



BLACKWATTLE BAY CAMPUS

Bay Side

August 2018 Issue

Email: sscbwattle-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 02 9660 5688



Upcoming Events

6 September Thursday	Year 12 Hospitality Dinner 6-10pm
8 September Saturday	Music in the Park 11am at Pioneers Park
14 September Friday	Major Works Morning Tea 10-11.30am
17 September Monday	Parents & Citizens Meeting 6.30-8pm
17 th – 28 th September	Year 11 Final Exams
28 September Friday	Year 12 Graduation Ceremony 5-7.30pm Sydney Town Hall

Principal's Report

We are half way through a very busy and important term. Year 12 have completed their Trial HSC Examinations and are focused on submitting major projects and revising topics in preparation for their final hurdle, the HSC exams. Our staff are also extremely busy finalising results and writing reports. Year 11 are stepping up completing assessment tasks and preparing for their Yearly Examinations which commence on Monday 17th September.

Most students take examinations in their stride and are able to manage their emotions; however a relatively small number of students may develop feelings of heightened anxiety at this time. Parents who have concerns about their child's emotional wellbeing are encouraged to make contact with the school in the first instance so that we can put in place strategies to support the student. This may include a referral to our school counsellor, liaising with teachers regarding the submission of outstanding work or a referral to the school's Learning and Support Team or Wellbeing Team. Please call the school in the first instance and we will refer you to the appropriate member of staff.

Recently we have had a number of exciting events which highlight the very diverse nature of our school and showcase the amazing talent of our students.

NAIDOC Ceremony

One of the most significant events in the Blackwattle Bay calendar is our annual NAIDOC ceremony. This year the theme of "Because of Her We Can" focused on the achievement of prominent Aboriginal women in Australia.

The assembly was coordinated by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Team and students from the Social Justice Club. Special Guest speaker Linda Burney MP gave a very moving speech



about her experiences growing up as an Aboriginal child in the 1960s. My thanks to Lachlan Barker-Kennedy for his Acknowledgement of Country and to our presenters Jemima Allen and Asha Beatty and to Keiko Grantham and Frances Smith for their video presentation. Special mention also to the staff involved in this event: Kerry Foulkes, Jess Hawken, Narelle Daniels, Sam Arnull, Rachael Hill and Year 12 Deputy Chantelle Phair.

Write a Book in a Day

This program, organised by Ms Kerry Foulkes (Head Teacher English) and Mr Shane Pascoe (Librarian) was a very successful event which raised funds to support The Kids Cancer Project. The early 8.00 am start signalled the beginning of an intense, fun, collaborative and creative day. The Library was an excellent venue for student teams to work together to write their books and those with artistic flair eagerly took to producing some wonderful illustrations. All teams submitted their books by the deadline – a wonderful achievement!

A special thank you to Ms Foulkes for her energy and enthusiastic coordination of this event and to Mr Pascoe for his passion and positivity for our budding authors and to all staff who gave their time to ensure the event was such a success.

HSC Art Exhibition

Our accomplished HSC Visual Arts students showcased their major works at the school's annual Art Exhibition. This year the works were beautifully displayed in the library which doubled as a great space for this exhibition. It was lovely to have Barbara Aroney, a local Glebe artist and former Art Teacher at Balmain Campus open the exhibition. Congratulations to our Visual Arts teachers Denise Nicola (Head Teacher CAPA) and Marissa Zaknich for mounting this impressive exhibition and supporting our students in realising their major artworks.

Drama HSC Showcase

Year 12 Drama students had an opportunity to road test their Group Projects and Monologues in front of a very proud and supportive audience of parents and friends a few weeks ago. As always the topics the students chose to explore were diverse, highly entertaining and original. Congratulations to Mr Leo Sorbello who supported over 30 students with their HSC Drama Projects. We wish them well in their HSC practical examinations this week.

Strengthening International Partnerships

Blackwattle Bay is known for its commitment to developing strong links with schools from other countries. In the last four weeks we hosted a visit from seven students from Nagoya International High School in Japan. It has been wonderful to see these students gain confidence in learning the language and our students improving their Japanese. Thank you to Ms Joanna Goodman and Mr Shane Pascoe for their support of the students and their involvement in this program.

