



# CXeso news

**CHESTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL  
KENWARD AVENUE  
CHESTER HILL 2162**

**TELEPHONE: 9644 1099  
FACSIMILE: 9743 7174  
SEPTEMBER 2012**

**[www.chesterhil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.chesterhil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)**

## **Term 3 Issue 2**

### ***Principal's Report***

#### **50th Anniversary**

On Saturday 15th September, Chester Hill HS opens its doors in honour of 50 years of dedicated achievement to our community. Our open day will be held to celebrate this wonderful occasion in the history of the school. There is so much happening, so much to see that the time from **10:00 to 2:00** will fly. Please come along to enjoy the day. I can guarantee that nobody will be disappointed. We want to show off and display the wonderful achievements that public education provides!

On Friday the 14th September, the staff and school will celebrate the 50th with performances and games. Each student will win points for their house through participation in these events. Already the students have got into the swing of things and are volunteering ideas and their services. Students will not have classes from Period 3 onwards so they can commemorate the occasion. I would like to pay particular tribute to **the magnificent CHHS SASS team** who continue to deliver their duties above and beyond what could be expected. Their work for the 50th anniversary has been nothing short of exceptional. Our community

owes them a great deal for maintaining consistent quality over many years.

#### **School Reunion Dinner**

There will be a **reunion dinner** at **Fairfield RSL on the night of Saturday, the 15th September from 6:30** onwards. **Tickets are \$62 per head** and they are selling fast. All ex-students will enjoy the chance to relive the happiest days of their lives.

#### **CHHS Community Forum**

After a long series of negotiations, the two parent representative groups, the CHHS School Council and the P&C, have decided to amalgamate to form one representative body called the CHHS Community Forum. There is a draft constitution that has been written to guide the operations of the Forum. I would like to thank one of our parents, **Mr Doug Melville** for 'steering' this tricky process. The purpose of the Forum will be to:

- assist in determining school policies
- help identify educational needs and priorities
- promote a positive image of the school in the local community
- liaise and communicate regularly with the local community
- provide advice on multicultural issues

**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS \* 1962-2012 \***

- raise concerns about issues that affect students

The Forum is not a fund raising body and is open to all parents. The next meeting to elect office bearers will be on Tuesday, 11th September. I would like to personally encourage participation in the forum. CHHS is open and transparent about its processes and policies and we welcome parent and community input into the operations of the school. In the next few meetings policies such as anti-bullying and Yrs.7-10 assessment will be discussed. The Forum meetings will be held twice a Term throughout the year.

### **PISA**

On the 15th August 25 students took part in the 2012 Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). We were chosen to be one of the Australian schools whose students are compared to other OECD country schools. PISA ranks all countries in the OECD in terms of their literacy, Maths and Science education performance. On the 2009 figures, Australia ranked seventh in literacy and Science and fourteenth in Maths. The Prime Minister recently announced that a long term educational goal for Australia is to move into the top five of all three categories. I would like to thank **Ms Bhamjee**, our HT Teaching and Learning for organising the event so smoothly.

### **Intensive English Centre**

Over the past few weeks, I have had the privilege of being part of two outstanding educational events, the first IEC bushwalk and the second inter-IEC Oratory competition. The bushwalk involved every person in the IEC including teachers and support staff and was part of a 'rich task' assessment covering Science, Social Science, History and English. The day was an outstanding success with all enjoying the sunny conditions. The day was again

superbly supported by the team from **Optus**, our **Australian Business Council Network (ABCN)** partner and the CEO of Optus, **Mr Andrew Buay**. 35 Optus volunteers and two Aboriginal educators also took part. I would like to thank Optus once again for their generosity of both spirit and donation of time. Our students experienced the Australian bush (many for the first time), completed a detailed worksheet that required them to identify Australian native flora and fauna and had an excellent BBQ lunch. Aspects of Aboriginal craft and lore were explained and demonstrated. I would like to personally thank everybody who took part in this special event for your care and dedication to these vulnerable students.

