THE WAY

TERM 2 | THE WAY NEWSLETTER | FRIDAY 6 JUNE 2025



YEAR 8 UPDATE

What's been happening in Year 8 lately?

This Term, Year 8 has been thinking about their future studies, particularly as they begin the process of selecting their two elective subjects for Years 9 and 10.

We really enjoyed meeting with parents and students at the Subject Selection Evening on 15 May. It was a pleasure to have informal conversations with many families over the sausage sizzle, and to see them explore each faculty's display rooms, asking thoughtful and insightful questions about the elective subjects on offer. We are fortunate to have such a wide range of electives available here at the College, allowing students to find subjects that align with their interests and strengths.

Last Friday, we organised an interactive study skills workshop for Year 8 with Mr Corbett-Jones, the Director of Teaching and Learning. It is important that students develop practical approaches to study and revision at this stage of their schooling, so they can establish good habits before commencing the senior years of high school. Students explored effective strategies for learning and retaining information, including 'distributed practice' (revising regularly throughout the year rather than cramming), using flashcards, and completing practice questions. They were also encouraged to put their phones and devices away while studying to minimise distractions and use their time effectively. As part of the workshop, students began planning their weekly schedule and creating a study timetable. Please take the time to speak with your child about what they learned and how they can put these strategies into practice. The College's free after-school Study

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Centre is also a valuable resource that we strongly recommend.

Our wellbeing focus this term has been on building and maintaining positive relationships. Students explored the qualities of healthy relationships and practised assertive communication, before turning their attention to how power imbalances can lead to bullying. They discussed real-life examples, reflected on their own experiences, and considered practical ways to use power positively and help reduce bullying in their communities.

It's been encouraging to see Year 8 engaging thoughtfully with both their academic planning and their personal development. We look forward to supporting them as they continue to grow in confidence, take on new challenges, and make the most of the opportunities ahead.

Mr Samuel Mills and Mrs Roslyn Rodriguez
Year 8 Advisors

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