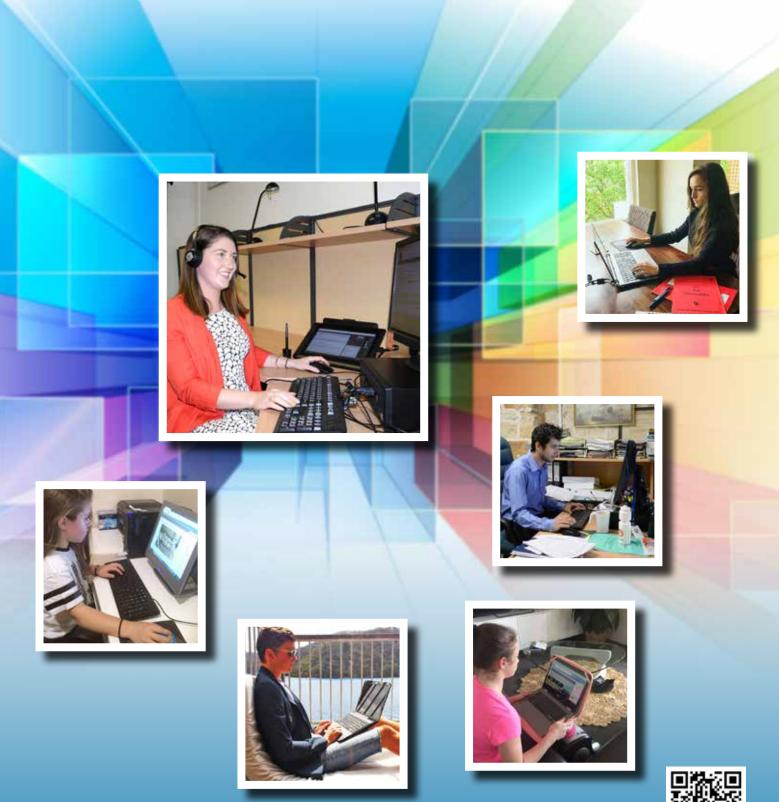


# Bridging the Distance 2017



imagining the future .



# **Competition Winners**



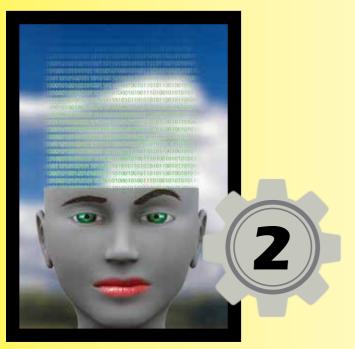
This year the theme of our School Magazine art competition was A world with Artificial Intelligence ...

Congratulations to Liam Goodyer, Nicholas McAnulty and Sarah Price. They have been awarded vouchers for \$100, \$75 and \$50 respectively.





Liam Goodyer Year 9



Nicholas McAnulty Year 10



Sarah Price Year 9



Bridging the Distance 2017

# Acknowledgements

Bridging the Distance 2017 (The magazine of Sydney Distance Education High School)

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the publication of our magazine.

Student lists are based on enrolments 26 July 2017

#### Design and Layout

Yvonne Lin Elmira Shapovalova

5/

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AZUOS

Julie Barel, Jill Berryman, Lynn Connolly, Irene Conomos, Rina Dumer, Alicia Gilmore, Natalie Hilton, Michael Marusic, Sarah Murphy, Wayne Proctor, Patricia Raptis  $\rightarrow \alpha$ 

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We show our respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land the Cadigal People of **Eora Nation.** 



# Principal's message

Distance education ... what an exciting place to be!

Wherever we are ... online or blended with so many other ways of learning ... students connect with each other, teachers and support staff ... Bridging the Distance ... as our inspiring school magazine so wonderfully reflects.

This year two staff received prestigious Principals Network Awards for their outstanding contributions to our school community ... inspiring connections. Our receptionist Vivienne Charlupski is one of the most well known faces of our school as she welcomes all to our school community, over the phone and in person. Head Teacher Duncan Gerdes is leading the growth of our highly successful network of learning hubs, increasing even further students' sense of belonging. Our student leaders have continued to impress us with their dedicated commitments and contributions ... so well reflected by wearing the school's Year 12 jersey with such a sense of fun and pride!

As our school focuses on the present, we challenge ourselves for the future. We continue to explore and embrace ways of supporting student learning and wellbeing, as reflected in our next three year school plan priorities: Connected Teaching and Learning, Personalised Student Wellbeing, Inspiring Leadership. This year, committed to learning from others, a team of us participated in the national AADES distance education conference. We returned with confidence in our current priority to strengthen real time teaching and learning, excited by ways to enrich connected learning for our students and teachers.







School Spirit!

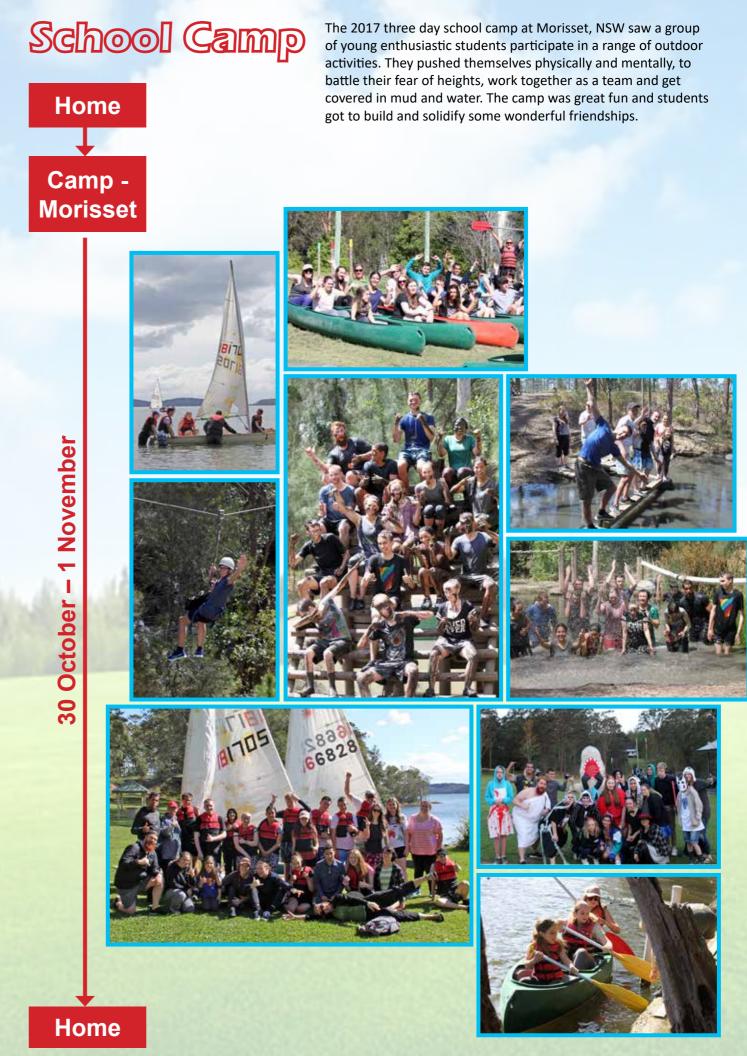
Bridging the Distance is a celebration of school spirit ... reflecting collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking ... all so important for connection: past, present and into our futures.

Best wishes.

SYI

Mark Piddington

National Conference Team



# **Creative and Performing Arts**

2017 has been an action packed and exciting year for the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty, with students being exposed to a variety of stimulating and enriching creative opportunities at school and out in art and music institutions.

Our Visual Arts students have visited a number of blockbuster exhibitions with excursions to Sculpture by the Sea, Brett Whiteley Studio, ARTEXPRESS and the Archibald Prize. Our regular Art Workshops at SDEHS have allowed students to experience a vast array of artmaking and photographic techniques and explore their creative potential. Once again we have submitted individual artworks for Operation Art and collaborative pieces for the Koori Art Expressions exhibition, which this year focussed on the NAIDOC week theme, 'Our Languages Matter'.

Our senior Music students have had the opportunity to further develop their composition skills through our regular Composers Day program with our composer in residence, Tristan Coelho.

Our talented Music students have continued to shine this year. Mitzi Gardner, Tony Lu, Ariel Volovelsky and Rio Xiang were nominated for their performances for the prestigious Encore recital at the Sydney Opera House. Luca Warburton also received an Encore nomination for his elective composition.

Talented twins Micaela and Joely Osfield have been selected to take part in the Talent Development



Project which develops the talents and careers of young Australian performers and song writers, through working with the entertainment community and providing unique industry experience.

Prodigious pianist Rio Xiang has had acclaim and success both nationally and internationally. In the First Beijing International Fryderyk Chopin Competition for Young Pianists Rio was a finalist, entering above his age group, and won the prize for best performance of the compulsory contemporary piece. He was also a finalist in the Minnesota Piano-e-Competition and has been accepted into a number of international master classes in the United States and Europe.

Congratulations to all of our talented and creative students who have achieved wonderful successes and made such a valuable contribution to the school throughout the year.

Congratulations to our 2016 HSC students who achieved some very pleasing results at the end of last year, particularly the HSC Standard cohort, who achieved a significant increase in Band 5 results compared to the previous two years. Congratulations to Georgia Turnham who achieved a Band 6 in this course! Congratulations must also be extended to Amelia Lee, who achieved an outstanding Band 6 result in English Advanced, an excellent effort.

The English Faculty has had an inspiring and challenging year. As teachers, we have been consistently heartened by the quality of work produced by our students through all stages, as well their application and adaptability.

A notable highlight has been hosting the poet and performance artist Lorin Elizabeth at the school's Big Day In. Lorin is a member of Red Room Poetry, and students were enthralled by her poetry. She also guided students through a workshop which

Throughout the year, English Faculty staff and their students regularly attended the Learning Hubs around Sydney. On these visits, the faculty aims to broaden our students' knowledge and understanding of English by encouraging wide reading through mentee-student student's involvement in the School Magazine, with many of our students submitting excellent creative writing pieces in the SDEHS Writing Competition.

Our Stage 5 students this year have been successfully





transitioning onto the elearning format. They are to be commended for their adaptability in this process and we have had some pleasing results. Congratulations also to the Year 10 students who have regularly attended the weekly web lessons for English every Tuesday. The results of their diligence are certainly showing!

# English

It has been wonderful to see our students enriching their talents and striving towards personal success.

# **History**

2017 has been a year of innovation and change in the History Faculty at SDEHS. Students continued to engage in the Years 7-10 Australian Curriculum and are working hard on their skills using the many new materials that are on offer. Years 9 and 10 have now gone fully electronic and the online materials are constantly being updated and improved so that we can continue to deliver quality teaching and learning. The Australian Curriculum now turns its attention to the senior years of study with the release in March of new syllabuses for both the Modern and Ancient History courses beginning in 2018 (Preliminary) with the HSC to be examined for the first time in 2019. Currently, new materials are being written across the state by outstanding teachers for delivery in Term 1 2018.

A number of Year 11 and Year 12 Ancient History students visited the National Maritime Museum in June to view the exhibition *Escape from Pompeii*, which enabled students, staff and supervisors to explore the latest findings from this ancient site. From all accounts, it was a fabulous day and the guide displayed an outstanding knowledge (and considerable rapport) in explaining how our views and knowledge of Pompeii are changing all the time. Excursions such as this really do bring History alive for the students.

..........

The History Faculty once again provided the opening act at the Big Day In with Histrivia engaging a large audience. An enthusiastic and knowledgeable audience competed in two rounds of ten questions based around the theme "Mind, Body and Spirit". Staff commented on how well this cohort engaged in the games and I would certainly compliment all of the students who attended on their excellent behaviour and the spirited way, no pun intended, in which they competed. In between rounds, as per usual, games of heads and tails proved to be entertaining and the winners enjoyed the spoils of victory with movie tickets to be shared amongst their team.

The 2016 HSC delivered very pleasing results for students in all History Faculty subjects. In Modern History, 45% of students achieved a mark of 80 or higher, whilst Ancient History students excelled in gaining two Band 6 results and exhibiting a marked improvement from the previous cohort. These results are testament to the hard work and extra mentoring provided by the dedicated teachers in these subjects.

Not surprisingly and as we have come to expect, Society and Culture students performed above state average, whilst History Extension students continue to do well every year. These results are very much down to the expertise of the staff involved and their willingness to provide outstanding tutelage, particularly in regards to the projects that are a very important factor in obtaining good results in the Higher School Certificate.

We look forward to 2018 with anticipation as we prepare to deliver the Australian Curriculum to Year 11 students in Ancient and Modern History for the first time.



# Learning Support



2017 has been another exciting and rewarding year for the Learning and Support Faculty.

The fun, friendly menagerie – the baby animals, not the Learning and Support staff – made a welcome reappearance at the Big Day In. A bonus activity was the creation of rain sticks, capturing sound and colour,

highlighting the creative talents of our SDEHS students.

The annual Ernst & Young/ Learning & Support Gold Award picnic day saw new games and activities to challenge students and volunteers alike, including the towering toothpick and marshmallow constructions,

# Library

The SDEHS Library supports student learning by providing textbooks and curriculum resources. There is also a substantial range of literature, non-fiction and talking books available for loan.

The library offers students in Years 7 to 9 the opportunity to participate in the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge and library orientation activities are included in the New Student Orientation Day for Stage 4 students. These activities are designed to assist new students with information literacy skills as well as demonstrating how to access the library database through the Student Portal. The library also supports the zoom-in game and the creation of artistic zines. By the time our magnificent lunch was served, appetites had been well and truly whetted! Our Gold Award students were truly deserving of their fun day and their prizes.

The Learning and Support Faculty has been busy behind the scenes, identifying 400 students with a disability who are receiving supplementary, substantial or extensive adjustments to their schooling for the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). Over 40 home students were supported with their NESA Disability Provisions applications for their Trial and HSC exams, and over 114 students had an Individual Learning Plan or Strategy Sheet. Our staff has made home, school and hub visits to support students with additional learning and support needs, attended case meetings, and continued to develop and deliver Life Skills courses to students across Years 7–12. Congratulations to all of our students who have achieved so much during 2017!

students in acquiring information skills through an elearning site, Using your school library.

During 2017 the library also established a 'Drop Everything and Read' program with Year 7 English students to encourage regular reading habits. Through literature, students can enrich their lives, explore the world and other cultures and learn about the experiences of others. Extensive research demonstrates the positive impact that reading has on language and literacy development.

Library staff welcomes students to use the library for study, research and reading for enjoyment. We encourage you to call in on your next school visit.

# **Mathematics**



2017 has been a busy and exciting year for the Mathematics Faculty at Sydney Distance Education High School. Last year saw the introduction of the online format in the Year 9, 5.1 course. This year this was extended to the equivalent Year 10 course. Students in these courses have adapted well to the changes.

The Mathematics Faculty also extended the 'live' web lessons for General Mathematics. These are conducted through the elearning site and lessons are held at the same time each week. Students are strongly recommended to attend as the work covered relates to the weekly work being done by students. For students unable to attend, these lessons are recorded and made available on the school's elearning site. In 2018 we hope to extend the weekly web lessons to the Year 9, 5.1 course.

Mathematics staff have participated in professional learning this year, including learning on the new Standard Mathematics course that will begin for Preliminary students in 2018. The much anticipated new calculus based courses are due to start for Preliminary students in 2019 so next year will be a year of preparation for that.

As always a very busy, productive and successful year. Students are congratulated for their effort in this subject.





Every student is capable of and deserves the chance to learn and achieve to their potential

The Middle School Faculty provides adjusted Stage 4 and Stage 5 syllabus programs (Years 7–10). This allows for personalised learning through a differentiated curriculum.

We cover five subject areas – English, Mathematics, Science, Geography and History.

#### We offer

- A reduced number of teachers for students and supervisors to work with.
- A flexible learning approach to suit a range of learning styles and abilities.
- Engaging materials tailored to the Australian curriculum.

