James’s first stop was Paris which he found both beautiful and sombre. He saw the Eiffel tower, the Champs Elysees, Notre Dame and the Palace de la Concorde. He also visited the Museum of the Grand Army and a hospital and retirement home for veterans.

James’ favourite sites were the Napoleonic Gates but was also impressed by the Palace of Versailles’ Hall of Mirrors. James had afternoon tea with the Australian Ambassador to France.

The group went to Ypres and Lille and saw the area where a million men were wounded or killed. In Fromelles he joined the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the battle.

At Passchendaele they experienced “a day in the life of a soldier of the front”.

At the Somme, James stopped at a battlefield where Australia lost 10,000 men in two battles. Then he visited Villies where there is an ANZAC memorial service every year. Our memorial there has the names of 11,000 Australians missing in France.

On the last full day they helped commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the Battle of Pozieres where 23,000 Australian soldiers were killed or wounded.

This was a moving experience for James seeing for himself the cemeteries with rows and rows of unknown soldiers, even speaking with a stranger at a cemetery who shared a personal sorrow.

James had to research a particular soldier, Hal Price, who died at Bullecourt in 1917. James made good friends on the trip and had an experience he will never forget.
Vale Jay Reynolds
On Monday 25 July Jay passed away in a tragic accident at Nobby’s Beach. The campus extends its deepest sympathies to Jay’s family and friends. Campus representatives attended the funeral on Wednesday and at the family’s request a donation is being made to the Port Macquarie Hospital Youth Mental Health team in Jay’s name.

Education Week
We celebrated Education Week in a variety of ways. The first is the Ceremony of Excellence described below. We are following up with our two CAPA nights on Wednesday (Stage 5) and Thursday (Stage 6). We have had a visit by a team from Callaghan College who have been working with groups of teachers around the use of technology in teaching and learning. We have also had the start of the visit by our Japanese sister school Okadama. The variety of our activities echoes the rich learning environment that we are aiming to build in the school.

Hastings Valley Community of Schools Night of Excellence
The college celebrated excellence in academic achievement and performing arts on Tuesday night. As we all waited expectantly for the night to begin we listened to our Saxophone Quartet perform and Tanesha Palmer sing. Excellence awards went to: Year 7 - Jade Carrick, Bridget Flint and Timothy Kobelke, Year 8 – Ella Barnett, Sarah Long and Bonnie Rudd, Year 9 – Abi Cornish Ruairidh Granger and Camilla Moen, Year 10 – Helen Charles, Blake Elliott and Samet Portakaidali, Year 11 – Ebony O’Brien, George Rudd and Shawn Wilson and in Year 12 – Rachel Alger, Sahara Hargraves and Rhys Marquez. During the ceremony we were entertained again by the saxophone quartet and by the Hatchlings Band as well as the Elite Dance Group from our primary partner schools. Shawn

Grease is the Word
The performance of Grease at the Players Theatre was a wonderful opportunity for our Creative Industries Academy to see Drama, Music, Dance and theatre craft in action. The campus is very involved in the play with Hamish Keddie our Drama teacher (who directed Popstars for the college) also directing this production. Stewart Heddles, one of our music teachers, is in the production. He plays Knickie, the second in command of the T-Birds. Although Stewart has performed in many venues as a musician, this is his first time as an actor. It is rumoured that his own mother didn't recognise him in his wig. Some of our college students are involved in the acting, music or production of the play. These students include Liam Eastwell, Miriam Woolf, Billy Axford, Chris Phillips, Matt McDonald- Kearns, Shannon Beck, Dorothee Steinbeck, Nichols Smith and Brodie Baldwin. The production has received excellent reviews and I would like to congratulate Hamish and all the others who are involved from the college. I am looking forward to seeing it for myself.

Students Plant over 100 new trees
Our students joined with students from Port Macquarie Primary to plant trees in Mrs York’s Garden. This was part of Planet Ark’s School Tree day. They planted 100 native littoral rainforest plants. These trees are endemic to this area and the aim of the planting is to restore an endangered ecosystem. The Port Macquarie Council and the Observatory Hotel helped sponsor the activity. It is great to see our students working so hard for the environment.

