

THE Davidson Dispatch

A community school, Davidson High School is committed to providing an inclusive educational environment that is supportive, innovative and engaging. We believe that by working strategically and collaboratively we will inspire and develop future focused students who are active and connected learners and critical and creative thinkers.

Kate Gibson Year 8



June 2018

A Great Season of Performing Arts

Mrs Jann Pattinson, Principal

A Bearded Lady in Belrose – who'd of thought it? A calamity at Glenrose Woolworths – seems unlikely. A space station under siege. All of that and more hit the stage last week at SOPA.



The Season of Performing Arts is a major feature of the Davidson High School calendar.

Each year I am amazed at the talent we see cross the stage at Glen Street Theatre. What I enjoy most about the performances at SOPA is the joy and fun I see on the faces of the performers. When they are on the stage, they are in their element. The performers are supported by each other and a wonderful backstage crew. They all demonstrate a level of perseverance and confidence that any principal, teacher, or parent would be proud of.

Our Season of Performing Arts is one way for our talented students to publicly display their passion for the performing arts. It's also a chance for the entire school and our community to celebrate Davidson High School in a very positive and public way.

These evenings wouldn't be possible without the commitment of our fantastic staff at Davidson HS. I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our incredible SOPA team and of course the student performers for providing 2 days of quality entertainment.

For everyone involved – the performers, the production team, the teachers, the supporters and the audience it was a brilliant week and one we'll remember for a long time.

Next year - 25 years of SOPA!

“The world is a complicated place and there's a lot of division between people. The performing arts tend to unify people in a way nothing else does.” David Rubenstein

Diary Dates

JUNE

Monday 25 - Friday 29

Y12 Business Services work placement

Tuesday 26

U15 & Open Girls Rugby League
P&C meeting

Thursday 28

Y7 Reptile Show

Friday 29

Y10 & Y12 Careers Expo
Homebush

JULY

Tuesday 3

Y8 & Y10 Subject Selection evening

Thursday 5

SRC fundraising—TimTams in Gymjams

Friday 6

Last day of Term 2

Monday 23 July - Friday 27

August

Y12 Trial Exams

Monday 23

Staff Development Day

Tuesday 24

P & C Meeting

Y7-11 Students Return

Friday 27

CHS Cross Country

Monday 30 July - Wednesday 1

August

Y11 Camp

Monday 30 July - Friday 3

August

Y10 Work Experience

Monday 30

Area Athletics

AUGUST

Monday 6

Sport Selections

Y10 Subject Selection Interviews

Tuesday 7

Y10 Subject Selection Interviews

Thursday 9

Maths Competition

Monday 13 - Friday 17

Science Week

Tuesday 14

Y7 Gala Day

Thursday 16

Green Day

“Great performance is never luck. It takes a lot of focus, heart and hard work.”

Deputy Principal's report

Mr David Rule Deputy Principal

It is quite amazing to think we are nearing the end of term 2 and half way through the year. Having said that, it has been a massive term for students and staff.

A big congratulations to all concerned with SOPA. Unless you are involved it is hard to understand what is involved and the hours students and staff spend rehearsing, planning and actually running 6 performances in two days. Ms Lane and the CAPA staff have shown wonderful leadership and commitment to the event and been incredibly inclusive in bringing together over 200 students to produce an very polished show. The recognition of their efforts along with the students in the recent Manly Daily was thoroughly deserved.

Best of luck to Year 12 who will be sitting their Trial HSC exams in weeks 1 and 2 of term 3.

These exams provide students with the opportunity to effectively experience an HSC paper in terms of duration and questions. All Year 12 have their trial exam timetables so they have plenty of time to plan a study routine and I would encourage them to attempt past HSC papers and seek as much feedback and advice from their teachers as possible.

It is also a significant time for year 8 and 10

students who begin the process of choosing subjects for 2019.

On Tuesday 3rd July the subject selection evening will be held in the MPC. Students of both year groups will be provided with a range of information to help them make good choices in terms of the subjects they wish to do next year as well as the levels of English and Maths students can choose for their Preliminary HSC course. An email and note has already gone home providing the details for the evening. If people cannot attend it is helpful if they let the school know.

Finally a big thank you to all the parents who have worked with me to have our students in full school uniform during winter. It has certainly become cold very quickly and I really do appreciate the parents who have communicated with me if they have had an issue or who have written a note if there has been a problem. The junior school has made a large improvement and I am really pleased with the attitude of the students towards the correct uniform.

I trust everyone will have a safe and enjoyable holiday and I look forward to seeing all students return in term 3.



Recognising Achievements

Kate Gibson - Rotary Public Speaking

Kate recently participated in the Belrose Rotary Public Speaking competition and this was the speech she gave.

Having dogs in schools, may to some seem dangerous or distracting, but to me and to my school, we see different. We have a labradoodle called Scout at Davidson, he came to our school last year, and has had a huge impact on our school.

Research shows that having therapy dogs in schools has helped reduce student stress, anxiety and improved school attendance, less wagging of school. Therapy dogs can be used to help find comfort in coming to school and help student well-being.

So what are therapy dogs? A therapy dog is not a service dog, but a dog that reacts and responds to people, under the direction of their owner. Therapy dogs can be used as animal assisted therapy, which aims to improve someone's social cognitive and emotional well-being. They are used in schools, aged care homes, hospitals and private homes.

More and more students are starting school anxious, sad or depressed, and without a solution to this, it will only get worse. Research shows that using therapy dogs in response to a traumatic event can help reduce symptoms of anxiety, depression and post traumatic stress disorder.

There are many benefits to having therapy dogs in schools, one being an increase of school attendance. This is so because when students know that they have a calm and welcoming dog at school, school will be a much better place for them than it was without the dogs.

Another benefit of having therapy dogs in schools is that it decreases levels of anxiety in young students, resulting in increases in reading and writing skills.

Despite these many benefits many schools choose not to have therapy dogs, because they believe that there are many risks, such as allergy issues and more. But my school has a dog. And we do not have these concerns.

At the beginning of 2017, which was my first year of high school, our school had just started a program with a dog named Scout, a labradoodle. One of the main concerns of having a dog in schools was allergies, but Scout is an allergy free dog.

Scout came to our school when he was very young, and could be held in someone's arms! But now he has grown up, and grown up with our school. Scout has been involved in training programs, that students including myself have had the privilege of joining in on.

Scout has helped our school in many ways, such as helping out in PE lessons, and helping out in learning support, as well as comforting students who need help. He has had a huge impact on our school and it wouldn't be the same without him.

Scout has been a great help to our school, and schools everywhere should have this privilege of having a therapy dog in school, whatever the risks, having a stable and relaxed student body, is so worth it.



Recognising Achievements

Sophie Stenner - Interschool Equestrian

Sophie Stenner (Yr 8) recently represented Davidson High School at The Scots School Equestrian challenge in Albury on 19th May and had great success at such a large interschool event. She and her pony Celtic Sir James came 4th in the 75cm Showjumping, 4th in 75cm Equitation, 4th in Rider & Mount and 2nd in the Novice 2.2 dressage. This is a fantastic effort and one to be very proud of.



Last week they attended the North West Equestrian Expo in Coonabarabran and came 1st in the ODE winning their first rug. They also came 1st in rider class under 14h, 2nd bareback 14yrs and 3rd best horse for expo 14yrs.

They represented Davidson High School extremely well and encourage any riders to join Sophie next year.



Featured Artists at this year's Schools Spectacular 2018

Liam Smith

Congratulations to Liam Smith (Yr11) who made it through to the final live call back audition for this year's School Spectacular event as a featured artist and has been SELECTED!!!



Last year, Liam successfully made it through to the Intermediate round audition before he was knocked out. This year, he has gone two better and made it all the way through to the final call back audition round and has been selected as a featured artist— a fantastic achievement as over 400 students from around NSW originally auditioned to be part of this process.

Matthew Simmonds

Congratulations to Matthew Simmonds (Yr9) who has also been accepted into this year's School Spectacular event as an instrumental featured artist.

The audition process itself was a gruelling one consisting of an initial video audition, a preliminary audition, an intermediate audition and a final audition round and lastly a call back audition.

Liam and Matthew will now join part of the featured artist team and will perform alongside some of the best public school performers from around the state. This group headlines this year's School Spectacular 2018 to be held at Qudos Bank Arena in November.

This event holds the world record for being the largest amateur variety show in the world and Liam and Matthew will be performing at Qudos Bank arena in front of crowds of over 10,000 every show. Schools Spectacular is also televised nationally on Channel 7 in December.

To have two students representing Davidson High School as featured artists involved in the same year is very exciting.

Congratulations Liam and Matthew!

SOPA

Ms Renee Lane - Head Teacher Creative & Performing Arts

Season of Performing Arts (SOPA) 2018

The Season of Performing Arts (SOPA) 2018 has been a very successful showcase of our talented students in Dance, Drama, Music and the Multi-Disciplinary Arts.



Many, many hours have been spent behind the scenes by both teachers and students to create such a professional show. Thank you to Ms Gibb, Ms Mavromatis, Ms Holmes, Mrs Morrow and Mr Jones for all of their creative and technical input into forming the big ensemble and band items. These teachers, as well as Ms George, have also supported students from elective classes in developing both class and auditioned pieces. Thank you also to Mr Zouain our Stage Manager and Ms Coletta and Ms Martin for helping backstage.

We are also thankful to our small group of parent volunteers who helped to raise over \$3000 towards funding SOPA this year. As you can well imagine, a production this size is costly, and it is through our school and parent fundraisers as well as student contributions that we can continue the legacy of SOPA.

I asked a few students backstage what SOPA meant to them...

“It is an event in which I can do what I really love”- Anita

“Having fun with your friends and performing. Showing the audience what you can do”- Charlie

“It was a good experience and you get inspired by the older students”- Year 7 dancers

Thank you to everyone that came to support the students and the Performing Arts at Davidson HS. For many students, SOPA is the highlight of the year, and once again they did not disappoint.

To purchase any of the professional photographs taken please follow the following link:

Purchase SOPA photos online...

Go to <http://paullemlinphotography.com/sopa-2018>

Password davo2018

\$7.50 per image

Sydney Eisteddfod

Congratulations to Stage Band and Concert Bands 1 and 2 on their performances at the Sydney Eisteddfod, held at The Concourse, Chatswood earlier this month.

A special mention must be made of Concert Band 1 who managed to place 2nd in the Intermediate Concert Band division amongst tough competition from many of the elite private schools in Sydney. We came second to Barker College.

Thank you to Mr Jones for all of his work with the Bands this year.

SOPA

Ms Renee Lane - Head Teacher Creative & Performing Arts



SOPA

Ms Renee Lane - Head Teacher Creative & Performing Arts



SOPA - Major Sponsors

Ms Renee Lane - Head Teacher Creative & Performing Arts

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Ms Renee Lane - Head Teacher Creative & Performing Arts

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Belrose Service Centre

Francalia

Evolve Tennis Academy

Wendy Masterton

On behalf of the SOPA team and cast...

THANK YOU!

**Your support is greatly appreciated and
your generous contributions make this
opportunity possible.**

Textiles / Costume Design

Mrs Julie Evans

Year 10 Textiles /Costume Design

Year 10 were lucky to have a visit from costume maker Lynette McKinley and her travelling costume display. Lynette makes costumes for film, theatre, musicals and TV on many Australian productions and is a wealth of knowledge and insight in her area of expertise. Students were amazed at her magnificent costumes and had even more fun when they were allowed to try on some of these pieces.



Year 8 Fashion Show

Ms Eva Fraser

As the first term of 2018 concluded, Year 8 had a fashion show to represent Harmony Day. We were split into groups of 6 where we had to make a costume just out of 2 bin liners, 2 balloons and some masking tape, before a person from our group would model the costume on the cat walk. As the students' creativity took over, their designs began to take shape, and they looked amazing.

We had a full on runway with lights and an announcer with the models strutting their stuff in front of a large audience in the Library. Everyone looked great which made choosing the winners a very difficult decision. After a lot of discussion, the teachers eventually made up their mind and decided the winning teams included the 'models': Steven Chang, Ben Herbig and Chelsea Beggs.

This was a great way to end the term and fun was had by all. Thank you to the teachers for organising and running the competition.

By Alex Khabazian & Matthew Humphrey



Eco Club

Mrs Susan Duke

Environmental Matters

The Eco Club, now in its 15th year, held a scrumptious and mouth watering Easter Bake sale with the primary focus to raise valuable funds for the Australian endangered species, the spotted tailed quoll. Their excellent effort raised in excess of \$400 during recess and was primarily from the delicious platters of cupcakes and biscuits that the students made. The funds will go to the "Taronga Zoo Conservation Fund" to protect the quoll's habitat. Thank you to Mr Geddes, Mrs Ferguson, Gail Phillips and Graham Johnson for assisting with the preparations and during the busy selling period. A great effort for only twenty minutes of selling!



In other news, the Eco Garden is planning for a second much needed water tank, as the climate is changing with larger amounts of drier weather. We must say a big thank you to the P & C for assisting us with this purchase.

Due to the warmer weather we have experienced, we have had longer growing times for many of the crops, such as spinach and kale, which has been beneficial. Overall it has been a successful period in the garden with the Eco Club membership growing as well.

Happy Gardening!



Vocal Ensemble

Ms Kelly Morrow

In Concert 2018

On the 23rd May, a group of students from the vocal ensemble performed at 'In Concert', a fantastic mass combined secondary choir experience which took place at Sydney Town Hall and involved about 800 singers.

The performance consisted of many school choirs from around NSW coming together to perform a range of repertoire by many famous composers. We sang 'Fields of Gold' by Sting right through to 'Edgar's Essay'- an original composition based on the words of a 6 year old boy, Edgar who wrote about the joys of being a kid.

We were lucky enough to be accompanied by the Arts Unit orchestra and an amazing Aria award winning acapella group called 'The Idea of North'. 'The Idea of North' wowed both the audience and the performers with their incredible vocal skills.

To prepare for the show, there were 2 practises in the city along with additional practises at school. Thank you to Ms Morrow for providing us with this opportunity and taking time out of her days and nights to help us prepare and perform to the best of our ability.

Written by Zoe Beard (Yr 9)



Science

Year 9 Zoo Excursion

On the 10th May, year 9 students travelled to Taronga Zoo to investigate how zoos are being used as a conservation tool.

As well as seeing all the animals that we all love including the meerkats and penguins, we learnt about the endangered species being protected at the zoo, such as the Tasmanian Devils, Western Lowland Gorillas and Sumatran Tigers.

We were also lucky enough to be involved in an education program, helping us understand the many threats to animals worldwide such as deforestation, mining, palm oil plantations and bush meat.

We would like to thank the teachers who organised the excursion, we all had a great day and learnt a lot.

By Ella McArthur and Brooke Wilson

On the 10th of May, Year Nine went to Taronga Zoo to learn about the conservational efforts being made by the zoos around the world. The aim was to conduct research needed for a upcoming assignment about the zoo and their assistance to conserving endangered species.

Students were able to experience looking at the animals, some of which were currently considered as endangered.

Students spoke to a range of volunteers, to gain information on the animals they had chosen to study.

This is one of the adorable creatures that we met whilst in the education centre.



We all enjoyed our day at the zoo very much as we could learn new things and get to experience the zoo in a different way through the education centre.

Our favourite things included: The education centre talk, seeing the penguins and meerkats and just getting to spend the day exploring the zoo with our friends.

Thanks to all the keepers and volunteers who were more than happy to answer all our questions.

Later in the day, groups of students were all allocated times to visit the zoo's educational centre.

We learnt about the effects industrial activity is having on our environment, gained an understanding of what we can do to affect our planet in a more positive way, and even had a private meet and greet with some adorable local wildlife.

We would like to thank all of the science teachers for organising such a fun day! We also would like to thank the zoo staff for their eager attitude to help us learn more about conservation for endangered species.

Written by Laura Brownlee and Emma Fraser

Science

Year 11 Biology and Earth and Environmental Science Excursion—Bobbin Head



On the 24th of May, the team at Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre guided both Year 11 Biology and Earth and Environmental Science classes around the Bobbin Head area to research our depth studies.

In the protected mangrove forests of Bobbin Head, Biology students got a chance to observe first-hand a complex and vital ecosystem and how it has been affected by human activity.

The opportunity to interact with unique species of plants and animals will be a major part of our depth study projects; the information we collected will form the basis of our research.

The Earth and Environmental Science class branched off during the excursion to research their field of interest. The endangered southern brown bandicoot species at Bobbin Head presents a unique opportunity for students to assess abiotic and biotic factors in animal habitats, and how fox populations have impacted on this species. For both classes, analysing these sites allowed for students to directly see what they were studying and connect with the concepts they have been taught.

by Georgie Greentree



Science

Year 11 Biology and Earth and Environmental Science Excursion—Bobbin Head

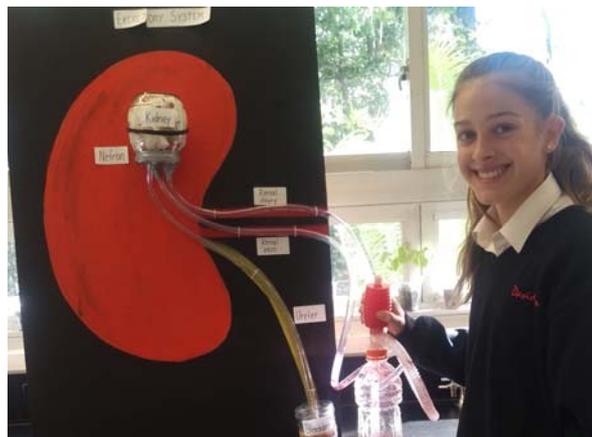
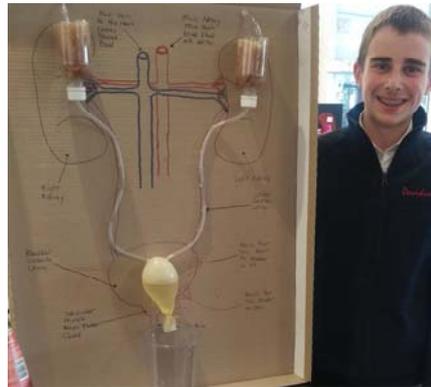
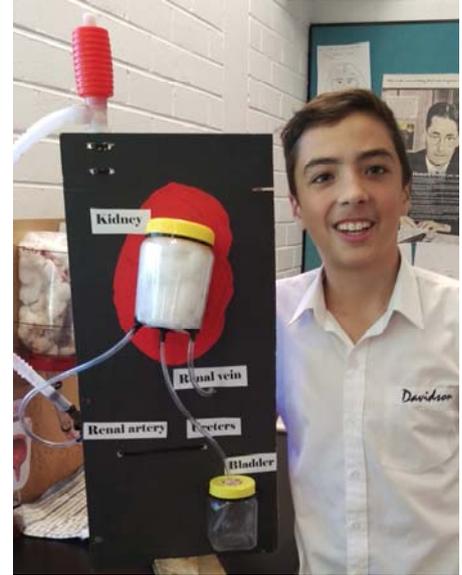


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MANGROVE BOARDWALK
Meet the mighty mangroves nurseries crammed full of baby fish, crabs, prawns, oysters, insects and micro-organisms. Mangroves form a feast for cormorants, herons, mullet, spiders, gastropods (snails) and flying foxes. Not surprisingly, mangroves are one of the world's most productive ecosystems.



Science

Year 8 Science Models



Rotary Corner

Kos Psaltis, Youth Service Director, Rotary Club of Belrose



During May, we held our annual Davidson High School Junior Public Speaking Competition. There were 9 speakers and the content and delivery was of a high standard.

Principal, Jann Pattinson, was present as always.

This year we did something different as we invited the first 3 placegetters, Alexa Hathorn, Emily Gessner and Matthew Humphrey to deliver their speeches once more at our June breakfast meeting held at the New Civic Café, Glenrose. Deputy Principal, David Rule, was present at the breakfast meeting and he thanked our Rotary Club for giving the students the chance to speak to a mature audience.

There are many exciting things happening at our club of late and much of the activity has centred around youth. As a result, in the past 12 months we have seen a surge in membership. If you are interested in sampling one of our meetings, please contact me (0402 205628).

Kos Psaltis

Youth Service Director

Belrose Rotary - Mob 0402 205 628



NCCD - Learning and Support

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on school students with disability - 2018

Leanne Tosi and Di Bligh (Learning and Support Teachers)

Our school is participating in the National Collection of Data this year. This means that we collect data on students who require Learning Support or who have a disability. The process is the same as last year.

Information will be collected about the support that is being provided to students within the school. Better data will help the Government plan for student learning.

Please note, the data collection will have no direct impact on your child and they will **not** be involved in any testing process. The NSW Department of Education and Communities will provide data to the Australian Government from all NSW public schools in such a way that no individual student or school will be able to be identified. In this way, privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured.

All information is protected by privacy laws which regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. Information about the Australian Government's Privacy Policy can be found here: <http://education.gov.au/condensed-privacy-policy>. Information about the NSW Government's privacy policies can be found here: <http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/>

If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection, would you please contact either Leanne Tosi or Di Bligh (Learning and Support Teachers).

Further information about the data collection can be found on the Australian Government Department of Education website: <http://education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability>

Canteen

Canteen News

We have had a visit from the Northern Beaches Health Inspector in the last month and are pleased to announce that the Davidson High School Canteen has again been awarded a 5 star rating.

Congratulations to Sam and her team.

We now offer a range of Gluten Free products in the canteen.

- Gluten Free Dotty Cookies can be purchased over the counter for \$2.50
- Gluten Free nuggets (5 for \$2)
- Gluten Free Chicken Caesar Wraps (using Cardinis caesar dressing) - Fridays (\$4)
- Gluten Free wraps (BFree brand)

A variety of fillings are available for the wraps including Gluten Free chicken tenders.

NB. All wraps are by order only.

Please see our menu <http://www.davidson-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/canteen1> for other filling options and come and see us in the canteen if you have any specific queries about our products.

We are desperately in need of more volunteers - particularly for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Thursdays are well covered by our amazing mums.

If you have a spare day a month or even just one day a term we would love your help.

Please contact Sam on 9451 1552 if you can assist.



Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open every Wednesday 8.00am - 9.00am.

We have the following items on special this month:

- Girls black stockings now \$3
 - Knitted poly cotton & woolen jumpers with Davidson logo now \$20
- (Note this does not include sloppy joes)

A variety of second hand uniforms at very reasonable prices



Community Information

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ITALIAN Educational Exchange Study Tours for School groups and teenagers

Students will experience a full immersion in Italian life. An opportunity for students studying Italian language to attend an Italian High School and or Language school while living with a traditional Italian family in beautiful Turin including Rome, Venice & Milan.

An Italian Educational study tour for High School Students with a difference. CEA works directly with local Italian teachers in Italy offering a true immersion for our students. Tailor made school Study Tours available on request, call CEA today for details.

STUDY TOUR DEPARTING:
26 September - 15 October 2018

During School Vacations: APRIL • SEPTEMBER • JANUARY

ROME TURIN VENICE MILAN

ITINERARY:

- Rome: Days 2 – 5
- Venice: Days 16 – 17
- Turin: Days 6 – 15
- Milan: Days 18 – 19

INCLUSIONS:

- *Chaperone/Teacher
- Flights Australia/Italy/Australia
- Local transport Bus or Train
- Travel Insurance
- Italian high school with a buddy
- Live with Italian host family
- Full immersion
- Local Guide in Rome, Turin, Venice, Milan
- Rome, Turin Sightseeing
- Venice, Milan Sightseeing
- Rome, Colosseum entrance
- Rome, St Peters Basilica entrance
- Rome, Gladiator school
- Turin, Cooking Class
- Turin, Chocolate tasting
- Venice, Mask decorating
- Rome Breakfast, Dinner x 2
- Turin Full Board
- Venice Breakfast, Dinner
- Milan Breakfast, Dinner
- Itinerary/price may change slightly without notice
- * Min 10 students travelling

BENEFITS:

- Improve your Italian speaking skills
- Discover the Italian language
- Discover the Italian Culture
- Improve your Italian school results
- Live your Dream
- Price per person *\$6850

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A French Educational study tour for High School students with a difference. CEA works directly with local French teachers in France offering a true immersion for our students. Tailor made school Study Tours available on request, call CEA today for details.

STUDY TOURS DEPART
20 September - 08 October 2018

During School Vacations: APRIL • SEPTEMBER • JANUARY

BORDEAUX PARIS

ITINERARY:

- Bordeaux: Days 1-14
- Paris: Days 15 -19

INCLUSIONS

- *Chaperone /Teacher
- Flights Australia/France/Australia
- Travel Insurance
- French High school
- French Host family immersion
- Full board
- Local French guides
- Bordeaux and Paris
- Bordeaux Paris Sightseeing
- Paris trip
- Bordeaux full board
- Paris Hotel centre of Paris
- Paris Breakfast Dinner
- All Airport transfers abroad
- Itinerary/price may change without notice
- *Min 10 students travelling

BENEFITS:

- Improve your French speaking skills
- Discover the French language
- Discover the French Culture
- Improve your French school results
- Live your Dream
- Price per person *\$6850

