

SWANSEA HIGH SCHOOL

Sea Horse News

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RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

READY TO LEARN

Issue 3 Term 2 2020



Perfect Picturesque Prague

Recently, we heard from one of our many students on overseas exchange. Ella Bales is currently living in Prague on an exchange.

Here is part of her story; My host family have taken me on a couple of day trips into Prague and to other close villages like Český Brod and Poděbrady. In Český Brod, we visited my host mum's parents and sister. Her parents have a beautiful garden and grow a lot of the vegetables we eat every day for lunch and they also have two gorgeous horses. We also went on a big walk in the forest where my host sisters have their scout camp in July. On the way, we saw a squirrel climb into a tree which really startled me. We had a picnic afterwards with sandwiches and fruit which was really nice.

I also visited Poděbrady with my host family. We walked by the river for a couple of hours and had some really tasty ice cream. We found a cool clock in a garden that was surrounded by beautiful flowers. We then drove to another nearby town (not sure of the name) and walked along the river there for a while. We caught a boat across the river back to our car where we got some Chinese food for lunch which was actually pretty tasty.

From the Principal - *Andrew Pesle*

Well, what a huge term it has been. It is hard to believe that we have had 6 weeks of face-to-face teaching this term considering that at the end of last term it didn't look like we would have any face-to-face teaching at all this term. We are certainly living in an extremely dynamic and ever changing environment at the moment. Like you, I hope there is not a second wave of COVID-19 in NSW and we can resume school as normal in Term 3.

I want to take the time to acknowledge the great work done by our teachers at Swansea High School in adapting so quickly to all of the changes that have been made by the Department of Education in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. So much has happened since the beginning of term in relation to the units of work being delivered to students and they have still managed to complete student reports for Years 7-12. The Year 7-10 academic reports were given to students on Friday 3rd July.

I also want to acknowledge and praise our wonderful students who have endured and persevered through these difficult times. They have lived through something most of us have never experienced and they have shown tremendous resilience in forging ahead with their studies.

We have some big events coming in Term 3. We are viewing Term 3 as an opportunity to start fresh with new units of work for our Year 7-10 students. Year 11 and 12 will obviously continue with their senior studies with Year 11 Yearly Exams taking place in Week 9 and 10, and Year 12 Graduation still going ahead for Friday 24th September.

Year 8 will have their subject selections for Year 9 electives and Year 10 will be making decisions regarding their subjects for Year 11. We are still unable to have subject selection evenings at the school. We are in the process of posting subject selection videos for Year 10 into 11 subjects. More information will be given via our Facebook and Skoolbag app.

We are excited to be holding our first P&C meeting of the year on Tuesday 21st July at 6pm. We welcome all parents to come along in the Library.

In the meantime, we wish all students and their families a safe and relaxing holiday and look forward to a big term of school starting on Tuesday 21st July.



ART CLUB

Art Club is an extracurricular activity running every Friday Lunchtime allowing students the chance to extend on their creative side and experiment with a range of materials and artistic techniques. All are welcome to join in on the weekly tutorial or spend time in the art space working on their own artmaking. It has been fantastic to see like-minded students from all years getting to know each other and appreciating all things art!

Dates

July

- 4th—20th School holidays
- 21st—Term 3 Commences
- 23rd - HSC English Ext 1 Assess Task (in class)
- 23rd - Y11 English Ext 1 Assessment Task (in class)
- 24th - Y11 Chemistry Assessment Task
- 24th - HSC Ind Technology Assess Task (Hand in)
- 28th - School Photos 2020
- 28th - Y11 Modern History Assessment Task 2

August

- 6th - Aboriginal Education NAIDOC Day
- 13th - HSC Trial exams
- 14th - HSC Trial exams
- 17th - HSC Trial exams
- 18th - HSC Trial exams
- 19th - HSC Trial exams
- 19th - Y11 Engineering Stud Assess Task (Hand in)
- 20th - HSC Trial exams
- 21st - HSC Trial exams

Short Story - Writing Award

One of our budding authors, Georgina Saad from Year 9, has had some stellar success with her original short story that was entered into the *Write 4 Fun* Poetry and Short Story Competition!

Georgina's story, titled 'Bad Decisions' impressed the judges so much that she earned an achievement award, and made it past the first round of judging. This means that Georgina will have the opportunity to have her original short story published in 'The Inside Story' - a publication that will contain poems and short stories from students all over Australia.

