The travelling STEM Roadshow from the University of Wollongong under the leadership of Dr. Bob Wheway visited Hastings Secondary College on Thursday 24 November. Students from Westport Campus joined their peers at the Port Macquarie Campus for the occasion.

Dr. Wheway holds a PHD in Mechanical Engineering and is the Honorary Principal Fellow of the Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences at the University of Wollongong

STEM is an acronym coined from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The roadshow is designed to make STEM fun and engaging for all junior students and introduces students to basic Science, Engineering and Maths principles. It also allows students to consider selecting these subjects when planning their future study options. The Roadshow is fully funded by the Federal Government.

The Roadshow is comprises of eight interactive, hands-on activities where students in small groups rotate through each of the following activities, run by young people employed from the university:

- 3D printing;
- drones;
- timber beam building and testing;
- water storage tank building and testing;
- making and testing bottle rockets;
- driving an open-wheeler racer driving simulator;
- extraction of the genome of strawberries and radioactive isotope half-life.

The students found all of these captivating which, was evident from smiles all round.

At the end of each session the students were invited to complete a brief survey.

An analysis of student responses from five previous schools shows that student interest in STEM almost doubles after the Roadshow visit.

Hastings Secondary College was the 101st school to be visited by the Roadshow and it is the third time in three years that the Roadshow has visited the Mid North Coast.
It has been another stimulating fortnight with great highlights including School Spectacular, White Ribbon Day, an Excursion to Lady Musgrove Island and a visit from two of the top staff at Department of Education.

College news

The college Deputy Principal Teaching and Learning has been appointed. Kylee Owen was successful, she will be focusing on the professional learning of staff and improving teaching and learning. This is an exciting step forward for the college as we consolidate all the innovations we have made and look towards what new directions we can take. The position of Community Liaison Officer has not been filled yet, so advertising will now go beyond the college. In Week 10 we will have our last CAB (Community Advisory Board) meeting to plan data collection for the new college plan.

Staff Changes for next year

With Darryl Mason on leave and Kylee Owen moving into her new position we have had to make some staff adjustments. These appointments were based on Expressions of Interest across the college. All panels included members from both campuses. For next year the relieving deputies will be Geoff Duck and Jo Bourke. The relieving Head Teacher Science will be Nettie Riethmuller and the relieving PE Head Teacher will be Damien Huens. I would like to congratulate all the successful candidates and thank all those who applied for showing their interest and dedication.

White Ribbon Day

Last Friday our captains and some of our Year 10 leaders accompanied by Westport Campus leaders attended the White Ribbon Day breakfast at the University of Newcastle medical facility. Students from Kempsey were also in attendance.

Uncle Bill gave a Welcome to Country and the mayor, Peter Besseling, spoke about the importance of community involvement in stopping domestic violence. Local youth spoke about what domestic violence can do to young people. Mr Keddie, our Year 10 adviser, accompanied the students. Shawn Wilson, our boy’s captain, reported the breakfast was very successful and an important way to help everyone understand the tragedy of domestic violence.

School Spectacular

Our students had the most amazing experiences at School Spectacular. All the hard work paid off as they became part of a world record breaking performance. Over 5,000 students were involved. Our music and dance students were able to consolidate what they had learned remotely through the intensive rehearsals before the show. Our Entertainment students had the opportunity to be technical staff and immerse themselves in the world of large scale productions. See more details later in the newsletter. I thank Mrs Moylan, Miss Farmer and Mr Heddles for the effort they put into training and supervising our students.

Visit from Peter Riordan and Tamara Daniels

On Monday Peter Riordan, Deputy Secretary of Corporate Services, and Tamara Daniels, Director Corporate Services, visited both campuses of the college. At our campus they came to the captains’ morning tea and looked at Clontarf. We had invited the Westport captains to the morning tea. Peter and Tamara got the opportunity to speak with the students at length, particularly around their ideas on college life and the future directions for the college.
Christian’s Art work is in Art Express

This week we had official notice that Christian Familar’s Visual Art major work has been included in Art Express. It will be on display in Sydney, Tamworth, Moree and Grafton. Congratulations to Christian, his teacher, Karen Noble, and the CAPA faculty.