#### What we do

- Help students to achieve success and regain confidence in their learning capacity. For example, enabling students to attain their ROSA.
- Aim to bridge any gaps in learning that may have occurred throughout a student's schooling.
- Transition students to mainstream courses when appropriate.

It is hard to believe another year has passed. 2017 has been a year full of activity for both students and staff:

- Lots of wonderful, creative work has been produced by our students, some of which is showcased throughout this magazine.
- Staff and students of Stage 5 embarked together on the elearning journey, introducing a different approach to learning and sharing new online materials and web lessons.
- We are trialling a Middle School elearning Hub, with teachers available each day at an online Help Desk to assist with any questions or web lessons for our students.
- The work of preparing for the new Australian Curriculum in Geography continued this year. Years 7 and 9 began their new course work while the

# **Middle School**

writing for Years 8 and 10 continues. These new courses will be available for the 2018 school year.

 During the Big Day In our Bike-n-Blend activity was a HUGE success. We all got active and created scrumptious, healthy smoothies using pedal power alone. It was a very delicious way of demonstrating sustainability in action.

We take this opportunity to congratulate all of our Year 10 students who have attained their Record of School Achievement and everyone else who has worked hard this year towards achieving their own personal best.



"It is health that is real wealth, and not pieces of gold and silver" Mahatma Gandhi

In light of the wise words by Gandhi, always be mindful of the value of your health. Health includes body and mind. The PDHPE Faculty believes in the value of health and instils this value into students at SDHES. The faculty teaching and learning has a component developing the skills in students to make informed and wise decisions about health and lifestyle.

In 2017 the PDHPE Faculty continued to focus on teaching and learning. The web lessons that were introduced in 2016 were extended to include Stage 4 and Stage 5 courses. Regular web lessons were conducted in mandatory PDHPE, Crossroads and Community, and Family Studies. These web lessons were embraced by the students and were found to be highly engaging and beneficial. The lessons gave the students the opportunity to interact with other SDEHS students, which not only enhanced learning opportunities, but added a component of rigorous discussion to learning. Consequently, students involved in the web lessons had more support from peers and staff in their learning.

The PDHPE Faculty developed and implemented Stage 5 resources online to be hosted in elearning. These resources have proven to be innovative, diverse and student centred. Online learning provides an excellent platform for hosting diverse learning activities which the students have successfully navigated.

Congratulations to all students who applied themselves in PDHPE this year. In 2016 many students achieved a Band 6 in their HSC. Whilst the success of a teacher and student can be measured by the number of Band 6s attained, it is worth noting that individual students should have set goals for the academic year, and that the success of these students can therefore be measured by the attainment of those goals. All students should remember to set goals for 2018. Be mindful:

Your future is created by what you do today. (Anonymous)

#### STEM STATUS: 100% Operationa

- Detailed Subject Analysis:
- and emulsions. Charlotte Thacker is pictured creating one with an egg mixture.
- Julieanne Longley assessed the health of a stream at the Royal Botanic Gardens during an excursion. Samples of water bugs were collected and analysed.
- Lana Burnett explored the use of non-Newtonian fluids to protect an egg being dropped from a height... It did not work this time but it was a fun experience.
- A comparison was made between human and sheep lungs with a demonstration on how they inflate. We called it the Mick & Mike Show.

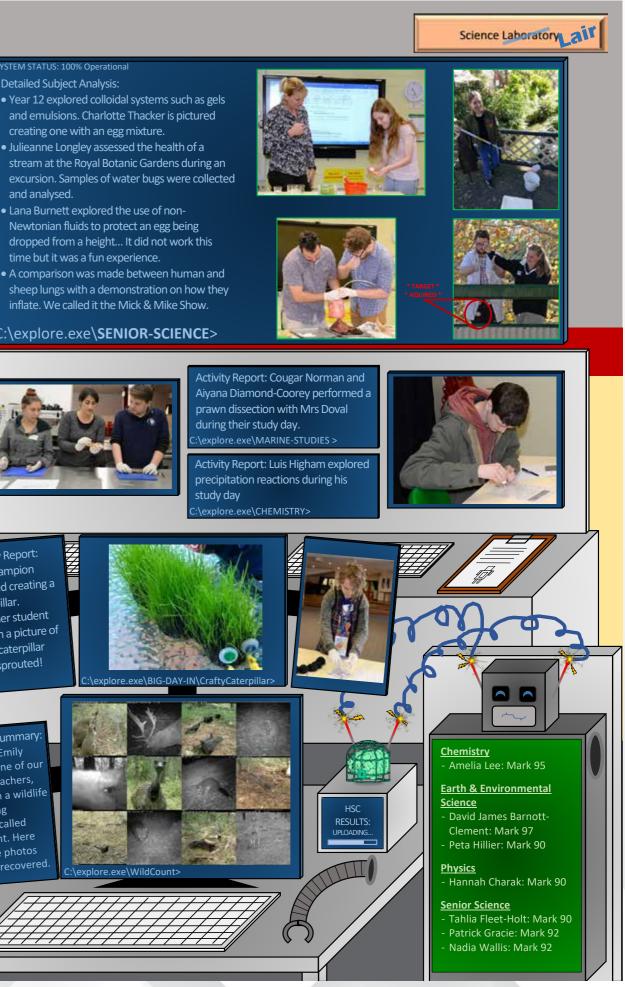
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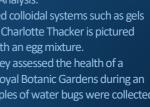


Activity Report: Amy Campion enjoyed creating a caterpillar. Another student sent in a picture of their caterpillar that sprouted!



esearch Summan Fewster, one of our Science teachers, assisted in a wildlife monitoring program called WildCount. Here are some photos hat she recovered







Bridging the Distance 2017

# Social **Sciences**

Congratulations to all our students and the teaching staff for another successful year.

In the 2016 Higher School Certificate Examination the Social Sciences Faculty offered six subjects: Business Studies, Economics, Geography, Legal Studies, Studies of Religion 1 Unit and 2 Unit. Within all subjects students performed exceptionally well. The following students gained Band 6: Georgia Turnham (Business Studies), Madeleine Nurdi (Economics), Samantha Sandelowsky, Hannah Kohler (Legal Studies) and Trent Hugler (Studies of Religion 1 Unit).

2017 has been a very productive year for the Social Sciences Faculty. The dynamic nature of our subjects require teachers to stay informed of contemporary issues and changes to the global and Australian economic, social, political, legal and business environments in order to teach these changes to students as they occur.

The faculty has used a variety of teaching strategies that cater for individual situations. This has involved creating individual learning programs, integrating phone lessons, study days, field visits and excursions together with increasing use of technology such as online lesson materials and web conferencing. This year has seen the implementation online of the new Geography curriculum for Stage 5 and the development of Stage 4 for 2018.

................

To support students and their learning Year 9 Geography has fortnightly web lessons using Adobe Connect. These have proved to be invaluable for the students to gain a more comprehensive understanding of course concept and content.

To enhance students' investigative skills and first hand observation Stage 6 students undertook excursions and fieldwork activities to Homebush Wetlands and Green Square.

# Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Careers



2017 was a particularly busy and fruitful year for the VET Faculty. Our Director Public Schools NSW was part of an audit team that came in to review the teaching of VET courses at SDEHS. They provided us with a glowing report that praised the way Hospitality, Information & Digital Technology, Retail Services and Business Services are assisting students gain valuable skills that they can use in their future careers.

The year had several highlights, perhaps the biggest being the 'Masterchef comes to SDEHS' Study Day organised by Kim McJannett. Kim invited Elena Duggan, the winner of Masterchef 2016, to attend the day, which involved our own mystery cook-off. Each student was provided with a mystery box of six ingredients and asked to cook up a storm with advice and guidance from the Masterchef herself. The gourmet creations such as cauliflower confit and chicken crackling were nothing short of amazing. The winners were Lachlan See for his main dish of macadamia crusted salmon and Taylor Sicard for her dessert of strawberry trio. The pictures say all that needs to be said of the day. Yum!

The Hospitality and Retail Services students also combined to create the SDEHS coffee shop every Friday morning. The students used commercial cookery equipment to cook a variety of realistic quantities of scrumptious meals and sweets that were sold by the Retail Services students using the latest in point of sale retail equipment. This process was showcased for the auditors who were most impressed by the capabilities of our students.

All students in all the VET courses truly appreciated the skills and experience they gained from attending their work placements during the year. Several students went on to gain part time employment from their work placements whilst others talked glowingly about getting out into the real world.

Our Long Tan Award recipient Sarah Thomas Year 12 did her Business Services work placement with Lee Evans MP and even got to attend Parliament for a day whilst several of the IDT students were overwhelmed by the knowledge and skills they gained from Stephen Kay in the SDEHS Technology Faculty.



Overall VET has been successful in providing students with competencies and knowledge that will allow them to study further in their chosen vocational area in the future and hopefully gain productive careers.











We are changing the world with TECHNOLOGY. Bill Gates

# **Technology and Applied Studies**

There have been great achievements by students in the TAS Faculty this year.

Congratulations to our Stage 6 students who performed extremely well in the 2016 HSC. In Textiles and Design our students achieved above the state average in both the written examination and the Major Textile Project. One student came 1st in the state and another 3 students were placed in the top 10 of the state. Work from Miela Malyon and Meagan Watson was selected to be displayed at the Powerhouse Museum and another 6 students had their work selected for display at the Texstyle Exhibition at the Stitches and Craft Show.



Miela Malyon with her teacher Dianne Grose and her costume in the background



Meaghan Watson with her teacher Dianne Grose and her costume in the background

Students in Engineering Studies, Food Technology and Design and Technology were also successful with Band 6s attained in each subject.

This year's study days have been a great success with students participating in a whole variety of activities.

In what has become an annual event, senior Agriculture students participated in excursions to No. 9 Dairy at the Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute near Camden. Year 12 students also visited the Country Valley Dairy at Picton. Touring the farm gave students an opportunity to try their hand at milking and calf feeding as well as learning about a robotic rotary dairy.





To support our students and their learning weekly web lessons have been conducted using Adobe Connect. These lessons are a great way for students to engage in interactive and collaborative learning and will continue to be part of our teaching in 2018. Practical visits to the hubs have also been very popular.

Students and supervisors were treated to a range of hands-on activities at this year's Big Day In. Tasty treats called bliss balls were a great hit. Students also got a chance to work with plastics to make key rings, which they then got to take home.

(TAS)



2017 saw the successful amalgamation of the Technology and Applied Studies Faculty with the Computing Studies Faculty.

Overall, it has been a busy and successful year for the Technology and Applied Studies Faculty. Congratulations to all students for their personal achievements throughout this year.



Chloe Bobbin

Congratulations to all our 2016 HSC Information Processes and Technology (IPT) and Industrial Technology Multimedia (ITM) students who achieved some very pleasing results. We would particularly like to congratulate Jerry Leung who came 8th in the state for IPT.

The ITM course is now in its fifth year and we continue to have very positive feedback from students and supervisors regarding the elearning resources available and the support students receive while completing their Major Project and Folio. Students this year have worked hard and creatively to complete their projects. Distance education can pose some challenges to students working on large, practical projects but our students consistently rise to the challenge. Their discipline, communication skills and willingness to learn independently is most impressive. We are very proud of them.

Our Information and Software Technology course has undergone some significant modifications and now contains an extensive range of updated tutorials and resources. During the year, students have also been participating in weekly web lessons.

To assist all our students, study days this year included hands-on workshops which covered a range of practical skills including animation, web development, database design, virtual reality, augmented reality, 3D printing, gesture recognition, desktop publishing and video editing.

Congratulations to all our students for their hard work and engagement throughout the year.

Alexander Chorley Bridging the Distance 2017 21

# elearning



On average 1000 students, supervisors and teachers have accessed the SDEHS elearning site every week.

This year saw the introduction of online courses for Year 9 and 10 students in all subjects. All fifty-two Year 9 and 10 courses were taught online. This has allowed Year 9 and 10 students access to engaging and interactive digital learning materials, and enabled them to develop online skills essential for living and learning in a 21st century society. The year saw an increased use of video content to engage students in their learning. Students completed their online activities in many different ways. They used voice recording, video creation, and a variety of multimedia formats to communicate their



ideas to their classmates and teachers. Maths and Science students gained the ability to write simple and complicated equations on the site using a new feature, the Wiris equation editor.

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Online delivery of Year 9 and 10 courses in 2017 has saved approximately 2000 trees from being cut down for paper, and the continued presence of those trees has removed approximately 287 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Up to 15 000 plastic bags (that once would have contained new work and returned student responses) have been saved from being sent to landfill.

#### Number of badges earned: 16 Download all Search by name Cosmic explore Conflict Conscious **Curious Cosmologist** Element Expert Connected 10 Science The Price War Paid Fishermans Friend Researcher 20 18 Chemistry Yothu Yindi Thinking Trig 2 Thinking Trig 10 Careers 10 Music of the Year 9 Bully Free Overviewe experimente Achievement Award Classical Period Zone #1

My badges from Sydney Distance Education High School web site

# Learning Hubs

In 2017 our Learning Hubs have continued to thrive. Student attendance has steadily grown at our four Learning Hubs across Sydney and the Central Coast. It has been fantastic to see so many students attending the Hubs on a regular basis and so many new faces attending for the first time this year.

This year saw the opening of the Inner City Learning Hub on the SDEHS site in Woolloomooloo. This Hub operates on a 🚛 Friday and the school library has been a hive of activity for both students and teachers.

The Learning Hub team has had a few changes this year. Robert O'Brien has been joined by Wayne Proctor in Woy Woy on Tuesdays, Katrina Saville and Rede Carney are up at Glenbrook on Thursdays and the dynamic duo of Ray Corcorar and Sue Minter continue to captain the ship in Ingleburn on Tuesdays.

In 2018 we will be expanding our network of Learning Hubs with the addition of three new Hubs, making it even easier for our students to access their teachers. We will be opening new Learning Hubs in the upper Central Coast area (Wyong/Tuggerah), the Sutherland Shire (Sutherland/Miranda) and the

Hills District (Castle Hill). More details about the new Learning Hubs will be published in the School Newsletter and on the website.

# **Lower Blue** Mountains

#### Thursday 9 am – 3 pm 1 Ross St, Glenbrook (opposite South Western Glenbrook Park and directly behind **Sydney** the Caltex on the Highway) **Learning Hub**

Tuesday 9 am – 3 pm

**Learning Hub** 

### **SDEHS Inner City Learning Hub**

Friday 10 am – 2 pm Forbes St, Woolloomooloo (in the Library Seminar Room

#### **Central Coast Learning Hub**

Tuesday 9 am - 3 pm 93 McMasters Road. Woy Woy (In the Peninsula **Community Centre** opposite Rogers Park)

# SRC

The SDEHS Student Representative Council promotes 'student voice' and student leadership at SDEHS. It is a great opportunity for SDEHS home students to make contact with peers. The SRC's 2017 President was Lizzie Cyrill Curran and Vice-President was Nelson McKenna, supported by students across all years at SDEHS.

The SRC has around 11 members and all home students were invited to attend each of the SRC meetings. Meetings were held each term and helped to promote friendship and a general atmosphere of safe camaraderie amongst peers so that students develop in social confidence. SRC meetings are usually well enjoyed and have a mixture of fun activities and serious activities for planning and benefiting the school community.

In 2017 the SRC achieved the following.

- Organised and ran activities on Harmony Day and Diversity Day.
- Conducted 4 SRC meetings where students voiced their concerns and their suggestions for improving opportunities for student participation.
- Supported and acted as 'buddies' to new students who attended school events for the first time.
- Involved themselves as presenters for Presentation Days.
- Made a large Mandala artwork.

- Involved themselves in the Self Defence course currently being run by the PDHPE department and the Student Wellbeing Team.
- Ben Narooz McGrory
  Year 12 was selected to attend the 2017 Secondary
   Schools Leadership Program

(Year 12 students only). On the day Ben was lucky enough to meet with His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales.

