Some people question why students have to study Music. Over eighty years of research into Music education has concluded that there are many benefits including:

- Playing music increases memory and reasoning capacity, time management skills and eloquence.
- Playing music improves concentration, memory and self expression.
- Playing music improves the ability to think.
- Music training improves verbal memory.
- Learning music helps under-performing students to improve.

‘I would teach children music, physics and philosophy; but more importantly music; for in the patterns of music and all the arts, are the keys to learning.’ Plato.

I would like to thank all the parents, students and staff who have supported the participation of our students in the many music activities throughout 2013. Students have performed at our end of term assemblies and in two concerts and will perform at our annual Presentation Night. This year, solo performers include Sophie Tremain, Cody Smith, Wesley Blair, Regan Hughes, Ashley Beaton, Catherine Davis, Lucy Harrison, Jayden McAllister, Talby Upton, Emma Springall and Curtis Hughes.

Group performers included the members of the choir, Year 9 Music and Year 10 Music.

Program Music and a Literary Focus.
Students in Year 7 are currently studying Program Music (music that tells a story). As a continuance of our school’s focus on improving student literacy, each Year 7 class has focused on a different text type. Both classes have listened to or watched three different versions of Peter and The Wolf.

Peter and the Wolf Comparison
By Hannah Johnson

There are three versions of Peter and the Wolf yet there is always some differences within the story. In Peter and the Wolf the main storyline is Peter hunting the wolf, tying it to a tree and either taking it to the zoo or back to the village. Some of the differences include the different times of year - Spring, Summer and Autumn. This is because is set in different places, like Russia. Another difference is that in the Disney version, the animals have names. The bird was Sasha, the duck was Sonja and the cat was Ivan. There are also some smaller details that were changed. For example, the number of hunters change throughout the movies and CD versions. The duck hides form the wolf in the Disney version, is eaten in the CD version and spat back out in the video version. The bird and the duck were also friends in the Disney version but not in the other versions.

Some of the similarities are that the characters are the same, even though they change names. The plot is basically the same and the features of the setting were the same, like the meadow. All versions have a narrator and all versions had the same instruments that were associated with the same characters.

In conclusion, there are many differences and similarities. It is basically like Chinese Whispers and the message gets passed around and changed. It is great to have a different variety of stories.
**Principal’s News**

It does not seem possible that another school year is almost at an end and that we are already in full swing planning for 2014. Despite this we continue to be very busy and last week was no exception. I would like to thank all the parents that attended our end of term celebration assembly on Thursday morning to acknowledge the countless achievements of many of our students. This very successful morning was followed by an equally successful school social on Thursday evening where our students’ behaviour and involvement once again shone.

Although the year is winding down and there are many extra-curricular activities being planned, such as this week’s Year 10 excursion, parents are reminded that students are still required to attend school each day to participate in timetabled lessons until Wednesday, 19th December. Semester 2 reports will be distributed at the end of this week.

Two issues that often need to be dealt with in school are self-image and misuse of social media. Last week our Year 10 students spent the day working with Community Health personnel on the Love Bites program and a small group of our students participated in the RAGE program with the PCYC and OCTEC representatives. To support our ongoing student welfare focus I have attached a web address which parents can access regarding body image and the effect on boys. In addition, I have also included a link referring to Kik messenger to give parents an insight into this communication platform.


In response to West Wyalong’s total, the CHS upper order came out focused with victory in sight. Matt Harrison got the home team off to a good start with a quick 14 which was backed up by a strong 15 from Nathan Whatman and double figure scores from Sam Willson and Max Wensley.

The team plays their second round game away at Grenfell this Wednesday. The school would like to wish the team the best of luck for the match.

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**Accelerated Reader Program**

Year 7 have enjoyed reading a wide range of books to increase their vocabulary and comprehension skills. Students choose and read a variety of books at their individual level, enabling them to be challenged just enough to build their reading skills without frustration.

When each book is completed students use Accelerated Reader, an iPad app or web-based program, to test their understanding of the content by answering multiple choice questions. We challenged the class to aim for 100% results by offering a pizza lunch, when they filled the 100 square grid. This week should see them achieve their target of 100 stickers – four to go and counting!

Students also have individual goals, set as a points target for each term. Each book has a value, according to its length and level of difficulty, and 100% in the quiz means full points are accumulated. Students receive a merit award, certificate and a token reward for achieving their term target. Accumulated points are also monitored with rewards presented when predetermined totals are attained.