The second outstanding event was the second inter-IEC Oratory competition. Our students competed against other IECs by delivering a three minute speech on a topic of their choice. Every time I attend an IEC oratory final, be it a class, centre or inter-IEC competition, I am amazed by the high standard. These students cannot speak English when they arrive in Australia and to see them six months later, addressing a large crowd with confidence and style is truly inspirational. Many, many native-born citizens of this country are terrified of speaking before an audience. For IEC students the effort is doubly difficult but through excellent teaching and coaching they rise to and surpass this challenge. The standard of the speeches and their delivery in the inter-IEC competition was extremely high. Our IEC student, **Fatama (Kane) Bah** finished third from 17 speakers which was a very meritorious achievement. Again, I would like to thank all members of the IEC from the teachers, support staff and students for their enthusiastic support of this event. Everybody gets involved and the IEC team keep setting new benchmarks in achievement.

### NAB Schools First grant

Last month, CHHS received a grant of \$15,000 from the National Australia Bank for our High Achievers Class (HAC). Working with our University of Western Sydney academic partner, **Dr Diana Whitton**, we were successful in convincing the panel that our high achieving students were capable of being further challenged through rich task assessments. Congratulations to **Ms Pikoulas** for her submission writing skills!

### CHHS Yr. 7 Scholarships

Applications for the CHHS Academic scholarships for the 2013 academic year are now open. The application can be accessed via the school website. The scholarship is worth \$1500 dollars over two years and covers such things as school contributions, mandatory subject fees, excursions and a school camp. Please carefully read the form as the competition for scholarships is very high and applications need to be completed in each section. Good luck!

### Brian Miller



### National Partnerships Update – Term 3 2012

It's hard to believe we are reaching the end of Term 3, and once again it is time for our school community to assist us in the

Evaluation of the National Partnerships programs.

This is an important time to evaluate the various programs we have running in the school and receive valuable feedback on the initiatives that are currently in place. This process of data gathering is crucial in helping us plan for next year as well as in assisting our school in preparing our school plan. We have surveyed a cross section of our students, selected at random from different classes, staff, parents and community members. Thank you to all the parents who have already completed surveys. Students are being encouraged to return these promptly by being awarded house points for each of the surveys returned. So get those surveys in. If any of our parents or community members wish to complete a survey, these are available from the front office.

Survey results will be communicated to our community in next term's newsletter.

Our teachers continue to participate in various workshops and initiatives aimed at improving the learning outcomes of our students. We continue teacher professional development with the Middle Band Team, TELL Program, Teaching Refugees in my classroom, ICT Skills and ESL Pedagogy workshops. All these workshops are aimed at building our teacher capacity to improve our students' overall learning outcomes.

We have been successful in organising a number of Community of Schools meetings with our local primary schools and Community Liaison Officers (CLOs). These will assist with student transition to the high school as well as providing all parties with professional development opportunities. Two such opportunities have involved both our staff and students. Our Year 10 Visual Arts group, accompanied by **Ms Fenton** went to

Villawood North Primary School to lead workshops in Artmaking with the students. Our teachers will be visiting Chester Hill North Primary School to participate in their Intensive Numeracy Workshops so they can implement some of those strategies in our middle school to assist in transition as well as improving our numeracy skills in Years 7 & 8. We will be hosting all of the Year 5 students from our primary schools next term for taster lessons and an early experience of high school.

The IEC and High School Experience program with Industrial Arts, Visual Arts and Drama has proven to be very successful and popular. As some of the students from the IEC are given the opportunity to come to the high school and have lessons in the specialist rooms, or some of our specialist teachers go to the IEC to teach these subjects. These have proven valuable to assist students in their transition to high school.

