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From the Principal

Welcome to edition 30 of Melville Matters – the second under the skilled direction of Mrs Kate Main our new Marketing and Communications Officer. I know you will agree the cover on the last edition was evocative and I am delighted to advise that a stained glass window similar to the one depicted is being donated to the school by the Fitzpatrick family in an generous vote of thanks to the school for the education of their two children, that last of whom (our Head Boy Casey) will finish at Melville at the end of 2012.

Since I last wrote, staff and students at Melville have been extremely busy both in and out of school. One of our aims as a school is to provide a world class education for all students – and thus become a school of choice for our local and the wider community.

Staff at Melville believe that a world class education involves a commitment to providing students with the opportunity to undertake activities, be they academic, sporting, cultural or civic, that sit alongside the traditional classroom curriculum but which generally take place externally – often out of regular school hours.

These so called extra or co-curricular activities are considered of such importance in providing a comprehensive education that we have included a target aimed at measuring co-curricular engagement in our 2012–14 Business Plan. For members of our community who are interested in the Business Plan this is target 2.2.1 which is part of the wider School Sustainability priority.

By making the growth of co-curricular activities a school priority it sends a message about the extent to which we value the ideals behind the target and it also means that additional resources from the school and elsewhere will be made available to staff and indeed students to grow and strengthen this already dynamic and diverse area of school life at Melville SHS.

Over the past few weeks the following is a sample of the co-curricular activities that have taken place at Melville SHS, many of which are outlined in detail in this issue:

- Over four successive weekends the Intermediate and Senior Concert Bands, the Swing Band, the Classic Guitar Ensemble and our Choral Ensemble each performed at the School of Instrumental Music Saturday concert series.
- Our art students had pieces selected for display as finalists at the Black Swan Prize for Portraiture and also at the Young Originals Exhibition where they were commended by the Director General of Education, Ms Sharyn O’Neil for the excellence of their work.
- Dance, drama and art students performed at the YOH Fest concert in Subiaco.
- Mathematics students were involved in the interschool Numero competition and the ICAS math competition.
- English students were involved in inter-school debating, visits to a series of after school theatre performances and the Book in a Day competition.
- IEC students participated in the Oracy exams.
- Science students were involved in Science week.
- Society and Environment students were visited by the Starrs Productions who presented their play ‘Vietnam Dusted Off’.
- Netball students were involved in numerous tournaments and are of course getting ready for their international tour to Singapore next term.
- Interschool sports students finished their after school competitions in both the junior boys AFL and the junior and senior boys and girls soccer and touch competitions.
- Students across Years 8–10 participated in zone lightning carnivals as part of the school’s preparation for the B Division Interschool Athletics carnival next term. The whole school was then involved in the very successful House Athletics carnival.
- Senior students, including our Head Boy and Head Girl attended the Western Australian Governors Breakfast.
- World Challenge staff and students attended a weekend wilderness training session to help prepare them for the experience of travel to Borneo in Term 4.
- The SES cadets attended a weekend activity as part of their ongoing commitment to supporting the local community in the event of an emergency.
- In addition to visits from Japanese Principals and Vietnamese International Fee Paying Student Agents hosted by our students, students at Melville also welcomed three students visiting from Nanjing in China who had won a competition called “Enrich Yourself in Perth”.

All images are by staff and students of Melville Senior High School unless otherwise accredited.
• the IEC students have established a Sunshine Club which provides friendship opportunities with a fund raising, volunteering backdrop.

• Health and Physical Education Health Week organised by Year 12 health studies class.

• Outdoor education staff conducted a weekend camp to Pemberton.

• The school hosted EXO Week.

• Student councillors laid a wreath at the Battle for Australia Ceremony at Applecross War Memorial.

As you can see a busy month and this is just a sample of the sorts of co-curricular activities that are happening at Melville SHS on a daily basis - and of course there is a lot more to come.

On a separate note I was delighted to interview six of our finest students last week for the important positions of Head Girl and Head Boy in 2013. It was a very difficult decision to make but I am delighted to announce that Aiden Jolly and Rhianna Brims will be our Head Boy and Girl in 2013. Congratulations.

One of our targets in the Business Plan 2010–11 was to upgrade the Science facilities at Melville – to make them better able to cope with the demands of twenty-first century education. Accordingly we were delighted to learn earlier this year that our submission to get three labs upgraded at government expense was successful.

