Melville Matters 54
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If you would like to be added to the Newsletter email list contact Catherine.Main@education.wa.edu.au
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the Term 3 electronic Melville Matters. As our Year 12s gear up for their final few weeks at school, many are planning and studying for both their mock and final exams. It is an exciting but also a stressful time for our students. I always encourage parents and students to keep the lines of communication open with not only each other but also to contact the school if you have any concerns. For Year 12s the best initial point of call is Ms Sandy Olney Thurston or Mr Paul Cooke as Senior School Deputy.

Last week I had the pleasure of attending the Western Australia Government Schools Music Society concert series and was delighted to see our Melville SHS Intermediate Concert Band open the evening at the Crowne Theatre with the National Anthem and two wonderful pieces during the evening; led by Ms Rachael Flynn. Our school was further represented by our fabulous Vox Vocal ensemble; led by Ms Stephanie Ryan, who closed the evening with two perfectly performed songs. Well done to all involved but particularly our two music staff Ms Ana Milas and Mr Lachlin Brooks Crew.

Our long awaited toilet renovations have begun and while causing some inconvenience, will be worth it in the long term. It has been pleasing to see how our students and staff have adapted to the work going on around them including, at times, significant noise. This has all commenced now to ensure that Year 12s are not disrupted by noise during their exam periods.

In week 4 our Year 7 to 12 students competed in our annual athletics carnival. Not only did the day turn up perfect weather, but we had our highest ever level of attendance and participation. This event gave our athletically gifted students a chance to fight it out for places in our A Division Athletics team and, just as importantly, many students were having and go and competing for their houses. A big thank you to all the staff involved but especially to the hard working Health and Physical Education staff who put in an enormous amount of time and effort preparing for this day.

In week 9 we hosted Techtrails, an initiative funded by Women in Technology WA, Department of Local Government and Communities and UWA’s Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Maths. The initiative is part of the push of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) and encourages young people to take up technology and science careers. The Techtrails saw eight special guest experts in a variety of fields with Professor Peter Klinken, Chief Scientist of Western Australia opening the day and Kate Raynes-Goldie, Director from Interactive Programs Film and Television Industry, closing the event. 120 students took part in the day, including top Science and Maths students from local primary schools. Great fun and lots of interactive learning occurred for all.

Selection of our Year 12 Head Boy and Girl for 2016 also took place in week 8 and indicated the fantastic calibre of the many of students who were willing to put their hand up for this role. Nominating students needed to apply
in writing, show academic progress and then take part in a formal interview process. I run similar processes for new staff selection and was pleased to note how many of our students are well equipped for future job interviews and were outstanding in promoting their own skills and abilities. Having said this, there must always be successful applicants from these processes and I am pleased to announce the Head Girl for 2016 is Mirjana Neric and Head Boy is Owen Stanley (pictured below). I look forward to their first formal speech to farewell our Year 12s at the end of this term.

Late in week 9 the Health and Physical Education staff held our annual Sports Dinner. It is wonderful to celebrate all our sporting successes during the year for every year group. This year a change of venue was needed due to the increasing size of these teams. A big thank you goes to all the coaching and coordinating staff.

Regards
Kylie Bottcher - Principal
WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

The second Melville SHS Women in Leadership talk was held in week 7. The guest speaker was the inspirational Professor Fiona Wood AM (picture 1). The presentation provides female staff from the Department of Education with opportunities to connect and deliver support in a collegial environment outside of school hours. It focuses on developing leadership capability, enabling career progression and assisting women to more effectively manage the opposing challenges of career and life.

Over 80 staff and invited guests heard Professor Wood’s inspirational talk on her early life, her inventions, her challenges juggling family life with six children and her methods of leading teams, including the RPH burns unit, during the Bali bombings. Fiona is currently a Professor at the School of Surgery and Clinical Professor at the School of Paediatrics and Child Health at UWA. She was nominated as an Australian Living Treasure in 2005 and WA Citizen of the Year.

Year 12 Food classes prepared an afternoon feast for the event as the photos (left) attest.