There is much to look forward to in the next fortnight. The Trial HSC starts and our Japanese goodwill visit continues. We also have the Creative Industries visit to Sydney and our mighty team is going to City to Surf.
We welcome Charlie Maher and Vince Scott as our newest school staff members. Charlie moved here recently from Dubbo. He grew up in Alice Springs and has been working for the Clontarf Foundation now for over eight years.

Vince is a recent recruit for the Foundation and has had a wide experience in the building trade, working for the aged and for the Ombudsman as an investigator.

Both men come to our school with a variety of experience and skills but have one main aim: to be long-term mentors to our Aboriginal boys while here at school and even after they have completed their schooling.

The Clontarf Foundation’s logo states: ‘From Little Things Big Things Grow’. Both Charlie and Vince want to play a ‘little’ but very important part in the lives of our Aboriginal boys as they mentor and encourage them to gain the skills and values they will need to successfully participate more meaningfully in their communities.

The Foundation’s vision statement clearly says: ‘The Clontarf Foundation exists to improve the education, discipline, self-esteem, life skills and employment prospects of young Aboriginal men and, by doing so, equips them to participate more meaningfully in society.’

The work that Clontarf Foundation has carried out across Australia in partnerships with schools, on behalf of Aboriginal boys, has had great results with school retention, school attendance rates and employment after graduating from high school.

Welcome Charlie and Vince to our school community! We look forward to supporting you both in your new roles as you endeavour to mentor and develop relationships with our Aboriginal boys.

For further information on the Clontarf Foundation go to their website: www.clontarf.org.au

SCIENCE NEWS

Physics Excursion to Sydney

Last term Year 12 Physics students of Port Macquarie Campus and Westport Campus visited ANSTO (Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation). Students observed the functioning nuclear reactor, neutron scattering, particle accelerators and the creation of nuclear medicines. Students also took part in a Physics workshop at Sydney University using liquid nitrogen to levitate magnets and see how they can be applied to Maglev trains. As part of our Space topic we also measured G-Force at Luna Park.
City 2 Surf Team

A group of students from our Campus is gearing up for the City 2 Surf run from Hyde Park to Bondi Beach on Sunday 14th August. Both students and staff have been training hard in the lead up to one of the world’s biggest fun run events.

This year the team is dedicating their run to Clem McGrath a support Teacher who passed away at the end of last year after a long battle with illness. “Clem was involved in organising the City 2 Surf excursion over a number of years and truly cared for all of the students at the school. He really enjoyed doing the run so we are showing our respect for him by having his name printed on each of the team shirts this year. He really was a great bloke”, organiser and Head Teacher PDHPE Geoff Duck said.

“There is a great mix of runners in this year’s team, some have been training to get a competitive time, while others are just in it for fun”, Mr Duck said.

They will certainly have their work cut out for them as they tackle the 14 kilometre course as part of the estimated eighty thousand competitors.

The team will now compete in the next round of the Swan Shield against Moree.

College AFL Team

Hastings Secondary College AFL team played in a Gala Day against teams from Mckillop College and Melville High School. The team was a few players short but managed to score a strong win over Melville High School. Players who stood out on the day were Jack Terley and Cuban Quinlan. Congratulations also to Lauren Beasley who showed courage to lace up the boots against the boys.

Tour of Players Theatre

This week the Creative Industries class was treated to a tour of the set of Grease, currently playing at The Players Theatre. Students explored the set design with designer Simone Berry who led a team of dedicated designers who engineered a clever set that reveals the story of the characters we know and love from the musical Grease.

Students explored the stage, the costume department, the dressing rooms, the lighting, sound and music areas learning about all facets of a musical and how each one depends upon the other. Sue Morvan the president of Players
Theatre explained the history of the theatre and the volunteers who make it all possible. She invited each student to become a member of the Theatre and to get involved as theatre teaches crucial skills like discipline, dedication and social interaction as well as giving personal fulfilment because it’s just fun!

Our very own Drama teacher Mr Keddie, who is the director of Grease, went over key terms and concepts of the theatre whilst uncovering his trials and tribulations as a director in a major production like Grease.

The Stage 4 Creative Industries Class at Players Theatre

Over 100 students at Hastings Secondary College Port Campus will see the musical this week at a special Matinee viewing. They support their peers and teachers who have worked so hard to provide our community with a professional, vibrant and spirited version of Grease that sports a REAL CAR on stage. If you haven’t seen it yet, go! You will love it.

