Melville Matters
Issue 28, June / July 2012

Take a Closer Look at Our Learning Resource Centre
Welcome to Issue 28 of Melville Matters. By the time you read this edition, exams will be over, Semester 1 reports will have been issued and we will have conducted parent teacher meetings.

One of the main objectives of reporting to and meeting with parents is to keep you informed about your child’s progress, as much as anything so that you can support them if they need extra help. Parent meetings assist in this communication but you don’t of course have to wait until the ‘official’ meetings (held once or twice per year) to keep in touch with the school or to seek extra assistance. If you have a question or concern it is always best to start with your child’s classroom teacher. If they are unable to assist their head of department is also available to help.

In a school with as many staff as we have at Melville (150) there is continual movement as leave is taken, staff get appointments elsewhere etc. Mrs Kylie Botcher will commence next term as the new Deputy Principal Middle School replacing Ms Everal Miocevich who is currently the relieving principal at Southern River SHS. With this appointment, Mr David Combe will move back to his substantive position as Curriculum Manager and Mr Nye Smith will use some well earned leave to go part time for 6 months and concentrate on his ITC portfolio. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Botcher (who comes to us from Belmont City College where she is currently the Deputy Principal in charge of their Senior School) and to thank Mr Combe and Mr Smith for the significant contribution they have made to the ongoing improvement of education at Melville SHS.

Finally, a reminder that Term 2 will finish on Friday, 6 July and recommence on Tuesday, 24 July (Monday, 23 July is a Professional Development Day for staff). We wish our students and staff a safe and relaxing holiday BUT remind those students preparing for Year 11 and 12 ATAR exams that they should be using the two week break to consolidate their understanding of Semester 1 subject content and to study, study, study!

As always, kind regards

Phillip White AM, RFD, BA, Grad Dip Ed, Med (Man)
PRINCIPAL
A Note About Our School Uniform

Melville SHS has a clear uniform policy endorsed by the School Board and the P&C. It is also state government and Department of Education policy that all students must wear a proper school uniform at school. The Melville SHS uniform is smart, attractive and should be worn by students with pride while at school or while travelling to and from school. The P&C runs the school uniform shop which provides items of uniform at reasonable prices – and with profits returned to the school through grants and equipment purchases (such as air-conditioning).

It is compulsory to wear the school uniform which is based on a white short sleeved shirt (which should be ironed by the way), black pants or shorts or a black skirt, a bottle green Melville jumper, and a green, white and yellow zip up wind-cheater. In Year 11 and 12 there is the option to purchase and wear a leaver’s jacket for use instead of the school wind-cheater jacket. It is ok to wear a white T shirt or similar under the white shirt. Note though this must be a white T shirt – not any other colour. Note also that undershirts must be short sleeved – not long sleeved and therefore must not extend down below the line of the neatly ironed white short sleeved shirt.

Parents are asked to ensure that their child is warm enough at school. This can be achieved by purchasing the approved Melville jumper to be worn over the white shirt and under the wind-cheater. This method of keeping warm is referred to as layering and is the preferred method when needing to move in and out of warm buildings (it is easy to peel off or add a layer of clothing to manage individual temperature control). Coupled with long pants or a skirt it is considered that this level of protection (under layer - short sleeved T shirt; middle layer - white shirt and Melville woolen jumper; outer layer – Melville wind-cheater or leavers jacket) is adequate for our cool winter months.

Given that we have the necessary warm clothing in our school uniform range it is not acceptable to wear other items of cold weather gear – unless it is raining when it is ok to wear a rain coat of course. Hats, caps and beanies are not part of our uniform and should not be worn. Students who do not wear the correct items of uniform will be asked to remove them and may be sent home to change or asked to call you to bring their correct uniform to school if they are a regular offender.

Wearing a uniform is part of what it is to attend school, to be in a team and indeed to work in the modern workforce (try getting onto a mining or building site without the correct items of uniform). We know that life as a parent with nagging teenagers can be tough but you can always blame the school for the misery we are inflicting on your child by making them dress the part to attend and learn! We can’t do this properly without you so please help us to help your child prepare for their future.
With the state government announcing that as of 2015 Year 7 will no longer be part of primary school education and will in fact be the first year of secondary schooling, some Year 7 students have been able to get a jump on the formal roll out.

A group of Year 7 students from both Attadale Primary School and Bicton Primary School have been attending Melville Senior High School every Wednesday.

