

SWANSEA HIGH SCHOOL

Sea Horse News

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RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

READY TO LEARN

Issue 4 Term 3 2018



Battle of the Bands

What a night! Swansea High School's first ever Battle of the Bands was a massive success. With support from our local sponsors; Aaron and Wendy Hood from Rock Cave Music, Phil Jack from Jack's Music and Fin Roach from National Music Academy, we were able to put on a night where we could show off Swansea High's best talent. The sold out crowd was treated to music from the bands Difference, Forever Young, The Unknown, Brexit, the SHS Ensemble and a surprise guest appearance by our hard rocking teacher band, Park Avenue. On the night Brexit were crowned winners and will go on to represent our school at the Hunter School of Performing Arts band competition "Bandwidth" early next Term. A massive thank you and congratulations to all staff and students involved in the evening for their ongoing commitment to our growing music program.

Finding Their Way!



Year 9 PASS classes attended an orienteering excursion at Brickworks Park, Wallsend on Monday the 17th September. Students participated in a series of orienteering courses where they were required to work together to interpret maps and use the information to gather checkpoints around the park. All students obviously worked up a hunger, as they made very short work of the BBQ, cooked by Mr Ewer and Mr Appo. Everyone involved had a lot of fun on the day. A special thank you must go to Carolyn from Orienteering NSW, who took time out of her schedule to set up the courses and run the day for us. In her words, she has never had such an "excited, enthusiastic and keen group, they were fantastic!" Well done, Year 9!

UNIFORM SHOP***2018.... 20% OFF SALE*****20% OFF**

MANUFACTURING CO.

**MONDAY 17th SEPTEMBER
TO
FRIDAY 28th SEPTEMBER**

DURING NORMAL SHOP HOURS

* 20% OFF STOCKED ITEMS
(EXCLUDING WOOLEN JUMPERS, BLAZERS & BACKPACKS)

* NO REFUNDS OR EXCHANGES
(UNLESS GARMENT IS FAULTY)

* NO RAINCHECKS

20% OFF**SALE ON FOR 2 WEEKS ONLY****Important Dates****Sept**

- 26th - Yr 12 BBQ at Baptist Church, Yr 8 Premier Debating
- 27th - Yr 12 Graduation assembly & Formal

Oct

- 15th - School resumes
- 22nd - 26th - Yr 12 Hospitality Work Placement
- 24th - Term 3 Achievement Assembly
- 25th - Yr 7 Immunisations

Nov

- 8th - Yr 11 Reports issued

Dec

- 3rd - HSC Legal Studies Assessment Task
- 4th - Hello High School, HSC Business Studies Assessment Task
- 5th - HSC Ancient History Assessment Task
- 6th - Sports Presentation Dinner

From the Principal - Robyn Leggatt

We have received our NAPLAN results for 2018 and I am happy to see that the hard work is paying off. For accountability purposes the Year 9 results are those which we look deeply at as the learning for these students have been our responsibility since Year 7. At Swansea High, we have 60% of students who demonstrated above expected growth in writing; 70% in Reading; 61% in spelling and 74% in Numeracy. These are important results as it demonstrates that with support our students can continue to improve and we know from research having students believe they can is a major influence on success. We know that in reading particularly, what happens at home is equally important as what happens in school. In writing and numeracy what happens at school can make a huge difference, but with reading we can add value but the volume of reading undertaken outside of the classroom is a key factor influencing improvement. Reading is one area where practice at home is critical. The more words students are exposed to, the better readers they become. This is particularly true for our more academically able students. To improve, they need to read texts that challenge their understanding of sophisticated language and vocabulary. Ask your student about the Super 6 strategies for reading and if they can't explain it to you tell them to seek assistance at school. This program combined with the TEEEC writing process and the Mechanics of Writing process are school wide and have contributed to our success. If you have any questions about your student's NAPLAN results please do not hesitate to ask. The stronger the partnerships with home and the more you know about how to help to make improvements the greater the chance that the students will have continued reinforcement of how to be more successful in the key foundations required for better learning.

We use the Year 7 results to target interventions to support growth for all in areas of need and also specific programs for individual students during year 8. As a Learning Community the Galgabba group of schools is also focussing on concepts in English and CAPA across the 7 sites to create consistency in approach and a smoother transition process into Swansea High. These important projects have been enabled through successful grant applications made by staff at Swansea High.



Future Leaders of SHS

On Wednesday September 12, Swansea High School welcomed the newly appointed Student Executive Leadership team. Congratulations to the following students. We look forward to seeing your positive influence and impact throughout the school community.

