What our stars have been working on…

WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE
Aurelia’s Advisory (the R.F.P’s) have been preparing a community project on this. This week, Abby McLeod shaved her head to support patients with Leukaemia. All money raised will go directly to funding cancer research and patient support. We ended up raising over a thousand dollars, a huge thank you to everyone for donations and support!

ART CLASSES
Isabelle’s mum Jayne will begin some art classes this week.

TAFE Retail Certificate 2
The course has started!

LIBRARY NEWS
Most groups have now joined the City Library and are free to borrow and research down there. Each class are learning research skills to help them through their next learning plan.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
Cooks Hill Campus

OUR WEBSITE
http://www.cookshill-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
- EXHIBITIONS will begin 26th March through to the 4th of April.

PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD
- Jayne will be beginning Art classes this week. Students will need to purchase some supplies for these classes. Jayne has worked out a general list to get them started.

This quote is very important to our focus this week. Many things that we learn in life are from our experiences with others, they are usually not things we learn alone. Remember the times when we were little and learnt how to walk and talk. These were not moments completed without others. Our experiences in these moments are always met with joy, encouragement and pride in both ourselves and in others.

For this week, we have been talking in advisory about relationships. These relationships are part of being within a community of learners. Our community is small, but diverse. We have many students with various needs both within their learning and their development as young people. We celebrate difference, we help out others, we are about to shave for a cure!

Elliot, in one of our teaching moments, said ‘It is these experiences that make us different and that make all the difference. Our schools are all about ‘relentless intimacy’. The advisory teacher knows each child and their needs- intently. This is our aim and we intend to help out young people in managing relationships through a shared framework of trust, respect, responsibility and loyalty.

A framework for life.’

TRACEY BREESE
The Exhibitions

This is a very important element of the design. Each student will exhibit to a small panel of their choosing. These artifacts of their learning will remain with the Advisors as evidence for the Board of Studies. Students have the outline of the requirements and should be building their work from now until the exhibitions.

Wolf Pack
aka Advisory 3 with Lizzy

Well the week’s almost done... or is done depending on the time you’re reading this, either way, TGIF guys. And week 7 was as good and as challenging as any other week of this term.

There was stress, peace and absolute boredom at varying times, but all in all it was an extremely productive week. Students have been receiving their library cards this week, and we’re gearing up with our book packing backpacks for more exciting trips to the library. Isabelle and Jack have completed their first day at uni and are gleefully awaiting for their next lesson, and a reminder to them both that the university attending students have been asked to wear old clothes so that, to quote, “Parent’s don’t want to murder the art teacher for staining.”... His words, not mine guys. In other news, our wonderful, not to mention optimistic Ally has a shadow day coming up, and the entire Advisory 3 wishes her well. In most important news, our exhibitions are coming up two weeks away! We feel excited and also a little nervous about our upcoming big event.

But also this week we have been working towards exhibition day which is only two weeks away! We feel excited and also a little nervous about our upcoming exhibitions but this week we are practicing mini exhibitions to help us prepare for the big event.

A couple of our student have been out on their shadow days and found them to be interesting experiences. Even though our projects require a lot more work than traditional schoolwork, it is a lot more interesting. We can’t wait till next term to design our own projects. That’s all for this week.

OUR ADVISORY TEAMS

SASHA

Everyone is underway with finishing their ‘Who am I’ project and starting their exhibition for some this is a chance to experience talking in front of a crowd, for others it is a great life lesson.

Our advisory has recently attempted drama. Twice now we have gone over to town hall to run some drama games, this is meant to help people in talking and performing in front of an audience. On Wednesday students from our advisory went into other advisories to practise our mini exhibitions. Everyone’s opinions of that experience included: useless, eye-catching, awkward and good.

This is the second time this week that our advisory did a Pick Me Up called ‘Warm and Cool’. This is a task where we anonymously write a warm and a cool feeling about someone about their learning. It is meant to be a way to receive constructive comments about their work.

Daizee and Mackenzie

MATT

This week Matts advisory have been working extremely hard on trying to finish different parts of the “Who am I project”. On Wednesday there was a whole class parent teacher meeting for the purpose of showing the parents how much their child has completed whilst being at The Big Picture School. As expected the parents reactions was mostly positive.

On Thursday the class had a mini exhibition in preparation for the exhibition at the end of term and the class had to pick two complete products to show off to a small group of people. This week has been great and we hope next week is even better.

The Linchpins

Last Friday we were lucky enough to visit the Newcastle Fire Station. We were able to use all sort of tools fireman use such as the jaws of life, cutting tools, first-aid equipment, thermal imaging cameras, as well as the traditional fire hoses. We even went up in the sky lift which is used for high-rise building rescues.

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ICT TIPS FROM DARREN

This week we took delivery of the film and audio production equipment. This includes two, industry standard HD cameras, tripods, boom microphones, a professional 3-point Laniro lighting kit, along with digital audio recording interface and professional voice-over microphones. All students now have the opportunity to become familiar with this equipment through training sessions and the filming of documentary style interviews with our national and international guests. It has been amazing to observe the engagement of so many students with this technology, as well as the speed at which they are picking up skills and knowledge of a complex industry. We aim to have the documentary completed and available for viewing on the school website within the next few weeks. Watch this space for more details.

Don’t forget to ask your students what their Gantt chart tells them they will be doing tomorrow.

Have a great week,
Darren Ponman,