

SWANSEA HIGH SCHOOL

Sea Horse News

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RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

READY TO LEARN

Issue 3 Term 2 2017

Yr7 Growth Mindsets

What's the difference between a FIXED and a GROWTH mindset? Which type of mindset is better? Why does it matter?

Year 7 students now know the answer to these questions! At the end of last term, all students from Year 7 participated in a workshop on Growth Mindsets. The workshop helped to give students an understanding of what it is to have a growth mindset. They participated in a day that included challenging and interesting activities, time for some fun and lolly rewards plus being introduced to Mindsets.

Students with a Fixed Mindset tend to fixate on their performance – how “good” or “bad” they are at something. They see their intelligence as innate and unchangeable, so they do what makes them feel comfortable. They are anxious about failure, which means they are unwilling to try anything new. Consequently, their learning stagnates and they fail to learn and grow as much as we would hope.

When it comes to nurturing Growth Mindsets, praising effort is important. When we praise students for their effort rather than their abilities, we help them understand that their intelligence is malleable. We help them realise that with the right actions and behaviours, they can master new skills.

With this introduction to Mindsets Year 7 students will be able effectively participate in further Mindsets skills training that will be delivered to all Swansea High students throughout the remainder of this year.



Like us on Facebook to keep up to date with what is happening at Swansea High School.

From the Principal

Robyn Leggatt

The last week has been a significant time for our Aboriginal community. It was the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Constitutional Referendum that gave Aboriginal people the right to be counted as part of Australia's population. It was also the 25th Anniversary of the Mabo Decision that removed Terra Nullius, meaning vacant land, from our constitution acknowledging the traditional owners of the land in Australia. Last Friday was not only the anniversary of Sorry Day acknowledging the Stolen Generation but also the culmination of the Uluru Convention that delivered a 'Statement from the Heart' from Aboriginal Australians outlining the way they would like to see Aboriginal partnerships move forward in Australia. This week is Reconciliation Week and I would like to acknowledge the work being undertaken by our Aboriginal students who along with the Aboriginal Workers Rachel, Trish and Penny. I am very proud of what they are doing to better understand their own culture and to extend that understanding to others.

Important Dates

June

2nd - Prelim Ext 1 Maths Half Yearly Exams
 2nd - HSC Legal Studies Ass Task 3
 5th - HSC English Studies Presentation Task
 7th - Eastlakes Athletics Carnival at Glendale
 8th - Year 11 Study Skills Day
 8th - HSC Ext Maths Ass Task 3
 9th - HSC Adv Maths Ass Task 3
 13th - Prelim Society & Culture Ass Task
 14th to 16th - Star Struck Tech & Show Day
 14th - Years 11 & 12 Vaccinations
 15th - Prelim Early Child Studies Ass Task
 15th - HSC Drama IP, GP Work in Progress Task
 16th - HSC English Ext 1 Task
 19th to 23rd - Prelim Hospitality Work Placement
 20th - Prelim English Advanced Task
 21st - Chemistry & Physics Experiment-Fest

Drama Superstardom Up for Grabs

Our Year 11 Drama class has again stolen the show, performing Australia's most successful playwright, David Williamson's, *Up For Grabs*. A satirical work exploring the widening socioeconomic gaps in our society and the power of wealth and greed to corrupt even the most noble of intentions. The class spent the entire Term 1 holidays rehearsing for the final performance that attracted an audience of family, friends and staff that numbered close to 100. Transforming our humble Drama room into an impressive and immersive theatrical space.

The entire class worked collaboratively across a range of portfolios (costuming, set, technical, directing and acting) to ensure that they retained Williamson's original vision for the piece whilst reimagining the text for a high school context.

Actors worked tirelessly rehearsing lines and became very familiar with the instruction, 'from the top!'

The evening performance was an enormous success that truly reflected the tireless dedication of and maturity of this talented group of students. Year 11 Drama will now turn their attention towards the development of this year's *Dreamnight* spectacular on Thursday 29/6 in Week 10. If their first class performance is anything to go by, Year 11 Drama is sure to put on the show of the year!



Crystal Cities Captures Crowd

On Wednesday 5th April students were entertained by a lunchtime rockband in the quad. Crystal Cities is a Sydney-based band who feature regularly on Triple J and have just released an EP album. The bands promotion company approached Swansea High in an effort to broaden their fan base and promote their music.

Students had the opportunity to listen to some fantastic music. Band members Geoff Rana, Jared King and Daniel Conte signed posters and posed for selfies with students after the performance. The concept was such a huge success that we are looking at having bands perform once a term in the quad for the school.



DIY Pillows

Year 7D&T3 worked hard on designing and making their own pillows. They have learnt how to sketch, measure, cut, pin and sew fabric. They have also learnt how to use fabric pencils and markers to draw their own designs that they have developed in class. Overall the class has done an outstanding job and these are just a few of the designs.



HSC MINIMUM STANDARD

ADVICE FOR 2017 YEAR 9 STUDENTS

March 2017

In 2020, you are required to achieve a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive your HSC.



PRACTICAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS



Achieving the standard shows you, your parents and any future education and training providers and employers that you can do things like:

- ✓ follow instructions in equipment manuals
- ✓ write a job application
- ✓ calculate the quantity of materials to build a fence and prepare an invoice.

MULTIPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET THE STANDARD

A pass mark in new online reading, writing and numeracy tests will prove you have achieved the standard.



The tests will take place at your school and you can take them up to twice a year in:

- ✓ Year 10
- ✓ Year 11
- ✓ Year 12
- ✓ If you need to, you can even take them for up to five years after you start your first HSC course.

The tests will be available from next year when you are in Year 10.

Visit the demonstration site to see sample test questions:
<https://hsc literacy numeracy.nesa.nsw.edu.au>

ANZACS Remembered



On ANZAC Day this year, Swansea High School was proudly represented at both the dawn and morning services. Many students turned out to be part of the march through the Main Street of Swansea to represent both their school, and for some, the servicemen and women in their families. It was a honour to have an opportunity to have our student leaders speak at both services and reflect on the sacrifices that have given us the freedom we enjoy today.

Tough Condition for School Cross Country

Our school cross country this year saw students compete on a new cross country course which not only was a physically gruelling 4km but also mentally challenging. All students competed in their age groups and were hoping to be crowned age champions. With the sun shining and a record number of students racing it was a great day. Well done to our Age Champions and we wish them well at the Zone and Regional Carnivals.

	Girls	Boys
12Yrs	Amanda Young	Billy Kealy
13Yrs	Kaylee Dowsett	Matthew Brydon
14Yrs	Emma Huggins	Tom March
15Yrs	Chelsea Robertson	Kadason Haynes
16Yrs	Cate Bolsover	Billy Jones



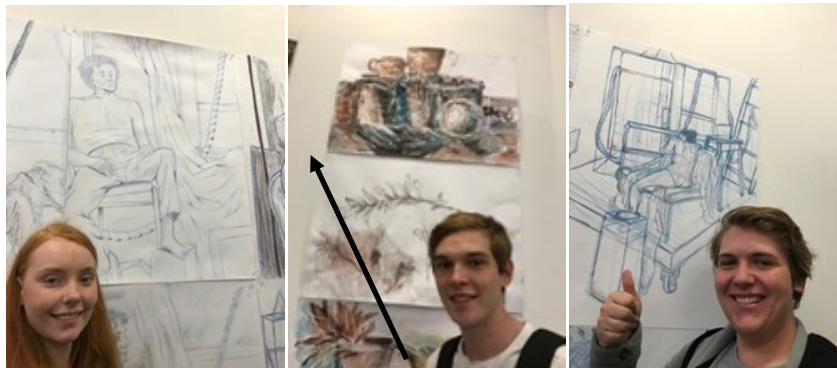
Dobell Drawing Scholarship

A big congratulations to our HSC students last year for their excellent results they obtained. Our HSC teachers should be commended for preparing the students so well.

If you have coloured magazines, newspapers plastic containers, wool, or other materials that you no longer need please bring them in to VA Department. Let's make 2017 another successful year at Swansea High School.

Congratulations to three Yr11 Visual Art students who were chosen to participate in a holiday drawing workshop at the National Art School in Sydney.

Jade Reynolds, Darcy Loreton and Caylan MacFarlane-Walker were chosen from a state wide nominations to participate in the Dobell Drawing Scholarship course which ran for 4 days in the April holidays.



These students gave up their own time to stay in Sydney for 4 days and attend specialised drawing classes with artists/tutors, which culminated in an exhibition of their work.



Yr 12 ARTEXPRESS

Year 12 Visual Art students had an excursion to Sydney to visit the ArtExpress Exhibition. It was a terrific day and the students thoroughly enjoyed looking at the outstanding artworks.

Smart Start



This month our Year 8 and Year 10 students will participate in Financial Literacy Seminars delivered by experts from the Commonwealth Bank. These seminars cover such topics as earning, saving, spending and making good money choices.

This program has been running for a few years now and always receives extremely positive feedback from students. Clearly, our students appreciate the importance of effectively managing money!

Again, we appreciate the contribution by the Commonwealth Bank for this valuable Start Smart program.

Riding a Wave of Success

Swansea high students have continued to improve in surfing competitions this year. The regional titles were held in small surf at Dixon Park at the end of term one and saw some pleasing results.

James Williams came second in the open men and Amy Gosling second in the open girls division. James then teamed with Cooper Puttergill to win the open boys team division. The whole team of Ethan Hartge, Jordan Liackman - junior boys; James Williams, Cooper Puttergill - senior Boys ; and Amy Goslin - Senior girls performed well. Thanks to the parents who came along for support.



Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Cynthia Culhane your local Saver Plus Worker:
(02) 4032 4703 / 0418 699 646
or cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered throughout Newcastle by The Smith Family.
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

Parent Notice Regarding Attendance

On the 7th of June, a team of attendance officers from the Home School Liaison Program of NSW Education will be at the school. They will interview students with attendance patterns which indicate that they may be in need of school support.

Students will be selected for interview based on the analysis of school Attendance records and according to the following criteria:

1. An attendance rate lower than 90% and/or
2. More than three unexplained absences and/or
3. A pattern of regular lateness to school.

The Education Act (1990) clearly states that students between the ages of 6 and 17 must attend school each day that the school is open for their instruction. An explanation for any absence is required and must be received within 7 days of the absence.

If you do not wish for your child to be interviewed please contact the school.