DUNMAN HIGH VISITS NARROGIN SENIOR HIGH

ON Thursday and Friday of Week 6, twenty four students and three teachers from Dunman High School in Singapore visited Narrogin Residential Hostel and Narrogin Senior High School on an exchange tour.

During their visit the students enjoyed a range of activities. Some of the out of school activities included a visit to the Dryandra Woodlands Village and a tour of Narrogin Agriculture College. While they were at NSHS the students participated in a welcome assembly where they entertained us with singing and a beat box routine. This was followed by a session on Australian sports with Mr Morrell. Everyone had a lot of fun learning to kick a football. In the afternoon, Ms Felipe held an art session where the visitors learnt to decorate boomerangs.

On the Friday morning the Singapore students went to classes with their buddies and then attended a food class with the Year 11 Food Science Technology students. The students tasted a range of Australian foods including kangaroo and pavlova, which were very popular.

Out visitors spent the weekend staying with local students and their families before heading to Perth. Everyone concerned found the exchange visit very interesting and many NSHS students are now looking forward to having the chance to visit Singapore next year.

Susan Pattullo
On June 6, Jo Drayton assisted me with the school’s presentation to become an Independent Public school. We presented to a group of three Department of Education representatives on the direction, achievements and readiness of the school. The decision is made public on the July 21. Our school has a strong focus on school improvement, making decisions based on data collected from our students so we are well placed to take advantage of being an Independent Public school should the opportunity be presented.

Half the year has come and gone. Reports are being posted and Country Week is upon us. Coaches and students have put in a lot of time and effort. The uniforms are ready as are the athletes and we look forward to hearing of their exploits on the sporting fields and the debating arena.

Mr Dyson has done a fantastic job as County Week manager. His attention to detail and dedication in planning the Country Week experience for our students is very much appreciated. I am sure that he and all those involved will have a great week.

Student reports will arrive soon. Staff have marked exams and assessment tasks, collated the scores and completed the report. Comments reflect what the students can do and what they need to do to improve. Some of the results are fantastic while others require more effort in the future. It is never too late to improve your next grade or score. I encourage parents and carers to take the opportunity to meet your child’s teachers presented by attending the Parent Interview evening held early in Term 3.

The transition program for Year 6 and 7 students has begun with visits to our local primary schools. I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet principals and teachers from schools as far away as Kukerin, Dumbleyung, Hyden, Kondinin and Corrigin. Our students services team have developed a very comprehensive program to ensure a smooth transition for our students next year. We are looking forward to teaching the Year 7 students. Our school will be arranged as a Middle School incorporating Years 7, 8 and 9 and a Senior School incorporating our Year 10, 11 and 12 students.

A parent information evening for Year 6 and 7 parents/carers is being held on Year 6 & Year 7 Parent Transition Information Evening - Wednesday 23 July, 6.30-7.30pm in the Performing Arts Centre at NSHS

Year 10 subject counselling is also under way. Every student has the opportunity of an interview with a school counsellor and their parents or carers. Our staff have been up skilled by attending courses on the new Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and use data such as school reports, past and present grades and NAPLAN data to inform student choices. It is very important that students make appropriate choices for their ability and work ethic in order to ensure success. Timetabling for 2015 will begin in earnest as soon as the subject selections are completed.

We are saying goodbye to two staff members who have been with us for some time.

**Gerry Rhodes** has been doing a fantastic job with our GAP students. Gerry is a very dedicated teacher who works very well with students who have not benefited from mainstream programs. Gerry has encouraged the students to achieve qualification which enable them to enter the workforce or further training. Thank you Gerry your negotiation skills and non-confrontational approach will be sorely missed.

**Dona Devantier** has been our school nurse for the last seven and a half years. She has looked after our students by applying bandaids, listening and making the decision when further care is required. Dona has also provided professional support for staff with training in dealing with conditions such as Asphyxia and Asthma. Thank you Dona your contribution to the school community is greatly appreciated.