The students arrive for the day on the Melville SHS school bus and spend the day being exposed to what life is like at secondary school. The children attend specialist mathematics and science classes along with courses specifically designed to prepare them for the transition into secondary school next year. Courses are structured within strict Australian Curriculum Council guidelines and students are challenged at an academic level.

With many state primary schools having reduced numbers of students in Year 7, this opportunity allows these children to gain a sense of what secondary school will be like and in many ways gives them a head start on their peers.

The partnership was developed after consultation between Melville SHS, Attadale Primary School and Bicton Primary School. Both primary schools were exploring opportunities to enrich the lives of their senior students.

Our teachers have worked with the staff at Melville SHS to ensure that programs compliment each other, reporting commitments are guaranteed, students are safe, the Australian Curriculum is embedded in learning and students are engaging in high quality education.

Mr Scott Harris
Principal
Attadale Primary School
Year 8 & 9 Transition Support

Keeping active is an important part of the transition process from Year 7 into secondary school.

Student Services have organised a range of fun activities for Year 8 and 9 students during recess and lunch time.

Year 8 and 9 Year Coordinator, Mr Paul Cooke introduced Square Ball to the students and that has taken off as a regular break time game.

Youth workers from Nations also provided activities during Week 6 and 7. These activities comprised of such exciting things as an inflatable rugby pitch, dancing competitions, cone heads tournaments, tabloid games and slam dunk competitions for all of our basketball enthusiasts.

Year 8-10 Geography Students in National Competition

Students from Years 8 – 10 demonstrated key geographical skills and knowledge in the 2012 National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition.

Mrs Gail Armstrong, has just received the students’ results and noted that the school’s overall performance was very encouraging.

We have a number of student geographers at our school who performed to a very high level in the competition this year, with 6 students gaining high distinctions, 21 distinctions and 16 credits.

Mrs Gail Armstrong
Head of Learning Area Society and Environment

All participants will receive a certificate acknowledging their achievement.

The National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition attracts around 80,000 students from all over Australia each year.

The competition could only cover a small slice of the diverse subject of geography. “This year’s competition tested the students’ understanding of topics such as natural disasters, sustainable energy, and countries in our region, and also skills such as interpreting information in statistics, maps and satellite images.

With the introduction of the national curriculum in geography, in coming years the competition can be more closely aligned with the unified curriculum across Australia.

Ms Kath Berg
Competition Coordinator

The competition is a joint initiative of the Australian Geography Teachers’ Association and the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland, and proudly sponsored by the National Geographic Channel.
Melville Senior High School’s Year 8 Gifted and Talented students have displayed an exceptional level of enthusiasm in debating this year both as participants and audience members. The recent second round of debating for this year had our young team experience their first victory as secondary school debaters. The team members were Andrew Haworth, Injika Caines Smith and Harsh Sharma. Their classmate, Muhammad Ali Mohd Anwar, assisted the debaters with the preparation of their points and worked brilliantly as chairman of proceedings for the debate.

Congratulations on having your preparation and courage rewarded with this outstanding result.

Our team successfully argued ‘it doesn’t matter what the neighbours think’, winning against a strong team from John Curtin College of the Arts. The adjudicator complimented each of the speakers individually and provided excellent feedback for continued improvement. Melville Senior High School’s Year 8 debaters were praised for their ability to present a thought provoking argument and assertive approach. All were complemented on their stance, expression and engagement with the audience.

The debating experience provides an opportunity for students to learn and apply valuable teamwork strategies as they plan as a group and actively listen to each other to prepare a strong and convincing argument together. The Year 8 Gifted and Talented class were in the audience to witness the winning debaters and it was a superb chance for them to see their classmates as confident and clear public speakers.

Our teachers, Robert Delves and Brian Wolfenden, are responsible for the preparation of our debating teams and coordination of the inter school competition. We thank them for their cheerful enthusiasm and effort that continues to provide an avenue for our Year 8, 9 and 10 students to develop as highly competent public speakers in an authentic context.
The Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory near Gingin proved to be a fascinating site for the Year 8 and 9 Gifted and Talented students’ science camp this year. Over two days the students learned about and engaged with a range of interactive displays that gave them practical understanding of the working and effects of gravity.

Staff at the Centre were incredibly knowledgeable and had an infectious passion for science that permeated all of us. The facts that we learned were often of an almost incomprehensible scale and it was extremely beneficial to be able to have discussions with the presenters to clarify points and understand the magnitude of contemporary scientific developments and discoveries.

The eve of our visit to the observatory was overcast and this prevented the rolling back the roof and observing the night sky through the numerous powerful telescopes. However, students did manage to get up close and personal with the equipment and viewed entertaining and informative footage of our universe and astronauts in space.

