

# SWANSEA HIGH SCHOOL

## Sea Horse News

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Issue 4 Term 2 2017

# DREAMNIGHT FALLOUT



Term 2 has certainly ended with a bang, with the fallout from yet another amazing Dreamnight still settling around the school. Hosts, Year 11 Drama were proud to present a showcase of the school's finest dancers, musicians, actors and artists. All brought together through the host's narrative of a megalomaniacal Principal with a Twitter fixation and desperate loathing of the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA). In the end, the Year 11 class overwhelmed the devious Principal's plot and won the affection of the audience. It was a humbling experience to look out and see close to 500 faces glued to the action unfolding on the stage. If the fallout from this year's Dreamnight is anything to go by, the Creative and Performing Arts have a bright future ahead at Swansea High School.



## Big Air Time at Sport

A group of boys have been participating in mountain biking with Mr Ewer as part of Year 9 and 10 sport. These boys have shown a high degree of skill (as can be seen in the photo), but have also been respectful and responsible each time we have gone into the bush.

## From the Principal

**Robyn Leggatt**

What a way to finish the term – if you didn't get to our Dream Night Performance last night you missed a fabulous evening of entertainment.

I was so proud of our students and was blown away by the talent on the stage. There were students who strengthened their performances from previous years as they have grown and matured and then there were new and amazing talents that seem to have come from nowhere even though I am sure in their alternate lives they probably have been performing for years.

CAPA is certainly alive and well at Swansea High! A big congratulation to all of the performers and crew. A big thankyou and congratulations also to John Darnbrough and Rod Carter who supported the students, organised the logistics and managed such a huge event. Additional thanks to the English Department and Nicole Thompson for their support in ensuring the evening was a success. A great team effort by all involved.

## Important Dates

### July

**17th - Staff return**

**18th - All students return**

**19th - NAIDOC Assembly**

**19th - Yr 6 Enrichment Test**

**20th - HSC Engineering Ass Task**

**28th - HSC Industrial Tech Folio Task 2**

**31st to 4th Aug - Y11 Retail Work Placement**

### August

**7th to 18th - Yr 12 Trial Exams**

**7th to 9th - Yr 11 Snow Trip**

**10th - Yr 11 Early Childhood Ass Task**

**11th - Yr 11 Sport Lifestyle & Rec Ass Task**

**11th - Yr 11 PDHPE Ass Task**

**15th - Yr 11 Ext English Ass Task**

**15th - Yr 11 English Studies Ass Task**

## Cross Country

We had a bus load of students head down to Lake Munmorah for the Eastlakes Zone Cross Country carnival and after what could only be described as successful, a number of Swansea High athletes qualified for the Hunter Region Cross Country held at Cessnock Race Track.

Our athletes once again acquitted themselves exceptionally well and a number have qualified for State Cross Country to be held at Eastern Creek in the beginning of Term 3.

We wish all the best to Amanda Young, Emma Huggins, Kaylee Dowsett, Chelsea Robertson, Hayley Walmsley, Tom March, Alyssa Ingram, Stanley Smith and Zali Burge. Thanks must also go to Miss Goodwin and Miss Bruton for looking after our students so well at the Zone Carnival.

## Aust. Maths Competition

The AMC is one of the world's largest school-based mathematics competitions with over 14 million entries since 1978.

The AMC is for students of all standards. Students solve 30 problems in 75 minutes (Years 7–12). The problems test mathematical thinking rather than focus on calculations themselves, thus such questions are designed so that they can be answered just as quickly without a calculator as with one.

The problems get more difficult through the competition, so that at the end they are challenging to the most gifted students. Students of all standards will make progress through the problems, and be challenged along the way.

Swansea High actively encourages student participation!

For further information please contact Ms Evans, Mathematics Faculty.



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# Wise Words from Science

The HSC courses are now deep into their final core topic. In the coming weeks, classes will need to choose which elective they will study. This is a decision that should not be taken lightly. It is usually done with a mixture of student interest and teacher expertise. In previous years, I have had some students upset that they didn't get to study the elective they really wanted. Unfortunately, we can only study one elective per class, so when the time comes, have a few options ready.