Recently a group of nine Year 11 students and three teachers returned from a visit to our sister school in East Timor. Students who take part in this program describe it as a "life-changing" experience. Not only do our students learn about the history and culture of East Timor during their stay, they also take on the challenge of becoming teachers in the school, preparing and delivering lessons to students eager to improve their English. This program would not exist without the goodwill and support of former Blackwattle Bay teacher Mr Wayne Colcott and Deputy Principal Ms Jan Cuke. Thanks also to newcomer Ms Jess Thompson for her involvement in this program.

Sharon Roberts

Principal

Celebrating NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week is celebrated by Australians from all backgrounds and walks of life and has a rich history. NAIDOC has evolved from groups established as early as the 1920s to promote the rich and diverse culture of Indigenous Australians and to advocate for the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Each year, NAIDOC week celebrates the great achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders through a particular theme. This year's theme is "Because of Her, We Can". Blackwattle Bay School Leaders and members of the Social Justice Club, supported by teachers Ms Daniels and Ms Hawken researched and presented the content for the Assembly. Lachlan Barker Kennedy conducted the Acknowledgment of Country. Lachlan's sincere acknowledgment created the atmosphere that became a moving tribute to generations of women.

Our guest speaker for the Assembly was the Honorable Linda Burney. Ms Burney is the first Aboriginal woman to serve as a member of the House of Representatives. She was also the first Aboriginal person to serve in the New South Wales Parliament. Ms Burney spoke most sincerely about her life as an Aboriginal woman and teachers and students were deeply moved by her words.

Students involved in the assembly included Lachlan Barker Kennedy, Asha Beatty, Jemima Allen, Keiko Grantham and Frances Smith.

Clare Shiu - Teacher English Faculty



SRC's Toiletries Drive for Women's Refuge

A huge "Thank you" to all the students, parents, teachers and staff who donated toiletries for the SRC women's refuge drive. Domestic and family violence is the principal cause of homelessness for women and their children. To support the women who live in refuges the SRC teamed up with Jamie Parker (the MP for Balmain) to collect toiletries and clothing for distribution to women's shelters across the local community. A portion of the funds raised was provided to a local charity which aims to fight teen homelessness and support those in need.

We are extremely grateful for the support and the generous donations. Thank you to the wonderful SRC members for their organisation and commitment to the event, and to Mr Mansfield and Ms Cuke for assisting them.

Ms Kylie Ma - Teacher



Write a Book in a Day 2018

Another year in, another round of writing a book in just under 24 hours! Groups were assembled, dried paint sets were revived and the Library was in full lockdown to give our content creators the ultimate workspace.

It is our second year here at Blackwattle Bay campus running the “Write a Book in a Day” initiative and we are proud to say that we have exceeded our expectations of both participants and style in 2018. Our student writers this year are from diverse cultural and academic backgrounds and inclusive of those in English Studies as well as EAL/D students. They ranged from strong writers to amazing editors and illustrators. Teachers who popped by (dressed in their favourite fictional characters – bigger and better this year) were impressed by the high level of organisation and creativity demonstrated by our senior year students.

The 2017 experience must have taught us well because most students finished their books with a total of five minutes to spare before the 8pm deadline (and that’s a lot of time – ask any student who has sat for an HSC exam). We raised \$2500, all of which will go toward cancer research by the Kids’ Cancer Project.

Congratulations and a big “Thank you” to all the teams and teachers involved. It is always incredible to see a school come together for creative projects and a big cause. Thank you also for the generosity of the school community in contributing to our fundraising.

Until next year...!

Clare Shiu - Teacher English Faculty



Well-being at the Bay

As part of our wellbeing program at SSC Blackwattle Bay each year we participate in the “Tell Them from Me” survey. This provides an insight into the student experience of stage 6 education and helps us to plan and develop going forward.

We are very proud to be supporting initiatives for improvement in learning, wellbeing and community engagement in our college through this survey. We are now able to offer the same opportunity to our parents and school community.

