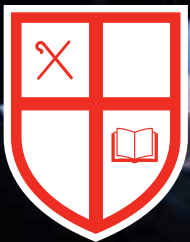


# The Arcadian

THE MAGAZINE OF **NORTHHOLM GRAMMAR**  
EDITION 46 | AUTUMN 2020



**Northholm**  
Grammar

*Challenging minds.*  
*Creating futures.*

# The Arcadian

Edition 46 | Autumn 2020

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## From the Editor

### Welcome to the Autumn 2020 issue of *The Arcadian*.

We are delighted to launch a new, fresh and modern looking *The Arcadian*. Whilst the magazine may look different, the stories continue to be a celebration and acknowledgment of our students' achievements and contributions to school life and beyond.

Anchored with a clear and purposeful framework that promotes academic rigour and personal growth, Northholm Grammar challenges, inspires and supports our students to achieve their potential. This philosophy is reflected within the pages of *The Arcadian* and is framed under our key pillars of Scholarship, Character and Community.

The articles that follow demonstrate our students' willingness to harness the breadth of our curriculum, engage in learning and develop an appetite for challenge, excellence, character

development, self-reflection and service. From outstanding academic achievement to success in the creative arts and sports and exceptional contributions to the community, our students embody the true essence of a Northholm education.

I hope you enjoy reading through Edition 46 and I look forward to welcoming you back in Spring.

**Gabriela Moore**  
Editor

*Northholm Grammar challenges, inspires and supports our students to achieve their potential.*

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# From the Principal

**Establishing a high performance culture within a school context is dependent on both challenging students to achieve their best academically (academic intentionality) as well as providing the care and support necessary for personal growth and development (pastoral attentiveness).**

It is clear that we have an extraordinary opportunity as educators to work with talented students, a passionate academic staff and a highly committed and supportive parent community. Northholm is a special place. It is a warm and compassionate community that values a rounded education and prides itself on the growth of every individual to enable them to thrive and flourish at school and beyond.

2019 was a year of change and strategic direction. We worked together to forge our Strategic Intent, collaborating to define a 'Northholm Education' from the perspective of 'yesterday, today and tomorrow'. We confirmed that the four key pillars of 'Our School' are:

**Learning through Scholarship** that challenges each student scholastically by encouraging high academic standards and intellectual rigour, providing inspiring teaching committed to personalised learning, and designing and implementing our curriculum purposefully.

**Caring for Others and Self** that goes out of its way to support, coach and fulfil the potential of each student through strong pastoral care that is characterised by our attentiveness to individual growth, social and emotional development and wellbeing.

**Living a Faithful Life** that develops the character of each student through inclusive Christian values that are enacted through chapel services, chaplaincy and educational programs.

**Contributing to the Community** that promotes in each student a strong sense of belonging and service to the community through our opportunities for representation, leadership and community engagement.

We recognise that to be a great school we need to ensure we consistently master the fundamentals which includes leadership, quality teaching, discipline, high expectations, rigour and literacy/numeracy.

We understand that there is still much work to be done, however we entered the new year with both confidence and positivity knowing that by working together we have the capacity to achieve great things. Our academic results confirm the abilities and talents of both our students and our teachers. Our achievements in sport, the creative arts, service learning and student leadership also reflect the character strengths we have within our student body.

In 2020, we firmly believe that our educational leadership purpose is grounded in building a healthy school culture that makes us a 'Growth Minded School'. Never has it been more important for our students and teachers to understand the richness of their capabilities and talents. We need to break down the ceiling on student potential, achievement and aspiration and cultivate a rich learning environment that challenges each student to strive for high attainment. We seek to demand a disciplined and purpose-driven culture where high standards of personal and professional growth in the face of adversity are constantly modelled by all members of the community. We strive for high performance but we acknowledge success is not purely based on being 'results driven', rather it is about the journey and the process through an unrelenting commitment to continuous improvement and ongoing growth.

The pages of *The Arcadian* showcase the efforts and achievements of our students through the areas of *scholarship*, *character* and *community*, which models the heart of our strategic intent. The very foundation of quality schooling is to ensure people live their lives through a sense of belonging, the fulfilment of their potential and develop strong moral principles about what is good and right to do. Schools have a responsibility to provide students with the opportunity to discover who they are and what they stand for and to model and scaffold positive behaviour. As educators, our role is to help others strive for excellence and develop character. It is with an enormous sense of pride that *The Arcadian* captures the essence of why we are here and the power of relationships in both curriculum and co-curricular matters.

Let us work together on this purposeful journey, live our days continually inspired to convert vision into action and find the momentum of a growth mindset approach to living, learning and developing.

**Christopher Bradbury**  
Principal

# HSC Success

Northholm Grammar achieves **extraordinary result to jump 193 places** in the state HSC ranking.

**Northholm Grammar congratulates the Class of 2019 on their exceptional HSC results. In a list published by the Sydney Morning Herald of New South Wales schools, the students' performance led the school to rank 193 places better than 2018 with a Success Rate well above the national average. Their hard work and dedication towards their academic studies have been rewarded and we are enormously proud to be presenting our HSC results highlights package for 2019.**

Northholm Grammar School is committed to ensuring that our learning culture is purposeful both inside and outside of the classroom. A culture that is intentional in promoting learning is one that fosters continuous improvement for students and teachers, and where every student has a willingness and ability to learn, to lead and to serve so they can enjoy a life that is worthwhile and well-lived.

As a community, we are encouraged by our progress from a good school to a great one. A desire for excellence in all academic, co-curricular, sport and service learning programs is characterised by 'The Northholm Way' which is centred on allowing students to grow as individuals and find their passions so they can lead a well-rounded life and contribute to a thriving society. Our intention is to develop confident and compassionate students who are effective contributors to society, successful learners and responsible citizens.

Such performances would not be possible without the pastoral attentiveness, hard work and support from our staff, parents and the community. Congratulations and thank you to our young men and women for embracing the challenges of their final year of studies and developing a love of learning that will allow them

to harness the intellectual habits required to become independent and confident citizens. It is our intention that scholarship is what our students will take from the School and leadership is what they will give to the world. We wish the 2019 Year 12 cohort every success in their future endeavours.

