

NEWSLETTER

Issue 6 | December 2020 | Term 4



MITCHAM GIRLS
HIGH SCHOOL

DIARY DATES

January

Wednesday 27

Term 1 commences

Senior Schools SACE Day
9.45am - 3.00pm
(University of Adelaide)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 4 is always extremely busy and this year has been no exception.

In spite of all the restrictions due to COVID-19, we have managed to do our very best to ensure that the school has operated as normal. We have very much missed parents being able to share the many performances, information nights, parent teacher evenings, course counselling and celebration assemblies and we look forward to re-connecting with you all next year.

Most recently, we had to change the venue of the Year 12 Graduation at the last minute. We, however, were able to live-stream the event so that parents could watch their daughters receive Year 12 Certificates from afar. The senior students were also faced with the cancellation of their Formal at the last minute and naturally students were very upset. Mrs Chambers and Mrs Tomlian spent a great deal of time liaising with the Hilton Hotel to try and re-organise the dinner when restrictions were lifted and everyone was absolutely delighted when they were successful in their endeavours. The Formal took place on Wednesday 2 December and I can quite honestly say that the students looked like movie stars!

The Celebration Assemblies were wonderful. The new Student Leaders spoke beautifully and the awards given were very well deserved. Certificates were also awarded to our current Year 9 students as a memento of their time spent in the Middle School.

A letter to inform the school community about the facilities upgrade will be sent home separately however we will be keeping the portable classrooms until the new build is complete, hopefully around the middle of the year. Feedback from students reference the numbering of classrooms has indicated that students are still finding it difficult to find their way around. Chris Stone has developed a new system for classes to be easily identified rooms and this work will be carried out over the school holiday.

We have now completed the first year of our Year 7 to High School Pilot program and this has been a resounding success. Feedback from parents and students has been most encouraging. I would like to thank Lee Shaw for the outstanding work she has done in leading the year group. She has been an exceptionally popular leader and has gone out of her way to ensure that the girls have had a productive year.

Every three years, the school undergoes an External School Review and Mitcham Girls High School was scheduled to be reviewed in 2020. This will now take place in week 5 of Term 1, 2021. The Review will provide staff with an opportunity to demonstrate how much the school has grown and how successful we have been from a school improvement perspective.

I would like to congratulate Tony Sims on his appointment as Deputy Principal at Henley High School. He has been at Mitcham for 17 years and I would like to thank him on behalf of the staff, students and parents for the significant contribution he has made in that time. We wish him well as he continues his leadership journey. I am also delighted to announce that Nathan Cini has been appointed as the new Deputy Principal. Nathan is currently an Executive Director at Playford International College and is very much looking forward to joining Mitcham Girls in January.

I would like to thank all of you for your continued support of me and the staff. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday and festive season.

Kindest regards,

Linda Baird
Principal

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education



Middle School

Middle School Celebration Assembly

The Middle School Celebration of Achievement Assembly in Week 8 of this term was a great opportunity for the students to come together and commemorate the accomplishments of the Year 7 to 9 cohort.

Students who participated in subject based competitions and received prizes were acknowledged along with the students who took part in this year's Premier's Reading Challenge.

The Ambassador Program at Mitcham Girls encourages and recognises significant contributions to both community programs and the life of the school. Students are acknowledged for their contribution at bronze, silver and gold levels based on the breadth and depth of their contribution, both in and outside of school.

This program is a significant part of the life of Mitcham Girls and we congratulate the following students who were presented with their Ambassador Badge in 2020.

