

## Principal's message



Dear School Community

We made it! Our move to Petersham went well – phones and computers were working, all of our furniture arrived and students found us for the Trial HSC exams on Day 2.

A huge thank you goes to the staff who worked through the holidays to make it all happen. Staff and students have had a great time settling in and discovering all of the new classrooms and facilities and setting up their new workspaces.

Thanks also go to the talented staff who put together a touching farewell from our Randwick home – complete with a banquet and musical items. It was a little sad for those who had taught in Randwick for many years.

We've already shown off the new school to visitors by holding the annual Australian Network of Government Language Schools annual conference at the school. Principals from Victoria, ACT and South Australia came together to hear what we are doing in Languages in NSW at Primary, Secondary and Tertiary levels. Guest speakers included Associate Professor Ken Cruikshank from University of Sydney, Professor Lesley Harbon from UTS, Jozefa Sobsky AM and representatives from the Department of Education and NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). Our own Head Teachers, Jannan Assaad and Janelle Byrne presented an overview of the language course writing projects currently underway at our school. Later this term we will be hosting the meeting of leaders from all of the NSW Distance Education Schools.

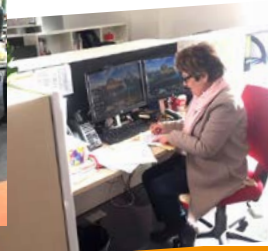
One of the new spaces in the school is Frances Selby Hall. It is named in honour of our late esteemed colleague. Every fortnight 300 students, their teachers and some parents from Petersham Public School have been using the hall for assembly. It is very pleasing to be able to share our facilities and we look forward to partnerships with others in the future. I would like to thank Ms Lorraine Rose who has very generously donated a piano to the school and this is already being used with gusto.

Several of our teachers have presented at state-wide language teacher conferences in Japanese, Korean, Indonesian, Spanish and Russian and at the Modern Language Teachers Association annual conference. We also have many teachers giving detailed feedback to NESA on the new language syllabuses. I am proud that the school's expert teachers are being recognised for their amazing skills and experience in language teaching.

Our Year 12 students have just been completing their HSC Speaking examinations. Their teachers are now guiding them to do their best for the written examinations next term. Our Year 11 students are preparing for their final assessments in Week 7 and I also wish them well in their studies.

Keep up with news about our school by following us on Facebook and Twitter.

Hilary Hughes  
Principal



## LONG TAN AWARD

NSW School of Languages has awarded the Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork awards to the following students. Here is a brief summary of their achievements.



### Year 12 Piadora Rahme

Piadora is a committed student of French who demonstrates kindness, leadership and teamwork in her approach to other students, her school work and her teachers. She has been studying French via Distance Education since Year 11, and participated in a recent school trip to France.

In France, Piadora was delighted to be nominated as a “buddy” for a student with special needs. This decision was made to give the student some autonomy from the supervising adults, and Piadora was selected for her sensitivity and maturity. She took this role seriously, and ensured that the student was always actively included in class. In social group settings, Piadora liaised effectively with other students and took charge to make sure that this student’s needs were met, and she willingly accompanied this student on shopping trips and walks. The two of them developed a close bond which has continued after their return to Australia. Her presence in the group of students greatly enhanced the experience of everyone in the team.



### Year 10 Alyssa Powell

Alyssa has demonstrated leadership and maturity in the course of her Year 9 and 10 Japanese studies. She attended Campbelltown Council’s Sister Cities Association exchange program with the city Koshigaya in Japan last year. This year Alyssa has volunteered her time to meet, greet and welcome Japanese students in the program. She also has assisted other students in the Council area applying for an exchange with interview technique. Alyssa also assisted the program by hosting Japanese students who visited her high school for 10 days. She partnered with one of the Japanese girls, teaching her about Australian schooling, life and culture.

Alyssa has demonstrated teamwork through her participation at the Fisher’s Ghost Festival and Ingleburn Alive Festival. Alyssa also represents her school in the diocesan swimming competition. At school, she has received multiple awards for her contribution as a leader and team player.

