

## ASPIRE Intern Blog #3

And with that, term 1 of ASPIRE has already come to a close. Preparation for the big production is well and truly underway, and a very busy term awaits ahead for the team! Big projects like the Songwriting and Scriptwriting competitions, Dancefest and Dramafest, as well as, of course, Diosounds, are all approaching very quickly, and are sure to keep the team and students of the diocese VERY busy.



But before I talk about any of those, I'd like to touch on the conclusion of our most recent undertaking, that being this year's Newcastle-Hunter Combined Schools ANZAC Commemorative Event. Nine ASPIRE students were involved in this year's production, and the students' performances were a resounding success. Focused on the theme "Women in War: Their Australian Story," the student sub-committee researched the lives of army, navy and air force veterans of long ago; Marion Smith, Valerie Blackett, Vivian Bulwinkle, as well as those of today, Group Captain Wendy Hoarder, Navy Commodore Allison Norris, and Lieutenant General Susan Coyle. Following their research, our drama ensemble brought their thought-provoking and inspirational stories to the stage, to be performed in front of 3000 total Primary and Secondary school students, with narration from said sub-committee. My main contribution to this segment, aside from calling mics from the back of the theatre, was an ensemble-lead rotating triangle, which, if you were around me at all on Monday or Tuesday last week, you would know that I was obsessed, and perhaps a little TOO proud of. Nonetheless, the students presented their piece in a professional and polished manner (and, after many attempts, NAILED that triangle), and should all be very proud.

Coming up next term! As I said earlier, our upcoming events include Dramafest on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May, which is a day packed with workshops from experienced industry savants. Following that, is our annual Song Competition, which entries close for REALLY SOON! So if you plan on entering, get on it! (You could win a big fat Muso's voucher!) Soon after, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May is Dancefest, which, similar to Dramafest, will be a day of workshops from professional dancers, ranging from jazz to contemporary and more. The Scriptwriting competition is coming in hot as well, with entries closing at the end of these coming holidays, then to be judged on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June. Straight after that, on the 5<sup>th</sup>, is, of course, Diosounds! A very, very, very, very busy term on the horizon, but first, take these two weeks to chillax and catch up on some Netflix. (Or learn your lines.)

A triangularly satisfied,  
Daniel