## Performance in HSC Courses

**The performance of each student in each of their HSC courses is indicated in levels, called Bands, from 1 to 6. Bands 5 and 6 are the highest levels. The table below shows some of the HSC courses studied at Northholm in 2019.**

Course	% In Bands 5 & 6		Northholm's Top Marks In Each Course
	At Northholm	In State	
Ancient History	71.42	35.46	92
Biology	60.00	31.31	92
Business Studies	38.45	33.02	94
Chemistry	71.42	45.93	93
Design and Technology	33.33	46.53	88
Drama	57.14	43.66	84
Economics	100.00	51.73	91
Engineering Studies	49.99	31.65	90
English Advanced	79.99	61.79	90
English Extension I	100.00	93.87	42*
English Extension II	100.00	79.79	45*
French Beginners	100.00	46.56	87
Geography	50.00	43.14	89
Legal Studies	87.50	41.02	93
Mathematics Standard	52.37	24.05	91
Mathematics Advanced	57.13	49.18	96
Mathematics Extension I	100.00	80.11	48*
Mathematics Extension II	100.00	85.86	85*
Music I	100.00	65.96	86
Music II	100.00	90.95	91
Music Extension I	100.00	100.00	50*
PDHPE	14.28	31.26	82
Physics	40.00	36.88	89
Primary Industries	33.33	19.88	92
Society and Culture	50.00	44.41	92
Visual Arts	60.00	62.50	92

\* Mark out of 50

## HSC Distinguished Achievers 2019

The following students achieved a Band 6 or E4 result in the following subjects, meaning they scored over 90%.

Joel Cassar	Mathematics Extension I, Mathematics Extension II (Notional), Chemistry
Ainsley Coleman	Engineering Studies
Jordon Coltman	Visual Arts, Ancient History
Matthew Edwards	Mathematics Extension 1, Business Studies, Economics
Matthew Gadd	Legal Studies
Chet Greatbatch Murphy	Mathematics Standard
Anna Ignatovich	Visual Arts
Rohan Jerath	Legal Studies
Joshua Magro	Biology, Chemistry, Economics
Madeline McKenzie	Legal Studies, Society and Culture
Mitchell Old	Mathematics, Mathematics Extension I, Music II, Music Extension
Chantal Parle	Biology, English Advanced, Primary Industries
Lachlan Powys	Mathematics Extension I, Chemistry
Rachel Stosic	Legal Studies, English Extension II, Mathematics
Alannah Trestrail	Legal Studies, Mathematics, Music II

## Northholm Students Awarded Band 6

### Compared to the State average

Course	Northholm %	State %
Biology	40	7
Chemistry	29	16
Economics	50	15
Engineering	17	9
English Extension II	50	26
Legal Studies	63	13
Mathematics Extension I	67	39
Music II	50	41
Primary Industries	33	4
Visual Arts	40	16



## Excellence Beyond Northholm

### 2019 Graduate, Joel Cassar heads to Western Sydney University to study Medicine.

Following a successful final year, Northholm Grammar alumnus Joel Cassar, has taken the next steps towards his goal of becoming a doctor by beginning a degree in Medicine at Western Sydney University this year. At Northholm, Joel was a School Prefect and scored an ATAR of 97.30, achieving Band 6 results in Mathematics Extension I, Mathematics Extension II and Chemistry and scoring high Band 5 results in both English Advanced and Physics.

"After graduating from Northholm Grammar, I am currently studying a Doctor of Medicine degree at WSU and hoping to eventually specialise as an oncologist," Joel says. "I am also looking forward to working for several years after graduation in rural Australia as part of a special program that helps to meet the demand for doctors in areas which have workforce shortages."

Joel fondly recalls his time at Northholm Grammar and values highly the constant reinforcement he received regarding the importance of setting goals, aiming high and working tirelessly to achieve his aspirations.

"While at Northholm I enjoyed the small class sizes and subsequent academic support available to me from the teachers. I also really enjoyed the variety of leadership opportunities available to me toward the end of my time at school."

Joel developed a hardworking approach to his studies, with an emphasis on improving and being consistently responsive to the feedback provided by his teachers. These methods, as well as forging strong study relationships with his peers, proved to be a catalyst for success.

"The best advice I can give to students sitting the HSC is to definitely maximise your use of past papers. They are an invaluable resource in the lead up to the final exams. Even if you don't have time to actually complete the past paper, quickly reading through the given answers can often be just as valuable."





## HSC Minimum Standards

**The HSC Minimum Standards are a set of three tests that provide pre-qualification for the HSC. Tests are based around the domains of Reading, Writing and Numeracy and are aimed at Year 10 students.**

Northholm Year 10 students sat these tests recently and in very pleasing news, every student who sat the Reading and Numeracy Tests, plus 83% of students who sat the Writing Test, achieved the minimum standard of at least a Level 3 as set by the Australian Core Skills Framework. Students have been sent certificates with these results while those who did not achieve Level 3 in Writing, or were absent for the tests, will have further opportunities to achieve the level later this year.

### CURRICULUM

## Academic Achievement and Scholarship

**At the heart of every great school is a culture that promotes learning. Northholm Grammar should be exceptionally proud of its achievements in 2019 and it is clear that there is a strong sense of determination within our learning community to maintain these high standards.**

Our current context informs us that we need to continue to place emphasis on academic achievement and effort through an intentional focus on 'scholarship'. Cultivating a powerful culture of learning that encourages intellectual rigour, independent thinking and placing a high value on both academic study and achievement is central to a high performing school. We want our students to be challenged and to develop a love of learning so they can harness the intellectual habits that will allow them to be independent and confident. 'Learning through Scholarship' can sometimes be misinterpreted as only referring to high academic achievers or results. That is not the case. A culture of scholarship

values each learner and the learning environment created so that each student can reach their potential.

We know that education is more than grades. One's influence on the world, the willingness and ability to learn, to lead and to serve are what enable a life to be both well-lived and worthwhile. In achieving a culture of scholarship, Northholm Grammar staff have embraced a framework on 'Responsive Teaching' that highlights the key features of classroom practice that have been linked to improved student outcomes which include professional practice that:

- Is fundamentally based on promoting *high expectations* of *intellectual rigour*.
- Is soundly based on *explicit teaching* creating a *quality learning environment*.
- *Is informed by data* through a coherent structure of *formative assessment* and *deliberate practice*.
- Provides *effective feedback* for continuous improvement.
- Allows teachers to build *strong positive relationships* with students.

Northholm is driven by a deep belief that every student is capable of successful learning. A high priority is given to building and maintaining positive and caring relationships between staff, students and parents. There is a strong collegial culture of mutual trust and support among teachers and school leaders. The School works to maintain a learning environment that is safe, respectful, tolerant and inclusive and that promotes intellectual rigour. This is at the heart of our focus on scholarship.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Northholm community for making me feel very welcome in my first year as Head of Curriculum. I have really enjoyed the academic culture that is flourishing and the strategic direction being provided by our Senior Leadership Team and Staff. I look forward to the continued growth and academic success of our students this year and beyond.

