



FRANCIS GREENWAY HIGH SCHOOL GAZETTE



Mrs Edwards (Principal)

We Value Your Input

Please feel free to contact us at any time:
Po Box 124, Beresfield NSW 2322
Phone: 02 4964 1282 Fax 02 4964 1147
Email: francisgre-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Edition 2
February 2016

Calendar of Events	
February 2016	
Tuesday 16 February	P & C Meeting 6pm
Monday 22 February	Year 7 Vaccinations
Friday 26 February – (pupil free)	Staff Development Day replacing Term 2 Staff Development Day
March-April 2016	
Thursday 3 March	Cross Country Carnival
Wednesday 9 March	School Photo Day
Wednesday 23 March	Athletics carnival
Friday 25 March- Monday 28 March	Easter long weekend
Friday 8 April	End of term 1
Tues 26 & Wed 27 April	Year 7 Camp (Term 2 commences Tuesday 26 April – including students return)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Once again, I warmly welcome all our school community, especially our new families to another year of learning and growing together at Francis Greenway High.

This year is our 50th birthday and we plan to celebrate both where our school has come from and where it is heading in the future. The theme for Education Week this year is “**Sharing our stories, better learning, stronger communities**” which is most appropriate as we celebrate fifty years of education. Anyone interested in contributing to the planning of our birthday events should come along to the P&C meetings held on the third Tuesday of the month at 6.00pm in our Cultural Room. This is also an opportunity to hear what is happening in our school and to have a voice in your child’s education.

We have some new staff this year and are confident they will find Francis Greenway a fabulous place to work. We welcome Tim Teys who replaces Mr Bradley in TAS, Ms Korven in English, Mr Beard in Maths, Ms Ryan in Science and Ms Metcalfe in Support.

As well as some new staff, some current staff have changed roles; Mrs Smithson is Head Teacher TAS, Mrs Usher, Head Teacher Teaching & Learning, Ms Atwill is Head Teacher PDHPE,

Ms Conway is Head Teacher Wellbeing and Ms Marshall is Head Teacher CAPA.

Each year group has a Year Advisor who looks after the wellbeing of students in their year group. They are as follows: Year 7- Ms Murphy, Year 8- Mr Whitton, Year 9- Ms Adams, Year 10- Ms Woolnough, Year 11- Mr Russ and Year 12- Ms Wills. Mr Brownsmith is the Deputy Principal in charge of Years 7, 9, and 11 while Mrs McIntosh will be looking after Year 8, 10 and 12.

If you have any concerns regarding your child please contact the relevant Year Advisor or Deputy Principal. You can also speak to Ms Conway or myself. It is especially important that we are made aware of any significant event that may impact on a student’s wellbeing at school in order to best support them.

Friday, the 26th February will be a student free day at our school. We have moved the School Development Day scheduled for the first day of term 2 to this day in order for staff to be able to undertake valuable training. I hope that early notice allows families to make any necessary alternative arrangements.

Some Reminders

1. The school day begins at 8.35am. As we do not have roll call the learning begins immediately. Students are expected to be at school ready to begin class on time.
2. Students are not to leave the school premises. If you need to collect your child please phone the school and we will arrange for your child to meet you in the front foyer. Students who are unwell should go to student services. They should not phone you directly as this impacts on the learning of others.
3. The P&C supports the wearing of uniform. Students are not to wear coloured jumpers, hoodies, items of clothing with large logos, leggings or “short” shorts. Students may be asked to change into clean, correct uniform at school or have parents contacted to bring the correct uniform to the school.
4. Mobile phones are not to be used in class and are brought to school at the students’ own risk.
5. It is important that your child’s contact details are current so that we can contact the relevant persons when necessary and to ensure no students is at any type of risk. If your child has a medical plan such as asthma, diabetes or anaphylaxis please check that plans and medication are both in-date and supplied to the school.

Mrs Jo Edwards
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTIES

Welcome Back

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all students and families on behalf of the Francis Greenway High School Learning Community for 2016. This year the students I work with are in Years 8, 10 and 12. It is a very big year for students completing their HSC in Year 12 and I would like to remind them to keep on top of their studies and assessment events. I have additional copies of their HSC Assessment Outline Booklets if anyone needs an additional copy of this valuable document that was issued in Term 4, 2015 at the commencement of the HSC year.

Information Evening for Years 5 & 6 – Year 7 2017-18

We will be holding a Year 7 Information Evening on Wednesday 2nd March in the school Library between 5.30-7pm for our in-coming Year 7 students of 2017-18. We organise this event to begin our transition program and to welcome our upcoming high school students. There will be light refreshments provided at this evening of information sharing events with a chance to ask questions about the wonderful opportunities our school provides.

Learning Hub

We are again offering the Learning Hub in our school in the Library Monday and Wednesday afternoons, 3.00-4.30pm, commencing later this term. In the Library during this time we will have tuition and support for homework, assessment tasks and subject specific learning. We are in the process of arranging the teachers who will be staffing this initiative and when it is finalised, a letter will be sent home to all parent/carers via our students about this.

School Bus

As announced last year, the school is in negotiations to purchase our own bus, with a 25 seat capacity. The contracts are in negotiations for this now and it will be in the school this term, fingers crossed. Thank you to the P&C who have subsidised and supported the purchase of this enormous asset in our school.



Janene McIntosh
Deputy Principal – Years 8, 10, 12

From Mr Brownsmith

Welcome back to FGHS families and students. I'm looking forward to a successful, enjoyable and productive 2016. This year I am responsible for Years 7, 9 and 11. I am more than happy to discuss concerns or queries you may have regarding progress, teaching and learning, and well-being. In the first instance I urge you to consult with the relevant Year Advisor for progress or well-being issues and the Head Teacher of faculty if the problem is classroom or staff related. Meetings can be organised through the administration office.

If there is a significant incident that may affect your child's learning or ability to function normally at school, please be sure to inform the school so that we can provide support and assistance.

Year 7 seem to have settled quickly thanks to the great Transition Program they have been a part of in 2015. Students will soon begin to have assessment tasks due. Assisting your child in understanding time management and learning to apply basic study techniques is important for success in high school.