The Yr 7 High Achievers Class (HAC) have been working on some very exciting projects as part of their diversified curriculum experiences. They presented their DVD film project to the Red Cross and are currently working on an online virtual museum using the relics in **Mr Brown's** History museum. They are very excited about this project as they discover items that are "ancient"! The students are also looking forward to visiting their primary schools to talk about their high school experiences.

We want to continue strengthening our partnership with our community and continue delivering excellent teaching and learning experiences to our students. If you have any suggestions or questions please contact me.

**Ms Mateus**

DP National Partnerships

## **Open Gallery**

On Friday 24th August 7V, 7B and 7R went to the Art Gallery of NSW for the OPEN GALLERY excursion. This was the first Year Seven group to go and the second group will be going in October.

**Kirsty Stones** (7V) writes a recount of the excursion:

*I found the Art Gallery excursion very entertaining and informative. The background information about the artworks made me look at them in a different way and appreciate the artworks even more. My favourite artwork would have to be by Janet Laurence "In Memory of Nature". I was also privileged to see an artwork of Margaret Olley by Ben Quilty which won the Archibald prize in 2010. Before the excursion and seeing pictures of this magnificent artwork, I believed every stroke was carefully executed and fine, when actually each stroke was thick and in different directions. When you are up close to this painting, you can't imagine it winning the Archibald Prize but when you take a step back you can see why it won the prize. You can see it come together with all the beauty and delicateness. We received the chance to sketch bits and pieces of the artworks we saw and it was great that we did that because we were able to really connect with the artwork and artist and really appreciate them for the time and effort they put in. It gives us, the audience, a chance to see and interpret their artworks. I learned a lot from this excursion, for example, how long it takes to complete an artwork and how difficult it is. I would like to thank the Art teachers and Art Gallery for giving us this opportunity and for making this great experience for not only me but for all the other Year Sevens. On behalf of 7V, 7B and 7R, I thank you very much.*



Some interesting quotes from the Year Seven students:

**Queenie Bui:** *My favourite painting was **The Memory of Nature** by Janet Laurence. It was really unique. I liked how she put the tall black flowers and stem in a glass case. I want some in my room.*

**Jennifer Nguyen:** *The outside of the museum was like a Greek Palace. The blobs of paint on the artwork were just so creative and marvelous. We all stood there admiring it.*

**Natalie Chhay:** *They gave us some bags filled with newspaper, booklets, a pencil and a drawing book.*

**Rhianna Dalglish:** *We were toured around by very informative and friendly guides who work at the particular gallery. They toured us around a few different sections including the Indigenous section.*

**Brendan Ta:** *I learnt to properly see what artworks are really about. Our class saw **Ben Quilty's** portrait of **Margret Olley**. We've been learning about this work and 7V were excited when we saw it.*

**Jodie Chan:** *We saw a room-like house, made entirely out of fabric.*

**Julie Galicia:** *Some paintings were painted with gold to make them look fancy. We saw many artworks but my favourite one was the one with trees cut out of paper bags. Mrs Reynolds said the message of the artwork was that trees are special and that after we use the bags we just throw them away.*





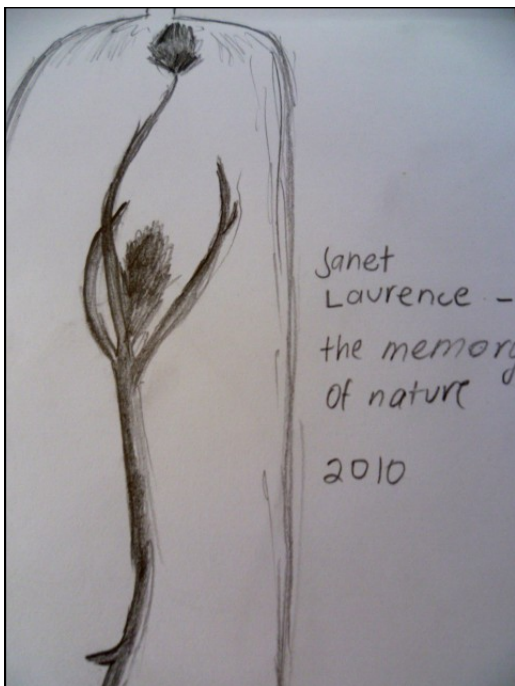
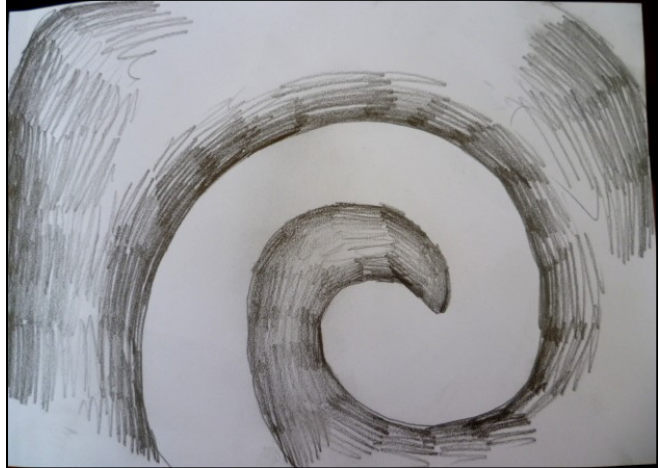
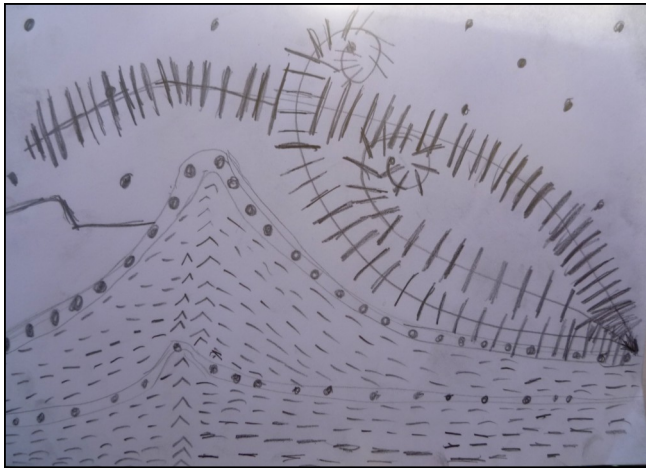


## More Open Gallery





# More Open Gallery



Janet  
Laurence -  
the memory  
of nature  
2010



Indigenous  
Aboriginal  
Poles



## School To Work Program

*Supports students in their successful transition from school to tertiary education, training and employment destinations. Some of the activities ...*



### Year 10 TAFE Taster Courses at Granville College.

Students celebrated the completion of their courses at TAFE.

Congratulations to **Mouemina Reghis, Yasmin El Chami** for completing the Beauty and Nails Course.

Congratulations to **Ahmad Obeid, Fofoga Vaiusu, Monique Pelosa, Abdul Kabbout** for completing Automotive.



### Year 10 Formal Interview Day, 28th June

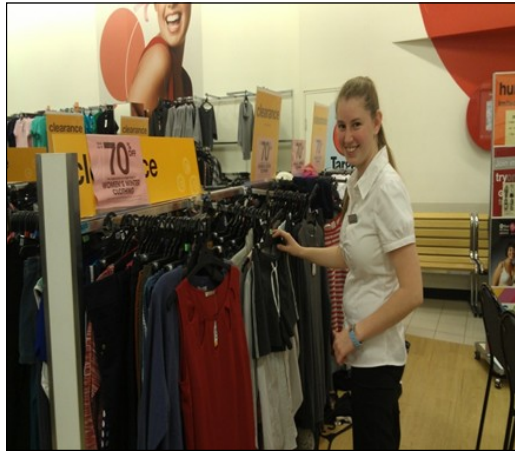
Students learnt about job interviews: the attitudes and expectations of employers, interview preparation and presentation.





### Work Experience Week, 6th- 10th August

Students look at the relationship between work experience and vocational choice. A variety of workplaces were sought by students this year and we thank our local business community for their support.



**Engineering at UNSW, 23rd August** . A day of lectures and practical sessions illustrating the different disciplines of engineering offered at UNSW.



### Year 11 SLR Rock climbing excursion

On Thursday the 9th of August Year 11 SLR classes went on an excursion. They walked to Villawood to experience rock climbing at Sydney Indoor Rock climbing centre and then to AMF, Ten Pin Bowling. The excursion was part of the formal assessment for the recreation component of the course.

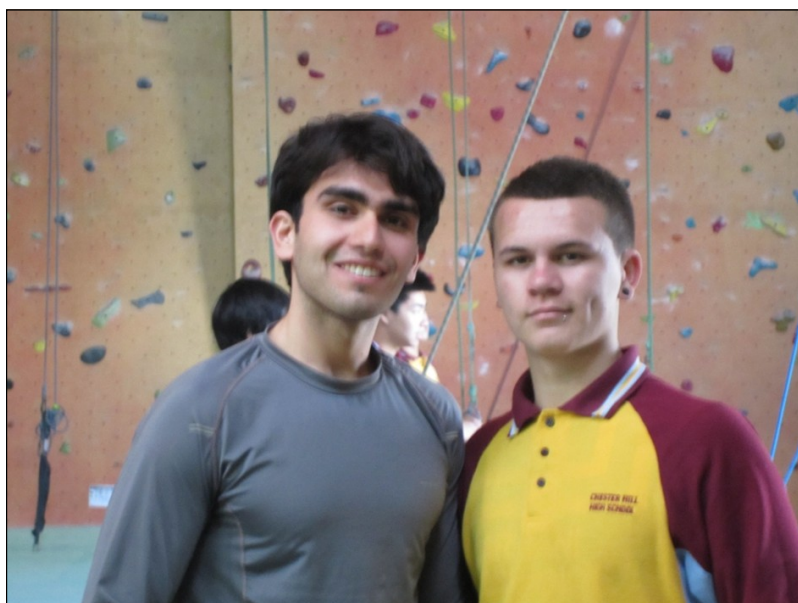
The students were keen, yet apprehensive to get started. After a walk to Villawood we were given a comprehensive lesson on rock climbing, this included the safety techniques as well as the all-important belay operator instructions. After the demonstration and short test of skills we all moved freely around the room to attempt the climbs. Each climb was graded and many students progressed quickly to the extreme climbs. It is important to mention that many of these students had never attempted the rock climbing before. Also some students bravely faced their fear of heights to attempt a climb, congratulations to those students.

As I haven't rock climbed before, I also looked forward to testing my skills and courage. I would like to thank those students who supported me and acted as my belay to ensure I remained safe on my climb. I found it exhilarating and a great activity in which we showed trust in each other. Some of the best climbers were Alexander Kaw, Yasser A, Stephen Williams (except when he climbed the wrong wall and flew through the air), Thanks to **Omar Barbar**, **Daniel** and **Calvin Qian** who belayed many climbers.

After rock climbing, we moved on to ten pin, **Manaia Cuthbert** was definitely better than everyone else, he bowled 177. Everyone had fun however, we all needed more practise in this activity.

Congratulations to all the students who attended and achieved their best. All students acted with courtesy and respect while representing the school in the best manner. It was a privilege to take such a well behaved group of young men and women who supported each other and were prepared to try new experiences in recreation.

**Mrs S Lykouras**  
**Mr Yildirim**







### **They are awesome!**

Have you seen pure admiration in someone's eyes? That is how the students of Villawood North Primary school viewed students from Chester Hill High who went there to support the arts initiative. The following Year Ten students: **Cheyenne Welsh, Bao Tran, Nina Tran, Jessica Lam, Colin Ormiston, Cindy Vuong, Vanessa Bao Hoang, Emily Wang, Ali Mossavi, Nancy Vuong and Helen Tran** assisted with creating artworks in mixed media, watercolour, charcoal drawing, mosaics, collage and oil pastels drawings. The artworks produced by students at Villawood North were of very high quality and were proudly exhibited at the Villawood North Arts Exhibition this week. The principal and teachers of Villawood North commented on our students being fantastic role models and great helpers, who they hope will come again. The level of expertise our students offered to young artists in a range of media was immense and that allowed the completion of all artworks on time and to a high standard. Our students encouraged every child and if anyone experienced any difficulties they were there to help. Well done Year Ten art students, you made our school and yourselves very proud!

**Mrs. Fenton**

*Photos over page*

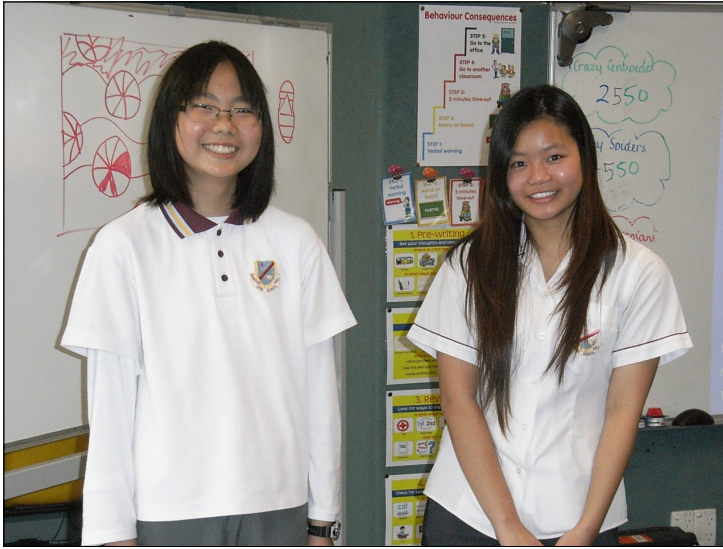


# Villawood North Primary School





# Villawood North Primary School



## Year 11 Biennale Excursion

The journey by bus and ferry out to Cockatoo Island for the 18th Sydney Biennale was part of the fun and entertainment for year 11's excursion to the contemporary art exhibition last Friday.

The 8am start proved too much for one student who had to meet us at Circular Quay, traveling in by train. The bus driver, fazed by the sharp right hand turn to the ferry terminal indulged us in the more scenic, albeit unnecessary route, over the Harbour Bridge and back again.

The theme of the exhibition, All Our Relations, was thought provoking and inspiring for Visual Arts students of year 11.

The students were struck immediately by the massive, styrofoam installation of chains and tractor parts. No-one could get over the enormity of the work and the wonder at how it was produced.

A favourite work for everyone was Hylozoic Series, an interactive light work, resembling a magical, botanical garden. The students were able to touch the work, causing parts of it to light up and other parts to move.

Year 11 declared it, "the best excursion ever!" to the pleasure of **Mrs Manion** and **Ms Mulheron** who also had an excellent day.





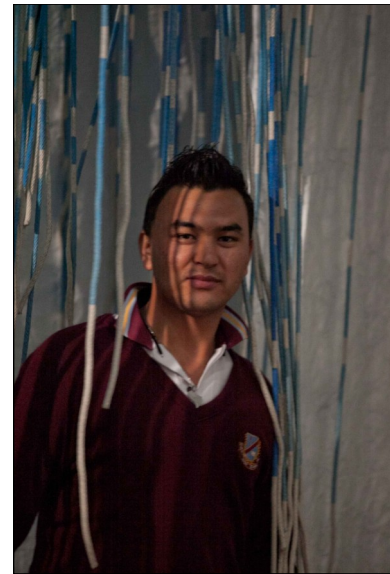
## Year 11 Biennale Excursion



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# Year 11 Biennale Excursion



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS \* 1962~2012 \*



## Music

During this term, the music department has been very busy with many events and performances. On the 27th of August, the choir performed at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music as part of the Smith Family's ConVerge vocal workshop program. It was a very nice day out performing with West Pac, Cranebrook High School and Mitchell High School.

The HSC Music Evening on the 23rd of August, was a successful event showcasing our talented Year 12 music students who put much effort into their performances. There was a variety of items of vocal and instrumental performances. I would like to express special thanks to **Ms Arnold** for accompaniment, **Ms Manion** for refreshments, **Mr Viller** for sound, **Ms Sweedman** for the tickets, and our deputy principals and staff for their support. I would like to extend my best wishes and best of luck for their HSC exams.

It is time for the Gillawarna Music Festival this year and our choir, Karen and Chilean dances and Lillian Cherry's Year 12 band comprising **Widad Nahhas**, **Donna Biberovik** and **Zion Oo**, are involved in the festival. It is great to be a part of our Bankstown local schools event and maintain strong relationships with our local primary schools.

The music students are very busy preparing for the 50th Anniversary Celebration and there will be numerous items performed by our elective students from Year 9 to Year 12 as well as choir.

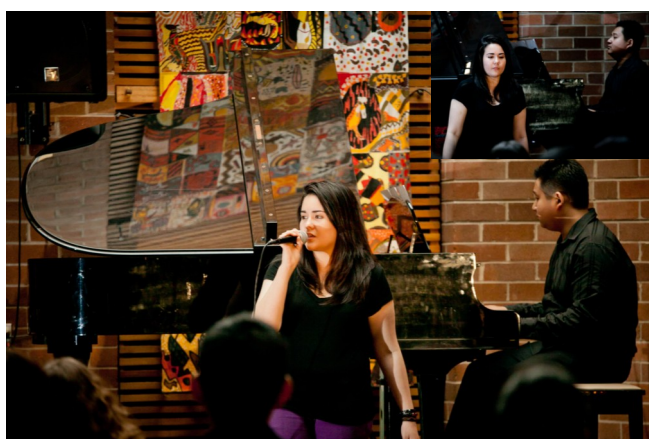
Finally, the music department has purchased a brand new set of 'Pearl' drums, a fancy electric guitar and a very cool amplifier which will be used for special occasions and school performances.

"If music be the food of love, play on." William Shakespeare.

**Mr. Htoo**

Music Department

*More photos on back page*



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## Young Celebrities

Watch their names! **Naw Be Law Lat** and **Elvina Poe** wrote and directed their own plays for the Multicultural Writers and Playwright Program Performance organised by the Arts Unit. **Elvina** and **Naw Be** presented their plays with professional aptitude. Beyond a huge task to write their own plays, the girls also had to select their own cast and mentor them to perform their outstanding pieces. Many thanks to the cast which included **Maluum Sankoh**, **Teje Konraedy**, **Alex Kaw**, **Bolo Htoo**, **Ywa Gaw**, **K'Nay Paw**, **April Day** and **Cherry Liu** for their dedication and unforgettable acting. **Elvina** and **Naw Be** not only directed but also starred in their plays "Life is unpredictable" and "I wish".

Well done girls!  
Mrs. Fenton



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## Textiles

Each year students present their Major Textile Projects to external markers from the Board of Studies. Our Textile and Design students produced an amazing and eye catching fashion collection of Haute Couture representing their individual design styles and inspirations. Each design had an element of surprise in the decorative or structural features chosen and were designed to flatter and enhance the feminine form. Congratulations to Chester Hill High School's young designers **Ayia Abouzied, Hanadi Aljorani, Wiedan Al- Kaabi, Sajah Assaad, Taminya Brown, Kim Huynh, Valerie Pasaloma, Fidan Rasimoglou and Taylor Swindail Jones.**





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***More Music  
Evening Photos***



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