**Bruce Barry**  
Head of Curriculum





# Opening doors to a richer curriculum

Our clear focus in the Primary Years has been on **academic diligence for all students** as they set their goals with their teachers at the start of the year.

**Setting clear, achievable and relevant goals provides a strong foundation for high expectations and a scaffold for how the year will unfold. By doing this in collaboration with our students, parents/carers and teachers, we forge a strong academic tone for the year ahead.**

The Strategic Intent of Northholm Grammar seeks to establish a learning continuum from Kindergarten to Year 12 that will allow the flourishing of every student intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically. Our staff and students have come together to formulate powerful relationships in the learning process that have proved to be beneficial for all. An example of this was Mrs Jamie Stimson's Year 8 PDHPE class sharing their presentations about bullying with our Year 4 students. The younger students gained valuable knowledge and resources about bullying from their Year 8 peers.

## SCHOLARSHIP

With the cancellation of NAPLAN, the PAT Assessment that is implemented from Kindergarten to Year 6 provides comparative data across a range of Key Learning Areas. Students in Years 3 and 5 need to continue to develop their learning with increased rigour to ensure substantial growth between now and their next NAPLAN assessment in two years. The varied assessment schedule allows for teachers to evaluate student understanding of content in a range of formats to ensure validity and reliability of information. The tracking of data also gives students the opportunity to reflect on their learning goals and progress.

The adaptability and resilience of the Northholm community was challenged with the COVID-19 pandemic, causing us to re-examine our strategies and routines for both academic and wellbeing of students, parents and

staff. The challenge was met with tremendous positivity and support whilst the community worked together. The introduction of the Seesaw platform to deliver teaching and learning, in conjunction with online communication through video conferencing, allowed students to access the curriculum and maintain routines and structures whilst remaining connected with their peers and teachers. This proved to bridge the gap between simply providing online activities and learning with purpose, engagement and intent.

This year, Northholm's Co-Curricular Program was designed with academic intentionality to provide a broader range of academic clubs for students. The inclusion of a Debating Team, F1 in Schools, Robotics and the Da Vinci Program offer students the opportunity to deepen their thinking and apply problem solving skills.

## Professional Development

All primary staff have embarked upon professional development to implement the Early Literacy Project which aims to build teacher capacity even further by adopting a learning and growth mindset themselves. Teaching is continually evolving and ongoing upskilling is required to maintain quality lessons and develop technological skills for the betterment of students' learning. The key outcomes of this project includes:

- Ensuring the teaching of literacy skills is informed by regular diagnostic and developmentally appropriate assessment of every child. The measurement of individual progress in literacy is regularly monitored and progress is reported.
- Teachers demonstrating systematic, direct and explicit instructional strategies. These strategies are based on findings from rigorous, evidence-based research and are shown to be effective in enhancing the literacy skills of all children.
- Educationally sound literacy teaching that aligns to the outcomes and content of the English K-6 Syllabus are implemented in order to meet the specific skills and knowledge needs of individual children from diverse backgrounds and locations.

In the Primary Years, there is a commitment to ensuring we master the basics and develop a love of learning for all our students. School leaders, in strong collaboration with staff, continue to reflect and examine our approaches to the teaching of literacy and implement whole-school literacy planning, monitoring and review processes that will enhance student learning.

**Erin Werner**  
**Primary Curriculum Coordinator**



# Inspiring the future of STEM

Science, Engineering and Mathematics are all about **collaborative decision making.**

**The ability to source information and work with others to draw conclusions about actions towards a better future are key to the success of corporate and government organisations, sporting teams and our personal lives. At Northholm, the vision for STEM is to empower students towards informed and ethical decision making through increased knowledge and flexibility of skills in Science and Mathematics.**

Looking back at 2019 HSC results, the Science and Mathematics Departments are proud of the outcomes achieved by our students. One gratifying statistic is that 63% of entrants in Science, Engineering and Mathematics subjects achieved a Band 5 or Band 6 (a mark of at least 80). We attribute achievements such as this to the commitment and discipline developed in the classroom through Years 7 to 10, and built on in the final years, through the expertise of specialist teaching staff.

The formal integration of the Science, Engineering and Mathematics Departments for 2020 brings exciting opportunities for collaboration amongst the teaching staff in these subjects. This year, teaching staff have been working hard to develop new skills and adapt to the remote learning environment in which we currently find ourselves. There is no doubt that these unprecedented conditions lead us to appreciate the opportunities that technology affords us in aiding students' learning and we continue to evaluate and reflect upon the effectiveness of these technologies as we consider the future.

Looking forward to 2021 we will be continuing to develop learning programs and activities that provide opportunities for all students to demonstrate excellence. One of these key activities is our Inquisitive Minds Incursion for Year 8 which always engages and challenges every student to apply their problem-solving skills. Another is the Maths Challenge where talented students are invited to work in pairs to solve a challenging set of problems in competition with their peers around Australia. We look forward to celebrating their achievements.

Throughout the year, the STEM teaching staff will be utilising their combined and versatile set of skills to develop learning activities that seek to bring Science to Mathematics, and vice versa, to provide deep learning activities. We are excited to work together to bring knowledge from Science and Mathematics curricula to life and have students applying their skills seamlessly between the subjects, leading to success this year and beyond.

**Phillip Waldron**  
Head of STEM

Throughout the year, the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) Department at Northholm Grammar allows students to present their works to appreciative audiences across year groups, families, the School and the greater community.

# Artistic talent on display in the community

Jack Dawson in Northholm's  
production of *Sleeping Beauty*





**Taking ownership and pride in the creative process and final product is fundamental to the development of a sustained practice across Drama, Music and Visual Arts and the School drives opportunity for students to share in the experience and love of the arts both academically and through co-curricular programs.**

In the second Semester of 2019, the Primary Music, Primary Visual Arts and Drama, Design and Technology Showcases were held for the School community. These evenings, hosted by our Senior CAPA students, allowed family, peers and staff to enjoy the outcomes of months of creativity and dedication by the artists and musicians. At the Visual Arts Showcases the works demonstrated the building of skills and conceptual strength as they examined Art History, photography, contemporary societal discussions and self-expression. The Music Showcases highlighted the hours of dedication and practice the students devote to their music.

*To see students working across vertical year groups to achieve a collaborative goal of excellence in their creative field really builds a strong continuum within the Drama curriculum.*



The benefits of a strong Primary and Middle Years focus on Drama in 2019 was witnessed in the quality of the students' performances and the volunteering of many Middle and Senior students who supported the Co-Curricular Drama Productions. The Primary production, *Hoodwinked*, saw a return of many students to the stage for sold-out performances on all three evenings. *Sleeping Beauty*, performed by Years 7 and 8, also featured an exceptional Production Team from Years 9 and 10.