Year 9 students have begun Stage 5 of their education. Part of this course of study includes two electives. If for some reason a change of course is required, please discuss the reasons with your child and provide them with a note outlining your's and their concerns. Students are well and truly engaged in their studies now and changes at this stage will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Year 11 have embarked on the start of their Preliminary Course. They will be realising a sudden change in workload and application that is required for this level study. It is imperative that they put into practice effective revision home study, appropriate time management and maintain an open line of communication with all their teachers. Study should be daily by all senior students, and it is recommended that senior students undertake 3-4 hours per night. All students have a Preliminary Assessment Schedule Booklet which outlines all subject assessment tasks, due dates and HSC assessment rules. Please be aware of specific processes that must be followed by students for non-completion of tasks or misadventure.

All students should be getting into good habits so that it becomes part of their daily regime.

A little housekeeping:

- Sport is compulsory at our school and appointments should be avoided for students at this time as there is also another period following.
- Students who are unwell at school should report to the relevant Deputy for permission to go home. Please encourage your child not to call you before notifying staff.
- BYOD is available to students with their own devices. Information can be obtained from our Technical Support Officer. This is not compulsory as we have trolleys of laptops and computer labs for use during lesson time if required by teachers.
- Upcoming sporting carnivals are a compulsory part of school. There is an expectation that students attend all carnivals.

Mr Damien Brownsmith
Deputy Principal – Years 7, 9, 11

GATS – ME Program

We are very excited to announce that FGHS is taking part in the ME Program during 2016. The ME Program is funded by an Industry Skilling and Schools Pathways Grant from the Australian Government's Department of Defence. Regional Development Australia - Hunter is contracted throughout the Hunter Region, which includes 11 local government areas.

The Program is branded "ME Program" representing **Manufacturing** success through **Education**.

The ME Program has an emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics - STEM. The main objectives of this program is to:

- a) Increase the uptake of STEM subjects in secondary schools education
- b) Increase student awareness of STEM employment pathways
- c) Facilitate student opportunities of hands on experiences within industry
- d) Establish student mentoring and networking opportunities within industry

FGHS Principal Mrs Joanne Edwards submitted an expression of interest in 2015 toward various areas across the ME Program. We are pleased to have been successful with receiving a STEM education grant in order to further our students in the area of STEM and to work toward an iSTEM elective class in 2017.

The three areas in the ME program that we were successful in are;

1. The school will receive a LEGO EV3 pack. This is optimised for classroom use and contains everything needed to introduce robotics to students. It enables them to build, program and test solutions based on real life robotic technology. This will provide complex challenges for students and introduce them to a higher level of understanding across the areas of Science, Mathematics, Design and Technology and Computing. This group of student will be required to submit a team in the 2016 RoboCup junior – Hunter Region Event at the University of Newcastle in August.
2. QUBERIDER kit – This is a hands on, learn as you go program. The program is designed around a group of students coding an electronics board. The board is almost the same as the one which will be launched on a real satellite to space! The experiments that the students design and create on the board will be flown directly into space on the next Quberider launch. There will be a variety of sensors on the board already, which the students will learn to use to form real life experiments.
3. ME 3D- The school will be provided with a 3D printer. With the professional development on AutoDesk CAD software and the DIY kit, students will be creating and getting involved in the exciting world of 3D printing.

2016 is going to provide students at FGHS with experience and opportunities and further understanding of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). They will be made aware of the future careers through practical experiences and the collaboration between the school and industry.

Amanda Usher
Head Teacher Teaching & Learning

ENGLISH

Welcome to the new year. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Kylie McElwain and I am the new Head Teacher, English. I am very excited to be here at Francis Greenway High School and I have been very impressed with the students since I started late last year. I hope this will be a wonderful year for all our students and for the English faculty.

In English this term, students are very busy completing novel studies. Years 7 – 9 will be writing an exposition for their first assessment task for the year and Year 10 will be completing a Visual Representation of the themes within their novel. If your child hasn't mentioned their novel yet, ask them about it, we are reading some fantastic Young Adult fiction.

Our seniors are also right back into the swing of things with Year 12 continuing their HSC modules. Year 11 will be experiencing senior school for the first time and will be realising by now that HSC English requires dedication and some independent learning. It is a big shift from junior to senior English; however, their English teachers are available to help - all they need to do is ask for assistance.

I have high expectations for all of our students here at Francis Greenway High School and expect that all students will try their best. It is important that students attempt all English homework and prepare in advance for assessment tasks. Coming to school prepared to learn will ensure that every child benefits from their time at school. I would also like to encourage our students to be reading outside of the classroom. There are some wonderful contemporary novels available in our school library and I would be happy to recommend novels for any student interested.

If you have any concerns or queries about English or your child's progress, please feel free to contact their English teacher or me. I look forward to a very productive year and cannot wait to see what our students can do in 2016.

Mrs Kylie McElwain
Head Teacher English

English Students Promoting Sustainable Development Goals

As part of their conceptual focus on our environment and sustainability, Year 10 English students from Mrs Woolnough and Ms Walsh's English classes wrote persuasive post cards in term four last year, to the federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Claydon. These persuasive writing lessons also made links to contemporary dystopian literature and film, and asked students to consider their world in 2030 when they would be thirty years old. What kind of world do they want to inherit?

The post cards were part of a UNICEF and Oxfam initiative: to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and address climate change by 2030'. After registering with Oxfam, class sets of the post cards were sent to the school. 10A and 10N viewed a clip called "We the People for Global Goals" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RpqVmvMCmp0>) which provided information about the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and were given the opportunity to explore these goals further via the website www.globalgoals.org to choose one goal they felt strongly about. An explicit criteria for writing the persuasive post card was provided along with a number of examples of persuasive techniques.

After drafting and editing their work, students wrote their persuasive messages on the post cards which were then posted to the Federal Member.

We were pleasantly surprised to receive a reply from Sharon Claydon addressed to the students. She thanked our students for sending their post cards and praised the quality of the messages. Part of the letter is below. Very well done 10A and 10N English students.



Dear Year 10 English Students

Thank you for your individual letters regarding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Your letters were very thoughtful and well considered. I am pleased that you and your classmates are discussing these important issues.

I note that access to clean drinking water, protecting the natural environment, universal health care and eliminating poverty around the world are key issues of concern for your class.

