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**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

As we enter the exam period with classes concluding this week I would like to wish students, parents and our community all the best on behalf of Hawker College for the end of the year and the upcoming holiday period. Best of luck too, to our Year 12 students, I know you have all worked very hard. My thanks go to all of you and your families as you move on to the next exciting phase in life, for your contribution to our school community over the last two years. We are all looking forward to sharing Graduation Day with you on the 14th of December.

Over the next few weeks staff at Hawker College will be marking, assessing, moderating, reporting on 2016 efforts and results, and planning and preparing for 2017. It is a very busy time for our entire team, as we will also be working on preparations for the Formal and Graduation, and getting the learning spaces, school grounds and facilities ready for the start of the school year in January.
I would like to take this opportunity to signal an important change to how Hawker College will operate from January 2017:

- Our timetable will be altered to allow for more options for curriculum programs, and consistency of school hours, in the interests of our students. There will be no significant change to current hours of operation.

I will be sending a more detailed notification on these changes for feedback in the near future to our 2017 families. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have immediate concerns.

It is important to acknowledge the excellent work of our School Board and P&C. I would particularly like to thank Rebekah Gupte, Chair of the School Board, Carolyn Fisher, President of the P&C, and Heather Grainger, Secretary of the P&C for their commitment to Hawker College. All three are moving on from their official roles in 2017 and we are grateful for their legacy. I encourage all parents to consider participating next year, all are welcome!

I am very grateful finally, for the welcome I have received from students, staff and parents as I have joined Hawker College this year. It is a remarkable community, and I am looking forward to working alongside you as we engage and inspire each other to achieve our best.

Andy Mison
Principal

**IMPORTANT DATES**
Thurs 17 - Tues 17 November 2016
Exam Period

Wednesday 23 November 2016
AST Trial - Year 11 Tertiary Students 8:45am

Thursday 24 November 2016
Assessment Check Day - All Students

Friday 25 November 2016
Year 12 Breakfast - 9am

Monday 5 December 2016
Reports Issued in MI Groups - 2pm
Wednesday 7 December 2016
Year 12 Formal - National Museum of Australia
Arrivals from 5:30pm
Group photo 6:30pm

Wednesday 14 December 2016
Year 12 Graduation Ceremony - The Playhouse Theatre 11:00am

Three very clever woodwork students, under the brilliant leadership of tech teacher Adrian Lemke, have spent hours crafting beautiful gavels for the Mock Trial Competition. Six gavels were designed and hand-made, including their cases, which were used by the judges for the Mock Trial Competition, hosted at Hawker College this semester.

On Wednesday 8 November, the students were formally recognised for their efforts and presented with certificates by Deputy Principal, Chris Brown. These gavels will remain at Hawker College and be used for many years to come. I sincerely thank these students for all their tireless work and for their quality workmanship, as these fine gavels are ‘fit for a king’.

Joanne Adams, Legal Studies Teacher & Mock Trial Coordinator
CANYONING AT KATOOMBA

This term we made an adventurous Canyoning trip to Katoomba NSW. This was an amazing location to walk through the beautiful canyons, jump into rock pools, slide down slippery rock slides, spider it along rock ledges, step over the edge of a cliff face hanging on a rope, taking in the never ending horizon of the Blue Mountains. This was a remarkable and unforgettable trip and not one to be missed.

HAWKER HITS THE SLOPES!

Term 3 was a big hit with all our snow students. We had 22 attend the snow camp and WOW, what a camp it was. Thredbo offering some amazing snow and beautiful weather. We managed to get half the group up to the highest lifted point in Australia, Karels T-Bar and capturing some very unique pictures. I think one highlight of the trip was the karaoke on the bus on the way home. Thredbo, we will see you in 2017!

Laura Press, Outdoor Education Teacher
REMEMBRANCE DAY AT HAWKER COLLEGE

At 11.00am on Friday 11 November, Hawker College came together to commemorate the ending of World War One almost 100 years ago, and the hopes for peace that followed. After observing one minute's silence, students, staff and guests helped make this a moving and memorable event.