To see students working across vertical year groups to achieve a collaborative goal of excellence in their creative field really builds a strong continuum within the Drama curriculum.

The focus for our Annual Music Camp is to prepare for events and competitions through the year, while exploring and refining rehearsal techniques and developing overall musicianship. Ensembles rehearsing over this weekend included Junior and Senior Choirs, Concert Band, Stage Band, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Flute and String Ensembles as well as the Combined Choir which included all 76 students. Once again, the vision of students across year groups supporting each other was heartwarming to see, with students from Year 3 to 6 rehearsing and interacting with Year 7 to 12 students. The Talent Show held on the Sunday night was a proud moment with students across all year levels encouraging each other, and evident by the enthusiastic applause from the audience.



Top. Senior School Visual Arts Showcase;  
Middle. Calum Fraser performing in  
*Sleeping Beauty*;  
Above. Bridget Davey;  
Right. Primary School Music Showcase.

## SCHOLARSHIP



These experiences emphasise the professional and positive learning environment of the Creative and Performing Arts Department in supporting our young performers and artists as they learn to truly express themselves through their art. Excitingly, in the past year our students have had opportunities to flourish in Sydney's creative communities as they represented their School as young professionals.

Year 10 student Tyler Old was a First placed artist in the City of Ryde 2019 'Sustainable Waste 2 Art Prize' with a sculpture created as part of her Year 10 Visual Arts course. Tyler's imaginative interpretation brought to life a colourful plastic peacock using recycled materials.

The Teachers' Guild of NSW invited a selection of Musicians from Years 4 to 11 to perform as the evening's entertainment at the Guild's Annual Awards Night 2019. The dinner was attended by over 230 Principals and School communities from Sydney and regional NSW, with Guests of Honour the Minister and Shadow Minister for Education. Performing musicians from Northholm Grammar were Bridget Davey, Joseph Clemmit, Andy Ward, Lucy Coad, Oscar Henderson, Amber Garth and Caleb Eveniss.

An outstanding achievement for Lauren Ivory and Bridget Davey in 2019 was being accepted into the Sport for Jove Theatre Company's The Second Age Project. After auditioning alongside high school students from all around Sydney, they were successful in each attaining one of the limited



spots in the exciting project that brings students together with professional directors culminating in a performance for family and friends.

And finally, our Visual Arts 2019 graduates Jordon Coltman and Anna Ignatovich were selected to exhibit their Body of Works in the HSC exhibition ArtNorth at the Grace Cossington-Smith Gallery in March 2020. Jordon's low relief sculpture was a homage to the traditional mosaics of Pompeii whereas Anna's watercolour portraits examined the loss of innocence in today's younger generations as a result of media, language and culture.

By learning through scholarship and demonstrating a commitment to the pursuit of excellence, Creative and Performing Arts students at Northholm Grammar are flourishing and tasting success in the greater arts community.

### **Lauren Barlow** Head of Creative and Performing Arts

**Clockwise from top left. Tyler Old at the City of Ryde Art Prize. Bridget Davey and Lauren Ivory in The Second Age Project. Joseph Clemmit and Andy Ward at the Teachers' Guild Award Night. Works by Anna Ignatovich at ArtNorth. Jordon Coltman at ArtNorth at Grace Cossington-Smith Gallery.**



## LEADERSHIP

# A culture of Service and Leadership

**Service is integral to a values-based model of leadership linked to the strategic intent of 'contributing to the community'. Northholm Grammar believes that all students are capable of enacting this model through their personal leadership in both formal and informal positions of influence within the School.**

Northholm students have the opportunity to apply for leadership roles in Year 6, Year 8, Year 11 and Year 12 in the form of Year 6 Primary Years Captains, House Captains and Co-Curricular Captains; Year 8 Captains and Leaders; and School Captains, Senior Prefects, School Prefects and House Captains. Additionally, in Term 4, Year 10 students are selected as Peer Support Leaders to assist incoming Year 7 students with the transition into high school and to help build their connectedness with Northholm Grammar. Students appointed in positions of formal leadership and responsibility are able to demonstrate highly developed qualities and skills in transformational leadership. They are appointed on the basis of record of achievement, the positive and consistent manner in which they have strived to uphold Northholm Grammar's ethos and values and recognition of

their potential to provide a further contribution to the operations of the School.

Northholm Grammar has demonstrated a strong culture of service and leadership that has assisted the school to develop a platform for improving its learning culture and contributing to the community. The service outcomes critical to this process include:

- An ability to think of others
- A willingness to openly care for others
- Values and principles consistent with those of the school
- The ability to relate to others
- A history of generous service to the school and the wider community

Successful student leaders demonstrate resilience, initiative and a high level of connectedness to the school. They actively assume responsibility for serving others.

**Jenny Plüss**  
**Head of Students**



## Senior Leaders

**The new Senior School Leaders were commissioned at the Leadership Investiture on Monday 14 October 2019. Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as members of the 2019/2020 Student Leadership Team:**

### School Captains

Ella Cotrona  
Thomas Kropman

### Senior Prefects

Bethany Dewhurst (House)  
Lauren Ivory (Co-Curricular)

### School Prefects

Samuel Allen  
Bridget Davey  
Sarah Franklin  
Matthew Gadd  
Carey Maeder  
Emma Mercieca  
Denique Shai-Hee

### House Captains

#### CAPELL

Olivia Charlton  
Ciaran Dyson

#### LINCOLN

Ethan Reiss  
Maximilian Schneider-Smith

#### PATTESON

Cameron Eagleson  
Caitlin Wilson

#### ROWLAND

Piper Elsley  
Faith Trestrail



From the Captains

# In their own words Northholm School their School and

What does leadership mean to you?

*A great leader pushes for changes that will be good for the community and for the future*

To me, leadership goes hand in hand with passion. I think anyone can be a leader if they have enough passion and motivation to devote to a cause. A leader who truly believes in something will find a way to make it happen. Leadership is about influence, which is one of the most challenging things to get right. We live in a world where influence can be almost instantaneous. But it's often fictitious and temporary. Leadership means sustained influence. If you are respected and listened to by people for your innovation, flexibility, persistence and ability to represent their ideas, I think you've found what's at the heart of true leadership. Sustained influence combined with selflessness and service is the perfect recipe to make changes as a leader for the greater good.

**(Ella Cotrona, School Captain)**



For me, leadership means commitment, passion and the determination to complete all tasks. I believe that almost everyone has the qualities to become a leader; everyone has a passion for something, everyone is committed to something and everyone has the willingness to achieve their passion. Leadership means gathering the respect of those who are "following" in your footsteps, by setting the right example and being that person to whom parents want their young children to aspire. Leadership requires you to listen to others' ideas, be humble in their wishes and do what's in the best interest of everyone over your own personal gain. The most powerful thing about leadership isn't what you do here and now, it's your legacy.

