# MARSDEN MAIL

## SPECIAL EXTENDED EDITION

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR MARSDEN HIGH SCHOOL



# INTRODUCING THE 2019 PREFECT LEADERSHIP TEAM:

SCHOOL CAPTAIN: HANNAH LOWE



During my primary school years, I lived in both Victoria and Queensland and attended a number of different schools. One of the positive primary school experiences that I remember was making new friends; I would move around a lot but this allowed me to make many new friends and gain wonderful memories.

The subjects I am currently studying for my HSC are Mathematics Standard, English Standard, Dance, Community and Family Studies, Sports Lifestyle and Recreation, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) and Health Services Assistance at TAFE.

Completing the HSC is very important to me as my family never completed school and I will be the first to finish Year 12. These subjects will help me reach my future goals when I leave school. After Year 12 I plan to go to university and complete my qualification to become a Registered Nurse. Then I will enlist in the Australian Defence Force. From there I hope to become a Nursing Officer in the Navy and do amazing things in the defence force, like travel the world, look after people, work on a Navy vessel and so much more.

Outside of school, I love sports such as dance, football and cricket. I also love listening to all genres of music and going to live music shows. I am passionate about makeup and spend every spare dollar I have buying makeup, and I enjoy doing my and others makeup.

I have enjoyed so many things at Marsden High School such as sports carnivals, fundraisers, sport, my teachers and peers, and especially Marsfest. The thing that I have enjoyed the most at Marsden has been the wonderful dance program we have.

During my time at Marsden I have been a part of the Talented Sports Program, playing soccer, touch football and beach touch football. Also, for sport, I've been to regionals for swimming, cross county and athletics. In Year 10 I was a peer support leader for the new year 7 group starting at Marsden. I am part of the senior dance ensemble and now part of the Prefect Leadership Team.

Being school captain means that I can be a role model and the voice for students within the Marsden community. My goal as Marsden school captain is to offer more support for students who have learning disabilities and are finding school hard. I would love to bring more support to the dance program, as myself and four other girls in the Prefect Leadership Team are the first dance group at Marsden. We would love to leave our mark on the dance program for the future dancers of Marsden High School.

### SCHOOL CAPTAIN: GUSTAVO TOLEDO



My primary education was in Brazil, where I enjoyed being exposed to different languages such as English and Spanish as well as studying different cultures. It certainly contributed to the person I am today.

For my HSC I am studying Music, Chemistry, Japanese Beginners, English EAL/D and Mathematics General. Language and music are two passions of mine and those subjects help me to go even deeper with my passions and other interests of mine such as Chemistry and Mathematics.

My hobbies include anything related to music, from listening and playing to composing, as well as skateboarding and sleeping when I have a free time.

Whilst I haven't been at Marsden for a long time - I started here in Year 10 as an international student - my time here has given me amazing opportunities with programs such as the Peer Support program and Australia Business Week (CEO), as well as being constantly involved with musical activities, such as performances.

Marsden has given me numerous opportunities as well as amazing friends that have helped me with the difficulties of adapting to a completely different place. I have met people who I will very likely keep as friends for the rest of my life as well as experiences that have made me who I am today. I believe Marsden High School has had a positive and longlasting impact on my life.

Doing the HSC at Marsden means that I will be able to perform to the best of my abilities, supported by my friends and some of the best teachers I have had the pleasure of meeting, here at Marsden.

It is an honour to be the captain of our school as well as a great responsibility that I am looking forward to experiencing. The students are the main population of a school, thus my main goal is to listen closely to what they say and want, as well as unite the many different cultures we have at this school.

As a captain, I want to make sure we all have the best high school experience possible.

### **VICE CAPTAIN: REBECCA BROWNLEE**



In my early years I attended Melrose Park Public School where I gained valuable experience in being a school leader -

as a member of the SRC and the debating team, and culminating in a Rotary Leadership award in Year 6.

My subjects for the HSC are Drama, Dance, Biology, English Standard, Certificate 3 in Retail Services and Certificate 3 in Human Services. When I leave school I plan to go to university and continue my nursing course and become a part of the flying doctor services. I would love to to travel whilst helping the community. Biology and both the certificates that I am doing will help achieve this goal.