| Year 7 Bronze | Year 8 Bronze |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Zoe Abbott | Elysia Arhondidis |
| Samantha Barfield | Hope Chilstone |
| Layla Chenoweth | Ivy Chilstone |
| Maddy Donato | Drishy Chouhan |
| Francesca Jones | Imogen Cooley |
| Tiana Kennedy | Mikaella Cura |
| Hafsah Khan | Chelsea Frost |
| Sophia Lennard | Saranya Gautam |
| Ruby Murfitt | Lilly Hickingbotham |
| Chloe Ng | Sarah Honter |
| Jessica Norris | Hannah Hutchison |
| Chloe Norwood | Mackenzie Jenke |
| Evie O'Connor | Ruby Jenkin |
| Aaliyah Perrini | Shashini Kapuwelle |
| Georgia Percival | Lakshana Krishnan |
| Sequoia Pitt | Fatima Malik |
| Madeleine Schiller | Annabel McGregor |
| Ashleigh Semler | Hollie Millar |
| Mishka Sharma | Kaitlin Mohais |
| Zini Su | Zoe Morgan |
| Scarlett Wells | Freya Morton |
| Scarlett Williams | Sofia Obradovic |
| Su Zen Tan | Mariam Qanitah |
| | Ziqi Qui |
| Year 9 Silver | Alicia Sergeant |
| Tahni Armfield | Venika Thakur |
| Caitlin Dabinet | |
| Madison Geerts | Year 9 Bronze |
| Abriana Hodgkinson | Laiba Khokhar |
| Isabella Kamau Kigotho | Halle Sullivan |
| Dakshyani Muniandy | |
| Ayla Nouri Dashbelagh | |
| Lily O'Brien | |
| Emeli Rivett | |
| Nicola Strever | |
| Georgie Wooller | |

A special highlight of the assembly was the presenting of awards for academic excellence or outstanding involvement in the school community to the following students:

| Year 7 Academic Excellence Awards | Year 7 Involvement Awards |
|--|---------------------------|
| Scarlett Wells | Ruby Murfitt |
| Amy Evans | Jessica Norris |
| Margaret Hall | Zoe Abbott |
| Zoe Abbott | Mishka Sharma |
| Year 7 Victoria Tomlian Award recipient - Zoe Abbott | |

| Year 8 Academic Excellence Awards | Year 8 Involvement Awards |
|---|---------------------------|
| Imogen Cooley | Shashini Kapuwelle |
| Sarah Honter | Sofia Obradovic |
| Shashini Kapuwelle | Chelsea Frost |
| Kaitlin Mohais | Fatima Malik |
| Year 8 Bank SA Award recipient - Shashini Kapuwelle | |

| Year 9 Academic Excellence Awards | Year 9 Involvement Awards |
|--|---------------------------|
| Rianna Herring | Tahni Armfield |
| Maggie Lenger | Caitlin Dabinet |
| Dakshyani Muniandy | Laiba Khokhar |
| Kelly Spreitzer | Dakshyani Muniandy |
| Year 9 Champion Education Prize recipient - Dakshyani Muniandy | |

The assembly concluded with the announcement of the House Captains for next year and an address to Year 9 recapping the highlights of their school year as they prepare to transition from the Middle School to the Senior School.

Middle School

Middle School Update

A focus on personal achievement and success is evident with in the Year 9 cohort.

Students are actively engaging with the learning experiences and consolidating their learning habits as they complete their last semester in the Middle School. This demonstrated the fact that 55% of Year 9 students were recognized by the majority of their teachers as consistently showing positive attitudes in class and as a result received an Endeavour Award for their hard work.

A special mention to the following students who received this award for the first time this year.

| Endeavour Award | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Tahni Armfield | Talia Entwistle | Mia McKay-Brindal | Akshara Sathees |
| Annie Boardman | Isobel Fitch | Savannah Prest | Ashlee Taylor |

Congratulations to the following students who received the following awards based on their Term 3 results:

| Academic Credit Certificate Recipients | | Academic Distinction Certificate Recipients | |
|--|-----------------|---|--------------------|
| Tahni Armfield | Dana Mostafa | Emily Bryce | Maggie Lenger |
| Zara Bowles | Sarah Murphy | Della Crawford | Dakshyani Muniandy |
| Amitie Duval | Jade O'Dwyer | Caitlin Dabinet | Mia Patrick |
| Ashleigh Edwards | Sriya Pillay | Thamara Galindo Gutierrez | Kelly Spreitzer |
| Carmela Greenwood | Emeli Rivett | Rianna Herring | Carla Strever |
| Maya Harvey | Akshara Sathees | Isabella Kamau Kigotho | Nicola Strever |
| Tasnim Kabir | Halle Sullivan | Laiba Khokhar | Rebecca Trezona |
| Charlotte Langbein | Holly Warncken | Isabel Leach | Sanjana Varakavi |
| Marlo Macaulay | Georgie Wooller | | |
| Jasinta Morris | | | |

Languages

School of Languages Award Recipients

Maggie Lenger

Year 9 Spanish

Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Remashree Muniandy

SACE Stage 2 Indonesian Continuers

The Award of Excellence



Care Group Activities

As part of the Year 8 Care Group program the students worked in small groups to complete 2 challenges. The first was to complete the tallest freestanding tower using a limited number of spaghetti strings and one marshmallow.

