



The Audience

Term 4 | Weeks 8 & 9 | 2016

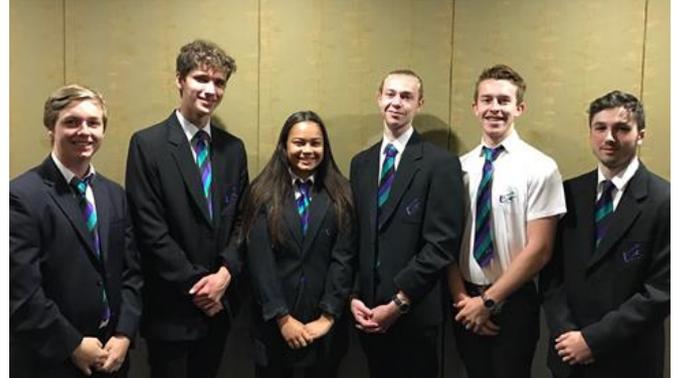
Performing At Our Best.

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Assessment schedules can be downloaded [here](#). Stay in touch via our [free app](#) and [Facebook page](#).
Subscribe to this fortnightly Yr 7-12 newsletter via the HSPA website. Contact the office for more information.

Week 8

Mon 28/11	Music Camp: Marching Band Assessment: HSC Biology (P:3) Term 4 Year Assemblies Year 10 - Australian Business Week/ Volunteering/Work Experience (all week) Yr 5-11 (2016) Boys in Dance Workshop Day
Tues 29/11	Music Camp: Marching Band Assessment: HSC Ancient History (P:2) Assessment: HSC Modern History (P:2)
Wed 30/11	Music Camp: Stage Band PBL Year Assemblies: Year 8/9
Thur 1/12	Assessment: HSC Maths Ext 2 (P:2) Music Camp: Stage Band Orientation Day: New Students
Fri 2/12	Assessment: HSC Chemistry (P:3) Music Camp: Stage Band Orientation Day: New Students Excursion: Aboriginal Studies



We were represented beautifully at this function by some members of our senior vocal ensemble who performed a moving rendition of 'You'll Never Walk Alone'.

HSPA is now in full swing with end of year camps and performances. I attended the first of the band camp concerts on Wednesday evening to hear the Junior Concert Band, who performed, among other pieces, a composition written by Daniel Duque of Year 11. It was stunning and I am sure we will hear more about this young man's compositions.

The band sounded amazing and their teachers deserve our thanks for the many hours they go above and beyond to provide these opportunities for our students. We have an incredible group of parents who strongly support our three weeks of camps by providing delicious meals and snacks, six times a day. Thank you so much for your support.

Week 9

Mon 5/12	Music Camp: Senior Concert Band Assessment: HSC English Speech (All week) P&C Meeting: 6pm Music Sub-committee (Boardroom) P&C Meeting: 7pm Staff Common Room
Tue 6/12	Music Camp: Senior Concert Band Assessment: HSC Maths and General Maths Assessment: HSC Aboriginal Studies Assessment: HSC Studies of Religion 2 Unit
Wed 7/12	Music Camp: Senior and 7&8 School Choir Year 9 Surf Survival Incursion: Theory
Thur 8/12	Music Camp: Senior and 7&8 School Choir Assessment: HSC Earth and Environmental Science (P:3) Assessment: HSC English Area of Study
Fri 9/12	Music Camp: Senior and 7&8 School Choir Assessment: HSC Maths Ext 1 (P:4) Assessment: HSC Drama Practical (All day) Assessment: HSC English Area of Study Excursion: Year 9 Surf Survival



Our Year 10 students had their 'Crossroads' camp this week at Vision Valley near Galston Gorge. It was a wonderful camp during which students participated fully in activities, welcomed new Year 11 students for 2017 and generally had a ball. Thank you students and staff for your efforts in running this camp.

From Centre Stage

Two weeks ago, as I wrote my piece for this newsletter, 60 women had died in Australia from domestic violence in 2016. Today as I write, that number is 68.

White Ribbon Day is celebrated today and the school captains, and male members of the students' senior executive, attended a breakfast this morning aimed at raising awareness and breaking the silence around this insidious issue. These students will address our whole school assembly in the final week of term to bring their understandings to the whole student body.

'Year 8 Are Great' is certainly true! A fun evening of drama, dance and music was presented in the theatre on Thursday evening. A big thank you to all students who were involved and a special thanks to Mr Kavanagh, the Year 8 advisor for organising this opportunity.



Year 12 had the chance to select sessions for a full day study day recently at which they learned about ATAR, good study habits, time management and organisation. Thank you to all students for your participation, and thank you to the many staff members who volunteered and ran sessions.

I look forward to meeting many more parents at the numerous end of year functions and performances still to occur.



Jo Gray
Principal

Topping the Charts

Online Payments

It is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page will be accessed from the school's website.