RUOK?

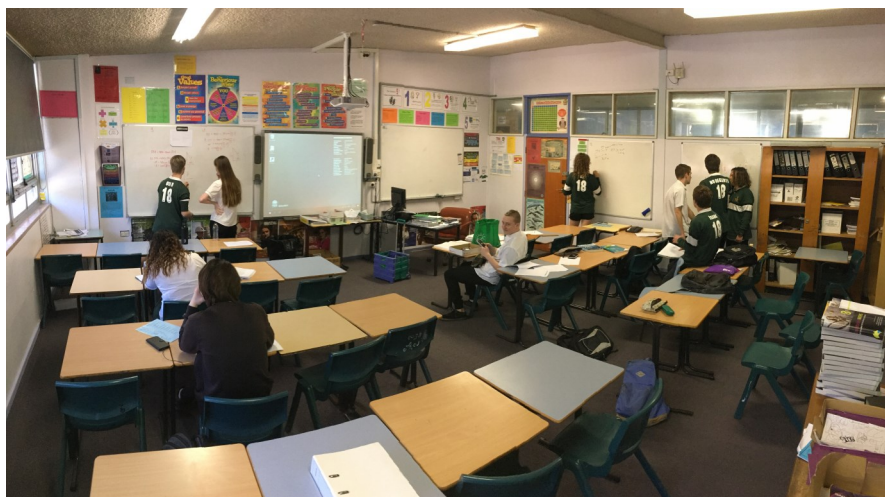
In conjunction with Bright Minds Lake Macquarie, students in Year 7 and Year 9 had the opportunity to participate in a half day program about wellbeing and mental health. This was timely as Thursday 13th September was RUOK? Day and Swansea students had the chance to check in with each other while removing some of the stigma associated with mental health and learning who they could turn to for support if they needed it. The sessions were fun and educational and gave students a chance to ask questions of their Year Advisor, Mrs Leggatt and professionals who work in the mental health sector in our area. Year 8 and Year 10 will be involved with wellbeing initiatives during Term 4 including resilience and mental health awareness.



First Aid Training

Yr 11 PDHPE students have been studying First Aid this term. As part of the course student had the opportunity to complete their Applied First Aid Certificate through Royal Lifesaving Society. Students were required to complete a series of online modules then participate in a practical workshop day. Some students took full advantage of the photo opportunity when they were all bandaged up.





Numbers...Numbers

Year 12 are well into the swing of things with the preparation for their HSC Exams. Most students have now completed their course work and are busy fine-tuning their skills. As you can see in the picture, students are working both individually and in groups to get the most they can in their last weeks of schooling.

Senior tutorials are also still running and it would be great to see more faces at these. Tutorials are designed to assist students in completing assigned classwork, revise previous content and prepare for upcoming assessment tasks. The tutorials run at the following times:

Monday: 3:20pm – 4:00pm, Wednesday: 8:15am – 8:55am, Thursday lunch: 11:50am – 12:30pm

Mathspace homework tasks are set for most students weekly. If you are looking for something for your child to do at home, get them to go onto Mathspace and complete their assigned tasks; or even explore content they are interested in. We are all about adopting a growth mindset in the Maths Faculty and the theory that the more you practice the better you get!



People's Choice Awards

"Congratulations" to the following students who tied equal place for the 2018 Dream Night "People's Choice" Art Prize

Finley Woodforth of Yr9 - Renaissance style portrait painting.

Ben Watts of Yr11 - Digital Media. Tarry Harvey Yr10 - Pencil Drawing.

Visual Arts Major Works

Well Done and good luck to our Yr12 Visual Art students who have recently submitted their major Art works



Special Thankyou to our Yr 12 Graduation Sponsors

Australian Defence Force Long Tan Youth Awards,
Black Swan Waterfront Motel
Caltex Best All Rounder,
Yasmin Catley, MP, Member for Swansea
Pat Conroy, MP Member for Shortland,
Delta Club of Swansea/Caves Beach
Mr Kevin Hincks, O.A.M - Patron,
Lions Club of Swansea,
Mai Thai Restaurant
McDonalds Swansea,
Reuben F Scarf Award,
Splash of Colour Hair Studio
Swansea High P&C Association,
Swansea Dental Practice,
Swansea RSL Club
Swansea Surf Shop,
Swansea Workers Club,
The University of Newcastle

Koori Room Mail

We have had a busy time organising and preparing of late, particularly our NAIDOC Assembly. This student led gathering was held on Wednesday 29th September 2018.