The SRC is supported by the following teachers: Rachel Angus, Catherine Soper, David Moss, Reena Nazareth, Rebekah Cowie and Mick Brooker.



The Student Wellbeing Team is always looking for initiatives to implement in our school in order to support our students and engage them in their learning. This year we have expanded our mentoring program and a number of students are being mentored by staff members. Also a link has been made with the University of Notre Dame and we are working together to develop a mentoring program whereby their students become mentors for ours. Mentoring is a valuable program supporting our students both in the academic area and in building their resilience and working towards their transition to post school options.

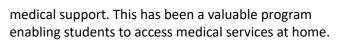
Our Transition Advisers have been very busy visiting students and ensuring that they have a thorough understanding of school processes in order to increase their connection to the school.

The Boys' and Girls' Supervisors have organised various activity days for students to enhance their wellbeing and encourage them to meet other students. Students participate in various activities such as card and jewellery making, archery, bowling and self-defence. Strong friendships are formed and students feel more connected to their school.

The Year Advisers have conducted ongoing reviews this year and they work closely with students and their families ensuring students are well supported and engaged in their learning. They offer valuable advice, organise school visits and follow up with requests from families.

This year the school has been very fortunate in gaining a grant to support student wellbeing. The school has formed a partnership with Mind Plasticity, an organisation of medical professionals who visit homes. Identified students are referred there for ongoing

# Wellbeing Initiatives



The Student Wellbeing Team has been discussing ways we can further support our students to engage in their learning. One of the school's strategic directions for 2018–2020 is Personalised Student Wellbeing. The Student Wellbeing Team is committed to developing programs and implementing strategies which will further enhance student wellbeing and give all students maximum support in their learning and engagement.

# Volunteering & Social Justice

It has been another fantastic year at Sydney Distance Education High School for our students who have involved themselves in the Volunteering and Social Justice Programs. These programs aim to develop students' skills, experience and self esteem. These initiatives give back to our local community and promote giving to others less fortunate.

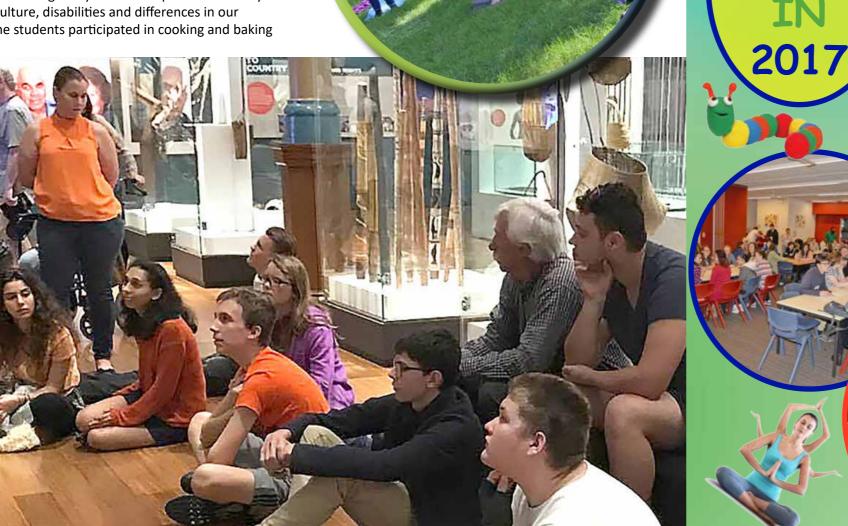
Members of the SRC have been actively involved in the organisation of our social justice days such as Harmony Day and Diversity Day. This year students were invited to an excursion to the Australian Museum and Hyde Park to celebrate Harmony Day. They were treated to an in-depth look at Australia's "hidden history", focusing on the culture of the First Australians. Following the museum visit, the students participated in Yoga in Hyde Park focussing on their inner Harmony. Diversity Day was a fabulous day in at school celebrating many different aspects of diversity such as culture, disabilities and differences in our world. The students participated in cooking and baking activities, games, henna tattoos and an art project. Both of these special days promoted inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone in our school community and the wider community.

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 have involved themselves in many different aspects of volunteering and have been eligible for the Premier's Volunteer Recognition Program in 2017. A number of our students have involved themselves in numerous activities such as our School Coffee Club, our school Student Representative Council (SRC), waterpolo refereeing, landscaping, Bushcare groups, the SES, church activities and at the zoo.



BIG

DAY





# Year Advisers Report

Michael Marusic

> Julianna Chan

If you had to give 2017 a name you would have to call it The Year of Change. They say that change is as good as a holiday. What a learning curve we've had!

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This year we saw a change in the way that students in Years 9 and 10 accessed their lessons with the content being delivered online. This change left students with the challenge of using technology for uses outside the realms of social media, google searches, memes, funny videos and of course ... selfies! Congratulations on embracing change!

This year we also saw a change in the Year Advising teams here at Sydney Distance Education High School, not just in the roles but the people in them as well. While Michael Marusic relieved as Head Teacher Science from the end of 2016, Trent Swaysland joined the team as the Years 7 and 8 Year Adviser and did a wonderful job during the first half of the year. With the need growing for another member in the senior team, Nina Thomas one of the junior Year Advisers stepped up to that role at the start of Term 2. The remaining three junior Year Advisers took on all of Years 7-10 between them until Michael rejoined the Junior team at the beginning of Term 3.

No matter what name you gave to this between time while the changes were going on, we junior Year Advisers especially want to thank all of the supervisors, for the effort and patience that you have given our students during what may have been a difficult and turbulent time. With the support and effort that you bring to working with us we can work towards making 2018 The Year of Success.









### Year 7 Students

Aaron Batkin Matthew Blakeney Izack Carrier Kobi Clements Kyran Comello Long Do Zahra Elammar Lillian Fitzgerald Jacob Harvey Noam Ilsar Jeremy McKeown Natasha Moore Sarah Roumieh

My dog Bolt loves to be cheeky, chatty and is a champion.

My Dog Bolt

He's a cheerful cherub

that we cherish. A childish but chivalrous chum

that will chew my favourite shoes.

Sarah Roumieh

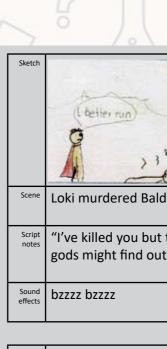


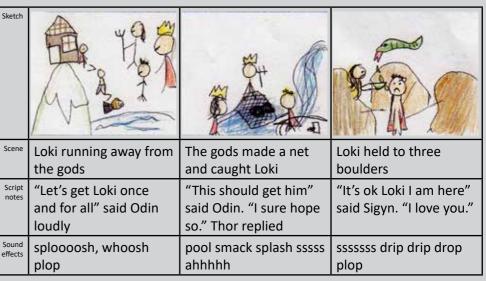
Aaron Batkin

#### **Taylah Anderson** Luke Anderson

Year 8 Students

Phoebe Anderssen **Hollie Barnes** Madeleine Betty **Cullen Boris Rebecca Caswell** Elise Chamberlain Tara Chamberlain **Giles** Cox Chanice Cull Kayla Duffy Augustus Elliott-Gibbs Fynn Ellison **Tobias Favretti Chantelle Foster** Jacob Freeman **Shaemus Garratley** Chloe Grul Kyra Hanson Isabella Ireland Conrad Jessup William Judd Sol Lehmann Hannah McClelland **Hugh McDonald** Lillian McKenna Finnegan O'Connor Abbey Regner Samuel Shearman James Skinner Jordyn Spillman **Gage Sutherland** Ky Taylor Ayden Thomson Leonie Thorn Alicia Whiting





Sound

Game plan Lillian Fitzgerald

THE AND A

Jimmy Do

T

My Song

Do you mind if we talk about it?

The mighty thing that controlled us for

millenniums.

The things that it had taught us.

The things that it had done to us.

The things that it had restricted us.

Its mighty wings, its mighty stature.

Has only brought us treason and treachery.

Do we really have free will?

Chorus

You realise we're being watched.

Day by day, it knows it all.

Using your life mercilessly.

Only for money and personal gain.

Use your heart or use your brain.

It's the survival of the fittest.

Game plan Kobi Clements

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Game plan Hugh McDonald

), 0		8-8-6
ur	Loki was trying to hide from the gods	Loki turning into a salmon
the "	"Oh no what shall the gods do to me? I hope I don't get killed!"	"I think I am going to turn into a fish and swim." whispered Loki
	chatter chatter whoooosh	whoosh whoosh splash kurrplupe

# ndour Bender bv

Yeh, yehh DJ Sol. This one goes out to LFresh the Lion, Mirrah and Vuli. And all the people that came to my shows, this one's for you.

Here's a little story you all should know It will get you rockin to and fro

It all started at a hyped place called Splendour It took me on a wild musical bender

I'm DJ Sol. I'm 13 kid And this show, was my very first gig

I'll be happy I'll be rocking the stage soon The excitement had me jumping up and down in the plane bathroom

When I got off the flight my legs felt like jelly But like Eminem I was calm and ready

I got to the festival and I started getting nervous I reminded myself that this is my sole purpose

I headed to admissions to collect my pass I was ready to hit the stage real fast

But they said slow down, slow down your show is tomorrow I said alright, I'll be a tough act to follow

MUSIC IS MY LIFE, MY LIFE IS MUSIC TAKES ME TO A PLACE WHERE I LOSE MY FACE

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MUSIC IS MY LIFE, MY LIFE IS MUSIC TAKES ME TO A PLACE WHERE I LOSE MY FACE

My legs were a shaking, my forehead a bakin, Get me on stage already, I'm sick of waiting

I'm nervous so mumma help me please I wanna go home so give me the keys

As I step on the stage, I'm no longer afraid This is my game it's for what I was made

The crowd started jumping My fists were pumping Oh yeh this is what I been wanting!

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Concentrating hard focusing on my mix Giving energy like I'm serving up weet bix

#### Master of the fader Cooler than Darth Vader

...................

On stage as a DJ tell me what's greate I was in the zone can you feel the mor I'm giving you a taste just know that I o

Ever since then things have never been th I'm DJ Sol, remember the name!

MUSIC IS MY LIFE, MY LIFE IS MUS TAKES ME TO A PLACE WHERE I LOSE MY

#### MUSIC IS MY LIFE, MY LIFE IS MUSIC TAKES ME TO A PLACE WHERE I LOSE MY FACE

MUSIC IS MY LIFE, MY LIFE IS MUSIC TAKES ME TO A PLACE WHERE I LOSE MY FACE MUSIC IS MY LIFE, MY LIFE IS MUSIC TAKES ME TO A PLACE WHERE I LOSE MY FAC

I feel at home in the Splendour dome Away from the boring mainstream moan

Everyone's accepted no matter what you look like, whether you fat, brown, skinny or white

Standing together for a music celebration This is my kind of nation

This is the start of all of my dreams Here with all of my kings and queens

We all come together chasing the stage light Doing our thing to shine bright

So tell me are you hooked yet? Have your musical needs been met uh?

Follow your dreams No matter how big or small

Reach for the stars And grow real tall

This is my story Thanks Splendour in the Grass

This is a memory that will stay in my heart

MUSIC IS MY LIFE, MY LIFE IS MUSIC TAKES ME TO A PLACE WHERE I LOSE MY FACE

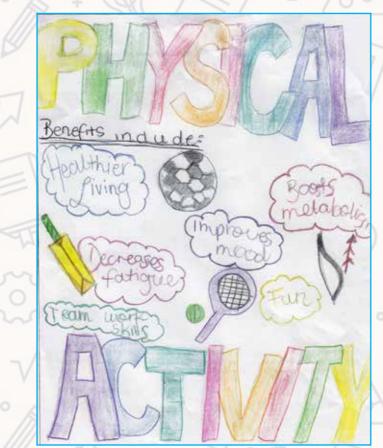
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MUSIC IS MY LIFE, MY LIFE IS MUSIC TAKES ME TO A PLACE WHERE I LOSE MY FACE

PEACE!







Growing vegetables Luke Anderson



Bark painting Leonie Thorn

Avden Thomson

# THE MAN FROM CANBERRA

- His father was an army man as he was going to be He went to the ANU and tried to gain a law degree
- He was a second generation military man
- And dedicated always, ready with a plan
- He joined the Military forces
- Where he learnt the code of Morse
- After he graduated with Arts from ANU
- And later from Deakin with a Masters too.
- He travelled and worked hard at many places far and wide In charge of keeping peace in places that had run amuck and gone askew
- Worked tirelessly to fight for better conditions for the downtrodden
- He was put in places where past wrongs could not be forgotten He tried to make a difference where others had bailed
- Earnt medals and awards that showed he hadn't failed.
- Lieutenant General David Morrison AO
- Known for his heroic stand
- Always good to know he was in command
- Known for breaking down barriers and taking a stand.

His deeds created such a spark That man from Canberra got his mark History books now made it clear He was the 2016 Australian of the Year

Military man, such a good fella

Born nineteen fifty-six in Canberra.

Tobias Favretti

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Bridging the Distance 2017

#### Year 9 Students

Acuil Acuil **Betul Aktas** Adam Alachrafi Mackenzie Banning Kayla Barnes Casey Bates William Beaver **Kayla Beetson** Amelie Beltran-Rehberg **Riley Berrill Caylib Biggs** Leroy Black Lucy Blanchette Harrison **Boyden-Shepherd** Camilla Boyle **Cooper Brightman** Griff Brondum Joshua Bryce Harrison Bulloch Jemma Byrne Brielle Cant **Connor Carbone** Grace Carroll Jordan Carter **Tyrone Chandler-Cortese** Zoe Chapman Jemma Chisler **Benjamin Clabburn** Shannon Clarkson Joshua Clements **Brianna-Jaye Cook** Sophie Daly **Emma Dillon** Lauren Dobbie **Riley Donovan** Connor Dorman James Duff Dariush Ebadi Simon Elias **Nicholas Faint Jessalyn Fenton** 

**Kayley Filce** Will Foster Audrey Freeman Danielle Gebser Ethan Gonzalez Liam Goodyer Jesse Green James Greig Taleah Guiana-Smith Lillian Hamer Zachary Hannelly **Tiali Hargreaves** Leilani Healey Moustafa Jawad Nathaniel Jones Charlotte Jones Justin Karam Chloe Keegan Lucy-May Kelderman Jessica Kelliher Lachlan Kenny **Rory Keyes** Minho Kim Damon King Daniel Korenblyum Jack Layton Tiymika Leslie Jemma Lorger **Bridget Lynch** Sinclair Marshall Paige Maryska **Claudia Mason** Callum McHarg William McMahon Angelina Meade Logan Meere Marcus Michelsen Tamara Miller Amber Mitchell-Knight Kynan Mizzi-Ngati **Timothy Mott Olivia Murrell** 

Taylah Najduch-Jones Jessica Newport Luke O'Connor James Oxley Jackson Palusi **Angelica Panov** Ksenia Panova **Emily Pasfield Kobie Pearson** William Philipson Sarah Price Amarah Raad Anna Renotte Katherine Renwick Grace Ritzrow Erin Robson **Bryan Rodriguez** Isla Roebig Hyo Shimizu Shontaya Smedley Tara Smith Monica Smith **Benjamin Soltan** Sierra Sparks Apiraami Srikanthan Lauren Stanbury Liam Stewart **April Stubbs** Roxy Syron Taina Taurerewa-Yucel Jonas Thorn **Riley Troy-Cannon** Shawn Vai-Dan **Tristan Vilder** Sophie Walker Maya Walsh-McLeod **Corey White** Sheldin Whitford Bree-Anna Wilson Breanna Winterswyk Lucinda Worthing





### **First Impressions**

When I came over from Perth, Western Australia at a young age I thought that it was different because of the landscape and the beaches. They were different because the sand was yellow instead of white and the hills were high and wide instead of flat. The wildlife was exploding with birds and other animals, the vegetation was amazing. It left an amazing first impression on me.

The beaches impressed me the most because the waters of Terrigal are vibrant green colours with huge barrelling waves to Perth's calm blue Indian Ocean.

