

SWANSEA HIGH SCHOOL

Sea Horse News

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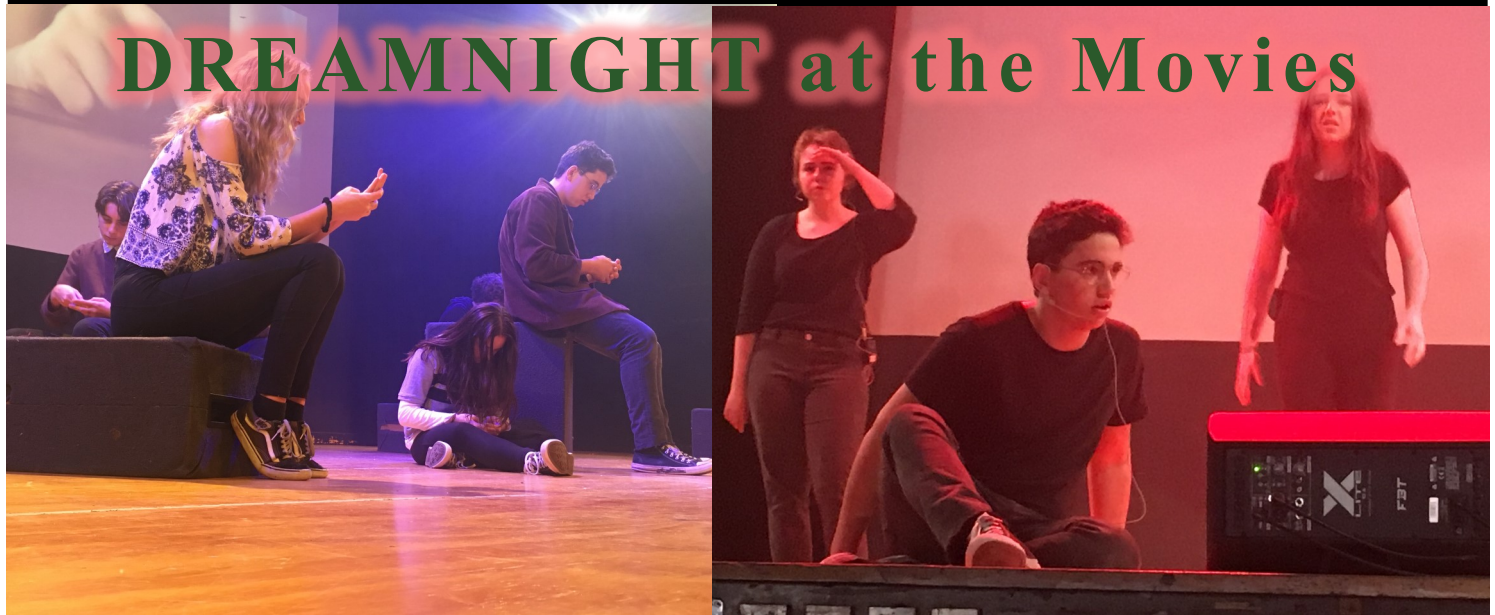
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RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

READY TO LEARN

Issue 2 Term 2 2018



The students at Swansea High School continue to amaze us. This year we saw even more cross overs between acts - students who were engaged in multiple art forms including Drama, Dance, Music and Visual Arts.

It is hard to choose the highlights from such a strong show - especially when one of the real highlights was the way that the show used multiple stages simultaneously. For me I loved the energy of the whole cast acts like Braveheart, the interactions between stage and screen in Year 10 Drama, Sara Lunn nailing her entrance with perfect charisma every time in The Greatest Showman and Ellee Hall reducing me to tears time and again in 10 Things I Hate About You. I might be biased but several people commented to me on the strength of the ensembles - every group was stronger for the way they worked together.

The backstage moments are also part of the magic for the participants. Students kept the show running smoothly backstage and of course the cast and crew belting out "Living On A Prayer" will be a memory we all carry with us forever.

It is the culmination of a consuming process in CAPA - our Year 11 Drama students started the year plotting and scheming, trying to find a theme or narrative that would allow for a great scope and variety whilst bringing students together into a unified vision. The theme "Dreamnight At The Movies" became a great platform for this show and Year 11 created a framing narrative that was funny, creative and still managed to be a relevant platform for exploring contemporary issues such as technology addiction and media scandals. I also need to the team of CAPA teachers who made this show so wonderful.



Academic Excellence

Congratulations to John Hoffman who has been awarded Dux of 2017. He has shown that with hard work and adopting a growth mindset you can achieve excellence. John received an ATAR of 95.6 in his HSC last year. He was presented with his Dux medal recently. John is now studying Software Engineering at The University of Newcastle.

From the Principal - *Robyn Leggatt*

Thank you to the families who have taken the time to complete the survey I have sent out this week. It has only been out for 24 hours and we have already had 80 responses. Please jump on your email- click on the link and give us some feedback. There are clearly parents out there who are very happy with the school and there are also a few who have given some clear suggestion for improvement and many in between. We value your input – good and bad. We are certainly trying our best to improve the learning environment for our students and identifying our strengths and weaknesses will only assist us on our journey of continual improvement.