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**Cricket News**

Canowindra v West Wyalong

Canowindra High School’s Lachlan Shield Team recently played West Wyalong in a high quality season opener. West Wyalong’s openers got the visitors off to a solid start with a display of confident batting. Canowindra’s bowlers rallied later in the innings to dismiss the batting side for 73. Integral to the team’s success in the field was an excellent spell by Brenton Clements which included a personal hat-trick, which followed a run-out (therefore a team double hat-trick). The team’s fielding efforts should also be commended, with two run outs and some great catches being taken.

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Neryle Smurthwaite
Principal
Year 8 Kiama Excursion Report

by Adelaide, Brooke, Molly and Ciaran

Day 1
An early start of about 6am saw us all off and rolling along in the bus on our way to Kiama. Watching one and a half movies and taking two small pit stops at Boorowa and Goulburn, got us to Minnamurra Rainforest for our 5km bush walk at around 11:30am. The walk was quite steep but it was all worth it once we reached a beautiful waterfall that was spectacular to the eye.

After lunch at the Rainforest we headed off to Kiama where we quickly stopped to watch the Kiama Blow Hole in action and the lighthouse. At around 3:30 pm we finally reached our destination at the Easts Beach Caravan Park, where we were assigned our cabins and unpacked. After a quick group meeting Mr Edwards, Mrs Burn and Miss Davis took us down to ‘stroll’ along the beach. A yummy dinner of hamburgers got us energized to go off to Ten Pin Bowling.

The gutters only came up for the “lucky ones”, and even though some didn’t strike a pin at all, we all had a fantastic night, with some flash mobbing done by Mrs Balcombe’s dancing girls.

Day 2
At 7:00am Mr Edwards woke us up “nice” and early, to head off to the beach, before we left for JAMBEROO! Jamberoo was a very scary, exciting, fun and awesome experience with a nice variety of rides, which let everyone enjoy themselves including Mrs Burn, Mr Edwards and Miss Davis. Molly and Breeze had a hilarious time listening to Mr Edwards and Miss Davis squeal, as they flew down Jamberoo’s biggest ride, the Funnel Web!

We all returned home at around 4:00 pm to shower and eat dinner. While the girls headed off to the showers the boys stayed and enjoyed the jumping pillow. After eating some delicious pizza, a very excited group of Year eight students headed off to Shell Harbour to watch the second Hunger Games movie: Catching Fire. It was a great movie and we can’t wait to watch the third one now, as Catching Fire left us on a terrible cliff hanger.

Day 3
We woke to a cold, cloudy and windy day but still decided to chuck on our swimmers and go for a paddle in the ice chilled waves! After only being in the water for around ten minutes we realized that probably wasn’t the best idea and went back to our cabins to have warms showers!

The rain started pouring down, but we were all inside the food hall eating a hot brekkie of sausages, bacon, eggs and toast. Because of the wet weather we were unable to go to Kiama’s main beach or shops, so we decided to take a detour to Wollongong for a major shopping spree in the Wollongong Shopping Plaza on our way home. After emptying our wallets we finally headed home, watching two more movies on the bus (Despicable me 2 and Oblivion). Lunch at Goulburn and a toilet break at Boorowa, and then home at 6:30, right on time.

Year 8 would like to say a big thankyou to Mrs Burn, Mr Edwards and Miss Davis for supervising us on our excursion and making it all possible.
IMPORTANT DATES

- Presentation Night is Tuesday 17 December 2013 at the Jack Sherwin Memorial Hall commencing at 7pm
- Last Day for all students this year is Wednesday 18th of December, 2013.
- Schools resumes in 2014 for students in Year 7, 11, 12 on Wednesday 29th January and Year 8, 9, 10 on Thursday 30th January

Montana Bound Car Wash

Sat. Dec. 14 8:30-Noon
Burn’s Service Centre
$15 per vehicle

LIBRARY NEWS

This week’s display has caused a lot of interest. It involves books that have been banned or challenged. Books include the most frequently challenged book, Captain Underpants and classic novels such as The Great Gatsby. Unfortunately, it is too late for students to borrow any of these books this year. However, seniors who need to borrow related texts for English or study guides to assist them with their HSC may borrow books over the holiday period.

The movie being screened at lunch time this week will be Diary of a Wimpy Kid 3 – Dog Days. This will be a very relaxing way to finish the term. Merry Christmas to all and have a wonderful break.

12 Angry Pigs

Parents and carers of the member of 7B English are invited to a performance of 12 Angry Pigs.
Date: Friday 13th December
Time: 2.45pm
Where: Room B4

Any enquiries please contact Mrs Jones or Mrs Evans

Assessments Due

Week 10B
Yr 11– Bio 1, D &T 1, Eng Adv 1, Eng Standard, 1, Eng Studies 1

Due to the delayed opening of the pool Year 7 Lifesaving will now be Week 3 2014