

TERM 3 | THE WAY NEWSLETTER | FRIDAY 4 AUGUST 2023



# FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL & HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

In the Junior School we have passionate specialist Music and Drama teachers who provide engaging and enjoyable lessons for all the students in Kindy to Year 6. Even from Kindergarten, talent is nurtured and experiences offered with a range of exciting performance opportunities. Creative Arts lessons are not only fun and stretching opportunities. They also offer a pathway for personal expression, unlocking the imagination and creating shared meaning with others.

A well-known educationalist, Dylan Wiliam, presented some very interesting research on what subject is most valued by future employers. Employers were surveyed on what attributes they are looking for in candidates during the hiring process. The number one school subject that cultivated these skills is Drama! Students learn to co-operate with others, problem solve, think on their feet, perform in a role and work as a team. There is great value in a specialised, robust Creative Arts program.

Here are but a few of the enriching opportunites available in Junior School within our Creative and Performing Arts program.

#### Creative Arts Nights

Every second year all students will perform on-stage in Creative Arts Performances. Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 performed back in Term 2. They were wonderful performances which showcased the students on stage. Year 3 and 4 performances are coming up shortly in Week 5 across 2 days. The performances will feature the Year 4 Band who will showcase their newly learned skills with their new concert band instrument. You can book your tickets here <u>https://www.thac.nsw.edu.au/book</u>

### College Musical

Students in Junior School also have the opportunity to perform in the College Musical. Our last musical 'Shrek' many Junior students were involved, including the characters Pinnochio and Young Fiona who came from our Year 6 cohort of 2023. We are looking forward to 'The Little Mermaid' in 2024!

## Annual Writers and Illustrators Competition

We encourage artistic flair and literary creativity through our Annual Writers and Illustrators Competition. This engaging competition allows students to bring stories to life through illustrations, with selected works earning publication in the Young Illustrators & Writers Magazine. Not only does this foster artistic talent, but it also supports a noble cause – proceeds from the magazine sales contribute to our Compassion children in Peru. Last year's magazine was a testament to our students' imagination and skill, and we eagerly anticipate another captivating edition this year.

Our Creative and Performing Arts program equips our students for a future full of opportunities. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at 'Come Fly with Me' - the Stage 2 Creative Arts Performance.

## **Mrs Sandy Wheeler**

Deputy Principal & Head of Junior School