The beautiful natural bushland setting of the Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory is home to a variety of animal life and functioned as another learning venue. Guided tours enabled students to walk among the native plants and learn about the coexistence of plant, animal and indigenous groups over time.

Throughout the visit Melville SHS students interacted with each other and the staff at the Centre in a respectful supportive manner. The enthusiasm for science and knowledge that many of the Gifted and Talented Year 8s and 9s exhibited was outstanding and suggested that our technological and scientific futures are in good hands.
The Design and Media students and staff have gone into overdrive this semester. The first round of testing is now complete for the new specialist intake program for 2013 with many places now taken. To all intents and purposes however, our current batch of aspiring future designers are very special and never fail to keep raising the bar higher every year to both surprise and delight us.

Four events have now taken place in very short succession which have demonstrated the strength and depth of the dedication our students display. On May 2, Year 12 Design classes (we have almost 40 students studying Stage 3) mounted an exhibition of their work to re-design the current Melville Arts Centre. Students had been working for almost ten weeks on this project, realising it both in 3D software and through the creation of complicated model maquettes. The critique was led by architect Karl Huston, who listened carefully to students as they described graphically their ideas for the improvement and extension of the Arts wing of school, with solutions ranging from hanging gardens to cantilevered solar roofs.

On May 14, Year 11 Design students (of which again there are 2 classes) jumped aboard our wonderful new school bus and were driven to a variety of locations starting with the stained glass studios of Kim Fitzpatrick, (Tradition Stained Glass in North Fremantle). Kim has graciously offered the school his gift of a designed and constructed panel of glass as a thank you for the teaching of his two children. In return, the design area jumped at the chance of incorporating a ‘real’ task into the learning program for the 11s, asking them to design the panel in conjunction with Kim. Their first step was to discover as much about stained glass as possible and to see ‘in the flesh’ excellent examples in and around Perth that Kim had worked on. So, in addition to the rich environment of a fully functioning stained glass studio where students rubbed shoulders with the half dozen trained master glass craftsmen, Kim also took them on a tour which included St Anne’s Church in North Fremantle, Parliament House in Perth and finally LAG Gallery in Wangara. Work ranged from the traditional restoration of panels to the wild fusion of glass, steel and industrial process materials.

On June 20, the Year 12 Design students again were given the opportunity to show their skill in a range of workshops put on especially for them at Curtin University. Students congregated in the shivering cold and wet of the morning before being taken into the main Elizabeth Jolley lecture theatre (next time they will be there they will be wearing graduation robes). There, Jacques Shaw, Head of the Design Illustration
course at Curtin took them through a lecture and brief for a Human Rights poster, showing them many examples of good designs and deconstructing them for students to better understand the tools they have at their disposal to persuade audiences with a combination of powerful words and imagery. This brief is nominally a second year project for Curtin students. It will be completed in the next 8 weeks and lecturers from Curtin will be visiting us this time to assess the results. Following on from the lecture, our students bravely forwent their morning tea break to start two workshops in the creation of digital poster content using multi-software platforms as well as the use (and theory) of the professional photo studio. Our sincere thanks to Jacque Shaw and the Curtin staff for their support.

Term 3 will see the next round of testing occurring as the last places on our course for 2013 are taken. Any parents considering the program would be well advised to enter their children into the next round of testing. Our 12s are on course for the best design show we have yet seen both in the area of graphics and in film media. Well done to all of them for their hard work and dedication. It is looking increasingly likely that over 20 of them will be seeking places on design and media related courses at university for 2013. One question however raised by some of the lecturers is what exactly they will have left to teach them.

Once again leapfrogging the Year 12s, the Year 11s jumped back on the bus on June 25 to travel to Edith Cowan University. Here they broke into groups to be taken into workshops in digital design led by half a dozen of the university’s best design lecturers. Workshops included Web Design, 3D Animation using Maya, Photoshop and Flash tools. The students were able to work on some aspects and specialisms of design at a higher level than they had hitherto been able to, and many came away from the very tiring (but rewarding) day talking about their futures. One of the best aspects for both them and the Melville Design staff was the use in the workshops of either software already in use by the school or open source software available for free to the school or the students at home.
Specialist Program in Netball

Year 10 Lightning Carnival

Year 10 netball girls re ignited their 2012 campaign when they represented Melville Senior High School at the annual Lightning Carnival held at the Fremantle Netball Association.

