Friday 29th May, 2015.

In Concert Performance

Imagine singing part of a 700 piece choir, four part harmonies bouncing around an amazing venue, and supporting one of Australia’s leading singer/songwriters! Well we did it!

The Arts Unit 2015 In Concert Performance at Sydney Town Hall didn’t disappoint with some of Australia’s biggest names in Music performing to a sold-out audience.

Twenty-three students from the Port Macquarie Campus’ choir boarded the midnight train in the early hours of Sunday 17th May to take part in the 700 strong ‘Combined Secondary Choir’ on Monday 18th May at Sydney’s Town Hall. Students disregarded sleep deprivation on Sunday to get as much shopping in as humanly possible at Paddy’s Markets before a night out at the Capitol Theatre to watch ‘Les Miserables’.

Monday’s rehearsal was an exciting time as students were introduced to ‘Lior’, one of Australia’s leading independent singer/songwriters. Students were also treated to meeting and working with one of Australia’s leading composers Elena Kats-Chernin who composed the piece *Meeting the Sun* for the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC ceremony. The ‘Combined Secondary Choir’ performed this piece with the NSW Public Schools Symphonic Wind Ensemble. As an ensemble we performed three out of the five movements.

Students were ecstatic with the concert which also displayed the ‘Arts Units’ Symphonic Wind Ensemble (SWE), Jazz Orchestra, the internationally acclaimed Symphony Orchestra and also performed with the West African Drumming Ensemble lead by African born Yacou Mbaye.

For a limited time you can view the recording at: https://youtu.be/crnqijBqV-8
Bollywood to Brazil workshop
Students of the College Dance Company and other interested dance enthusiasts participated in the Bollywood to Brazil workshop earlier this week. Students joined in a highly energetic three-stop workshop to get them on their feet and dancing in the styles of Brazilian Samba, Hip Hop and Bollywood.
The performer, Shyamla Eswaran, has over 25 years’ experience and shared her joy of dance with the girls through teaching and fusing various styles. Shyamla has been a regular teacher at Dance Central and Ettingshausens Dynamic Arts in Sydney as well as Dance Attic in London (Hip Hop, Bollywood, Jazz, Funk and Brazilian Samba.)
The girls had a fantastic time and there was lots of laughter and enthusiasm for shaking their “Boonda's!” This was a creative re-charge for the Hastings Secondary Dance Company that are madly rehearsing for their performances at Dance Festival and Circus Fantastica!

Year 8 Contact Sports Newcastle Knights Excursion
The Year 8 Contact Sports class travelled to Newcastle's Hunter Stadium on Monday 25 May to watch the NRL game between the Newcastle Knights and the Brisbane Broncos. The students were able to watch the action and take in the behind the scenes warm ups and skill drills, as well as other preparations that occur on match day.
Despite the fact that the Knights went down, the excursion was a great success, with the group being very well behaved ambassadors for our school. Senior students Lochie Johnston and Emily Newett also did a great job in assisting on the excursion.

Mr Duck & Mr Harrison
From the Principal
This was another busy week for the school. Year 8 Contact Sport Interest Elective students went on an excursion to Newcastle. I had the pleasure of presenting medals to the school’s Boys Futsal Team and Year 7 and 8 went to a Brainstorm Production that focused on anti-bullying.

College news
The College Steering Committee met this week. There were several updates on the work of the college. The first was around the Year 11 subject selection Evening. The final planning details are being worked out for the night on June 11th. We also discussed planning for an alternative learning centre that would cater for disengaged students. Another topic was the possibility of attracting international students at the college. The college is still in a very dynamic building stage. We look forward to the next Steering Committee meeting on the last Monday of term.

The Year 10 into 11 Interviews and subject selection evening.
This is a reminder that we are organising our Year 10 into 11 Interviews and subject selection evening. The Year 10 into 11 subject selection evening will be on Thursday June 11th at Panthers Auditorium starting at 6pm. This is an opportunity to learn the basic rules of the Higher School Certificate and how these rules affect subject choices. There will be staff from every faculty who will be able to give students and parents information about all the courses. We will be offering almost 50 courses across the two campuses. What courses run will be based on student selection. As we have across-campus courses the final curriculum offering will be extensive. Our interviews for parents and students will start on Tuesday June 16th and continue on Wednesday 17th. Each student gets a one-on-one interview. There will be other careers professionals there for reference. These interviews are always rated very highly by the parents. Students become very confident with their subject choices.