As your letters suggest, this is a critical time for Australia and the international community to commit to building a more equal, prosperous and sustainable world.

Ms Danielle Walsh
English Faculty

WRITE IT RIGHT 2016

Our school will continue with its very successful writing and cultural program that focuses on improving writing across the curriculum in Aboriginal students in Stage 4 and 5. The program will be implemented over four terms beginning in week 3 of Term 1, 2016. The dates and program are attached and students received this information in week 1.

On Wednesdays (Week A) Year 7, 8 and selected Year 9 students will visit *Murrook Culture Centre* in Williamstown and various other

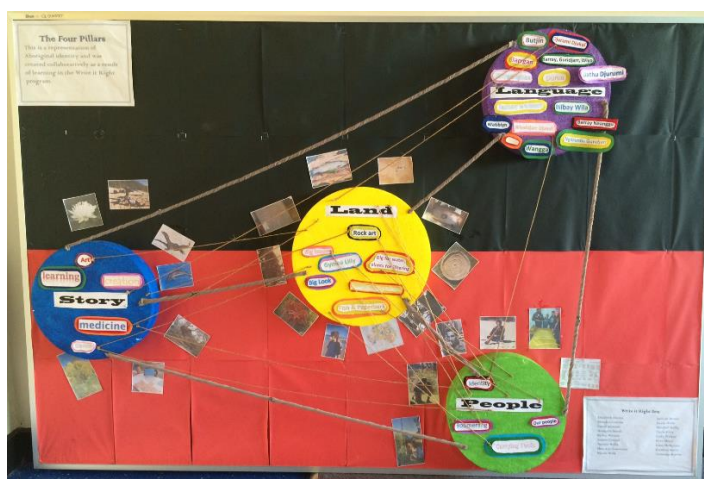
sites in the area. We will leave FGHS at 8:45am and return at 2:45pm. Travel will be by bus. **Students must bring their recess, a bottle of water, a hat and wear comfortable shoes and full school uniform. Students will be provided with lunch for each visit.**

On Tuesday (Week B) Period 2 Year 7 students and on Friday (Week B) Period 2 Year 8 and 9 students will attend a writing workshop which will use the experiences from *Murrook* visits as stimulus to explicitly teach about the academic text type writing required across all Key Learning Areas. The focus of this writing will be on text specific language and structure and will take place in the school's Aboriginal Education Room. Students will be supplied with a folder, writing book, pencil case and writing equipment for use in these workshops. At the end of the year there will be a celebration afternoon to showcase student learning to family, friends, staff and community supporters.

Participating students are expected to attend all visits to *Murrook* as well as all writing workshops. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they catch up on class work missed through participation in the Write it Right program and that they are on time and ready to learn on all school days.

The 2015 celebration saw the students share their understanding of the four pillars of Aboriginality in their fantastic visual representation and verbal presentation. Memphis Smith, Natalie Wells, Bailey Winner, Janiyah Brown, Elizabeth Davey, Mitchell Kelly and Kyra Milne spoke confidently and passionately about the importance of land, language, people and stories to cultural identity which was in the form of an Explanation text type collaboratively written by all Write it Right students. The visual representation is shown below.

Thank you to Leigh Ridgeway our Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer and the State Aboriginal Education Consultative Group who, every year, supplies Write it Right students with pencil cases and writing equipment including pens, rubbers, rulers, highlighters and lead pencils. These resources are greatly appreciated and help with the running of the program and are part of its success.



Ms Danielle Walsh
Write it Right Program Coordinator

CAREERS

A message to **Year 11** parents: A compulsory course "HSC: All my own work" has not been completed by several students. This is not a good way to commence senior studies as this is a fairly simple program. Unfortunately, we are unable to enter a student into their Year 11 studies with the NSW Board of Studies until this is completed.

I would appreciate your assistance in encouraging completion of this self-directed course, which can be done on line at home or at school. The website is www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au There are 5 modules with 5 quizzes. I require proof of results for these quizzes. (Print outs or screen copies.)

For Year 10 and Year 11 I have booked 2 courses for students to complete their **White card** for work in the construction industry. These will be held on Wednesday 16 March and Wednesday 27 April. The cost will be \$80 and must be paid prior to the course. Students must have their student ID card AND USI. Year 11 students doing Construction must have a White card. Students need to see me for an information letter and permission note.

Work experience for Year 10 this year will be from 6 June to 10 June, with a letter for parents being sent home soon. This will explain all of the procedures and insurance information. All of the paperwork for work experience will be given out before Easter.

Mrs Jennifer Dempsey
Careers Adviser

Mrs Kate Taylor
Career and Transition Coordinator

MATHEMATICS

Welcome to Francis Greenway High School. The Mathematics staff are looking forward to working with your child to improve their understanding and confidence in Mathematics. We are also welcoming Mr Price and Mr Beard into the Mathematics faculty this year. Each of these teachers are bringing a wealth of experience and expertise to our school. As usual, we will be using the school intranet facility (Moodle) to supply information to students/parents about coursework, homework, assessments and important Board of Studies requirements.



Equipment: To help your child succeed in Mathematics, it is important that they bring all their equipment, including a workbook and calculator, to every lesson and complete the classwork to the best of their ability. Learning their multiplication facts and being organised are important skills that will lead to success. A separate work book for Mathematics is required as course work is regularly checked by class room teachers. Having an 'all-in-one' book is not satisfactory. **Students are expected to bring their own scientific calculator** (Casio or Sharp) every day as the Numeracy strand is covered in all subject areas of high school.

Assessments: All students in Years 7 -10 will complete an 'end of term' test as part of their Mathematics assessment this year. Students will be able to access revision papers (via FGHS Moodle site) to practise and revise for these tasks. Any Year 9 or Year 10 student who does not complete an assessment task on the due date will need to complete a misadventure form and provide a Doctor's Certificate (as per school policy). Failure to do so will result in zero marks for that task and an N-Award notification being sent home.

Gifted and Talented Programs:



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The Mathematics Department will again be liaising with the University of Newcastle to offer enrichment programs for our talented mathematics students. They will be held every fortnight for interested Year 9 and 10 students in terms 2 and 3, and cover areas not traditionally addressed in the standard curriculum through mathematical problem solving. Presenters give a range of perspectives which we hope will encourage participants to explore mathematics further in various ways.

