiday programs provide opportunities for gifted students to use their abilities in a challenging setting. Students can work with other gifted students who share their interests. They will also meet inspiring teachers who love working with gifted students.

- **When**: Tuesday 5th July - Thursday 7th July 2016.
- **Applications are now open and close on 1 June.**
- **Program fees are $350 per student. This price covers the whole three days of the program and is inclusive of GST.**
- **More information about this holiday program can be found at**: https://education.arts.unsw.edu.au/about-us/gerric/for-gifted-students/

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