Term 4 Newsletter – A successful year in IT

This year students completing courses in the faculty of Information Technology have been involved in a number of internal and external computer competitions and excursions.

Term 2

UNSW – Student, Years 7 to 10 sat the University of New South Wales Computer Skills competition. This competition involved multiple choice questions examining the basic functions of application software and operating systems, programming and email. Given our extended program into Adobe products and also Autodesk and Multimedia, and a reduction of applications taught in the younger grades, eight (8) of our students still managed to gain a Credit rating in this exam. Nicholas Vandermeel (7), Riley Clarke (7), Thomas Doyle (7), Brenton Reid (8), Jeffrey Leete (9), Michael Nutt (9), Luke Smith (10) and Beau Wilson (10).

Day on the Farm - Claymation Workshop

Term 2, Ms Brown organised a Claymation Workshop for interested students in Years 7 to 10 in the Ag Farm’s technology classroom. The following extract has been written by Daniel Lowe in 7S.

In Term 2 the Year Sevens went to go and try out Claymation at the Ag Farm. When they walked in the door their first thoughts were; “What should I make? Who’s my partner? How do I use this stuff?” It’s about taking your time and making it wacky, weird, goofy and as funny as possible. When I did it, I made a simple character with my friend Riley Clarke, with very detailed movement and as many sounds as possible We started by making our figures which took a lot of people a couple of hours to do. When they were done we started taking screenshots for our movie, moving the characters a little each time after each screenshot. This took about 2 hours to do. We then added sound effects and even voiceovers.

Thanks to the teachers and people who helped with this day, we can now successfully do basic, advanced and great animations using stop-motion.

Written By Daniel Lowe 7S

Logo Competition – Stephanie Smithson, Year 9

During Term 2 and 3, a logo competition was organised in the Wyong community to design a logo for the local LMG based schools. Congratulations to Stephanie Smithson who design an ingenious logo that depicted the partnership between the local primary schools and our high school. Stephanie won a Mini iPad for her efforts. Mitch Wallis was a close runner up for the prize as well as Kaleigh Croser, Kasinda Croser, Angus Paterson, Jade Hanson, Geordan Hart and Storm Cook-Blaze. Congratulations to all for such a fine effort.

Term 3

Women in Information Technology and Engineering Day - Mrs Ebrill and fourteen Year 8 to 10 female students attended the UTS Ultimo campus to participate in three fun but educational workshops completing practical tasks similar to classes taught at University. Students were given a short lecture from young inspiring female IT and Engineering professionals who have recently completed their degrees and commencing their first 2 to 5 years in the work environment. The day was really fun for all, very informative and UTS is a very impressive university, especially for those students seeking
careers in Information Technology, Business, Science and Engineering. On the day there were also displays from major Corporate companies such as the Commonwealth Bank, Google, Microsoft, IBM and Cisco talking to students regarding recruitment and Internships.

**Google** – Mr Mangovski once again organised an excursion for the Year 10 IST and Year 11 Multimedia and ITVET classes to visit the main offices of Google Sydney. According to those who returned, this 21st Century company was amazing to visit and I know a number of our technology students would love to gain employment in such a place. Take a look at what Brad had to say.

*Going to the Google Building in Sydney was almost like a dream had come true for me. I have always liked Google and their products, especially Android. I was very excited to say the least to go. Having arrived, you wouldn’t even know from the outside that it was Google. It was the same as all of the other buildings. But the inside was exciting, fresh, new and different around each corner. The sign in desk had an amazing Google logo with trees and plants around it. The meeting room they took us into to speak to us about their experiences at Google, what they do and what they did before was just so breath taking. The jobs these people had sounded amazing, also the way they structure the jobs were cool to. Walking through and past the different floors of the building was really awesome. They would name each room something almost random, yet it was practicable and relevant. It really made me want to work at Google. The way everyone treated each other was very interesting. They were all friends, and they would help each other. The atmosphere was fresh with excitement, the people were great and you could see that they actually wanted to be at work. I think that really the best bit. Just seeing how happy people were doing their job. It showed me that work can be fun and it isn’t always boring. If i had a few words to sum up the excursion it would be Absolutely amazing and spectacular.*

Written by Bradley Galea. Year 11

**Term 4**

**Year 5 IT Program for Year 5 Primary Students.** Mr. Mangovski has been running some really fun workshops for Year 5 students from participating primary schools during Term 4 as part of an IT skill development program for our local primary schools. During the course of the program, the students learn about digital design, animation, 3D modelling, programming and mobile application development. By the end of the term, the students will have a taste of what to expect from the exciting Information Technology programs on offer at Wyong High School.

**ABC Studios, Ultimo Sydney.** As part of the Senior Industrial Technology (Multimedia) – Focus on Business HSC outcomes, Year 11 Multimedia students and Mr Henry attended a workshop at ABC Studios to develop the student’s knowledge of business within the multimedia industry.