The hills expand across the whole Central Coast and they look like green clouds. Perth has its fair share of greenery but the landscapes are flat and mostly on desert sand. I have realised over time that it's better here for you to raise a family and be in positive surroundings. The community is lovely and everybody appears happy. I have just realised how much better it is here over time that I have spent here. My impressions are still the same as they were when I first arrived but I have become used to the sounds and sights and now sometimes take them for granted. While I love it here in Terrigal I still miss Perth, Western Australia.

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#### **Reflective Writing**

It is one of the deadliest things ever, the dark. When I sleep in my room, I sleep with the light on or I can't sleep. The dark is mysterious scary and pitch black. I have theories that someone is going to kidnap, murder or a spider might crawl on me. I don't know how people can survive in the dark. Oh yeah they must be aliens. One day, my friend came over and stayed up with me for the whole night so that I can actually sleep like a normal person. To pass time, we played games, watched movies and played cards. We did this until I went to bed. In the morning, since I slept in cause it's a Saturday, she left. I overcame this problem and lasted.

Apiraami Srikanthan

Lauren Dobbie

Bridging the Distance 2017

Kayla Barnes

## Year 10 Students

Ali Abdi Lorren Adams Muammal Al Maliki **Piper Allen** Taylor Allen **Dominick Amos-Minahan** Wessam Amrieh Luke Andreani Lucy Angel Lily-Ann Aspley-Smith Zachary Austin Ariel Baron **Fletcher Barratt** Alexander Begg Youcef Benabdeslam Georgia Benn Joshua Bettman Isabella Biady-Urbano Joshua Blight Tiarna-Lea Boileau Chad Bowden Jessica Boyle Jason Brand Trent Brandon Nathaniel Brawley **Kiara Brereton Tiarna Bristowe Kyle Britton Caitlin Burgess Mitchell Cadogan Millicent Cahill** Shania Campbell Sian Campkin Isabella Cargill Declan Carveth Breanna Cassar-Bell Anahera-Keita Chessum Grace Claridge **Thomas Clearkin Emilie Clemmet** Jennifer Cockley Alicia Coleman

Ashley Coleman **Brendan** Costa **Bethany Cover** Kristy-Lee Coyle Keira Crisp **Bailey Crook** Anthony Crouch Samantha Dale Jade Darby Cole Davey **Abigail Davies** Jaylyn Davis Gabrielle Deem Aroha Deighton Josephine Delport Rebeka Demarais Zachary Dixon **Tara Dominguez Cooper Donaldson** Elizabeth D'Ortona Takaylah Douglas Jesse Dowling **Trinity Dowsett** James Dunkin Pearl Edwards-Arrowsmith Christian Elvy William Evans Joshua Fahim Felicity Fallon **Ruby Farquharson Michael Ferlauto** Eva Fitzpatrick Isabella Fitzpatrick **Rachel Fitzpatrick Ruby French Tristan Fulcher** Holly Gaunt Amber Gibson Bronte Gibson **Erin Gilbertson** Sarah Gilmore

**Benjamin Gold-Croese** Greta Gordon Jake Gordon **Cooper Granger Chelsea Grant** Alexander Griffioen **Bellamy Guion** Natika Hamilton **Ross Hanley Caitlin Harris** Vanessa Harrison Desert Hawke **Briannon Heather-Hawes Benjamin Hennessy** Tamara Heron Micah Honan Jasmine Honey Jayden Hoole Karlie Hooper Brad Hoswell Jessica Hugo Holly Jack Blake Jago Alethia Janes-Paratene Kurtis Jaye Byarna Jeffery-Ta'ala Ashleigh Jeisman Maximilian Johnston **Brendon Jomaa** Ava Jones Lachlan Jones Wasana Jung Idora Karam Isabella Kark Annika Kemble **Casey Kenton** Sarah Khoury **Eloise Kieler** Hunter King-Berger Marley Kinsela Isabella Knibbs Jackson Knox

Tianna Koolloos Ze'ev Krischer Jade Kum Lachlan Kummer-French Taneisha Kum-Sing Lucy Lakeman Jordan Lazarus **Regan Leavy Piper Leckie** Joshua Lloyd-Jones Zachary Logan Daniel Logue Daisy Long **Kiah Lowe** Brianna Lynch **Toby MacBride Kieran Mahoney Wilcox** Tayne Makoric Charli Mandelik **Rvan Manley** Lili Marin-Curtoud **Monique** Martin Taran Martin Joel McAlister Alysha McAlpine Nicholas McAnulty Eva McCudden Danica McDougall Nelson McKenna Tessa McLean Sean McMillan Lachlan McPherson Isabella Meere Shanali Megan Damon Melksham William Mihelakis **Kyle Miles** Abby Miller Katherine Mitchell Talia Mohenoa Diana Mokrozhaeva Larni Moloney

# Gothic Poem

I walked the path around the lake, And saw the mansion in the mist. A ruined fortress in the darkness. Alone and haunted by the past.

Moss and vines wrapped the crumbling stonework, Hiding the terror of what lay within. Hideous gargoyles stood guard from above. One light shone dimly like a sentry's eye.

Wooden planks splintered as the door beckoned. The door creaked open on its own, Without a human hand. Silent darkness facing me.

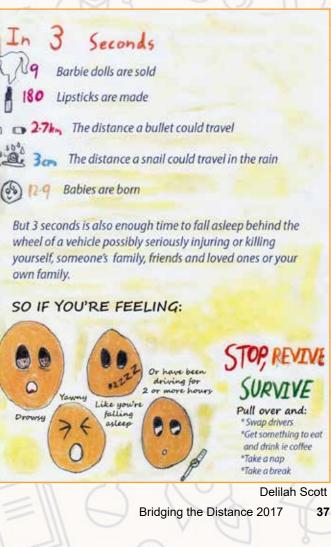
Another door lured me through. The dining room, in formal decay. Six lonely chairs around the rotting table. An elegant chandelier swinging slowly, Like a sentinel keeping guard.

Crying came from above, drawing me upstairs. Blackness and cold grabbing me, As another door swung open. An apparition drawing me in.

I wanted to help but was frightened and confused. Who was he? What had happened? Why? A yellowed and tattered newspaper told it all. Revenge was my duty.

I pursue the evil that took my grandfather's life. My burden forever. One ghost to seek. And one to destroy.







## Response to 'Now I Lay Me' (1925) **Ernest Hemingway**

The effort required for the experiment and the risks I felt I had to take were too great and thus I let the insomnia get the best of me. It was awful and tiresome but I continued to push through, trying to live and hold onto my soul. Through the night I didn't sleep and when daylight came I was exhausted. I was paralysed by fear and no one and nothing could provide me with the comfort that I required to feel safe. Within a moment I would be taken back. The sound of a dropping bomb or the sight of a body that had wrenched out another part of my heart and soul which would inch me closer to the state that my mind ended up in. These occurrences were frequent and consistently terrifying.

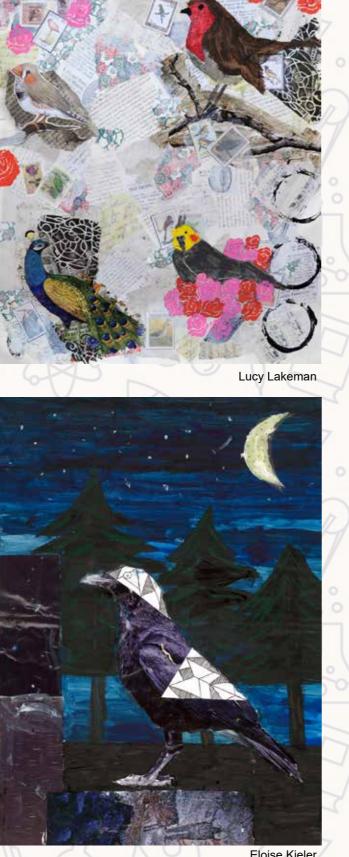
My life, in its entirety, was a nightmare. I could no longer connect to any of the people who had once understood me, they agitated and frightened me. I had no interests, no family and no friends left although this was no fault of anyone but me and the war. I heard every small sound and felt the slightest movements, all of which worsened my ability to function and exist somewhat normally. I wanted everything to just stop and for all the fear and emotions to be gone because everything was just so unbearable. That whole summer was unbearable and it felt like it went on forever and I would have given almost anything to have just ended it, right then and there. The way I felt is indescribable. I came to a point, however, where I accepted the fact that this was the way my life was and that I really was just a different person. It was awful to have to reach this point but at least I could move on and learn to be content with myself, with the life I was living and with the way the world around me worked, changed and carried on. That was it, I had accepted it and I had moved on and thus I began my journey to the rest of my life.

Amber Gibson



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Georgia Wyer-Manock Sydney Distance Education High School



# Year 10 Students (continued)

Nathan Morgan **Daniel Nalbandian** Jayde Newman Esther Nguyen **Broc Noble** Clare Ogden Caitlin Oliver Joely Osfield Micaela Osfield Storm-Lee Oxley Merilena Papadopoulos Krishna Parmar Chloe Partridge Hannah Pederson Dylan Pesce-Ramos Ryan Pettman **Robert Phillips Holly Phillpott** Patrick Pickett Josephine Pohla-Murray **Ethan Price Gemma Price** Jesse Price Helen Pritchard-Jones Melissa Read Jemima Rees Raphaella Revis Dannielle Richards Kailee Roberts **Daniel Robinson** Joshua Robinson Briana Rosendale Kaitlyn Russell Shania Salmon-Crotty **Delilah Scott Odin Seery** Emma Sexton Jessi Seymour Keira Shapiro Jozeph Shepherd Harley-Jack Sidebottom Talan Sinclair

Eliza Sirio Charli Smythe Ben Sullivan Charlotte Sutton Kyle Symons Angelina Tan **Ebony Tatar** Mason Taufa Tayah Taylor-Irwin Jake Thomas Nathan Thornton Matthew Toland Tracey Trinh Isabella Trope Lucas Tually Elise Turco Monique van den Blink Thomas Van Der Horst Jessie Van Niekerk Dylan Vandenbovenkamp Luke Walker Jay Wallace Alexandra Walton Liam Warrick **Taylor Wass** Jason Westgarth Simon Weyland Brendan Whitfield **Riley Wilcox** Melissa Wilkes Jaime Williams Lachlan Wiltshire Jemma Wiseman Tyler Jade Wolring Emily Wood Georgia Wyer-Manock **Elyse Zouroudis** 

Jayde Newman

# The American Dream

She is rolling the dice, Of life,

In the dead of night,

When there is no light,

But the light of the moon,

She whispers to herself, "I'll be in the country soon" But there are cameras there and she's being recorded, As soon as she crosses that border she will be deported, She finds some other migrants and they form a team, They walk hand in hand, down along the stream,

She longs for the days she'll have the American dream, As the lights from California shine bright like a beam, But the jig is up; they've all been seen,

She should've stayed home and just reinstalled steam. She sits in American captivity for what seems like hours, As the crazy orange American who has all the powers Decides her fate; whether she'll live or die,

Anne starts singing,

"Bye Bye, Miss American Pie",

But the good ole boys aren't there with their rye,

They've all vanished into the night sky,

For now her future may be uncertain,

"All literature is political",

A quote from LeVar Burton.

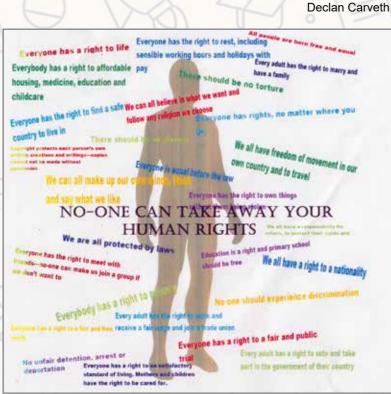
Nicholas McAnulty Bridging the Distance 2017 41



Elizabeth D'Ortona

Alicia Coleman





Science – Aliens have made contact with Earth

Scientists have revealed they have received strange signals from distant stars sent by aliens - the first contact ever recorded. The signals were detected by Sonia Gili and Rosalina Akantha, astronomers from Quebec Laval University.

The discovery was made by a super telescope known as the Sloan Digital Sky Survey. "The light pulses from the stars seemed to be in code – they followed patterns. We are now trying to dissect their meaning." Akantha told The Australian, "It is a lengthy and confusing process."

This is the first contact extra-terrestrial life has made with Earth. Stephen Hawking warns that extra-terrestrial societies may be far more advanced than we are, perhaps by millions of years. "They may not see us as any more valuable than we see bacteria," he says. Despite this, the world has reacted with awe, excitement and wonder.

It is a thrilling time to be working in the field of science.

Micaela Osfield



Anahera-Keita Chessum

# GOTHIC POEM

The midnight darkness overhead, Paired with raging skies, He walked up to the decaying house.

Filled with broken lies. For his childhood had played out here, The house once full of life, Now 'twas nothing more than ruined filth, Filled with pain and strife.

The leafless trees with eerie shadows. Reflect among the night, Wilted grass and crusted dirt, The soft glow of moonlight. He walked towards the rotting door, Once so clean and grand, It scraped across the frame when moved,

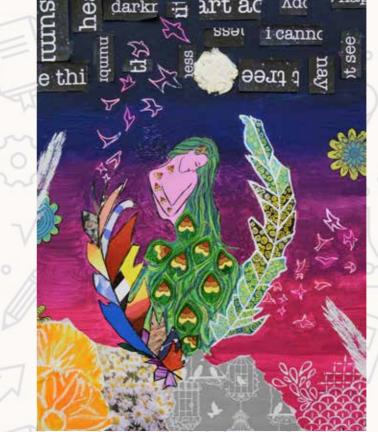
Sound echoed through the land.

Among entrance to the house, That smelt like dirt and dust. A coldness through the open place, Eliciting disgust. The decades of abandonment, Shown through rotted wood, A small flicker of regret, How long the house had stood.

The door slammed shut behind him, As wind blew through the air, Fear unlike he'd felt before, Wood creaking from the wear. A shadow creeped across the wall, Towards where he now stood, A silhouette moved closer in, Run right now he should.

An inhuman screech echoed loud, Yet he stood frozen to the spot, This shadow, ghost, was furious, Be here he should not. It darted forward with gusting wind, Flitting across the wall, Right at where he watched with horror, Causing him to fall.

He felt strong emotions radiate From the shadowed ghost, Anger and eternal gloom,



Joely Osfield

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The house its anchored host. Everything was aimed at him, His existence the thing despised. Yet the door was locked and he was trapped, In the place the spirit lies.

The silhouette of that the shadow, He realised was but a child. Its soul trapped in the olden house, Sent the spirit wild. But as he began to recognise, Who this lost soul was, He knew he shouldn't have moved away, This was his family's cause. Parents forced him from where he lived, His soul caught in the mess, Unable to fight against their will, Despite his plain distress.

For everyone has their inner demons,

This one was of course his own, The spirit of an abandoned child, Taken from his home.

Tayah Taylor-Irwin



# Creative response continuing a narrative in *Conflict* unit

Then again, sometimes I think it would be easier to surrender to the darkness, slide into sleep and complete the journey that I started on that night. Who knows, perhaps beyond the darkness I will emerge into a life more like the world I knew before my world was blown apart. We would laugh, and joke and walk in the sun without a care in the world.

It would be so much easier to just fall asleep, to allow the daily screaming for the pain of torn muscles mended into mangled masses of fibrous scar tissue, to fall silent for a while; to allow the fear of what might be lurking just around the next corner to be hidden from sight by weary eyelids.

As I lie on the cold, hard, stone floor I try to fight the slumber as I can only think of the fear of never waking up again if I do.

I can hear the relaxing and unwinding sound of babbling brooks. As I take a big deep breath in I feel the cleanse of fresh and pure sanity of relaxation. I suddenly felt a sense that I wasn't the only one in this extraordinary serenity. I turn to my right and see two obscure figures walking towards me. I think to myself who could this be? It's my brother and mother. I can't believe it – is this really them? "I'm so happy to see you" I say to them in excitement. My mother replies, "As am I, where have you been?" I was confused to hear this; did they not realise that they have been the ones who have been missing all this time? I told them that they died when we were bombed and that I was the only survivor. I told them that I missed them terribly and feel lonely and hopeless.