Congratulations to our winning Division One team. This outstanding achievement has ensured a place for our team at the South Coast Regional Grand Final Lightning Carnival for all metropolitan regions. This carnival is held at Lords Indoor Centre where the top teams come together to play in a round robin style tournament to determine the overall winner in a Grand Final playoff.

Over the duration of the day the girls played five games and we would like to congratulate the following two girls who achieved exceptional personal success:

- **Tayla De Valle**
  - Best Player
  - Deni Campbell
  - Runner Up Best Player

Singapore Here we Come

Trials were recently held for the upcoming tour to Singapore in November/December.

After three weeks of trials a team of 12 was selected. The calibre of those girls trying out for the touring team was exceptionally high and all girls regardless as to whether they made the team or not are to be congratulated for their dedication and good natured competitive spirit.

A special congratulations to the following students who have been selected to travel to Singapore:

- **Tayla de Valle (Captain)**
- **Caitlin Kerr**
- **Chelsea Fraser**
- **Claudia Parry**
- **Shairah Dick**
- **Hana Sakic**
- **Jessica Smith**
- **Monique Tapp**
- **Mihaela Herceg**
- **Johnnie-Deshay Ngatai**
- **Jamie-Lee Elliot**
- **Kirsten Young**

These 12 Specialist Netball program students will travel to Singapore to play in the 15/U International Youth Sports Challenge and will play against other netball teams/schools from around the world. This competition places a strong emphasis on the Olympic values of Friendship, Excellence and Respect.
Specialist Program in Netball
High School Cup

High School Cup is the major tournament of the year in which Melville SHS participates and was once again held at the Fremantle Netball Association. Melville SHS had seven teams competing which equates to approximately 80 girls from Years 8-12. The final outcome of the day was that Melville SHS had three teams out of the seven finishing in first place in their respective zones and have therefore made it through to the Inter Zone Finals where they will play other teams in different zones to determine a place at the Elimination Day in Term 3.

Year 9 Clinic with Sue Gaudion

As one of only four schools within Western Australia to be accredited by Netball WA we are fortunate to be able to access some of the best coaches and players within the country to conduct coaching sessions for our netballers. Sue Gaudion is no exception.

In 1999 Sue was Head Coach for the Singapore National Team at the World Netball Championships. Upon returning to Australia in 2005 Sue led the State 21’s team to their first national championship victory in 33 years. This win elevated Sue to the role of Head Coach of the Perth Orioles in the National Netball League and in 2008 was the inaugural coach of the West Coast Fever in the ANZ Championships first year. In 2009 Sue went on to be the Assistant Coach of the Australian Institute of Sport-Netball Program and today she is a commentator on Channel 10’s coverage of the ANZ Championships and still plays a pivotal role within Netball WA.

The focus of the coaching session was on defensive work and pressure. Sue ran the girls through a series of drills. The students improved progressively as the session went on and all of those who attended gained greater insight into what it takes to be a champion player.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Best Player</th>
<th>Runner Up Best Player</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 - 1</td>
<td>Claudia Parry</td>
<td>Jaimie-Lee Elliott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 - 2</td>
<td>Darcy Angus</td>
<td>Courtney Gaudio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 - 3</td>
<td>Ruby Watson and Ciara O’Neil</td>
<td>Julia Poutsma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9/10 - 1</td>
<td>Chelsea Fraser and Shairah Dick</td>
<td>Tayla De Valle and Johnnie-Deshay Ngatai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9/10 - 2</td>
<td>Jade Pulford</td>
<td>Ashydyn Kawana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9/10 - 3</td>
<td>Chloe Woodall</td>
<td>Maria Anestoudis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11/12 - 1</td>
<td>Amy Haden</td>
<td>Bridget Emery and Ashleigh Supper</td>
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Opened in 2006, the Learning Resource Centre is an integral part of the curriculum and student life at Melville Senior High School.

The area can cater for up to five classes at a single time and is an ideal venue for displays, guest speakers and information evenings.

A full range of print and non-print resources is provided for students and staff that reflect the learning abilities, needs and styles of our diverse student body. Extensive help is provided for English as a Second Language (ESL) students.

Reading for pleasure is actively encouraged through fiction and non-fiction material. The Learning Resource Centre staff endeavour to provide a helpful, relaxing environment where students can find assistance and grow to develop a love of reading and further enhance their thirst for knowledge.

Opening hours are:
8:00am - 4:00pm weekdays (excluding recess) and is staffed by teachers / librarians and library officers, providing learning support for students and staff alike.
University Open Days present Melville SHS students with an excellent opportunity to gain a greater insight into both campus life and the various courses / career paths they are considering pursuing.