**(Thomas Kropman, School Captain)**



A great leader pushes for changes that will be good for the community and for the future. Tom Peters claims, "Leaders don't create followers; they create more leaders."

This statement shows what leadership means to us. We want to help teach other students how to become leaders, not how to follow leaders. A leader to us is someone who displays responsibility and perseverance and has the drive to push for change. A great leader pushes for changes that will be good for the community and for the future; he/she is a voice of many, a voice of the small and a voice of the big.

**(Sophie Hamilton-James and Samuel Mules, Year 8 Captains)**



# Words:

## School Captains talk leadership, and their vision for the future.

To me, leadership means setting a good example to my fellow peers by being responsible and respectful, and by contributing to the Northholm community. A good leader works together with those around them towards a common goal.

**(Grace Kazzi, Year 6 Captain)**

For me, leadership means to take big responsibility in respecting all my peers, teachers and other students. This also means I will look out for my community as well as keeping a good manner at all times, both within and outside the school environment. Leadership is an opportunity to help others whenever you can. The role of a leader is to learn as much as they can and to always be the best version of themselves.

**(Giorgio Zonta, Year 6 Captain)**

### What is special/unique about Northholm?

We are led by such passionate staff, who embody all the aforementioned characteristics of leadership. Every teacher that I've ever had at Northholm has said, "If you have any questions, please email me and I'll be happy to help or arrange a time to meet with you." This statement isn't made loosely; it's a genuine offer of support and one that I've personally taken up many times. Some may say that this is a credit to our small size as a school, but instead I think it's a credit to our teachers, who truly believe in investing their time into every student, and also to the determination of the students, who put this extra effort in to succeed.

**(Ella Cotrona, School Captain)**

My time at Northholm has been some of the greatest years and moments of my life. I cannot speak more highly of everyone who has helped me through these senior school years. Teachers, students and parents - everyone here at Northholm provides a tight support group that you just don't get from other schools. The teachers here are second to none; their passion and drive to help students characterises everyone who passes through Northholm. One of Northholm's greatest qualities that is often overlooked is our setting. The rural areas of Arcadia and Fiddletown create a harmonious and peaceful environment surrounded by nature's gift of life which allows

a sense of tranquillity when at school. These are beautiful aspects of Northholm's culture and are a part of the amazing place that is Northholm.

**(Thomas Kropman, School Captain)**

We are so happy and grateful to be at Northholm because of the uniqueness of the school which comes from its spirit, opportunities and environment. This is exemplified in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, particularly in the adventurous journeys, where students enthusiastically interact with the environment while growing independence and valuable skills. At Northholm the teachers are supportive and give advice to students in difficult times.

**(Sophie Hamilton-James and Samuel Mules, Year 8 Captains)**

Northholm is a place where people want to be - students, teachers, parents and even the animals. It is a place where people are kind, respectful and being the best that they can be is always encouraged. Northholm feels like home!

**(Grace Kazzi, Year 6 Captain)**

Since Mr Bradbury arrived at the school, the average HSC results have risen notably from the previous year. Our school stands out from the rest because of our clean environment, the wide classroom areas and the kind staff that nurture all students. What really sets Northholm apart is that it really feels like our home away from home!

**(Giorgio Zonta, Year 6 Captain)**

### Our Vision for 2020

Our vision for 2020 is to raise awareness for bushfire affected communities and animals. We would like to support and give back to these communities. We hope to contribute to the rebuilding of the animals' habitats and assist in the rebuilding of homes that were lost, by commencing clubs for building contributable items and resources. Instead of giving money, we plan to give support in the form of resources and we plan to give our time. We are planning for a guest presenter to come to school to teach and help us spread the message that people and animals have lost their homes and are in need of support.

**(Sophie Hamilton-James and Samuel Mules, Year 8 Captains)**



**YEAR 7 CAMP**

# Lake Mac camp develops character, cooperation and resilience among Year 7s

**There was an air of excitement as the bus arrived at CRU Lake Mac campsite, on the shores of Lake Macquarie, for the Year 7 Orientation Camp in February this year. Over the next three days the students would have the opportunity to build relationships with each other and the Core teachers, while enjoying a wide range of activities at this lakeside retreat.**

The carefully designed program, developed in conjunction with Crusaders' Educational Camps team, provided each student with the chance to strengthen resilience and cooperation as they learnt new skills and faced personal and team challenges.

This year we were able to experience the new climbing tower. There were many proud moments – for some it was negotiating the climbing wall to reach a little higher on each climb and for others it was exhilaration of being able to overcome the edge transfer to abseil the 15m plunge. At the archery range, for some there was accomplishment in simply hitting that target while for others the determination to achieve the elusive bullseye was the focus.

The water-based activities are always a highlight. Many nervous sailors become experienced adventurers as they took turns changing the jib and skippering

the catamarans. Canoeing and raft building were not only great fun but also encouraged teamwork and leadership as individuals rose to the challenge.

There is great value in a camp setting in experiencing a new environment, seeing people's strengths in an outdoor situation, having meals together, as well as sleeping in the site's A-frame cabins. The camp program also included sessions run by the leaders which supported the school's Faith and Life program as they explored foundations of the Christian faith.

While the games and activities are the focus on camp, the encouraging leaders, the delicious food and the sense of personal satisfaction all complement each other to create a wonderful, once-in-a-lifetime experience for Year 7 students. However, the most often repeated comment from the students afterwards was the joy in getting to know the other members of this new cohort of students.

**Marg Hill**  
**Head of Data and Strategy**





## CADETS

# Northholm Grammar acknowledges Rural Fire Service Cadets

**In October 2019, Northholm celebrated the work of the Rural Fire Service Cadets and the volunteers who led this program for our students. Sixteen Cadets participated in the Rural Fire Service Secondary Schools Cadet Program last year. The School thanks Dr Michelle Gleeson who co-ordinated the program; Dural Brigade member and school parent, Mr Andrew Dyson, for leading the training; and Year 11 student Ciaran Dyson who was one of the volunteer instructors.**

A special thank you also goes out to the Volunteers who so willingly gave their time to work with our students. Northholm Grammar would also like to acknowledge and thank The Honorary Mr Matt Keane MP and The Honorary Councillor Phillip Ruddock, Mayor of Hornsby, for attending the service and for their continual support.

Thank you and congratulations to all our 2019 RFS Cadets!