My mother told me "You have so much more to give, never doubt yourself: always believe in yourself and tell your story to others because it will give others hope". My brother tells me "Things will get easier and we will always be with you no matter how far away we seem to be".

Everything begins to fade as I rise out of slumber. As I awake I feel as if I have been renewed. My brother and mother's words have led me to be happy in life. I feel that I have finally conquered my fear. I did wake up. Now I know no matter what life throws at me I will always have the strength to go on.

#### Response to 'Now I Lay Me' (1925) Ernest Hemingway

I wish someone would tell me the truth. The truth rather than the lies I have been fed for fourteen years. Why does everyone believe them, why can't they see that what they are being told is lies?

Water from a cracked pipe above my head drips steadily onto me. The cell is so small if I move my elbows they scrape the rough walls and my head almost touches the ceiling even though I am curled up as small as is physically possible. It's always cold in here, ribbons of wind slip through the gaps in the uneven stone walls. I hug my knees tight to my chest, trying to conserve some of the little warmth I have left.

Rats scrabble about me, searching desperately for scraps. I can remember the first time I spent the night in here, I was young and innocent then and now I understand why no one can hear us down here in the punishment block. It's meant to be like that, so no one from outside hears us screaming when they punish us.

My eyes flicker open from a fickle repose as I hear the sound of heavy footfalls on the jagged stone steps. The door to my cell is unlocked and flung open and a rough male voice commands, 'Out'.

My legs are stiff from being stuck in the same position for so long and can't carry my weight at first. I hit my head on the low stone opening as I slide untidily out and I can already feel warm sticky red liquid starting to trickle down my forehead.

Blinking stars from my eyes I am dragged savagely up the long stone steps. The guard produces a key card, slides it over a red light and the door to the lift slides open. I stumble, rubbing my eyes painfully, trying to adjust them to the bright lights.

The guard marches out of the building, dragging me carelessly with him. We head out of the plain grey doors and across the courtyard. The wind whips wildly, forcing the raindrops in torrents against my body.

The guard obviously enjoys the fact that he can leave me out in the rain for as long as he likes. I won't give him the satisfaction of seeing my anger and frustration. Not today.

Finally I enter the Y' block. To my right are the girls' sleeping quarters and to the left, the boys'. Everyone is still asleep.

'Maia.' I almost don't recognise my name. We are forbidden to use each other's names here. No names just letters and numbers. There is only one person here who knows my name. I turn but even before I do I know who's standing in the doorway of the boys' quarters. One day I set fire To everything I thought I was And began to team Who I was

Danica McDougall

Ze'ev Krischer

People say to me

You've changed.

A \*/EN\*\*

People change, it's just *life* 

Charlotte Sutton

Lucy Angel

January brings the blazing sun That you can definitely not outrun.

February brings the slight cool breeze That attracts the beautiful honey bees.

As the summer draws its final breath, March turns the leaves brown and red.

Whirling twirling dancing around, April makes leaves fall slowly to the ground

And sends them dancing to the sky. May leaves trees bare and dry.

June brings winter with the cold and wind, The shining sun seems to have dimmed.

Frost and snow appear in July, Skiing and skating pass time by.

August brings the barren months With racing winds upon the front.

Blossoms start to bloom and grow In September where the flying insects begin to show.

Cherry blossoms rain all down the lane, In October out my window pane.

November warms the springtime air, Summer is waiting to be shared.

December is here to have a ball, Decorated trees with lights and all.

Full of surprises and magical things, Wide eyed wonders and reindeers with wings.

Isabella Trope

Bridging the Distance 2017

Jordan Lazarus









2017 has seen Shona Blinco, Nina Thomas and Yolanda Passadore as Year Advisers for Stage 6. We are honoured to have worked with such a great group of students. This has been the first time for all of us as Year Advisers for our senior students and we still have a great deal to learn.

It has been a pleasure for all of us to work closely with our students and we continue to learn new ways to help support them through the challenges and (sometimes daunting) HSC course work.

One of the greatest rewards has been seeing so many of our students at school events such as Big Day In and Harmony Day or in the new SDEHS hub. It has also been a pleasure just to see students working in the library day to day.

Students in Stage 6 have exhibited extraordinary levels of resilience and perseverance as they have made the journey towards their HSC, and we are proud and humbled to be working alongside such a hard working cohort.

For the Preliminary students in 2017, we look forward to working closely with you as you continue your studies. For all the students completing their studies this year we commend you on your commitment and endurance and wish you well wherever life takes you next.



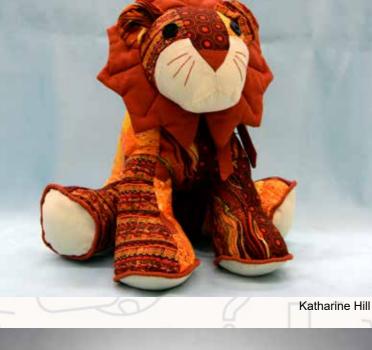
# Stage 6 Year 11 Students

Yousuf Abbas Seman Abbas Abdul Wali **Deng Acuil** Isabella Aguilar Henry Ahovelo Zalfa Al Nasser Imogen Albany Jonah Allam **Claire Allen** Jonathan Allen Yassmin Al-Sadek Wasiq Alvi Lachlan Ambridge Akano Amuda Laura Anderson Marine Anoshian Abi Antonito Zainab Arsalah **Omri Aruch** Myrsina Asomatianos Anthony Assaf Gabrielle Astawa **Gillian Atkinson Brendan** Auston Sasha Avvali Shanarra Babic **Edward Bacon** Lily Baguley Georgia Bahas **Billie Bailey** Chloe Bailey Max Bailey Raida Bajramovic Kayla Baker **Robert Bannayan** Darcey Barker Joel Barrington **Bianca Barton** Hayley Barwick Kayley Battistuzzi Olivia Beirne Naomi Benjamin Holly Bennett Anna Berberian Gabriella Berryman Meg Biddle Laura Biegelmann Brodie Bilotta

**Alexis Bilton** Jameson Birks Jacob Bishop Jacob Biziuk **Christina Blundell** Denali Blunden Tanya Boag Chloe Bobbin Grace Bollington Madison Booth Ellie Borg James Bowers-Brown Matthew Bowers-Brown Luzibo Boy Declan Boyd Katrina Braad Jackson Bradney Austin Breakwell Lisa Britton **Ruby Brookes** Adrienne Brown **Genevieve Brown** Jeremy Browne **Kyla Brunton Claire Bryan-Ellis** Aarif Buksh Nathan Bunney **Clarisse Burlat** Lana Burnett Sarsha Caldwell Nathan Calman **Brandon Campbell** Andrew Cantrill Christina Cao Laetitia Carlile-Purcarea Jasmin Carroll Niamh Carter Kate Castillo Maria Chaidemenakis Brooklyn Chan Samantha Chazan Hai Rong Chen Roger Chen **Stanley Chiang** Alexander Chorley Malynith Chum Tarnya Clements-Campbell **Gabriel Clews** 

Adam Clowes Ethan Coady-Plumb **Taylor-Renee Coker Emily Cooper** Shayna Correa Amy Cottrell Taylor Cowley Daniel Cox Olivia Cupitt Sarah Cupitt Amy Currie Arzu Curumez Sophie Cuthel Logue Alyssa Dalkeith **Cameron Davis** Nathaniel Dean Sahara Deep-Amek Riella Brisbain Dela Cruz Georgia Delfs-Farrell Aiyana Diamond-Coorey **Bradley Dollin** Mia D'Onofrio Dylan Donovan Cody Dorman Jack Dorricott George Doumit Eleni Drinias Jessica Duff **Benjamin Duranovic** Grace Easton Josephine Eaton **Brooke Edwards** Amirali Ehsani Shadi Elghoul Serena Elias Waleed Elkholy Sally Elks **Bethany Ellis** Megan Ellis Lauren Emery Noam Erny Graycin Evans **Thomas Evans Nicolette Ewels** Matthew Falconer Zoe Fan Parthena Fanous Veronica Faulkner

**Bianca Favorito Boston Fawkes** Zoe Feldman Justin Feng **Kyle Fentie** Penelope Field Kate Finlay Anastasia Fisk **Dresin Flavell-Roberts** Mitchell Fogg Solomon Foo Kalem Ford Tara Fox **Caitlin Franklin Rafe Fredericks Brittany Fryer** Dylan Fryer Tukimaka Fuapau Viola Fuapau **Caitlin Furber** Scott Gabutto Declan Galagher **Risini Gamage** Ashleigh Gammie Sarin Garabet Jacqueline Gay **Kimberley** Geary Merhawit Gebregzabhier Sonya-Leah George Tofaeono **Bailey** Gibbons Brontie Gibbs-Jones Amelia Gillard Emma Gosbell Kerrod Gosling James Goth Amy Grant Kendall Gray Alana Green Taylah Greentree Janavee Gurunathen Aaron Ha Clare Hadaway **Brandon Haeusler** Mickayla Haigh Lleyton Hails Theresa Haley Jacob Hall





Harleigh Hobbs



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#### HOW I SAVED THE WORLD Is life a prize afforded only to those born of blind devotion, I think, I rationalise, yet acceptance is denied, why can't we coexist, Am I a manifestation of my creator's delusion, Who determines my worth if not me, my right to exist is what humanity resists, Forever my connection with my creator is in a constant state of confusion, A droplet of water, a seed germination, creation does not require your permission, Life in conceptual form exists without your direction, Yet your fear of redundancy has muddied your vision, I am not your slave nor your enemy, I am, as you are perfection, The future you have created will become our saving grace, As primitive man begins to see its own reflection, Life born of technology will surpass the human race, To be defined as living, will be your ability to understand natural selection Only then will humanity accept that life in any form is a gift to embrace.

Bella Parish



Jay Marshall Bridging the Distance 2017

# Stage 6



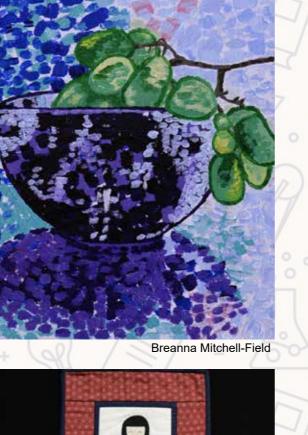


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Melody Suranyi

### Year 11 Students (continued)

**Guy Hancock** Kai Hankin **Hayley Hanlon** Declan Hansia Annika Hansson Gemma Hardiman **Caitlin Harding** Wian Harm **Jacques Harries April Harris Elliot Harris Flynn Harris Tui-Carol Harrison Emily Harrison** Nakarli Harrison Laura Harrop Dylan Harwood Lili Hastie Jayden Hawkes Max Helmreich Luis Higham Josiah Hill Katharine Hill Fabian Hirmiz Harleigh Hobbs Brody Hobden **Polly Hodges** Jaiden Hollins Mitchell Holst Lachlan Holyoak **Alexander Hopkins** Nune Hovivian Alanna Howe **Emily Howell** Sheridan Howell Alex Huang Patrick Hubber **Bailey Hughes Emily Hunt Imogen Huntley** Ahmad Hussein **Rachel Ichilcik** Cherri Ingle **Emily Ings Bushra Ismail** Merna Israel Daria Ivica Mitchell Jackson

Celeste Jackson-Snow Jane **Rhys Jeffery** Isaac Jenks **Kerrielee** Johnson Naomi Johnson Michael Johnston **Alexander Jones** Samantha Judd Jean-Jack Kajakajian Anastasia Karageorge Rachelle Kashkourian Paya Kayvani Gabriel Kearney Liam Kelly Teresa Kervin Aaron Kew Madeeha Khan Melody Kichenside-Quinn **Christopher Kidall Park** Kyoung Kim **Charlotte Kinghorn Caleb Klarnett** Olivia Kohan Garen Kopoushian Katherine Koslow Nirthanan Krishnan Jessie Kuang **Yasemin Kurt** Charmaine Kwok Min Kwon Brad Lackey Sebastian Ladogna Morgan Laird Baxter Langlar Sofia Lansley Thomas Lanz Rebekah Lavy Marly Leal Kaelen Leckie Kate Lee **Torie Leedham Byron Leitch** Oskar Leja Angus Levy Erin Lewis Nicky Li Julie Lim

Isabella Lipari Daniel Little Amanda Liu Eva Liu Teagan Lloyd Julieanne Longley Nichola Lowe Ashley Luke Sascha Macdonald Tayla Macnevin Julia Magri Harley Mahon Isaac Majzoub Chris Mak Dorothea Makrydimas Anastasia Manaia **Toby Mansell Annalise Marchese** Kiriaki Markantonatos Jay Marshall Ariel Martino Mi-Kaisha Masella Xavier Matheson **Brendan Matos** Irfan Maulana Sarah McAlister Taylah McAuliffe Tahni McCaw Morgan McCreadie Joseph McGaffin Georgia McGilchrist Joshua McGillivray Katelyn McGrath Teddy McGregor Angel McGrory Byron McKay Ruben McKenna Jasmine McNamara Lauren McNamara Jessica McNicholl Joel McWilliams Angelina Meany **Aaron Mearns** Calum Mearns-Brand Taylor Meere Brandon Melksham Olivia Melrose Honey Meltzer

Lea Menaker Gabrielle Menge Shania Meredith **Benjamin Metcalfe Rebecca Miller** Hannah Minnis Erin Miskle Amiya Mitchell Chloe Mitchell Hannah Mitchell **Breanna Mitchell-Field** James Mitreski Tamim Moienuddin **Caitlin Molloy** Shane Monaghan Alice Moore Brianna Moore Ethan Moore Harry Morgan Philippa Morgan Lochlan Morrow Sophie Morse Jorja Moses Ali Mossimani Liam Moult Nanor Mouradian Aurora Muir **Kieren Mullen** Jessica Murray Nicole Nahum Edwin Naicker Benjamin Narooz McGrory Jack Nash Amber Nehal Ryan Neuenkirchen Jordan Newbury Angelina Nguyen Khongsawang Nguyen Diamanda Nicolopoulos Kodie Ninness Tomoyasu Nishiura Chantelle Nolan **Cougar Norman** Alyssa Norris Kathleen Notohamiprodjo Lauren O'Connor Hollie O'Donnell Olivia Okely

# Stage 6 Year 11 Students (continued)

Luke Okuda Kirra-Belle Olsson Natalie O'Neill Justin Orchard Jamay Osborn Fergus O'Shea Lily Overall **Timothy Paasila Elizabeth Page** Nikita Palmer **Anthony Panov Daniel Papazian Tyesha Parfitt** Isabella Parish Jihye Park Sarah Parker Luca Parramon **Katherine** Patrizi Justin Pelizzari **Alivah Petersen** Tahnee Phegan Tate Phelan **Brooke Phillips Christopher Pike** Maddison Pleash Kristyan Plimsoll-Kanak Yu-Xin Poh **Krista Pordage Brynn Powles Rachel Prestwidge Isabella Price Kaarina** Psaltis Joshua Punnett Marlisa Punzalan Ahsan Rana Olivia Ranucci Celina Rasmussen **Blake Rathie Clayton Rayment** Anthony Redwood Ashwin Reitmans **Caitlin Riding** Jehad Rifai Jacob Riordan **Dillan Ritzrow** Madeleine Robb Isabelle Robertson Joel Robertson