SCIENCE

GIRLS INSPIRED FOR SCIENTIFIC JOBS

In week 7 Professor Lyn Beasley (picture 2), past State Chief Scientist, visited Melville SHS to speak to a gathering of our finest female Science students from Years 9, 10 and 11. Lyn
also toured the Science Quad (picture 3), that she opened six years ago and the newly refur-
bished Science laboratories. The inspired stu-
dents are pictured with Lyn on the front page of this issue.

Lyn loves to share her passion with school stu-
dents, and her goal is for every child in Aus-
tralia to learn and love Science. She is able to explain very complicated concepts in a way everyone can understand. One part of her past research looked at reconnecting dam-
aged nerves in people who have lost the use of their legs and she was determined to se-
cure for WA the Square Kilometre Array: a tele-
scope so powerful it allows scientists to see right back into the birth of the universe.

CODE BREAKERS
After school on Mondays students have been offered the opportunity to expand their ho-
rizons in Computer Science with Coder Dojo sessions. The exciting topics include learning coding as well as developing websites, apps, programs and games. Students were on the job in picture 1.

BIG SCIENCE COMPETITION
Melville had 96 Gifted and Talented students from Years 7 to 10 participate in the Big Sci-
ence Competition earlier this year. 46,500 stu-
dents across Australia took part in this activity. Our school performed strongly with 13 High Distinctions and 17 Distinctions awarded to our students. Years 7 and 8 High Distinctions: Byron Maney

Crest Flanders
Gerald Leong
Joshua Yeo David
Joshua Hounslow
Reece Maney

Years 9 and 10 High Distinctions:
Maximiliano Laffont
Matthew Murphy
Marisa Gardiner
Damian Gregory
Cian Butler
Ashley Wilson
Teresa Tedeschi

NAKED SCIENCE EXCURSION
During week 5 as part of Science Week, all GAT classes from Years 7 to 10 (pictured left) went on an excursion to Murdoch University to see a Naked Scientist presentation.

Science exploded with booming hydrogen bombs, expanding heads (because of dizzying circles) and bright colours from chemical luminescence. These were just a few of the won-
ders of science showcased by Dr Chris Smith from Naked Scientists and his gang of prank-
sters. It was a fantastic presentation from the highly regarded international Science broad-
caster.

Dr Smith is a medical consultant specialising in clinical microbiology and virology at Cam-
bridge University and its teaching hospital. He started the Naked Scientists radio show, pod-
cast and website back in 1999 and is the sci-
ence correspondent on ABC Radio National.
ENGLISH

BOOK IN A DAY COMPETITION
In week 6, Year 7 and 9 Gifted and Talented students participated in the Write a Book in a Day competition. The students gathered into groups and wrote a novel from précis to The End and emailed it into the competition for judging by 8pm. The finished books are published and made available to patients at the PMH library. The students spent 12 hours in lock-down in the library from 8am, supervised and enthused by Mr Slade, Ms Gregory and Ms Capes from the English Department.

SPELLING BEE

The many rounds of Spelling Bee games led to the grand final in week 7. The library was packed with spectators and friends of the competitors who were on the edge of their seats. Many of the 14 finalists had a mechanism to remember their words including writing down letters with their finger, closing their eyes or mouthing the letters silently before making a final determination. Extra brownie points must go to the ESL students who were in the finals, spelling words from a language they have only just learned.

Queen Bee for 2015 was Year 7 student LeAnn Yap, second prize went to Year 9 Maria Ambrose and third place went to Year 8 Chelsea Gu. Participation trophies were awarded to Spelltastic Spellers Claire Solano Year 12, Josh Hounslow Year 8, Dylan Chua Year 7 and Jessica Trang in IEC. The patient judges were Mr Lachlan Brookes-Crew, Mr Clay Woolcock...
and Mrs Julie Gordon (coordinator). The money raised from the Spelling Bee will provide 8 chickens and 10 community vegetable gardens in Cambodia.

BECOMING LITERATE
National Literacy and Numeracy Week was held in week 7 and there were a number of great activities. The highlight of the week was a visit by performance poet Kate Wilson who conducted a poetry performance and then held a workshop for Year 7s and IEC students.

The Staff room had a literacy and numeracy display area dedicated to each Learning Area with examples of student work and scaffolds that had been used to expand literacy levels (pictured right). In the library, notice boards were set up for Random Acts of Poetry.

In 2012, Melville SHS commenced a journey seeking to address literacy and numeracy advancement and teachers are now seeing the benefits through student output.

