

SWANSEA HIGH SCHOOL

Sea Horse News

Park Ave, CAVES BEACH
T: 49711944

E swansea-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.swansea-h.school.nsw.edu.au

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

READY TO LEARN

Issue 1 Term 1 2020



2019 VS 2020

What a difference a few weeks make. Recently we have witnessed huge changes to the way we deliver education in our schools. The COVID-19 has now meant students learn via online platforms and engage with their teachers and work online. Classes which were once filled with excitement, laughter and learning is now replaced by empty tables, video lessons and self directed learning activities. The dedicated teachers at Swansea High school have been at the forefront of adopting online learning strategies and have developed learning programs for all students delivered via Google Classroom. If parents and/or students are having difficulty accessing their work please contact the school or your teachers.

Sydney University Workshops



This week Year 12 students in our Standard and Advanced English classes had the opportunity to attend Sydney Uni for HSC English workshops. It was a long day with an early start, but was certainly beneficial for students consolidating their learning of the Common Module: Texts and The Human Experience. Students also gained valuable insights from expert teachers in regards to Module C: The Craft of Writing and the Reading Task in English Paper 1, hopefully giving them an edge when it comes to their HSC exam in October. Opportunities such as this are invaluable and so many Year 12 students simply don't get the opportunity due to living in regional or rural areas. It was timely because it happened to be during orientation week for University students so our Year 12's were also treated to some of what university life has to offer.

From the Principal - *Robyn Leggatt*

This is not how I thought it would... I was worried that my absence on leave for the first 4 weeks due to a family issue would have a negative impact on the way the school began in 2020. The situation was further complicated as Guli, our Deputy Principal also had to take leave for her family at the same time. I needn't have worried and should have known that the staff would step up and they did, doing a fantastic job of getting the school up and flying for a terrific start to 2020. I would particularly like to express my thanks to Andrew Pesle, Deputy Principal from Toronto High School, who stood in for me in my absence and Kendal Achurch and Rod Carter who stepped into the Deputy Role during this time. They did a stellar job and were ably supported by the Executive team and staff at Swansea High. My observation of how well everyone kept the Swansea High ship on course and the ongoing family issue I have been managing has led me to the difficult decision to retire. It is with a great deal of mixed emotions that I have made this decision. I have, however, always told others that family comes first and I now have to heed my own advice. I will ensure that my departure does not impact significantly on the continued positive development of the school and will work with our Director of Educational Leadership, Sharon McFarlane to develop a smooth transition to a new Principal. I am very proud of the work undertaken by students and staff at Swansea High and the school and our community will forever hold a very special place in my heart. My time here has held some of the proudest achievements in my life and I am sure Swansea High will continue to grow and improve in the future. As a member of the community I will certainly keep a keen interest in the school's progress. Thank you to everyone who has made my time here so memorable.



Student Representative Council



Congratulations to the 2020 Swansea High School Student Representative Council (SRC) members.

Due to the current climate, the official SRC Induction has been rescheduled to a later date where parents and carers will be invited to celebrate the achievement of their students.

STARSTRUCK Honours



A massive congratulations to our School Captain, Marnie Nebauer who has been successful in her singing audition for "Starstruck 2020 - Rise Up". Marnie will be representing our school as a featured artist in the shows which was to be held on June 12th and 13th at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre. Congratulations Marnie!

An Unlucky Teachers Relay Robbed Again

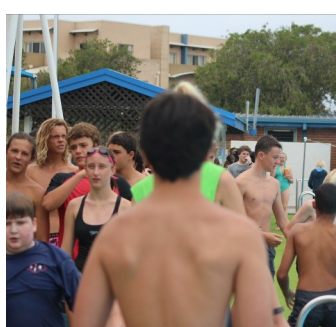
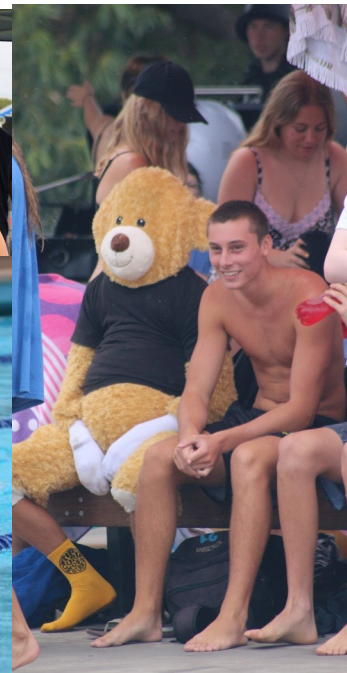
On Thursday the 6th February, Swansea HS had their annual swimming carnival at Swansea Pool. The weather was threatening all week, but apart from the odd passing shower we got away with a relatively dry day.