Special thanks to the Returned and Services League, Belconnen Sub-Branch: Air Vice Marshall (Retired) Mac Weller, OAM; Group Captain (Retired) Arthur Skimin, OAM, JP; and Mr Ian Sayers, President, Belconnen RSL. The speeches by Air Vice Marshall Weller and Group Captain Skimin made a big impact on the audience, as did a reflection by Bernie Bamber (Year 11) and a poem by Yi Lerk Chin (Year 12).

MCs Ineka Voigt (Year 11) and Anand Gupte (Year 12) performed their roles impressively. There were also fitting musical contributions by Nicky Philipse (Year 12) on bugle, Thomas Powles (Year 12) on cello, music teacher Veronica Thwaites-Brown on piano and keyboard, and a student/staff vocal ensemble. The Parents and Citizens were represented by Chairperson Ms Carolyn Fisher. Unfortunately, the Japanese Ambassador, Mr Sumio Kusaka, and Board Chairperson Ms Rebekah Gupte were unable to attend. Andy Mison brought the event to a close by warmly thanking everyone who had been involved.

Chris Kenna, History and English Teacher

Reflection by Bernie Bamber

Today, the 98th anniversary of the WWI Armistice, is important to commemorate, not only for the ending of aggressions after the First World War, but also as a day
to reflect on peace and the barriers to it, both in history and the modern world, Australia and abroad.

Throughout history there have been many people who have inspired others to stand up for what is fair and just, by peaceful means. Many of these have been subjected to violence, but have not retaliated in the same way.

Mahatma Gandhi, often described as the father of India, was the pioneer of non-violent protest. He rallied the people around him for one of the most peaceful and successful independence movements ever. In his words:

“Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man.”

Gandhi inspired the great American civil rights activist, Martin Luther King Jr, who understood what was needed for a peaceful society:

‘We must come to see that the end we seek is a society at peace with itself, a society than can live with its conscience.’

One thing common to all those who have inspired peace, is that they are tolerant of people who are different from themselves. They are open-minded. They believe that all humans deserve to be treated with dignity.

Malala Yousafzai is a recent example of a peaceful campaigner who has overcome extreme violence and prejudice. After being shot by the Taliban for disobeying their decree that girls were not to go to school, Malala survived and is now a powerful advocate for the education of women and under-privileged children. To quote Malala:

If you want to end war, then instead of sending guns, send books. Instead of sending tanks, send pens. Instead of sending soldiers, send teachers.

In these heavily divided times, let us hope that we and our leaders are inspired by the many examples of effective peace makers and realise that it is crucial to treat others with acceptance, tolerance and open-mindedness. I leave you with ‘Imagine’ by John Lennon.

Bernie Bamber, Year 11
HAWKER DRAMA STUDENTS PERFORM ‘COSI’

‘Cosi’, by Louis Nowra, was performed by the Hawker College Line 7 Drama class on Tuesday 8th - Saturday 12th November 2016 in the Murranji Theatre. Many thanks to the students and staff involved and to our generous community audiences for sharing our theatrical journey.

Unit: Actor and Director
The students in the Line 7 drama class studied ‘Actor and Director’ this semester, a unit that requires them to understand, use and evaluate a variety of theories and practices of acting, select and interpret scripts that reflect the theories and practices of the unit, understand and value the role of the director in contemporary theatrical practice, as well as engage with drama and theatre (in both on and offstage roles) through the creation of polished performance. Students in this class ranged from Year 11 – 12 and studied the unit at Tertiary, Accredited and Modified levels. The performance work demonstrated by the cast and crew in ‘Cosi’ last week was an example of authentic practical assessment for this unit, enabling students to demonstrate their engagement with and understanding of the key concepts of this unit within a celebratory community forum.