You may also recall that we decided to commit an additional quarter million dollars of school funds toward upgrading a fourth room. The work was planned to begin at the start of Term 3 but delays in the government tender process have pushed back the commencement date until earlier this month. Accordingly a builder’s compound was established near the swimming pool loading dock and the science rooms to be refurbished were vacated and fenced off to allow the work to commence. The four new hi-tech science labs should be ready for use at the beginning of Term 1 2013 and in the meanwhile all students are being adequately accommodated elsewhere in the school.

Since I last wrote we have been advised that Melville SHS will be given facilities (four classrooms) to enable the school to grow to around 1,250 -1,300 when the Year 7s come to us in 2015. While the solution is not perfect (we are not getting new buildings for example) it is one that is adequate for our needs. Perhaps on another occasion we will get permanent buildings – but for the moment we will be able to accommodate our continued growth as a school with the four demountables (including a specialist science demountable) we have been promised. By the way, in 2013 we anticipate having over 1,000 students, which will climb to 1,250 over the two year period to 2015.

Finally, by the time you read this our Year 12 students will be sitting their final school exams on the count down to the external ATAR exams that commence earlier in Term 4. We wish those of our Year 12s doing exams all the best but remind them successful people make their own luck – generally through hard work and study!! This said, good luck.

As always, kind regards

Phillip White, AM
RFD, BA, Grad Dip Ed, Med (Man)
Principal

High Fliers

Four of Melville Senior High School’s high academic achievers recently attended a lunch at Murdoch University for the top students from the Fremantle Schools Public Partnership with our Principal.

Ignasius Setiaputra, Elia Giller, Charlotte Pickering and Rebecca (Shaghayegh) Bahrani enjoyed the lunch and the opportunity to meet similar students from other schools.
2013 Head Boy and Girl

In Week 7 Melville SHS selected the Head Girl and Head Boy for 2013. Congratulations to Aidan Jolly and Rhianna Brims who successfully nominated and impressed at interviews and will represent the school admirably.

Well done to all the applicants who will have gained great experience in the process. Those involved with selections mentioned that it was an extremely strong field.

Aiden has been on the Student Council for four years and is involved in many extra curricular activities such as being a peer mentor and being in the World Challenge team.

Rhianna is also involved with the peer mentoring programs as well as helping at Year 7 Orientation and Year 8 camp. Rhianna is a music student and a member of the Swing and Concert bands and the Vocal Ensemble.

Recently Rhianna has been on the EXO Week committee (activities are mentioned later in this edition) and last year attended the Student CHOGM conference.

NAPLAN Results

In news just to hand we are delighted to announce that our Year 9 students have exceeded state and national averages in each of the five NAPLAN test areas – that is Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation and Numeracy.

The data is especially pleasing given the relatively high proportion of mainstream ESL students we have at Melville and also when it is noted that our Year 9 Education Support Students participated in the national testing for the first time ever in 2012.

While there is a lot more data analysis to be done, at first glance we have already met our 2014 Business Plan target of exceeding state and national averages in NAPLAN – which as you will appreciate is very pleasing.

In addition to congratulating the students it is of course most appropriate to thank and acknowledge the English, ESL and Math staff who have worked together, under the leadership of Mr Richard Slade, Mrs Nerin Sidhu and Mr Mike Andrews, to ensure our students are provided with the necessary literacy and numeracy skills to succeed in the twenty-first century. The table below summarises the 2012 results.

In celebrating the collective achievement of this data, we also acknowledge that not all students have done as well as others. Accordingly, as a school we will continue to work hard to ensure any student who achieved below the national benchmark is provided with the additional support they will need to improve their literacy and/or numeracy standards before they reach Senior School in 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Australian School Mean</th>
<th>575</th>
<th>553</th>
<th>577</th>
<th>573</th>
<th>584</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State School Mean</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melville School Mean</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>592</td>
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</table>
House Athletics Carnival

The House Athletics Carnival held on 31 August was a fantastic success. Participants and spectators went to great lengths to support their house colour with everything from teletubbies costumes to painted bodies.

The competition was fierce and the participation levels were huge, as the more events you entered, the more points you earned for your house.

See the photos in the middle spread of Melville Matters to get an idea of the action. There is also a larger collection of photos on rotation in reception.

The individual champions and runners up and their points are listed above. The carnival house points were allocated as follows on the right.