One hundred and sixty parents have already signed up for the interviews. If you are a Year 10 parent who doesn’t have a time allocated please send your paperwork back as soon as you can.

American students to visit
On Tuesday we had a meeting with Rotary about the organisation of the visit of 40 young American students and their teacher leaders. This is a college initiative. The American students will be billeted by students from both campuses. They will arrive about 4pm on Monday June 15th. After a brief introduction to college personnel and rotary members they will go home with their billets to experience a slice of Australian life. The next day they will come to school with their billets and experience Australian school life. They will get their first chance to see students in uniform. After a visit to the Koala Hospital they will come back to school for an Aussie barbeque lunch with sausages wrapped in bread with onions and sauce. At night they will go out with their billets to a dinner hosted by Rotary. They will depart next day at 8am. We are looking forward to this great cultural activity.

Youth Frontiers Group
Last Friday Harry Butlin, Zali King, Lucy Dunn and Melek Kos attended the first Youth Frontiers Group session held at Westport High School. Here the students met with community mentors that they will be working with over the next six months to develop a community interest project. This is an opportunity for these students to develop their skills and self-esteem. Thank you to Dee Maurer for organising the students.

A Brainstorm for Year 7 and 8 students.
A Brainstorm production took place last Thursday in the MPC- attended by all of Year 7 and 8. This live production focused on how the digital age affects students’ lives, particularly through Cyber Bullying. The production gave our students the opportunity to reflect on this problem of the modern age while being entertained. This was also another great opportunity for our Drama students to see professionals at work. I would like to thank the welfare team for organising this wonderful opportunity for our students.

Our postponed Athletics Carnival is on next week. We also have our Senior Success Night, Work Placement for some of Year 11, a Year 7/8 BEST Mathematics Day and the ICAS Science Competition as well as the Big Samba Music Workshop. We could say another busy week!

Lorraine Haddon
Principal
Schools Reconciliation Challenge

Students from years 5 and 6 at Hastings and Port Primary schools have been working with some of our Year 8 Students at Hastings Secondary College Port Macquarie Campus to create an artwork for the Schools Reconciliation Challenge. Now in its sixth year, the Schools Reconciliation Challenge, is the NSW Reconciliation Council’s annual art competition for young people in NSW in Years 5 to 9. The challenge aims to use art as a vehicle to engage students in the reconciliation process and to foster respectful relationships between schools and local Aboriginal communities.

As part of this year’s challenge students learned about Aboriginal Leaders like Adam Goodes, Cathy Freeman and Bronwyn Bancroft who are all trying to bring about a referendum to change the constitution so that is recognises Australian Aboriginal people as the first Australians. The artwork created by our students is a reflection of that learning. Winning art works will be framed and exhibited at The Rocks Discovery Museum in Sydney from NAIDOC Week (5 - 12 July) until September 2015, with sponsored travel for winners to attend the exhibition launch. Watch this space to see if we win one of the ten grants of $250 for art supplies and resources on offer.

Cassie Holland

Big Samba Workshop

Year 7 and 8 students have been invited to attend a Big Samba workshop on Friday 5th June in the Multi-purpose Centre from period four onwards. This workshop allows our students to participate in a highly energetic workshop to get them on their feet and performing in the Brazilian Samba style. The performer, Steve Schulz, has over 20 years’ experience and shares his joy of performance through teaching, performing and fusing various styles. Steve will take a roomful of students, buckets of percussion instruments and a whole heap of energy to create ‘The Big Samba’. All students should have already received a note from Mr Heddles or Miss Farmer. The cost of the workshop is $5 and is due back by Wednesday 3rd June.

Stage 4 Showcase

We would like to invite parents and guardians of Year 7 and 8 to come and see what your child has been learning and working on this semester. Come and see your child’s fabulous artworks or see them perform as part of an ensemble or a larger class ensemble. We would love to have you attend this evening on Thursday 4th June at the Port Macquarie Campus Multi – Purpose Centre, Hastings Secondary College, Port Macquarie Campus from 6pm.

A gold coin donation, at the door, will go towards buying further needed equipment such as reeds, music, instruments, paints, canvases and general supplies.

Students who are involved should have already received a note. Please come to the CAPA staffroom to collect one if you have not already.
FUTSAL (INDOOR SOCCER)

The Hastings School Titles of the Australian Futsal Association for 2015 were held on Tuesday 19th May at the Indoor Stadium at Port Macquarie.

