Dear Parents and Students

Pittwater High School had an opportunity to re-invigorate its extra-curricular dance program in 2012 and beyond. We had an offer from one of the region's most experienced teacher/choreographers to re-establish and help with dance ensemble activity within the school.

The teacher, Mr Kim Peade had finished a seventeen-year tenure as Head Teacher and teacher of Dance at Davidson High School and retired from the DEC, as a permanent teacher. He has extensive experience in Dance education, performance, choreography and production.

In his last year at Davidson, he directed and choreographed for six separate ensembles, from Year 7 to Year 12 in addition to Premier division Rock Eisteddfod Challenge. This said, he will tell you that a choreographer should not be judged by his/her last work, but by the next.

Kim comes to Pittwater High with a desire to share his expertise and creative energy and to help with the culture of extra-curricular performance in dance at our school.

If there is sufficient interest from calibre year 7 students a Junior Dance Ensemble will again be formed in 2016. The main focus of the ensemble will be to prepare work for the Sydney North Dance Festival at Glen St Theatre in weeks 9 and 10 of term 2 (beginning Mon 20 June) and (possibly) the City of Sydney Eisteddfod in July. The ensemble will run for approximately 15 weeks at this stage at a cost of $50 per student.

Auditions for Year 7 students will be conducted on Wednesday 24 February from 3.30pm to 5.15pm in the school's performance space. The auditions are open to any student, male or female.

The audition will involve a series of taught movement sequences; students need not prepare anything. Students need to be dressed appropriately in dance apparel, which allows freedom of movement; shoes are not necessary. While previous dance training is advantageous, it is not a prerequisite. The ability to focus, intelligence for movement and commitment to learning and teamwork are the most important requirements for potential ensemble members.

Successful applicants will be notified as soon as possible after the auditions and once the composition of the group has been determined, regular rehearsals on Wednesdays from 3.30pm to 5.15pm will begin. Students and parents will be issued with further information concerning performance opportunities and responsibilities of being a member of the ensemble.

We look forward to this initiative continuing at Pittwater and seeing students at the auditions.

Yours faithfully

Ms Jane Ferris                              Ms Rachel Fleming
Principal                 Head Teacher Student Wellbeing & Engagement