My personal hobbies include music, playing piano, netball, NRL, touch football, oztag, makeup and food.

The things I have enjoyed most about Marsden High School are always being a part of extracurricular activities, representing Marsden at dance competitions and building relationships with teachers and students. I've been involved in many different programs including the touch football team, netball team, SRC in year 7, the dance program, junior performing arts nights and school plays and musicals.

Being a student at Marsden High School has been wonderful - to be part of a great school with great teachers who have taught me all that I know, as well as spending quality time learning and having fun with my friends has been inspiring. I'm proud to say that I will be graduating from Marsden next year.

As such, it is an honour to be the Vice Captain of Marsden High School and also an honour to work with such a wonderful Prefect Leadership Team. My goals are to allow every student to feel comfortable in the school environment and to think about ideas for the new school in 2022 to allow our school to continuously grow. I want to leave a legacy at Marsden and make sure that everyone remembers the 2019 Prefect Leadership Team.

### **VICE CAPTAIN: ANDY CHEN**



I attended Berala Public School and my favourite primary school experience was when we went to the Sydney Opera House each year to perform in the Festival of Instrumental Music. It was really spectacular and made you feel like you were a part of something amazing.

For the HSC I am studying Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Modern History, English Advanced and Mathematics Extension 1. I chose these subjects because I would like to do some variation of Engineering at university. All of these subjects are analytical, involve writing reports and many involve designing various creations and expressing them in a report, which will help me with my future studies.

When I'm not at school my hobbies include tennis, swimming, computers and electronics.

At Marsden, I've enjoyed the multiculturalism that we have, seeing the many different cultures interact with one another. I've also enjoyed the many activities that the school offers from the Great Aussie Bush Camp in Year 7 to the Crossroads camp in Year 11. During Year

10, I was involved in Mock Trial, which I really enjoyed, role playing big shot solicitors and such; along with the Australian Business Week - a great program where we ran our own mock business, managing everything from finance to logistics.

I can see that the HSC is going to be a challenge especially with the increased responsibility that comes with being on the Prefect Leadership Team. I'm looking forward to working with the many great staff that will assist me and many others in this endeayour.

To me being a Vice-Captain means supporting the School Captains in everything they do, to the best of my abilities, as well as stepping up when they may be unavailable. I would hope that our Prefect Leadership Team will be able to improve the school further and be remembered as the one which ran lots of activities that got students involved.

I hope to leave a legacy that we all will be proud of, ensuring that students and parents are proud of Marsden.

### SPORTS PREFECT: JESSICA GODDEN



For primary school, I attended Ermington Public School. My favourite memories

were presenting the assemblies as a prefect and performing the class items. I also enjoyed playing PSSA sport and representing the school at sports carnivals. The primary school dance group was my favourite extracurricular activity.

I am currently studying English, Dance, PDHPE, Community and Family Studies and Nursing at TAFE for my HSC. When I leave school, I would like to become a nurse. These subjects are all human body related and provide a good foundation for a nursing career, by exploring human anatomy, first aid and body mechanics, along with providing a knowledge of wellbeing, communities, resources and social structures. After the HSC, my TAFE course allows me to work in a hospital as an Assistant in Nursing or proceed to university to become a Registered Nurse.

My hobbies include dance, sport and makeup. Dancing is my passion and I love being on stage and performing with my group. I enjoy all sport activities in school and out - at the school carnivals it is my mission to get to zone or further. My passion is also makeup and I love exploring all the different things I can create with it. The use of makeup brings me confidence and a smile, as I love the art.

The thing I enjoy most about Marsden is the students and teachers. I love the mixture of year groups and friend groups at recess and lunch. I enjoy the many events, such as Marsfest, which allow students to display their creative/performing arts abilities and highlight the school spirit those events bring.

Being a student at Marsden High School and completing my HSC here makes me very proud. I believe the wide range of classes on offer allow me to perform to my best ability as I have been able to choose subjects that are of interest to me.

Cearning for Life!