Non-government and government schools participated including ‘special guest,’ Taree High School. The Port Macquarie Campus 16yrs boys’ team won their age division. The boys claim they only started to really try once they reached the semis when they beat Heritage Christian School 1 – 0.

They went on to defeat Camden Haven High School 3 – 1 in the final. The 16 years girls’ team from Port Macquarie Campus had a spectacular finish to their semi final game. The game ended in a draw after extra time and came down to a penalty shootout.

The goalkeeper Dorothy Steinbach saved three of their penalty shots which won them the game. After a hard fought final game they went down to Westport Campus which gave Hastings Secondary College both titles at least.
Year 10 Parents, Carers and Students
Year 10 – 11 Program Study and Career Pathways Interviews Tuesday 16th June and Wednesday 17th June 2015

- Interview times have been mailed to all Year 10 students’ parents/carers.
- Please contact Ms Cowan at school on 65 831 844 if you have not received your appointment details letter, all letters should have been received by Wednesday 5th June 2014.
- Year 10 students do NOT attend normal classes on Tuesday 16th June and Wednesday 17th June 2015. Students are only required to attend school for their scheduled interview appointment.
- Students are reminded to bring their HSC Course Selection Interview Sheet (yellow form attached to your appointment letter) with all relevant information completed, to their interview, 2016 Senior Studies Guide and 2016 Course Selection Sheet.

Please contact Ms Cowan on 65 831 844 if you have any questions.

Hastings Secondary College
Excellence - Innovation - Opportunity - Success

Year 11 - 2016 Subject Selection Evening

Invitation to Year 10 students and parents from all schools

The Hastings Secondary College principals extend a warm invitation to Year 10 students and parents from all schools. Our Subject Selection Evening will outline the senior curriculum opportunities available at Hastings Secondary College in 2016. There will be opportunities to speak with teachers, advisors and the executive from both campuses about curriculum choice and pathways options for Year 11, 2016. Come and discover the outstanding education available to your child at Hastings Secondary College.

Panthers Auditorium Thursday 11th June 2015 6pm - 8pm
Careers News

National Youth Science Forum
Four of our high achieving students in Year 11 have been going through the application process in the hope of being selected for the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) hosted by Australian National University at Canberra in January 2016. The NYSF’s mission is to provide community minded and science focused young Australians an opportunity for network development and insight into skills, careers and a lifetime of achievement in science, engineering and technology. Port Macquarie Rotary Club will be kindly sponsoring our students if they make it through the rigid selection process. The four students, Rachel Alger, Oliver Cowan, Sahara Hargraves and Rhys Marquez were interviewed by a panel of four Rotary members this week and have all been selected to move on to next selection interviews at Walcha in the near future.

University of Newcastle Year 12 Open Day Excursion
The University of Newcastle will be hosting a Schools Open Day on Thursday 16th June 2015. The purpose of this day is for the University and its various faculties to showcase its courses, facilities and services to prospective students.
Year 12 students are invited to attend this day. Students will be able to compile their own program for the day, including faculty presentations and other information sessions, demonstrations, and tours of facilities and accommodation.
To attend this excursion students must register at the School Careers Room. Please note numbers are restricted for this excursion.

Year 11 Senior Success Night
The next session for the Hastings Secondary College Senior Support Program for Year 11 students will be held:

Tuesday 2nd June 2015 at Charles Sturt University, Grant St. Port Macquarie 6:00 – 7:30pm
This session will cover:
- Year 11 Half Yearly Exam Review
- Review of Learning Styles and associated study tools
- Laying the foundations in Term 3 for the HSC year ahead

We anticipate that you will all come along and attend this session which has been arranged to enhance your HSC success at Hastings Secondary College.

Mr White – Careers Adviser
Reconciliation Week

Some of our campus students and teachers participated in the Reconciliation Walk on Sunday. This marked the beginning of Reconciliation Week. Walkers started at the Skate Park and finished at the Glasshouse forecourt.

Uncle Bill O'Brien gave a ‘Welcome to Country’ and Mayor Peter Besseling gave a speech on the importance of reconciliation. The Pipi Dance was taught by local didgeridoo performer Steven Donovan. Bush Tucker was provided for morning tea.

What is Reconciliation Week?
This is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us, can join in the reconciliation effort.

Some of our staff and students participated in the walk.

Mrs von Schoenberg
Aboriginal Education Co-ordinator.