In Athletics, Cygnus is the strongest House in upper school and Aquila is strongest in lower school in Years 8 and 10, with Pegasus strongest in Year 9.

### Individual champions and runners up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>Second</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Boys</td>
<td>Masuki Doloh</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 Girls</td>
<td>Kirsten Young</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Boys</td>
<td>Tristan Wu</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Girls</td>
<td>Jessica Smith</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Boys</td>
<td>Matthew Pallotta</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Girls</td>
<td>Tayla De Val</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 Boys</td>
<td>Joseph Whennen</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 Girls</td>
<td>Hayley Booth</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12 Boys</td>
<td>Brent Woodford</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12 Girls</td>
<td>Tessa Lauritsen &amp; Molly Scott</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Athletics House Points

A break down of house points from individual efforts in the Athletics Carnival looks like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Aquila</th>
<th>Cygnus</th>
<th>Gryphon</th>
<th>Pegasus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>339 (1st)</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>339 (1st)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>422 (1st)</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/12</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>308 (1st)</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Current House Points

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Aquila</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Cygnus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Gryphon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Pegasus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
House Athletics Carnival

FAST FUN

House Carnival Colour

9330-0300 melville.shs@education.wa.edu.au
www.melville.wa.edu.au
Health = Happiness

Week 7 was a healthy one, with activities involving a range of activities. Students (and staff) got into the spirit of the theme on a variety of fronts.

Everyone knows that breakfast, especially a healthy one, is the best ways to start the day. Over five mornings there were samples of food available before school enticing students with fruit, muesli bars and such to encourage options that they may then try at home.

There was also action in the gym at lunchtime with Dodge Ball, Indoor Soccer, Basketball 4-on-4, Body-Attack, Netball, Zumba, Modcross and a dance competition.

The dodge ball was held at a frenetic pace and when a team was left with only a handful of players, they were pelted mercilessly with a barrage of basketballs.

The local lacrosse club came to the school to show Year 8 students the exciting modified game of Modcrosse. The players quickly picked it up and had giggly good exercise.

The Year 10s were awed when they met some Western Force Rugby Union players and Year 8s were lucky enough to attend a Wildcats Basketball Clinic.

Technologically Enterprising

Year 12 Technology and Enterprise students have built new clothing racks for school blazers that are housed in the administration storage area. The metalwork students have completed three solid racks that will last for many years to come.

With the old racks buckling under the weight there was a request to provide new and stronger racks to keep the blazers stored in good order.

James Baker and Glen Weaver took on the design with enthusiasm and produced some quality results. As part of their Year 12 metals course the students had to assess the requirements for the job and set about designing and constructing the new racks to satisfy the need.

The aim of these practical courses is to give students the skills and confidence to approach these tasks and to carry them out in a logical and thoughtful manner. A job well done.
Artistic Success

Painters
Six Melville Senior High School students had their art selected to represent the school at the Black Swan Portraiture and Heritage Awards. The 2012 Youth Heritage Prize empowers school students to take their art outside the school environment and to exhibit alongside some of the most talented artists in Australia. It identifies emerging artists and encourages them to have faith in themselves and their developing skills.

The winners of the Heritage section were Year 11’s Tarquin Bateman and Tanika Callister (picture featured) and Year 12’s Ashleigh Bishop and Tameka Wild. The exhibition is on until 1 October at the Linton and Kay Art Gallery, 137 St Georges Terrace, Perth from 10-6pm Monday on Saturday and 12-4pm on Sundays.

Melville Senior High School artists were also seen at the Young Originals exhibition recently impressing Education Department Director-General Sharyn O’Neill.

Dancers
Dance and drama students performed at the YOH Fest Youth on Health Festival at the Subiaco Arts Centre in Week 6 and received awards for excellent use of lighting and excellence backstage.

The Year 8 and 9 dance students performed a ‘flash mob’ dance at lunchtime during EXO week.

Music
Music students have had a busy term with bands performing and excelling at the School of Instrumental Music (SIM) Festival. The Intermediate Concert Band and the Classical Guitar Ensemble are congratulated on received “Excellent” for their performances.

The Senior Concert Band and the Swing Band also did well and received a Merit award. Year 12 student Gene Perrett received a special commendation for his drum solo.

The Vocal Ensemble “Melville Vox” also received a Merit award and a really great effort was given by all the students involved.