The survey will be available from Monday 27 August and Friday 26 October. A unique URL for our school will be generated as part of the survey process. Parents access the survey through the URL. We will make this available via Skoolbag, the school website, and it will also be emailed to parents for ease of access. Parents can easily complete the survey on their mobile device and can choose a language option from 22 available community languages.

We would encourage all parents to participate, as this will add additional insights and vital information for future planning for our students. Please contact Rachael Hill, Head Teacher Wellbeing, for further information.

Rachael Hill – Head Teacher Wellbeing

Celebration Night

Stars shine bright at the HSC Visual Arts Exhibition

Proud parents, families, teachers and students gathered in the elegantly transformed school library exhibition space on Tuesday night 7th August from 6pm to view the final works in the HSC Visual Arts Exhibition.

The college musical ensemble provided music for the perfect ambience while year 11 Visual Arts students reviewed the highlights of the show and recorded their comments. This was real life learning taking place and one of the most successful tasks they have accomplished this year.

Barbara Aroney, artist and former teacher, provided thoughtful and encouraging words in her speech to open the show. Barbara has strong historic links to our college.

The mediums explored by our students in their artworks ranged from video, photography and textiles to sculpture, painting and drawing. Many works included more than one medium, showing the importance of process through the stages of artmaking. Our students, in collaboration with their hardworking teachers, demonstrated the high standards reached in linking concepts with the right techniques.

Ms Marissa Zaknich

Teacher

CAPA Faculty





Left: Klimt inspired paintings by Matthew Harrison



Above: Guy Hanna and his proud father



Left: Sam Tylor's striking images on identity

Below: William Zhang self portrait



Above: Chloe Hyde in front of her series of works showing the extraordinary in the ordinary



From the Year 11 Deputy

Year 11 students you are fast approaching the end of Year 11 courses and in the next few weeks you must ensure you are satisfying the requirements set by NESAs to be able to be successful and move into Year 12 and HSC courses. NESAs states you must:

- Follow the course developed by NESAs.
- Apply yourself with diligence and sustained effort to tasks and experiences provided in the course.
- Achieve some or all course outcomes.

So, ask yourselves:

- Is my attendance satisfactory?
- Am I working to full capacity in all classes?
- Have I completed all Assessment Tasks?
- Have I completed all course work set by teachers?

There are only five teaching weeks at the time of writing and if you are not able to answer YES to any of the above it is most important to reach out to teachers and make sure you know what you must do to satisfy the requirements of Year 11.

I continue to be very impressed with the Year 11 cohort as a whole and your involvement in school life. It is most important for all students to play a role in the corporate life of the school. This time next year when you are completing scholarship applications you will need to be able to demonstrate how you have been involved in leadership and citizenship activities in your final two years of schooling. There are a number of groups you can be involved in, for example, the SRC, Student Ambassadors, Social Justice and the Environment Team.

You will soon receive your Year 11 Final Exam timetable. Exams will be held in Week 9 and 10 and there are no formal classes in this time but you have full access to your teachers in these weeks. Ms Hill will be providing some assistance with study and revision strategies. These will be presented in Mentoring Sessions and will be available on the Edmodo site. Make sure you take advantage of these resources.

At the start of Year 11 we told you we have 7 terms before you graduate. The time at the Senior campus goes so fast that we will soon be down to four terms till the HSC.

Ms Jan Cuke - Deputy Principal

Year 11 Visual Arts students become UTS design students for an afternoon.

Both Preliminary Visual Arts classes went to the UTS Business School on Monday, August 13th. They watched a presentation and enjoyed a guided tour of the Frank Gehry-designed building as part of their studies for their current topic of 'Designing A Contemporary Practice'.

Students were given an overview of Gehry's work and a detailed presentation of how the UTS building evolved. They were most impressed as they explored the development of the building from the first, very loose, design discussion sketches! They visited the oval classrooms and collaborative learning spaces to experience how students really work at university.

As a result of this excursion our students have gained an unparalleled insight into Gehry's design process, which they can develop into a case study for their upcoming examinations and the HSC year.