Not many people can call themselves a published author by the time they are in Year 9! Congratulations Georgina, and best of luck with the next round of the competition.



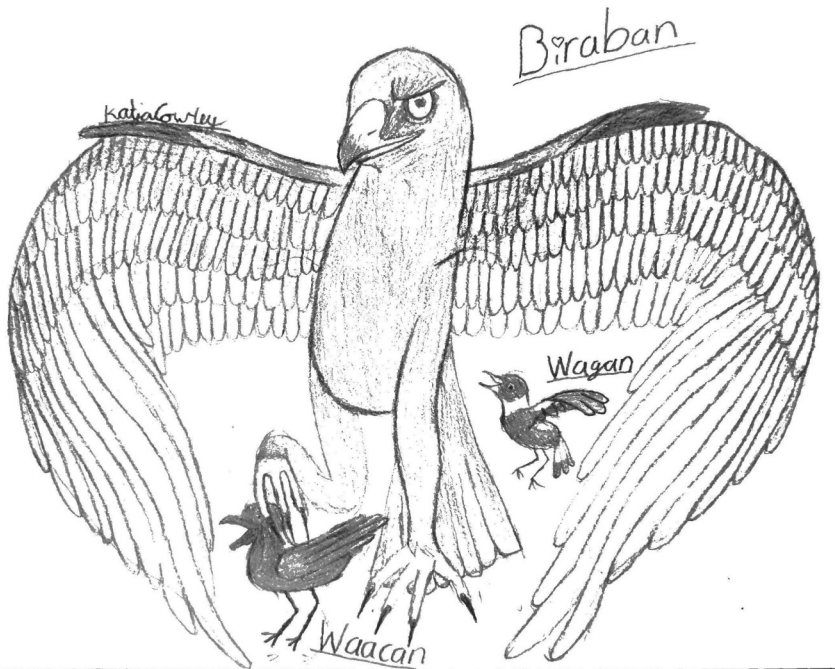
Classroom Receives Awabakal Names

Three weeks ago we invited Jarn Hodgson to come and spoke to the students and staff in the Special Education Unit about giving the classes Aboriginal names to forge links to the Aboriginal heritage of the Swansea and Awabakal areas. He described the meaning behind the name of Biraban that was already the name of the Year 9 and 10 class.

Biraban is a large eagle hawk that represents an elder of the Awabakal land who assisted in developing the younger children. These children are represented as the Waacan which means Crow and Wagan meaning Magpie. These two names have been given to the Year 7 Classes.

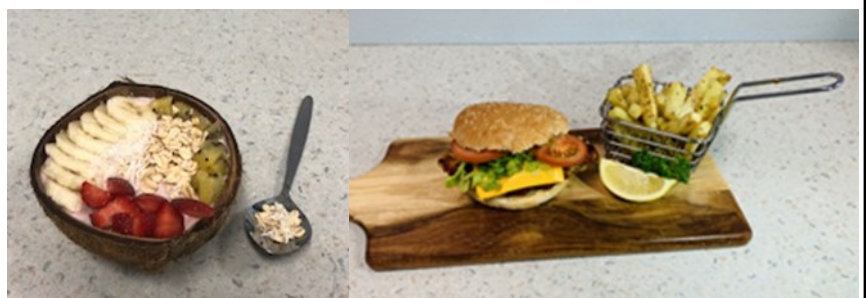
Over the last few days, Katja Cowley from the Biraban class created an emblem for the Special Education Unit which represents the Biraban Eagle Hawk, the Waacan Crow and the Wagan Magpie.

In Term 3, Jarn will come and perform an Aboriginal naming ceremony to officially name the classes. We would like to thank him for assisting the students and teachers to create the links to the Awabakal area and to unite the classes.



Year 11 Hospitality Fee Change for 2021

This is a notification of the incorrect uniform fee printed in the 2021 subject selection booklet. Hospitality uniform fee is now only \$35 (students receive a black SHS polo T-shirt they wear each lesson and take home), however students will need to buy full leather black shoes and long black trousers.



MTB Fun in Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation



This Term, Year 12 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation class have had to be creative with social distancing. So we decided to complete a unit on Mountain Biking. Given we are blessed with beautiful scenery and bush—it seemed the perfect idea. The students explored a range of trails and in the process developed their fitness levels. While some of the students struggled with the fact that sometimes you get a bit muddy others revelled in the sport. Well done to all!