Synopsis: ‘Cosi’ by Louis Nowra
In this classic Australian play by Louis Nowra a Sydney slacker gets the chance to stage an opera, but his cast are assembled from the ranks of the mentally ill …

College dropout Lewis, desperately needs some money and fakes his way into a job doing occupational therapy with a group of asylum inmates. Although Lewis's original idea is to stage a protest play, in keeping with his political ideas and anti-Vietnam war stance, manic-depressive patient Roy soon hijacks the project and convinces Lewis to helm an adaptation of his favorite opera, Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutti. Lewis’ unlikely cast ranges from psycho-firebug Doug, flick-knife obsessed Cherry, OCD-suffering Ruth and the drug-addicted Julie. Given the dearth of acting and singing experience among these players, Lewis opts to translate the piece from Italian to English and stage it as a play with only a few pieces of music. The show still proves to be more than its director bargained for -- despite the dubious assistance of his friend Nick, a political activist and actor/director who has his eye on Lewis’s girlfriend Lucy. Through working with the patients and developing
empathy for their plight, Lewis also discovers a new side of himself, allowing him to emotionally connect and to value love, while anti-Vietnam war protests erupt in the streets outside …

**Director's notes: Crystal Mahon**

‘Cosi’ by Louis Nowra, is arguably one of Australia’s most famous plays, a text that is studied frequently by students from Year 10 -12 in schools across the country. The familiarity of this work to contemporary student audiences was one of the main reasons I selected it for class study, however, the play has much more to offer both performers and audiences. Firstly, it explores cherished universal themes such as love, commitment, acceptance and inclusion. It also references significant historical events in Australia such as the Vietnam War, the Protest movement and the sexual revolution as they form the backdrop to Lewis's personal journey of self-discovery. However, it is the theme of mental health/ illness which is probably the most pivotal for contemporary audiences.

Current research suggests that one in four Australians will suffer from a mental health concern at some point in their lifetime and this number seems to be rapidly growing - a significant issue for politicians, medical professionals and, of course, educators. Understanding mental health and illness, breaking down stigma linked to this issue, creating a culture of awareness, acceptance and support is vital if we want to address this issue in schools and the community. Whilst ‘Cosi’ is without doubt a comedy, with opening scenes of the play suggesting the characters may be viewed as objects of ridicule and/or fear, audiences quickly see Lewis empathise, identify and connect with the patient's essential humanity. By the end of the play he chooses them over his previous friends and life, who come from a world which he comes to view as ‘insane’ - a place where ideology has become more important than people.

Watching the students in this class follow Lewis's journey by empathising, identifying and connecting with the characters in this text in their own ways was incredibly rewarding. The journal entries and class discussions I have shared with students during this collaborative process show how far our society has come from viewing individual 'difference' as something to be feared and ridiculed to something not only to be accepted but celebrated. Hopefully we have contributed to this developing culture of inclusiveness by sharing our work with Hawker community audiences over the course of last week, making the lives of those who live with mental illness that little bit more bearable as a result of our classes engagement with Nowra's script.

Crystal Mahon, Executive Teacher
HAWKER DRAMA STUDENTS “PLAY ON”

‘Play On’ by Rick Abbott, a comedy based on the premise of a really bad play, performed by really bad actors was something that the Line 4 drama students felt they could have some fun with, and duly took the stage on Tuesday 8th - Friday 11th November 2016 in the Murranji Theatre. Interpreting and bringing to life the comedy embedded in the script has been quite a process.

Following on from our semester one ‘Comedy’ unit, where students put their creative energy into devising an original work, ‘Play On’ gave students a new experience in analysing a script, and sharing vision to bring the work from the page to the stage. It didn’t take long for students to realise how challenging this 'light hearted' play actually is.

Firstly, playing comedy is quite an art and takes a great deal of experimentation and timing to connect with the audience. It was this experimentation which saw many a laugh in class time, at camp, and of course during rehearsals. The play also requires many of the actors to play double roles throughout the entire show. Finding traits in each character to allow each to be performed with enough contrast has been a challenge but has also developed our actors beyond measure. Perhaps a risky decision was to perform a play that is intended to be ‘bad’ on all levels. I am confident that the class’s hard work will see the show performed so badly that it’s GREAT!

This production unit has offered students an authentic assessment opportunity where they have been involved in the theatrical journey at all levels, and with all decisions. Students have also offered integral solutions to the design elements of the show. Poster design, set design, prop sourcing, costuming, hair and makeup, lighting design, sound effects have all been student driven. I am always very proud of the creative and intelligent young people that I am lucky to work with every day.

