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Louis Richardson Representing Melville SHS is Australian White Water Canoe Champion
Scott Morgan Becomes Youngest Student to Gain Pilot Licence
Three Melville SHS Girls in Under 18 Regionals
Swimming Fun

Cover photo by Dean Tolkin - DT Images
Photos by Kate Main, Janelle Cahoon, Cartoon

Confident  +  Innovative  +  Successful

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the first Melville Matters for 2015 and to the start of the new school year, which promises to be yet another great one for Melville SHS. A special welcome to all new parents, new students and new staff (please see the list in the Melville Matters insert). We have greeted our first-ever cohort of more than 230 Year 7 students as well as a similar number of Year 8s. Accordingly the school is a bustling place with around 1,350 students - probably the largest number we have ever had in our 55 year history. For the record, we would like the school to remain this big. 210-240 or so students in each year group gives us the numbers necessary to run the wide range of classes we think are necessary to be a truly comprehensive senior high school. Unless we have a major building upgrade (hint to the powers that be!), we are happy to sit at or about 1,300-1,350 students.

As I write, our students are in class, on task, happy and look splendid and proud in their uniforms. Minor work from around the school over the Christmas period is largely (but not totally) complete. It is planned to spend a lot more on the school buildings and grounds this year, while also upgrading our student and staff toilets, so 2015 will see lots of buildings refurbished, painted, rendered, shade sails installed etc. This will keep our school both attractive and functional, as would be expected of a world-class educational facility.

As always, the year has started in a very busy fashion and I have just walked back into my office after attending the first School Board and P&C meeting of the year - one of ten separate parent meetings held over weeks 1 to 5. We also have had 200 Year 8 students on camp in week 4 and the school has conducted three separate swimming carnivals in our pool. Year 7 fun is pictured right. In week 6 I will attend the inter-school swimming carnival at HBF Stadium where we hope to win a promotion from the B into the A division!

Interim Progress Statements for students in Years 7, 8, 11 and 12 will be posted home on Friday 6 March 2015. In a change of format to accommodate the Year 7 students, the associated parent afternoon/evening will run from 12 noon to 6.00pm on Tuesday 24 March 2015 (the separation of these two dates is to allow for the lag time in postage we are increasingly experiencing). More information on this will be posted home separately and parents will be able to make their appointments on line using PTO.
With all of this activity in the foreground, teachers have also been setting up their students for success by issuing Course Outlines and Assessment Programs (all available online via the DoE portal using Connect if you have applied for a parent login), Assessment Policies as well as discussing classroom and study expectations etc. However if your child’s head is spinning a little and they are confused about what is expected of them, please don’t hesitate to contact their individual teacher (via Connect, email, phone or note in their student diary), contact the relevant Head of Learning Area or the Year Coordinator (if possible in that order please).

The Melville SHS website and the Information Handbook posted earlier this year contain the contact details of all key staff (Deputies, Heads of Learning Area, Managers etc). The Handbook should be kept close at hand throughout the year as it also contains the key information needed to make your child’s time at Melville as successful as possible. If for some reason you didn’t receive a copy of the Information Handbook please contact Kate Main (the school’s Marketing Manager) and she will send another one home.

The first whole-of-school assembly celebrated the great academic successes of the Year 12 Class of 2014. Taken both collectively and individually, the 2014 WACE results were very good and have led to Melville SHS once again being identified as a high performing school - the eighth time in as many years. We have received this praise for achieving: 100% WACE (graduation); 98% Attainment; 97% Certificate completion; 27th ranking in the Top 50 VET Schools and four students received a state-wide Certificate of Commendation.

These results show me that Melville SHS is routinely able to graduate 100% of our students with a WACE and that these same students are well set up for entry into university, TAFE or the work place. This is something I am very proud of, not only because it tells me that we are doing a great job with your children academically, but it also suggests to me that Melville SHS is a worthy school of choice for our local and wider community.

In closing, remember, that you are always welcome to pop into the school at any time. I love showing people around our magnificent buildings and grounds and, frankly, showing off our great students. Please feel free to join in on one of the monthly school tours or simply sign in at the front office and someone will let you take a quick peek at the great things that are happening inside YOUR school. We are looking forward to another great year for your son and/or daughter at Melville and of course for the whole school team in general.

As always, kind regards

Philip White AM, RFD, BA, Grad Dip Ed, MEd (Man)
PRINCIPAL
GIFTED AND TALENTED ROBOT PROGRAMMING

Year 8 Gifted and Talented students have been engaged in weekly Lego Robotics fun in Science this term. Here they built their own robots and created computer programs to operate them. Students have to write programs and build robots for competitions later this year. Students will compete in the categories of theatre, search and rescue, dance and soccer. Pictured right are the students putting the finishing touches into their programs.

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

Being a student councillor can be great fun, is fantastic for confidence and gives a great opportunity for community involvement. Year 7s and 8s are currently applying for vacant positions.