**SPORTS**

# Building personal and performance character in Sport

**Sport is a powerful vehicle allowing students to grow as individuals and find their passions. Striving to achieve their personal best, and teamwork, helps them develop towards leading a well-rounded life and contribute to a thriving society.**

Across a variety of sports in Term 1, Northholm Grammar students excelled and presented incredible displays of school spirit. 2020 started with a bang with the Inter-House Swimming Carnival in Week 2, with amazing support for Houses expressed and high-levels of participation across all events. Patteson House was congratulated on winning the carnival based on event results and participation points.

Students went on to compete in two further swimming competitions this year, representing the school at the HICES Swimming Carnival and the HZSA Swimming Carnival. In what proved to be a wonderful day of competition for our Primary Years students, many parents and grandparents turned out to support our swimmers at the HICES Carnival and exceptional performances allowed Gabrielle Samyia, Lucinda Samyia and Aaron Minnikin to qualify for the CIS Carnival. For the Secondary Years, the HZSA Swimming Carnival was another big day on the calendar in March. Northholm was awarded the shield for Best Performing School for the third consecutive year and Olivia Charlton (Year 11) was awarded Meet Champion after her amazing record of placing First in every race she competed in. Congratulations to Olivia, Bethany Dewhurst, Chelsea Harkins, Sophie Hamilton-James, Isaac Whicker, Matthew Anderson and Sam Shepherd as they all qualified for the AICES Carnival as members of the HZSA Team.

Northholm was thrilled to welcome new basketball coach, Daniel Trikilis, this year. His role involves coaching our Northholm basketball teams in the weekly Hills Hornets Summer Competition and our Northholm teams in the Hills Zone Sports Association (HZSA) weekly competition. In addition, Daniel has been training our school teams every Wednesday and Thursday at lunch, with more than 30 students attending the weekly sessions. HSZA Open Girls Basketball selections were held in Term 1 with Bethany Dewhurst and Emma Mercieca (Year 12) being selected for this representative team.

The School has been proud to enter a wide variety of teams in the HZSA weekly competition this term including Junior Boys' Basketball (undefeated), Intermediate Boys Basketball, Senior Boys Basketball, Senior Girls Futsal, Junior Boys Football and Intermediate Girls Netball. Kyna Diancin joined us as Netball coach for Northholm Intermediate Girls' Netball Team, leading training and games in the HZSA as the team joyfully donned their new uniforms. Mr Garrett and I joined Year 5 students at the HZSA Gala Day in February and witnessed teamwork and resilience at its best. Students were divided into two teams and played a round robin in league tag and tee ball.





Clockwise from top left. Olivia Charlton and Sam Shepherd. Year 5 HZSA Gala Day. Northholm Girls Netball Teams. Olivia Charlton, Chelsea Harkins and Bethany Dewhurst at the All Schools Triathlon Event. Basketball coach Daniel Triklis with Hills Hornets players.

Northholm is also proud of our Triathlon Team consisting of Olivia Charlton, Bethany Dewhurst and Chelsea Harkins, who competed at the All Schools Championships held at the Regatta Centre in Penrith. Bethany and Chelsea also competed in the individual triathlon at the All Schools Championships. In another wonderful display of individual excellence, Year 11 student Max Williams represented the School at the HZSA Tennis Championships which were held in Parramatta in February and won three out of five round games.

This term has seen a fantastic response to our Northholm Sport Clubs. Our weekly Primary Years Kanga cricket and tennis, and Secondary Years yoga were a highlight for those involved.

In timetabled sport this term, an Inter-House Competition was held with Years 7 to 8 and Years 9 to 10 playing netball and football in their House teams. House spirit was alive as teams played a round robin against other Houses. Primary sport has been a weekly event with Kindergarten to Year 2 participating in fundamental activities developing hand eye coordination, foot eye coordination, movement through dance and teamwork activities. Years 3 to 6 participated in a swimming program conducted at Galston Pool. Students were also coached by our basketball coach, Daniel, on basketball-related skills, drills and game play.

In spectacular displays of character, senior students took on leadership roles this term by coaching cricket, football, futsal and netball to younger students during lunchtimes and after school.

### Ahead in 2020

Six Northholm teams are entered into the Hills Hornets Winter Competition coached by Daniel Triklis, including two new teams comprising Year 6 and Year 7 students. The quick growth of numbers and introduction of these new teams prove that the desire to represent your school in the weekly competition is strong within the Northholm Grammar student community.

Semester 2 teams will be nominating in the HZSA competition which will include girls and boys touch football, girls basketball, boys futsal, boys indoor cricket and girls football. This will be another opportunity for our students to continue to develop their skills in teamwork and leadership.

Northholm is looking forward to a range of sporting clubs to be initiated in the near future including Secondary Years tennis, Primary Years netball and basketball, with Primary Years tennis and yoga to continue. The introduction of dance and sport aerobics in Terms 3 and 4, with competition entry in 2021, is a high priority as we look to provide new opportunities for our students to succeed. This will take sport in a new direction and continues an exciting journey for our school.

**Mrs Jamie Stimson**  
Coordinator of Sport

## Student Achievements

# The Formation of Character

School is about enabling our young men and women to become good citizens, able to lead rich lives, as well as become 'successful' persons. A strong education is concerned centrally with the formation of character and benefits from a deliberate and well-intentioned approach to character development. Northholm Grammar would like to acknowledge and congratulate our Year 11 Students on the personal development and excellent achievements in sport, leadership and citizenship as they strive to achieve their personal best.

### National Orienteering

#### Niamh Cassar

In January, Niamh Cassar competed in the 2020 New Zealand World Orienteering Cup Trials, "the Lonely Mountains Sprints", in New Plymouth, NZ. Over 10 days she competed in four races and secured one win and three second places, finishing with second place overall in the Under 18s category. During the same event, Niamh participated in the Elite Open Relay and placed 17 out of over 100 teams from across the world.

### Water Swimming Championships

#### Chelsea Harkins

Chelsea Harkins competed at swimming competitions across Australia in the summer, with exceptional results. Finishing fourth in the 17 Years 5km in the NSW Open Water Championships qualified her to attend the 2020 Australian Open Water Swimming Championships at Brighton Beach in Adelaide over the Australia Day long weekend. The event is Australia's pinnacle open water swimming event, showcasing the country's top and emerging talent, and Chelsea was thrilled to place 14 in the Girls 17 Years 5km. More recently, she participated and placed second in the 16-19 Year Old category at the Manly Sun Run Aquathon, which involves 7km of running and a 500m swim, and sixth in the 16-18 Years in the Manly Cole Classic.

### Max Potential

#### Tyler Old and Piper Elsley

Tyler Old and Piper Elsley were recently announced as 2020 participants in the leadership program Max Potential. Max Potential is an innovative development program which connects a select group of high school students with local community and business leaders for one-on-one coaching, workshops and community service projects over a 22-week period.