That said, they recent half yearly examinations have given cause for some students to feel very proud about their accomplishments so far and other students may need to develop a regular study routine to go over course concepts. If something seems difficult, now is the time to see your teachers and ask for help in understanding course concepts. There is only 1 and a half terms left in your school life. Time is short. Use it.

Preliminary courses are near the halfway point. Midway examinations begin soon for courses that have them. Remember, although the results of Preliminary courses don't have an impact on the HSC, your final Preliminary results are printed on your Record of Achievement, so it is wise to do your best at all times, not just save it for the HSC year (although, you should do your best in all your endeavours at all times, not just school).

Junior years have been on the new Australian Curriculum for 2 years now and next year we will usher in new syllabuses for stage 6, beginning with preliminary courses in 2018 and following through to the HSC courses in 2019. The Science faculty at Swansea high School have reviewed the new courses and we are optimistic the challenges the new courses present will be met vigorously. The main changes are the end of the Senior Science course, replaced with Investigating Science and the addition of "depth studies" in each course, which will see students complete intensive practical work over 4 weeks in each year. Also, the "option" unit in the HSC will no longer be there.

Junior classes are bubbling away nicely.

## Gym Sessions in Class

Year 11 PDHPE classes attended Caves Beach Gym for 3 weeks as part of their 'Fitness Choices' Unit. Students completed a variety of group fitness activities under the guidance of professional instructors. These sessions formed the basis of their assessment task for the unit which required students to reflect of the gym visits and analyse their own fitness needs. When the students weren't complaining about how sore they were or how much certain body parts hurt, they seemed to have a good time.



## Spelling Bee Champions

Congratulations to all of our heat winners from each of our Year 9 English classes. In the finals, students were put through a number of rounds towards achieving the top spot.

A special congratulations to our winner Brayden Macfarlane - Walker, second place Bridie Emanuel and third Oscar Baird.

A special thanks to Swansea Coles for generously donating gift vouchers to the top three places.

# Starstruck Students Shine!

Students of Swansea High School recently had the opportunity to shine on the big stage of Star Struck. Star Struck is a performing arts spectacular, featuring students from public schools across the Hunter and Central Coast region. This year, over 3600 students participated in the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary performance entitled "Star Struck- Shine On!"

This year proved to be a very successful year for our students in this annual spectacular. In addition to 32 students being selected to perform a dance item to the song "I Hope I Get It" for the musical film A Chorus Line, we also had three students selected to represent their school in a number of additional items.

Jack Crouch, Yr 9, was selected to become a member of the Star Struck Junior Rock Band as a Guitarist and took centre stage for his performance of "Unwritten" with his fellow peers.

Marnie Nebauer, Yr 9, was selected for inclusion in the Star Struck Tap Ensemble and dazzled us with her performance in "Another Op'nin, Another Show".

Brittany Morrison, Yr 11, was accepted into the Star Struck Student Direction team. She joined a team of 5 other students hand selected by the Star Struck production team to create, choreograph and direct a segment of show. Our dance team was selected to perform an item in this section and all of our girls enjoyed working with Brittany and the Student direction team in bringing this segment to life.

Thank you to all of our students who participated in Star Struck 2017- Shine On! We hope you all have a great time.



## Fun Athletics Carnival

CONGRATULATIONS! To all the athletes who competed at the School Athletics Carnival. The carnival was held on a soggy track but our students soldiered on.

All students should be proud of their efforts on the day and a big thanks to all the teachers who assisted on the day. Great job to Mrs Charlton who coordinated another great day.

	Girls	Boys		Girls	Boys
12Yrs	Amanda Young	Oliver Hatch	15Yrs	Lilly Coombs	Kadason Haynes
13Yrs	Tallara Newson	Ethan Coe	16Yrs	Cate Bolsover	Billy Jones
14Yrs	Ally Boertje	Tom March	17Yrs	Emma McLennan	Tyler Awty