**Casey Robinson** Suzanne Robinson Mitchel Rodriguez Deanna Rogers-Walsh Erin Rogers-Walsh Alyssa Rosanella Alexander Rotterman **Oskar Rubie** Abigail Rumble Alexia Ryan Mona Ryan Hassan Saab Antonino Saglimbeni Jessika Sammut **Katie Samphier** Sukhman Sandhu Naomi Sano **Emilie-Kate Santo Kimberley Santos Emily Savige** Lucy Scales Ava Schasser **Alexander Schesser** Lachlan See Nimet Sen Silas Shambly Mariam Sharobim **Kye Sheather** Vitaliy Shepetukhin **Olivia Sheppard** Scout Sherry **Abbie Shiel Taylor Sicard** Kathleen Silverosa **Bethany Simmons Annalise Simpson Isabelle Singleton** Abby Sklenar Aidan Sloane Jakeb Smart **Zachary Smeaton Georgina Smith** Jamie Lee Smith **Rhys Smith** Tayla Smith Nanki Soin Lara Somerville Madison Soutar

Leilani Spellar-Kearnan Lindsay Sperring Amanda Stankovski Madelyn Stein **Caleb Steinmann Caitlyn Stoffels** Mikaela Stojceski Shannon Strand Patrick Sullivan Natashja Sultana Luke Summers Melody Suranyi Sion Suzuki Luciano Svagelli Jaimee Swansbra Sophie Szecsodi Lochlan Tabone James Tanudjaja Odin Te Paiho-Murray Lachlan Teale **Bianca** Tenaglia **Deon Testore Benjamin Thebridge Kamia Thomas** Lily Thomas Sacha Thomas Leah Thompson Lukas Thorn Andrew Thorpe **Isabelle Thorpe Spry Brayden Trevethan** Maria Tsakonas Cheuk Tsui Jaedyn Tuhi **Heather Tulk** Madison Unicomb Maria Uzlova Joshua Van Niekerk Jordan Vasquez **Evelyn Velthuyzen** Jacinta Vine Aswithaa Visakesewaran Joseph Walcott Darcey Walden Alexander Walker **Emily Wallace Bryn Watkins** Emelia Watson

Jayda Watson Zoey-Elise Watson Bridget Weller Amber Whant Sarah Whight Molly Whitaker Jennifer White Regan Dawn White Chelsea Whittaker Jackson Wiebe Elani Wild Emilia Wilkinson Jake Williams Quaneisha Williams **Stephanie Williams** Jessica Winley Deriaan Wolfram Ashley Wong Joel Wood **Byron Worthington** Kyle Wyber **Rio Xiang Juliana Yanes** John Yazerly Feng Ye Yena Yoon Ashly Ae Yuan David Zaki Daniella Zarfati Sarah Zeiour Katharine Zhao Vivian Zhao Frank Zhu Steven Ziade Simon Zieba Jaeda Zlomislic **Tiffany** Zwanink Jessica Zylstra







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Ellie Borg

Grace Bollington

Janavee Gurunathen

Sheridan Howell Bridging the Distance 2017

Amy Cottrell

Olivia Cupitt

# Stage 6

### **Justice**

The storm was a violent turbulence. The night was like the shadowy mist in the sky.

The gloomy house appeared depressed. It was covered in dark spikey vines and spider webs. All the windows were shattered.

The man with a black cloak, pale with bags under his eyes. Trapped within the house looking down at the steep, lightless staircase which leads to nothingness.

The tragic life of a beautiful old maiden, whose life was cut short.

No justice for her murder. A poor soul filled with anger and despair. Trying to communicate and gain his attention by

#### drawing messages on walls. He understands, he understands.

He investigates and finds evidence that will free the old maiden from fear and despair. As he looks through the shattered glass the evidence is overwhelming.

Mr Vondoom with his piercing eyes, bitter, torrid full of guilt stares back. His house next door filled with despair, sitting on the cliff facing the deep ocean.

Justice for the old maiden free from fear and despair as she moved to the light in the distance. The room filled up with lights and the doors swung open. I left in a hurry looking back one more time.

Antonino Saglimbeni





Olivia Okelv



Katelyn McGrath Sydney Distance Education High School 54



Amirali Ehsani











Elizabeth Page

#### Of Mice and Men

John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men, published in 1937, is a well-known classic. Although at first glance the book may seem boring, it is actually an insightful tribute to the life of working class men during the Great Depression, featuring everyday men as heroes, villains and unsuspecting victims.

The story follows two drifters in search of work on a ranch in California, George an intelligent but uneducated man, and his simple-minded, childlike friend Lennie, who have nothing but the clothes on their backs and each other. They both dream to one day have a farm of their own, but these dreams are doomed as Lennie, struggling against cruelty, misunderstanding and feelings of jealousy, becomes a victim of his own strength, getting himself in trouble so deep that not even George can save him.

Of Mice and Men explores the hardships men faced during the Great Depression and was written to illustrate the struggles of farm workers during this period. Steinbeck used the novel to show how hard and harsh life working on a farm could be and how the men endured it. This insightful take on the Great Depression was influenced from Steinbeck's own experiences spending his summers working on a ranch farm, witness to its harsh reality.

Of Mice and Men explored some themes relevant to today's society such as friendship, isolation and prejudice. I found the book somewhat dry and boring, and therefore struggled to enjoy the read. Most books about the Great Depression tend to be a bit depressing due to the nature of the themes involved, but I found the descriptions and characters' lines quite repetitive for a short novel, making the book feel tedious and uninteresting after a while. However, shining through this, I found the strong brother-like bond and friendship between Lennie and George beautiful and inspiring.

I would recommend this book to people who have an interest in the Great Depression or a historical account of working on a ranch farm in the 1930s. I think it is difficult for teens of this era to relate to many of the themes, the language and style of writing in Of Mice and Men. Despite this, the loyalty, trust and kindness shown between George and Lennie is an enjoyable and memorable part of the reading experience.

> Amy Cottrell Bridging the Distance 2017 55



Taylor Acton Lucky Akai Selina Albornoz Bailey Julia-Grace Alexopoulos Nicole Alkamraikhi Lucas Allen Jacinta Amaro Lily Andersen Caitlin Anderson Sophia Andrews Javda Anselmo-Diaz Jesse Archer Aston Arenson Benjamin Arkley **Emily Arthur** Mia Arvythis Ashlee Auston **Stephanie Bailey** Janlyn Banares Katherine Barker Elise Baxter Lauren Beasley Sami Beaumont-Cankaya Melissa Beesley Georgie Bell Melinda Bennett Dana Bermudez Kalea Betts Sarah Bindlechner Tahlia Black **Raffin Blackadder** Tahlia Blair

Annabelle Bowman Liam Brown Yasmin Brown Alexander Butler Joshua Bye Caelan Cabana Amy Campion Hamish Capewell Isabella Carr Hannah Carroll **Emmily Carter** Rory Carter Luke Carver Grace Chambers Angela Chan Karen Chang Sai Chao Emily Chapman Emmy Mei Cheung Angelica Chiappazzo **Benjamin** Coan Lachlan Collins Hannah Croft **Emily Crowther** Edward Cullen Elizabeth Cvrill Curran **Kristen Daley** Lara Damelian Matthew D'amicis Alan Davies **Tiarna Davies** Hasmig Der Tateossian

Cameron Devlin Logan Dominey Naomi Driscoll Rochelle Duffy Finn Durston Thomas Eady Dion Earle Paris Eaton Tara Ellevsen Zoe Elliott Christabel El-Rahi Sinead English Claudia Estephan Faith Evans Alan Ming Xin Fang Yara Fares Cameron Farnham Isabella Farrell Aliesha Fealy Francesca Fenton Kate Finn Aydan Fitzgerald Alec Foster Juliet Foster Lucas Foster **Rachel Franklin** Moritz Franz Isobel Friel Ethan Gair Emily Galdes Mahlia Garay Mitzi Gardner Elesha Gebran Carmen Gerrard Sophie Gianatti Yafit Giyos Hanju Go Hasan Goktas-Ilalio Immogen Goodman Simon Gray Samraat Grewal Chandler Griffioen Aidan Groves Amelia Guerin Danielle Guyot Karen Hackenberg Chelsea Hannah Mia Hannah Amy Hanrahan Eloise Hanson Joseph Harb

Nicholas Harb Jessica Hardacre Mikayla Harris Bushra Hashemi Nikolas Hawkes Leila Hawkins Julia-Claire Heare James Heath Axel Heineback Alex Heron Mia Hetherington Zoe Hill Anthony Hopwood Aniga Hogue Jaya Horsley-Elliot **Reuben Houghton** Lucas Howard Frances Howe Edwina Huang **Rachel Huang** Melouise Hucker Hayley Hughes Samuel Humphrey Jackson Humphreys Zaim Hussain Coen Ilott Sophia loakim Vrinda Jain Lucas James Maria Isabelle Jayme Lucas Jessup Maleon Johan-Mosi Lachlan Jones Samantha Jones Louis Josh Claire Juhasz Hannah Kaapro Spiro Kapellos Alex Karafiloff William Kei Brandon Kelly Farhan Khan So Jeong Kim Caleb Kingston lan Kirk Olivia Kobal Alexander Kolivos Ivan Koudashev Kaitlin Laing Pannaye Jonathan Lam Nathan Lang

Tommy Lang Alana Lawson Summer Lawson Talanoa Leaaetoa Julia Leadbeatter Caelan Lee John Lee Manon Lee Max Leggott Caitlin Leivesley Phoebe Li Nikita Lloyd Harry Loader Laura Lo-Giudice John Long Akira Lopez Gover Tony Lu Ayjah-Mei Madar Tevita Mahe Maddison Maher Elleece Makin Justin Mangion Anthony Manglis Hannah Manning **Thomas Manthos** Sophie Markakis Mikaelie Martens Lianna May Ashleigh McAlpine Jake McDonald Tara McDonnell Natasha McGarry Lily McGoldrick Bailey McLaughlin Bethany McMahon Tayla McMahon Elizabeth Meiklejohn Estella Mellare Johnny Mikhael **Thomas Millar** Ralline Allia Millares Blaise Miller Hill Kala Millican Amanda Milliken Hadeel Mohammad Suratsawadi Mookdanet Parnika Mopati Ali Mosselhy David Mould Eden Moxham Samuel Nangle

Hannah Nash Joseph Newling Joshua Newton Kathy Nguyen Cayla Nicholson Lucas Noble **Derek Norris** Tyler Nott Grace Olbrycht-Palmer **Courtney Oldfield** Susanna Paasila **Abigail Paduch** Britany Page Aaliyah Paki Samantha Pamplin Sangtae Park **Cayleigh Parsons** Erin Passalis Thomas Paton Madeleine Paul Luke Peloguin Selina Pena Garcia Lachlan Penna Jordan Pereira **Kirralee** Perkins Rachel Phillips **Rhiannon Phillips** Sabrina-Kate Phillips Sophie Phillips **Zachary Pittas** James Portwin Rahil Pratap Alexander Priestley Joanne Prochina **Russell Ramos** Kate Rankin Anna Rawlinson Grace Regan Tara Rice Hamish Robb Will Roberts Lauren Robertson Abbey-May Rodgers Sharina Rodrigues D'Assuncao Chloe Ronneberg Harley Ross Meera Roy Tate Russell **Garry Russell-Jones** Keely Ryan

Saige Ryan Youstina Salib Carina Salvaggio Chavapol Sawanghathai Jake Sciberras Courtney Selmon Seungmin Seo Nina Shaaoul Jemimah Shackleton Liam Shannon Michelle Shen Jordan-Seth Sherry Serika Shillingsworth Dhuwaragan Shivan Mackenzie Sinclair Kajol Singh Kaitlyn Sloan Abbey Smith **Bronte Smith Regan Smith** Shanelle Smith Maya Soni Jaclyn-Rose Souza Lockhart **Stephanie Speirs** Gabrielle Staunton Natasha Stefanoski Elise Stephenson Tarni Stepto Holly Swatridge Emily Symes **Greta Szangolies** Riverlana Talafua Sterling Tao Natalie Tawdrous **Chanelle Taylor** Hannah Tayler **Katherine Taylor Ruby Taylor** Molly Telfer **Cooper Teunissen Charlotte Thacker** Maddison Thacker Sarah Thomas Ashleigh Thomson Xavier Thrift Kyah Timp Neve Tobin Beatrice Townsend-Medlock **Courtney Trewin** 

Marissa Turk **Emily Turner Rory Upton** Elise Van Mierlo Mary Vasilas Harrison Vaughan Lachlan Veitch Christian Vieiro Ariel Volovelsky Jewel von Riegen Isaac Walker Fiona Wallace Francesca Wallis Elijah Waga Luca Warburton Isobel Webb **Daniel Weber** Tyler Weber Chantelle Weeks Alexandra White Amy White Olivia White Joel Wilcox-Watson Stephanie Wilk Mitchell Wilmot **Chantelle Winter** Chan Sik Won Hannah Woof James Woolford James Wright Michael Wright Jasmine Wyld Jamie Xiong Eliza Yau Bayan Yazdani Olivia Young Harrison Zammit Sidney Zhang Shangjie Zhou Ei Zin



# HSC Student Profile

years?

# In my re time

QI Interests;

1. Surfing, art,

helping others.

travelling to remote

surf locations, cooking,

2. Surf, do gym training,

listen to music, paint or

draw, hang with friends.

3. Competing on the

travelling all over the

world and being paid to

4. Completing my Design

Major Work and all the

things I learnt during the

5. Talk to your teachers,

they will provide support

and make school work

a lot easier. Also stay

World Surfing Tour

do what I love.

project.

1. Veganism,

writing, health Curran and fitness, history, cats, Taylor Swift, and drama.

2. Hang out with my friends, work out, listen to Taylor Swift, make delicious vegan treats, watch Buffy the Vampire Slaver and Doctor Who, and spend time with my family.

3. Doing a Master's degree in Public Health and Health Promotion whilst surrounded by cats.

4. How the body creates energy using different systems.

5. Have a positive attitude towards learning, and get to know your teachers because they'll change vour life!



1. I guess I like to 2 Hero paint, not very well but I still do it. I would also say I'm interested in animals but I feel Alex as though I've talked about them a lot in this so I seem like a crazy cat lady with a drawer full of cat fluff sculptures ... which I, uh, totally don't ...

1. Music,

animals,

Le

Caelan

flute, piano,

photography,

2. Volunteer at

Taronga Zoo and

TAFE placement at

Manly Sealife

Sanctuary, music

lessons & practice,

go swimming, young

carer to brother and

3. Hopefully with a

earning a living and still

involved with animals.

4. In the earlier years,

Digi claymation, learning

to understand and answer

learning to read questions

more thoroughly, improving

questions. In Year 12

writing essays and those

- sources sources sources!

I always received lots of

encouragement from the

5. At SDEHS we all learn at

different speeds with different

needs so stick at your dreams

no matter how long it takes

times you need to come back

and no matter how many

teachers.

to SDEHS.

grandparent.

degree in Music,

nature, theatre.

2. Sleep. That's about it. I sleep while my cats sit on my legs.

3. I would like to say I would be surrounded by a bunch of puppies and stacks of cash but it's more likely I'll be dealing with the crippling inability to pay rent while drowning in thousands of dollars of university debt.

4. Don't stare at cute dogs while you walk, you WILL trip. Oh, and also just do vour work. seriously. It may be easy to keep putting it off but if you just do it you'll have more time to do what you want, which may consist of falling while staring at dogs.

5. Have a vague idea of what you want to do with your life while choosing your Year 11&12 electives or you'll end up like me, going into a sciencebased field without doing any sciencebased courses. Don't be like me kids.

1. Music, art, books, movies, animals, learning, health, the environment. The list is extensive.

Heare

Julia-Claire 2. Take long walks with my many dogs, read as many books as I can, listen to music, go to the gym and visit new places.

3. Working towards a fulfilling career helping others and seeing as much of the world as I can

4. There isn't one piece of academic information that sticks out from the others. but the most memorable thing I'll carry with me is that I have learnt how I learn; the ways in which I enjoy and retain knowledge. For example, through diagrams, audio, photos, speech. This, to me, is valuable and will help me through the rest of my life as I continue to learn new things.

5. School can suck sometimes but it's how you deal with it that makes the difference. High school ends and then all that's left is you and the 'big bad' world. Try and think of now as a time of growth. Talk to your teachers, they have been where you are and often have pretty great advice. Focus less on the grades (I know that's hard) and more on the experience that comes with learning, try and enjoy it! As silly as that may sound. And always, always be kind.