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called 'Other' to cover items not covered in the previous headings. 'Other' can also be used to make a complete payment of a school account.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Statement of Account reference number if you are aware of them (these are optional fields).

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner. These details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child's account. As a receipt

has been issued from the payment page, a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office on 49523355 between 8.30am and 3pm.

Attendance

As the year comes towards the end we are starting to notice an increase in the number of students applying for early leave. This is a reminder that where ever possible medical and other appointments should be made outside of school hours.

The Library

During Week 6, Year 10 interviews were held in the Library. This gave the students an opportunity to reflect on their studies this year and to consider their pathways for 2017. They also completed the BOSTES All My Own Work (AMOW) program, coupled with a Digital Citizenship workshop.



From Weeks 7 and 10, each student will receive CANVAS orientation training in the Library. These sessions are designed for students to familiarise themselves with this Learning Management System before the 2017 school year. Thank you to Year 9 SRC Leaders Isabelle Bilton, Bronte Horswood, Hamish Lewis, Laura McKay, Tully Vorobioff and Kate Wooden for their work in leading these sessions.

Ms Walker
(Relieving Teacher Librarian)

Getting To Know... Mr Andrew O'Callaghan, English Teacher



What do you teach and where did you teach before HSPA?

Drama and English. I taught for seven years in Tower Hamlets, London and nineteen years at Rutherford Technology High School.

Where did you go to school?

Kotara High

What made you decide to become a teacher?

An inspirational teacher I had in Year 11/12 and a desire make a positive difference in students' lives, helping them not just academically but also socially and emotionally in order to prepare them for success in 'the real world'.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Spend time with family and friends, stand up paddle boarding, ocean swimming, live theatre, watching movies, reading and travel.

What has been your biggest challenge?

Overcoming my shyness.

What did you want to be when you were younger?

When I was I wanted to be a fireman and this changed to an actor/director before deciding to become a teacher.

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?

Spend 24 hrs on space station circling the earth.

If you were a super-hero, what powers would you have?

To talk to marine life, especially rogue Dugongs.

What was the last book you read?

"The Unlikely Pilgrimage Of Harold Fry"

What was your first job?

Casual shop assistant at David Jones.

What is your favourite all-time movie?

"Harold and Maude".

What would you tell your 15 year old self?

Be yourself, believe in yourself and do the things you want to do rather than always trying to please others.

What is your favourite song?

"For a Short Time" by Weddings Parties Anything.

What would you name the autobiography of your life?

"A Lucky Man".

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you live?

North Stradbroke Island.

Do you have a special talent?

The ability to repeatedly injure my right shoulder through accidents. Most recent three accidents have been going over the handlebars of my bike, being knocked off my paddle board by a dugong and dislocating my shoulder and and smashing head/shoulder first onto the concrete after tripping over an uneven pavement. All required a trip to emergency and x-rays.

Do you ever wish you could be someone else, if yes, who?

It took me a very long time to reach this point, but no, I am finally happy with who I am.

Youth are the way forward. We must act now, or nothing and no one will change.

That is the message that was thrust upon the thirteen students from Years 7-12 at the OzGreen workshop held by Sue Lennox. The workshop was an informative, confronting, collaborative and encouraging look at how we perceive and how we deal with our nation's – and, ultimately, the planet's – environmental issues.

We all considered ourselves fairly well informed about environmental and ethical issues, but for all of us the facts blatantly stated were an unwelcome but important wake-up call. Some disturbing points include:

- 1% of people own 40% of the world's wealth and 50% of people own 1%.
- Air pollution is the number one cause of environmental deaths – 20,000 each day. That is 20 times the number of students at HSPA.
- The worldwide temperature could increase by 6.4 degrees Celsius by 2100

So many more issues that each confront a different aspect of our everyday lives were explored. What we don't realise is that the planet we call home depends on our every move and every hour passed is another hour lost in the battle of sustainability.

The main part of the workshop was to brainstorm and discuss how we, as leaders of our school, can educate and restructure the community to value the environment. We broke into two groups, one focusing on Poverty and the other on Environmental Sustainability and general school awareness.

The Poverty group designed a fundraiser plan that used original ideas to raise money for people in third world or war-torn countries.

The other group decided its main focus was going to be the architectural design of the new Performing Arts Centre, and to do this we are going to attend, and collaborate, in the design and planning meetings as environmental representatives.

We also had ideas that will decrease the school's general plastic waste and raise awareness of our carbon footprint in an interesting and effective way. Our carbon footprints say a lot about how we live, and if we all lived like the average Australian, we'd need five more planets to sustain our way of living.



Ms Harvey-Bice and the 'OzGreen Team'

I'd like to thank Ms Harvey-Bice for giving us this wonderful opportunity and to Sue Lennox for the encouragement and support throughout our planning process. The feeling of inspiration was unanimous amongst students and teachers alike and it provided a sense of achievement and hope for the future. We all now understand how important it is for us to act. Not tomorrow, not next week, but now.

By Laura McKay (Year 9)