Swansea High's Aboriginal Education Officer (AEO), Jarn Hodgson opened the assembly with the introduction of the Australian National Anthem in Awabakal language. Cody Cutmore of year 7, then spoke in language for the Acknowledgement of Country. The meaning of this year's theme '*Because of Her, We Can*', was clarified by, Taylah Jayne-Farmer.

Taylah spoke of the invaluable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made – and continue to make - to our communities, our families, our rich history and to our nation. Furthermore, Taylah mentioned that as pillars of our society, Aboriginal women have played and continue to play - active and significant roles at the community, local, state and national levels. They are our mothers, our elders, our grandmothers, our aunties, our sisters and our daughters.

Following Taylah was two native dance performances by Jaycee-Rose Towers, Shakita Bletcher Nash Haynes, Breanna Smailes and Taylah Jayne-Farmer. Additionally, Cody Cutmore supported in dance and didge with Haylee Dews on clap sticks.

I would like to thank our AEO's; Rachael Bromfield and Jarn Hodgson for their ongoing passion towards our students' Aboriginal education as well as all of the students involved.

Coach's Corner

Over a 5 week period Year 10PASS classes have been working closely with students from Caves Beach Primary School delivering coaching sessions in a variety of sports. Students instructed Primary students on how to apply a range of skills and developed progressive lessons to improve performance. The students were fantastic representatives of Swansea High School and it was a highly beneficial experience for the Year 3 and 4 Caves Beach students. Great work 10PASS!



"We like to think of our champions and idols as superheroes who were born different from us. We don't like to think of them as relatively ordinary people who made themselves extraordinary". – Carol Dweck



Rugby League 9's Narrowly Defeated

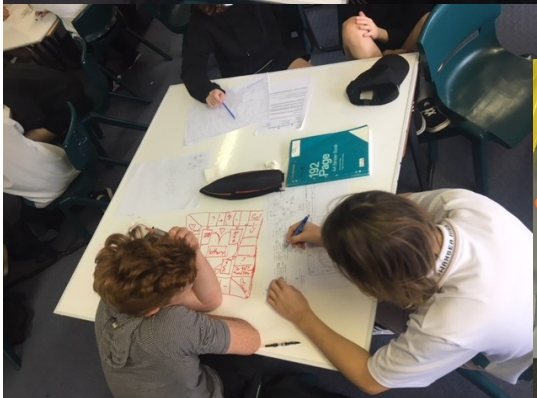
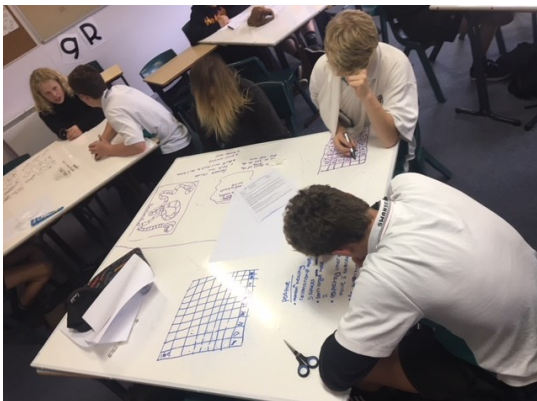
The U14s rugby league team had a great day at the Kurt Gidley Cup 9s competition. The day opened up with a comfortable win against Callaghan College Waratah campus. This was followed by a very close loss to St Joseph's Aberdeen. A 22-0 shutout of San Clemente had us heading into the last pool game in a 3 way tie for top position in the group. One of those other teams was Callaghan College Wallsend campus, who were our opponents for the next game. With only 2 teams progressing to the semi finals, a win was essential.

The boys put in an amazing performance to win the game and set up a semi final against Hunter River High School. Another win and we were rewarded with a second crack at St Joseph's Aberdeen in the final. After a back and forward game, some excellent defence saw us keep them out and regain possession with 30 seconds to go. Unfortunately, a call went against us, which led to them getting the ball back and scoring the winning try with 10 seconds left on the clock.

A gallant effort from a group of boys who displayed outstanding teamwork, dedication and behaviour throughout an excellent day.

Game Design!

Yr 8 students in PDHPE have been exploring healthy relationships this term in class. To demonstrate their understanding on the information presented students have been working in groups to create a board game all about relationships. The brief for the game includes that positive behaviours advance players in the game, while negative behaviours disadvantage players. Students have really enjoyed this designing and creating these games and learning at the same time!



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School.**