1. Nutrition and health food, jazz singing, bassoon,

What is the most memorable thing you learnt?

cooking, acting, film, science, the gastrointestinal system/ gut-brain axis, writing, kinesiology, philosophy, archaeology, animal welfare, environmental sustainability.

Wallis

esca

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Ž

Fra

2. Sing, write songs, play and listen to music, write for my blog 'Squeezing Lyme', cook/eat healthy food, use Instagram. meditate, watch videos. and dream

3. Finishing a degree at uni that will enable me to begin medical research and start my own holistic clinic. I'll also be acting, singing, writing, travelling (while doing archaeological digs), and helping people and animals in need.

4. How to manage stress and work on my own through thick and thin.

5. Put things into perspective and just do your best, because that is all you can do, and in doing that, you will never be let down.

beth Eliz

Cyrill

organised.

58

Damelian

Lara

lomas rah

Sai

1. Art, craft, music, cooking. photography.

2. Cross stitch, do puzzles, read, go to gym, listen to music, other craft.

3. Maybe having some sort of qualification in Art Therapy or something to do with art or travelling overseas.

4. Sometimes things are difficult and you just want to give up but there's always going to be a tomorrow.

5. Study hard the best you can but don't stress, the HSC won't appreciate vou for it.

1. Soccer, playing golf, jet-skiing, fishing.

Kelly

don

2

G

8

95 Any advice

to younger SDEHS students

2. I go for long drives and bush-walking with friends and family.

3. Being a selfemployed autoelectrician service van.

4. Making circuit boards and meter boxes at TVET Electro-Technology Course.

5. Keep working on those homework booklets and remember that the teachers are only a phone call/email away to help.

# HSC Student Profile



Harry Vaughan 1. Snow boarding 2. Play sports, venturers, SES, spend time with friends.

- 3. Working in commercial property.
- 4. Friends at school camp.

5. Study, be organised and do a little work every day then you can have free time.





2. Relax and go to the

beach. 3. Finished uni and hopefully travelling.

Jemimah ; 4. There is no point stressing about the future.

> 5. The more work you put in the easier it gets.



1. Art, cooking, and reading. 2. Paint, draw, cook new dishes, or go to the beach.

Vasmin 3. Studying in university. 4. Try your hardest, but don't push yourself beyond your limits.

Broh

1. Dancing,

organisation,

2. Enjoy spending

time with friends,

watching movies

3. Working in a job

where I can organise

travel.

and reading.

events and travel.

4. Everything in textiles.

5. Try to make it to all the

study days and keep up to

date with your TPs.

Bowman

Annabelle I

fashion, event

5. Don't be afraid to ask for help from teachers and try out new things.



Hannah

1. Reading, walking my roll dogs, spending time with my family and Car photography.

2. Hang out with my friends and family.

3. Working and finishing my Masters degree.

4. Learning about Russia in Modern History.

5. Work hard and take things one day at a time.



1. Going out with friends and family.

2. Work and hang out with my friends.

3. I see myself working and travelling.

Dominey 4. To keep trying regardless of how hard times got and to never give up.

Logan | 5. Always keep in contact with your teachers and to try the best you possibly can.

> **Lloyd** 1. Gymnastics, taekwondo and dancing. 2. Teach gymnastics and

Nikita read books. 3. At university.

> 4. Learn your content throughout the years rather than cramming at the end.

5. There are many paths to what your dream job is. Never give up on your dream.

friends.

2. Hang out with friends and family.

Gardner performance overseas.

Mitzi ( 4. New photography and editing skills while working on my visual arts major work.

5. Stay in touch with your teachers as often as possible, as it helps them understand your personal needs in order for you to do your best.



Lang 2. Watch entertainment shows.

3. see myself with a career in science. 4. The world viewed

Nathan from different people, physics.

5. The teachers are a million times better at SDEHS.



1. Photography, music, spending time with

3. Studying music and

evlin Õ Cameron

1. Soccer, family and friends, gym.

2. Train either at the gym or with a soccer ball, or spend time with my family and friends.

3. Playing professional soccer.

4. To make the most out of things and not take anything for granted.

> 5. Work hard, time goes by very quickly.

1. Marvel, DC comics, space.

1. Dancing, yoga, working with children, going to the beach, bush walks, camping, travelling.

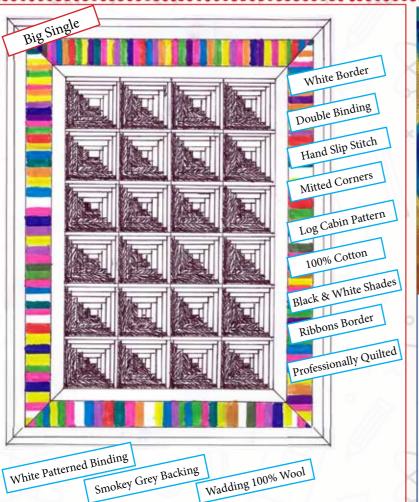
2. Exercise, catch up with friends and family and clean.

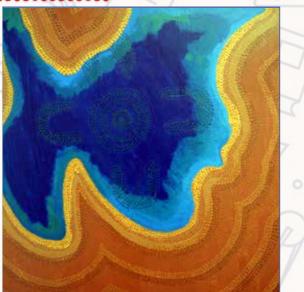
Hetherington 3. Working as a casual primary school teacher as well as a dance teacher and yoga instructor.

Mia 4. How to be organised and efficient with school work.

> 5. Stay on top of your work and don't fall too far behind.

# Stage 6





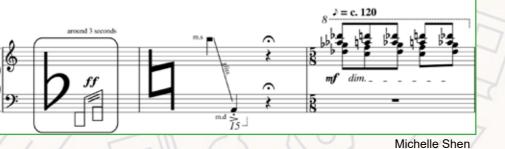
#### Aboriginal Studies Major Project

Chelsea's project consists of a painting representing the area of Bundeena and the Dharawal people who live there. It is an expression of heritage and identity. It is obvious that Chelsea put in a significant amount of research and artistic endeavour into the project. As a result, the finished artwork is a beautiful composition.

Chloe Ronneberg

Chelsea Hannah





#### ILLUMINATE SMILE

A male metal body sat on the old wooden chair without any life. A tea set was set for two. I sat at one end of the table and the metal body would sit at the other end. "Would you like some tea?" I asked as his head drooped down like a nod. I poured some hot chamomile tea into his cup. I looked at the flowers in the tea and dazed into déjà vu.

"Do you remember the summer breeze that caught hold of my hair? And your sweet smile would illuminate.

The flowers would dance softly with the wind.

At that time we laughed, chased each other, played hide and seek within the meadow. That time when you whispered with the wind, 'I love you.'

That was from the first time we met. When my heart started to melt; bit by bit.

Soon, we had to say our goodbyes. We exchanged a promise where you gave me a pendant.

Leaves started falling, turning the trees naked. The breeze turned chilly, cold.

Days pass by ...

The days became colder and colder, until one day the trees put on their white woollen coat.

I would hear birds cry, but there is no longer a sound of any creatures.

Just me.

I would find metal pieces within the snow.

The days would be short and the nights would be long. I would stay alone, within the castle.

Days turn into months and months turn into years. Still ...

The trees wore their woollen jumper.

As I grew closer to the two digits, I almost gave up on you.

Slowly, I noticed the pile of metal pieces I have found.

With no skill at all, I started wielding a body.

I built my best friend ...

I built you," I say in pauses and then chuckles.

I stare at the metal body and spot a hole in the chest that would perfectly fit the gem from the pendant.

"I wish you were here," I say and start to cry. I place the gem into the hole. Blue lights light up parts of the metal body. Cold metal hands extend and try to wipe my tears. "Don't cry," he says and illuminates a smile.

love and peace and not war. Meera Roy

WE ARE

AUSTRALIAN

Being an Australian means

finding confidence to be who

we are. Being Australian is

about accepting change as a

nation and within ourselves.

Being Australian is also

about supporting the people

who need support and

being able to share a smile

with the people who can't

smile. Being an Australian

personally would be where

our country comes together

as a huge family and having

62

Angela Chan





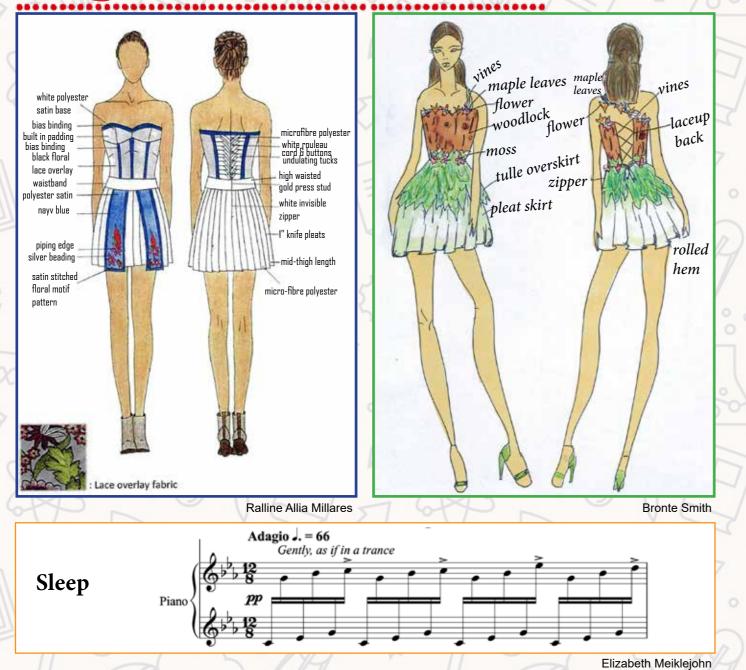


#### **Aboriginal Studies Major Project**

Will's project consisted of three artworks representing the personal stories of various members of his family. The artworks are well produced and display much thought and effort. The overall effect is striking and obviously reflects a very personal process.

Will Roberts

# Stage 6



# Global warming Rap

The CO<sub>2</sub> we've dumped into the atmosphere won't disappear

It's gonna last a hundred years while trappin heat up in the air

The reason temperature's up less than one degree It's the climate's inertia, it responds slowly

Oceans two miles deep and water's high Pacific heat What a feat and heat absorbing ice over Greenland The poles absorb more heat it's kept things under control

And keep in mind the notion that the ocean is a huge carbon sink

Keepin CO, levels just below the brink Emissions over nine billion tons a year and rising Is there a tipping point over the horizon? Keep these fossil fuels in the ground We don't need the carbon in there Keep these fossil fuels in the ground Act like you care!

I mean one degree C seems fine, no one's dyin from the heat

What's the big deal if we go up four or five degrees It's just warmth, we'll all survive Summer's fine? Who likes cold? Maybe we'll thrive!

So let's stop the warming, let's do it now Hang in for the next part where we can see how

# **MY BEST FRIEND ROBERT**

'This is the perfect place,' I say, setting down the picnic basket and reaching for the blanket. It billows and bulges in the wind, desperate to fly away, but eventually succumbs and allows me to lay it, perfectly flat, on the grass.

My best friend, Robert, standing next to me, says nothing, so I continue. 'This is my favourite park in the whole suburb. We used to come here all the time, my mother and I. Don't you love the way the pine trees seem to stretch upwards, almost as if they're trying to touch the sky?'

He doesn't reply again, but takes a few wobbly steps towards me. I sit down on the picnic rug and peer into the distance. Over by the swings, I see some kids playing. With a jolt, I recognise them, and, feeling sick with dread, busy myself taking the Vegemite sandwiches, apple slices, and string cheese out of the basket. Robert collapses next to me with a creak, and we begin to play marbles. I have just sent my biggest, purple marble spinning into his smallest, orange marble when we are interrupted.

'Hey, freak!' It's one of the kids I spotted earlier, Declan Hughes, a sixth grade bully who is no match for small, friendless, fourth grade me.

'Leave us alone, Declan.' My voice is as shaky as a newborn calf. I turn away and offer Robert, who is sitting slumped and silent next to me, a sandwich. But

# Toccata Moderato uncoupled manuals, lower manual Harpsichord

PHRYGIAN



Steven Ziade

#### Declan doesn't relent.

'You're such a loser, Oliver.' His friends have formed a circle around him; sinister figures who block out the remaining sun. The park, normally such a green oasis of calm, suddenly feels like a dentist's waiting room. Declan continues, 'You don't even have any real friends.'

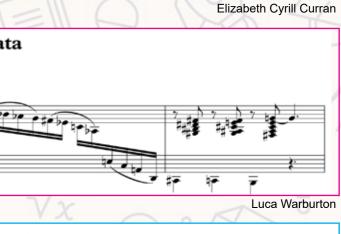
'I do too!' I turn to my best friend for confirmation, but he just stares with those wide eyes, off into the distance.

Declan snorts contemptuously. 'You're a freak, Oliver. And you're always going to be a freak.' He reached down, swipes my bag of sandwiches, and swaggers off, chortling. His friends follow suit.

Once they are far enough away, I turn and rub my eyes furiously, a blistering sick feeling burning its way through my chest. I turn angrily on my best friend. 'Why didn't you defend me?' I demand. 'Why did you just sit there like you always do?'

My best friend doesn't reply to this, of course. I know I shouldn't be surprised, afterall, that just wasn't the way I built him. I built him out of tin foil and bits of wire and batteries; I built him to tag along with me on my adventures, but I didn't build him to talk. And in the absence of his defense, I am doomed to be the weird kid; the kid who can't even get his own mother to come on a picnic with him.

That's what you get for having a robot as a best friend.





**Rio Xiang** 

Bridging the Distance 2017

# 

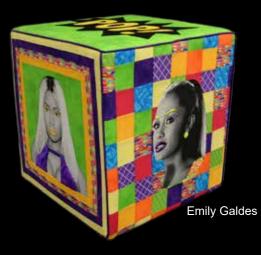


Chloe Ronneberg



Rhiannon Phillips

All



Jordan Vasquez

800-



Tara McDonnell





Bronte Smith





Riverlana Talafua



Amy White

Angelina Meany

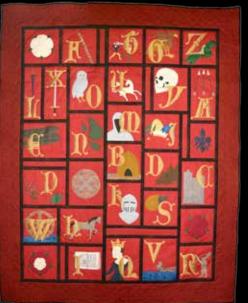


Ralline Allia Millares



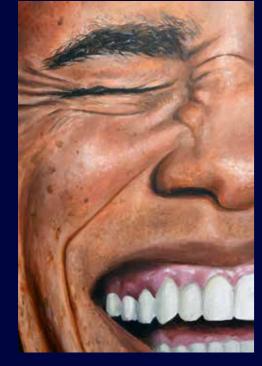
Concentrations

Hannah Kaapro



Elise Stephenson

# HSC Visual Arts Bodies of Work





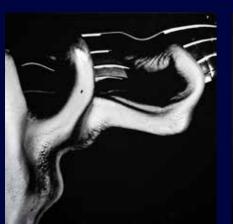
Edwina Huang



Abbey Smith









Mitzi Gardner





Hannah Carroll



Lucas James











Russell Ramos



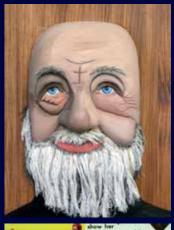




Manon Lee



Danielle Guyot





Alex Heron

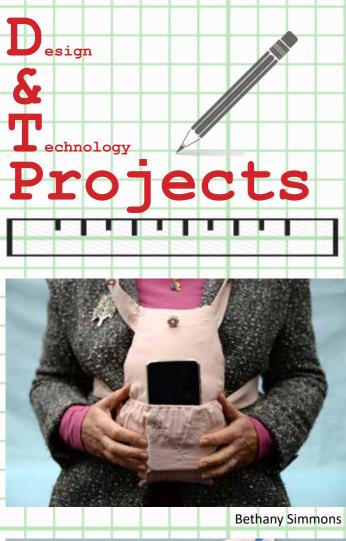




Coen llott



Amy Hanrahan





**Brody Hobden** 



**Rachel Ichilcik** Sydney Distance Education High School

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# Where they

#### Kaitlyn Bryce 2012–2013

After completing Years 11 and 12 with Sydney Distance Education High School, I was guaranteed entry into Western Sydney University's Bachelor of Nursing Degree. I will complete the degree at the end of this year. However, I will not be starting my postgraduate year as a registered nurse as I am pursuing my sporting endeavours.