### ANZAC Ambassador for 2020

#### Max Williams

Northholm proudly congratulated Max Williams for being accepted as the Castle Hill RSL's Secondary School ANZAC Ambassador for 2020. To be chosen, students must exhibit leadership and teamwork skills, in addition to demonstrating their knowledge of the ANZAC story and ethos. With ANZAC Day services cancelled across the country, Castle Hill RSL encouraged their members to join the community to 'Light Up the Dawn' by commemorating in their own front yards, driveways and balconies.



Above. Niamh Cassar;  
Right. Chelsea Harkins.



Above left. Piper Elsley;  
Above right. Tyler Old;  
Right. Max Williams



**SERVICE LEARNING WEEK**

## Making a difference in the lives of others

**At the end of Term 4 2019, Northholm students and staff again participated in a week of Service Learning. Students from Kindergarten to Year 10 embraced the opportunity to serve those less fortunate than themselves, learning that an individual's contributions can make a difference to the lives of others in the wider community.**

Kindergarten to Year 2 students focused on Sustainability. They visited the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden, where they investigated the Earth's resources, and Eden Unearthed at Eden Gardens where they explored the sustainable artworks on display and created their own sculptures using recycled materials.

Students from Years 3 and 4 were involved in a Smile Project, bringing happiness to elderly residents who suffer from dementia. Students visited Hammond Care at Erina, taking books to read, flowers from their garden and other items to make the residents laugh.

Year 5 and 6 students' focus for the week was on Australia's Official Development Assistance Program (ODA) and its importance for Australia, Torres Strait Islands and Indo-Pacific Countries. Gillian Gray from Friends of Build Your Future Today spoke to the students about the history of Cambodia and how foundations like Build Your Future Today are working towards creating a better education and lifestyle for rural communities.

Year 7s engaged in a range of activities about poverty awareness. Activities were designed to help them better understand the issues facing developing countries. Ambassadors from UNICEF visited the School, highlighting ways their organisation is working across the world to protect the rights of every child.

The effects of Homelessness was the focus for Year 8 students. They participated in the Cook4Good Program in Darlinghurst; engaged in a presentation by a formerly homeless person who has experienced living on the streets; collected donations of food for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness; and met their goal of raising \$500 for the "Donate a Plate" Campaign.

Year 9 students participated in individual and small group projects such as the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Soup Kitchens and nursing homes while Year 10 students supported the education of students in a socio-economically disadvantaged school by developing and maintaining outdoor learning environments and by assisting in classroom activities.

In addition to other programs throughout the year, the aim of Northholm's Service Learning Week is for students to learn about those in need and to provide service to the wider community



**Above.** Year 10 student Max Williams;

**Right.** Kindergarten students at Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden; **Below.** Year 8s participating in the Cook4Good Program.





COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Annual Cocktail Evening

**Northholm Grammar hosted another successful Cocktail Evening this year on Saturday, 29 February in the stunning Sensory Garden.**

The success of this event is a testament of our vibrant and committed community which lies at the heart of our school and is an important foundation in building an active and supportive environment for our students' learning, development and wellbeing. The annual function, which allows parents and staff to connect in a fun and relaxed atmosphere, provides Northholm staff, Council members, parents and carers with a wonderful opportunity to continue to foster and build this strong and positive community. The Cocktail Evening highlights the school's commitment that it is the people and the relationships which determine the true nature of our community.

Thank you to the School Council and the Northholm Association for their hard work with the organisation of the evening. A special thank you to all the parents who worked tirelessly during the night to ensure everyone enjoyed the delicious food. We truly value and appreciate the involvement of Ms Angela Greatbatch, Mrs Leone Robb and Mrs Melissa Greensill for their amazing planning and coordination of the event and for the fantastic atmosphere they created in our beautiful Sensory Garden.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Carols Night

**The Northholm Primary Years playground was abuzz during our Carols evening as Kindergarten to Year 6 students celebrated the joy of the Christmas season.**

The celebrations culminated with a beautiful, whole school Christmas Service. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of the academic year.



**Above left. The Three Wise Men bringing gifts at Carols Night; Above. Parents and Carers enjoying the Annual Cocktail Evening; Left. Primary Years Carols Night.**





## Northholm Grammar School Captain recognised for Outstanding Community Service

In September 2019, School Captain Mitchell Old (Year 12) was presented with the prestigious John Lincoln Youth Community Service Award by the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC, at Government House.

The John Lincoln Youth Community Service Award was instituted to recognise Senior NSW secondary school students who have made outstanding contributions that benefit their communities. These awards define and identify role models at all levels within our communities and inspire us all to become more fully engaged citizens.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Grandparents' Day: Celebrating the connection across generations

In October 2019, family and friends joined Northholm Grammar Primary students and staff to celebrate Grandparents' Day.

The Primary students treated their families to a great line up of entertainment in the Lincoln Centre before showcasing their learning by opening their classrooms to display their creativity and their talents. The day ended with a barbecue lunch in our Sensory Garden. It was wonderful to witness the beautiful connection between grandparents and grandchildren. These connections provide a cornerstone for younger generations to develop a sense of identity and belonging, and to build enduring relationships with their families and communities.

Thank you to all the grandparents and friends who came along to share this very special occasion. And a very special thank you to our amazing staff and parent helpers for making this special day a wonderful success.



Above. Mitchell Old with Jenny Plüss and Principal Chris Bradbury.  
Left. Students celebrating their family at Grandparents' Day.

## Northholm Association

# Achievements, challenges and changes

**In the first half of 2020, the Northholm Association was fortunate to be able to meet many new and current parents of the school when we hosted the annual Welcome Cocktail Party. We also held the successful Year Group Parent Get-Together and the February General Meeting at the Dural Country Club.**

We celebrated the installation of the new electronic sign at the front of the school, donated by the school community and the Northholm Association. The sign enhances the school frontage and we look forward to the continued benefits of this key communication tool for our students and families. We have already seen the



promotion of upcoming events and the promotion of school philosophy, initiatives and achievements.

The Association is very proud of the work of our wonderful team of Executive and Committee Coordinators and we thank them for stepping into or continuing in their roles. We also thank our Year Group Parent volunteers, the heart and soul of our community and the Second-Hand Uniform Shop volunteers who tirelessly assist outfitting our families. These volunteers are often the first points of contact welcoming new families to our school.

Unfortunately, the onset of the COVID-19 crisis has meant the Northholm Association has been unable to undertake regular planned meetings or the usual yearly events normally held at this time. Our priority is to support the school the best that we can through this difficult chapter.

