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Great ATAR Results for 2013 Graduates
Six Students Inducted into the 95 Club
Cormac Power Represents Australia at United Nations Conference
Specialist Graphic Design Media Students Meet Top Designers

Photos by Janelle Cahoon and Kate Main
Welcome to the first Melville Matters for 2014 and of course welcome to the start of the new school year which promises to be yet another great one for Melville SHS. Our students are in class, on task, smiling and looking both splendid and proud in their uniforms. Minor works from around the school over the Christmas period are largely complete and our three new general-purpose classrooms are about to come online as soon as the furniture arrives (see separate article). A special welcome must be extended to new parents, new students and of course new staff. The school student population is 1003, which will increase, as planned, to 1,250-1,300 in 2015 (with the arrival of the Year 7s) and we have around 150 teaching and non-teaching staff.

As always is the case, 2014 has started in a very busy fashion and I have just walked back into my office after attending the first P&C meeting of the year, one of 10 separate parent meetings held over Weeks 1 to 5. I also note that we have had 200 Year 8 students on camp for all of Week 4. Over the next few weeks the school will be conducting three separate swimming carnivals in our pool as well as attending the inter-school swim carnival where we hope to win a promotion from the B into the A division!

Interim Progress Statements for students in Year 8, 11 and 12 will be posted home on Friday 14 March and the parent evening runs from 3.30 - 6.30pm on Wednesday 2 April 2014 (the separation of these two dates is to allow for the lag time in postage we are increasingly experiencing). More information of this will be posted home separately.

On top of all this activity, teachers have been setting up their students for success by issuing Course Outlines and Assessment Programs (now 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. If your child’s head is spinning a little and they are confused about the expectations we have, please don’t hesitate to contact their individual teacher, Head of Learning Area or the Year Coordinator (if possible in that order please). Feel free to email, phone or leave a note in their student diary. The Melville SHS Information Handbook posted earlier this year and the school website contain the contact details of all key staff (Deputies, Heads of Learning Area, Area Managers etc). The Handbook should be kept close 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.

In addition to getting off to a flying start, the first few weeks of 2014 saw the school celebrating the outstanding academic successes of the Year 12 Class of 2013. Taken both collectively and individually, the 2013 WACE results were simply outstanding and have led to Melville SHS once again being identified as a Top Public School - the seventh time in as many years. We have received this award for achieving: 100% WACE (graduation); 99% Attainment; 37th ranking in the Top 50 ATAR School (public and private); 15th ranking in the Top 50 VET Photos above of the all of years assembly and the fun swimming carnival for Years 10 to 12.

Front Photo: Mrs Browton (front) is pictured with current Year 12 Maths students in uniform (L-R) Kate Seanmuang, Angelu Tolentino, Glen Mlodawski and Micky Ngamtrakulchol. Former students (L-R) are Ignasius Setiaputra who achieved an ATAR of 99.25, George Pickering (99.8), Morgan Remaj (95.65) and Teresa Nguyen (99.65).
2013 Year 12 Results

Schools (attainment); 17th ranking in the Top 50 VET Schools (participation); 4 student in the state-wide ‘99 Club’ (scoring an ATAR of 99+); 7 students receiving a state-wide Certificate of Commendation; 1 student achieving a Certificate of Distinction in Mathematics; and our students being identified as the highest performing in the state in Accounting, Chemistry, Geography, Physics and Mathematics. 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 that Melville SHS is a worthy school of choice for our local and wider community. A more comprehensive list of our 2013 WACE achievements is on the right.

Speaking of WACE, over the last few weeks schools have been receiving up-date briefings on the new WACE 2015 - 16 and the K-10 Western Australian Curriculum. The school has already commenced planning to manage the changes required to implement the new WACE in particular - noting that we are well on track with implementing the WA and Australian curriculum across Years 7 to 10 (we have classes from local area intake primary schools attending for 2 hours per Week of Year 7 science as we speak). When we are ready we will build information on the new WACE 2015-16 and the WA K-10 Curriculum into our communication with parents – so expect to hear more in future editions of Melville Matters and at parent briefing sessions.

The Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA), an essential component of the new WACE, is a different story. Every Year 10 student who failed to achieve a Band 8 or higher in NAPLAN Reading, Writing and/or Numeracy is required to sit up to three 60 minute tests from 2014 (this year!) onwards. The preparation for this test is being done with relevant Year 10 students now in readiness for the full test commencing in Week 6 (a letter was sent home to Year 10 parents several weeks ago). The test is developed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority and is locally administered through the school. A separate article in this edition of Melville Matters has more information on the OLNA.

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 where we take you behind the scenes during a normal school day and you can see the great things that are happening inside YOUR school. We are looking forward to another great year for you son and/or daughter at Melville and of course for the whole school team in general.

As always, kind regards

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

Top Public School Award:  2006 to 2013
100% WACE Completion:  equal FIRST in State
99% Attainment Rate:  5th best Public School
Median ATAR of 78.6:  15th best Public school
37th best in Top 50 WACE Schools:  11th best Public School
7th best in metro area
15th best Top 50 VET Schools in Achievement
99.22% Cert 2 or 3 completion
17th best in Top 50 VET Schools in Participation
78% participation rate
Four Students in “99 Club”: George Pickering (99.8)
Adam Gawn (99.6)
Theresa Nguyen (99.65)
Ignasius Setiaputra (99.25)
Two Students in “95 Club”:  Zei Wei Luo (98.05)
Morgan Remaj (95.65)
One Student received a Special Certificate of Distinction in
Mathematics:  George Pickering
(top 0.5% of students)
Seven Students received a School Curriculum and Standards
Authority Certificate of Commendation:
Rhianna Brims
Sally-Anne Frezza
Adam Gawn
Phevy Matalog
Theresa Nguyen
George Pickering
Ignasius Setiaputra
Our top student received an ATAR of 99.8:
George Pickering
(15th best in State)
Melville SHS students were the highest performing in the State in:
Accounting
Chemistry
Geography
Physics
Mathematics 3C/D
Melville SHS students performed above their potential in the following WACE Examination Courses:
Accounting
Chemistry
Economics
EAL/D
Mathematics
Mathematics Specialist
Physics

ATAR Results:
• 21% of our students in the top 10% - i.e. an ATAR of 90+
• 40% of our students in top 20% - i.e. an ATAR of 80+
• 63% of our students in top 30% - i.e. an ATAR of 70+

WACE Examination Courses:
• 11 of our Courses had an average mark higher than all state schools
• 7 of our Courses had an average mark at or near all state schools
• 15 of our Courses had an average mark higher than like schools
• Melville SHS students performed as expected in all other WACE Examination Courses.
• 96% of our students achieved a ATAR sufficient to make them eligible for university entrance
Awards Galore

At the whole-of-school assembly in Week 3 awards were given to high achievers from 2013. Students who topped their year were recognised and then attended the High Achievers’ morning tea.

95 Club

Six students from last year’s graduating class were inducted into the Melville Senior High School 95 Club and four were able to attend and receive their award. Four of the inductees attained an Australian Tertiary Aggregate Rank or ATAR greater than 99, placing them in the top 1% of students in WA. Melville SHS is very proud of the achievements of these students and all the graduating class of 2013. Pictured right with Mr Evan Floyd and Mr Phil White are 95 Club inductees (L-R) George Pickering, Theresa Nguyen, Morgan Remaj and Ignasius Setiaputra.

The Melville Senior High School 95 Club recognises the outstanding achievement of graduating students in the top 5% of all Australian students in gaining Tertiary Entrance. The ATAR is a percentile score generated from the sum of students four best combined school and WACE examination scores. To achieve an ATAR of 95 students will have achieved minimum Tertiary Entrance Aggregate of 301 or an average scaled score of approximately 80 in their four best courses.

