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### HEADLINES

#### **US MARKETS**

The S&P 500 topped the 3,300 mark for the first time, spurred on by strong earnings and retail data. The S&P 500 rose 0.84% to 3,316.81, the Dow gained 0.92% to 29,297.64, and the Nasdaq jumped 1.06% to 9,357.13. In corporate news, Morgan Stanley soared 6.6% after revenue numbers from its key investment, wealth, and trading businesses exceeded estimates. Bank of New York Mellon Corp shares slumped nearly 8% after the custodian bank missed profit estimates. The S&P tech



index and the Nasdaq received support from Microsoft (+1.4%) and several chipmakers after top contract chip manufacturer Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co projected quarterly revenue that topped analysts' estimates. Meanwhile, Google-parent Alphabet's market capitalisation rose past US\$1 trillion for the first time after its shares rose 0.9%. Retail data published by the Commerce Department showed that sales rose for the third straight month in December, up 0.3%, as households cut back on vehicle purchases but bought a range of other goods. Other data published on Thursday showed that initial unemployment claims fell to 204,000 (*forecast: 220,000*) in the past week.

#### **EUROPEAN MARKETS**

European shares rose modestly as investors reacted to the signing of the US-China trade deal. The STOXX 600 rose 0.22% to 420.54 with utility stocks leading the advance, up 0.9%, while auto stocks lagged by just as much. In the region, Germany' DAX edged 0.02% lower to 13,429.43, while London's FTSE 100 fell 0.43% to 7,609.81. Looking at individual stocks, German power generator RWE rose 2.1% amid reports that the country's government was planning to compensate the



company with around 2.6 billion euros (\$4.2 billion) for costs relating to the country's planned coal exit. Staying in Germany, meal-kit delivery company HelloFresh jumped 11% after revealing it expects to beat its sales and profit guidance for 2019. FTSE-listed oilfield services provider John Wood climbed 7.6% after announcing it expects higher core earnings for 2019 following a strong performance in its engineering services unit which offset slowing onshore drilling demand in the US. Education company Pearson lost nearly 9% after revealing that sharp declines in sales at its US higher education business will see its operating profit come in at the lower end of its guidance.

#### **AUSTRALIAN MARKET**

Australian shares surged past the 7,000 mark for the first time following the signing of Phase One of the US-China trade deal. The benchmark S&P/ASX 200 rose 47 points or 0.67% to 7,041.80. IT and financial stocks were among the best perfroming sectors, each adding more than 1%. CBA led the gains among the Big Four banks which finished between 0.7–1% higher, while Macquarie rose 1.4%. In the tech space, all five stocks that make up the so-called WAAAX group traded



higher between 1.3–4.3%, led by Altium. Among the energy stocks, Oil Search and Santos fell 0.9% and 1.2% respectively, while Woodside bucked the trend to finish 0.6% higher following the release of its fourth quarter production update; the company's production rose 3% quarter on quarter to 25.7 million barrels, delivering a sales revenue of US\$1.3 billion (\$1.9 billion), up 12% from the previous quarter. Elsewhere, CSL closed above \$300/share for the first time, up 1.1%, after Credit Suisse raised its price target on the biotech company by 4.9% to \$320/share.

# **TOP MOVERS (PREVIOUS SESSION)**



## **MARKET DATA**

INDICES	CLOSE	CHANGE	FX	CLOSE	CHANGE	COMMODITIES	PRICE (US\$)	CHANGE	BONDS	RATES
ASX 200	7042	0.67%	AUD/USD	0.6898	-0.09%	GOLD (OZ)	\$1,553.04	-0.23%	AU 2 YEAR	0.79
ASX FUTURES	7020	0.44%	AUD/NZD	1.0394	-0.35%	SILVER (OZ)	\$17.94	-0.48%	AU 5 YEAR	0.83
DOW JONES	29298	0.92%	AUD/EUR	0.6192	0.03%	PLATINUM (OZ)	\$1,006.40	-1.35%	AU 10 YEAR	1.19
S&P 500	3317	0.84%	AUD/GBP	0.5274	-0.32%	BRENT CRUDE (BBL)	\$64.54	0.78%	AU 15 YEAR	1.40
FTSE 100	7610	-0.43%	AUD/JPY	75.9910	0.15%	WTI CRUDE (BBL)	\$58.59	1.35%	US 2 YEAR	1.57
NIKKEI 225	23933	0.07%	EUR/USD	1.1136	-0.13%	NATURAL GAS (MMBtu)	\$2.04	<b>-2.56%</b>	US 5 YEAR	1.62
HANG SENG	28883	0.38%	GBP/USD	1.3076	20.77%	COPPER (LB)	\$2.86	-0.12%	US 10 YEAR	1.81
VIX	12	-1.77%	USD/JPY	110.1560	0.25%	IRON ORE (MT)	\$94.55	-0.04%	US 15 YEAR	2.26

# WEEKLY ECONOMIC CALENDAR



# **TODAY'S CORPORATE ACTIONS**

SECURITY	ACTIONS
AIQ	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
AYUHB	CHANGE OF IR: [AYUHB] AUS UNITY SFYM3WU 3.655% NEW: 3.69%
AYUHC	CHANGE OF IR: [AYUHC] AUS UNITY SFYM3WU 2.8478% NEW: 2.89%
AYUHD	CHANGE OF IR: [AYUHD] AUS UNITY SFYM3WU 2.9978% NEW: 3.04%

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