Monday 12th October 2015.

Dear Year 10, parents / caregivers

Term 4 is the most important term in the lives of Year 10 students.

The Record of School Achievement (RoSA)

The Record of School Achievement (RoSA) is the new credential for students who leave school after Year 10 and before they receive their Higher School Certificate (HSC). The RoSA has been designed to provide grades for all Stage 5 (Year 10) and Stage 6 (Preliminary – Year 11) courses completed during secondary education. The RoSA for students completing Stage 5 courses in 2015 will list all mandatory and additional Stage 5 courses along with the grade awarded.

To be eligible to complete the Stage 5 component of the RoSA:

- Students will complete the outcomes in all courses studied for the RoSA in 2015.
- Students will have positive attendance until the last day of Term 4.
- Students will work with sustained effort and diligence to complete all set work in each subject.
- Students will submit or sit for all yearly tasks and examinations to complete the requirements of the RoSA.

- The RoSA credential will report on a student’s achievements in Stage 5 courses, using A to E grades.
- Grades for courses in Year 10 will be based on the results gained in assessment tasks that students have completed throughout the year. These grades will be reported to the NSW Board of Studies.

Please carefully read the guidelines for the 2015 Record of School Achievement (RoSA) on the Board of Studies website www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

RoSA Assessment Tasks and Yearly Examinations 2015

- During Term 4 Week 5 (Monday 2nd November to Friday 6th November)
Students will sit formal yearly examinations in the core curriculum subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Australian History, Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship and PDHPE.

- During Term 4 Week 6 (Monday 9th November & Tuesday 10th November)
Students will sit formal examinations in their elective subjects and an English reading examination.
• Students are required to wear full school uniform to all Year 10 Yearly examinations. The examinations will take place in the GRC Peakhurst school hall.
• Students who are absent on the day of an exam will be required to provide a medical certificate to explain their absence. Yearly exams are considered as assessment tasks.
• An exam timetable will be distributed shortly to students outlining the timing of specific examinations and important examination rules and procedures.

**Georges River College Stage 5 Certificate 2015**

Georges River College has also implemented a Stage 5 Certificate in the Core Curriculum Subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Australian History, Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship.

• There will be common testing across all the middle school campuses in English Mathematics, Science, Australian History, Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship. These examinations will take place between **Monday 2nd November and Friday 6th November** – as previously outlined.

• There will be corporate assessment and marking of these tasks by teachers across all four campuses.

The Record of School Achievement (RoSA) will be reported as grades and submitted to the Board of Studies. RoSA grades will be based on the results gained in assessment tasks that students have completed throughout 2015.

The GRC Stage 5 Certificate results will only be based upon the common examination completed by each of the middle school campuses (Peakhurst / Penshurst Girls and Hurstville Boys) These results will be reported as marks and ranks determined across the middle school campuses.

**Compulsory Preliminary Course (Year 11) Units of Work**

All students intending to go on to Year 11 at Georges River College Oatley in 2016 will be required to complete specific units of work that have been designed by teachers from both the middle campuses and senior campus of Georges River College.

This work is to be undertaken by students in **Weeks 6 to 11 of Term 4 2015** and is vital to support student transition to senior learning.

**Attendance**

*With the new school leaving age, students in Year 10, who have not reached 17 years of age, are required to attend school until the last day of Term 4, Wednesday 16th December 2015* (extract from a Memo to Principals by Gregory Prior, Deputy Director-General, Schools on 30 August 2012).

Student attendance will be closely monitored throughout Term 4. If a student has poor attendance, they are jeopardising their ability to fully prepare for senior studies and hence will find the transition from Year 10 to Year 11 difficult. These students could be classified at risk in terms of their capacity to cope with the rigours of the senior syllabus. Students with poor attendance may also face a probationary enrolment into GRC Oatley Campus if the poor pattern of attendance continues without a valid excuse. The aim of this condition is to ensure a successful learning transition into senior studies from one campus to another and for all students to have a successful start to the Year 11 preliminary course.
Exemptions from senior schooling:

- The guidelines for the new school leaving age indicate that all students must attend a recognised program of study, employment (more than 25 hours a week), or a combination of both until they turn 17 years of age. Year 10 students who can demonstrate that they are leaving school to enter into continuing employment and will not be returning to take up study in Year 11 in 2016, (eg. Letter from an employer re apprenticeship/TAFE enrolment) are able to leave after the completion of the final Yearly Elective Exam on Tuesday 10th November, provided they have completed all their clearance obligations with the school.