Music Testing Day for places in the specialist music program was held in Week 7. There are still a few places left for the Music in Focus Program 2013. Parents can contact the Music Department. Scholarship winners will be notified in the first week of Term 4.
Chaplaincy Happenings

Life is Excellent
Week 8 was EXO Week celebrating that Life is Excellent. There was something for everyone and those soon to be studying for exams were reminded that, actually, life is pretty good. A group of Melville Senior High School students ran the activities with enthusiasm.

The week’s highlight was guest speaker Paralympian champion Priya Cooper (pictured right) at two special assemblies. Priya is an Australian World Champion disabled swimmer, winning nine Paralympic Gold medals. She competed in the 1992, 1996 and 2000 Paralympics swimming team and was twice co-captain. She carried the Australian flag at the closing ceremonies for the 1992 and 1996 Paralympic games.

Priya has cerebral palsy and spends much of her time in a wheelchair. She gave an inspirational talk on her efforts to strive for excellence.

Her life stories and Paralympic experiences had key points of learning for us. These included being solution-focused rather than problem-focused; success begins with choosing to give something a go; doing your best IS success; dreams can come true with determination and no-one can take from you the winner’s attitude.

Other fun activities included a tug-of-war and three legged races, guess how many lollies in the jar, and musical performances at recess. An art and photo competition had some fabulous entries that are displayed in the library. Year 8 and 9 dance students performed a ‘flash mob’ dance during one lunchtime which was terrific!

For Years 8-10 there was The Amazing Race at lunchtime on the Tuesday where students were sent to all ends of the school with instructions and messages. Meanwhile Year 11 and 12 students had a cook-off
in a Master Chef competition. Tyisha Smith (below) was the winner with her interpretation of death by chocolate. Tyisha made a triple chocolate cheesecake which was a big hit with the administration staff.

On Friday the 17th of August three other year 12’s and I were given the opportunity to attend the Governor’s Prayer Breakfast.

As we travelled to Burswood we were uncertain about what it would involve and what it would be like. What we experienced when we arrived was far from what we expected. The Breakfast had many speakers who gave inspirational words to the many who attended.

We were then addressed by the Honourable John Anderson AO who gave a speech that left us thinking about many issues in today’s society. The experience was one that allowed us to meet Mr Anderson personally, and talk to other students from other schools who we probably would never have met otherwise. It was an amazing experience and I would like to thank Anni for inviting me.

Tessa Lauritsen

40 Hour Famine
This year some Melville Senior High School students had a grand aim of raising $3,000 through World Vision’s 40 Hour Famine.

They went without either food, furniture, speaking or electronics in order to raise funds to help those struggling to survive in other countries. This year’s focus was Ethiopia.

Thank you to families who have supported them in this endeavour. Students need to return all books and funds to the school ASAP - preferably before the end of term.

Governor’s Prayer Breakfast
Each year a few students are invited to attend the Governor’s Prayer Breakfast in Burswood, which is attended by the Governor of WA, His Excellency Mr Malcolm McCusker AO QC and hundreds of community and government leaders from the state. This year Principal, Mr White and Year 12s Daisy Grant, Shenae Vincent, Tessa Lauritsen and Nathan Hopkinson attended. The following is a response from Tessa:
Gifted and Talented

Write-a-Book-in-a-Day Competition
Melville Senior High School has recently seen our twentieth team successfully complete the challenge of the Write-a-Book-in-a-Day Competition. This year there were two teams of Gifted and Talented student volunteers who worked together to acquire the competition entry fees (to be donated to Princess Margaret Children’s Hospital) and write a book. ‘Team Charlie’ was comprised of mostly Year 8 students led by two Year 10 Write-a-Book-in-a-Day veterans and the ‘TC and M’ who was a group of Year 9 friends.

The teams eagerly gathered, bright and early, at the school library to receive the ‘parameters’ they were required to incorporate into their novels. It was heart warming to witness the effective and friendly collaboration undertaken by the student team members to plan the plot, character development and settings for their novel.

Over a period of only twelve hours two beautifully illustrated, creative and entertaining novels for young readers were produced. Following judging for the competition the novels: The Last Hurdle by Team Charlie and A Miracle in the Mines by TC and M, will become part of Princess Margaret Children’s Hospital library collection.