P&C Christmas get together

The P&C will be having a Christmas celebration on Wednesday December 14 at the Chop and Chill on Town Green. It is for volunteers, teachers and members. It will start at 6pm. Nibbles will be provided, buy your own drinks. All welcome.

Night of Excellence

We are looking forward to Tuesday night 5 December when we will be having our Night of Excellence. We will be honouring our best students in academic, sporting, community and cultural fields. We will have a visual overview of the year and hear some of our best performers.

Our Week 10 newsletter will be a little different to the others. We will be reviewing the year and giving you the critical dates for the beginning of next year.

Lorraine Haddon

CREATING AND PERFORMING ARTS

CAPA Night Tuesday 15 November saw many of our talented students exhibit and perform pieces that they had worked hard on all semester.

There was a range of performances from Years 7 to 10 ranging in skill and ability and supported by an appreciative audience.

There were many artworks that were a talking point with various elements and mediums used ranging from digital and traditional photography, painting and ceramics. Standouts were Abi Cornish and her series of three alien like figures commenting on themes of the body in our society as well as the interesting range of digital images from Ms Noble’s Photography and Digital Media course, always a popular choice in Year 9.

Highlight performers were Blake O’Connor performing a piece from the Zac Brown Band and Miriam Woof who performed in a number of pieces throughout the night either as the lead singer or supporting others.

Zack Erderly performed an engaging monologue from the TV series ‘Dare Devil’ that captivated the audience and tugged at our heart strings as he made comment on a returned serviceman’s experiences. Nicole Steer also wowed the audience with her monologue from the movie and musical ‘Heathers’.

We thank Mr Fisher for his kind words that opened the night, our principal who continues to support every CAPA night with enthusiasm, Entertainment students, Ms Wells for her continued customer service in the canteen and everyone who helped make the night possible.

The CAPA Team
Schools Spectacular 2016

A new year, a new venue and a new Guinness World Record!

Seven Choir members, Nine Dancers, Two Entertainment Crew, Three Teachers and One very brave parent made the journey to the 2016 Schools Spectacular variety concert at Qudos Bank Arena, Sydney Olympic Park last Tuesday.

After a full day of travel, students were excited and ready for their full day of rehearsals and initiation to this professional extravaganza, singing, dancing and ‘striking’ the stage.

Thursday’s double rehearsal had everyone looking and sounding polished in a venue that seats a potential 21,000.

The 2,700-strong choir was something to be reckoned with, filling the space with beautiful harmonies and enthusiastic choralography.

The dance items were highly visual creating beautiful movement and colour to the sounds of the Schools Spectacular Orchestra and Jazz Band.

A special congratulations to Camden Haven High student Lindsey Kaul who also stayed with us, being one of two Oboe players in the Orchestra.

This year, The NSW Arts Unit was tackling a Guinness World Record for ‘Largest Amateur Variety Act’. The goal was to beat 2500 students in this category. After wristbands were painfully scanned, bags checked and seats filled, the final count smashed the old record coming in just over 5,300 students!!

The roar from the Arena was not only electrifying but could be heard a block away.

You can see the special 3hr event on Channel 7 this Saturday Night at 7pm.

I would like to congratulate and thank all students who have worked so painstakingly hard in the leading months for this show, and to Mrs Hawes who bravely accepted the role to join us.

A tremendous thank you to both Mrs Moylan and Ms Farmer for their organisation this year and their never-ending dedication to offer our students these marvellous opportunities and to Mr Heddles for doing the shopping!

Choir – Ashley Carrick, Liam Eastwell, Elijah Hargraves, Jade Carrick, Michelle Starron, Layla Dowell.