HASS
by Ben Cochran Year 12 - Enthusiastic and Exceptional Economics Student

The Year 12 Economics class received an exciting learning opportunity in week 6. We were graced with the presence of Dr Anne Garnett (pictured bottom right) and Ms Loretta Dumas from Murdoch University. These two speakers gave a lecture on Australia’s current economic performance as well as reviewing some of the Year 12 syllabus.

The presentation served as a revision course which helped to add breadth and depth to our already excellent economic knowledge. Furthermore, the presentation allowed us to gain insight into our future, as it was a good example of an Economics lecture at university. Not only did we gain skills towards our exam, but we also learned about the possibilities of study in the future; an excellent insight for us in the latter part of Year 12.

MATHS
SECONDARY NUMERO COMPETITION
In week 6, twelve students from Years 7 and 9 Gifted and Talented and Academic Extension classes made the long trek to St Steven’s School in Tapping to compete in the Secondary Numero Competition.

NUMERO is a card game for all ages aimed at improving number skills. The level of challenge increases according to the abilities of the players and is at the highest level in secondary school with complex mathematical operations to perform in a set time and without the use of a calculator.

Students perform individually and as a team, with the final results based upon a team effort.

The standard of competition was high. Our team Player 1, consisting of Lochlan Patterson, Jerrome Lovelock, Audric De Guzman and Ethan Hardy-Atkins was placed sixth from 18 teams overall. The Four Numberteers, Daniel Cottrell, Byron Maney, Reece Maney and a
substitute from St Stephens were fifth in the Scramble section. The Fluffy Melcorns, Elton Miranda, Crest Flanders, Ian Hu and Nathaniel Young, competed enthusiastically throughout the day.

Some comments from our keen competitors included:
“\textit{The Numero day was a day dedicated to the game called Numero. It is a competition held by the R.I.C Publications. There are prizes to be won in first place and the main idea of the competition is to find out which school is the best. Each competitor also participated for free. They even received 100 dollars for their school to spend!}”

“We trained for the Numero challenge for five weeks by playing games of Numero, practising individual top take, team top take and practising a fun game called Scramble. We spent a total of about eight hours practising and ended up with a highest score of sixth place out of 18 teams.”
Reece, Crest

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“\textit{Every Tuesday we would practise for an hour and a half with Mrs Browton. We would start with a few solo sheets then move on to the games. After a few sessions we began doing the scramble which was a little hard at first but we quickly became better at it. On the day of the competition we were the only public school there. All the other schools were private schools. They had really good players who had lots of experience. We learned a lot and that will help us do even better next year!}”

AVIATION

Recently students from the aviation classes applied for the flight subsidy program. This program allows students to fly after school and on the weekends with flight instructors from Air Australia flight school at Jandakot airport. The subsidy enables students to partake in flight lessons at the same rate that they would normally pay if they flew with Mr Brink, instead of the rate charged if they used an Air Australia instructor. The amount allotted to each student was $600 and supplements the difference in aircraft costs. Congratulations go to Alistair Lovelock, Scott Morgan, Lochie Reid, Bariq Harb, Cian Butler, Thomas Ayoub, Teo Starezczek, Levi McCombe and James Calvert.

ART

BLACK SWAN THEATRE WORKSHOPS

The Year 11 and 12 Certificate II Live Production Students had the opportunity to attend some workshops in production and design at the beautiful State Theatre Centre of Western Australia. The students toured the venue and then participated in the workshops, designing sets, discussing how to run a production, budgeting for a show and physically creating different sets.

ST GEORGE’S ART AWARDS

St George’s Art has become a premier annual event in art education in Western Australia, attracting schools from all sectors. Participation in this exhibition provides an outstanding op-
portunity for schools to present work by students in Years 10 to 12. Selected students for the awards included Year 12 students Gemma Kouzinias (picture 1) and Jason Kim (picture 3) and Year 11 student Neisha Phipps (picture 2). Congratulations to Neisha for earning a Highly Commended Award.

‘Inclusion in this exhibition should be considered prestigious and significant. It also contributes to artists’ prominence in the visual arts exhibition scene in Perth’ said Julia Wren, Visual Art Lecturer at the ECU School of Education. Each year, up to 1,500 visitors flock to the Cathedral to view the exhibition as the standard of art on display continues to reach new heights.