Year 8s also recently voted their representative House Captains at camp. It is another important role, as our House points are fought over ferociously at zone carnivals, in the classroom and anywhere else teachers can find to garner points. Congratulations go to the following students:

Aquila       Aneka Bodt     Steven Aldrin
Cygnus       Kara Dropulich Luca Erakovic
Gryphon      Karri Leavy    Cody Pumfrey
Pegasus      Siti Sari      Amir Hazrin

MELVILLE RACING TEAM

– WE’RE UNDERWAY IN 2015!

Following our successful run at the 2014 ITC Global eV Challenge event for electric vehicles, the Melville Racing Team is already hard at work constructing our new race car nicknamed Speedy Gonzales! (For those students who have no idea who Speedy Gonzales is or was, ask your parents!)

As with our 2013 and 2014 vehicles, Speedy is a plywood machine that will continue the Melville tradition of low, sleek vehicles, which prioritise safety and aesthetics in their design. Working in two 1.5-hour sessions after school (pictured right), our team has already begun the dry construction of our car (without using glue – to make sure everything fits). Parts to be constructed from steel have already begun being cut out and welded together.

With the race being held in either late October/early November we are hoping that, unlike the previous two years, we have the car finished with plenty of time in hand to test and develop the machine prior to the competition itself. Stay tuned for more info in newsletters to come!
RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE

Certificates of Excellence are awarded to Melville SHS students each semester to celebrate their academic achievements when achieving a high grade average. Students’ academic progress is assessed to identify those who are eligible to receive these certificates.

The 2014 Gold Certificates were awarded at the all-of-school assembly in Week 2 to the following students (pictured right).

YEAR 11 2014
Dorsan Imani
Mary Tolentino
Max Wickham
Sean Hayes
Yuri Na
Sahil Pradhan
Jackson Brox
Rebekah Fisher
Aleksandar Ristic
Chloe Woodall
Shelby Baker
Jake Sardelic

YEAR 10 2014
Jane Song (With 9 As)
Picture 3

YEAR 9 2014
Picture1
Alyssa Davies
Mikael Setiaputra
Mathilde Wurm
Maximiliano Lffont
Jeremy Lu
Georgia Woodall
Ben Hopkinson
Louis Richardson
Isha Sai
Cian Butler
Jessica Ellin
Amberley Evans

YEAR 8 2014
Picture 2
Jaime Bliss
Jack Coleman
Elsie Gelley
Grace Taplin
Kyle Taplin
Isabel Stanley
Maria Ambrose
Jamie Lau
Kate Burns
Santiago Garcia Rojas
Stella Gray Broun
Rebecca Whitehurst
Joshua Lu
Madison Grimes
Benjamin Montague
Charles Morley- Wong

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Chinese New Year was celebrated at Melville SHS at recess with a visit from the Dragon Dance group. 2015 is the Year of the Goat. The students were enthralled and some where taken aback by the dragons’ antics. Chinese is becoming the language of choice for more and more Melville SHS students and a group are travelling to China in April.
THE SKIES ARE BUZZING

SPECIALIST AVIATION PROGRAM

Year 10 student Scott Morgan was the youngest student at Melville SHS to go solo this term at 15 years and one month. He went solo after 13.9 hours of flight, which is a huge achievement. Teacher in Charge of Aviation Mr Randall Brink thinks Scott is the youngest he knows to go solo within the program from all WA Aviation schools. Scott is currently working towards his restricted pilots license, which he should have in a month. Photo 1 is Scott Morgan and Air Australia Chief Flying instructor Cliff McCann.

Another student to achieve Solo Pilot status on the Christmas holidays was Thomas Ayoub photographed with Teacher in Charge Mr Randall Brink (photo 3). Aaron Read went one further and got his Restricted Pilots Licence pictured with instructor Daniel Kirkpatrick (photo 2).

SPORT

REPRESENTATIVE CHAMPIONS

White Water Canoeing

Last month Louis Richardson (Year 10) represented Melville SHS at the Australian School Sports Junior White Water Canoeing Championship in NSW. Louis has become the Australian champion for 2014. Louis (picture 4) is an active participant in many sports and activities at the school as well as being in the Gifted and Talented program. His photo is on the front cover of this edition.

Wheelchair Basketball

Congratulations to Year 8 student Anneka Bodt (picture 5) who has been selected in the State Junior Under 25 Wheelchair Basketball team competing in Melbourne in April.

Specialist Netball Program

Three Melville SHS girls in the Specialist Netball Program have made the 2015 Coastal Sharks Under 18 State League Team. This is regional representation for the Coastal District. The students are Jessica Smith (Year 12), Kirsten Young (Year 11) and Charlotte Terry (Year 10). Year 11 Kasie Mott has become an elite umpire and will be on the sidelines blowing the whistle at this competition. The students are in picture 6.

The Specialist Netball Program will be selecting players from Years 11 and 12 to travel to Melbourne for a tour in Week 11 of Term 2. Twenty places will be available and the students will trial for the opportunity to attend.
SWIMMING

Term One is a swim-through, with zone carnivals for all year groups and fun in the school pool for sport lessons. The Year 7s and 8s had their first taste of House-faction-frenzy, as they swam and yelled for their colour in week 2. The Year 9s to 12s had a joint carnival that decided the individuals for our inter-school carnival later in the term.

House Swimming Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Boys Runner Up</th>
<th>Girls Runner up</th>
<th>Boys Champion</th>
<th>Girls Champion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Kieran Smirke</td>
<td>Celeste Johns</td>
<td>Sean Beck</td>
<td>Natasha Jorgensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Jonathan Kay</td>
<td>Shelbi Mott</td>
<td>Dusan Scekic</td>
<td>Jaime Bliss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Finn Duncan</td>
<td>Rachel Lawson</td>
<td>Matthew Beck</td>
<td>Emily Wearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Ethan Rowe</td>
<td>Angelica Cendron</td>
<td>Ben Hopkinson</td>
<td>Alkira Remaj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Kieran Peters</td>
<td>Jaimie-Lee Elliott</td>
<td>Cullen Dans</td>
<td>Rhiannon Huson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>Christopher Barker</td>
<td>Ashdyn Kawana</td>
<td>Lachlan Price</td>
<td>Isobel Scherini</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE ARTS

SPECIALIST GRAPHIC DESIGN MEDIA

In week 2 Mayor Brad Pettitt at Fremantle Council briefed the Year 10 GDM class on a brief for a major urban redevelopment project that will involve architecture, landscape design and interior design skills. What a great way to immerse students into a real work experience.

In the same week the Year 9 GDM class had a design sculpture workshop at the school with Will Huntley who is a WA Academy of Performing Arts lecturer and a stage/ and film artist.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Two Year 11 students April Matalog and Chrystal Long have entered the City of Melville Youth Photo Competition and Exhibition. The photographs (below) are being used by the council to promote the competition in newspaper articles, which is a great boost for the Arts programs at the school. Watch this space for the results.
SPECIALIST AND FOCUS PROGRAMS 2016
AVIATION | GRAPHIC DESIGN MEDIA | NETBALL | ACADEMIC EXTENSION |

APPLICATION OPEN          NOW          MUSIC IN FOCUS
APPLICATIONS DUE          12 MARCH 2015  INTERVIEWS (AVIATION/GDM) 28 - 30 APRIL
TESTING DATES             26 OR 27 MARCH 2015 MUSIC AUDITION 28 APR - 8 MAY
                          NETBALL TRIAL DATE 26 MAY

- Selection into a Specialist Program is via a school based test and interview (plus audition for Music and folio for GDM). There is one test for all the above programs (Netball is a trial only).
- Placement is for four years (Years 7-10) and is subject to maintaining specific achievement standards.
- There are opportunities for other age groups to be tested for top-up vacancies as they arise.
- Students can study two Specialist programs (plus AEC or Gifted and Talented). Grid clashes preclude GDM and Music in Focus being studied together and Netball and Aviation cannot be studied together.
- All the above programs are for two sessions per week in Year 7 increasing to four from Year 8.

Please Note: GAT students can also study up to two Specialist programs at Melville SHS. If you are applying for GAT it is advised you also sit the Specialist/Focus Test. There are two separate tests and students often wish to be involved in multiple courses or may get into one and not the other.

Academic Extension
AEC offers students from Years 7 to 10 a diverse range of extended academic opportunities. AEC students make up the top mainstream class in each year group. The Program has two parts, Mathematics and Science being one and English and Humanities & Social Science being the other. Students can be accepted into one or both. Students selected are in separate extension classes for these subjects from day one.

Aviation
The Aviation program has two qualified teachers with industry experience, commercial pilot’s licences and flight instructor qualifications. A purpose-built Aviation Centre has two flight simulators and the remainder of the course time is spent at airports and in the skies. The course caters for the learning needs of all students, from those seeking a career in aviation, science or engineering to other aviation-related pursuits.

Graphic Design Media
GDM has highly experienced teachers utilising purpose-built facilities and the latest ITC software. Projects are drawn from exercises aimed at increasing core skills as well as giving relevant industry context and include drawing for design, photography, print design, animation, film production, stage and costume design, 3D and spatial design and multimedia.

Music in Focus
The Music course offers SIM lessons in flute, classical guitar, electric and bass guitar, percussion, brass, clarinet and saxophone. Students are required to join the Intermediate Concert Band, Senior Concert Band, Junior or Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble and/or the Vocal Ensemble. They rehearse once a week before or after school. Each band/ensemble is engaged in many performances throughout the year.

Netball
As one of only four schools endorsed by Netball WA, this program offers your child the opportunity to excel at the sport they love. Committed teachers and coaches are former state and national level representitives or coaches. The players compete in local and International competitions and students come to understand the level of commitment required to achieve success.