Welcome to the fourth edition of Melville Matters for 2016. In accordance with our practice this is an electronic edition and is available directly via email (hence the need to keep your email address up to date) or from Face Book or our web-page. By the time you read this edition, exams will be over, semester 1 reports will have been posted and perhaps received and we will probably be on holidays!

In order to give teaching staff a bit more time to complete their course work and because of the significant burden exam marking places on staff, we have moved the whole school report day from the last week in term 2 (where it has been traditionally held) to Tuesday 19 July which is the first week of term 3 and also a pupil free day. One of the main objectives of reporting to and meeting with parents is to keep you informed about your child’s progress so that you can support them if they need extra help. Parent meetings assist in this communication but you don’t 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 and the use of Connect is making this an almost instantaneous process. If a teacher is unable to assist, their Head of Department or Program Manager is also available to help. A list of subject HOLAs, Program Managers and Teachers in Charge can be found in the front of the 2016 School Handbook and of course a full list of teaching staff is also available on the school website.

As the use of Connect grows and the availability of immediate updates on student progress is enabled through access online to a teacher’s virtual marks book, we are reviewing the traditional method of advising parents that their child is at risk of failing between reports via a hard copy Letter of Concern as is currently the case. We are exploring options for achieving this purpose electronically via Connect or email - but because not all parents have computer access or indeed use Connect we will manage any changes conservatively to ensure no one is disadvantaged.

Effective communication is something we take very seriously at Melville SHS. For a busy parent, knowing where to start can be quite overwhelming in a school of 1,450 students and 160 staff. If you are "class=FROM THE PRINCIPAL"
ever unsure about what to do about your child’s progress across more than one subject or outside of school or the classroom, the best place to begin is by contacting the relevant person from our Student Services team. Ms Steph McDonald (Deputy Principal Student Services) supervises a Middle School team (Years 7 to 9) and a Senior School team (Years 10 to 12). By the time you read this the Middle School team will again comprise a level 3 Manager (Mr Michael Oliver who comes to us from Lesmurdie SHS) and three Year Coordinators: Mr Josh Barker (Year 7), Mr Sam Glazebrook (Year 8) and Ms Rhian Bilclough (Year 9). The Senior School team is managed by Ms Sandy Olney-Thurston (Year 11 and 12) and supported by Ms Beth Glasson as Year 10 Coordinator. Supporting the two teams are Ms Deb Manook (School Psychologist), our two nurses, two chaplains and Mr George Tills as VET and Transitions Manager.

In term 3 we are also recognising the need to better coordinate our whole school support for students at educational risk (SAER) through the appointment of Ms Sass Vlasich as the foundation Manager of SAER. Sass will take responsibility for coordinating across the MLC and RISE programs (still managed day-to-day by Ms Janelle Cahoon and Ms Shannon Sapienza as Teachers in Charge) as well as mainstream SAER support (through Yolanda Cool as Learning Support Coordinator) and Aboriginal SAER support (through RISE which will take over management of the ACE program and Ms Michelle Kickett our Aboriginal Education Officer). I will write more about this change for the next, hard copy edition, of Melville Matters.

The last few weeks of term 2 have been amazingly busy. However, after almost eight years at Melville, I have come to realize this is pretty much the normal state of play! In addition to exams and marking in Years 8, 10, 11 and 12, there have been over 13,500 individual subject or course reports (an average of 10 per student) to write, proof read, print off and then post out. Weeks 9 and 10 alone have seen: a brilliant Performing Arts Variety Show conducted over two nights (you can read about this separately); a Canberra Tour for Year 11 and 12 HASS students; a Year 9 Lightning Carnival; a Year 10 Parents
Briefing; a pirate themed “Free Dress” day (to fund raise for cancer); interschool debating; after school sports finals; a Women in Leadership event hosted by Melville; a whole school assembly; an IEC graduation; participation in the South of Swan Dance Festival and an English Conference at Curtin University. And all of this on top of the normal classroom engagement that takes pride of place day in and day out at our wonderful world class school.

