

TURRAMURRA

HIGH SCHOOL

Term Email - Year 8, Term 4 2021

Dear Year 8 Parents and Guardians,

We would like to welcome you back to Term 4. We hope that our students were able to have a restful, well-deserved break. Although Term 3 was a challenging time for many, with online learning and the lockdown having an impact, we saw just how strong and resilient our community at Turramurra High School is. This is sure to be a busy term, and so this email is to provide you with some information on the weeks ahead.

Online Learning

As online learning continues into the first few weeks of this term, we would like to highlight the incredible effort of our students in the past couple of months. We have seen a majority of the students participating with enthusiasm in classes and taking the challenges in stride. So many of our students have embodied our learning dispositions of Grit, Teamwork, and Empathy over the last term. We would also like to say thank you to you and your families for your support and communication during this time. Although the times are challenging, we know that we will work through it together as a team and community.

If you have any questions regarding your child's classwork, or if they are needing some further support, please contact their class teachers. Class teachers can be most easily contacted via private comment in Google Classroom, or by email. The contact details for members of staff can be found by visiting our school website:

<https://turramurra-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/our-staff.html>

Wellbeing

In the current times, wellbeing is at the forefront of our focus. In August, we hosted a school-wide wellbeing day. It was incredible to see our Year 8 students engage in a range of activities on the day, and to watch as they continue to support each other. We will have further opportunities for fun wellbeing activities this term, and look forward to seeing the wonderful creativity of our students. We have also been checking in weekly on the Year 8 Google Classroom with our Weekly Wellbeing Form. It has been great to see how

many of our students have participated in this! Here, students are able to tell us how they are feeling each week, and find support.

Although showing resilience and perseverance is commendable, we also want our students to continue to check in with their personal wellbeing, and with those around them. Mental health is extremely important. We highly encourage students to reach out if they have any concerns or would like to talk about any challenges they might be facing. We have a strong support team who are always happy to help and to hear from students and caregivers; even just for a quick chat. This includes the Year Adviser team Ms Wickramatilake and Miss Carter; our Head of Welfare and Learning Support, Mitchell Day; our new Student Support Officer, Alice; and our counsellors Justin and Julie. Ms Wickramatilake and Miss Carter's contact emails and class allocations are listed below.

Nami Wickramatilake: I, M, R and S nami.wickramatilake3@det.nsw.edu.au

Edyn Carter: H, P, T and U edyn.carter1@det.nsw.edu.au

Return to School

There has been significant discussion around the return to on-site school, and some change has occurred over the past few weeks. We know that our students are eager to return and to see their friends and teachers. At the time of this email, the currently announced advice is that all NSW students (Years 2-11) will return to school on site, full time, on 25th October (Monday Week 4).

Further information regarding the transition to on-site school will be communicated to students, parents and caregivers soon. We really look forward to seeing our students in our classrooms again soon - we can't believe it has been over three months since we saw many of their smiling faces!

Please contact us at any time if you have any questions or would like some support.

Warm Regards,

Miss Nami Wickramatilake (Miss W) formerly Ms Nami Morgan

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Miss Edyn Carter

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Year 8 Content Overview, Term 4, 2021

Subject name	Description	Assessments*
ENGLISH	<p>Poetry Unit - The focus of this unit is to expose students to a diverse range of poetic styles and voices, through the lens of 'Our Natural World'. Students will analyse and compose poetry, building an understanding of the impact of language choices and form, while being empowered to consider their relationship with the world around them through creative expression.</p> <p>Digital Media & Print Unit – Magazines & Websites</p>	<p>Opinion piece 25% Week 4/5</p> <p>Non-assessable</p>
MATHEMATICS	Please refer to school website (Year 8 link) for the scope and sequence	There will be 2 components to the yearly assessment during Week 7. The online component will be on Monday 15/11 Period 2. The written component will be on Tuesday 16/11 Period 1. All the content from semester 2 will be tested.
PDHPE	<p>PE – We will be planning Covid Safe physical activities as per the current guidelines.</p> <p>Health - Starting a new unit called "The more you use, the less you live" which covers drug and substance use and effects.</p>	Class based activities.

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SCIENCE	Year 8 will be studying a unit called 'What makes it go'. This unit will explore electricity, energy and forces.	Online assessment in skills in week 6. Students may be completing (dependent on COVID and NESA) the mandatory for NSW government schools test: Validation of Assessment for Learning and Individual Development (VALID) program provides online end-of-stage assessments for the science key learning area. More information to come.
GEOGRAPHY	Interconnections	Ongoing Topic tests assessing Geography skills. Homework as required. Research Task
HISTORY	Contact History –The Aztecs-Spanish conquest of the Americas Ancient Japan- Bring in the Shoguns!	Who Am I-Empathy task Historical Biography- Research presentation.
LANGUAGE Japanese	Time to Celebrate Students will research information about traditional and modern ways of celebrating festivals in Japanese-speaking communities. They will present their findings to their peers in a short presentation of one festival.	Language Skills Listening 20% (40 marks) Speaking 20% (20 marks) Formative Assessments / Class activities, quizzes and observations 10% (20 marks)
LANGUAGE Chinese	Students will be studying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Body Parts • Pets and animals • Cultures issues (Early Chinese Inventions, Chinese endangered species, Chinese mysterious animals) 	Language Skills Various class tasks will be assessed

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<p>LANGUAGE Italian</p>	<p>This term students will be studying: Fashion, Nationalities and School Life</p>	<p>Italian Writing Assessment task - Italy vs Australia comparison project Due week 4 Listening Task - Telling the time Week 6</p> <p>Ongoing Homework, Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing Skills Revision activities on line through Education Perfect.</p>
<p>TECHNOLOGY – Industrial Arts</p>	<p>For the first two weeks of Term 4 in Industrial Arts, students will be given the opportunity to design and construct a recycled planter box as a part of the Materials course of study.</p> <p>From week 3 onwards, Year 8 will be completing the Amazing Game unit of work. This is an exciting new course of study and the second installment into the world of Digital Technology. Students will work in groups in a travel game format as they complete challenges, collect and analyse data and finally design and build a travel game app.</p>	<p>Week 2 - Recycled Planter Box Project</p> <p>Week 10 - Digital technology Travel Game App.</p>
<p>TECHNOLOGY Home Economics</p>	<p>For the first few weeks of the term students will continue with their experience in both Food and Textiles Technology.</p> <p>The remainder of the year they will be starting a new unit of work called “The Amazing Game” which is based on the TV series “The amazing race” Students will work as a team with challenges that relate to their learning of Digital Technology. They will race around the world as they learn new skills like designing an app for a game that could be played whilst waiting for a plane. (a novel idea at this time of no travel)</p>	<p>There will be activities that students will need to complete during the game so they can move forward.</p>

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VISUAL ARTS	This term Year 8 will finish off their investigation of artist Shaun Tan and commence a new unit of work on photomedia.	Case Study
MUSIC	Year 8 will continue their study on music of a culture, thinking about how they express their own worldview through music. Students will compose their own rap.	Rap Composition Assessment Class based activities
My Learning	Students will be building upon the concepts of self-care and mental health explored in Year 7. A deeper investigation into the learning dispositions and how these skills can be utilised to develop as a holistic learner.	Year 8 will finalise their passion projects for 2021 and complete their yearly self-
SPORT	We will be planning Covid safe physical activities for Thursday afternoon Sport, as per the current guidelines	Later in the term, students will be selecting Whole School Sport Selections for 2022 Year 9 Summer Competition. More information to come towards the end of the term.

* Please note that dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances.