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Stage 6 students from the RFPs hard at work
Truly personalising the learning of each student and helping them to plan their journey for the next two years has been a focus of my role this week. It has been wonderful to sit and talk to each student and their advisor and help them to plan the learning journey. Totally planning the learning around them and not being constrained by the other pressures that surround ‘regular’ curriculum.

It will be a very steep learning curve for those opting to complete the HSC with a University entry rank. In this model, students must fulfil 8 hours of blended learning in EACH of their chosen subjects. This work is uploaded to the Moodle site on the internet. Students will basically manage each of the sessions here at school to include all of the work for each session. We call this the flipped classroom. In this model, students work at their own pace on the online modules. They have a subject discussion board to ask questions of fellow classmates. In this model, the students basically ‘flip’ the classroom. They do all their reading and workbooks in Advisory time, and then save the work on the tasks for the seminars where they have access to the ‘specialist’ teacher. So far, this is working very successfully.

This has the knock on effect of attendance. Each student must remember that the commitment they made in attending this school is a 90% attendance rate. Students in the senior years will not be granted leave if they are not fulfilling this aspect of the model. If they have an appointment they must present an appointment card. Given that they finish school early on a Monday; all appointments should be able to be made outside of school hours. Students should return to school from other appointments as they do not take the whole day.

Advisors will be keeping a keen eye on this as it is crucial to the learning that is taking place.

Students completing a Non ATAR pathway should be completing a mini PIP (personal interest project) to the end of the year.

Year 9 students are completing their final projects and preparing their exhibitions. They will be our leaders next year in welcoming a whole new group of students to our school.

The Gateway Awards Evening is on this Thursday night and we are looking forward to celebrating our first very successful year in delivering 21st Century learning for our amazing young people! Anyone is welcome to attend the photos from about 5.45pm in the small park next to Noah’s on the Beach. Zoe Morris, one of our young budding photographers, will be taking the photos.

Staff, parents and students will then attend the awards evening with dinner and dancing.

TRACEY BREESE
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

TERM 4 WEEK 7

Thursday: CHC Gateway Celebration

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE

NO
PRESSURE,

NO
DIAMONDS.

- THOMAS CAROLYNE
LTI REPORT

TVET

TAFE are offering another round of applications for 2015 courses. I have the updated list of courses that are still available, as well as the necessary forms to complete. Students do need to see me ASAP.

Places are still available in the Outdoor Recreation course, which is a FREE 10 day block course run through Kurri Kurri TAFE. It is an option worth thinking about for year 11 students as it satisfies 2 units of their HSC pathway.

Work Education grades

I have been working on finalising the grades for Work Education to be entered as part of students RoSA. (Record of Student Achievement)

Reminder to those students who have not been given a grade for term 3, please hand in their portfolio to Amanda for marking.

Congratulations to all students on their efforts towards LTI. Students are recognising and embracing the opportunity to explore their interests and connect with a mentor in the community with the same interest. The Internship program is providing students with employability skills that usually are not gained until later in a young person’s life.

However, for me the personal growth of some students during this year has been inspiring. I have spoken to many mentors recently and the feedback has been so positive regarding the maturity of our students and the willingness to have a go at new things.

Well done to all students who are engaging in one of the most powerful learning experiences, relating your passion with learning.

Happy to be a part of it!

Amanda
Hi Amanda,

Hope the term is treating you well!

Matt did an amazing job at the cinema this morning, we had another student, Tyrone start the program this week so it was good for him to interact with him and also the cinema staff this morning. We should have another 2 students joining as of next week, at this stage we are still planning on the 4th Dec finish but if we add an extra week we will be sure to give you plenty of notice.

We had a few curve balls thrown our way this morning and I was really impressed with how well he adapted to the change in plans. He assisted in helping serve cookies and coffee to seniors attending the cinema this morning, worked closely with the cinema staff and Tyrone to do this. He even helped me make Cappuccinos! He also remembered all the tasks to complete as an usher from last week and did these without being prompted by me...miles ahead of many students we have at the program in terms of showing initiative!

We are having a blast on the program and he seems to really be enjoying it.

Cheers,

Kayla Loyola

Youth Consultant

JobQuest Newcastle
Our Big Picture brothers and sisters from Hunter Sports High visit our campus
We are so lucky to have such an amazing group of people in our advisory.....

Anna at the moment is our shining star. She has been completing her LTI at Balance, a gym at Mayfield. She started off cleaning the equipment and just simply helping out and after 2 terms of hard work she has finally been able to participate in an Aus swim course this has led to a position where she can run her own classes for kids in the 25m pool, as a swimming instructor, as well as landing herself a part time job there. Well done Anna!

Callen has started his LTI last week at the Shark and Ray Centre, Nelsons Bay. He has had the opportunity to go inside the cages, to clean them. Callen has done some amazing work in order to get himself an LTI. Good Luck Callen!

Kyle has taken it upon himself to run a Secret Santa for our advisory. Kyle will be showing great initiative and organisation skills form this project. The theme will be “The worst present ever” we have all agreed that this will be a fun and exciting way to finish our first year as an advisory. Thanks Kyle!

Lily this term has founded the “Dream Team” two people from each advisory have become representatives for the dream, they meet every 2nd week and discuss ways to help and support the school such as, promoting students ideas, planning school events and making students dreams come true, Great Work Lily!

The talk of an apprenticeship as a diesel mechanic is impending for Jack, after completing his LTI with a mechanic. Congratulations Jack!

This week Sasha has been down in Sydney attending conferences all week, thanks to the lovely Sheri for looking after us all !!!
Congratulations to the RFP’s for completing their Gateway Exhibitions and moving into Year 11! Everyone has adapted to this new learning style so well. “O” week went really fast, learning about all of our new courses.

Scott has bought his first suit for the Gateway Celebration Evening. We’ll be celebrating the completion of Year 10 and get to dress up for the occasion.

Erin had her first DJ performance at Live @ the Lunchbox, a weekly live music gig at Hunter TAFE, on Tuesday. She has been booked to perform for the next few weeks.

Josh was selected for the Northern NSW squad for Futsal, congratulations!

Congratulations to Brittany for organising her very first Shadow Day at City West Automotive. It will be an exciting experience to learn about the automotive industry.

Shelby was 1 of 60 in Australia selected to go to college in America on a Sports Scholarship for field hockey. What an amazing achievement! We will miss having you around, but we’re sure you’ll make Australia and Cooks Hill Campus proud.

On 11/11 we walked down to Civic Park to attend a Remembrance Day Service to acknowledge the sacrifices made by those who fought for our country. It was a wonderful commemoration.

This week’s local weather report by Jacob Bailey.

This week in Newcastle temperatures are supposed to hit around 35 degrees Celsius and 40 degrees in the west. This Friday please remember to be sun safe, put on a hat, slap on sun screen and drink plenty of water. This week’s UV index is supposed to get very high and extreme. The fire danger reading is severe for the Hunter.

Newcastle forecast:

Friday sunny
High: 36 degrees, low: 19 degrees

Saturday late thunderstorm
High: 24 degrees, low: 20 degrees

Sunday clearing showers, high: 26 degrees, low: 18 degrees

Monday mostly sunny, high:24 degrees, low: 16 degrees.

This local weather report is brought to you by Jacob Bailey’s weather news, as part of his personal interest project on WEATHER.
School is back.

So, the Wolfpack made it through the first two weeks of year ten, term four. It was a busy few weeks, with new assignments and fresh goals, everyone is excited and rested, but let’s not forget the driving force from our overwhelming sensation of impending doom.

In two weeks, year ten students will be graduating to senior year. Week four of term four, the 10th year students will be absent for the week to prepare for their Gateway Exhibitions. These exhibitions differ to the past, and are not necessarily about displaying completed term work, so much as explaining and exampleing personal growth throughout the whole of the year.

This term’s Exhibitions are all about the personal aspect, what you’ve achieved in learning, not just what you’ve done. The Gateways are about our progression, our goals for the future, from where we started to where we are, to where we’ll go. This term is all about us.

But other than our constantly progressing preparation and arrangements to the Gateway, additional advancements in the wolfpack have presented themselves:

Tayla Mullen is currently spending the week at Jenolan Caves, due to her rapid internship successions. Going caving everyday, an entire week at a beautiful location and the experience of a lifetime, it reminds us all what hard work is capable of paying off.

Taylor Broadway has recently established her very first internship, here at Cooks Hill Campus Big Picture under the very accomplished Lizzy Carter, Head Wolf of the Pack.

Jasmine Ferguson went onto a newly attained Shadow Day this term at the community-loved Press Bookshop on Hunter Street.

And Dylan had Weetbix for breakfast the other day . . .

In summary, we wish you an incredible term, and though it will be stressful, there are little accomplishments in everything. We sincerely hope everyone has had a sensational year ten in the wolfpack and will continue to achieve their goals whether it be here, out in the workplace, applying for TAFE or really anywhere. Once a wolf in the pack, always a wolf in the pack.

Good luck to all, WOLFPACK out.
INTRODUCING THE ZEN PALACE

If you’ve walked into the Zen Pen lately you might have a similar reaction to Tyler: “What the…”!

Huge changes have been undertaken by the team including re-arranging tables and desks to create a more open space, communal tables rather than desks owned by students and better organisation of student work in the cupboards and filing cabinets.

Jack, the project manager, said, “The old room was outdated and needed a change so we gave it a makeover.”

“The room is more open,” said Lachlan, “and other advisories are envious of our new style and space.”

Not all students agreed with changes, Claudia misses her table and had a goodbye ceremony and cried. She does concede that it is a better overall environment to learn – a real Big Picture space.

Next week, Alex reports that artwork for the room will be done with Ann during advisory time.

The team agreed that the new learning space needed a name change to fit its new image:

The Zen Palace.

Chelsea offered an inspirational quote by Tony Robbins:

“Change is inevitable. Progress is optional”.
At the start of this week we started to re-design our room because we thought it was crowded and messy. Now it is clean and tidy, full of space and looks more like an adult working space. We have gained 3 new goldfish called Boogie, Ginger and Frankie. These 3 have been known to keep Sadur happy.

Our year 11s: Rhiannon, Lara, Bianca, Nick, Louie, Paige, Taylor, Bryent and Tiffany have gone from year 10 to year 11 in the past term. The year 11s have “felt more relieved with knowing what they’re doing in their subjects,” said Rhiannon.

Our year 9s: Brittnay, Jade, Zoe, Shiney, Nikita and Tom. We are happy with what we have done this past year, exploring new things and going different paths. We are a bit scared about going into year 10 because we have our Gateway Exhibition at the end of the year then we are in year 11.

We have gained 4 newbies into our advisory: Nick, Louie, Paige and Taylor. They will be going into year 11, we wish them all the best and we will be here to support them.

A Happy Birthday to Brittney!
Remembrance Day 2014

On the 11th of November, students from our campus walked to Civic Park to observe the Remembrance Day ceremony and to pay our respects to those servicemen and women who have died or been injured during conflicts. It was a moving ceremony and we were glad to be a part of this important commemoration.
SHOUT OUTS!

Shout Out to **our wonderful advisors** who have set up our Stage 6 Moodle courses
Shout Out to **Brittney Martyn** (from the Linchpins) for typing up our section of the TGIF.
Shout Out to **all our new Stage 6 students** - Welcome!