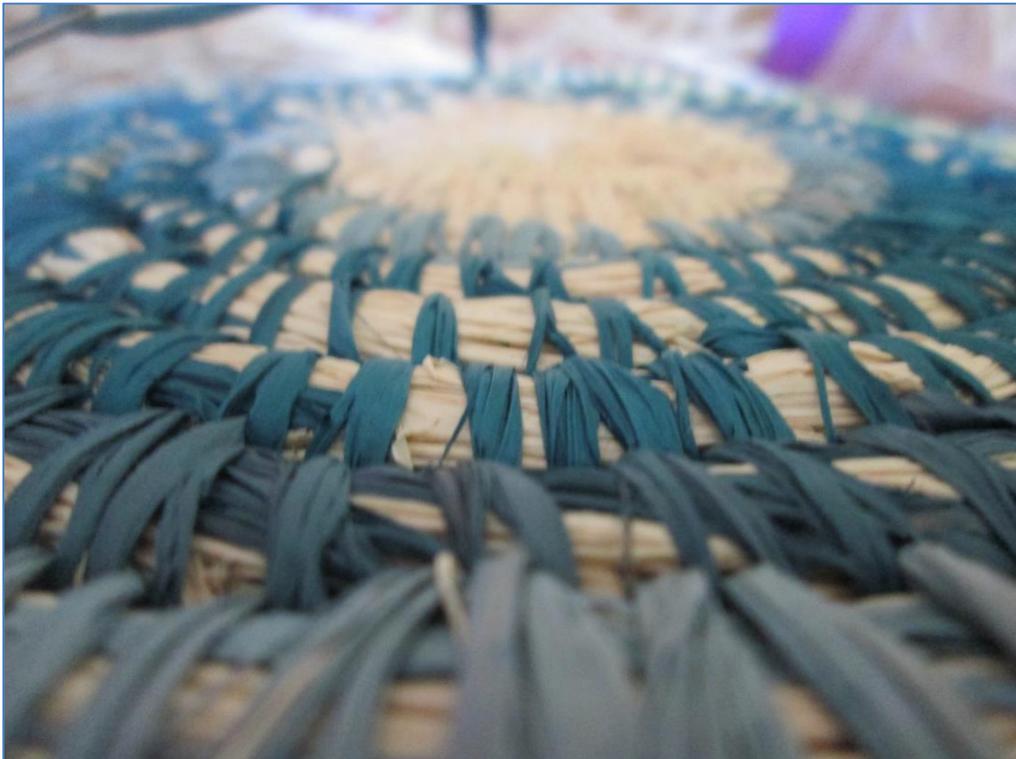




HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Term 2, 2015

In English this term we are studying *Break of Day* by Tony Palmer, with the option for some students to extend their study to other texts with themes relating to war time. We will also do a film study of Peter Weir's *Gallipoli*. The emphasis will be on using examples from the text when reflecting on reading or viewing, referencing according to convention and becoming familiar with the metalanguage used to describe literary and film techniques. An assessment task with many options will provide evidence of learning and reflection.



Artwork by Ella Brennan for Blank exhibition

In Art we will be using a range of drawing and painting techniques to reflect the world of nature around us. We will study the work of local artist, Leanne Tobin, and create works that show the interrelationships between plant and animal species native to our area. We have also entered the Waste to Art Exhibition at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre.

Zeb.

MUSIC

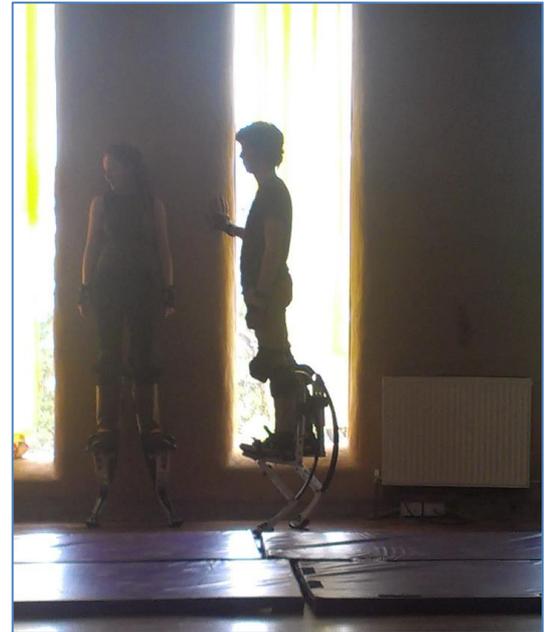
High school is developing their emotional extremities within the context of Romantic music this term. Exploring instrumental notation in score and learning to play the romantic orchestral instruments could culminate in students composing their own new Romantic orchestral work. All fingers are now awake as students tame chromatic modes and tackle the infamous modulation and popular 19th century melodies within Beethoven's Fur Elise. Various relationships and new friendships are being encouraged between students and romantic composers and musicians, such as with Chopin's Piano Concerto no. 2, the 2nd movement and Pavarotti singing Verdi's Rigoletto.

Rowley

Acro-balance, stilts and unicycles

Friday with Zanyare

Hopefully we can incorporate some of these skills into a performance later in the year!



