31 January 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to Year 8 2020

I hope that you have all been able to have a break and enjoy time with family and friends during the summer. As we commence the 2020 school year, the fire events that have had such a widespread impact are still at the forefront of our minds. I hope that as a year group, our Year 8 students are able to work together to develop some strategies to help those in need.

Organisation

The commencement of the school year is the perfect time to review and update the study space at home. Please assist your child to continue to improve their study habits and routines. A quiet place to complete homework, in conjunction with a homework schedule and routine are essentials that will benefit your child. IGS students frequently need their laptop for homework tasks, but you can assist them to reduce distractions by having them turn off messaging apps while they are working, removing the phone during homework time etc. We all struggle with the demands of constant connectedness, so any structure and assistance we can provide for our children will help them to achieve their goals. As they mature, they will become ever more capable of self-managing this challenge.

Mobile Phones

As per last year, student phones are to remain in lockers for the entire school day. Mobile phones used inappropriately will be removed and sent to Student Reception for the remainder of the day. In the case where a student’s phone has been removed several times, the phone will be held by the Deputy Head of High School and the student’s parents will be required to collect it from school.

Uniform

A reminder that information with regard to the school uniform shop can be found through the IGS Parent Lounge/Menu/Amenities/Uniforms. Students are required to wear only IGS uniform items, even when travelling to and from school. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

Dates for Term 1, 2020

* 18 February: High School Swimming Carnival
* 5 February: Elevate Study Skills
* 1-3 April: Year 8 Camp
* 7 April: High School Athletics Carnival
* 9 April: Arts Fest and Last Day of Term 1

Please do not hesitate to contact me with regard to any queries you may have. My phone number is 9219 6700. Alternatively, you can use Engage through the Parent Lounge, or email susieb@igssyd.nsw.edu.au

Yours sincerely



Susie Bolt

**Head of Year 8**

**English Teacher**