I have also been involved in many of Marsden's programs such as dance group, TSP netball, beach touch, peer support, BBQ crew, cross-country, athletics and helping at primary school gala days.

I am very proud to be the Sports Captain in 2019 and represent the school. I want to encourage more students to participate in sports and the extracurricular sporting activities Marsden offers. I would like my legacy to be a higher participation in sport from all year groups in the carnivals and increase the school spirit and passion for student sporting houses by creating more opportunities to spend time with the people in the same house group.

### SPORTS PREFECT: DUNCAN IRVING



I went to West Ryde Public School and I really enjoyed my time there, particularly being a house sport captain in both Year 5 and Year 6 and being part of the SRC for many years. I was on the school soccer team, which was one of the places where I learnt about working in a team environment. I feel that these experiences have given me a wide variety of skills that will be extremely useful in my role as Sport Prefect for 2019.

For the HSC I am studying English

Advanced, Music, Chinese Continuers, Korean Beginners, Modern History and Ancient History. Learning Chinese and Korean will give me opportunities for studying overseas when I leave school, as well as helping me to communicate with and understand members of the community here in Australia. Modern and Ancient History will provide me with an excellent skills foundation for university. Music will provide me with a creative outlet for when I leave school to continue playing with my band.

I love playing the drums with my band, listening to music (especially rock and jazz), playing a wide variety of sports such as table tennis, soccer, cricket and basketball, travelling to new and exotic places, bushwalking, going to the beach in summer and learning new languages.

At Marsden, I have really enjoyed great mates and teachers who are very passionate about the subjects that they teach. I have enjoyed being a student at such a culturally diverse school because it has given me an opportunity to make friends with people from all over the world and learn about different countries' customs and traditions. I have especially enjoyed Marsfest week throughout my time at Marsden because it is a celebration of all the wonderful and unique cultures at this school.

There are so many opportunities accessible to students at Marsden. People just have to put their hands up and have a go. Since Year 7, I have enjoyed being involved in a variety of activities. This includes the Christian lunchtime group, being a peer support leader, performing with my band at performance nights, being the CEO of my group in Business Week, doing work experience at Anglicare, being part of the Mock Trial team, performing at the Chinese spectacular, doing the Duke of Edinburgh hike camp and being the drummer in the concert band. I have also been able to represent Marsden in various sporting

events such as competing at zone and regional levels for swimming, cross country and athletics.

Completing my HSC at Marsden means that I feel supported by my friends and teachers. Marsden High School is an environment where I feel I can do my best. I know that 2018 and 2019 are going to be full of great opportunities, and I will give the HSC my best shot. Doing the HSC at Marsden will help me with preparation for university or employment.

In my role as Sports Prefect, I am looking forward to working with my fellow leadership team and helping organise fundraising events with them. I will advocate for greater involvement in sport for students with all levels of fitness and interests, as it is important for everyone to have the opportunity to participate in sports at whatever level they can. I hope to represent the school in a positive way and I will try to work with the PDHPE department to promote healthy lifestyles. I would like to organise lunchtime sporting events that interest a wide variety of students of all abilities.

### PREFECT: HOMA BABAYI



Before coming to Australia, I attended Al-Mustafa Public School in Pakistan, which taught me many things, including speaking English. It helped me develop communication skills and make memories with my friends, which I forever cherish.

For the HSC I am currently studying English EAL/D, Legal Studies, Mathematics General, Society and Culture, Community and Family Studies and Ancient History. I am yet to decide which career path I will be pursuing in the future but I have a great interest in social sciences and psychology. I am grateful for the opportunities and support Marsden has provided me with and look forward to completing my HSC.

My personal hobbies include cooking, trying different food, music, travelling, and volunteering with the council and at different events which allows me to work with different people and increase my communication and leadership skills.

I started at Marsden High School in May 2018 and since that day it has provided me with a supportive and hardworking environment. Marsden High provides every student with great resources such as the homework club, counsellors, tutors and hardworking teachers. The best thing about Marsden is that everyone encourages each other to do their best and that motivates me to give my best in everything I do.