- Academic Excellence award 2015 and 2016.
  - Silver Academic Achievement Award 2017.
  - Gold level for achievement in all levels of school life, 2017.
  - Marcellin Champagnat Award for all around achievement, 2015.
  - Cultural and Creative Arts Award, 2016
  - Assistant Principal’s Certificate, 2016.
- NSW School of Languages congratulates the recipients.

## NSL FUNDRAISES FOR AUSSIE FARMERS

Staff at NSL came together at their regular morning tea to fundraise for Aussie Farmers. Everyone donated generously and the school raised \$360 to donate to the charity **Aussie Helpers**. The charity helps farmers with equipment, food and emotional support.





## MODERN GREEK

### THE YOUNGEST EVER PRESIDENT OF A FOOTBALL CLUB IN MESSEANIA, GREECE!



Theodore Vasilopoulos studies Modern Greek Continuers, Modern Greek Extension and German Beginners with NSW School of Languages. He was recently elected AE Loggas football Club President! AE Loggas is based in Kalamata, Greece, founded in 1884 and plays in the B league.

Nineteen year old Theodore took the reins of the club after the last elections in May. Theodore was born in Australia and lives in Hong Kong with his family where he attends the Australian International School.

His parents grew up at a time in Australia when learning a second language wasn't encouraged and even though they both come from Greek

backgrounds they didn't get the opportunity to study the Greek language at school. Theodore and his sister Olivia however, have been able to master not only Greek, but are also learning German. Theodore and Olivia are fluent in Chinese (Mandarin) and English as well.

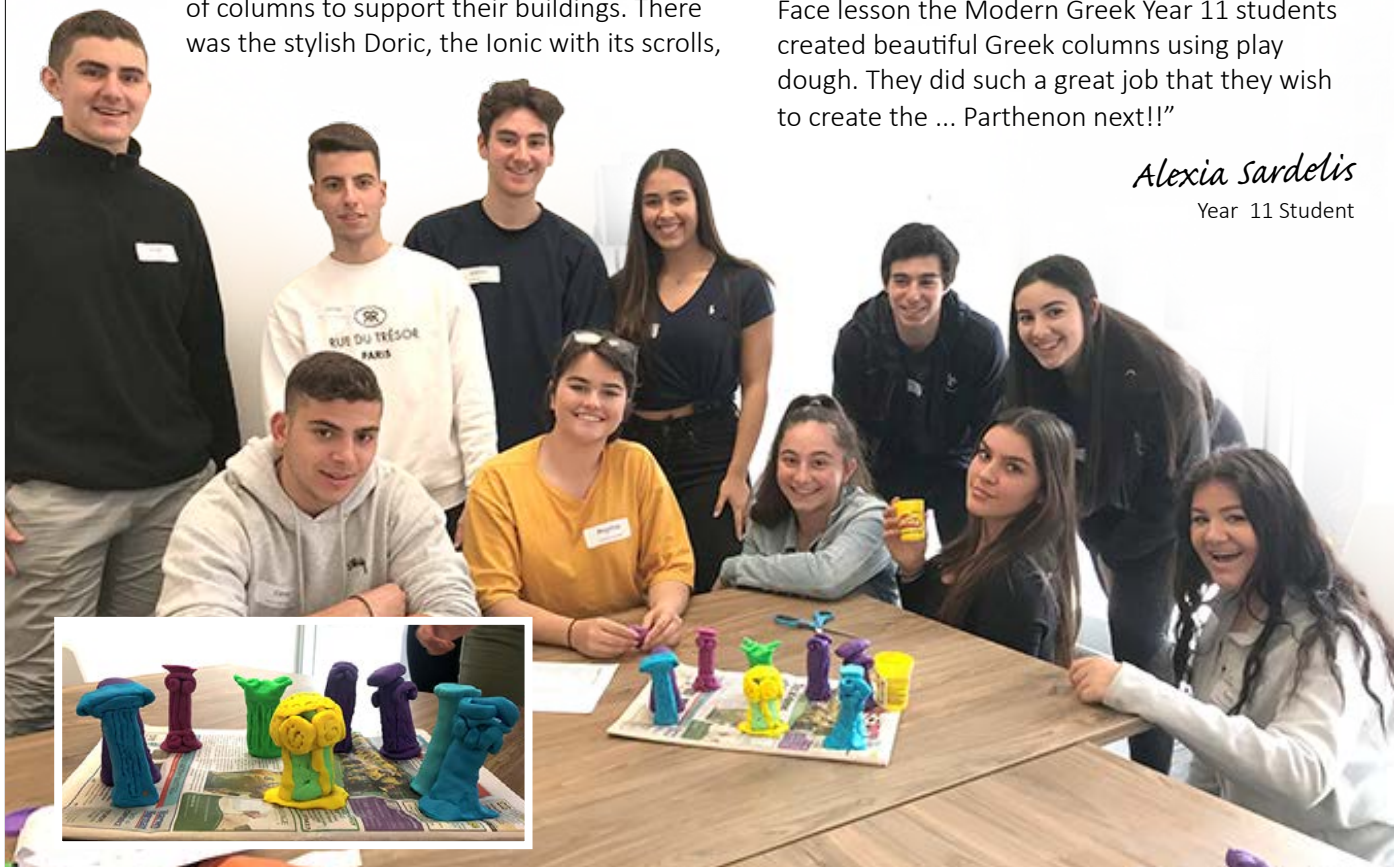
After his election Theodore told [notiansvoice.gr](http://notiansvoice.gr) 'I want to thank you for trusting me and voting for me. I am a fighter and even though I am young in age I am not going to let you down. We will work together because only together can we succeed. Actions count more than words for me. May we be strong with vision and hard work.'