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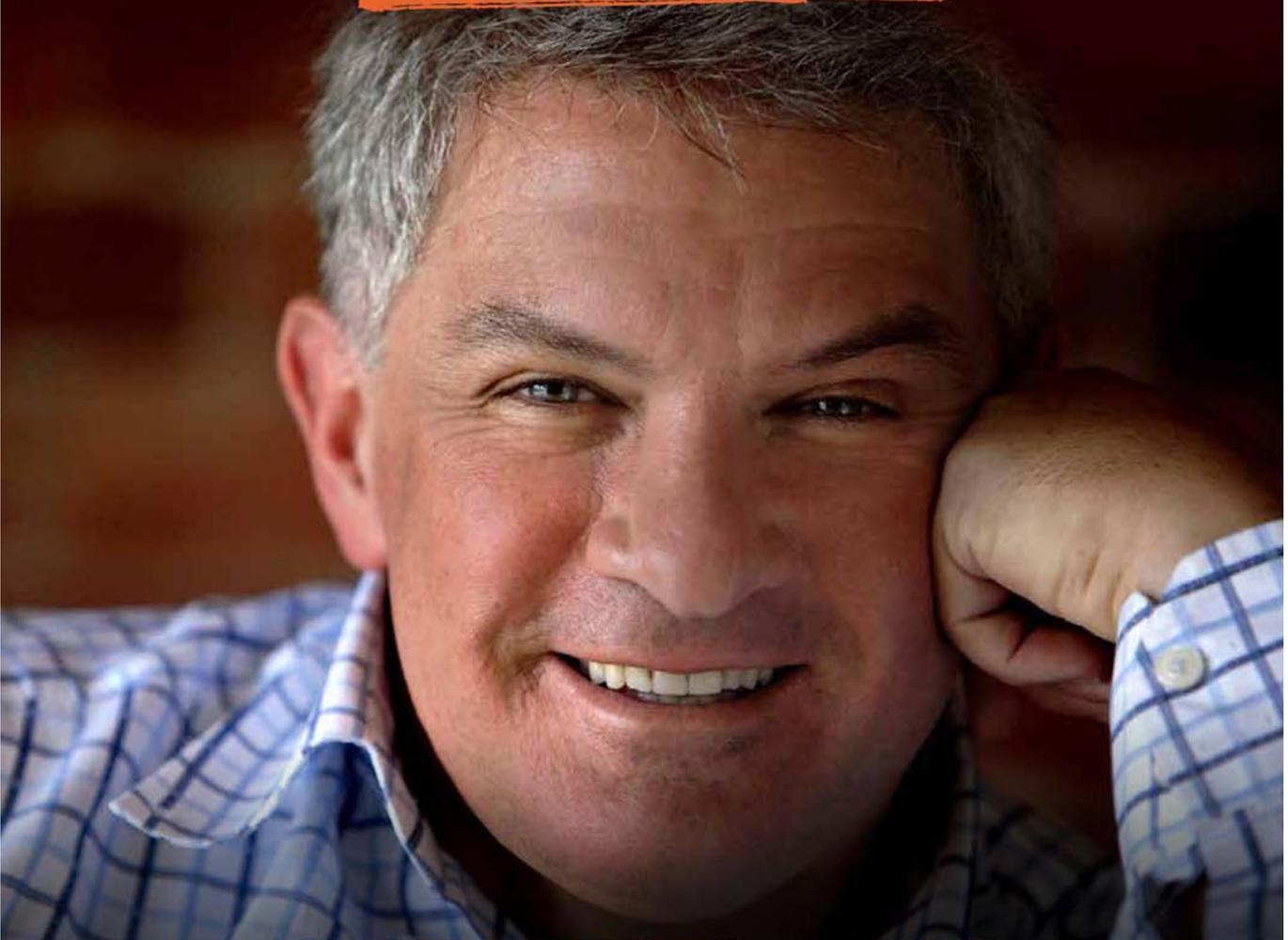
- Youth Categories (10 to 14 years; 15 to 18 years)
- Waste-to-Art Category (10yrs and over)

Visit northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au to enter and for more information. Entries close Sunday 24 June

northern beaches council

DR MICHAEL CARR- GREGG

SURVIVING YEAR 12



Tuesday 26 June, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Senior students, parents and carers are invited to hear from one of Australia's leading experts on teenage behaviour. Learn about studying smarter, dealing with stress and anxiety, goal setting, how to keep things in perspective and enjoying the final year of school.

Dee Why RSL
The Showroom



Bookings: Eventbrite
Free

Enquiries: Youth Services Team on 9942 2681

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