



KNOX PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE AND JUNIOR SECONDARY ACADEMY

A MESSAGE FROM HEADMASTER JOHN WEEKS

Dear Parents

Over the last decade Knox has embarked on an ambitious program to equip our students with world-class facilities including the Knox Senior Secondary Academy, Great Hall and Aquatic Centre, K-2 Centre, Ewan House and the Knox Boarding Centre.

The School Council and I are now delighted to announce that we will shortly commence the next chapter in our journey with the construction of a combined Performing Arts Centre and Junior Secondary Academy.

This new facility, to be located on the site of the current Woodville Avenue Administration Building and carpark, will provide world-class performing arts facilities along with a home for our Year 7 and 8 boys (the Knox Junior Secondary Academy).

Participation in the performing arts is at record levels at Knox. However, many of our music and theatre facilities are now at capacity and unsuitable for the needs of our contemporary performing arts students. We want every student at Knox to have opportunities to participate in the performing arts; with research indicating that engagement in performing arts enhances creativity, emotional intelligence and wellbeing.

In addition to being a Performing Arts Centre, this new building will also be a home for our Year 7 and 8 boys and the staff who support and care for these students. This is part of our plan to build three stage-based academies (Junior – Years 7 and 8, Middle – Years 9 and 10, Senior – Years 11 and 12) catering to the specific learning needs of each age-group.



The Performing Arts Centre and Junior Secondary Academy at a glance:

Performing Arts

- 750-seat multipurpose auditorium, for musical and drama performances, with a large stage, an adjustable orchestra pit, cutting-edge lighting and sound equipment, as well as tiered seating
- Smaller performance space with 160 seats for intimate drama performances and recitals
- Dance studio for traditional and contemporary dance
- Large music training room for rehearsals
- Soundproof rehearsal rooms for one-on-one tuition
- Home of the Knox Academy of the Performing Arts
- Home of the Years 7-12 Music and Drama Departments
- Specialist music and drama classrooms
- Choir training room, percussion space, keyboard lab
- Café with an outdoor terrace
- Underground carpark with approximately 150 spaces

Junior Academy

- Breakout spaces for study and socialising
- Years 7 and 8 administration hub
- Dedicated Years 7-8 canteen
- Dedicated bathroom facilities
- Use of performing arts spaces for year meetings, seminars and presentations

Work on this project is expected to commence in February 2017 with the demolition of the Woodville Ave Administration Building and carpark. The building is expected to take approximately two years to construct. This will be a disruptive period for the School and we thank all members of the Knox community for their patience and support while we build for the future.

Please look out for more exciting information about the Performing Arts Centre and Junior Secondary Academy, including a video providing an overview of this facility, in the coming weeks.

The School Council and I are thrilled to be embarking on this project which will benefit our Prep and Senior students for many years to come.

Yours sincerely,

John Weeks
Headmaster