- Temporary vacation work for Year 10 students intending on transitioning to Yr 11 at GRC Oatley in 2016 is discouraged until after the final day of Term 4 – Wednesday 17th December 2015.

Leave

In exceptional circumstances where students may be travelling overseas or leaving for other reasons before the conclusion of Term 4 an official ‘Application for Exemption from Attendance at School’ form (available from the Front Office) must be completed by a parent/caregiver. Flight details or a letter of explanation needs to be attached and all documents need to be personally handed to the Principal. Please allow two weeks for applications to be considered and processed and don’t automatically assume leave will be granted. If leave is granted, students must complete all clearance obligations with the school prior to the commencement of leave.

Year 10 Formal

The Year 10 Formal will occur on Thursday 26th November 2015. Students have previously received detailed information regarding the formal from Ms Fauvzzi (Year 10 Advisor).

Students who expect to attend the Year 10 Formal:

- **Cannot be on Daily Monitoring**
- **Cannot have outstanding detentions**

*The deadline to complete daily monitoring and outstanding detentions to be eligible to attend the formal is Friday 20th November 2015.*

*Students who lose points and are placed on monitoring after Friday 20th November 2015 will not be able to attend the formal.*

Orientation at Georges River College Oatley Campus

This very important transition program will take place on Monday 30th November and Tuesday 1st December 2015 at GRC Oatley Campus. **Full school uniform** is expected to be worn on these days. Further details regarding these days will be provided to students in late November.

Big Day Out

This social event for all Year 10 students in each of the GRC middle school campuses is organised by the SRC leadership teams from all three middle school campuses. It will be held at GRC Oatley Campus Oval on Wednesday 2nd December, 2015. **Full PE uniform** is to be worn to this event. Further information relating to this event will be provided to students closer to the date.
Year 10 Clearance Day – Return of Equipment/Payment of outstanding fees

Year 10 Clearance day will be held on Thursday 10th December 2015 (9.30am – 10.30am). This will be followed by a compulsory Presentation Day Practice (10.30am – 11.00am)

- Students who still have textbooks, library books or any other equipment on loan from the library or other school faculty must return these before they can be cleared.
- Students who still owe outstanding subject charges or excursion costs must finalise these before finalising formal payments. Families experiencing difficulties in meeting this requirement are requested to contact the Principal as soon as possible. Any student who cannot finalise the return of equipment will not be invited to attend the Presentation Day / Year 10 Farewell Ceremony with the rest of Year 10 on Friday 11th December 2015 and will receive their portfolio at a later time.

Expected Behaviour during Term 4

Year 10 students who involve themselves in unacceptable behaviour will not be eligible to attend the Year 10 Formal and will not be invited to attend the Year 10 Presentation Day / Farewell.

Year 10 Presentation Day / Farewell Ceremony

Friday 11th December 2015 (9.00am – 10.30am)

The whole school community is committed to celebrating the conclusion of Year 10 at GRC Peakhurst Campus. This important milestone is valued very highly, so please put Friday 11th December 2015 in your dairy.

- Before the Presentation Day/Farewell Ceremony, there will be a Year 10 meeting to inspect uniform. Students will be required to be present for this meeting at 8.30am. Students who are not wearing the correct GRC Peakhurst Campus uniform will not be able to collect their portfolio in the school hall with the rest of the year group. They will be issued with their portfolio after the ceremony.
- Correct uniform includes plain black leather shoes.
- Students who expect to attend the farewell ceremony cannot be on daily monitoring or have any outstanding detentions. (In order to attend the ceremony, the deadline for completing daily monitoring and finalising outstanding detentions is Tuesday 8th December 2015.

I thank all families for their continuing support of their child’s education at Georges River College Peakhurst Campus for the past four years. I look forward to celebrating the achievements of Year 10 with you at the Presentation Day / Farewell Ceremony on Friday 11th December 2015.

Sincerely,

Holly Northeys Holly Northeys Holly Northeys Holly Northeys Holly Northeys Terry Vallis
Deputy Principal GRC Peakhurst Campus Principal GRC Peakhurst Campus