Maths in the Real World



Tiriki are currently studying the topic Measurement in Mathematics.

One of their projects in this topic was to design 3 different paper aeroplanes, with the aim of the project to see which plane will fly the furthest.

In the COLA students got the chance to fly each plane they had designed 3 times and then using the measuring skills they have practised to measure how far each plane had travelled. The winning plane was designed by Tarj, second was Maddison and third was Steven. Well done to everyone.

NCCD

Information

The NCCD is an annual collection of information about Australian school students with disability. The NCCD enables schools, education authorities and governments to better understand the needs of students with disability and how they can be best supported at school.

Teachers at Swansea High School are currently collating data for the NCCD. If you would like to know more about the process, please call the school to discuss.



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



Up-Cycling in Textiles

This semester, the Year 8 Textiles classes have been looking at ways to up-cycle items we already have and making them into something new. They made soft toys, tote bags and cushions from old clothing such as t-shirts, beanies, gloves and socks. The filling was made from leftover fabrics which the students shredded.

P & C Meeting

There will be a P&C meeting held on Tuesday 21st July.

We would like to see you all there to hear from our new Principal and have your say in the school.

The meeting will be held in the newly refurbished Library at 6pm

BAG or BOX

This Term, the Positive Behaviour for Learning team worked with students to combat the use of mobile phones in class. Mobile phones pose a major distraction in class and to student learning. So we have now introduced Bag or Box.

At the beginning of the lesson, students have the option of placing their mobile phones in their bags or the box. They are not to come out in class. Should a student remove their phone from their bag the phone automatically goes into the box until the end of the lesson. Failure to comply with these expectations will mean that a Head Teacher will confiscate the phone for the entire day.

Please help us to promote active learning by avoiding contacting your child during class time. If you have an urgent message, contact the front office and a message will be sent to your child.



OR



We Need Your Help to Keep Our Students Safe

Lake Macquarie City Council Rangers have been patrolling schools during term 2. Due to social distancing restrictions limiting capacity on our public transport system, we have noticed more parents are relying on their vehicles for school drop-off and pick-up.

The safety of all children is our number one priority and we would like your help to correct parking rules. Lake Mac Rangers will be increasing patrols around our local schools during term 3 to monitor illegal parking and safety issues. Rangers will be issuing infringements to drivers not following the rules.



Means that in the area in the direction of the arrow, you must **NOT STOP your vehicle** at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

Maximum Penalty

\$433

+ 2 Demerit Points



Means that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

Penalty

\$180

+ 2 Demerit Points

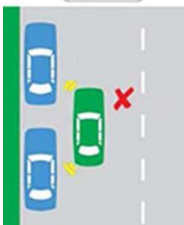


Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

Penalty

\$325

+ 2 Demerit Points



DOUBLE PARKING

You are **NOT PERMITTED** to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

Penalty

\$325

+ 2 Demerit Points

- STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: **\$325 + 2 Demerit Points**, or STOP on or near a Children's or Pedestrian Crossing: **\$433 + 2 Demerit Points**
- STOP on path/strip in built up area: **\$180 + 2 Demerit Points**
- STOP or Park in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit: **\$541**



Experimentation with Physical Theatre

Year 10 Drama have been experimenting this term with techniques in devising Physical Theatre. Recently they used a devising method created by the Physical Theatre Company *Frantic Assembly*

called *Chair Duets*. This involved working in pairs to create a movement sequence by physically moving their partners whilst seated and using reactions to choreograph a piece of theatre. Students then selected a piece of contemporary music to add another layer of meaning to their choreography. After a lengthy rehearsal process focusing on timing and precision they then performed these pieces for the Karakal class. The student did an outstanding job of advertising the benefits of Drama to a more junior group of students.



AUSTRALIAN MATHS TRUST

School-based maths competitions don't get much bigger than this—with more than 15 million entries since 1978 and students in more than 30 countries attempting the same problems each year.

The AMC is an engaging 30-problem competition that demonstrates the importance and relevance of mathematics in students' everyday lives; it is open to students in years 3 to 12.

The competition will go ahead as normal this year and will be held at school on Thursday 30th July, 2020. The cost of entry is \$6.00 per student which is to be paid at the school office by Friday 10th July, 2020.