I wish everyone an enjoyable school holiday and look forward the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in Semester 2.
Senior School Deputy

Ms Sandii Stankovic

Senior School Reports are being posted to parents as I write this entry into the newsletter. Reports provide feedback to parents (and students) in regards to the student progress so far this year. Please read these with your child and discuss the information outlined in the report. It would be wise to look at the goals for the students and reflect on these examining if there is a need for reassessing the goals. Our staff are more than happy to discuss reports. If staff have indicated an interview is required on the report, it would be wise to make contact in the new term, either by email (preferred method, address on our website) or by phone. Students with results that indicate some risks of failing will be case managed by a member of the student services team. This may involve monitoring, subject change or course change to assist the student in achieving success. Communication with parents will be forthcoming if this is the case.

In the last newsletter I had conducted a survey regarding uniforms. There were 128 responses from the parent community with following results:

- Rugby Top 1 (Green top, Horizontal stripes) 10.16% (13 responses)
- Rugby Top 2 (Black top, vertical stripes) 71.88% (92 responses)
- Rugby Top 3 (Black top, horizontal stripes) 17.97% (23 responses)

Students were also consulted with 157 students accepting the offer to vote. From the 160: 12 student voted for Top 1, 138 students voted for Top 2 and 7 for Top 3. The uniform committee will put in place action to order the Rugby tops.

Year 10 students have been making their selections for 2015 and beyond. It has been pleasing to see the commitment students have demonstrated, in ensuring they have a pathway in place to aspire to in regards to their studies. Work will now begin to construct a timetable to accommodate these choices.

**Students not at Country Week will be expected at school. A modified program will be in place for students in regard to their curriculum and staff will be expecting the student at school.**

The holidays are again upon us. I wish all a safe and happy holidays.

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**Asia Education Conference**

On the 16 and 17 of June, I attended a conference in Sydney with Mr Stephen Quartermaine. It’s a pleasure to join and deliver a presentation at this National Conference of the Asia Education Foundation in Sydney on behalf of Narrogin Senior High School. The Asia Education Foundation’s record of working for over twenty years to educate young Australians about our neighbours in our region is an impressive one. My presentation was on “How to use range of technologies to teach language and culture. The theme of the conference was New World, New Thinking. Australian schools are playing a critical role in terms of deepening and strengthening our knowledge and understanding of our region and in developing a broad cultural literacy. As a member of the Asia Literacy Ambassadors Speaker Bureau, I am responsible to help inspire students, act as role model and invest my expertise in developing the next generation of the Australian workforce. This conference has inspired me even more on educating our children on Asian language and culture. I met teachers from around Australia and other countries who shared views and experiences. Pallavi Sharda, Australia’s Bollywood Actress was a special guest invited to the conference to share her experiences. I was fortunate to meet her and have a photo. Now, I am looking forward to working with teachers at Narrogin Senior High School and school around Narrogin to promote Asian languages and cultures.

_Mrs Ramasamy_

_Pallavi Sharda with Mrs Ramasamy_

_Pallavi Sharda, Australia’s Bollywood Actress_
During May, students at Narrogin Senior High School participated in Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea run by the Cancer Council.

The Year 11 Food, Science and Technology class hosted an All School Morning Tea on CHAT day. Nearly 300 plates of food prepared by this class were served. It took less than 30 minutes for the food to sell out.

The Year 8 Food, Science and Technology classes also hosted their own morning teas where they invited family members and staff members. These events were attended by people who came from as far as Hyden, Lake Grace, Pingelly and Wagin. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food and being served by the Year 8’s.

Nearly $1,000 was donated to the cancer council following these morning teas.

Susan Pattullo

June 10 was a very busy day in the kitchen in the Trade Training Centre. Both Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students spent the day cooking up a storm for the Prepare Produce Provide project.

In just one day, the students produced a very credible 430 meals to be delivered to Foodbank and distributed to Perth’s needy. This is the second year that Narrogin SHS have been involved in the 5000 meal project. Culinary delights such as Chicken Tagine, Thai Red Curry Chicken and Creamy Mustard Chicken were created to accompany a vegetable couscous. All products were donated to the school from suppliers. A special thank you goes to Southways Albany for coming to the rescue after we ran short of protein. They generously supplied us with enough to take us to well over 500 meals.

The Hospitality students are getting excited about their upcoming camp to Perth in July. Excursions to Canning Vale markets, Linley Valley Pork, workshops at Governor Stirling SHS and dining at Crown Casino are on the agenda with the highlight of the Prepare Produce Provide 5000 meal expo at Joondalup on July 2. International guest chefs and key speakers will address all 17 schools that have helped produce the targeted 5000 meals and celebrate their achievements.