Ms Donnalee Beekwilder - Teacher CAPA Faculty



From the Student Ambassadors

Year 10 Transition:

A subject information night was held late Term 2 to help students familiarise themselves with the campus as well as the faculties to get an insight into the subjects, the teachers and other opportunities available. Despite the subpar weather, the night was a huge success with Year 11 ambassadors guiding tours around the school, teachers speaking about the courses available and an assembly to conclude the evening. Year 11 ambassadors presented their understanding of life at Blackwattle campus and other opportunities available to them.

The student ambassadors of Blackwattle Bay visited both junior campuses in order to spread the positive message about our school and helped students formulate an opinion about upcoming subject selection by providing background knowledge about their own subjects. Each faculty set up a stall to represent their subjects with accompanying teachers and students. It was a great experience to be able to share our knowledge about our own subjects to inform students and assist them in their transition to Year 11.

Another opportunity for Year 10 students to ease their transition into Year 11 was the “Day @ the Bay” offered at the end of last term. Students from both Balmain and Leichhardt Campuses were invited over to Blackwattle to spend a day with assigned Year 11 ambassadors who were undertaking similar courses. This program was a success as Year 11s and their buddies got along very well.

HSC Art Exhibition Representation:

The HSC art exhibition gave the ambassadors the opportunity to support their fellow Year 12 cohort, having the responsibility of guiding parents around the school and handing out pamphlets. This was a good opportunity to step in whilst the Year 12s were able to showcase their art.

Japanese Exchange Students:

Blackwattle Bay Campus had the opportunity to host a group of international exchange students from Japan. The ambassadors assisted the students on their day trip to the Blue Mountains, exploring the national park, and its infrastructure, such as the cable car and the world’s steepest railway train. The trip comprised 38 students in total, including ambassadors, Japanese students, our students studying Japanese and four teachers. This was a great opportunity for the ambassadors to represent our school.

Simon Peyrachon, Caitlin Flint, Madeleine Fox and Dylan Godwin on behalf of the Student Ambassadors.

All things Japanese

Our students studying Japanese have been having a very busy time, but it has also been lots of fun. In Term 2, Year 12 Japanese students enjoyed calligraphy lessons with one of our Japanese Assistants, Tomohiro. Their lovely calligraphy is now on show in their classroom.



Toward the end of Term 2 we enjoyed a beautiful presentation about Japanese language in our library for Subject Information Night. A special “Thank you” to Yarri Swadling and Sophia Chen from Year 11 and Kieran Watson from Year 12 for helping our Japanese teachers set up and pack up the kiosk and answering questions about studying Japanese in 2019. The night would not have been as successful if it were not for our students helping us out so enthusiastically.



At the beginning of Term 3 we welcomed Shun Orii from Tokyo. Shun was hosted by Nathan Hall of Year 11. Shun only stayed at Blackwattle Bay for a short three weeks but he came to almost every Japanese class and worked together with our Japanese teachers to help our own students with their Japanese studies. I am sure that Nathan, and a few of our other students who became friends with Shun, will be meeting with him next time in Japan rather than in Australia.

Week three of Term 3 saw the arrival of seven Japanese students from Nagoya International High School. Buddied up with our students, they are with us until the end of Week 5. If you have the chance please introduce yourselves to them and greet them with a 'konnichwa'. A big "Thank you" to our students who have taken on the role of buddies and who have spent lots of time chatting with our visitors and introducing them to school life in Australia. A big "Thank you" also to Mr Pascoe who organised some wonderful English lessons for the seven students. I am sure that they will remember Blackwattle Bay largely because of our friendly students and teachers. We head out to the Blue Mountains with the Japanese group on Monday 20 August, so stay tuned for some lovely photos of the trip in our next newsletter.

**Ms Joanna Goodman – Teacher
Japanese LOTE Faculty**



Blackwattle Bay Campus welcomes students from Nagoya International

Seven students from Nagoya International School in Japan commenced a three week study tour program at Blackwattle Bay campus for three weeks on Monday August 6th. On their first day they were welcomed at a formal assembly with the Year 11 cohort. They were introduced to their buddies who took on the role of guides and study tutors for the three week program. The students attended regular classes with their buddies and enjoyed an intensive English class with Mr Shane Pascoe on a daily basis.