Students enjoyed a mix of competitive and novelty events, all accompanied by Mr Carter's rocking playlist of songs. Some of the highlights of the day were:

- Cruz Kingston taking out the blue-ribbon event – the 17y 50m freestyle in a blistering time of 26.57
- The Year 8 girls defeating the Year 8 boys in their tug-o-war contest
- The boys from Biraban and Spec Ed entering any and every event they could, gaining valuable house points
- A brave teachers relay team getting pipped at the post (beaten by half a lap) by a red-hot senior relay team.

Congratulations to Yerlonga who won a very tightly contested race for the house title. Congratulations also to our age champions, who are listed below. Thanks to everyone for coming along and all staff for your support on the day.

BOYS		GIRLS	
12	Dylan Thomas	12	no competitors
13	Archer Nicholas-Canning	13	Taylissa Bateman
14	Jack Paterson	14	Keeley Smith
15	Callum Fox	15	Amanda Young
16	Mathew Brydon	16	Hayley Walmsley
17-19	Oliver Fox	17-19	Bridie Emanuel



Dirty Fun at Year 7 Camp

March saw 106 happy campers attend Morrissett's Outdoor Education Centre and boy didn't they have fun. Students activities included The Big Drop, Flying Fox, Archery, Bubble Soccer, High Ropes, Survivor Challenge, Canoeing and the Mud Run. Learning doesn't always happen in the classroom and this environment was a perfect example of that. Students engaged in team building, student bonding and problem-solving events designed for student growth and self-confidence.



Learning for the Future in STEM

Year 8 Stem have been learning to use Arduino software to program an electronic interface to control hardware such as LED lights and servo motors. They are finding the experiments both challenging and exciting. Year 8 Technology classes will be taking on a new Engineering unit as part of the National Curriculum implementation. Students are learning about simple machines through designing and producing a mouse trap car. After making a base model car, students are challenged to improve the performance in either speed or distance travelled. We hope to have the best performing cars from each class competing throughout the year to see who can make the best mouse trap cars!

Perfect! Parfait!

Year 7 students have started their Food Technology Classes with Mrs Kama and Ms Corston. They began by making a Fruit Parfait which is a layered dessert of custard, cream or icecream with jelly and fruit, presented in tall glasses and eaten with long handled spoons. They learned that this dessert originated in France and the word 'parfait' in French means 'perfect'.



Senior Maths Tutorials Huge Success

Senior Mathematics Tutorials have commenced for 2020 and have been a great success with 80 students per week attending.

Students studying Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Advanced or Mathematics Standard 2 are required to attend at least one tutorial per week.

Tutorial times are: Monday lunch 1 & 2 and

Thursday 8.15 a.m. – 8.55 a.m.

As well as using this time to complete unfinished classwork, students should be preparing for upcoming Assessment Tasks this term.



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

OnStage @ Belvoir St Theatre

On Tuesday 11th February our sensational Year 12 Drama class participated in a Group Devising workshop run by Michael from Belvoir St Theatre. The students had the opportunity to play and devise in the infamous rehearsal stage space where famous Australians like Cate Blanchett and Leah Purcell have refined their craft. Before the workshop our students were treated to a private screening of a past Belvoir production of *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* in the Green Room at the theatre. After our Belvoir experience it was off to the Seymour Centre to view the *OnStage* showcase of Band 6 Higher School Certificate 2019 group performances and individual projects. Although it was an early start and late finish, it was clear that our students were inspired by their day and we now look forward to what amazing pieces they will devise for their final examinations later this year.



Staining Power

HSC Investigating Science are in the middle of their Depth Study. Here they are looking at the effectiveness of laundry powders on a variety of stains.

Each stain is used three times. One is left untreated, one is washed with water only and the third is washed with water and laundry powder.

Students use an app on their phones to scan the stains and see how effective each treatment was.

Calculators

All students are required to have access to their own calculator during mathematics lessons.

Phones are not to be used as a calculator.

Calculators may be purchased from the school office for \$25 or alternatively from other suppliers of calculators.