George Pickering achieved a ATAR of 99.8 making him the 15th best student in Western Australia. George also received a Special Certificate of Distinction in Mathematics recognising the top 0.5% of students in Mathematics.

Adam Gawn and Theresa Nguyen both attained an ATAR of 99.65. Adam was the Melville SHS Dux for 2013 and received a prize of $1000 from the Department of Education. Theresa has been accepted into the Broadway School Leaver Pathway for Graduate Medicine at the University of Western Australia.

Ignasius Setiaputra achieved an ATAR of 99.25. Ignatius is a graduate of our Intensive English Centre, making his score all the more impressive and he is going to study Engineering at UWA.

Another student who returned to the school to be inducted into the 95 Club was Morgan Remaj (ATAR score of 95.65). Morgan (pictured second top left) has the world at his feet after being accepted into the WA Performing Arts Academy in Performance and is a magnificent classical guitar player. Not many students get into WAPPA on their first attempt, making his success even more fantastic. This is a great reflection on our Music in Focus program.

Zei Wei Luo achieved an ATAR of 98.05. Zei and Adam were not able to attend as they are studying interstate. The six award winners will join previous inductees with their names recorded for posterity on the 95 Club honour board on display in the Foyer of Administration. George, Adam, Teresa and Ignatius were four of the seven students who also achieved the standard for a Certificate of Commendation, with a minimum of 20 A grades from their senior school studies.
High Performers 2013
Photos bottom and middle left were those achievers who attended the High Achievers Breakfast. The following students were high performers in 2013:

**Year 8 2013**
Alyssa Davies, Hannan Dempsey, Amberley Evans, Madlin Herold, Ben Hopkinson, Georgia Woodall

**Year 9 2013**
Tara Ivanisevic, Harsh Shama, Eunyoung Song, Zoe Spanghero

**Year 10 2013**
Justin Davies, Sean Hayes, Kynan Behan, Benjamin Cochrane, Jessica Smith, Maximillian Wickham, Sahil Pradhan, Aleksandar Ristic

**Year 11 2013**
Shafry Bizar, Mary Angelu Tolentino, Filmon Gebru, Ketsaraphorn Saenmuang

**The Edith Cowan Citizenship Award**
At the whole-of-school assembly Toby Goor received the Edith Cowan Citizenship Award for 2013. The award was given to the Year 11 Student who demonstrated outstanding citizenship qualities both in school and in the wider community in 2013. Toby was an active member of our School Council last year and participated in a number of community service activities and school events.

Toby (pictured top right) was an exceptional peer mentor in Year 11 and helped organise and coordinate activities, raising money for a variety of charities. Along with this, Toby organised and participated in the Relay for Life raising money for Cancer. Toby who is Head Boy in 2014 is a very worthy recipient of this award.

**ADF Long Tan Leadership & Teamwork Award**
The ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork awards recognise students who demonstrate leadership and teamwork within both the school and the broader community and who display strong values, such as doing one’s best, respect for others and “mateship”, that are integral to Australian society.

Ben Cochrane (pictured middle right) was the worthy recipient of this award for 2013. Ben excels as a student counsellor and was chosen to be a peer mentor where he has proven to be a fantastic leader. Ben has hosted exchange students and always makes them feel comfortable at Melville SHS and also within the community.

**Chierzi Scholarship**
The Chierzi scholarship is a new award that has been donated by the Sapienza Family in recognition of a close family friend Gabriele Chierzi. Ms Sapienza manages the BUILD program at Melville SHS and is pictured right with the winner of the Chierzi Scholarship for 2013 Shafry Bizar. Shafrey receives a cheque for $500 to encourage him to pursue his goals and continue striving for both academic and personal excellence.

Throughout 2013 Shafry demonstrated a positive and mature approach to all aspects of school life. He achieved a gold certificate for academic excellence in both Semester 1 and 2 with a total of 11 out of a possible 12 A grades.
Shafry is a highly respectful young man and one of his greatest traits is that he treats others in the same, positive way that he likes to be treated. His polite, courteous and charismatic manner has resulted in him developing strong relationships with teachers and students. Over the past few years Shafry has encountered many difficult family situations and we admire and applaud his effort and commitment.