Working on Google docs they created a multimodal presentation shown on their last day. They also attended a range of Japanese classes with Ms Joanna Goodman and assisted our students with Japanese conversation. Thanks also to Ms Elly-Kate McEwan for her contribution.

On Monday the 20 August they will enjoy an Australian cultural experience travelling to the Blue Mountains to enjoy a National Park walk and a ride on both the scenic railway and cable car. They will be joined on this trip by our International Studies and some Student Ambassadors. We hope they continue to enjoy their school experience at our Campus and continue to communicate with the students at Blackwattle Bay Campus. Thank you to all staff and students involved in the program.

Our buddies and Japanese students included Nathan HALL with Ayu FURUTA, Tieyi WANG with Aran BESIKCIOGLU, Yarri SWADLING and Jackson JARRETT with Shiraho TOYOSHIMA, Sophia SHI with Yui HIRAO, Graciella LAURENT with Rin KISHIKAWA, Ella PARK with Mizuka SATO, Minjee KIM with Ami NAGAE.

Ms Jan Cuke – Deputy Principal





Girl's Golf Initiative 2018

It's Thursday afternoon, and the Girl's Golf Group (GGG) are off to play golf with all of the other rich people who don't have to work. The GGG has been running for three terms now. It is run by the wonderful Ms Young, who has the passion of Tiger Woods and the swing of Karrie Webb. We started from humble beginnings, hitting golf balls on the school oval... with more than a few landing in the bay. We also had an issue with ploughing up the school oval when making more contact with the ground than the golf ball!

We soon realised our problem... our swings had become too powerful and refined, so with that we moved on to the Moore Park Driving range. We fitted in there immediately. Our golf clubs, with a purchase price of \$10 from Ebay to \$500 from the shops, served us equally well out on the green.

During assignment time golf was the perfect way to thrash out our anger. Golf is not only a relaxing and community based sport, it is a great way to refine skills and learn new techniques.

Amelia England (Year 11)

Date/Time: Every Thursday from 1:05-4pm from

Cost: \$20 for Moore Park Driving Range (Weeks 2, 4, 6)

\$10 for Marrickville Golf Course (Weeks 3, 5, 7, 8)

If you daughter would like to be involved in this program, please contact:

Ms Jodie Young

Girls Advisor

0296605688 Ext:155



HSC Drama Night Triumphs

On Thursday August 2nd we held the Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay HSC Drama Night in the Lecture Theatre. The night consisted of Group Performances and Individual Monologues and made up the internal assessment component for Group Performance and Individual Projects.

Students have been working on creating their Group Performances since the beginning of Term 2. These Group Performances are self-devised dramatic pieces of original work constructed over a period of time through collaboration, improvisation, research and characterisation. Individual Performances are created by working from a script to create a dynamic and engaging performance for the audience.

Our students should be congratulated for creating work consisting of thought provoking and humorous content which was very well received by the audience. The audience was amazed by the varied nature of the topics and the skill of the actors. The students performed to the best of their ability and provided a thoroughly engaging and entertaining show.

We wish our HSC Drama students all the best for their external practical examination on the 27th August, their written exams at the Trials and for their HSC exam in November.

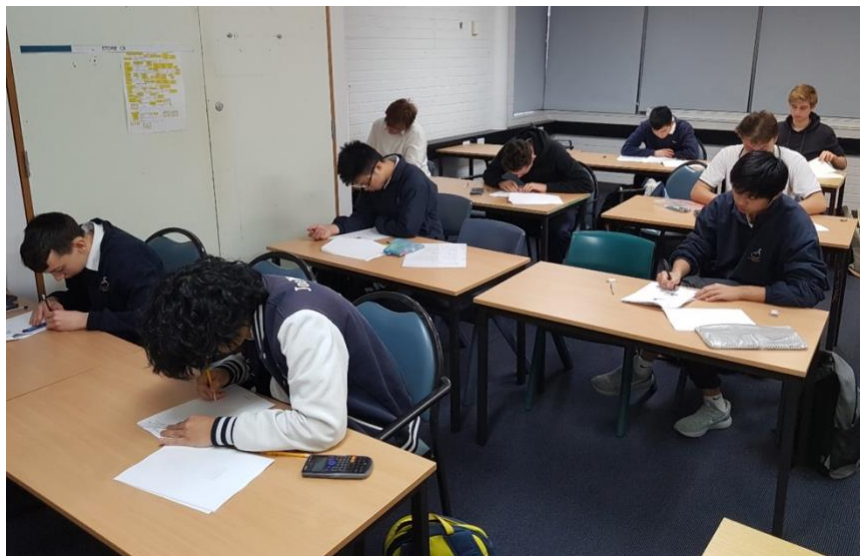
Leo Sorbello – Drama Teacher English Faculty