Draft copies of the novels can be viewed in the school library and extracts from them are as follows:

‘Blast!’ she yelped as she stepped on her injured foot. She crumpled down on the floor crying. She felt as if the walls were closing in on her. She had failed everything! Georgina’s purpose in life, she had thought, was to run! To hurdle! To sail through the air and win! Her strength, which was her courage and faith in herself had become her weakness. She had always been confident, maybe even cocky, but she had never doubted herself before now. She felt as if something was crushing her heart and soul. The force was so intense that she felt she would crumble into a million pieces. She had never felt grief so great.

Extract from The Last Hurdle by Team Charlie: Izzy Bartlett, Deni Campbell, Muhammad Ali Anwar, Injika Caines Smith, Connor Deaville, Andrew Howarth, Crystal Long, Jessica Sabot and Alide Trees.

Mya and Chester observed Fangs curiously, carefully noting which plants and fruits he ate and how he ate them, before walking over, careful not to damage the beautiful plants with their shoes. Mya was the first to bend over and pluck the delicate fruit from the same plants that Fang had eaten. It was shaped like an eggplant and was a sky-blue colour. She cautiously took the first bite. The juice from within spread across her tongue like molten lava. It tasted sweet, like a combination of blueberries and pear. She licked the juices off her hand and looked at Chester with a big grin, “You have to try this fruit, it’s amazing’. Chester, still coming to grips with the possibilities these plants had for the medical industry, looked at her and said, “This may be exciting, but we’ve still got to find a way out of here.”

Extract from A Miracle in the Mines by TC and M: Melanie Brown, Margaret Camporeale, Ben Cochrane, Justin Davies, Sean Hayes, Nick Henton, Ben Long, Jasmine Sandilands and Rebecca Thorpe.
Mathematics Mentalists

A group of mathematic buffs represented Melville Senior High School at the Numero Competition held at St Hilda’s Anglican girls school in Week 6.

In its early levels, Numero develops:
• basic number recognition from zero to 15
• basic number facts of all four operations
• speed of recall.

As the game develops and players move to more difficult levels with the introduction of Wild Cards, additional concepts and skills are developed and reinforced including fractions, decimals and percentages.

At its higher levels Numero develop concepts such as squared and cubed roots, multiple equations and point scoring. At all levels of Numero there is a high level of problem solving and understanding of strategy which develops from basic stages with young students to complex moves that will challenge the brightest mathematical mind.

Geographic Field Trip

On 13 September the Year 11 Geography class, took a two-hour drive down to the Avondale farm in Beverley. A big thankyou to Mr Murphy who drove us there and to Mrs Armstrong and Miss Fynmore for joining us on the excursion.

We had the opportunity to see and learn how the mixed crop live stock system works. We learnt how farmers make their living, what it takes to be a successful farmer and all the capital equipment needed to run a farm successfully.

This was achieved with the help of Dina, one of the full time administration workers at the Avondale Discovery Farm. We were able to complete the farming field trip booklet easily because of Dina’s personal knowledge and easy going personality. Our first activity involved walking around the farm after our two-hour long bus ride, then we went for a tour around the Avondale farm.

We even got the chance to get close up and personal with two beautiful Clydesdale horses Robbie and Comet. Robbie and Comet work on the farm. In all it was a very interesting and fun day for the Year 11 Geography students who recommended that next years Year 11 Geography class get to have the same experience. We had a horse of a time!

Natasha Pearson
Year 11 Geography Student
English Energy

Literary Leavers

2012 saw the introduction of a Stage 1 Literature course at Melville SHS. We have had a fantastic time exploring various texts that the students selected themselves.

This semester, their major assessment involved selecting a novel, investigating the genre and designing a promotional poster or web page advertising their text. The novels chosen were extremely varied, as were the final products. The depth of investigation and analysis done by the students was outstanding.

Above is a selection of some of the fabulous promotional posters. They will be displayed in the Library and English classrooms.

Debating

In Week 6 selected Year 8, 9 and 10 students represented Melville Senior High School at Inter-school debating. In the last round of interschool debating the Year 8 team dominated and won the debate. The Year 9 teams were narrowly defeated by Rossmoyne in a fiercely fought top of the table clash.

The Year 10s were not able to field a full team but Deni Campbell contributed magnificently. They lost on a forfeit.

The teams were:

Year 8       Brandon Ivic
             Injika Caines Smith
             Andrew Hawworth
             Harsh Sharma

Year 9       Chris Barker
             Aaron Read
             Moesha Rumpf
             Juandre Schoeman

Year 10      Deni Campbell
             Isobell Bartlett
             Hayden Kessner

Well done to all teams and many thanks to Mr Wolfenden and Mr Delves.