University Open Days will assist students with their decision making process whilst introducing them to a host of incredible opportunities. They will get to mix with like-minded students from various secondary institutions throughout the state whilst listening to a range of lecturers. Students will gain an insight into the courses, have an opportunity to view displays and ask questions of both current students and university lecturers.

We highly recommend that students use this opportunity to attend University Open Days, ask questions, tour campuses and immerse themselves in university life for a day. This exposure will serve as additional motivation for final semester studies and a push to the finish line.

**Dates for Your Diary:**

- 5 August – Curtin University  
  [www.curtin.edu.au](http://www.curtin.edu.au)

- 12 August – UWA (10:00am-4:00pm)  
  [www.uwa.edu.au](http://www.uwa.edu.au)

- 12 August – Edith Cowan University - Mt Lawley Campus  
  [www.ecu.edu.au](http://www.ecu.edu.au)

- 12 August – ECU & WAAPA - Mount Lawley Campus  

- 19 August – Murdoch University  
  [www.murdoch.edu.au](http://www.murdoch.edu.au)

- 19 August – University of Notre Dame  
  [www.nd.edu.au](http://www.nd.edu.au)
The following responses are from four Melville SHS Yr 10 students who spent a day with hundreds of other WA students at a World Vision conference addressing the Global Food Crisis and its affect on individuals and nations:

On the 25th May I was lucky enough to join the Chaplain, Anni Crouch, and three of my peers at the World Vision Global Leadership Convention. During the day there were several rounds of a simulation game where we had to make, and then sell, trade or keep food to stay alive. The amount of energy and enthusiasm that went into the game at the start was amazing, but it soon wore down as the difficulty and tedium set in. The purpose of the simulation was to show us how hard it is to have enough food in some third world countries: to me it proved how much of a struggle it literally is for people in these countries to survive.

Debriefing the game make me think how lucky I am to live in a place like Australia and the whole experience has made me think twice about all of the things I would normally take for granted. I am encouraged to do my bit to fight against hunger, beginning with participating in the 40 Hour Famine in August.

Toby Goor Yr 10

In the simulation game we played it was interesting watching all the stealing, lying, cheating, human trafficking, and black marketing take place. People used any means to win the game – just as really happens in the world’s economy. The live prices and how they kept changing was also interesting, making the game very real.

Hayden Kessner-McMahon Yr 10

The World Vision Global Leadership Conference was an eye-opening event for me personally: on how the kids of Africa and around the world are less fortunate than us. We have so much compared to them, yet we can do so much to change their lives with very little effort. We need to make some changes for the better of these people, to improve their lives.

Oliver Richards Yr 10

Beyond my expectations of the day, I really did learn a lot that has motivated me to do my bit to help bring change. The 40 Hour Famine is a great way that I and our school can help.

Deni Campbell Yr 10

Melville SHS students will be invited to participate in the 40 Hour Famine and we have set a school target for $3,000 this year.
Indonesian Cooking Excursion

A group of Year 8 Indonesian students recently attended an Indonesian cooking class held at Osh 5 One in Victoria Park.

Students assisted with the preparation and cooking of the food and then the highlight of the experience...the taste test. A delicious array of authentic Indonesian cuisine made for not only a wonderful lunch but also a rich cultural experience.

*I think a lot of people’s eyes were too big for their bellies!! Everyone’s plates were loaded with food. The spring rolls were to die for. The excursion was a very exciting experience and I would love to do it again.*

**Katie Moss**
Year 8 Indonesian Student

From Picasso to Warhol

On Thursday, June 21, the Year 10 Visual Arts students had the unique opportunity to view the international exhibition *Picasso to Warhol, Fourteen Modern Masters* from the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) New York. The Art Gallery of Western Australia is the only venue to host this exhibition in Australia. The students had an extraordinary experience to see these international artists works in reality, making links with their own practice in-class and getting involved with the modern masters of art.

Thanks to the Art teachers Mellissa McCarthy and Jenna Antoniolli for organising the excursion and Beth Glasson and Anni Crouch for providing support. The exhibition will be on show until December 3, and is a once in a lifetime experience which is highly recommended.
Specialist Program Testing

Melville Senior High School, where dedication and commitment form the cornerstone of a world class education.

Specialist Programs

Final Round Testing for Specialist Programs in:
Aviation
Graphic Design Media
Netball
and
School Based Extension Programs:
Academic Extension Course (AEC)
Music in Focus

Commence 31 August 2012 (dates vary for each program).
Registration must be received 18 August 2012