I thought this quote by Yahoo Serious on comedy was ideal: “All the jokes in my films, the comedy, they’re not me; I just try to hold a big mirror up to us”. As we
approach the end of this process, it is quite clear, that perhaps this play is just reflecting our class in its attempt to stage a play. When students look back at this experience there is the potential to see stress, mistakes, and heartache, however when they look in that mirror I hope they see strength, learned lessons and pride in themselves.

The dedication and hours that have been put into this show not only comes from the production team, actors and directors, but also to our wonderful support network. To all of the people who have been involved in and supported this production, we extend a heartfelt thank you.

Donna Sullivan, Executive Teacher, The Arts

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**VISIT TO PORT KEMBLA STEELWORKS**

On Friday 28 October, students from Business and Metalwork classes travelled to Port Kembla Steelworks and enjoyed a thrilling 2.5 hour tour of the plant. This included an up close look at the largest and most dynamic concentration of heavy industry in Australia.

The Steelworks Company, Blue Scope, has its own transport infrastructure, from deep-water frontage on the harbour which accommodates the bulk iron ore carriers, to a network of road and rail lines. Students were amazed as they toured the highly automated plant, which utilises sophisticated computerised operating systems to ensure quality control standards are achieved. A highlight was viewing the Blast Furnace that is as tall as a 27 storey building and cost the company in excess of $370 million dollars when it was installed. We enjoyed following the steelmaking process from the arrival of the raw materials through to the finished product. It was a journey of discovery that won’t be forgotten.
SUCCESS FOR HAWKER MATHS!

The annual Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) was held on Thursday 28th July and the results have arrived. Outstanding success for Hawker College! This competition, organised by the Australian Mathematics Trust, is per capita the largest of its kind in the world. Over 600,000 students from more than 40 countries participate in the competition annually. This year we had twenty-one keen mathematics students competing.

A very special congratulation goes to Jack Fuller in Year 11 on being awarded a High Distinction. He performed outstandingly well and placed in the top 5% within his year and region. Jack attended the region’s awards ceremony at Canberra Grammar last month. This is an exceptional result for Jack and the college and community are suitably proud and impressed by this achievement.

Further plaudits go to the following students:
Yr 11 – An Jiang, Thanh Tuong achieved Distinctions; Joshua Kummerow, Jenny Tran, and Madelaine Ingram received Credits.
Yr 12 – Ying Ji, Ryun Pepper, Peiqing Fan, Lachlan Grainger, Jhanivi Kotecha, and Ernest Kwan were also Distinction recipients. Roland Zheng, Michael Lloyd, Nicholas Donovan, and Farhat Shiek received Credits.
All other participants received Proficiency and Participation certificates.

Earlier in the year the same students sat the Computational and Algorithmic Thinking Competition (CAT), also organised by the Australian Mathematics Trust.
Madelaine Ingram in Year 11, and Lachlan Grainger and Ernest Kwan in Year 12 received Distinctions. Credits were awarded to Joshua Kummerow and Nabil Slikker in Year 11; and Samantha Philipse, Ying Ji, Thomas Powles, Peiqing Fan, Ryun Pepper, and Roland Zheng in Year 12.

Well done, and congratulations to all of those students who entered the Australian Mathematics and CAT Competition this year: this is a wonderful result.

Jacqueline Howarth, Competition Manager

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ANCIENT HISTORY VISIT THE NICHOLSON MUSEUM

Members of the Ancient History class traveled recently to Sydney on an excursion to visit the Nicholson Museum. Part of the University of Sydney, the museum has numerous artefacts from many cultures, but excels in their three main exhibits: Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome.

To begin our tour, we were taken into the artefact room, and invited to touch and hold ancient items with our own hands. We gathered information of the artefacts of our choice and presented it along with a drawing, much like real archaeologists and historians would do in the field. We were then given a guided tour of the museum, examining items from the three major ancient civilisations. From the mummy of a boy named Horus, to the stunning Athenian pottery, the artefacts on display were astounding. Combined with the vast knowledge of our guide, it was an amazing day, and well worth the travel time. It shed further light onto the cultures that we have studied during class, and also on some that we haven’t had the opportunity to yet.

