



What a year we have had! All our expectations were exceeded right from the start with more than 80 students involved - this stretched our resources to the max! The bands got to work straight away, preparing for their first performance in June.

Our mid-year concert was met with enthusiasm in spite of the dreary weather. All Rock Workshop ensembles were involved and performed exceptionally well. A highlight was the last-minute appearance of one of our Year 12 bands performing their original songs as a trio.

Our Senior Rock Workshop program was marked by the presence of a string section - something we have never had before. This influenced the way the band formulated their ideas on pen and paper rather than jamming their way to an end product. The Year 12 students who gave up their Friday afternoons to make music with the Year 11 students should be mentioned. Their contribution is much appreciated.

The mid-term break in Term 3 saw the recording of the annual Rock Workshop CD. Six tracks in all, showing a high degree of song writing craftsmanship and a string section too! Many thanks to the Year 12 students whose musicianship elevated the songs above the norm. A special mention to Isaiah Quintana who played drums on every track.

The excursion to 'Underground Studios' was well received by the students, who discovered applications for their musical education and their Physics and Mathematics curriculum.

The pinnacle of the Rock Workshop calendar was our Mojoes Extravaganza. This concert was very well attended and the audience were treated to some extremely high quality performances. Gus McKenzie and Riley Klug, whose bands were unavailable to play on the day, stepped in at the last minute and put together an engaging performance. The Prep Rock Workshop made some ear drums bleed with their high-intensity set including songs by The Cars, Hoodoo Gurus and Foster the People. ACDC fans were well-catered for with their songs on high-rotation: *Ride On*, *Shook Me All Night Long*, *Back in Black*. Honourable mentions go to Harry Prosser, Scott Caporn and Matt Preston who nailed the guitar solos and vocals. It was great to see and hear so much Australian content.

It was particularly refreshing to see the bands organise themselves in a mature and professional manner - namely, being tuned up and ready to go without any prompting. A big thank you to the staff at Mojoes who provided an amazing real-world environment for the boys to perform. Every year builds upon the year before and we look forward to the challenges and experiences 2017 will bring.