On the 29 October, 50 of our fabulous students and three of Ambarvale’s exceptional teachers travelled together to Sydney’s Capitol Theatre to watch the world renowned play *Wicked*.

For many of the students, this was their first time to ever see a live theatre production. When the students were told that they’d be seeing *Wicked*, some could not contain their excitement, while others were more doubtful.

However, by the end of Act One, everyone was hanging on the edge of their seats. Watching *Wicked* performed live is an experience that most students will carry with them as one of the highlights of their high school years.

So, despite the initial doubts, this excursion was the most wicked of them all!

The 21st Century Classroom at Ambarvale High School Library is now OPEN!

Currently, we are trialling a new teaching and learning strategy - Self Organised Learning Environment (SOLE) - in this space. Four of our teachers have been trained in this new style of teaching and they are busy training other staff.

Students learn in groups and report back to the whole class. “I love that the room is so comfortable and colourful.” said one student from 8 Viper. Mr Yee says that the SOLE allows kids to learn in the ways they are best at learning. They never have to learn alone and there is always someone to help. They are collaborating and sharing information but still meeting subject requirements.

Students have been asking their teachers to take them to the new room – so more SOLE rooms are planned for 2015.

All aboard the SOLE train!

**A SLIGHT CHANGE IN THE CHAIR**

Ms Barnott-Clement has accepted a part time role within the DEC as Principal School Leadership. This position involves working with the principals of other public schools to provide support and develop leadership capacity.

This means Ms Barnott-Clement is not in school on Mondays and Fridays, however remains the substantive principal of our school.

Ms McKenzie is the relieving principal on those days. However Ms McKenzie is on Long Service Leave for the remainder of this term and Mr Macpherson is in “the chair” on those days in Term Four.

A big thank you to Mrs Perry who is relieving as Deputy Principal overseeing Years 8, 10 and 12 and to Mrs McMahon who returns on Mondays and Fridays to support our Senior Exec Team.
24 Hour Fight Against Cancer

On 18 - 19 of October Ambarvale students participated in the 24 Hour Fight Against Cancer Macarthur.

This is an annual fundraising movement that exists to provide the Macarthur cancer treatment centres with the extra services and equipment they need to assist in the treatment, care and comfort of children and adults dealing with cancer.

The students walked laps of the Campbelltown Athletics Stadium for 24 hours contributing $290.75 to the cause and represented the school with pride.

Stop Press - Our excellence has been recognised! Our school is an award winner at the Come Together: A Celebration of Excellence acknowledging outstanding education in Public Schools NSW. Our Student Learning Conferences have achieved a School Excellence Award.

Look on the website for more information - www.ambarvale-h.schools.nsw.edu.au or google Ambarvale High School

Gifted and Talented primary students join us!

On the 4 November, 16 students from Rosemeadow, Appin and Woodland Road Public Schools came to Ambarvale High School for the day.

The Year 6 students created some amazing Survival Guides to help the new Year 7 students in 2015. Survival tips included: be sociable and say hello; always follow the TRREC values; ask for help when you need it; know who to turn to. The students had a great day and went away very excited to survive Ambarvale next year!

Millenium Madness!

Coming to Ambarvale in 2015

In a new initiative to engage students with exciting new learning opportunities, Year 7 will be participating in a whole day of structured, themed learning activities for one full day per fortnight.

This means the whole grade will spend a day in a variety of engaging activities such as inquiry learning, project based learning, hands on activities, guest speakers and excursions.

The planning of Millennium Madness is led by an experienced team of teachers who are incredibly enthusiastic about this style of learning.

We are seeking to break the boundaries of the traditional classroom in order to engage students in authentic learning opportunities that are both exciting and challenging.

We are looking forward to welcoming Year 7 students 2015 to this new and exciting journey!

Have your say!

We are currently working on 2015 School Plan. This involves consulting with staff, students and parents to ensure our strategic directions are representative of our school community. We would love parents to respond to our online survey and share their thoughts regarding the directions for our school. You should be able to complete our survey in 5 minutes or less. There is a link on the SkoolBag App and also on our website to the survey, or enter the following URL

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/66X7ZFP