Justine Campbell
Uniform
Now the winter weather has arrived students are expected to wear the correct school uniform. Students should be wearing black pants or shorts. Girls may also wear the black skirt. All students should be wearing the school polo shirt. On cold days white long or short sleeved T shirts may be worn under the polo shirt. All students should now be wearing the school jacket and have no need to be wearing non uniform jumpers.
If your child is unable to wear the uniform on a particular day they need to present to the Student Services Office to collect an out of uniform card. It is important to remember that denim and leggings are not permitted to be worn to school. NSHS strives to prepare students to be ready to enter the work force. Work places often enforce dress codes, please support us in teaching your child to become work ready by ensuring they come to school in correct uniform.

Think BIG Awards
Congratulations to the following winners:
Lower School - K. Outram Senior School - Bronwyn Horobin-Lavan Staff Member - Ms Cheetham

Attendance News
We cannot overstate the importance of attending everyday. Parents or legal guardians of enrolled children, are responsible under the School Education Act 1999 to ensure children under their care attend school every day. If a child attends school 90% of the time from year 1 until year 9, they will still miss a whole year of schooling. Please help us to improve attendance rates, by ensuring your child attends every day. The table below shows the number of absences requiring an explanation. For example in year 8, 47% of absences have not been explained. Remember to notify the school if your child is absent due to health, religious or cultural reasons.

At present 63% of students are attending 90% of the time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Group</th>
<th>Attendance Rate %</th>
<th>Regular</th>
<th>At Risk Indicated</th>
<th>At Risk Moderate</th>
<th>At Risk Severe</th>
<th>Auth. %</th>
<th>Unauth. %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y08</td>
<td>89.5%</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>34</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>55%</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Dads For Life
Good health is important for a happy and fulfilling life. However, with work and family responsibilities, men often overlook their own health.
Knowing more about our body, how it works, and what is and isn’t normal are first steps towards a healthier life. We can all make changes to prevent problems from obesity, smoking, poor diet, drug and alcohol consumption and sun damage - which happen at a higher rate for men than women.
Being a dad is an important role in a man’s life. With good health this role can be even more enriched. Dads are for life – remember you can make changes now for a healthy future!
Consider lifestyle changes including regular physical activity, healthy eating, limit alcohol intake and quit smoking. Seek support to make these changes. Being healthy sends positive messages to your family and friends.
Why not be active together as a family? This is not only good for physical health but can strengthen your family’s mental health and resilience as well.
If something is not quite right, talk to your doctor.

For more information on men’s health:
Andrology Australia www.andrologyaustralia.org Ph: 1300 303 878
beyondblue www.beyondblue.org.au Ph: 1300 224 636
MensLine Australia www.mensline.org.au Ph: 1300 789 978
**Year 9 Childcare Class Visits**

**East Narrogin Kindergarten and Pre Primary**

On Monday 12 May 2014 our childcare class went to the East Narrogin Primary school to visit the Pre-Primary Students. I worked with a boy called Rory and a girl called Hannah. Before I offered to go with them, Hannah started crying because she was scared of the ‘big kids’. Once I started talking to Hannah, she became a lot more confident and was likely the loudest kid there!

We played lots of word games and we also played a moving game. I read questions and they had to answer them such as ‘why is friendship important’. This helped me understand what their personalities are and how much knowledge they have.

It was a good experience to interact with the children and understand what level of knowledge and growing they are at.

*Georgia Earnshaw*

On Monday 12 May, our year nine child care class went to East Narrogin Primary school to visit the pre-primary. I was paired up with a little boy named Jacob. We played a game where he had to pick out a card and I read what was on there. We then played with some felt shapes and made different scenarios. After that we played with blocks and made a castle. After playing with the blocks we all sat down and read a story.

*Hope Sullivan*

On Monday May 12 we went to the East Narrogin Primary School to interact with the pre-primary students. We played do literacy and construction games. The child I played with was very talkative and full of energy. His favourite activity was the building blocks. Most of the children were shy when we arrived but as they got used to us they were very talkative.

We got the experience how little kids act and play and we got to help the kids learn.

*Kiara Screaigh*

The kids were happy to see us and liked the activities we did with them. They opened up to us and I learnt a lot about the girl I was with (except for her name). I learnt a little bit about her family and her dog. We did some activities with them which were literacy, numbers, building blocks and other things. Mine enjoyed the number and letter activities the most and even when we messed it up she laughed. I enjoyed it a lot and hope we go back soon.