On a positive note, communication channels have moved forward for the Association in 2020. Last year, a review of the Association Constitution led to a decision which requires all Minutes and Agendas to be easily accessible to all Parents and Carers of current students at the school. The Minutes are now available one week following the last meeting and the Agenda is available two weeks before the next meeting. All documents are available via the Northholm Association tab on the Parent Portal.

The Association ensures notification of meetings to all members via The Record newsletter. This year, in consultation with our School Principal,

we have also introduced the use of our own Facebook Group to both support items already raised in The Record and to provide for more immediate information and reminders. The Northholm Association Facebook Group is an opportunity to increase awareness about meeting and event dates whilst also sharing photos of our fabulous volunteers, events and celebrations of achievements of the Association.

Other positives to emerge from these challenging times are that our committee now also utilises social media to distribute information and we have embraced remote video conferencing for Executive Committee meetings. The Association will continue to use these new platforms to reach our community in the future.

On behalf of my fellow Northholm P&C Executives, our Committee's Coordinators and our General Committee Members, we look forward to reconnecting over the second half of 2020. Thank you to our Principal, Teachers, Support and Reception Staff, Grounds and Canteen Staff. We appreciate all your ongoing support and commitment to the education and welfare of our children during this challenging and unprecedented first semester of 2020.

**Angela Greatbatch**  
**Northholm Association Inc (P&C)**  
**President**



## The Northholm Association (P&C) Team 2020 -

### Association Executive Team

Angela Greatbatch – President  
 Anthony Wood – Vice President  
 Tim Mann – Vice President  
 Gordon Dracup – Treasurer  
 Megan Ivory – Secretary

### Committee Coordinators

Yasmin Old – SHU Shop Coordinator  
 LeeAnne White – SHU Supervisor  
 Michelle Button – Grants  
 Melissa Greensill – Year Group  
 Parent Coordinator

### Special Projects

Jenni Wray – Commemorative Pavers  
 Sarj Shah – Clean-Up & School Picnic  
 Angela Maclaime – Entertainment Book



*The Northholm Association Facebook Group is an opportunity to increase awareness... whilst also sharing photos of our fabulous volunteers, events and celebrations*

## Northholm Old Students Union (NOSU)

# Memories and merriment as old friends reunite

**Northholm students of yesteryear enjoyed sharing stories and remembering old times at two recent reunions.**

30 years following their graduation, the class of 1989 gathered in September at The Oaks at Neutral Bay to catchup and celebrate the years in a very special night. Students from 1994 got together at The Bella Vista Hotel in November to also relive high school days and connect with old school friends.

**Celebrating the 25 Year Reunion of the class of 1994.**



*"...a genuine welcoming spirit and gratitude in the room..."*



## Year 12 1989: 30 Year Reunion

### We made it!

Still spinning out a little! I am sitting at my desk at work and wanted to express my gratitude to you all - in particular to give a special thanks to Nathan, Grainne, Rob and Miss Em, for organising such a great night.

More importantly, a special thanks to everyone for getting there after 30 years! And let's face it folks, getting here, after 30 long years has not been easy. That's 30 years of joy and shame, disappointment and success, marriages and divorces, children or lack of children, deaths, births, sickness, sadness, happiness and every crazy thing that a life has. Yet, here we are...we made it.

I think this is why, instead of an atmosphere of judgement and "who has what things", there was a genuine welcoming spirit and gratitude in the room - celebrating the fact that despite everything, here we were. A little beaten up, a little raggedy around the edges maybe, but we made it!

There is no doubt that we were all missing those members of the group who were not with us, who had not made it this night, but they were not forgotten and were just as much part of the stories we shared as anyone else there. In particular, for those who have passed - they too were also part of our stories this night and will continue to be in the future.

And the stories remembered - Wow! I am still processing! I just wish I had had more time to catch up with more people. The thing is that only we could tell and understand these stories, and this is what made the night so special. How lucky we were to "do life" together, for a little while at least, with such a genuinely good bunch of people.

**Joel McLean**  
Year 12 1989



30 Year Reunion at  
The Oaks

**The Northholm Old Students Union (NOSU) was formed in 1992 and represents a network of graduates from all walks of life, living all over the world.**

**To maintain contact with the school and fellow students, and to continue to be involved in the Northholm Community, please keep your contact details up to date by emailing [bakerm@northholm.nsw.edu.au](mailto:bakerm@northholm.nsw.edu.au). Join our Facebook group to stay up to date with events and news.**

# From the Archives

In 1990, *The Arcadian* printed an article which talked about the “quiet revolution” of computers entering everyday lives.

In these modern times, it is hard to remember a point in history when this technology was not essential to education, especially as we have faced recent challenges and progressively more learning has gone online as students worked from home. They will not recognise the types of machines that the school was introducing in 1990: the bulky systems, the dot matrix printers and the floppy disks. What a time of exciting progress!

## Facing The Computer Challenge

In the last decade a quiet revolution has taken place which has affected almost every area of human endeavour. The computer has all but taken over in finance, banking, share trading, investment planning, writing and publishing, popular music, television production, project planning, communications, storage and retrieval of information, graphic and project design, control of production lines, shopping, transport, defence; the list goes on and on.

Northholm, having been busy in consolidating other areas, has been a little slow off the mark in applying this technology but has now developed an action plan to ensure that it is not left behind. In the past year a significant start to this plan has been made in three areas.

In the administrative area, an IBM compatible system has taken over the task of keeping the school records and performing such jobs as billing and preparing student and class lists. Staff time can therefore be used more productively. The John Bootle Library has commenced the task of storing its catalogue on another IBM compatible machine. In time all student and staff borrowings will be recorded and overdue lists will be computer generated. A terminal will be available for students to peruse the catalogue, using many search criteria. The benefits are easier access to information and a faster, closer check on library resources.



Teachers can use computers in two ways, as an adjunct to their subject teaching or as a tool in preparing teaching materials for their classes. At present about a third of the staff are regular users of three Apple Macintosh computers located in their studies, and a training programme is under way for the rest who are at various stages of progress. The curriculum area is exciting with many teachers using the computer room for regular classes. A range of excellent computer applications is now available to enrich subject areas such as History, Languages, Science, Geography and Agriculture.

Computing Studies has finally become a full 2 Unit course in Years 11 and 12, the up-to-date syllabus having only been approved for implementation in 1989. At Northholm, the first students have just commenced this course which offers a complete overview of all aspects of computing, together with a closer study of several specialist areas.

The sum of these developments should ensure that current Northholm students have the opportunity to be prepared for an increasingly computerised world, for it has been said that when a person sits down at a computer, there is a master and a slave. Only education can determine which is which.





# Northholm Grammar

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