Robotics: This year the Mathematics department has offered Robotics as a two year elective for Year 9 students. Students will have opportunities to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to Robotics and its associated industries, with the emphasis on practical experiences. Mr Abel will be keeping parents informed of the progress of this class.



Important assessment dates to remember:

Year Group	Term 1 Test	Topic Areas
Year 7	Week 10	Computation with Integers, Fractions, Decimals and Percentages, Algebraic Techniques 1A
Year 8	Week 10	Probability, Graphs, Tables and Statistics, Percentages, Percentage Applications
Year 9	Week 10	Financial Mathematics, Rates, Indices
Year 10	Week 10	Algebraic Expressions, Trigonometry, Surface Area and Volume

Year Group	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Year 11	Week 10	Week 9	Week 9	Start Yr 12
Year 12	Weeks 10&11 (half yearly)	Week 7	Week 1&2 (trial HSC)	HSC

Please contact the Maths staff if you have any questions regarding your child's Mathematics course.

Mrs Kylie Burnett
Head Teacher Mathematics

CANTEEN

Welcome back to all our canteen volunteers. We have a large number of vacant spots available on our roster, so if you are able to give even a few hours of your time please contact Lisa or Darlene at the school on 49641282. Remember ALL of the profit goes into making life better at school for our children. Thank you, Lisa Rowley & Darlene Ruming, Canteen Supervisors

PDHPE

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

2016 has begun with an enormous amount of enthusiasm from the PDHPE Faculty. Throughout the holidays, the team were busy creating new and exciting programs to teach across 7 – 10 PDHPE as well as the elective subjects Physical Activity and Sports Studies. The faculty are excited and inspired by the new Physical Literacy Continuum and have utilised this new document to direct lesson content and teaching strategies.

Term 1 is always a busy one for the faculty as we coordinate the swimming, athletics and the cross country carnival. The carnival dates are as follows;

- **Cross Country Carnival** will be completed as a **Colour Run** and the date for this is **Thursday 3 March**.
- The **Athletics Carnival** is scheduled for **Wednesday 23 March** and will be held at Fred Harvey Oval, Woodberry.

We look forward to both events and remind parents that attendance is expected on all days as well as being a mandatory responsibility for every student. Students are also encouraged to dress in the colours of their house as follows.

HOUSE	COLOUR	SURNAME LETTER
ATTUNGA	Dark Blue	A – E
KILAKARA	Green	F – L
MULGABIRRA	Red	M – R
TIKERA	Yellow	S - Z

Finally, when students are involved in movement lessons for PDHPE or PASS, they are required to wear a sport uniform which ensures they are prepared for physical activity. Wearing this uniform for the entirety of the day is permitted and certainly encouraged to allow maximum participation from every student. We thank you for your assistance in achieving this and urge you to support the PDHPE faculty in providing the most effective programs whilst developing your children's ability to become aware of their overall wellbeing.



Year 11 2016

Crossroads is a mandatory 25 hour program designed to help senior students to address issues of health, safety and wellbeing at a time when they face significant changes and challenges in their lives. It aims to prepare and support these students as they encounter situations related to identity, independence and their changing responsibilities.

The program is presented during timetabled lessons. The focus is on Personal Identity, Mental Health and Well Being, Relationships, Sexuality and Sexual Health, Drugs and Alcohol, and Safe Travel. In addition to interactive lessons, students will also view some well selected videos and participate in sessions presented by external presenters such as The Blood Bank, Road Whys and The Lemon Car.

Miss Harmonie Attwill
Head Teacher PDHPE/Sport

WELLBEING TEAM

Student Centred–Learning Focused–Wellbeing Driven

The Wellbeing Team would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all students for another successful year at Francis Greenway High School.

Peer Mentoring Program

The ROC Peer Mentoring Program was introduced in 2014 and aims to strengthen the support available to students in an academic and welfare context whilst also providing opportunities for leadership. The ROC program identifies Year 10 student mentors who have leadership aspirations and capabilities to collaborate through the process of transition with incoming Year 7 groups. Peer mentors voluntarily give time to support and encourage others, providing a stronger base of support for students transitioning into Year 7 whilst giving the student mentors opportunities to pursue a leadership role within our school. This structure will not only allow mentors to enhance their interpersonal skills, knowledge and experience but also provide them with the ability to be an effective leader for school based positions. The Peer Mentors for 2016 are as follows:

Morgan Ashbourne	Ryan Bartlett	Dean Bradford
Matthew Cheetham	Nicola Cole	Ryan Currie
Liam Delaney	Megan Gillis	Brianna Green
Ben Hughes	Kyle Logvyn	Tyler Nicholson
Ellie Papas	Rory Sleeth	Tiara Spacek-Blanc
Sophia Stewart	Shaylee Wajczyk	Kayla Wells
Regan Young	Jayden Evans	Ty Henwood
Zachary Saunders		

Disability Provisions

Students with a diagnosed medical condition and/or learning difficulty that impact on a student's ability to perform in examinations may be eligible for disability provisions. Disability provisions provide students with practical support in examinations. Students' special needs may include vision, hearing, learning and medical difficulties. To qualify for this provision a student must provide recent (last 12 months) medical reports from sources such as General Practitioners, Specialists, Occupational Therapists or Psychologists. To qualify for learning difficulties students must be identified by a Head Teacher or support staff member, undergo assessment with the school Learning and Support Teachers and have a reading age 5 years less than their chronological age. If you believe your child may be eligible please contact the Jill Steuart for more information.

Maths Facts Program

In Term One the Maths Facts Program will be introduced to Year 7 students. The program is designed to improve numeracy skills by assisting students to attain speedy and accurate recall of basic number facts, with the aim to improve confidence and learning in the classroom. The program requires students to be withdrawn from their normal class for half an hour, three times per week, to work with our support teachers. A letter will be sent home shortly if your child has been identified as being suitable for the program.

Seasons for Growth

Change and loss are issues that affect us all at some time in our lives. When change occurs in our families through death, separation, divorce or other related circumstances, young people may benefit from learning how to manage these changes effectively. At Francis Greenway High School we offer an education program called Seasons for Growth. This program is facilitated in small groups and focuses on skills to cope effectively with change and loss, self-esteem, managing feelings, problem solving, effective communication and support networks. If you think your son/daughter would benefit from this program we would encourage you to talk it through with them. Please contact Margaret Sims for more information.