The award was named after Gabriele Chierzi who was a 22-year-old university student who was tragically killed in a road accident in Milan. He had just completed an Economics and Commerce degree and was out celebrating with friends when a drunk driver killed him and his best friend. The Sapienza Family have started this memorial award to recognise a student who embodies the positive attitude and values that this young man from Sicily demonstrated in his short life and academic studies.

Speech Competition Winner
Congratulations to Year 11 student Moesha Rumpf won the area final of the Rotary Four Way Speech Competition late last year. This competition was for all Year 10 students to speak on a topic of their choice.

NAPLAN Testing
Year 9 students will take their national NAPLAN tests in Week 3 of Term 2 (commencing Tuesday 13 May). By now all English and Mathematics classes will be well into the preparation phase for these tests - so parents you can help by ‘talking up’ the need to succeed with your child.

If you have any questions about the testing please feel free to contact your child’s Year 9 English or Mathematics teacher or the Head of Math (Mr Mike Andrews) or English (Mr Richard Slade) or the Deputy Principal Middle School (Mrs Kylie Bottcher).

These tests now have even greater importance because those students who achieve a Band 8 in Reading, Writing or Numeracy receive an exemption from the corresponding tests in the new Online Literacy and Numeracy assessments (OLNA). The OLNA tests are now in Year 10 and are essential to pass in order to receive WACE Graduation (refer to Mr Floyd’s article opposite for more detail in regards to OLNA).

New Staff
Melville welcomes the following new staff for 2013:
- Ms Meredith Beaton joins us as Head of Learning in Society and Environment and has transferred from Port Headland.
- Mr Dion Manby is the new Design and Technology teacher.
- Ms Emma Gregory is a new English teacher.
- Mr Lachlin Brooks Crew is a new Music teacher and will be helping with the Swing Band.
- Mr Mat Smeets is a new Science and Maths teacher.
- Mr Clinton Gardiner is new to Health and Physical Education and takes the place of Mr Rhett Brown who has been promoted at CBC Fremantle.

Academic achievement is a partnership between the school, the student and parents. The achievement of academic excellence should be applauded and the staff and other students at Melville SHS are extremely pleased to acknowledge your achievements.
The Dream Team

The recent great results of our Year 12 students in 2013 were no accident. Our Heads of Learning Area (HOLA), pictured right at the High Achievers morning tea, have lead their teams’ of teachers admirably.

Left to right are Mr Evan Floyd Deputy Principal of Senior School, Mr Kim Rosenthal HOLA Science, Mr Phillip White Principal, Mr Richard Slade HOLA English, Ms Alanna Sherwood HOLA Arts & Technologies, Mr George TILLS VET Manager, Ms Meredith Beaton new HOLA Society & Environment, Mr Mike Andrews HOLA Mathematics, Mrs Hilary Browton Maths Teacher and Gifted and Talented Coordinator and Ms Kylie Bottcher Deputy Principal. Absent: Mr Paul Cooke HOLA Phys Ed.

Of particular note is the fantastic teaching of Mrs Browton, whose top Maths class always does well. In 2013 Mrs Browton inspired the 21 students and 11 received a final Mathematics score exceeding 75%. 18 of the students achieved an ATAR in excess of 80. Ms Browton has been teaching for 35 years and has been at Melville Senior High School for 16 years. She is Teacher in Charge of the Gifted and Talented Program and teaches the top Maths classes in Years 10 to 12.

The Year of the Horse

The Language Department celebrated the Chinese New Year with a very exciting and loud lunchtime performance by Chinese dragon dancers and drummers. Students were spellbound by the antics, dancing and cheeky characters that bounced around the quadrangle.