I feel privileged and honored to be chosen as a student leader of Marsden High School after such a short period. Marsden, and Australia in general, has provided me with great resources and opportunities that I am forever grateful for. Being a prefect allows me to give back to the Marsden community that has supported me since day one. My main goal as a prefect is to be the voice to all student ideas and make Marsden a place of growth, both socially and academically.

### PREFECT: SEBASTIAN BARTON



During my primary school years I went to Rydalmere East Public School and, while it was a very small primary school, I have many fond memories. In primary school I formed long lasting friendships that continued though to high school. I also took up my first leadership role as a leader of my sport house, where I was very proud to represent and guide my fellow students.

I am studying Biology, Chemistry,
Physics, Modern History, Mathematics
Extension 1 and English Advanced for my
HSC. I have always had a great interest in
both science and history, and while I do
not know exactly what I would like to do,
I am looking at science related future
employment.

The three sciences I have chosen will be helpful for my employment prospects, and I also believe it is very important for many endeavours to have done at least one HSIE subject, as it makes a significant contribution to improving formal essay writing. I am very interested in science and history, because they help in our understanding of the world and human society. I have tried to be involved in as many science and mathematics competitions as I can. The longer I have

studied Biology, Chemistry and Physics, the more I find that Biology is explained by Chemistry, which itself is explained by Physics, whilst Physics can only be understood with competent understanding of Mathematics.

I think that Marsden High School has some very good teachers who really want their students succeed and I have enjoyed their new approaches to learning. I believe education is the most important aspect for a well-functioning society and it is an eternal struggle to find the most efficient and effective teaching and learning methods. The resources Marsden provides to senior students, like the senior study area, are very valuable.

I am looking forward to the new experience of being a prefect and hope I can enjoy my time in the Prefect Leadership Team. Being a prefect means being a role model and representative for the entire school. As a prefect, I would aim to influence PLT decisions in a responsible manner that represents the needs and wants of the student body. I would certainly like to achieve some changes in the school to make the student experience better, which of course aids in student learning and overall schooling experience. I look forward to getting involved in the activities and events run by the PLT and working collaboratively with other PLT members to assist in supporting and changing the school.

# COOPERATE ACHIEVE RESPECT EVERYDAY

### PREFECT: LAYLA TWEED



I attended a number of schools in regional NSW before coming to Marsden High School. Some of my primary school memories include performing in the school choir and public speaking. These taught me how not to be afraid in front of large groups of people.

My subjects for the HSC are Legal Studies, Modern History, English, Mathematics Standard, Investigating Science and Music. I am determined to do the best job I can and put all my effort into the HSC, but without putting excessive pressure on myself.

When I finish school, I am interested in going into the RAAF and being a pilot. The subjects I have chosen allow me to go to the Australian Defence Force Academy where I hope to study a Bachelor of Business.

Outside of school, my hobbies include music, song writing and ice-skating.

In my younger years, I moved schools a lot due to my parents' work but coming to Marsden has been one of my favourite moves. I have loved making new friends and the variety of different cultures here. One of my favourite programs at

Marsden has been Mock Trial where I enjoyed meeting students from other schools as well as challenging myself.

My goal, as being part of the Prefect Leadership Team, is to raise awareness of things many people don't know a lot about, such as bullying, cancer and less fortunate countries. I am passionate about third world countries because my parents are missionaries and, growing up, I had the opportunity to travel to Nepal many times. I feel we can use the large spread of multiculturalism in this school as an advantage to raise funds and awareness for the less fortunate.

### PREFECT: DRAGANA MARINKOVIC



I will always be fond of my primary school, West Ryde Public School, as it is where I first learnt English and developed a passion for learning. I made many new friends, most of whom I'm still friends with today. My confidence grew and I was lucky enough to represent my school in the PSSA Netball team as the captain, the Debating team, the Student Representative Council (SRC) and as a Sports House Captain.

The subjects I'm studying for the HSC are Mathematics Standard, English Advanced, Legal Studies, Business Studies, PDHPE and Modern History. I am currently unsure of exactly what I'd like to study at university, but I'm hoping that the extensive range of my subjects will help me to decide next year. In my spare time, I like listening to music, writing, going out with friends and, most importantly, watching Netflix.