The second challenge posed a scenario where the students had to design a safe and accurate system to deliver life-sustaining supplies to disaster relief efforts or military supply locations is an unpredictable real-world design challenge. Using limited supplies and an egg to represent perishable supplies, students design, create and test their devices in an effort to investigate problems associated with supply delivery in remote regions. They mimic the process engineers use when designing devices for airdrop supplies. The students demonstrated excellent group skills and had a great time.

The Year 7 and 8 Care Groups had the opportunity to view a Zoom presentation about the organisation TABOO. TABOO is a social enterprise that exists to sell organic cotton pads and tampons to those in Australia, with all profits dedicated to ensuring that all women around the world have access to sustainable sanitary health care and education. In late 2017, upon graduating high school, Eloise Hall and Isobel Marshall founded TABOO. Since then, the TABOO team has flourished into an amazing family of volunteers who each share a mutual passion for fighting period poverty. Below is a link to a youtube clip that you might find interesting to watch.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=1e8xgF0JtVg

Sarah Gray
Year Level Leader Year 8

Soap Box Task

During Term 3 the focus in Year 9 Care Group has been looking at 21st Century skills and other attributes required to be successful in the future. The Year 9s had an opportunity to put these valuable skills into practice by participating in the Soap Box Challenge during the last week of the term.

Each student was required to identify an issue that they cared about and develop and deliver a persuasive "Soap Box" speech on why others should care about that issue as well.

Topics included school-based issues such as:

- Being allowed to wear PE/dance uniforms to and from school, if the students' first or last lesson
- Wearing hoodies to school
- That Care Group should be for catchup and homework
- Water in the Canteen should be free

Environmental issues such as:

- Single use plastic
- Depletion of fossil fuels
- Plastic pollution
- Climate change
- Sustainability

Social issues such as:

- Animal abuse and mistreatment
- Banning animal testing
- Homelessness
- Misrepresentation in the media
- Vaccinations
- Equality
- Domestic violence

Domestic Violence

85% of domestic violence victims are women. Often, women have to escape their homes with only the clothes on their back. These women have to learn to start over and this can be terrifying at any time.

At Christmas time these women feel even more vulnerable with a sense of sadness and feeling alone. We as an all-girls school, should spread more awareness about domestic violence in our school and help those affected by putting together a fundraiser in Term 4 'Shoe Boxes of Hope.' These boxes could contain everyday essentials and would be donated to the Domestic Violence Women's Shelters, so women that are experiencing this will receive this box and hopefully regain some hope and knowledge that women do not stand alone, especially at Christmas time.

Amitie

Amitie's soap box speech was so powerful and moving the Year 9s worked on this service project in Term 4.

Thank you to the following staff who volunteered their time to assist with the Year 9 Care Group "Soap Box" Task by supervising a group of students delivering their persuasive speeches and promoting healthy dialogue based on the ideas presented.

Judy Swan
Lizzie Anderson
Anna Cullen
Sarah Chambers
Taylor Rubino

Liz Rogers
Year Level Leader Year 9



HASS News

Students in HASS have been involved in a variety of activities over the semester. One of the interesting tasks which the Year 7 Gift class participated in was the National History Challenge. Shown in the photographs are some of the groups with their dioramas which they produced on Ancient Societies. The Year 9 Gift History class also participated in this and submitted essays on the theme Contested Histories.

Congratulations to the following students who were state finalists and winners:

Hafsah Khan (State Finalist – Year 7) for her virtual museum on Oztzi Man.

Izzy Leach (State Finalist – Australian Women's History, State Finalist – Year 9) for her essay on the suffragettes in Britain.

Maggie Lenger (State Finalist – Using Primary Sources) for her essay "Australia; a Working Man's Paradise".

Rianna Herring (State Finalist – Year 9, State Winner – Year 9) for her essay on the discovery of Australia. Rianna receives a \$200 prize.

Mia Patrick (State Finalist – Australian Wartime Experience, State Finalist – Year 9, State Winner - Australian Wartime Experience) for her essay which examined the Turkish side of The Gallipoli Campaign. Mia will also receive a \$200 prize.

