Laptop let-down

Editorial
JORDAN DARRACOTT
Year 8

FOR five years, the DER program has delivered over 200,000 laptops to year 9 students all over NSW. This year will see the final issue of 63,500 laptops.

The DER program allowed teachers to move into the 21st century with access for students to global information resources as well as improved engagement of students. This was a giant step forward for technology in schools, as this is the way of the future.

Now the government is not issuing laptops it puts stress and financial pressure on families having to afford one.

As a year 8 student I was really looking forward to using the unused laptops in year 9.

Now my school laptop is my Christmas present.

Families will have to purchase devices such as laptops or tablets in what is known as the BYOD - Bring Your Own Device policy. Fortunately, our school will not let any student go without, as we have a pool of spare devices.

Also, Frances Cole HT Admin said there are more cloud-based programs such as Microsoft Word that can be easily downloaded, which will help the students who aren’t as fortunate.

Government decisions have enormous educational consequences.

Exchange memorable experience
CHLOE EL-AWAR
Year 8

ALBION Park High School has been involved in the international exchange program for 10 years and this year we have warmly welcomed Michela Molina, from Novara, Piemonte, in Italy.

Michela has enjoyed many things in Australia. Her most memorable experiences have been going to the beach, Luna Park and having a tour of the outback.

Italy and Australia differ in many ways. Some differences Michela has highlighted are:

Discoveries: Michela Molina, Albion Park High School's exchange student from Italy, has enjoyed her time in Australia.

that they have to go home for lunch, only the teachers change classrooms and students don’t finish school until they turn 19.

She said the advantages of being an international exchange student are that she can improve her English, learn about our culture and customs and compare them to Italian ones.

“it was nice to discover how a real Australian lives their life.”

There were some things that Michela was and wasn’t expecting. She was expecting more outgoing and that she wasn’t expecting so many summer sports.

Michela has enjoyed herself immensely and it will be sad to see her go. A big thanks to Michela for coming to Australia. You will be missed!

Letters to the Editor

Keeping teenagers busy and fit focuses them

Australia’s youth face many issues including obesity, poor self-esteem, drug addiction and boredom. Sport is a way out of all of these. The most memorable experiences have been going to the beach, Luna Park and having a tour of the outback.

Italy and Australia differ in many ways. Some differences Michela has highlighted are:

Dance, drama showcase skills
SOPHIE NICHOLSON
Year 8

THIS year our school again joined Southern Stars, showcasing the performance talents of students from the Illawarra.

The newspaper-themed “EXTRA!” was a great experience for the 28 students from our school who performed.

The students learned new dance moves, made new friends and became a lot closer with old ones.

It was absolutely fantastic. It was a great experience!” said Year 8 dancer Caitlyn Diaz.

Another experience, this time showcasing dramatic skills, was the school musical.

Drama teacher Mrs Suri Roth, with the help of the cast and crew, put together a fun-filled musical called “Back to the 80s”.

While the parents in the audience were caught in a flashback to their youth, the kids got the chance to see what it was like in the “olden days”.

The school had students from a range of age groups perform at a highly skilled level.

While people ran around backstage, getting their make-up done or helping with their friends’ costume, the students on stage were singing and dancing their way into the memory of the audience.

Everyone involved worked tirelessly to pull off this amazing show.

“It was worth all the hard work,” said actor Emma Smylie.

Everyone had loads of fun practicing again and again to ensure a polished performance.

The students loved it and so did the audiences.

In two years time, there will be the opportunity for you to see another one of Albion Park High’s quality productions.

Q Should teachers wear school uniform?

A

Yes,

No,

Dean McPherson, Year 8: Yes, I believe it’s a double standard situation; it should be compulsory for all people attending school.

Brenna Payne, Year 8: Yes, it is unfair to students. If we get forced to wear uniforms then so should the teachers.

Jayden Magrin, Year 10: Yes, because the teachers would look funny.

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