Recycling Win

The Year 11 Building and Construction class of Mr Brian Renfrey were given the unusual task of creating occasional tables using left over school desks.

There were some fantastic designs and Suwit Aenko was judged the best over all in design and construction of his classy side table. He won a cordless drill.

The class have been busy welding, brick laying and using timber to get some fantastic skills that will last forever.
Lest We Forget

Since 2008 the first Wednesday of September has been dedicated as a memorial ceremony to men and women who fought to defend Australia. It is organised through the Battle for Australia Commemoration National Council. This Year Melville Senior High School was invited to attend the Local RSL ceremony held at Melville Civic Centre. Four of our Students Councillors represented the school and laid a wreath on behalf of the school community.

The Battle for Australia was a battle never before envisaged in this country yet much of it still remains unknown. It was a struggle that stretched our national resources to the limit; which saw the bombing of mainland Australia; the attack by midget submarines on Sydney Harbour and raised the spectre of the threat of a possible invasion through Papua New Guinea.

Our sailors, soldiers and airmen and those of our allies fought and many died in the defence of Singapore, the Battle of Sunda Strait, Timor, the Kokoda Track, Milne Bay, the Battles of the Coral Sea and Midway, in the Solomons and at Savo Island. The men of the Merchant Navy provided invaluable support throughout the island chain and suffered heavy casualties, as did the often-unsung heroes, the Coastwatchers.

Canberra and Sydney Tour

In Week 8 of Term 2, 23 Year 11 students spent five days touring Sydney and Canberra, packing a lot into the short time.

During a day and a half in Sydney, the group saw the final night of the Vivid Sydney Light Show in the Circular Quay area, learnt about the history of the Rocks while visiting Susannah Place Museum, took in a harbour cruise and a trip on the monorail, walked across the Sydney Harbour Bridge and took part in a re-enactment of the infamous ‘Pyjama Girl’ murder trial from the 1930’s.

The two hour bus ride to Canberra was a chance to take a break, as the pace didn’t slow once the group arrived in the national capital. After an introduction to the history of Canberra at the National Capital Exhibition, we were off to the CSIRO to play with some giant insects, as well as tour one of the research laboratories with two of the scientists. A visit to the High Court of Australia finished the day’s touring.

On Thursday and Friday the students took in the civic institutions of Canberra, including the Australian War Memorial, the National Portrait Gallery, the Electoral Education Centre, Parliament House, the National Gallery, National Museum, the Film and Sound Archive as well as Government House. Phew!

All students who toured must be commended on their fine conduct, enthusiasm and co-operative manner during the week. The group was frequently commended for their behaviour and appearance in their new school leavers’ jackets. The students were excellent ambassadors for Melville SHS.
IEC

Athletics
The School Athletics Carnival is one of the few opportunities for the IEC as a whole to compete with the rest of the school, an experience we always enjoy.

The most successful IEC athlete was Eric Ngengiyumva who is from the Congo. He competed in seven events and earned forty points for Aquila. Other IEC students of athletic note are in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Best Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Eric Nsengiyumva</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>HJump/Hurdles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rae Moore</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>400m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mengyue Shi</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>100m</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Day Chingsanthia</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>High Jump</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Shan Shan Choi</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>200m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Nadine Darwiche</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Discus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mehraneh Mohammadi</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>200m</td>
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There were ex-IEC students who also did really well at the carnival. Congratulations to Abdula and Mohammad Haidari, Zair Saeedi, Mary Johnson and Ablam Sego. Great to see your success.

The IEC students embraced the carnival atmosphere with lots of colour and enthusiasm. Hopefully next year we will see even more students participating in events and earning points for their House.

The 2012 Athletics Carnival was a great day for everyone, including the IEC students. They had a chance to be part of their house and their school in a truly classic Australian high school event.

Talk on Cyber Safety
Detective Jade Lay from the Child Abuse Squad talked to Year 8s and 10s at their assemblies in Week 9 to discuss aspects of cyber safety.

Students were surprised to see, via a short video, how easy cyber predators can access Facebook accounts if children have not engaged full privacy controls. Also it was outlined how important it is to know all your Facebook friends.

If parents are interested in the viewing this video and they have Facebook just google Take This Lollipop.

This is a website endorsed by the Australian Federal Police and all Facebook accounts accessed in viewing the video are protected. The talk certainly gave our students something to think about.