Theodore, who loves Greece and its history, has been facing some health issues that have made him a strong character. He has even told his Greek teacher, Mrs Papanikolaou, that he will become the new Greek Prime Minister one day! As Theodore's father Dr Vasilopoulos said, 'Kids who know languages and can be globalised with ease will be the future leaders of this world.'

"The ancient Greeks invented three types of columns to support their buildings. There was the stylish Doric, the Ionic with its scrolls,

and the fancy Corinthian. At our Term 3 Face to Face lesson the Modern Greek Year 11 students created beautiful Greek columns using play dough. They did such a great job that they wish to create the ... Parthenon next!!"

*Alexia Sardelis*  
Year 11 Student





KOREAN

**FIRST LESSON AT PETERSHAM!**

**Y**ear 11 Korean Beginners have had their lesson day at the new school in Petersham. Students were amazed at the newly decorated Hana Centre fitted with mirrors for K-Pop dancing and enjoyed their culture and language workshops. Students practised and prepared for their upcoming yearly exam through activities such as 'speed dating' and 'word hunt'. Of course, the best part of the day was K-pop dancing instructed by teachers from IMI Dance Studio. Students danced to the K-pop group BTS "Anpanman" and showed their love of K-pop and Korean language!



**YEAR 11 KOREAN CONTINUERS**

In July, our Year 11 Korean Continuers students wore the Korean traditional clothes Hanbok for the first time and had a fashion parade. Students learnt how to bow with the Hanbok on for Korean special holidays and what to say when they are bowing. Students also played 'Guess Who?' and had to find out who the person was using Korean, saying "누구예요?" (Nu gu ye yo)?



**YEAR 11 KOREAN BEGINNERS**

In Term 2, Year 11 Korean Beginners students went on an excursion to the Korean Education Centre and Cultural centre. Students made their own Korean traditional lantern "Cheongsachorong" and participated in cultural activities. The Director of the Korean Education Centre explained about the opportunities for students to visit and study in Korea in the future through programs provided at the Centre.



**YEAR 9 AND 10 KOREAN**

In June, 20 of our Junior Korean students visited the Korean Cultural Centre for an exciting school program. Students enjoyed participating in the culturally rich program, which started with wearing Korean traditional clothes, Hanbok, and explored a Korean traditional house, Hanok. Making Gimbab and a hand mirror were the highlights of the day. In the afternoon, students also visited the Korean Education Centre. An inspiring video on modern Korean history made some students quite teary.





**FRENCH**

**OUR FIRST FRENCH LESSON  
DAY AT PETERSHAM**

Year 11 French Beginners students made excellent use of the kitchen facilities to appreciate French cuisine. Our new facilities enhanced students' engagement and helped them expand their experience.