Early Leaver Notes

It is required that a note written by the parent/caregiver gets handed into the office first thing in the morning by the student. A leave note will then be issued to students. Please help us by following this procedure as this makes it easier for all involved. Your child, at the appropriate time shows the teacher, leaves the class and then meets the parent at arranged place. It is difficult for us to sometimes find the student especially if they are on the oval, at sport or on recess/lunchbreaks.

Open Girls Basketball



On Monday the 2nd of March, the Open Girls Basketball Team played against Toronto High School. The team fought hard in the second half to bring the score to 22 Swansea H.S to 24 Toronto H.S with 30 seconds to go. Unfortunately, the Open Girls Basketball Team did not win. I would like to thank all of the players for their participation in the knockout competition. I would also like to thank the students who assisted with the organisation of the day.

Players: Lisa Thompson O'Hara Baxter, D'Laney Baxter, Jessi Thomson, Emma Murphy Amanda Young, Brooke Hunter, Mia Corkery and Emily Gjoreski.

Nothin' but Netball



Our Swansea High School netball team came together for a great day for the Eastlake Zones Gala Day. With strong performances against Belmont and Lake Munmorah, the team took the wins. Games against Whitebridge and Warners Bay were also closely contested. Thank you for a great attitude, solid effort and fun day at the courts.

International Opportunities

Luka Magnery was recently selected to play in the 2020 Tokyo U14 International Football tournament. This event is leading into the Olympics and to be held at the Stadium from which the Olympic torch will leave. What a fantastic opportunity to play against teams from around the world in this international tournament. Well done, Luka!



Premier's Sporting Leaders

Congratulations to our Year 9 and 10 students who participated in the Premier's Sporting Challenge Leadership Day. Students participated in a range of sport skills and drills which they will use to deliver practical lessons at the Premier Sporting Challenge Day later on in the year. This will enable students a range of sporting experiences and opportunities to experiences new and exciting activities. Congratulations on your conduct throughout the day.

Triathlon Triumph

Congratulations to Tegan Taylor who secured a place on the NSW Team to compete at the School Sport Australia Triathlon Championships. Tegan came 6th overall in her age group, but was the first to cross the line out of the NSW CHS competitors. Congratulations to this extraordinary effort! As a result, Tegan was awarded the Swansea High School Athlete of the Month!



safeTALK Suicide Prevention Awareness Program

LivingWorks safeTALK is a half-day presentation to increase suicide awareness.

This program alerts community members to signs that a person may be considering suicide. It acknowledges that while most people at risk of suicide signal their distress and invite help, these intervention opportunities are often overlooked.

safeTALK participants learn to recognise when someone may have thoughts of suicide and to respond in ways that link them with further suicide intervention help. Suicide alert helpers contribute to a suicide safer community. It is intended that safeTALK participants will be better prepared to:

- Recognise that invitations to help are often overlooked
- Move beyond common tendencies to miss, dismiss and avoid conversations around suicide
- Notice and respond to situations in which thoughts of suicide may be present
- Apply basic TALK steps (Tell, Ask, Listen, and KeepSafe)
- Connect the person with thoughts of suicide to suicide first aid help and further community resources

Suicide alert community members are better prepared to become a vital link in connecting people at risk with further help.

safeTALK is designed to complement the LivingWorks ASIST workshop (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training). The programs share the same beliefs about suicide and preventing suicide. However, each presentation has a specific role.

Participants at a safeTALK presentation are often interested to attend the 2-day LivingWorks Applied Suicide Intervention Skills (ASIST) workshop. Check our website training calendar for locations and upcoming dates

LivingWorks safeTALK suicide prevention presentation for Caves Beach Gym

Venue: Caves Beach Gym
15 Strathmore Road,
Caves Beach

Date: Wednesday 1 April 2020

Time: 8.00am – 11.30am

Cost: FREE

Contact: Rebecca Liackman
0400 947 002
or book online [HERE](#)

Enquiries: Jaylene Moreau 43207400
jaylene.moreau@lifelife.org.au

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Lifeline's NSW workshops contribute course-specific hours of NESA Registered PD addressing 4.4.2 and 6.2.2 from the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers towards maintaining Proficient Teacher Accreditation in NSW.

For further information
Contact Dr June Anderson
Phone 02 4940 2000
Email june.anderson@lifelife.org.au
www.lifelifeirect.org.au

Lifeline
Saving Lives
Crisis Support. Suicide Prevention.