Dancers Eva Wells, Jordan Folley, Xanthe Cassidy, Courtney Camozzato, Hayley Cowell, Makayla Stevens, Tegan McCaughley (WPC), Julia Chircop (WPC)

Entertainment Crew—Nikita Heuer and Drew Miante.
2017 Artexpress Exhibition

Congratulations to Christian Familiar for his selection in the 2017 Artexpress Exhibition! This exhibition is a selection of the top artworks by students in New South Wales. Christian's works will be in the travelling regional tour and will be documented on the Artexpress web site next year.

Lady Musgrave Island

A Marine Science/Biology excursion involving students from the Hastings Secondary College ventured to Lady Musgrave Island, east from the town of 1770 Queensland, on the Great Barrier Reef.

The important theme, which underpinned all experiences they had was the conservation of Australia’s Natural Marine Environment Heritage. They learnt about the fragile nature of The Great Barrier Reef and investigated the unique marine, animal, bird and plant life on a coral cay. Students got first hand understanding of the importance of sharks as apex predators of the ocean and planned and conducted investigations on the diverse underwater and terrestrial ecology of Lady Musgrave Island. In particular they were involved in a unique international program called Coral Watch which requires them to colour code corals to detect bleaching and enter their results on a worldwide database. The students were involved in an extensive monitoring of turtle egg laying and short tailed shearwaters each night. Grace Rogers, Lewis Kranitis, Jack and Zac Terley for Port Campus all participated with enthusiasm and awe of the amazing things we saw.

Students Clean Up in Positive Behaviour for Learning Video Competition

Members of the school’s Student PBL team awarded the winners of their Video Competition with a certificate and prizes on a recent whole school assembly. The competition was one aspect of the student led campaign to increase the cleanliness of the school and make the grounds “litter free”.

The focus of this competition was on educating the students on the negative effect of litter on the nearby oceans and marine life, and how students can make a difference by cleaning up after
themselves. First prize included tickets for four people on Port Macquarie’s Cruise Adventure’s Fast & Fun Rib Adventure Ride and was taken out by recently graduated Year 12 students Jaxon Pollard and Christian Familiar who came back especially for the presentation.

The overall place getters were:

First  Jaxon Pollard  Christian Familiar
Second  Jamie Henry  Towa Henry  June Bruce
Third  Arkitlah Murphy  Tristan Abbott

Wheelchair Sports NSW’ Visits Port Macquarie Campus

Rick Engles made his fourth visit to Port Macquarie Campus this week. Rick has worked for ‘Wheelchair Sports, NSW’ for 11 years and visits over 300 schools a year across NSW.

With the use of a dozen ‘sports’ wheelchairs Rick drives his ‘Wheelchair Roadshow’ to secondary and primary schools and even juvenile detention centres across NSW.

The main emphasis of his visits is to help students realise that when they are in control of a vehicle they need to make the correct decisions to keep themselves and others safe.

Rick tries to make his talks on road safety relevant and fun. ‘If I can help one or two students make the right road safety decisions I am happy,’ Rick said.

‘I enjoy watching the students play basketball in wheelchairs,’ Rick added.

Students from Years 7 to 10 participated in Rick’s ‘Wheelchair Roadshow’ over two days at the Port Macquarie Campus.

Wheelchair Sports NSW, which was formed in 1961, is a charitable organisation responsible for the development, promotion and delivery of wheelchair sport in NSW.

It all started more than 50 years ago with a few visionary wheelchair members who believed in the power of sport to rehabilitate and integrate.

Programs are specifically designed to cater for people with disabilities ranging from spinal cord injury, spina bifida, amputation, paraplegia, quadriplegia to other similar disabling conditions and are delivered throughout regional and metropolitan NSW to ensure all members have opportunities to participate and develop in sport.

