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PICNIC POINT HIGH SCHOOL

YOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL PROMOTING EXCELLENCE
Principal - Sharon Byron

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6 February 2019

Dear Picnic Point High School Families

Welcome to the 2019 academic year. I trust your children and you have had a wonderful and relaxing holiday period. Our Year 12 HSC class of 2018 did very well in the HSC last year and we congratulate the dux of the year, Patrick Christodoulou who achieved an excellent ATAR of 96.65. Other high achievers include; Tiffany Nguyen (ATAR 96.35), Katie Vernon (ATAR 95.30), Jasmin Avramovski (ATAR 92.10), Thomas Bush (ATAR 91) and Natasha Stengos (ATAR 90.75).

Welcome to the following new members of staff:

- Ms Lamaro Deputy Principal
- Ms Freede CAPA
- Mr Giannoulis English
- Ms Malagre English
- Ms Roubaie English
- Ms Zubac English
- Ms Choudhary Maths
- Ms Curtin PE/TAS
- Mr Adams Science
- Ms Sharland Counsellor

The school counsellors are Mr Rory McRae and Ms Emma Sharland

As it is the beginning of the year it is timely to discuss some important issues that should be of interest to all families. Please take the time to discuss these details with your child/children.

1. **Afternoon study/tutorial lesson** (a highly successful initiative) begins again next week on Wednesday 13 February in the afternoon and has teachers allocated to it. It is open to Year 7 (Year 8 by request) and Year 11 and 12 students. Please encourage your child/children to attend.
2. Families are asked to maintain currency of payments in subjects where materials fees are charged. Some subjects have fees to cover the cost of materials used by students in class work in order to provide meaningful and contemporary learning experiences. If a

student selected any subject with fees, **the subject fee payments must be paid in full by the end of February** in order to continue to study the subject.

3. **Tattoos**

As you are aware the P&C and staff at Picnic Point High School feel very strongly about uniform – uniform includes not only clothing but also “accessories”. Make-up, hair styles and body art should be discreet and minimal in accordance with the uniform code. Whilst the school has no jurisdiction over a student gaining a tattoo with parental consent, we do insist that all visible tattoos be covered whilst at school or when representing the school.

4. As we are a very strong uniform school, students are not permitted to dye colours in their hair that are not consistent with natural hair colours. Please ensure you remind your children that this will not be acceptable at this school.
5. There has been a considerable amount of painting done in the school over the holidays. The cost in rectifying vandalism and removing graffiti has become an increased and unnecessary expense to our school. Please be reminded that all incidents of graffiti and vandalism to the school involving students are deemed criminal behaviour. Students will be suspended on the grounds of causing or attempting to cause damage to school property and this includes placement of graffiti or tags on school property and spaces. In addition, the student or students' parent or guardian will be required to pay for the damage that occurs.
6. **The school's “Acceptable use of Digital Devices” Policy** has been attached for the information of students and parents. Please take the time to read it carefully.

The major focus at Picnic Point High School continues to be student learning and we discourage any behaviour that will distract students from their studies. Our students are encouraged to do their best at all times, regardless of their ability. These high standards ensure our students achieve highly to maximise their potential, take pride in their achievements and fully enjoy their time at Picnic Point High School.

We continue to seek the support, encouragement and assistance of parents in ensuring the best academic and social outcomes for all of our students.

Sharon Byron
Principal