PERTH DANCE CHALLENGE
Some of our very talented Year 12 dance students known as ‘Envy 6’ danced their hearts out at the Perth Dance Challenge in week 6 after spending countless hours rehearsing during recess and lunch times. Dana Suamili, Tamira Suamili, Molly Snowden and Shazrien Wilson placed second in the Secondary Hip Hop section wowing the judges with their costumes, technique and commitment to the routine (pictured top right).

PHOTOGRAPHY
Year 10 Media and Photography students went on an excursion in week 6 to photograph the visual delights of Fremantle. Students looked at a range of subjects using composition techniques such as leading lines, rule of
thirds, symmetry, reflection, textures and light. It was a valuable opportunity to practise these photographic techniques with an interesting variety of subjects. Students will be using their images to create layered self-portraits and surreal landscapes in post-production. Photos are accompanied by student names.

MURDOCH UNIVERSITY SHORT FILM
The Year 10 Dance and Drama students were given the exciting opportunity to put their acting skills to the test when they were asked to be a part of a short film, produced by Murdoch University students. The Year 10s were professional and represented Melville SHS well and enjoyed watching the final piece.

METAMORPHOSIS
This is a new art and design exhibition for senior secondary school students presented by Central Institute of Technology. The exhibition has been developed to acknowledge and promote the excellence and originality achieved by senior secondary school students in their Art and Design studies. Central also sees the exhibition as a complement to its prestigious Art and Design programs and is a reflection on the shift (or metaMORPHosis) from student to artist/designer.

Carla Genovesi Year 11 ATAR (pictured right) was awarded Highly commended on the night with her sculpture titled Iptamena.

The piece functions to illustrate the horror at seeing human beings caged and in pain, in contrast to the casual acceptance of seeing chickens in battery cages while factory farming, or allowing animals such as mice, rabbits, cats, monkeys and dogs to be experimented on to further scientific discovery and benefit. My sculpture is intended to question the audiences’ ethics and challenge the integral consumerism of society with accordance to the choices we make when buying our produce. Morality, humanity and the environment interest me greatly as I have grown up with a background of diverse people and lands, and am very much an animal person with a great respect for nature and its’ creatures.

Graphic Design student Connor Deaville also had his digital interpretation of the Colour Wheel selected for exhibition.
A perfect day was had by all at the athletics faction carnival in Week 7. It was the biggest carnival, with the highest participation rates across all year groups in the history of house carnivals at Melville SHS. The event covers the need to select an elite squad to participate in the Zone A grade carnival next term but is also about participation for all.

The blue ribbon winners (fastest over 100m) on the day were Jessica Smith (five in a row) and James Gallaugher (two in a row). Every student who entered an event gained faction points on the day and the competition was fierce. The Everest Walk was a side event and an extra opportunity to participate and gain House points. Photos of the fun are in the first pages of this edition.

STATE REPS
Congratulations to Year 11 student Kasie Mott (pictured bottom right) who has been selected to Represent WA as a referee at the 2015 State Netball 12s Championship in Perth in September.

Year 9 student Finn Duncan has been selected in the State Lacrosse Team going to Melbourne in September to represent the state in Lacrosse in the Southern Braves team.
HEALTH CENTRE NEWS

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
Week 9 was Random Acts of Kindness week. The names of the staff member and their ‘secret friend’ were distributed to staff and some very inventive acts were committed. It was a fun, feel-good week embracing gratitude.

R U OK?
R U OK? Day was once again held in week 8. Student Services staff wore yellow t-shirts with the R U OK? logo. The catch-cry for staff was, Some questions you just shouldn’t ask a workmate, R U OK? isn’t one of them. For students, it was simply to start the conversation R U OK?

DANGEROUS DROP OFF
Parents are turning off Leach Highway and stopping as soon as they turn onto Potts St to drop their children off. This is dangerous as the traffic can bank up onto Leach Hwy. This particular part of Potts St is marked with a yellow line, so it is also illegal to stop there.
The uniform shop will be closed for the first week of the school holidays (Monday 28 September – Saturday 3 October) and will reopen on the second week, Monday 5 October 2015.