A few important reminders from the Wellbeing Team to start 2016:

- We have three amazing LASTs (Learning and Support Teachers) at Francis Greenway High School and it is important that their role at our school is clarified. LASTs are qualified teachers who specialise in providing support for students in regular classes who experience difficulties in basic areas of learning and/or behaviour. Their role is to improve outcomes for students with additional learning and support needs. They may provide additional support in literacy, numeracy, language and behaviour. Students do not need a formal diagnosis to access support. Whilst our LASTs are willing to work with any student who fits the above profile it is important to remember that they are not personal tutors and parents wishing for their child to receive extra support for particular subjects should make contact with local tutoring agencies.
- VIVO will continue in our school in 2016. VIVO is a positive recognition and reward program in which teachers go online to award points to students for their hard work and behaviour. Students are able to check their accumulated points and are able to purchase prizes online as an extrinsic reward for doing the right thing. The use of VIVO in our school supports our four school values; Commitment, Cooperation, Responsibility and Respect and our school culture. Each term will see a VIVO Assembly held to celebrate the success of our students. Awards will be presented in each year group to the student who tops each value category and then a special overall award for the student who receives the most VIVOS in each year group. **Remember VIVO rewards the ordinary not just the extraordinary.**

Natalie Conway
Head Teacher Wellbeing

TAS

WELCOME

A big welcome to all of our new Year 7 students and new & returning students. Some changes have occurred with staffing in TAS over the Christmas break which have altered some of the familiar faces that students may have become accustomed to seeing.

We have farewelled Mr Bradley who retired at the end of last year and we wish him all the best with future travel and relaxation. Mr Bradley is replaced by Mr Teys, who brings with him lots of knowledge, energy and enthusiasm.

Mr Kearney will be with us on Mondays to Wednesdays and closely working with Mr McCormick on Thursday and Fridays.

Mrs Walsh is currently setting up Hospitality bringing it into the 21st century using technology, which I'm sure the students will greatly appreciate, and will be in the faculty on Monday to Wednesdays. Mrs Smithson will be working closely with Mrs Walsh on teaching her classes on Thursdays and Fridays. As Mrs Usher takes on the exciting role of Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, Mrs Smithson will be assuming the role of Head Teacher TAS 2016. Also we welcome back Mr Jackson, Mrs Joy and Mrs Middleton.

FEES, SAFETY & EQUIPMENT

Just a reminder that fees help us provide your child/ren with the resources they need to complete their practical projects. It would be appreciated if you could start paying your technology fees as soon as possible even if it is a little each week.

Remember your child's safety is of paramount importance to us and that TAS is a practical subject sometimes working with dangerous equipment and processes that require safe behaviour and safe rules to be followed. Safe rules include 'personal protective equipment', so students need to be wearing sturdy leather upper fully enclosed shoes in all practical areas. Long hair needs to be tied up and protective aprons provided by the faculty need to be worn.

All Technology Mandatory students will be provided with a Folio Display Book to keep all of their work in this year. They are quite large and therefore not able to be carried home on a day to day basis. Staff will endeavour to send them home occasionally so you can keep informed on what your child has been doing in class. All other subjects need a lined book preferable A4 to keep written work in and some senior design subjects may require an A3 Display book to keep their Major Design Project work in.

HOMEWORK

We are all parents and understand the rigours and time restraints that occur in the household out of school hours. In saying this we believe that homework can assist students with being better organized and improve literacy and numeracy skills by practise. For the younger students it can help get them into practise for Stage 6 where the recommended study time is 20 hours per week. For those students that are unable to access the internet at home the school has a Learning Hub available after school on set days and students can also set up a time in which they can utilise the Faculty computers with teacher supervision to assist with completion of homework. It is an expectation that students still need to complete assessment tasks even after the due date.

CAFE



The Cafe will again be up and running this term with a change of day to Wednesdays. The Cafe is available to Senior students at recess and lunch and to the staff. A selected group of Year 9 & 10 'Food Technology' students along with Hospitality students will be operating the Cafe, gaining skills in food preparation, customer service and improved literacy and numeracy. I also look forward to utilising some GATS students throughout the year in possibly creating some new recipe ideas to serve.

Watch this space in future Gazette articles for photos of student work and food from the Cafe and Hospitality classes. We may even be able to squash in some good lunchbox recipes.

Mrs Donna Smithson
Head Teacher TAS

SCIENCE

At the start of another school year, we welcome back all of our students after a (hopefully) relaxing Christmas break. Our Year 12 students are already back into the swing of things and our Year 11 students are adjusting to the workload expected of the HSC.

For our new Year 7 students and their families, we welcome you to FGHS and hope your students find Science the engaging and informative subject we believe it to be. If you're new to FGHS you might not know who your child's teachers are.

So in Science we have:

Mr Reid – Head Teacher

Ms Ross and Ms Cowan – Job sharing for 3 and 2 days respectively

Ms Adams, Mr Whitton, Mr Latta,

Ms Ryan – Replacing Ms Shearer who transferred at the end of last year

Mrs Hodges – Lab Assistant who gets all the experiments organised.

This year, the Science Faculty will have a focus on Enquiry Based Learning. By getting students to think and work scientifically, investigating questions rather than just performing tasks, students will engage more and retain the information that they have gained by discovering that knowledge for themselves.

Have a great year! All the best from the Science Faculty.

Mr Michael Latta
Science Teacher

Language Other Than English (LOTE) – JAPANESE (日本語)



In 2016, all Year 7 students are completing their 100 hours of mandatory LOTE study in Japanese. The aim of this programme of study is to enable students to develop communication skills in Japanese and to gain insights into the relationship between Japanese language and culture, leading to lifelong personal, educational and vocational benefits. (NSW Board of Studies Japanese K-10 Syllabus).

Most Year 7 students have started the year with enthusiasm and are already confidently using their newly acquired language skills to say basic greetings and farewells to me, not only in the classroom, but around the school too. I hope they are greeting each other every day with a friendly "ohayoo!"