Year 7 and 8 students have been enjoying their fieldwork, with Year 8s learning about landforms at Hallett Cove and Year 7s learning about the liveability of the local environment.

Recently the Sustainability Group completed their first Arbour Day plantings on the school grounds. We also took part in a trip to Brownhill Creek where we are part of the Brownhill Creek Education and Revegetation Group which engages schools in on-ground action to improve biodiversity in their local community. Shown in the photographs are students planting native grasses which we grow from seed.

Sharyn Clarke
HASS Curriculum Leader



The Arts

Stage 1 Drama Production: *The Bottom of the Lake*, by Stephen Stack and Charlotte Sarr

This year's Stage 1 Drama production, *The Bottom of The Lake*, was a playful theatre piece. The play's plotline deals with an array of playful sub-plots that are intermittently placed throughout the story in the form of ghost stories. Part comedy, part suspense, and part *musical*, this play was such a joy to be a part of, and a wonderful play for students to end the year.

Set in the 1990s, the audience were invited to follow 3 teenage girls as they wander into the forest to tell ghost stories. Little did they know that a stranger, 14 year old Dani, would be waiting for them late at night.

Not only was the story envisioned by an established playwright, our very own Charlotte Sarre created an additional scene to help bring the vision of the class Theatre Company "Fun Cult" truly to life. Of course, none of this could have come together without being supported by the talented actors and designers who helped bring this show to life on stage.

I would like to commend the whole ensemble. It is through their commitment that allowed this performance to be such a success.

Congratulations to one and all!

Kate Ralph
Drama Teacher



The Arts

Year 7 Drama

Fidget and *They Eat Sunshine, Not Zebras*, Year 7 Productions, Term 4 2020

In Week 7 of Term 4, both Year 7 Drama classes performed the fast paced '*Fidget*' and '*They Eat Sunshine, Not Zebras*', to an exclusively Year 7 audience.

Firstly, '*Fidget*', explored the inner thoughts of six main characters who try to find out who they are and who they want to be, all the while being challenged by the external factors of their lives and their hormones.

Our second production for Year 7, '*They Eat Sunshine, Not Zebras*', brought their audience down to earth, as it explored the day-to-day lives of a field of grass. This production and the uniformed green grasses were a metaphor for the dangers associated with living in your own 'bubble' and therefore not being able to see other perspective other than your own. With the introduction of a rogue dandelion into the field, havoc ensues, and they have to find a way to coexist or...not.

Both of these productions, in their own ways, allowed the audience to contemplate their own unique experience and reflect on the various challenges they face in their own lives. The cast and crew within each show produced a well-rehearsed production.

Well done to all involved and welcome to the Drama program at MGHS!

Kate Ralph
Drama Teacher



Dance Performance

The Dance students were all set to present their final dances for the year to their parents, but COVID-19 had other ideas! We quickly leapt into action and presented a performance for the Year 7 and 8 students in the school gym, livestreaming to parents of Dance students.

The whole performance was a great success with most of the dances having quite an upbeat mood. Year 7 Dance created a spy-inspired dance to Mission Impossible, whilst the Year 7 Gift class expressed themselves by presenting a bunch of weird scientist created creatures! The Year 8 Gift class collaborated to create a crazy clown dance, presented with evil faces. The Year 9 class learnt who Skyhooks were, dancing to 'Horror Movie', while the Year 10s in both the general and Gift classes had a musical theatre challenge in songs from Hairspray. The Year 9/10 Gift class co-created a stunning circus inspired piece, complete with bright costumes, while the Year 11s presented a fun-filled story about Hercules. Particular mention also goes to Madeline Walpole and Victoria Collins who created choreographic works for their peers, along with Olivia West and Neve McCarthy who worked with the Year 8 performance team. Congratulations to everyone involved – the performance was a great success. Thanks to our technical assistants Ben Phillips (and Scott) who worked tirelessly to ensure the staging was looking its best.

Best wishes for your Christmas and New Year.

Judy Swan
Mieke Kriegesvelt
Dance Teachers

Health and Physical Education

2020 House Captains

What a year it has been for our House Captains, despite one of our biggest whole school sporting events the Swimming Carnival unable to run and COVID-19 limiting other sporting opportunities.

