On Tuesday 20th August, year 10 attended a safe driving conference called ‘Bstreetsmart’ along with many other year 10 students from schools all around Sydney. An emergency doctor from Westmead Hospital led us through the whole event and highlighted the importance of road safety through dioramas and speakers and their heartfelt stories. A car crash diorama showing the whole process from the crash to the consequences and even to the emergency, fire and police services that do their job throughout the entire crash was shown and really opened many students’ eyes. The actors did their job really well and illustrated the tragic car crash so intensely, but so realistically. When the speakers, all immensely affected by car crashes, shared their crash stories, the true reality of dangerous, distracted and reckless driving and its consequences to those directly and indirectly involved hit all of those listening. Important issues other than road safety were discussed as well, including brain injury, alcohol and drugs and organ donation. How easy it is to be distracted, to be pressured, to be involved in a car crash was such a harsh reality all of the students – soon to have their licences, if not already, had to face. As impactful and serious the Bstreetsmart event was, all involved had a lot of fun, with activities and interactive displays ranging from talking to speakers to playing wheelchair basketball. All in all, it was a fantastic day and most, if not all of the students walked out of the arena with a much more conscious mindset to road safety.

By Krisha Umali (Year 10)