Cultural Garden Project In Term 2, 2015, a number of students expressed an interest in creating a Japanese cultural garden. To assist with the planning process, students were first asked to give their vision for the garden. Together with interested staff members, a plan was designed and construction began in Term 3, 2015. The garden features a bamboo fence, pond and bridge, bonsai, bird bath and seating. All features were made by students of the school under the guidance of staff. Year 12 Construction students and Mr Jackson have designed and modelled the *torii* gate for the entrance. Work will continue in 2016. Once completed, the garden will provide an outdoor learning space for classes.



Mrs Sharon Waller
Japanese Teacher



CHEERLEADING

Congratulations to Ben Callinan and Cooper Daley of year 9 who represented Australia in Cheerleading competing at the Spirit Sports Duel in the Desert in Palm Springs, California USA. They placed 3rd in the Senior Co-Ed Level 4 division, which is an outstanding effort. Ben and Cooper cheer in the Xenon team at Oxygen All Stars. Ben is our current cheer captain of our school cheerleading team the FGHS Stingers and has not only demonstrated outstanding cheer skills but also leadership and coaching skills. Cooper is an ex-member of our FGHS Stingers.

We are currently having try outs for our FGHS Stingers team and are pleased to see some new talent in our school. If any student is interested in trying out please come and see Mrs Andruschak or Miss Xenos for more information.

Mrs Kirralee Andruschak
Cheerleading



BERESFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB



REGISTRATIONS WILL BE HELD ON:
6th February, 13th February, 20th February

AT: Beresfield Bowling Club
FROM: 9am to 1pm

All junior players will receive a club shirt, shorts and socks
with 5,6 & 7 years receiving a ball and shin pads, all
thanks to Beresfield Bowling Club.

All registrations are done on line at
www.myfootballclub.com.au

For any enquiries please phone Denise on 49661192 or
Sue on 0410883464

THORNTON & SEAHAM NETBALL CLUBS



THORNTON –10th February 5.30-7pm at Thornton
Netball Courts

Or by using the Netball website –

<http://my.netball.com.au/>

or contact Tracy Williams on 0422 276 756

Special deal for 5-9 years for new members \$140
which includes a uniform. All ages and abilities are
welcome.

SEAHAM - Registrations will be held on:

Saturday 13th February

AT: Brandon Park Seaham

FROM: 9am to 10am

This is the second and final Registration Day.
There are teams from 7 years through to seniors.



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For eligibility phone Medicare 132 011

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11/02/14 5:21 PM



Francis Greenway High School

Notification of Student Absence

Student Name: _____

Year: _____ 1st Day Absent: _____

Last Day Absent/Possible Duration: _____

Reason: _____

Notifier's Name: Mr / Mrs / Ms / Dr _____

Relationship to Student: Mother / Father / Nan / Pop _____

Signature: _____



Francis Greenway High School

Notification of Student Absence

Student Name: _____

Year: _____ 1st Day Absent: _____

Last Day Absent/Possible Duration: _____

Reason: _____

Notifier's Name: Mr / Mrs / Ms / Dr _____

Relationship to Student: Mother / Father / Nan / Pop _____

Signature: _____



FRANCIS GREENWAY HIGH SCHOOL
2015 Student Attendance Requirements and Procedures
Advice for Parents/ Care Providers and Students.
COMMITMENT, RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY AND COOPERATION

The following information is to assist students and parents/care-providers in fulfilling their obligations as required by Government Legislation. We ask you to read and discuss this material with your child/ward. The welfare and well-being of your child/ward depends on co-operation and communication between the school and yourself.

Please contact the school throughout the year if you have any concerns.

IF YOU CHANGE YOUR: mobile number, home/ work phone number, mailing address or emergency contact person, PLEASE ADVISE US IMMEDIATELY.

The school usually uses SMS notification to parents of student absences from school. It is therefore essential that mobile phone numbers are updated early in the year and kept current for the rest of the year.

Government legislation requires all “young people between the ages of 6 and 17 must: complete Year 10 and then be enrolled in school or registered for home schooling; be in full-time approved education or training; be in full-time, paid employment; or be in a full-time combination of approved education or training and paid work.” (School Leaving Age 2009) In summary, a student must complete Year 10 or an approved government equivalent. After this, until at least until the age of 17, they must be at school or in an activity approved by the government such as full time employment, TAFE or Distance Education.

Students cannot learn and reach their full potential if they are not at school every day on time and in class. Students should only be absent from school if they are sick, have a medical appointment or if there is a family emergency. It is not acceptable for students to have a day off for their birthday or to go shopping.

At Francis Greenway we say; ‘it’s not okay to be away’!

Roll Call – Our school starts at **8.35am** and roll call will usually occur during the first timetabled class. At the start of period 1 daily notices are read out and the roll is marked before the lesson commences. If a Year 11 or 12 student has a permanent late arrival approval arranged by the Deputy Principal of their year group (eg. no period 1 class on a specific day each cycle due to TAFE courses undertaken after school time) they will have their first class on the day as their roll call.

Late to School - If a student arrives after 8.35am they must immediately **go to Student Services**. The school uses electronic roll marking and only student services should modify attendance once the roll is marked. Late students should bring a note from a parent/carer to explain or be escorted to student services. Students who fail to sign in or are late without a valid reason may be interviewed by the Deputy Principal.

Absences whether for the whole day or part of the day (late) will remain ‘unjustified’ until an explanation is provided or 7 days elapse and it becomes a permanent ‘unexplained. Absences (whole or partial, explained and unexplained) will appear on school reports and may have an effect on references and school activity involvement, such as ‘Big Day Out’. Some government agencies legally request absence information and poor attendance may impact on financial arrangements. Government documents are very clear on this prompt parent/carer notification requirement with regard to student absences. **There are several ways to notify the school**, you can: call the school on 0249641282, reply to our daily sms or provide a note which students deliver to Student Services. You can also email the school francisgre-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or fax 0249641147.

All absences (whole day or partial such as late) must be explained within 7 days of the absence. At the end of 7 days (including weekends) the rolls will be permanently marked as ‘unexplained’. Due to Attendance Procedures from the Government, any absence explained after this date will be placed in student files, but the ‘unexplained’ cannot be changed.