SCIENCE: year 8/9 & 10

Physics: Harmony & disharmony in sound and music, the form-creative quality of sound.
Number relationships in music

Practical Science: Streamwatch program - testing the health of WF lake by various indicators and contributing to scientific data collection

Chemistry: plant and organic chemistry at Lorien - effect of starch, sugar, alcohol and ether on the human being.

Geometry: the golden mean in the human being, nature and geometry

Year 10

Evolution of the species, adaptation and natural selection, the fossil record

David

HISTORY: WORLD WAR 2

As we inquire into WW2, we explore various perspectives; responding to the essential questions: how did this war come about? What can we learn from it in order to create a fairer and more peaceful world in our own times?

We explore the concept of "withness"- overcoming the language of duality such as in us/them, ally/enemy. We examine the causes of this war in the broadest terms, arising out of the conditions that prevailed after the First World War. We

examine key events and personalities in both European and Asia-Pacific arenas. We explore Australia's involvement in both and the impact on Australian society during and after the war.

We also shift the lens in each lesson, to highlight the stories of **the power of one**; of survival, of dignity, the acts of kindness, courage, conscience, peace and compassion that are sometimes left untold amidst the drama of war, both on the battlefield and the home front. Biographies include, Charlie Chaplin, William Cooper, Sophie Schell, Schindler and Bonhoeffer, as well as those closer to home in biographies of family and friends. Lynn

POPPIES

By Olive Reichel

Once upon a time, red poppies grew in a field untouched by humankind. It was a regular field with grass, grain and a touch of sun. Then one day, the waves rolled red and the sea roughed tears. The men saw the ebb and flow of life right before them, and then watched it wash away again like shells in the surf. The poppies heard the soldiers cry, laugh and sing at the top of their lungs, and then heard them blast their guns in guilt and sickness. When it stopped, there was nothing to hear. Not even a cry for home or a prayer for a significant other. It was a silent night in the trenches.

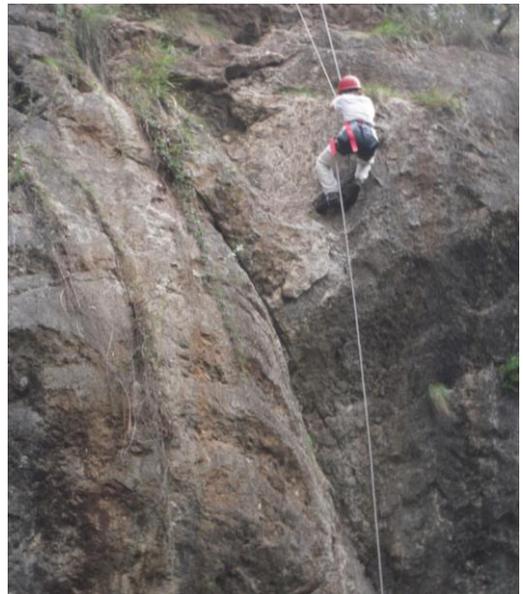
There were times when no one cared 'to be a man'. They wept, dignified and proud to be alive and well enough to weep. Then all at once, an officer would shout "go over!" and the men who had their hearts in their hands, went running over the dead grass, that piece of ground that held the lives of so many in its hands, but failed to put them down gently.

When it was over, they stood with the wind blowing their clothes in soft billows, staring. They held their loved ones' words to their hearts and their hopes in the front of their minds, hoping that tomorrow, next week, next month, by Christmas, that the killing would end. Perhaps one day, he would pinch himself, and wake up in bed with his wife. But the guns kept on shooting and the fire kept on raining and hopes were soon forgotten. They forgot about the smell of the rain and the feel of the sun and the beauty of the flowers.

Little did they know, amongst the blood and fear, even there, beauty could be found. I suppose a shell or an oddly shaped stone. Or the orange of the sun on the trees in the evening. But despite the weariness, people started to notice the poppies. How they blew all the same in the wind, and the colour it staged amongst the mess. They pressed them in their letters to their young ones and picked them and put them in their uniforms like one does a rose to a ball. The poppy became a hopeful thing. It made them remember their hopes and dreams of a brand new day.

CANYONING AT BUNGONIA IN MARCH

Fears are our boundaries but fears are not our limits - Olive



DRAMA

As the Anzac Centenary Commemoration approached, year 8 -10 presented Perspectives on War and Peace, exploring some of the many impacts of war, to consider hopes for the future, as well as their thoughts and feelings about war. This evening included 8 monologues and a dance piece, and an original song and speech. The students have worked on these in drama and other subjects and each of them was from the heart.

Georgia

MATHS

Working through struggles is an important part of learning mathematics — and is a great life lesson. Our small class offers a safe environment where students can ask questions without ridicule. Throughout last term each student showed support to another student with empathy and patience. Each student contributed to an environment — without fear and stress — in which they can work through their struggles. It is not just about getting an answer correct but how we get there and the strategies we can learn from each other.

Sharon

PERSPECTIVES ON WAR AND PEACE

Please visit the office for a copy of the high school zine, a rich collection of writings including family history, essays and creative writing, produced as part of their engagement with the Anzac Commemoration.

Peace isn't going to come to us, we have to go to it.

We need to walk steadily, tread evenly and gather people as we go.

Ella