This year's House Captains have made an enormous effort to ensure sport was still available at MGHS. The dedication our House Captains displayed in their efforts to ensure our whole school Sports Day is to be commended; without their work the day certainly would not have been as successful as it was. Stepping up again this year, the House Captains have conducted a large number of Sport Weeks providing many fun opportunities for MGHS students to be active! It has been an absolute privilege to work with such a committed group of leaders who take great pride in the work they do. Thank you all for your enormous work this year!

Stephanie Henson
Teacher, Physical Education



2021 House Captains

Congratulations to the following students who were voted to be House Captains for their respective houses in 2021. Thank you to all students who prepared and performed their speeches in front of their peers.

FRASER

Year 7 Captains – To be determined in 2021
Year 8 Captains – Evie O'Connor & Ruby Murfitt
Year 9 Captains – Shashini Kapuwelle & Chelsea Frost
Year 10 Captains – Zara Bowles & Stella Hetzel
Year 11 Captains – Keyannah Kilpatrick & Taylah Brennan-Jones
Year 12 Captains – Elle Hilder & Amy Redjepi

MITCHELL

Year 7 Captains – To be determined in 2021
Year 8 Captains – Jessica Norris & Cassandra Spencer
Year 9 Captains – Abbie Blackeby & Lilly Hickingbotham
Year 10 Captains – Dakshyani Muniandy & Madison Geerts
Year 11 Captains – Chrissie Mower & Grace Karavasili
Year 12 Captains – Nyari Gryzb & Madeleine Walpole

SPENCE

Year 7 Captains – To be determined in 2021
Year 8 Captains – Ella Kamau Kigotho & Santiah Manno
Year 9 Captains – Summer Rist & Ella Tanti
Year 10 Captains – Airlie Goldsmith & Sriya Pillay
Year 11 Captains – Maia Mullholland & Evelyn Bartlett
Year 12 Captains – Mikayla Collins & Asha Foster

Mr Ian Kutschke
Health and Physical Education Curriculum Leader

Premier's Be Active Challenge

The following students entered the Premier's Be Active Challenge and have earned their respective awards for participating in doing at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least 5 days of the week for at least 4 weeks.

Caitlin Dabinet – Be Active for Life Champion Medal
Akshara Sathees – Be Active for Life Silver medal
Holly Warncken – Be active for Life Gold medal.

Ian Kutschke
Health and Physical Education Curriculum Leader



Health and Physical Education

The enthusiasm and competitive spirit continued from Term 3 into Term 4 with Mitcham Girls producing a number of competitive teams.

SAPSASA

Congratulations to Claire Pinno and Zoe Abbott, members of the SAPSASA City South Div.1 1st place Softball team! Well done and way to go representing Mitcham Girls High School!

Congratulations also goes to Santiah Manno for representing MGHS on the City South soccer team and Tegan Mckellar-Stewart for representing City South in Diving (event cancelled due to COVID-19).

VIVA All Schools Athletics Championships

Ella Tanti represented MGHS in the following events: Discus, Shot Put & Javelin.

Ella won a bronze medal in Discus - 24.13m (a personal best), came 5th in Shot Put - 7.21m (a personal best) and came in 8th place in Javelin - 17.46m. Congratulations to Ella Tanti for her hard work in preparing for the events and displaying grit and sportspersonship.

State-Wide Competition

Congratulations to the Year 7/8/9 T20 Cricket team!

The team made it to the finals but unfortunately, the finals were cancelled due to COVID-19. Congratulations to the following students for their efforts during practice and game time: Madison Geerts, Zara Bowles, Airlie Goldsmith, Carmela Greenwood, Rianna Herring, Kelly Spreitzer, Amitie Duval, Georgie Wooller, Gurleen Reel, Hannah Hutchison, Evie O'Connor, Chelsea Frost. Thank you to Ms. Henson for her coaching efforts.

Year 7/8/9 Softball team won two, lost two and beat the softball specialist team from Gawler. Congratulations to: Summer Rist, Hannah Hutchison, Dani Croger, Elsie Alcorn, Ruby Jenkins, Noa Meyer, Zoe Abbot, Zara Bowles, Airlie Goldsmith, Maddy Geerts and Zoe Morgan. Our softball team looks promising for next year. Thank you to Mr. Finos and Mr. Gladstone for their time and coaching efforts.

Zone Sports

Our Year 7/8/9 Div. B Volleyball team came in 3rd place out of ten schools!