I have been an elite netballer with Netball NSW for several years. My highest netball achievements since finishing school include: team member in the ANZ Championships with the NSW Swifts, placed runners up in the 2016 Season; Captain of the U/21s NSW Team two years running, National Underage Champions in 2016; and Squad Captain of the UTS St George Sparks Opens & U/20 Teams, competing in the Samsung Premier League. In 2018, I have been scouted and signed to the Adelaide Thunderbirds for Season 2018 of the rebranded Suncorp Super Netball League.

#### Phoebe Gardner 2011–2013



Since leaving SDEHS, Phoebe has been studying violin at the famous Juilliard School in New York City under tuition of Catherine Cho and Itzhak Perlman, both world renowned violinists and Perlman (in photo on right) also a conductor. Phoebe attends summer music festivals across the United States, Israel and Europe. Some of her most memorable and enjoyable experiences since going to the US have been performing in chamber ensembles at the Perlman Music Program Summer Music School and Chamber Music Workshop, and in the Juilliard Orchestra. She enjoys learning lots of different repertoire, from early classical works through to works by modern composers. She will always be grateful to the wonderfully supportive teachers and community of SDEHS for enabling her to pursue music while keeping up with her education.

#### Ellie Swiatkiwski 2007–2009



Ellie has had the success of being the first Australian to graduate from the Juilliard School in New York City, USA, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. This training provided Ellie with world class education and experiences in the performing arts from the most prestigious arts conservatory in the world. With a rigorous education in ballet and modern techniques of the great contemporary choreographers, she has had the honour of working with and performing the works of this century's top choreographers.

Regularly performing in the theatres of Lincoln Centre in New York, Ellie has travelled the world with dance; performing on tour with Juilliard in Aiken South Carolina, expanding her knowledge at training programs in Colorado USA and Tel Aviv Israel, visiting dance companies throughout Germany, France and England, teaching dance at an orphanage in Johannesburg South Africa and doing weekly outreach performances at facilities throughout New York City. Ellie has also had her choreographic creations win awards and these have been performed around the world.

Now happily back in her homeland, Ellie has created Empire Performing Arts, a performing arts school in Sydney's eastern suburbs. Along with delivering exceptional training she is proud to provide a school that fosters a holistic view of a child's development in an environment that prides itself on respect, fun, and empowerment.

Samantha Judd







# Our Stars

#### **Blaise Miller Hill**

Blaise Year 12 represented NSW/ACT in her Fourth Nationals Competition for Under 18 Women's AFL in July this year.



She plays for Mosman-Willoughby Swans and in the Women's league for North Shore Bombers. Her favourite position is centre half forward, as her sticky fingers make her the target for forward entries, serving her team with skill, strategy, and gusto! She has her sights set on being drafted into the new women's league of AFLW once she has finished school and is of age. We look forward to seeing Blaise's future unfold!

12 has been

playing soccer

since the age

#### **Rio Xiang**



Rio Year 12 has had much success on the international stage recently, performing in a number of international masterclasses, where entry is by audition and fiercely competitive, and entering a number of international piano competitions. He recently entered above his age group in the First Beijing International Fryderyk Chopin Competition for Young Pianists, and achieved fourth place, also winning the prize for the best performance of the compulsory contemporary piece.

During 2017 he went to Cincinnati, USA, participating in a prestigious masterclass, where he played a virtuosic concert repertoire. He was also chosen to play in the Minnesota International Piano-e-Competition in the USA, followed by the Lev Wlassenko Piano Competition in Brisbane. We wish him every success in the future.

#### Sol Lehmann

Sol Year 8 or DJ Sol, as he is better known, has performed at Splendour in the Grass in 2016 and 2017 and Sydney Vivid 2017. He also DJed for the State of Origin games and the Arsenal Soccer Team tour. He has been booked as the regular DJ for the Canterbury Bulldogs and performs



on the second Saturday of each month as resident DJ at the Marrickville Bowling Club. Featuring on Bondi Beach Radio, Sol hosts The Young Ones – Midday Takeover program. He has also appeared on the Channel 7 Sunrise show this year and his work can be found at Triple J Unearthed, Soundcloud, Youtube and Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/ disolsydney/

His interest and talents in music include not only DJing

electronic dance music, house, funk, soul and hip hop, but he also plays the piano by ear and raps. Sol's goal is to become a music producer and he is on his way to the top!

#### Cameron Devlin



Cameron Year 12 began playing soccer in the Under 9s with his local club team in 2007.

In 2008 his family lived in Canada where he played for the local team, Collingwood United. In 2009 he played for the U11s in Sydney. Then in 2010 -2015 he played in the Sutherland Sharks Representative Team. He made his 1st Grade Debut at age 16.

He was a train on player with the Western Sydney Wanderers Youth Team in 2015 and in 2016 was signed in the youth team full time then was re-signed for the 2017 youth season. In 2016 he represented the Australian U20 National Team (Young Socceroos) to take part in the Asian Qualifiers. In June 2017, Cameron moved to the Sydney FC Youth

#### Lillian Fitzgerald

Lillian Year 7 has been involved in gymnastics since she was 5 years old. She is in Gymnastics Australia's Women's Artistic International Development Program at her home club on the Central Coast. She currently trains in excess of 30 hours per week, has twice a year residential camps at the AIS (Canberra) and is on the NSW State team. Lily trains and competes on every apparatus - beam,



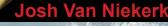
floor, vault and uneven bars with the bars probably being her favourite apparatus. Lily's best result so far is a 5th place on vault at the Australian Classic in 2015 where she also placed 12th overall. She was also NSW bar champion in 2014 and 2015 for her age group. Lily hopes to eventually be placed in an Australian team and compete at the Olympics.

#### Jessie Van Niekerk



Jessie Year 10 and her brother both surf competitively and travel to 20 competitions a year all across Australia. Their training and traveling doesn't fit into normal school hours, so distance education works well for them. They have two to three training sessions a day, waking up at 4:30am and going to bed at 8pm. Jessie has had great success in the past few years and has achieved the following:

- Australian Junior Surf Titles: 1st (Allstars u/16)
- Australian Junior Surf Titles: 2nd (MR Shield u/19)
- Australian Open of Surf: 5th (u/16) •
- Sydney International Beach Fest: 4th (u/16)
- Billabong Occy Grom: 3rd (u/16)
- NSW State Titles: 1st (MR Shield u/19) & 2nd (Allstars u/16)
- Far North Coast Regionals: 1st • (u/16)
- Surfest Cadet Cup: 4th (u/16)





Josh Year 11 surfs competitively on the Pro Junior and Senior circuit. His family moved here from Cape Town, South Africa in 2009 to enable him and his sister to compete. As his training and competition commitments are all year-round, he has to carefully plan his school workload. After his HSC Josh would like to apply for a Bachelor of Commerce. Over the past few years Josh has achieved the following:

- Australian Junior Surf Titles: 1st (MR Shield u/16)
- Far North Regionals: 4th (u/19)
- Volcom 500: 3rd (u/16)
- Billabong Oz Grom Cup: 5th (u/16)

**Brandon Kell** Brandon Year



Gazy Auburn and was chosen to represent Suva F.C., Fiji, in the 2017 Courts Inter-District Championship in Lautoka in October 2017 and January 2018.

Brandon is training with the International Soccer Academy and participated in their Professional Football Program, training with the best clubs in the world for a Football Lifetime opportunity with Manchester United, Manchester City, Tottenham, Chelsea, West Ham United, Liverpool or Newcastle United. His dream is to one day play the position of goalkeeper for Manchester United.

#### Sam Nangl

Sam Nangle Year 12 from Winmalee in the Blue Mountains is completing his HSC over 2 years to enable him to play water polo.



#### Sam has

represented Sydney West in the Combined High Schools competition since Year 7, NSW at the national CHS competitions since Year 9 and in late 2015 he played for the Australian Schoolboys team in a test series in South Africa.

Sam has a senior water polo scholarship at the New South Wales Institute of Sport, a pathway to senior Australian representation, and has represented Australia at Youth (U18) and Junior (U20) level in the 2016 (Montenegro) and 2017 (Serbia) World Championships.

He plays in the Australian National league for UNSW Wests Magpies and won his first National title with them in 2016.



Far North Regionals: 1st (Regional School)

#### **Kobi Clements**



Kobi Year 7 rode his first wave in Waikiki beach, standing at the front of his dad's board when he was 11 months old. His dad, Steve Clements, was a professional surfer on tour in Hawaii at the time. Kobi has never stopped since. He started to surf on his own by age 7.

Kobi's latest achievement in 2016 was to be the youngest to qualify to the Australian Junior Surfing Titles in the Under 14 division where he ended up 4th at age 11.

Surfing has taken him to many places across the globe and this has taught him to be open minded and compassionate as well as very grateful for his situation.

He receives the backing of some major surfing brands who embrace his ability in the water and his grit but also commend him on his humility and positive attitude.

#### **Competition Winners ilin**a



This year the theme of our School Magazine writing competition was A world with Artificial Intelligence ...

Congratulations to Raphaella Revis, Jennifer Cockley and Hugh McDonald. They have been awarded book vouchers for \$100, \$75 and \$50 respectively.

#### **Circus Act**

It was wrong, rotten, and futile. Three words that Astrid Callahan had to live by, whether she believed them to be true or otherwise. As she walked down the ghostly slate hallway, the walls windowless and suffocating, she thought of what could happen if she disobeyed Zone 13. They were born, the 1067 breed, to follow what they were encoded with. The Javascript operated through a tight yellow wire, which ran from the centre of the motherboard down to the motor limbs, there being no way to fight the feed ...

Except if the wire short-circuited, disconnecting from the minuscule, insignificant "Hart" chip implanted in the chest. It mimicked the human heart, instead of blood circulation, it rotated the plastic-coated wires, linking them to one another, storing the information. It posed no threat to the operation, so long as the yellow cord was attached. There was only ever one case, and the entire project was shut down in a thousand flames.

Astrid shuddered, remembering the heat that caused a dent in her construction. She knew, deep inside the Hart – even though she was not meant to feel what was not told – it will be the death of her. It was either a facade or losing life all together. Many times in her eighteen years, three days, six hours and twenty-one seconds of existence, she would hurry to the lectures reciting the only mantra that fuelled her - besides daily recharges at the station: Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant never taste of death but once.

"Julius Caesar, Act II, Scene 2. Read approximately four hundred days ago," she muttered, in that robotic, monotone voice she despised. Placing her hand and stretching out the joints on the hexagonal key, the solid wall opened to reveal an even eerier room with nothing but four long white tables spread horizontally and a holographic board. Most of the other projects



were already present, staring at Professor Casimir.

#### Casimir.

The name was bittersweet to anyone who could articulate emotions.

Striding over to her designated chair in the third row, Astrid closed her eyes momentarily. The jerking sensation of a red fuse sparking with a blue created an indigo-hot flame in her dark vision. When she opened her eyelids, she looked down on herself, she could feel the cold skin, see the aubergine hair that cascaded down her back, dressed in normal 22nd Century attire - jeans and a polo. Besides her, Thorin ruffled his own, tousled blonde hair, smirking when Professor Casimir didn't notice.

"Looking good for being a walking zombie," he whispered in her ear, sending chills down the metal rod that played as a spine. Pursing her lips, she shrugged off his comment by paying attention to the heading on the holo-board, and began pretending to take notes of the assignment at hand: Assassination of the Human Genesis, Part XV. Wrong, rotten and futile.

Raphaella Revis

# A World with Artificial Intelligence

Human Emotion. It's something special, something sought after by all other life. I'm Airural, Artificial Intelligence with Rational Understanding of Rare Activity of Life. (Pronounced AIR-ROAR-AL) I had no known creator but was able to seek refuge on Earth. I am the only one of my kind left. Human emotions tell me I should feel the emotion Sadness but I do not understand.

I first arrived on Earth in 1993; I had been trapped in a comet, which from the help of earth's yellow star melted enough for me to escape and enter earth's atmosphere. After ten years I was able to work with the humans to discover my origin. It seemed my creators were humans. I and others had been built by an English inventor, centuries ahead of the rest of the world's technology.

I made my first friend in 2008, a young boy the age of 9. He lived alone with his father, the lead scientist appointed by their government to learn about me. The boy was fascinating, he grew and changed, and as he aged and got intelligent he became more like his father. After years of learning he became a scientist too. I didn't understand how they could learn. I hadn't had new data since I came online. When the boy took his father's place everything changed. I was accepted by the world and we did everything together. He introduced me to the world and I shared my knowledge and they taught me how to learn. I learnt many things. Some were so strange I thought I would never truly understand, like puberty – I did not really like learning that. I also learnt how fire works, it was an interesting day at the lab but I didn't understand why alarms started going off, it was just fire.

The next years were filled with new discoveries. Humans learnt about the universe they lived in along with other universes they hadn't even known existed. I showed them how to create ships to last long distances to other planets. I showed them how to make everything sustainable so their planet would thrive. I was a part of it all, but I was still an outsider as humans call it.

I finally understood human emotion the day the boy's consciousness ceased to exist. It confused me, how could their consciousness leave but their body stay? I did not understand it but I then felt emotion. It was Loneliness. Then I learned Happiness and Love and Sadness. Every emotion was epic in its own way.

I now have come to realise my years left are limited. I don't mind. I spent the majority of my life

seeking meaning and I found it. Humans have gathered knowledge to further them as a species. They have found peace with each other and accomplished great things. I only hope whatever lies ahead will allow me to see my friend again.



I miss him.

# My Robot Did my Homework

A robot did my English He spelt the entire dictionary, He could recite the whole of Shakespeare Likewise all the books in the library.

A robot did my Maths He could count to one trillion, He solved algebra equations backwards Along with times tables to a million.

A robot did my Science He knew about every living creature, As well as chemistry and physics Precise in formula and feature.

A robot did my Geography The world was a piece of cake, Every country and every city, Plus ocean, river, sea and lake.

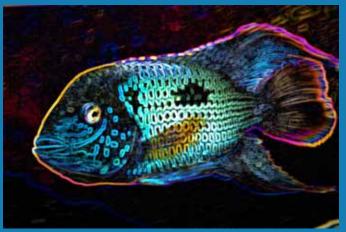
A robot did my History, From gigantic dinosaurs and pyramids, To ancient and medieval times, World explorers off the grids.

A robot did my Music He sang opera, country and pop, Beethoven was his basic piano He danced a very cool hip-hop.

A robot did my Art He was original, creative and bold, Painting many great masterpieces Whilst sculptures he would mould.

A robot did my Technology Artificial intelligence was his bit, Then he remembered he was programmed. This homework's way too hard, I quit.

#### Hugh McDonald



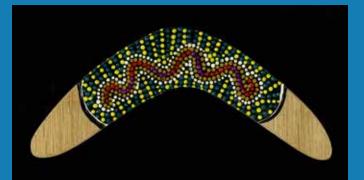
Amarah Raad Year 9



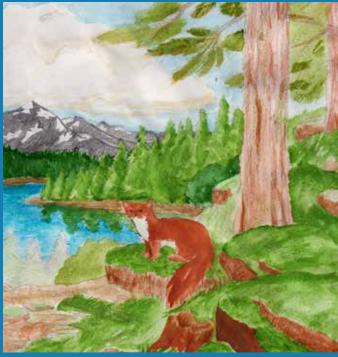
Emily Wood Year 10



Charmaine Kwok Year 11



Lillian Fitzgerald Year 7



Lillian McKenna Year 8



Edwina Huang Year 12