



## High School Happenings

Spring, 2015

Greetings! This term, the big focus in high school is on the **HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL** and preparations for the **BIG TRIP** to an island that is part of the Great Barrier Reef.

**THE MUSICAL: OKEY DOKEY KARAOKE**

**FRIDAY 13 November 7pm**

**SATURDAY 14 November 2pm**



*Five teenagers find themselves stranded for summer in a caravan park in the middle of nowhere. Frustrated curiosity leads the teens to discover the contents of a box.*

*Powerful forces beyond their control reveal an exciting story about love, loss and alien karaoke! Is singing your heart out enough to save the music on planet Earth?*

*Hold on tight, reverse your polarity and get ready to be propelled through a star-dust love-struck sing-along adventure.*

Book tickets via our Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/KindlehillSchool](http://www.facebook.com/KindlehillSchool)

## **GEOGRAPHY**

In preparation for the North West Island Trip, students will complete individual student inquiry tasks into the Great Barrier Reef and its significance. The students will then share their learning with the class. We are also following a line of enquiry, What if there were no more coral reefs? And we will continue our search to look at what can and is being done to address climate change (with a big focus on the positive and inspiring stories that go under reported in mainstream news).

Lynn

### **THE TRIP – North West Island on the Great Barrier Reef**



On our journey north, we will venture inland over the Liverpool Plains, which have recently been in the news due to concerns about contamination of water and climate change, from the proposed Shenua Coal Mine. A few days later we arrive in Gladstone (which is our departure point for the reef) where we will tour the biggest coal fired power plant in Queensland. Then we will head 75km offshore from the mainland, to 7 nights on North West Island which is an important turtle breeding site, for sustainable camping, snorkelling and an ecology lesson. Lynn

## **SCIENCE - PHYSICS**

This unit explores serial, parallel, and series-parallel combinations, as ways of connecting together electrical circuits. Energy transfers associated with electricity in simple circuits. Drawing and constructing simple electrical and electronic circuits. The unit forms a platform from which to consider physics models, theories and laws and how they enhance people's understandings and applications of the knowledge of energy.

Students will also study the geology of North West Island and the Great Barrier Reef as preparation for the class trip.

David

## **MATHS**

### **Year 8/9**

For Term 4 we will start with congruent shapes. They are shapes that have the same size and shape. We will then concentrate on congruent triangles and three tests that can be used to prove we have congruent triangles. The next topic starts with the question, "how do we measure the height of tree outside the new library building without a ladder." All possible with trigonometry. The students will finally know what the sin, tan and cos buttons do on their calculators.

### **Year 10**

This is the final term before our year 10 student starts her HSC mathematics course. So our preparations continue with: simultaneous equations, volume and surface area and functions and logs.

As always my job is to meet each student where they are at, not to judge or change them but to support them and guide them through the curriculum. In addition to accumulating skills and knowledge the more important aim is to help them learn more about themselves.

Sharon



## ENGLISH

In English, once again we launch into writing a novel in November, starting with lessons on plot development, settings and mood, followed by writing, writing, writing, and ending with some editing skills and a brief look at self-publishing. Students will have the opportunity to use, reflect on and assess their individual and collaborative skills for learning.

In Art it's all hands on deck making props for the musical, then completing our indigenous artist study from last term.

Zeb

## VISUAL ART

We are revisiting Conceptual Framework which consists of the relationships between artists, audience, world and artwork. We also continue studies of plain air watercolour painting, from observations at the lake, and continuing at North West Island while on the high school trip.

Adam





## **SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT**

*We include this report from last term's study of Social Media as something of interest to families with younger children.*

Last term in English, we studied social media and its positive and negative effects on society and our own lives. We studied media articles and documentaries as starting points for discussion and set up our own secret Facebook group for a hands-on experience of social media and how it can be used. This group was deleted at the end of term. We held a debate on the subject 'social media is making a better world' and explored privacy and legal issues with a visit from a specialist youth lawyer.

Students researched and presented information on: Tumblr, Twitter, Steam, Instagram, Snapchat, Pinterest, Youtube and Facebook. I feel that the topic has been a great success, although there is never enough time to go into as much range and depth as I would like to! Here's what the students thought:

### ***What have you learned?***

Olive: *Just because something says it's private, doesn't mean it's private.*

Sashka: *Social media can be a good thing, such as when it is used for funding charities or promoting events and things that we can do to help others.*

Olive: *It can provide social experience. You can talk to people you don't know.*

Ella: *You can say things online that you wouldn't say to someone's face and this can create problems. When you can't see someone's body language and facial expressions, you don't know if they're joking.*

Aurelia: *Going onto someone else's account is illegal. Most people don't realise the consequences and a comment can escalate into illegal behaviour.*

Bella: *It's good for keeping in contact with people, especially overseas.*

Sashka: *It can make you aware of the issues of the world so you can fix them.*

Aurelia: *Overuse, cyber bullying, seeing inappropriate content by accident and contact with dangerous people (like stalkers) are some of the bad things about social media.*

## **Positive things about social media**

- Communication (long distance)
- Sharing your life
- Awareness of world issues
- Sharing your art
- Blogging – thoughts and writing
- Education – for example finding out how to do something
- Advice – eg. life advice, coming out videos, depression help
- Groups – eg. self-harm help
- Finding out about events
- Falling in love – internet dating sites

## **Negative things about social media**

- Stalkers
- Health/body images issues
- Addictive
- Vanity – showing off – competitive
- Inappropriate content
- Catfishing (creating false profiles and interacting with others)
- Cyber bullying
- Hacking into accounts and taking information
- Scams

## How was the study of social media for you?

Bella: *It was good to experience it because I didn't really know much about it.*

Gali: *It was educational. I particularly enjoyed the talk by the lawyer.*

Aurelia: *It was fun using Facebook as a learning tool in the classroom. The projects were interesting. The song we found 'Social Media is Here to Stay song' was funny.*

Olive: *Social media is all the same.*

Ella: *It was good to learn about social media but I still don't really want to do it because it takes up too much time.*

Lem: *I like knowing stuff. It makes me aware of risks.*

Oscar: *It was cool to do it as a lesson because it's not something you normally do.*

Sashka: *It was very interesting and made me wary of the stuff that could happen with social media.*



Dance Troupe performance of 'Fire and Water' at the Katoomba Dance Festival