Thank you to all student coaches and House Captains who helped out the teams. Thank you to the HPE staff, Ms. Henson and Ms. Parsons for their time and coaching efforts. Congratulations Mitcham Girls! Santiah Manno, Halle Sullivan, Stella Hetzel, Abby Mickan, Tylah Pfeiffer, Ashleigh Edwards, Emily Bryce, Mia Manno, Jess Norris and Niamh Donnelly.

Badminton Carnival

MGHS had a fantastic day at Seaview High School in Badminton.

All six MGHS teams made the A grade finals, two of which played in the Grand Final. Congratulations to all members of the badminton team.

1st place: Daksha Muniandy and Sri Varshita Ragam

2nd place: Ziqi Qiu and Jasmine Cura

Hope Chilstone, Lakshana Krishnan, Georgie Wooller, Sukriti Sharma, Vokili Shiell, Meehul Kapoor, Mishka Sharma, Drishty Chouhan & Yuno Kohli. Thank you to Mr. Finos for his time and coaching efforts.

A special thank you to Ms. D'Ambrosio for her efforts in organizing the excursions.

Collyer Cup 2020

Champions at both Junior and Senior School, Mitchell is the overall winner. Congratulations to all students who participated in house activities.

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| Fraser | 522.75 points |
| Mitchell | 544 points |
| Spence | 450.25 points |

Upcoming Events

Swimming Carnival 2021 Friday, Week 4 of Term 1

Ian Kutschke
Health and Physical Education Curriculum Leader

Science

The ConocoPhillips Science Experience 2020

Thank you to the following Rotary Clubs for their ongoing support; Mitcham, Coromandel Valley, West Torrens, and Morphett Vale, who have very generously provided sponsorship to allow four Year 9 students to attend the upcoming ConocoPhillips Science Experience during December.

The students are looking forward to spending 3 days on the various campuses of either Flinders University or Adelaide University undertaking a range of hands-on practical Science-based / STEM focus activities and gaining information about the many careers and study opportunities in science, engineering and technology.

Liz Rogers
Year 9 Science Teacher



The 2020 Cochlear Aurora Photo Contest

The Flinders University's Cochlear Aurora Photo Contest required students to submit just one photo, which must convey the fact that 'Science is everywhere!'

Images need to be creative, unique and eye-catching. Congratulations to the students who entered a photo this year in the Year 7 to 10 section and clearly meet this brief.

Liz Rogers
Science Teacher



Halle Sullivan (Year 9) Apis and the Limonium



Kaylis Mazurczak (Year 8) Underwater Wonderland



Jade Whiting (Year 8) Eye see the sea

Senior School

Activities in the Senior School these past weeks have demonstrated flexible thinking, creative problem-solving and have focused on the importance of acknowledging the important rites of passage of our students in the Senior School.

The interruptions due to COVID-19 continued and the Senior School team learnt to pivot on a pin-head in their planning. Thankfully, due to exceptional teamwork, a positive mindset and a good deal of determination, we were able to mark these important occasions for our students.

Year 12 Celebration Assembly

Like most events this year, the Year 12 Celebration Assembly diverged from the usual tradition at Mitcham Girls, well reflecting the abstract year of 2020.

For the first time, parents attended the event via a recording and only students in Years 9 to 11 could watch in person. Though this was not the original plan, the immense efforts from the school ensured that we still had a special and meaningful event to thank our teachers and share farewells with fellow students. We initiated the Assembly with a loud debut as we came in dancing to 'We're All in this Together' from the loved High School Musical, a fitting song considering this year has truly reminded us of the importance of connection. After paying respects to the Kurna people and singing the National Anthem, we began our celebration as we reminisced on our time here at Mitcham Girls. Naturally, this came with many tears as we recognised that school had finally come to an end, a milestone we never believed possible. The Celebration Assembly provided us with an opportunity to give our thanks to those who have assisted us throughout our high school journey. We achieved this by presenting a variety of unique awards to this year's year 12 teachers including *most likely to achieve world peace* and *most likely to win Australian Ninja Warrior*. The event concluded with a photo slideshow, created by Maddison Royals, where we viewed our cringe Year 8 selfies and a snapshot of our 'Glow Ups' over the past 5 years.