CAREERS NEWS

Careers Expo Excursion

On 27 July a group of forty Port Macquarie Campus Year 12 students travelled to seek career resources and information at the annual Careers Expo. This excursion provided the latest information that helped Year 12 students make decisions about their future careers and life beyond school. This valuable information day provided students with the opportunity to discover what their courses of interest involve and potential career outcomes. It also provided an opportunity to talk face to face with recruiting, academic and specialist staff.

Flying Scholarships

The Hastings District Flying Club is offering two $1200 flying scholarships to students to promote aviation to the youth of the Hastings. The scholarship represents 50% of the minimum Air Instruction cost and is open to students aged between 15 and 20 years who have a strong interest in learning how to fly. Applications close on Friday 31st August 2016. For further information and application forms see the Careers Adviser.

Year 11 students present at Rotary Dinner

Four Year 11 students were special guests to present at the Port Macquarie Rotary Club dinner last Wednesday night. Shona McKechnie, Tiah Edwards, Sam Harris and Shawn Wilson reported back about the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) event that they attended in Kempsey last term. The students also debated the topic that “plastic bags should be banned”, which created lots of discussion at the dinner. The students and school thank the Port Macquarie Rotary Club who generously sponsored the students in attending MUNA. The boy’s team of Sam and Shawn is progressing further and attending the National MUNA event in Canberra later this term.
Luminosity Youth Summit

Over three powerful, inspiring days Luminosity Youth Summit was held at Port Macquarie’s Glasshouse and over 30 of our students had the amazing opportunity to attend. We thank our major sponsor Port City Bowling Club for providing such generous support to fund 20 of our students to attend the summit. We also thank the Charles Sturt University Future Moves team for their support.

Year 11 student Shelbi Evans shares her thoughts about the inspiring conference:

"YOU HAVE THE POWER TO BE POWERFUL" is the quote, by the legend Andrew Morello, that has stuck with me the most after the Luminosity Youth Summit. This summit has given me a huge amount of inspiration to try my hardest at school and in life. I would highly recommend this summit to anyone, absolutely everyone! Over the three days the summit included some of the best experiences of my whole life. The African drumming group, Rafiki Connection, was the highlight of my experience at Luminosity because the performers shared their beautiful culture and music. In saying that, all of the performers and speakers were incredibly talented and shared so much inspiration. The intentions of Luminosity is to encourage all of the young guns to inspire, challenge and excel, and the summit did exactly that! The summit wouldn't have been possible if it wasn't for the sponsors and their help was greatly appreciated. I’d especially like to acknowledge the Wauchope Uniting Church that sponsored me and made it possible for me to experience luminosity and be inspired. This is an experience I will never forget and anyone interested should definitely go to the next Luminosity, you won't be disappointed!!!!

Junior PBL Team

Interested students in the Positive Behaviour For Learning Team have been working hard to address litter at our school by creating new strategies to keep our school clean.

Watch this space for the launch of a video competition that could win you a great prize or to see the newly designed ‘Uncle Sammet Poster’ coming to a classroom wall near you.

New Senior Ties

The Parent and Citizen Association is currently gifting new Campus Ties to all Year 11 and 12 students. To collect your tie please go to the Uniform Shop on Monday or Thursday afternoons between 1.45am and 2.45am. There are 2 designs to choose from.
Friday 5 August
• Christian SRE Seminar – selected students
• Year 12 Fundraiser BBQ – whole School

Monday 8 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students
• Year 11 Physics Assessment

Tuesday 9 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students
• Techno Museum Workshop – selected Year 8 students
• Creative Industries Excursion to Sydney

Wednesday 10 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students

Thursday 11 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students
• Year 11 Engineering Studies Assessment
• Future Choice Expo at Panthers – selected Year Senior Students

Friday 12 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students
• Year 11 Biology Assessment
• College AFL Match in Tamworth – selected students
• Year 12 Fundraiser BBQ – whole School

Monday 15 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students
• Year 11 PDHPE Assessment
• Year 11 Agriculture Assessment
• Science Fair at Panthers – selected Year 8 and 10 students

Tuesday 16 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students

Wednesday 17 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students

Thursday 18 August
• HSC Trial Exams
• Year 11 Work Placement – selected students

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