

# Girraween High Newsletter

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## SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORT SCHEME TCARD UPDATE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

In January 2005, the new travel smart card ticketing system called Tcard was introduced to over 300,000 students in NSW and is currently available to students travelling to and from school with participating private bus operators under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS). State Transit (Sydney Buses), RailCorp (CityRail) and Sydney Ferries do not currently participate in the Tcard scheme.

### *Current Tcard holders - keep your Tcard:*

Tcards issued to students are valid for four years, and should be kept for use in the new school year, even if changing schools or address. A change of address and/or school will require the submission of a new application for SSTS eligibility and these changes will then be automatically linked to the student's existing Tcard.

### *New Applicants - how will I get a Tcard?:*

Students submit an application for travel under the SSTS in the usual way. There is no need to apply separately for a Tcard. Once SSTS travel has been approved with a participating private bus operator, details will be automatically forwarded to Tcard, and a card will be posted directly to the student's home address.

There will be no change to the eligibility criteria for SSTS for 2006. SSTS paper bus passes will

still be issued in 2006 as in previous years.

For more information on Tcard or SSTS please visit the [website](#).

For information on [SSTS](#) visit the website or call 131 500.

### **School Carpark.**

Once again parents are reminded they must not enter the carpark to drop off or pick up students.

The area is very dangerous and not designed to have two way traffic.

The consequent traffic jams are disrupting the buses and causing delays.

Students should be dropped off or picked up in Gilba Road or one of the nearby sidestreets (Normac or Palm Streets).

### **Senior Crown Prosecutor Courts Girraween High "Legal Eagles"**

Year 11 Legal Studies students at Girraween High School were given a special treat last Thursday when they were addressed by Mark Tedeschi, the Senior Crown Prosecutor for NSW. Mr Tedeschi is a Queen's Counsel and highly regarded legal advocate. He has prosecuted many high-profile

cases, including the Ivan Milat trial and, most recently, the Bruce Burrell trial.

Mr Tedeschi had been invited to the school to address Legal Studies students on the role of the Crown Prosecutor and to talk about the trial process generally.

Students are currently studying the mandatory Crime topic for their HSC course. Mr Tedeschi quickly demonstrated to the students his courtroom skills by firing a barrage of questions at them about the criminal justice process. His passion for the law and his ability to capture an audience's attention were strongly in evidence throughout the address.

During his address Mr Tedeschi stressed the importance of research and preparation in the trial process, as well as the need for both the Prosecution and Defence to win the trust and confidence of the jury and to engage their attention and maintain their interest in the proceedings. The ability to think on one's feet and to anticipate the opposition case were vital skills for a courtroom practitioner, Mr Tedeschi observed.

Mr Tedeschi also spoke of his days at University and his early experiences as a private barrister.

In closing, Mr Tedeschi emphasised to students the importance of finding their own niche in life - to find a career that will stimulate them, challenge them and that they will enjoy. Mr Tedeschi made it perfectly clear

**Help wanted!**

Volunteers are needed to assist in our canteen.  
All profits from the canteen are used to assist our students.  
Contact Liz Dawe on 9636 7293

**P & C Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 23 7:30 PM**  
**Common Room**  
**All are welcome**

that *he* has certainly found his niche in life.

The students who attended the presentation were most impressed with Mr Tedeschi's talk and his willingness to answer their myriad of questions about the criminal law process.

We are most grateful to Mr Tedeschi for finding time in his very busy schedule to speak to our students. His talk was both informative and animated.

Thanks must also go to Mr Kaplinski for facilitating Mr Tedeschi's visit, and to the staff and students who assisted in making the visit a great success.

J. Menkes/R. Stormont/K. Kwiet  
Legal Studies Teachers



Mr Tedeschi and  
Year 11 Legal Studies

**Japanese Excursion**

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October year nine Japanese went on an excursion in the city. We went to The NSW Art Gallery, Kinokuniya the largest Japanese bookstore in Sydney where we found some

interesting things, some little Japanese shops and finally Rengaya Restaurant in North Sydney.

At 9:45 we met at our first destination, The NSW Art



Museum where we went into the Asian Art room and saw beautiful kimonos, delicate paintings and amazing pottery.

There were also Japanese artefacts such as Samurai swords and unique teapots. In a corner on its own there was a model tatami room that was intricately detailed with cushions and tables.

A few of the students explored and discovered a beautiful calligraphy room upstairs. The Art Museum was a great start to the long but fun day ahead.

We then headed to Kinokuniya bookstore at around 11am, which was about ten minutes walk. We walked in the pouring rain, but we all managed to squish under some umbrellas.

Kinokuniya was huge. There were books of almost every type, not

just the novels and picture books, but magazines, cookbooks, photography books, art, and a lot more, even some stationery. It was all very interesting. What disappointed us though was

that the prices were very dear.

As a result not many of us spent our money there. A few of us regarded it as the most expensive bookstore in Sydney!

Opposite the bookshop was a small little travel agent. Miss Akutsu took us inside and all of us took advantage of the seats on offer, flopping down after a bit of walking. The atmosphere was slightly awkward, however they were kind enough to give us 'gifts': small prawn sushi key rings, which Miss Akutsu would then use to bribe us with later!

After that bit of rest, we then walked a few blocks away to a Japanese convenience store.

We all browsed around for refreshments before lunch,

### Australian Financial Literacy Assessment.

Congratulations to Luke Lau Year 9 who received the highest mark in the state in his year level in this competition. He will receive a medal in recognition of this outstanding achievement.

and a couple of students discovered the very appetising delight of soft drink a few weeks past its expiry date!

With our newly bought fresh snacks, we took a quick train ride to North Sydney, and finally arrived at the spectacular Rengaya Restaurant.

This is what we had all had waited for. We entered the restaurant and were treated to the Japanese traditional room, where we had to sit or kneel to eat and have tatami mats and paintings surrounding us.

The experience at Rengaya was a very fun and educational one, where we enjoyed the Japanese cuisine and experience while having a great time. During the meal, we all showed our competitive side, by speaking as much Japanese as we could to try and win the key rings. After a long, tough battle, Lisa, Ai-my, Jamiel, Kathryn, Jason, Danny, Vanessa and Georgina all won themselves the prawn sushi keyrings.

After finishing our delicious meals and feeling rather full, we arrived at North Sydney station at around 3pm to catch trains home. It had been a long and tiring day but we had lots of fun.

### Coming Soon

Year 7 immunisation	Monday, Nov 28
Year 9 Peer Mediation Training	Tues-Wed Nov 29-30
Year 10 First Aid (22 students)	Thurs Dec 1
Year 9 Camp	Mon-Fri Dec 5-9
Year 10 Formal	Tues Dec 6
Year 10 Presentation of School Certificates	Fri Dec 9
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Hike	Mon-Fri Dec 12-16
School Band touring primary schools	Thurs-Fri Dec 15-16
Years 7,8 & 9 Recognition Assemblies	Mon Dec 19
Year 12 BBQ	Tues Dec 20
Last day of term	Wed Dec 21