ENGAGING WITH ENGLISH
There are many things going on in the English faculty right now and it is exciting to see how successful our students are. Congratulations to Kate Brewer, Lachlan Hoyle, Morgan Flynn, Alison S and Rachael Westcott who have entered the Dorethea Poetry Competition. Poems were selected by English staff from student work samples from the 1901 writing submissions from term 4, 2011 and the Poetry Masterclass from term 1, 2012. We wish these students luck as the results won’t be known until late September. We hope to publish these poems on the website for all to read shortly.

Assessments this term for each year level have been published in the following calendar.

ASSESSMENT CALENDAR TERM 3 2012

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This week’s feature poet is Kate Brewer. Her entry into the 1901 writing series last year won her 1st prize in her division. Many of our students have also joined the writing club that is being run by Ms Klein on Wednesdays at lunch time in B5. If you love to write and have not joined, please make sure you get there this week.

Don’t forget, if you miss a task you must provide Mrs Hill with a note of explanation or medical certificate when you return to school. You must also submit the task on your first day back at school. Seniors must also complete a misadventure form. You can get these from the front office.

PHS Poet of the Week- Kate Brewer Year 11

The Chronicles of Sir Henry Parkes

Yesterday I buried my second child.
Today I am going to work.
Yesterday I did not shed a tear.
Today I will make a meaningless piece of ivory into something significant.
Yesterday I saw the blood leave my wife’s already pallor face.
Today a rich gentleman will walk right by my establishment.
Yesterday I looked my wife in the eyes and told her tomorrow would be passable.
Today if someone asks me if I am alright I will say yes.
Yesterday I looked up at the blackening sky and wished I could start again.
Today I will sponge the sweat from my forehead.
Yesterday was a blur.
Today I’m supposed to have an attention to detail.
Yesterday even the birds were silent.
Today the sound of metal hitting metal will send me to the brink of insanity.
Yesterday I didn’t notice the smell of burning coal.
Today the little boy across the conduit will infuriate me.
Yesterday the strength I thought I had was misplaced.
Today the thought of tomorrow will deter me.
Yesterday the entirety of the world was on my shoulders.
Today when the time comes to go home I will walk in the opposite direction.
Two weeks ago I came home to a dazzling Clarinda.  
Tomorrow regret will consume me.
Two weeks ago I dragged the cot out of the garret.  
Tomorrow it will be like nothing ever changed.
Two weeks ago just the thought of the future made me smile.  
Tomorrow when I reach for the covers I will grasp empty air.
Two weeks ago we were arguing over baby names.  
Tomorrow the silence will be harrowing.
Two weeks ago it was the coldest day on record.  
Tomorrow there will be a fire burning in my heart.
Two weeks ago the doctors told us everything was perfect.  
Tomorrow Clarinda will cry herself to sleep.
Two weeks ago nothing was impossible.  
Tomorrow the bank will seize my assets.
Two weeks ago laughter wasn't uncommon.  
Tomorrow the sight of a friend will not be reassuring.
Two weeks ago life was good.  
Tomorrow we leave for Australia.