Most importantly, the Assembly enabled us to appreciate how far we had come and to embrace those around us for one of the very last times. It enabled us to reflect on the impact Mitcham Girls has had on our lives and how the school has assisted our growth in leadership, resilience and determination to achieve our goals. Mitcham Girls has taught us to be strong and independent young women who fight for what they believe in. It has shown us how a single voice is a powerful tool and has encouraged us to push ourselves beyond our limits. We thank Mitcham Girls for the challenges it has presented us with, giving us the utensils to be successful in life. We are grateful for the opportunity to celebrate this at our final Assembly, even though the event did not go as originally planned thanks to our friend Covid, and to wish the best of luck to future Year 12 students of Mitcham Girls High School.

Year 12 Graduation

For many of us, Graduation was an event we had looked forward to in our high school departure for many years. We envisioned walking across the stage, receiving our certificates of Graduation in front of our families, teachers and peers who had supported us throughout our journeys.

For the Class of 2020, our Graduation didn't follow tradition, as COVID-19 unexpectedly disrupted our previously envisioned ceremony.

The school gym was transformed overnight into an elegant graduation hall, making us feel a great amount of appreciation for all of those involved in creating such a special environment for us to end our time at Mitcham. This appreciation grew as our families were able to watch this important event via livestream, alongside a few of our teachers who spent their free supporting us all.

Chelsea Steer
Year 12 Studnet



Senior School

Formal

The 2nd of December, one day after the ease of restrictions, allowed us a truly magical time.

Each of us began our day with excitement as we finally attended the third re-booked appointments for hair and makeup, taking several hours to get ready. As the day progressed, we became more exhilarated for the night to be and felt spectacular as we dressed in our dazzling attire. Each of us made a unique way to the Hilton, the venue of our beloved formal, with some hiring special chauffeur cars and others in a party bus. As we arrived, we were greeted by Ms Arnold who captured a photo of us in our beautiful garments. The venue was wonderful too, with decorated tables, blue-washed lighting and a dance floor which we were particularly attached to for the night. We cannot forget the three-course dinner either, which was certainly a crowd favourite.

Of course, formal wouldn't have been formal without taking a thousand photos, which many of us saw on social media the next day, including a photo booth and professional photography. But it was the wonderful connection with teachers and friends at Mitcham Girls that made this night extra special. And it was particularly fitting that we, the Class of 2020, **were the first-ever graduates of Mitcham Girls High School to attend formal together**, providing a perfect opportunity to remember the whirlwind of this year and the lovely memories we share.

Collectively, we presented some amusing awards to help reflect us as a cohort, the winners including:

- **Most likely to be Prime Minister:** Zuha Faisal
- **Class clown:** Isabella Moore
- **A+ for being late:** Kayla Nelson
- **Most likely to be famous:** Alana Tilley
- **Best friends forever:** Isi Sweeney and Bella Kobayashi

And the award presented by the teachers:

- **Attire of the night:** Hasini Kapuwelle

On behalf of the Year 12 cohort, we would like to give a HUMONGOUS thank you to all of those involved in planning this incredible night. We recognise that this year has been especially challenging and we appreciate all the effort you have gone to for the formal to have been possible. To Ms Tomlian and Ms Chambers, we give you an extra big thank you for your persistence and determination to make this night special. You are two wonderful ladies and have been our heroes in shining armour. We would also like to give a big thank you to the formal committee who helped to plan this event also. These members include; Rosanna Barani, Alana Tilley, Maryam Mushtaque, Deeti Arora, Eloise Parker, Isabella Moore, Maddison Royals, Celine Talbot, Tori Hughes and Mhirron Summersett.

Rosanna Barani
Year 12 Student



Whole School

White Ribbon Day

On 24 November 2020, Mitcham Girls High School celebrated White Ribbon Day with stalls of baked goods, white ribbons and Instagram photos saying “No to violence against women”, as well as promoting and raising awareness for White Ribbon Day with posters, brochures, infographics and bunting around the school.

White Ribbon Day is about taking a stand against domestic violence towards women.

This day was a big success raising, more awareness and taking a stand for White Ribbon Day. This was all thanks to Ms Olifent's Year 9 Personal Development class and Ms Bowles' Year 9 Food and Textiles class who chose to spread awareness about this ongoing issue in our society.

Amy Trezona, Rebecca Trezona, Bonnie Knox, Carla Strever and Nicola Strever
Year 9 Students