Absences require immediate contact from you. If you know in advance that there will be an absence such as an overseas trip or a family commitment that means travelling some distance and staying for a while, you need to let the school know well before you leave. The advice must come from the parent/ carer, we cannot accept a comment from a student. Parents/Carers who know their child/ward will be absent for a period of time, such as a holiday, should complete an Application for Leave well before the event. The Application for Leave will be considered by the Principal and, where appropriate, a Certificate of Leave will be provided to take with the student on their holiday.

A written ABSENCE EXPLANATION should clearly state the following:

Student’s Full Name ... Year Group ... Date Today ... Date(s) of Absence ...

Satisfactory Reason for Absence ...

Your signature as parent/carer...

Please note your relationship to the student especially if surnames are different or there is a temporary care arrangement (eg. new step-parent, grandparent – carer while parent away). An unknown connection may result in the school trying to call parents/ carer or contacting you so please provide a phone number.

If absences are unexplained we will be required to try and contact you.

Clearly the staff time and costs involved in individual phone calls for unexplained absences would be much better spent on helping your child's education. Similarly, phone contacts to shift workers trying to sleep during the day or workplaces can be annoying for you. The government and the school are concerned about your child's regular attendance and safety, hence the need for your prompt contact.

Should you wish to inform the school by phone about a student's absence, please talk to the Administration Office. Verbal comments to staff outside the Administration Office, especially if only part of a longer conversation, can sometimes cause misunderstandings. However, if you wish to discuss a more personal matter, ask for the Deputy in charge of the Year, the Year Adviser or the Head Teacher Administration.

- **An absence explanatory note must have a reason which is considered acceptable under the Government Legislation.** The Principal may not accept some reasons as satisfactory and the absence will therefore remain as "unjustified" on the roll. (Government policy cites shopping, hairdresser's appointments and child minding as unacceptable).
- The school is required to inform agencies outside of the school if attendance or explanations are causing concern. If student attendance is a concern the school may refer the student to the Well Being Unit of the Department of Education and/ or the Home School Liaison Officer for a home visit and /or it may send a warning letter (different to the absence notification discussed above). In unresolved cases the HSLO may require a formal meeting with parents or subsequently a legal case may be considered.
- "Principals (or their delegates) may request medical certificates or other documentation when absences explained as being due to sickness are frequent or prolonged." If you feel the number of days your child is missing school due to illness is frequent then it might be advisable to ask the doctor for a Medical Certificate. Senior assessment tasks or examinations missed by a student may also require a Medical Certificate. Medical and dental appointments should be made out of school time, where possible. If your child of any year is not attending regularly they may not meet subject requirements and in the senior school place their course completion at risk. Partial absences, such as late to school, are counted in the minimum attendance requirement.
- **SPORT IS COMPULSORY for Year 7 to 10 students.** If students are injured or sick and are unable to do sport, there is a non-sport study group. Students should not go home if they have been able to attend normal classes that day. Please provide a note explaining the reason the student needs to attend non sport activities and ask for this to be presented **to the PE staffroom in the morning** so non-sport supervision can be arranged. **Year 11 students will nominate whether to do sport or attend study in the Library during sport.** Only Year 11 students without a period 5 class on Sport day may request a permanent leave pass from their year Deputy. **Year 12** will negotiate attendance during sport time with the Deputy. All students, 7 to 12, are expected to attend Sport Carnival days, senior leave passes will be cancelled on those days.
- Senior student **permanent** early leaver (eg. students who go to TAFE) and late start approvals can only be issued by the Deputy Principal. Early in Term 1 your year Deputy will ask for you to apply for a pass. When you use these passes you will be marked as 'flexible' in the rolls which mean these absences from school do not count against you for issues such as reports. If you change subjects (including TAFE) you must do this **through the Deputy** so your computer based timetable is changed and the link to your pass is accurate.

EARLY LEAVERS: All students wanting to leave school before the end of the school day must bring an explanatory note **to Student Services before school.** A leave pass will only be issued if the letter includes the same material as the Absence Explanation Note discussed earlier including:

- ♦ the name of the student, their Year group and a reason
- ♦ the date for pass issue and the desired time of leaving the school
- ♦ an appropriate contact number for the person who signed the note

At the stated time the student shows the pass to the class teacher to leave the room. **The pass must be shown to the Administration Office staff before going to the main gate.** Students outside the school must be able to show their pass to the Police or a NSW Welfare Officer on request.

<p>Do not leave the school at any time without permission from the school. You must have a pass from the school with you when outside the school.</p>

All other students who wish to leave early or are sent home from the school must have permission from the Principal, a Deputy or HT Administration. All students must present **written approval** from one of these people **to the Student Services Office** in A block where a pass will be issued only after parents/carers have been contacted. If students are returning to school the same day they must sign in on their return at Student Services.

Students leaving school without permission from the school is a serious safety issue. To highlight two extremes consider the impact during evacuations of a missing student or the need for police involvement if a student is seen leaving in an unknown vehicle and parents can't be contacted. **Never give permission to your child/ward to leave school by their mobile phone.** If an unplanned issue arises and you need them to leave school, please phone or visit the Administration Office yourself to arrange a pass and we will collect them for you. Mobile phones are not to be out in class and giving students upsetting news by phone, even at recess, is not in anyone's best interests.

Students sent home from school sick or injured do not need to bring a note that day, but subsequent days must be explained. **The school will contact carers before sending the students home. Please call us immediately if your son/daughter arrives home without our call.**

The welfare and well-being of your child/ward depends on co-operation and communication between the school and yourself.
Please contact the school throughout the year if you have any concerns. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Mr

Ray Baynham - Head Teacher Administration.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN TO NOTIFY THE SCHOOL ABOUT CHANGES TO YOUR INFORMATION?

New mobile, new home phone number, new work number, new emergency contact person or contact number, change of address, your name change, new carer (eg. step-parent), medical updates (eg allergies, medications, injury risks).

Is there something we need to remove from our records such as an old home or mobile number or contact person. Some changes, such as a new surname, will require legal documents to be provided to the school before the change can be made.

We need to keep in touch with you for your child/ward's education, comfort and safety

Please send us a note, drop in at the office, phone on 49641282, fax on 49641147 send an e-mail to francisgre-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or return this slip to the Administration Office.