Finally, a reminder that term 2 will finish on Friday July 1 and term 3 commences on Wednesday July 20 for students (Monday July 18 is a Professional Development Day for staff and Tuesday July 19 is student free Whole School Reporting Day). I wish all of our students and staff a safe and relaxing holiday BUT a reminder to Year 11 and 12 ATAR students that they should be using the two week break to consolidate their understanding of semester one subject content and to study, study, study for their exams at the end of term 3 and again at the beginning of term 4!

As always,
Kind Regards
Phil White
AM, RFD, BA, Grad Dip Ed, MEd (MAN), psc

CLASSROOM OBSERVATION

In week 6 Melville SHS hosted 30 teachers from across the metropolitan area for their final day of professional development in Classroom Observation. This training is run by the Department of Education’s Institute of Professional Learning (IPL). It is aimed at enhancing student learning through the direct observation of classroom teaching by the individual concerned and/or a peer and the subsequent provision of feedback on what could be done to improve. While the training is generally delivered by the IPL, in this case Melville staff (and students) are intimately involved.

The reason why Melville was asked to host this activity is that we have many teachers who not only embrace the opportunity to reflect and adjust their classroom practice to better suit the learning needs of their students but they are also happy to demonstrate how they do this with teachers from other schools. We also have great students who can address adults in a mature and responsible fashion. The day was very successful and the school would like to acknowledge the cooperation and talents of all participating staff and students.
CHINESE CULTURE EXCURSION
In week 6, the Year 7 and 8 Chinese Language classes visited the Fo Guang Shan Temple, the largest Chinese temple in Perth. The students wrote Chinese calligraphy with a traditional Chinese writing brush, meditated, and saw how bamboo leaves were used for creating rice dumplings. Watching the preparation and eating the Chinese Yum Cha lunch was definitely a highlight for many students on the day too!

ITALIAN CLASS EXPERIENCES LITTLE ITALY
In week 4, the Year 10 Italian studies students and their teacher Mrs Linda Gangemi ventured to Italian produce stores and ‘Little Italy’ in Fremantle to capture the Italian contribution and influence in Fremantle. They visited Princi at Romano’s, Il Panino Bakery, Dolce e Salato and the ‘cappuccino strip’. The students had the opportunity to sample assorted delicacies in each store as well as note the authentic ambience each venue boasts. A drive past the strategically positioned Italian club and a walk to the ‘Fisherman’s Jetty’ memorial further consolidated their knowledge and experiences of the Italian contributions. Even a game of soccer was played on the Esplanade lawn to keep in line with the ‘Italianicity’ of the day. Great weather, great company, great Italian day. Grazie studenti!
MELVILLE’S SPACE CADET

As you know, Year 9 student Dean Morris, was accepted into NASA’s Space Cadet Program and recently travelled to America to take up the offer.

Upon Virgin Australia finding out about Dean's wonderful achievement, they invited him to accompany the pilots for the pre-flight check for the Boeing 777. They boarded the plane 90 minutes before passengers so Dean could spend time in the cockpit with the pilots. The pilots then gave him Virgin wings and captain stripes.

If you would like to continue to follow Dean's journey whilst on Space Camp, visit Dean's blog HERE.

Here are some more details from Dean so far:
We went to Big Bear Mountains in California to see the famous Big Bear solar observatory. The solar observatory is not open to the public since it is a research facility, we went down there to take some photos when I saw the director of the observatory near the gate (Mr Wenda Cao). He let us in and we met professor John Varsik who took me on a private tour of the whole facility.

There are two telescopes on site, one is part of the GONG network (Global Oscillation Network Group). The GONG network consists of six identical telescopes placed around the world so once the sun goes down at one site another telescope can take over. The other telescope is called The New Solar Telescope of Big Bear, it is one of the biggest solar telescopes in the world and is equipped with amazing optics to measure solar flares, sun spots, magnetic fields and takes patterns of the Sun's behaviour. Apparently lately it's been quiet. The telescope is owned by the New Jersey Institute of Technology and also supplies NASA with footage that they capture.
DEBATING 2016
The Fremantle Schools’ Debating Competition has launched into its 26th year and Melville SHS is represented by an enthusiastic group at all year levels – including two teams from Year 10 (imaginatively named Melville White and Melville Black). The first round was held at Lakeland SHS in week 5 and all of our teams debated strongly, recording three wins and two losses. The competition finishes in November.