Construction and Engineering Class Photos



Construction class fixing up the playground.



Engineering class practising a trial examination.

Our 2018 trip to East Timor

Speech delivered to the students of Malibaca Senior High School by Andrew Ta. This speech was delivered in Tetum.

"Dear friends,

On behalf of my school, I would like to start off by thanking you all for showing us great generosity and sharing with us your country - it is a beautiful one. We have enjoyed partaking in this precious opportunity to connect with you all. This is an experience that will be treasured forever. We love your people and look forward to seeing you again in the future."



Reflections on the 2018 Trip: Speech delivered by Jan Cuke, Deputy Principal to the teachers, students and students from Blackwattle Bay Campus.

This is my fifth trip to Timor Leste with students of Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay Campus. It is always a pleasure to spend this time watching students experience a very different way of life. The 2018 students have surpassed all expectations in the work they have done while at our sister school.



Local students have been fortunate to have enjoyed your friendship and have been touched by your teaching and humility. You have impressed the teachers with your ability to plan lessons thoroughly and then at the end of each day evaluate your teaching incorporating any changes required. You have been so creative in your planning and delivery and so inclusive in ensuring that even the most shy local students were given time with you and the opportunity to learn English.





I observed very special moments for each student, from the young Timorese boy falling asleep in the arms of Andrew at the local library, to Martha and Isla's ability to keep every lesson focused and engaging during the long hot afternoons in the classrooms, to Gil, Will and Maddie joining in the East Timor Way at the local Weir each afternoon. Simon and Ellie managed to coordinate voice overs for lessons to be left for the English teachers to use in their own classrooms and I was impressed with Charlotte's ability to work quietly with the local children in the library.



You were an amazing group of students to spend time with and I know I speak on behalf of Mr Colcott and Ms Thompson, to say how proud we are of you in continuing the work and support of our Sister School Program. I am sure you will continue to be wonderful global citizens and continue your volunteering work in developing countries once you have achieved your HSC. Thank you again to every one of the 9 students who travelled with us and making this such a worthwhile experience for the teachers as well.

Ms Jan Cuke – Deputy Principal



Simon Peyrachon Assembly Speech: Reflections on East Timor

Good morning to special guests, Japanese exchange students, teachers and students.

East Timor is Australia's closest neighbour, of which most of us know very little about. The island of Timor surrounded by picturesque coral reefs, is divided between the sovereign state of East Timor and Indonesia. The country is both culturally and geographically rich and beautiful, but the young country is not without its struggles. A gruesome occupation from December 1975 which lasted until October 1999 greatly affected East Timor. Today, this country is however slowly rebuilding and despite their challenges, are eager as a country to develop their relations with the world.

From the 9th until the 18th of July, a group of 9 students and 3 teachers, including myself had the once in a lifetime opportunity to embark on this trip to a somewhat unknown country. I think I speak on behalf of the whole group, when saying that this trip exceeded our initial expectations.

Throughout the duration of the trip, the main objective was to provide aid to a town called Maliana by teaching English and developing relationships with students through a buddy program, where we were able to immerse ourselves in the Timorese culture by discovering their ways of living, their families and their hobbies. This possibility to meet local people, even though we spoke two very different languages was very unique.

It is hard to deny the poverty that countries such as East Timor face, we often spoke to children who didn't go to school or who knew in advance they wouldn't be able to go to university. This made the trip to me all the more important, but encouraged myself and several others of the group to want to take action and visit more countries in need in the future.