Students made Quiche Lorraine and salad for lunch using a recipe in French, and enjoyed crème caramel for dessert. Students also learnt the secrets of making authentic French vinaigrette. Lunch was served outdoors to enjoy the great weather.

*Maria Lomis - Head Teacher French*



**Collège International de Cannes**



"In the final week of June this year, I embarked on a self-funded, one week study trip to the south of France during a period of long service leave.

I had two criteria when it came to my choice of French language school: it needed to be within walking distance of a beach and close to an international airport.

My criteria led me to the Collège International de Cannes which is situated across the road from a very long beach, a ten minute walk from the famous town of Cannes and half

an hour from Nice Airport. A bonus was having residential accommodation on campus which made getting to class quite easy and relaxing.

My mornings were spent attending class, speaking in French with people from all over Europe and the rest of the world. In the afternoons I explored Cannes and its lovely beaches. In the evenings, I dined in town and walked home past groups of young people enjoying volleyball and other beach sports and groups of people picknicking on the beach.

I would highly recommend this experience to our students if they would like to visit France in order to improve their French in a safe yet fun environment. The school is geared towards teenagers and young people and organises transfers to and from the airport, provides accommodation and all meals and has a security system. This would be an invaluable experience for a young person, meeting people from all over the world whilst immersing themselves in French language and culture.

<http://www.french-in-cannes.com/>

*Madame Saran*

**PROPOSED STUDY TRIP TO NEW CALEDONIA, APRIL 2019 (For ALL students of French)**

**The 9 day study trip will include:**

- \*5 days French immersion lessons at CREIPAC, Noumea <http://creipac.nc/c/about-creipac/>
- \*5 nights immersion homestay with host families around Noumea
- \*3 nights in a hotel in Anse Vata, Noumea
- \*Cultural trips around Noumea, including Amadee Island, Parc Forestier, Tjibaou Cultural Centre, Aquarium, Museum of

New Caledonia and more!

An information evening for parents and students will take place on Tuesday 18th September 2018 at 6 pm at our new location at 35 West St Petersham. Please indicate your advance interest in this study trip by emailing

*Margaret Lattimore,  
Teacher of French*

[margaret.lattimore@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:margaret.lattimore@det.nsw.edu.au)





## CHINESE

### CHINESE EXCURSION

Year 9, 10, and 11 Chinese students went on excursion to the Chinese Garden at Darling Harbour, followed by Yumcha. Students went to the serene and secluded Chinese Garden of Friendship. They enjoyed the peaceful atmosphere of the garden and learned more about the traditional Chinese culture of Feng Shui. With koi carp swimming in the lake, willows weeping in the breeze, some students didn't even want to leave the garden. After a lovely visit there, students went to Yumcha and tasted some of the most authentic Chinese dishes in Sydney, such as Dim Sim and Har gau. This was followed by a visit to a Chinese medicine shop in Sydney where they learned how traditional Chinese doctors treat illness with Chinese medicines. It was a fun and valuable learning experience.



## JAPANESE

### JAPANESE EXCURSION TO THE NIHONGO TANKEN CENTRE

On the last day of Term 2 twenty-five Year 9 and 10 Japanese students went on an excursion to the Nihongo Tanken Centre located in Kirrawee High School. The Centre provides a stimulating and authentic Japanese environment for students to develop their Japanese language skills. Nihongo Tanken means exploring Japanese in the sense of an adventurous expedition into Japanese language and culture. Mr Bender and Mrs Cantwell met the students at Central Station and travelled together to Kirrawee train station. The students were immersed in Japanese language and culture for 3 hours with no English spoken. Lots of fun and learning was enjoyed by all!





GERMAN

LESSON DAY FUN!

Our German students know exactly how to make a delicious SchwarzwälderKirschtorte (Black Forest Cherry Cake). With food like this, you never want to miss out on a Lesson Day!



MY YEAR IN AUSTRALIA

"My name is Gaia and I'm a Swiss student from Lausanne. This year, I studied German with NSW School of Languages.

I have had a wonderful time in Australia - I have been able to experience the sights of Sydney, including the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Opera House and have been fortunate enough to experience a Sydney summer going to the beach in the sunshine!