*Kaitie Evans*

On Monday 12 May we went down to the ENPS area where we visited the pre-primary children. I was paired up with Emily and we played some games that involved literacy. Then we went to the mat and played construction games. We made a pentagonal prism and animal farm. Then we listened to a story and went back to the high school. Emily was shy and wouldn’t talk much but once we got to construction, she wasn’t as shy and became very much in command, a lot more confident.

*Georgie McKenzie*

My Yr 9 childcare class went down to the East Narrogin Primary School on May 12 to play with some kids. Once we got into the classroom we had to sit behind the children. They were all looking at us like we were big scary monsters. Then we got put into groups and I was with Sharni and Catherine. The teacher then split us up and I had a little girl called Maddison. I played a few literacy games then we went onto the floor and started building block type things. It was just Maddison and I and she sat on my lap while we listened and enjoyed a story. When it was time for us to go she didn't want me to leave and started crying.

*Rachel Savage*
Putting a “POP” into Culture

Throughout the course of this year and following years the Society and Environment learning area has introduced an elective subject called “Popular Culture Studies.” This subject allows students to participate in fun surroundings, which incorporate a cultural approach into the classroom. The subject also includes studies of decades and popular phases in past periods of time.

This elective subject contains many activities and few assignments which develop major life skills such as; working together in an active environment and understanding beliefs from other cultures, countries and general interests and reasoning.

As a multi-cultural school, Narrogin Senior High School has access to events which give students the opportunity to experience and to be educated about their own culture and others. This subject also offers this as you can research beliefs and views of a variety of cultures.

Another main focus within the elective is the study of decades and how trends, fads, fashion, sport, music, movies and personal values have changed and adapted over time. Assignments include creating posters, collaborating and designing a CD cover of popular songs that relate to a theme, such as respect, responsibility, resilience and bouncing back from obstacles and adversity. Undertaking research into popular trends, fads, music, movies sport, such as sporting events, including the Olympic Games. All of which are quite enjoyable and easy going tasks.

The class is an all-round fun and interesting subject as is helps you to appreciate popular trends and lifestyles of other cultures, bringing us all together as one.

Written by Carina and Elyse- Year 10 students in Popular Culture Studies

Paul Mugumbwa Pays A Visit

On June 6, Paul Mugumbwa from South Fremantle Football Club came to the school to talk to the Year 8 Aboriginal Language and Culture class and two Year 9 classes studying culture this semester.

Paul, who was born in Lesotho (a principality of South Africa) of Ugandan parents, culture and heritage but has lived in Australia from the age of 6 months, talked of the cultural differences between his Ugandan culture, South African birth and Australian life. He highlighted the richness of different cultures and how the understanding of different cultures can enrich one's life. He reiterated the importance of totally accepting one's own culture and of being "happy in one's skin" but as well as accepting the culture of the country where you are living and also tolerating different cultures.

The important message that students took away with them was that no matter what your cultural background, you create your life and you can make it better for yourself and your family if you choose to do so.

He provided many examples of players in WAFL and AFL who are from many different cultures and described how all players, regardless of culture, were getting along. It is apparent that about 15% Australian football players are either not Australian born at all or have another culture as their heritage -who would have thought it!?

Mrs Gale Gass

ATAS (Aboriginal Tutoring Assistance Scheme) 2014, funded by the Department of Education, has been up and running since the beginning of Term1/Semester1, with 48 Lower Secondary students receiving attention and assistance to improve their literacy and numeracy skills that aim at long term benefits.

Eligible Aboriginal students from Years 8, 9 and 10 attend ATAS on Tuesday and Thursday, to work towards Closing the Gap mainly in English and Literacy, and Numeracy (Mathematics). Students receive assistance to complete tasks set by English and Mathematics teachers, hand in Assignments (not always!) on due dates, and also attempt/complete extra worksheets based on and related to the Courses for further improvement and better grades. Social skills, positive behaviour, good manners and courtesy also form part of the learning process.

Through Semester One, learning difficulties were addressed in a collaborative manner, irregularities in attendance were timely dealt with and much support was received from both English and Mathematics Departments to encourage and motivate slow learners. Deserving students were rewarded verbally and with Think Big cards; and Years 8 and 9, with a game of Netball in Week 8 for making sincere effort to do the right thing.

Heartfelt ‘Thank You’ goes out to Lower School Deput Principal Ms Maxine Clark for taking the initiative in allocating Rm 50 for ATAS and to Ms Erica McGuire for kindly allowing the use of MOASH building; Carole Kickett (AIEO), Students Services Staff for their continued support, and last but not the least, to all the students for their spontaneous response to the programme.

I wish all ATAS students a more successful Semester ahead.

Dr (Ms) Minoti Biswas, ATAS tutor
Students have the ability to gain a nationally recognised vocational qualification in Sport & Recreation. The Certificate II course is being run for the first time this year. Our aim is to develop and foster the coaching talent in the district so that our students can contribute to their local communities, while working towards graduation.

Tayla Dawes helps St Matthew’s students develop team skills.

Justin Barrett, Ryan Elliot and Alex Watkins demonstrate their AFL coaching talents with St Matthew’s Primary School students.

Blessing gets into the spirit, with encouragement from Kyle Lenk and Beau Lucas.

CERTIFICATE II IN SPORT AND RECREATION

2014 Country Week Beep Test

The multistage fitness test is a measure of cardiovascular endurance. Athletes run a 20m track to the timing of the test, which gets shorter and shorter as the test progresses.

This year’s female winner was Shannon Bubb with a score of 9.4.
The school record is held by Alyce Lydiate 11.8.

This year’s male winner was Blake Egerton - Warburton with 12.7.
The school record is held by Brett Gambrell with 14.1.

Shannon Bubb
Blake Egerton-Warburton
On Thursday 22 May our school came together to celebrate our Zero2Hero Live Life! CHAT Day. CHAT stands for Changing Health, Acting Together. All of the available activities aimed to show our students how to stay healthy, whether physically or mentally. The whole day was about acting together to have fun, but also to learn.

We began by looking at a YouTube clip, Look Up! Its message was a simple one; it urged us to put down our phones and live life the ‘right’ way by talking to each other and by building strong relationships. Our special guest speakers were Clara Helms, singer songwriter and actress, who spoke about bullying and Ashley Harrison, who presented a Zero2Hero message, encouraging us to see the hero in ourselves and in the people in our communities.

Each CHAT activity challenged our school community to be there in the moment, to make the most of the opportunities we have in Narrogin and to be healthy and take control of our lives; to Act Belong Commit. Thanks to Lynette Blechynden for presenting yoga; Ian Magor and Geordie Allen for Drumbeat; Jo Drayton for the Yr 9 Drug & Alcohol talk; BotFarm, a production of the NZ Theatre Company and many of our staff who delivered workshops for our students.

Remember: Live life! Put down your phones and your music, slow down, connect, include others, accept that we all make mistakes, let it go and have fun.

Denise Lavan
Student Services Manager
High School Highlights

Lower School Football Teams- Wagin 2014

The school entered two girls’ teams and a boys’ team. Both played well and had a lot of fun. Katanning SHS won the day.

Ex Student from 2010
Paul Barankewitsch

Purposeful Academic Classes for Excelling Students selected as High Achievers in Geography

Tayla Dawes

Shannon Walliss

UWA excellence camp (highest achieving student selected from each school): Bradley Walliss

High Achievers

Y20 Wheatbelt Summit - young people from our region come together to discuss some of the region’s major issues, held at Joondalup resort.

Jade Stevenson-Marsh and Shenae Gooley.

Alex Barr looks to pick up the ball after Ashleigh Lindsay’s good work.
UNIFORM SHOP
The uniform shop will be closed on Thursdays for Term three commencing week 3. Thank you.

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF DENTAL THERAPY CENTRE
The Dental Therapy Centre at the Narrogin Primary School will be closing for Term 2 of 2014. The Dental Therapist is taking Long Service Leave and at this stage there is no relief staff available. The closest Dental Therapy Centre in the case of an emergency is Katanning and they can be contacted on 9821 1734 or 0400 612 364.