Highlights of the trip included visiting Church on Sunday, visiting a picturesque beach for a lunch, talking with world vision as well as a local hospital, reading with local children in a library established by the Leichhardt council, visiting the capital of Dili, the list goes on. More important however was our ability as a group to get along considering that most of us didn't know each other very well before the trip. This made the trip so much more accommodating and helped us focus more on discovering the country.

This trip was definitely life changing, because it allowed us as students, to consider the great differences in education between like a country like Australia and a very different system of education in East Timor. Personally, it changed me as a person, it definitely allowed me to appreciate what I have and value the people around me.

We overcame barriers as a group, experiencing the intense flavours of a third world country directly thanks to our expert tour guide alto. However, when roaming in the streets or in the markets, there is a real sense of unity, people are kind, people show you around, help you find your way. During the trip we were also able to master the art of moderation, considering resources are limited, we were able to consume less, in moderation allowing us to reflect on the importance of material and resources in general.

From star-gazing as a group, swimming in a local river with kids in a rice field to a touching farewell ceremony, we now all have so many memorable experiences from East Timor which we will be able to look back on for the rest of our lives.

Special thanks to the three accompanying teachers Ms Cuke, Ms Thompson and the organiser Mr Colcott, whom without, this trip would not have been made possible. Thanks to everyone for listening, please sit back and enjoy media presentation of our visit ably created by Charlotte Woodrow.



32 NEWS

INNERWESTCOURIER.COM.AU | TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018

SYDNEY SECONDARY COLLEGE - BLACKWATTLE BAY

Students teach in East Timor

'Life-changing' trip to help children learn English

Laura Sullivan

SIXTY-SEVEN Sydney Secondary College's Blackwattle Bay Campus went on the trip of a lifetime in East Timor last week as part of the school's humanitarian efforts.

Simon Poppehouse, who is in Year 11, was one of nine students selected for the trip.

Simon, 18, said it was a highly intensive process that involved interviews, but he said it was all worth the work.

The students went for nine days to teach English to students at their sister school in the village of Maliana.

"Anything was a bit overwhelming, it is a very good country but when you meet the people they are very kind and offered to help in where we got lost," Simon said.

"We didn't know the students' level of English, so we (mis)interpreted everything they would need."

We said the students



Simon Poppehouse at the East Timorese school.

know the basics like hello and goodbye, but said there were a few outstanding children.

"They have to know English to get into university. It was sad to see some of the kids think they weren't going to have a chance to go," he said.

"We saw some kids that stood out and we were able to push them even more."

The students brought over resources, including a printer and textbooks, as a gift to the students, which they celebrated with a three-week ceremony.

The students enjoyed the trip so much that the group has planned to go again next year. SSC marks are out of the way.

"It was life-changing," Simon said.



Picture: Patrick Muenster

SOPHIA'S BIG BREAK INTO SONG

SINGING and songwriting sensation Sophia Chenoweth hopes the rising star gets when she stands on stage.

She said the moment she picked up her first guitar she fell in love with country pop and figured out who she was as an artist.

The 16-year-old, who attends the Australian Performing Arts Secondary School at Cammeraj, credits Taylor Swift for inspiring her and her dreams of following in her footsteps.

Swift has performed at country music festivals across the country, attended songwriting workshops and even released

a single, but it is her latest success with Australia's largest school music participation program, Music Count On, that she feels will really take her talent to the next level.

Every year students across the country take part in the program and learn the same song, sing it on the same day at the same time.

Sophia was selected as one of five performers across the country to co-write the song. She was mentored by pop icon's Andrew Clark and musician and television personality John Farnham.

COME JOIN US...

INFORMATION MORNING
9.30am - 12.00pm Tuesday 28 August

Meet staff and students, tour the College and view our facilities and grounds.

Located in the inner west of Sydney, PLC Sydney is a school for girls from Year 6 to Year 12. For further information and to register, please visit plc.syd.nsw.edu.au

021 4704 5000 enquiries@plc.syd.nsw.edu.au www.plc.syd.nsw.edu.au 1 Mela Street, Chiswick

Young women of integrity and purpose

PLC SYDNEY
INDEPENDENT
130
SCHOOL CALL US