A reminder if you are starting to think about what to buy for Christmas presents – don't forget our Bring Your Own Device program, where students bring their own lap tops to school. The greater the number of students who bring their own device will increase our opportunity to move to a more future focussed process of learning where students drive their own learning with teachers as guides on the side.

Important Dates

July

5th - Yr 11 Maths Standard Assessment Task, Yr 10 Jumpstart & Yr 9 English Studies Excursion

6th - Yr 11 Maths Standard Assessment Task, Yr 7-10 Reports Issued, Last Day of Term

23rd - Staff Return School

24th - Students Return to School

27th - Yr 11 Geography Assessment Task

August

1st - Yr 7– 10 Parent Teacher Night

7th - CHS Mountain Biking

13th - 24th - HSC Trial Exams

September

12th - Yr 8 SRE Conference

17th - 28th - Yr 11 Yearly Exams

26th - Yr 12 BBQ Breakfast at Swansea Baptist Church

27th - Yr 12 Reports & Graduation



Can't Touch This!

Term 1 saw the Swansea High School Open Girls Touch Football team participate in the Eastlakes Zone competition. With strong wins against Belmont High School (5 – 2) and Lake Munmorrah High School (3 – 1) the girls demonstrated strong teamwork and drive. Mattiese and Indi Loretan created killer combinations to cross the try line 6 times between them, while Ally Boerjte put three on the board. Congratulations to all girls on their sportsmanship and effort throughout the day.

The Open Boys Touch Football team met Hunter Sports, Lake Munmorrah and Warners Bay High Schools at the end of Term 1 for the Eastlakes Zone Touch Football meet. The boys fought the good fight, demonstrated strong persistence and sportsmanship, and represented the school in a fantastic manner from the beginning of the day. While they came away without a win, their attitude was a testament to their characters. Very proud! They were a bit camera shy on the day, so here is another photo of the girl's team



Cross Country

The school cross country course challenge all students with a mix of steep climbs and rough terrain for the 4 kilometre course. Everyone participated in the event enthusiastically and with a positive attitude.

The top 10 runners from each age group have qualified for the Zone Cross Country to be held at Gwandalan. Congratulations to our age champions.

	Boys	Girls
12	Zane Johns	Cassie-lee Herdman
13	Billy Kealy	Amanda Young
14	Zane Potts	Hayley Wamsley
15	Tom March	Emma Huggins
16	Kadason Haynes	Chelsea Robertson
17+	Bailey Jones	Rebekah Brown

Year 11 Production

As I crouched back stage with Dimi Rizk, Ellee Hall, and Peter Rota we waited for the crack of light to show through the window, signalling Peter's cue to enter. The excitement of these moments is part of the magic of theatre – we sat in blackness, waiting to listen for the audience's responses to moments we have pulled apart, reworked and experimented with throughout the holidays. As the sound of the first laugh reached us through Peter's opening monologue we knew that the show was off to a good beginning.

The Year 11 Drama class made the Library and the Drama room their home throughout the holidays, finalising their preparations for their performance of *"The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)"*. The show was a hilarious success, as students performed their way through all 37 of Shakespeare's plays in one night. Congratulations to the class: Ellee Hall, Madison La Marchant, Jed Mount, Kailee Oblasser, Dimitri Rizk, Peter Rota, Zoe Russell and Ben Watts. Thank you to the crew Tyler Gicoso, Nick Hay and Brayden MacFarlane-Walker for their outstanding work in managing the lighting and sound and a big thank you to Mr Darnbrough, Ms Power, Ms Nenad and Ms Thomas for their work in supporting the production.



Duke of Edinburgh Hike

Congratulations to our latest group of hikers who have completed the 'adventurous journey' component of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. After their practice hike at Yarramalong, the qualifying hike took place at Wisemans Ferry on the 5th and 6th of April.

Students were required to hike approximately 35km over the 2 days through the Dharug National Park, carrying all of their equipment with them. The views from the top of the escarpment were stunning, as was the walk down the old convict trail into Wisemans Ferry. After a short ferry ride, everyone was rewarded with some hot food and cold drinks. Despite a few doubts and the occasional 'I don't want to do this anymore', the students used their growth mindsets to push through any issues and they actually reached their destination in record time.

Virtual Reality comes to SHS

Swansea had the opportunity to host the Year 6 students for their High School taster lessons. The HSIE department took the student back 250 million years ago to mix and mingle with age of the dinosaurs. Students had the opportunity to explore a hostile and barren earth during its volcanic creation and then dove underwater near the Galapagos islands to explore several aquatic animals.

The kids had a fantastic time and it was certainly an experience to remember.

This is just the beginning for Swansea High School and its investment in virtual reality, and we are excited to share the VR journey in term 2.