Information about some of the apps/sites causing problems for young people

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>App</th>
<th>Age requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instagram</td>
<td>13+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qooh.me</td>
<td>13+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KiK</td>
<td>17+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snapchat</td>
<td>13+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omegle</td>
<td>17+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ask.fm</td>
<td>13+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Instagram is an online photo/video sharing site that has a social networking feature. It allows users to take pictures and videos, apply filters to them, and share them on a variety of social networking services. It is now owned by Facebook. Although users can choose to share privately, most, including children do not. Kids seem to want lots of people ‘following’ them on the site so allow unfettered access without thought to the sorts of people that may want to grab a copy of the picture posted. If location services are set to ‘on’ on your device then the GPS position of where you were when you took the pic is easily obtained. Also used for cyberbullying. It is a fun way to share if over 13 and used correctly with full privacy settings enabled.

Qooh.me is a social site that allows people who find you interesting to ask you anonymous questions so they can know you better. In the same vein as Ask.fm and Formspring.me/Spring.me, anything that promises or suggests anonymity is highly problematic. Another to avoid. Nothing positive comes out of these types of sites.

KiK is a messaging app that is highly appealing to kids because it is free. Communication is via any Wi-Fi network so calls/texts do not come out of phone credit. A phone or phone number is not required to use this app. It is the number one app for causing problems in schools at the moment as younger kids are using it if often behind their parents backs and it is often linked to an Instagram account. Because of the large number of very young, vulnerable kids and teens on the site, it is also a haven for online predators. Police around the world regularly warn about this one. **One to avoid. Not rated as suitable for 17+ for nothing!**

Snapchat is a photo messaging app which allows users to take photos, record videos, add text and drawings, and send them to a controlled list of recipients. These photographs and videos are known as "Snaps". Users set a time limit for how long recipients can view their Snaps and this can be from 1 to 10 seconds. After this time they will be hidden from the users screen, but are totally retrievable if required. Known as the 'safe sexting' app, Snapchat if used to send fun harmless photos is fine, but when kids and teens use it to send naked or semi naked pictures it causes serious problems for those involved.

Omegle is a free online chat website that allows users to communicate with strangers without registering. The service randomly pairs users in one-on-one chat sessions where they chat anonymously. Its tag line is 'talk to strangers'. You can imagine the quality and caliber of the 'stranger' you will find! Used extensively for ‘sex’ chat/video you can guess the rest. If you find a person on the other side with clothes on, it’s like winning tattslotto; It won't happen to you. Even primary kids know about Omegle so be warned and I reckon that anything that has the following disclaimer on its own website should be avoided at all costs. "Use Omegle at your own peril", enough said.

Ask.fm is a Latvia Based social networking site where users can ask each other questions with the option of anonymity which almost all users on this site do. It was founded as a rival to Formspring. Because of the anonymity it encourages extremely nasty questions and is used extensively to bully and harass. Best to avoid as nothing positive happens here. There have been several suicides of teens overseas linked to the site.

Hope you find this information useful....don’t forget my book is a great source of in depth and further information - 'Sexts, Texts & Selfies' - How to keep your child safe in the digital space. Dr Michael Carr-Gregg wrote the comment on the front cover. I am very proud of the book and hope it is a useful tool for teachers, parents, carers and those who work with young people. The book is available in good book stores (I have had some people tell me they had to ask, but also you can order it online via my website www.cybersafetysolutions.com.au and I will send it to you. Cost is $29.99 +Postage.

website www.cybersafetysolutions.com.au
Pak Sumardi, an Indonesian Puppet Master, visited our school on Friday 6 June and performed four separate shows within the new Performing Arts Centre for students ranging from Grade One to Grade Ten within our community. It was a taste of Indonesian culture and the traditional Wayang Kulit, or Shadow Puppet performance.

Students, already privileged to be part of the audience, were then provided with a unique insight ‘behind the scenes’ to see the master puppeteer at work manipulating each shadow puppet, sound effect and storyline all by himself.

**Comments Made by Some of Our Year Eight Students:**

**Student 1:** “The one man behind the screen spoke all of those different voices for the numerous characters.”

**Student 2:** “I found it interesting to see the detailed patterns and colours on each of the puppets.”

**Student 3:** “It was amazing to learn that Pak Sumardi began training to be a shadow puppeteer when he was only 11 years old.”

**Student 4:** “I don’t know how Pak Sumardi can sit for so long without food, water or taking a break – he said that it normally takes an average of 9 hours for a full performance to take place and there’d be an orchestra of up to thirteen people around him – phew!”