For more information on ‘Wheelchair Sports NSW’ go to: www.wsnsw.org.au
You are invited to the Hastings Secondary College, Port Campus, Stage Assemblies on

Friday 9 December at the Port Macquarie Campus Multi – Purpose Centre

at the following times.  
Year 7, 8 & 9 – 8.15am until 10.24am periods 1 and 2  
Year 10 & 11 – 10.54am until 12.48am periods 3 and 4  

All family members welcome. Please be on time and seated quickly for a prompt start

Placement Employers For 2016

Year 11 and 12 VET students undertake Work Placement as a mandatory course component.

Work placement allows students to gain invaluable experience in the commercial work environment. Many students have also gained part-time employment after their successful work placements – well done!

Uniform Shop
Opening Times For January

23, 24, 25 January 9am-12 noon
30 January 9am-12 noon
On behalf of our VET teachers and students thank you to the following establishments and organisations for their outstanding support given to our students during work placement. We look forward to ongoing links with each employer in 2017 and beyond.

Ms Judith Cowan
VET Coordinator

Port Macquarie Hastings Council Glasshouse
The Arts Unit – Schools Spectacular
Café 66
Garden Village Port Macquarie – Hospitality
Hastings Secondary College Port Macquarie Campus – School Canteen
Hope Cafe
The Pancake Place Panthers Port Macquarie – Hospitality
Pure and Natural
Rydges Hotel Port Macquarie
XS Food
All Port Smash Repairs
All Small Engines
Andrew Miedecke Motors Service Department
Bale Defence Industries (Asia Pacific) Pty Ltd
Allsorts of Sweets
Amart Sports
Anaconda – Port Macquarie
Aquamail
Baker’s Delight – Settlement City
BCF (Boating Camping Fishing) Australia
Big W
Bookface
Bunnings Warehouse
Foodworks
Gossip Hair Studio
Graham Seers Cyclery
Hairlarious Hairdressing Salon
Hastings Co-op IGA Port Macquarie
Hope Shop
Jon’s Family Jewellers
Priceline Pharmacy
Supacheap Auto Port Macquarie
Telstra License Shop
Berne Mobile Welding
Clarry Anderson Sheetmetal Pty Ltd
Extreme Velocity Engineering Pty Ltd
Lighthouse Mover and Boat Service
Mid Coast Marine
Mid Coast Mobile Servicing
Mid North Coast Auto Electrics
Miedecke Auto Body Repairs
Macquarie Exhaust and Mechanical Centre
North Eastern Door Frames
Oxley Refrigeration / Amertec Pty Ltd.
Pacific Balastrades
Port Muffler and Brakes
Spray Paint Perfection
Supalook Smash Repairs
TJM Equipped
Thompson’s Brushes
Tyreright
Willing and Able
Woodbridge Glass
- SBAT
Red Rooster – Gordon Street Port Macquarie
The Good Guys
Trendz Nail and Beauty Care
Willing and Able
Andrew Miedecke Motors Services Dept.
Busways – Port Macquarie
Warren Plowright Toyota
Mercure Centro Hotel – Port Macquarie
Oxley Cove Holiday Apartments
Port Macquarie Hastings Council Glasshouse
SBAT - ACES Inc.
Big W
Chemist Warehouse
Cruise Terminal – Port Macquarie
Hope Cafe
Plunkett’s Chemart Pharmacy
RSPCA – Port Macquarie
Trendz Nail and Beauty Care
Willing and Able
Friday 2 December 2016

• Work Placement Yr11 Retail Services
• Year 10 Optional Work Experience

Monday 5 December 2016

• Year 10 Optional Work Experience

Tuesday 6 December 2016

• Year 7 2017 Orientation
• Evening of Excellence
• Year 10 Optional Work Experience

Wednesday 7 December 2016

• Year 10 Optional Work Experience

Thursday 8 December 2016

• Year 10 Optional Work Experience

Friday 9 December 2016

• Year 10 Optional Work Experience

Monday 12 December 2016

• High Achievers Camp

Tuesday 13 December 2016

• High Achievers Camp

Wednesday 14 December 2016

• High Achievers Camp

Thursday 15 December 2016

• Legal/Business Sydney excursion