In week 9 Melville SHS was the host school and much lively discourse was witnessed in the library. Thanks to Mr Rob Delves and Ms Denise Cahill for enthusing and organising the students. Teachers have claimed it is a pleasure to work with such a great group of debaters.

We are proud of the students’ commitment in regularly attending the Thursday lunchtime preparation meetings and also putting a lot of their own time into writing their speeches. They are also improving their skills in the difficult art of rebuttal. Participants were:

- Year 7: Shradha Shibu, Sam Wong, Celeste Prowse, Stevie Morley-Wong, Zac Alpers, Phoebe Ko, Julian Damjanovic, Emma Beros
- Year 8: Elizabeth Camporeale, Indra Barnuud, Dylan Chua-Limargna, Trish Noah
- Year 9: Tahlia Satti, Atraya Guha, Heidi Rasmussen, Brie Allison, Suria Anbalhagen
- Year 10: Lachlan Petterson, Kobi Simpson, Rafael Sumodisastro, Jerrome Lovelock, Rachel Crook-Rogers, Dylan Welsh, Roydon Elliott, Isobel Stanley, Stella Bruyn-Lange

HASS
In week 5 Mr Steven Kemp the Chief WACE marker for Economics undertook a revision seminar to get the Year 12 students prepared for their exam and to give them the opportunity to talk to Mr Kemp and ask questions. The visit was part of the ongoing development of the Centre of Excellence for Economics at Melville SHS coordinated by Ms Rhian Bilclough.
SCIENCE

Mr Guy Stapleton, Melville SHS Science teacher and 2015 WA Teacher of the Year recipient, has recently featured in a video by the Education Department to help promote the need for schools to nominate their exceptional teachers. In true Mr Stapleton fashion, he wrote a quick song to help get the message out! See it HERE.

HEALTH

In week 9 Melville SHS held one of its main whole-of-school fundraisers by supporting Pirate Day Friday. The yearly event raises awareness and funds for childhood cancer.

Health student coordinators got behind the project with gusto. There were boat-loads of pirates who feasted at a treasure-raising sausage sizzle and who walked the plank to show off their outfits. The students raised nearly $2000.
ART WEEK
Week 9 was a-buzz with art, dance music and creativity in the Arts and Technology centre. There was a major art and design exhibition in the Arts block foyer, where parents and students could see work produced so far this year. Over two nights performances were conducted by Dance and Drama classes, the Concert Bands, the Vox Ensembles and the Classic Guitar Ensembles. Supper was provided by the Year 10 Food and Nutrition class.

AWARD WINNING TALENT
Congratulations to Tahlia Eggington who was announced the winner of the Atwell Youth Art Award in the Year 8 Artwork category for her work Rose Petal Dress. Judges’ comments noted the well executed and unified use of recycled materials.

Congratulations also to Year 12 student Neisha Phipps who has just received her selection notice for the 25 Under 25 Art Award. This is no small feat when you consider only 25 artists ranging in age from 14 to 25 are selected for this award exhibition. Neisha has also won people’s choice for the whole of Melville City Council arts awards for her picture “Nan” and will receive a cheque for $1000. The opening is on Friday, July 29 at the Moores Building in Fremantle.
MIXING IT UP WITH SCIENCE
Departments are collaborating to really up the ante of a total product, by merging skills from different areas. Here are just a couple of examples:

YEAR 9 GAT
Students are creating claymation animations of a real scientific concept, discovery or invention. They are then entering the University of Sydney Sleek Geeks Science Eureka Prize for Secondary Film Making.

MUSIC VIDEO
Musically-minded choreographed chemistry [STEAM] Students and teachers from the Science, Music, Media and Dance departments are collaborating with Murdoch University to produce a musical video to teach an understanding of balancing chemical formula.

UTHANDO DOLL PROJECT
As a community service project in 2015, Ms Jenna Antonioli’s class Year 10 Art students started making dolls from scratch for a charity in South Africa for children with families affected by AIDS. Students learnt machine sewing, hand stitching, embroidery, and appliqué. Unfortunately they ran out of time to finish them. Ms Julie Deague spent many weeks over the holidays finishing off all 30 dolls (pictured right).
After-school sport is at its busiest this term with our many teams competing in inter-school competitions. Lower and upper school soccer, AFL, hockey, netball and touch rugby teams have been doing well and there have been all-day interschool lightning carnivals for Years 7 to 10. Well done to our physical education teachers as well as other staff who coach and manage the many teams.

**SPECIALIST NETBALL**

**PRIMARY SCHOOL NETBALL COMPETITION**

In week 8, our Year 10 Specialist Netball girls had a fantastic afternoon hosting local primary schools in an inaugural competition for Years 4 and 5. The girls coached, managed and umpired the teams, coordinated the results and even selected future talent from the group. These are all skills learnt as a part of the Specialist Netball Program.

The primary students all got a personalised certificate at the end of the day and congratulations went to Caralee Community School who won the inaugural trophy. The competition was a great success and will be fined-tuned to become an annual event.
WA STATE SWIMMING DUO
Congratulations to Year 12 students Cullen Dans and Kieran Peters who have been selected in the WA State Swimming Team to travel to Darwin, Northern Territory in September.

CROSS COUNTRY STATE SQUAD
Congratulations Connor Deaville for finishing strongly in his 6km state trial race and receiving an invite to the state cross country squad.

GOLF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP DUO
Hayden Hopewell and Leanne Yap entered the State Golfing Competition representing Melville SHS. They came fourth on a count-back. Hayden won secondary Golf Champion for Year 9 and was the secondary Golf Champion-Over Gross Winner with a score of 2 under par.

IEC SOFTBALL CARNIVAL
Almost 120 IEC students took part in an inter-house softball carnival earlier this term. The sky was blue and the atmosphere on the ground was bright and positive. Each House had an A and a B division team, who played three games over two sessions. This carnival was a great culmination of a seven week Phys. Ed softball program. It gave the students a chance to use their skills, mix with students outside their class and compete for their respective House. At the next IEC assembly the most valuable players were acknowledged, especially Welliam Sandika from Gryphon and Takuma Masumoto from Cygnus.

At the carnival Cygnus came first, Gryphon second, followed by Aquila and Pegasus. With excellent support from the IEC staff, Year 10 and 11 House Captains (as team managers and scorers, umpires, especially Megan Everitt, Asha Miller and Louise Browne) and with enthusiasm and cooperation from the players, it was a great event for everyone.
CONNECT NOW
Installing Connect Now will allow you to receive push notifications (That’s those reminders that pop up on your smart phone or iPad) The Connect app will let parents know when a notice has been posted and engage with Notices and Discussions on your phone or tablet. You can download Connect Now for iOS and android mobile devices.

CONGESTION IN POTTS STREET
As our school has grown to maximum capacity (1,400 students with 160 full and part-time staff) and with the lifting of the school leaving age to 17 and the corresponding transition of students commencing school half a year later (resulting in the majority of students in Year 12 being 18 years old) congestion in general but parking in particular has become a real challenge - not just for those of us who attend Melville SHS but also for our neighbours in Potts and Winfield Streets. While the school has been working with the City of Melville (who are responsible for traffic management in Potts and Winfield Streets), Main Roads (who manage traffic on Leach Highway) and Trans Perth (who manage bus transportation) we have not found any easy solutions to the very obvious problems of congestion and parking.

Please avoid Potts St and drop students at safe points further from the school entrance outlined HERE. The school urges parents who MUST drive their child to the school entrance to approach the school with patience and to drive very carefully along Potts and Winfield streets in particular IF you must drive at all. Given that there is virtually no parking and that the streets are very busy, parents can greatly assist us by encouraging their children to: (1) catch a bus; (2) walk; (3) ride; (4) park and walk using the public parking available at Olding Park and near Caralee Primary School in Winacott street and/or (5) walk from one of many suitable drop off points away from the school.

Finally the City of Melville have asked the school to pass on to our community of parents, staff and students the fact that they will be strictly enforcing parking rules from next term. This includes parents parking for even a few minutes in no parking zones which are basically the first 100 metres of the western side of Potts Street (opposite the school) from Leach Highway and the southern (Leach Highway) side of Winfield Street.