Apart from experiencing all that Australia has to offer, school was very important to me. I have really appreciated NSW School of Languages because it has allowed me to continue my learning of the German language very easily. We had a few Lesson Days at the school which were great opportunities to speak with our teacher and to have fun together with other students who were also learning how to speak German. My teacher was excellent! She was very helpful and patient with me while I was still learning."

*Gaia Mutton*



ESL



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

ESL teachers are busy preparing our seventeen HSC students for their final HSC exams and the ten Year 11 students are also coming to the end of their course.

The Stage 6 ESL course is very similar to the Standard English course, but also includes Listening skills, where students listen to interviews and analyse listening techniques and structure or the effectiveness of the interview. Students also complete novel, poetry and film study, as well as a new creative writing focus in line with the new syllabus.

Overseas students, who have been in Australia for 5 years or less at the beginning of the Year 11 course, are eligible to study ESL English, which is marked separately from Standard and Advanced English in the HSC. It is an ATAR course, which enables students to use their result to apply for university entrance.

We currently have students from India, China, Iraq, Japan, the Philippines, Tibet, Zimbabwe and Syria. Good luck in your final exams everyone!

## INDONESIAN

### YEAR 12 SPEAKING DAY

As an annual event, NSW School of Languages teachers once again organised a Saturday morning Year 12 Speaking Day at Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College. This is a popular event for both teachers and students. Indonesian Beginners, Continuers and Extension Students practised for their HSC Speaking Oral examination with experienced teachers as well as meeting Indonesian students from other NSW schools. This year we had about 50 students from schools as far away as Nowra. There were 15 teachers as well as one ex-student and a PhD Indonesian student from Macquarie University who came to speak Indonesian with the students.

#### Some students' comments:



"Now I am not scared. I can speak with other teachers and still understand them."

"I feel more confident in preparing myself for the HSC Oral Exam because I have practised and answered lots of different questions from other teachers."

"Teachers were very friendly and we had a good time interacting with other students and

## SPANISH



### MY ECUADOR EXPERIENCE

"Last month, I was lucky enough to travel to South America, to Ecuador via Buenos Aires. BA lived up to its reputation of being the Europe of South America with its grandiose buildings and avenues.

Ecuador is a small country, but it must be one the most bio-diverse countries in the world.

It has 4 regions with multiple ethnic and indigenous cultures and food:

- 1** The Amazon- the lungs of the world
- 2** The Sierra/Andes that cuts through the middle of the country with impressive views of valleys and mountains. You can see many active volcanoes as you travel by car.
- 3** The coast has many surf and fishing beaches on the Pacific Ocean and Ecuador's main city and port, Guayaquil.

**4** The Galapagos Islands made famous by Charles Darwin, where he deepened his theory of evolution. At first sight these islands seem desolate, but closer study shows that creation is happening all the time.

My favourite region, due to its importance to the world, is the Amazon, followed by Galapagos.

Ecuador is a Spanish speaking country. At first, I found myself communicating in words rather than sentences. Later I was able to master the connecting words, enabling me to better communicate with people. I loved the language and the scenery and I would like to go back to experience more of both!"

*Alexander Bayas*

Year 11 – Spanish for Beginners



## RUSSIAN

### YEAR 9 LESSON DAY FUN!

Year 9 Russian students had a fun-filled Lesson Day at the Petersham campus. They enjoyed learning about some prominent Russian people, such as Anna Pavlova, the famous ballerina. The highlight was making and devouring the delicious cake "Pavlova", which was named in her honour. The students really like the new school and its facilities at Petersham. The kitchen area allowed us to cook some traditional

Russian buckwheat porridge for lunch. A great day of language learning and cultural experience was had by all!



## ITALIAN

### HAVING FUN WITH LA TARANTELLA!

The Year 12 Italian Beginners put on their dancing shoes and danced the famous Italian La Tarantella. This was a fun activity with cultural meaning. All we needed were some shawls and a couple of good tutorials on YouTube. The activity went very well, thanks to the enthusiasm and the participation of the students and their teacher. When students laugh and have fun, it means the lesson is a success! Buona tarantella a tutti!

Tarantella was a popular dance in Southern Italy from the 17th Century that derives its name from the bite of the Tarantula spider. It was believed that people bitten by the Tarantula spider could dance endlessly under the effect of the poison!