CHANGE OF DETAILS SLIP – FGHS

Student's Surname: _____

First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____

Year Group: _____ Date today _____

New Address: _____

Postcode: _____

New Carer information: _____

(Carer changes that may need to be made to current records)

New Carer Phone Numbers: _____

New Home Phone Number: **Mother:** _____ **Father:** _____

New Mobile Number: **Mother:** _____ **Father:** _____

New Work Number: **Mother:** _____ **Father:** _____

New Emergency Contacts:

Name: _____ Name: _____

Home: _____ Home: _____

Mobile: _____ Mobile: _____

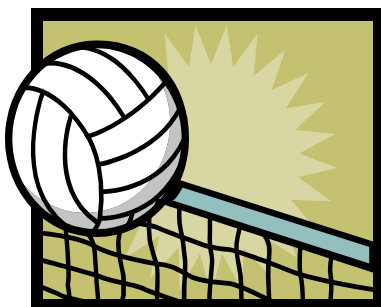
Relationship to student: _____ Relationship to student: _____

New medical conditions/ allergies etc:

Name of person making changes _____ relationship to student _____

Best phone/ email if contact is required today _____

SPORT IS COMPULSORY FOR YEARS 7 TO 10. YEAR 11 MAY CHOOSE TO DO SPORT OR TO STUDY AT SCHOOL DURING SPORT TIME.



IF DURING THE DAY YOU NEED YOUR SON/ DAUGHTER TO COME HOME PLEASE PHONE THE SCHOOL AND THE OFFICE WILL DO THE ARRANGEMENTS.



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Web: www.alintaapparel.com.au

OPERATING HOURS
- School Term -

Monday 1.00pm - 3.30pm
Wednesday 8.00am - 9.30am

GIRLS UNIFORM: 7 - 10				
	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Girls G/S Blouse - black trim	All Sizes	\$39.50		
Girls Formal Polo	All Sizes	\$42.00		
Girls Tartan Skirt	All Sizes	\$69.00		
Girls Formal Shorts	All Sizes	\$48.50		
Girls Fitted Pants	All Sizes	\$59.00		
GIRLS UNIFORM: 11 - 12				
	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Girls G/S Blouse - gold trim	All Sizes	\$39.50		
Girls Tartan Skirt	All Sizes	\$69.00		
Girls Formal Shorts	All Sizes	\$48.50		
Girls Fitted Pants	All Sizes	\$59.00		
BOYS UNIFORM: 7 - 10				
	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Boys G/S Shirt - black trim	All Sizes	\$38.50		
Boys Formal Polo	All Sizes	\$42.00		
Boys Formal Shorts	All Sizes	\$48.50		
Boys Formal Trousers	All Sizes	\$55.00		
BOYS UNIFORM: 11 - 12				
	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Boys G/S Shirt - gold trim	All Sizes	\$38.50		
Boys Formal Shorts	All Sizes	\$48.50		
Boys Formal Trousers	All Sizes	\$55.00		
SPORTS UNIFORM: 7 - 12				
	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Sports Polo	All sizes	\$42.00		
Sport Shorts	All sizes	\$38.00		
Tracksuit Jacket	All sizes	\$78.00		
Tracksuit Pants	All sizes	\$50.00		

JUMPERS: 7 - 12				
	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Polar-fleece Jumper	All Sizes	\$55.00		
Knitted Jumper	10 - 16	\$52.00		
	18 - 24	\$52.00		
Cotton Cardigan	10 - 20	\$55.95		
ACCESSORIES				
	Size	Price	Size	Qty
Socks - white ankle (1pack)	All Sizes	\$6.50		
Microfibre Tights - black	All Sizes	\$10.00		
Gloves	One Size	\$8.00		
Scarf	One Size	\$12.00		
Leather Belt	All Sizes	\$15.00		
School Tie	One Size	\$23.00		

SALE ITEMS				
	Was	Now		
Girls Fitted Pants	\$64.00	\$39.00		

SHOES

School Shoes - to be black lace-up, able to be polished leather school shoes which do not extend over the ankle or have a platform. The leather should cover the whole upper foot for safety. Boots, Joggers and sneakers are not permitted.

Sports Shoes/PE Practical - to be predominantly white, and should have laces or velcro straps, and be supportive of the feet during exercise.

PLEASE NOTE

- Sizes available : Primary School: Boys J4 - XS & Girls J4 - L8 / Secondary School: Boys J10 - 3XL & Girls J10 - L20.
- Sizes not carried are available by order, however, production time (usually 90 days) must be allowed, and a 50% non-refundable deposit made upon order.
- For sizes 4XL and L22 and over, a \$10 surcharge will apply

Online orders are distributed from the Uniform Shop, therefore postage will occur on the next opening day of the Uniform Shop.

Payments can be made with Cash, Credit Card or Debit Credit Cards only.
Please contact your bank regarding individual access and availability of these facilities.

27/07/2015 3:30 PM

Prices subject to change without notice

SECOND WIND



Second Wind is a community project to provide kids with equipment to enable them to participate in sport.

We can also provide assistance with sport/activity registration fees for children with a disability and their siblings.

Please Donate sporting goods and equipment at:

Maitland Neighbourhood Centre

Arthur St Rutherford NSW 2320

4932 0950



Maitland Neighbourhood Centre in partnership with



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works



Another great workshop from
The Family Action Centre



Free
workshop!

Engaging Adolescents

For parents of children
11-18 years

Engaging Adolescents is a 3 week (6hour) course for parents and carers of teenagers to develop greater confidence in parenting adolescents and to build stronger relationships with their teens.

Venue: Woodberry Family Centre

Date: Wed 16th, 23rd & 30th March 2016

Time: 9.30am – 12.00 noon

To express your interest, please contact:

Name: Robbie King
Phone: 4914 0444
Email: info@mfss.com.au

Bookings Essential

Topics covered include:

- understanding adolescence
- identifying "normal" teenage behaviour and reasonable expectations to hold about teens
- understanding our job as a parent of a teenager
- deciding what's worth reacting to and what's not
- how to manage challenging teen behaviours
- how to hold tough or difficult conversations more successfully
- how to build positive, healthy and respectful relationships with your teen

www.newcastle.edu.au/research-and-innovation/centre/fac/about-us
www.mfss.com.au

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