During my time at Marsden, I have admired the accepting nature of the staff and students. Living in such a multicultural society, this trait is of highest importance within any community. At Marsden, everyone feels supported due to the positive environment that everyone has worked as a collective to make. I always enjoy our annual Marsfest, the celebration and recognition of the various cultures we have within our school.

I have been involved in helping students transition from the Intensive English Centre (IEC) multiple times, a program that I highly respect and am proud of Marsden for having, being an immigrant myself and having faced the same challenges as those students. I have represented Marsden in various sporting events such as netball, touch football, soccer and cross-country. Participating in these made my junior years much more enjoyable and I highly recommend it to all junior students! I have also experienced leadership opportunities such as becoming CEO during Australian Business Week and peer support leader. I vowed to continue to take these opportunities to help myself grow and develop as a future leader, which led to the decision to apply for the role of prefect for 2019.

Being a prefect at Marsden High is the most recent and most honourable opportunity I have been provided with. I plan to represent the student body and to make sure that their opinions, concerns and feedback are noticed. As one of twelve leaders on the Prefect Leadership Team, I'd like to be remembered as one

that made a difference worth commending, and to be someone that younger students and future prefects can look up to.

### PREFECT: ISLAM ALKHALAEILEH



My primary school years were spent in Jordan, where I attended Thou Al Noraeen Public School. One of my favourite experiences was being the leader of the canteen when I was 11. It taught me a lot about leadership and helped make the person I am today.

I am currently studying Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Investigating Science, Arabic, Multimedia, English ESL, Science Extension and Arabic Extension. I would like to do something related to science when I leave school, possibly chemical engineering or nuclear medicine.

Marsden High School is the first school I have attended in Australia and it has been a unique experience. It is very large, with more than one block and a canteen, quite different from what I've had in the past. I love that it offers equal opportunities to all students. Doing the HSC at Marsden means a great deal to me, as this school has been my only Australian school and I want to achieve the best results to reflect what the school

has done for me as a student.

My hobbies include working out, studying and training. At Marsden I have participated in all cross country carnivals and I've really loved every bit of it. I enjoy the idea of racing other students to the finishing line while challenging myself.

Being a prefect means a lot to me. I want to change the school to suits the students' needs and wants. I believe that we could improve a few things in the school to make it more comfortable for students. Examples could be expanding the bus system, fixing the toilets and opening the gym at lunch times. We also want to engage the younger students in more activities to make them feel welcomed and comfortable here in Marsden.

### PREFECT: REBECCA COLE



I attended Rydalmere Public School before coming to Marsden High school and I have many fond memories of my experience there.

my experience there. For my HSC I am studying English Advanced, Drama, Dance, Visual Arts, PDHPE and Ancient History. I enjoy Dance and Drama because they build my confidence to stand in .

front of crowds, and allow me to understand the world of performance. I want to go into a creative career after school so these subjects will help develop my skills and understanding of that industry.

In my spare time, I enjoy more dance and drama, along with reading, creative writing, and learning about our world and its history.

Getting involved with the creative part of the school has shown me a new side to life that I didn't know I loved until coming to Marsden. Dance group has allowed me to get to know girls who share my interests as well as giving me a way to exercise and express my creativity. School productions have grown my love for acting and given me a solid direction for what I want to do after school. Band taught me a new skill and allowed me to meet people from all years.

At Marsden High School I have enjoyed meeting and getting to know my classmates and friends, learning who they are and where they've come from. Everyone around me is rich and complex in personality and background, and it has been a joy to get to know them. Doing the HSC means the end of my schooling but also the beginning of a new chapter in my life. Doing the HSC at Marsden means that I will be surrounded by friends and supportive teachers, who will help me through the final stage of school.

I am proud to be a prefect, working with the Prefect Leadership Team. To me, being a prefect is about inducting change and representing the school and students. My goals are the same as my team, to make change, leave our mark and represent the school well. I want my legacy to be a change in school spirit so that students can show their pride in this school.

