

The graphic features the word 'arts' in a large, dark red, lowercase font. Below it, the year '2015' is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the words 'AT SPRINGS...' are written in a white, bold, sans-serif font on a dark blue background. The text is overlaid on a background of ornate, golden-brown scrollwork and floral patterns, resembling a decorative frame or architectural detail.

arts 2015 AT SPRINGS...

Welcome back to all students, parents and staff at *Western Springs College*.

Congratulations to newly appointed **Arts Leaders - Lucia Hocking-Whitehead and Pearl Little**.

Lucia and Pearl's combined efforts and incredible talent will continue to assist them with planning 2015 events in all things *Arts and Culture* at Springs. The first thing on their 'to-do list' is the election of a leaders committee to assist with the running of the Arts at school. All students with a passion to develop leadership skills will be asked to put their names forward to represent Dance, Drama, Media, Music and Visual Arts 2015. The group meets regularly and this year will support the WSC Stage Challenge Production and assist with planning and preparation for the SGCNZ Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival, NZ Music Month Performances and Arts – Dance, Music and Media shows.

ASB Stage Challenge is the WSC School Production for 2015 and auditions/rehearsal for the biennial dance extravaganza will get underway shortly. This event is designed by students for their peers. A Stage Challenge Committee is already planning this year's entry so in anticipation of the event they are calling a meeting to register interest. The meeting is for anyone interested and will be held next Thursday 19th February at lunch in the School Hall. Students will get the opportunity to hear about the 2013 production, what will be on offer this year, how they can be involved and what is required of them. For more details they can check the Daily Notices.

The annual **SGCNZ Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival** is held at the end of Term 1 at Auckland Grammar School. This year the focus is outstanding drama and the Arts Leaders will mentor any junior/senior students wanting to get involved – we know that there is going to be quality in performance put forward to compete. WSC has a history of producing and directing superb excerpts of Shakespearean comedy and tragedy across all years. We also achieve great results in the competition and have been lucky enough to have had students and teachers get to Wellington and The Globe Theatre, London to partake internationally in Shakespearean productions.

Finally, the Drama Department are off to London soon and will be having a fundraising event on Friday 13th March at 7pm. Performances from staff and celebs plus auction – make sure that you head along.

It is going to be a superb year!

arts@wsc.school.nz

Kirsty Britton – Arts Coordinator

ARTS LEADERS



Pearl Little and Lucia Hocking-Whitehead – Arts Leaders 2015



Hi, I'm Pearl and I'll be one of your Arts Leaders for 2015! I'm so excited to contribute to the Arts community at Springs this year.

My job this year, will be to help organise and promote the numerous arts events, such as Stage Challenge, Junior Arts Festival, SGCNZ University of Otago Sheliah Winn Shakespeare Festival, Talent Quest and NZ Music Month. We will also help promote the Drama performances, Dance showcases and Music performances at lunchtime!

This year I'm very excited to work with the other leaders in the WSC Leadership team to combine the WSC Arts with their leadership areas. One event coming up very soon that I'm looking forward to is the Sheliah Winn Shakespeare Festival. Western Springs as always performed notoriously well in this and numerous Western Springs students in the past have gone to go to the Globe Theatre in London through the festival. Another, very, very exciting event coming up for the Western Springs Drama students is the trip to England where a group of chosen students - including me and Lucia will be performing the play "Remote" in Bristol and then continue onto London for 10 days to watch shows, sightsee and participate in prestigious workshops. The fundraiser performance for this trip will be on the weekend of the 17th of March. So make sure you come along to support these wonderful students!

When we get back from our leadership camp, we are looking to form a fantastic Arts Committee for

2015 to help us with our awesome and busy year! I look forward to being a part of this leadership team and contributing as much as possible to the arts scene at Springs!



Hello, I'm Lucia and I am one of the Arts Leaders at Western Springs College this year. I am very excited to be involved with all of the Arts events happening throughout this year, in particular, the Performing Arts as I have been taking the subjects Music, Dance and Drama since year 9. I'm really looking forward to the Stage Challenge, WSC Talent Quest which will be happening later on this year, Sheilah Winn, lunchtime Musical and Drama trips and performances.

Western Springs gets to participate in ASB Stage Challenge this year and has been participating in Stage Challenge for quite a few years now, but this year is going to be the best yet. Anyone can join, girls and boys, and if you can't dance but still want to be involved, you can help out with costumes, set, lighting plus more. I hope to see lots of people participating in the Arts events that are happening this year, both new faces and old.

Lucia Hocking-Whitehead and Pearl Little – Arts Leaders 2015

DANCE

Dance – Off to a Flying Start!

Dance students are off to a flying start! Year 13 are learning a solo from Shona McCullagh's new work *Rotunda*, taught by dancers Chris Ofanoa and Tupua Tigafu'a from The New Zealand Dance Company. Over the next 4 weeks we will learn how we can apply performance practices to support and refine our communication as dancers for our solo assessment in Week 4.

Year 11 also dive into performance by learning features and sequences in two contrasting dance genres: break-dance and contemporary dance. Break-dance guest tutor Laurent Dunningham is a break-dance specialist and judge for Hip Hop New Zealand and the World Hip Hop Championships. The breakdance sequence will assist students in understanding the features of early breakdance and why it is the way it is, for their external exam. Break-dance has a fascinating history and the style is intimately connected with socio-economic deprivation of 1970s South Bronx.

Year 12 are learning an excerpt of the dance they will study for the exam, and are looking forward to working with hip hop-contemporary fusion choreographer Matt Moor in term 2.

We have an action packed year with evening trips this term to local and international dance in the Auckland Arts Festival, an NCEA trip to NZDC's *Rotunda* and sharing WSC work in YouDance, Auckland's youth dance festival at the end of Term 2.

In Term 3 we unveil Level 3 major choreographies in the Year 13 show, and the Dance Showcase does just that - showcases the best work of our fabulous dance students to our wider community. Phew! Hold on for the ride – we look forward to seeing you at our performances!

Melanie Turner – HOD Dance

MEDIA

Media Studies News

Congratulations to Matthew Hunter and Alexander Walker for gaining Scholarships in Media Studies! We are super proud of these two lovely young men.

As usual the Media Studies Department has class websites set up for the students from Year 10. We also have a main media studies website that can be found here; <http://goo.gl/V3K4uI>. Course outlines and links to class websites can be found there and assessment tasks and information will be posted as each unit is taught. There's also links to our Facebook group and Youtube channel.

Thanks to those of you who have paid the \$25 student course fee already. This contribution enables us to provide the students with resources during the year such as scrapbooks, SD cards and other necessary materials.

Looking forward to a great year.

Deb Thompson - HOD Media Studies thompsond@wsc.school.nz