Swansea Finska Championships

The peace and quiet of the Swansea High School grounds has come to an end – the Finska Championships are upon us! With Year 12 SLR participating in a World Sports practical unit this term, the Finnish extreme sport has made its way to our school grounds, and never has there been such excitement and tight competition. Keep an eye out for the results from the final round to determine which partnership will be crowned Champions.



Six students went along to Dixon Park Beach to compete in the Hunter Regional Surfing Titles. Cody Campbell and Amy Gosling completed in the girls U19 division, Jordy Liackman and Cooper Puttergill entered the U16 boys and Ethan Hartge and Jake Parry Williams were our U19 boys representatives. All surfers competed as individuals and in a team format for the chance to qualify for the State Surfing Titles at Coffs Harbour in July. Conditions were small, but our students made the most of this and surfed exceptionally well to achieve some great results. Jordy and Cooper qualified for state as a team, with Jordy actually winning the U16 boys division. While Ethan Hartge continued his fine year of surfing success with a comfortable win in the U19 division. Well done to all students who attended and a special congratulations to those who qualified for state. Thanks also to Mr Brown for taking the team along and offering some expert coaching throughout the day.



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

JUMPstart Learn Work Ready Skills

Our Jumpstart program aims to engage and inspire our students through vocational studies and project-based learning and this term has certainly lived up to expectations. Year 9 students have had the opportunity to build their skills and knowledge in either the hospitality or bricklaying industry and have been given first experience on what to expect in the workplace. The “Jump into Café skills” students have learnt the importance of following food safety procedures, how to make and serve beverages and have also been practising the important customer service skills needed to work in a café.

Our bricklayers are working hard on building the mini putt put golf course but got to have some down time when they visited Bunnings to attend a DIY workshop building planter boxes. With the support of mentors from both the community and Newcastle University, our students are also working on projects which allow them to follow their own individual passions. A number of students chose to pick up where our last year's year 10 students left off and have been working hard on completing the outdoor Aboriginal learning space. With the additional support and generous donations provided by Bunnings Belmont, they have created gardens, a pond and are currently designing a mural to be painted on the outside of the classroom. The outdoor team, led by our mentors are also putting their brick laying and concreting skills to the test and are building a fire pit in the yarning circle.

We have everything from students investigating the Hair and Beauty Industry to the writing of a sport injury recovery program. We also have a student who has Mr Korsman teaching him how to restore a real car and another group who are testing their skills and patience, building a remote-control car. Our hair and beauty students recently travelled to Hunter River High school to attend a hair and beauty training program in the school salon. They were treated to a wash and blow-dry and had the opportunity to learn from the trainer about what they need to do to be able to work in the industry.

We are looking forward to seeing the final project reveals at the end of semester one and can't wait to see what unfolds in Term 2 when the students will be creating their own business or building their construction skills through project work.



Bicycle, BiCYCLE, BICYCLE!



To have the opportunity to get out in the fresh air and experience life – what more could you want in a day at school? Term 2 has brought the opportunity of a lifetime; Year 9 and 10 Sport see's bike enthusiasts near and far longing for a place in the Swansea Cycling Crew. Not only do this crew get the pleasure of Miss Bruton tagging along, they also have Cycling Australia Hall of Fame personality Oenone Wood leading the way. Thanks must go to Mr Coburn her new coach, for allowing this casual riding encounter during a period of strictly regimented training sessions. The brand new Swansea High School mountain bikes are doing the job and doing it well! Our first trip to 'Blackies Breakwall' was quite the introduction, and with some fun rides and challenging experience in the works, it is bound to be an adventure.

Tissues and more Tissues

It is that time of year again where we all suffer from Colds and Flus. To help prevent the spread of bugs could you please provide your child with tissues during the winter season.

We can help stop the spread of cold and flu viruses with 3 simple steps:

- **Catch it**

Germs can spread easily.

Always use a tissue to catch your cough and sneeze.

- **Bin it**

Germs can live on tissues for several hours.

Throw the tissue away as soon as possible.

- **Wash it**

Hands can transfer germs.

Wash your hands as soon as y



sneezesafe.com.au

Resources: sneezesafe.com.au.

Upon my door I hear a thump,

My carpet had a little bump.

I fell over with a crash,

“Eee-yow,” went my precious cat.

My doorbell rang with a ting,

Outside stood a familiar thing:

My mum standing in the pouring rain.

Drop, drop, drop on her head: “Gosh, it’s a pain”.

She walked inside with an “oof”

And sat her feat upon the poof.

The door slammed shut with a crash,

Woah, this day had been pretty trash.

By Molly Lewis and Jasmine Miller, 7N

PASS it here!

This term in Year 10 Physical Activity and Sports Studies, we have found some inspiration from the recently retired champion Kurt Fearnley after his success and promotion of Paralympic Sports at the Commonwealth Games. We have looked at different disability sports and the ways games can be modified to create appropriately challenging practical opportunities. We started the unit with an obstacle course – sounds simple you say? How about completing it while blindfolded. Students came to appreciate the difficulties associated with movement, communication and even interpretation of stimulus around them. Even if only for 5 minutes, it was a unique experience and one we will continue to explore throughout this elective subject.