Many thanks to Kristian Whittaker for organising the excursion, Jane Southerton for
accompanying us and of course the staff at the Nicholson Museum for giving up their time in order to show us around and share their knowledge.

Corinna Schubert, Year 12 student

"REFUGEES" COMPETITION WINNERS

The winners of the competition that allowed students to express their answer to the question “Refugees - Do Their Lives Matter?” either through an essay, a poem, a drawing or a song, were announced at the recent Term 4 Year meetings. The Year 12 prize went to a jointly prepared interpretative piece on a powerful image called: “Let Them Stay”. This piece was prepared by Farhat Sheik, Rebecca Braddock (pictured in photo) and Sam Philipse. It showed deep reflection not just on the meaning behind the artist’s image but also on the broad range of issues associated with Australia’s refugee policy.

The Year 11 prize was awarded to Mary Kaneshan for her essay that highlighted the legal and human rights issues associated with Australia’s current refugee policy. It pointed out the contradiction between Australia’s obligations under international conventions and its treatment of refugees, leading to its concluding inference that in order for the lives of refugees to matter, Australia must change its mindset to ensure that the human rights of refugees are protected.

Peter Malone, Chaplain
HAWKER COLLEGE P&C

Your 2016 P&C would like to wish Year 12s all the best to the in their new endeavors and good luck to the Year 11s moving into their final year of schooling. To our parent community we wish you a safe and enjoyable festive season and thank you for your support and interest.

To join the mailing list to ensure receipt of information on upcoming events please email us on hawkercollegepandc@gmail.com. As always, suggestions for forum topics that are relevant to you would be appreciated.

It has been a busy second half of the year for the P&C. Congratulations to the Hawker college hospitality students for putting on a brilliant night at the inaugural P&C Donovan’s dinner in October. Look out for it on next year’s calendar. Not to be missed!

Congratulations also go to the student leadership group who put on an excellent and highly successful Trivia night at the end third term. It was lots of fun and augers well for a terrific night at the Year 12 formal.

A Year 11 AST Information forum was held. The feedback was that the night was incredibly valuable and comes highly recommended for parents and students alike. Look out for the Year 12 focused forum next year. It covered what the AST looks likes, what is the impact of the AST is on the final ATAR and lots of really helpful tips on preparation.

The HAWKER COLLEGE 40th ANNIVERSARY JEIR CREEK WINE OFFER draws to close. Thanks to all who supported the promotion. Last minute orders can be accommodated at the Jeir Creek Cellar door.
PSYCHOLOGY EXCURSION TO NAN TIEN TEMPLE

“The mind is everything. What you think you become.” Buddha

The Psychology of Happiness unit at Hawker College invites an exploration of the concept of Positive Psychology – an opportunity to shift from a perspective of ‘curing’ to one of ‘preventing’ mental ill health. To that end, an understanding of Buddhist philosophy has much to offer towards opportunities for all to increase well being.

Students spent the day at the Nan Tien Temple, the largest Buddhist Temple in the southern hemisphere, with an experienced guide. We attended four workshops: an introduction to meditation led by a Buddhist monk, a tai chi class outside in the gorgeous spring sunshine, an origami class and a guided tour of the temple grounds. It was a really enjoyable and enlightening experience for all, including staff (thanks Toby Hartley). Each student was able to take away insight into the cognitive aspects of Buddhism and some strategies which might lead to psychological well being. The experience at the temple was a calming one; it allowed for worries to be put aside and to think about restructuring those anxious thoughts all of us endure.

Ant McCarthy, Psychology

SPORT LEADING THE WAY AT HAWKER

It has been an extremely busy year for both Sport, Fitness and Administration classes. They have been involved in organising, supporting and facilitating the following events in 2016:


NATIONAL HISTORY CHALLENGE
Three talented and committed Year 12 History students entered the prestigious National History Challenge, which in 2016 was on the theme of ‘Triumph or Tragedy’. Congratulations to Anand Gupte, Jonah Morris and Corinna Schubert who all received Certificates of Excellence and prize money for their essays. Corinna received her award at a ceremony at the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House, and Jonah and Anand received theirs later due to an excursion on that day. Well done!

Chris Kenna, History and English Teacher
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