OLNA - Literacy and Numeracy
Requirements for Graduation for Year 9 and 10 students

The Minister for Education Peter Collier MLC announced students would need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to achieve their Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) from 2016.

There are two ways to demonstrate the standard:
- Prequalification by achieving Band 8 in Year 9 NAPLAN Reading, Writing and Numeracy; or
- Demonstrating the minimum standard through the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA) in Years 10, 11 and 12.

Students who achieve Band 8 or higher in Year 9 NAPLAN Reading, Writing or Numeracy assessments will be pre-qualified for that component and will not be required to sit the corresponding OLNA component. For example, if a student achieves Band 8 for Reading and Writing but not for Numeracy, he/she will only be required to sit the OLNA Numeracy component of the assessment.
The OLNA is compulsory for those students who have not pre-qualified in one or more of the components through Year 9 NAPLAN and want to achieve the WACE (graduate from High School). Students will have up to six opportunities (two per year) between Year 10 and Year 12 to demonstrate the literacy and numeracy minimum standard by sitting the OLNA if they have not pre-qualified through achieving Band 8 in Year 9 NAPLAN Reading, Writing and Numeracy.

The upcoming NAPLAN for Year 9 students (May 12 to 16) is the first opportunity for students to achieve the Literacy and Numeracy Requirements for Graduation.

Year 10 Students will participate in compulsory Literacy and Numeracy Assessments (March 10 to 14). Year 10 students who have not met the standard will undertake the components of literacy and numeracy required for graduation. Students will access the assessment using their school provided MacBook. A practice assessment will be conducted by their English and/or Mathematics teacher to familiarise students with the assessment format and confirm IT access. Year 10 students must have their MacBook to take this practice assessment and must see Mr Smith if they do not have a MacBook.

To help students and parents/carers understand the purpose and importance of OLNA, the Education Department have developed a short video that can be viewed on our website at www.melville.wa.edu.au under About Us.

Evan Floyd - Deputy Principal

Number Crunching

In Week 2 Year 8 Maths students were asked to create the numbers for their classrooms using their bodies. The images (some pictured right) will be used as room numbers and posters in classrooms. It was a collaborative group work activity that helped the students get to know each other and learn to work together to achieve the number formations. Thanks to student teachers Kathryn Nolan and Alissa Claessens for their enthusiastic help and photographic skills.

Jane Ayres - Maths Teacher

Get Connected

Connect is the Department of Education’s online environment that provides teachers, students and parents with secure access to a collaborative online learning environment via the internet. The aim of Connect is to provide a secure internet service that will allow your child’s teacher to provide information about the teaching and learning activities occurring in their class directly to the parents of students in this class. Participation in Connect is optional for parents. If you would like to take part you will require internet access and a computer. No additional software is required. The Department of Education will issue you with a unique user name and password, which will provide you with access to Connect.
Initially, Connect will allow your child’s teacher to provide general class information to you about the teaching and learning activities that his/her class are undertaking. In the future, the service may be further developed to allow more flexible communication between parents and teachers as well as providing personalised information about your child’s learning activities and progress.

Parents need to register with the school and will then be confidentially issued with a unique user name and password as well as access details for Connect. You can view a brief video providing an overview of Connect by typing this URL into the address bar of your internet browser:  www.youtube.com/watch?v=_JSJvX23fyo

Nye Smith - ICT Manager

The Hague International Model United Nations - THIMUN

by Cormac Power Year 12

THIMUN 2014 was the most incredible experience of my life so far. The tour consisted of a month long trip across amazing locations in Europe with a week long Model UN Conference to conclude our trip. It was an astounding learning experience that has changed my perception of our world entirely and I will never forget it! The following is an extremely condensed version of my travels.

After a long series of flights, my fellow delegates and I arrived in Europe, with Berlin as our first stop. This was my personal favourite city of the tour, as we spent our time exploring its rich history by visiting memorials, museums and famous landmarks such as the Berlin Wall and Checkpoint Charlie. We also visited the Australian Embassy in Berlin and learned about Australia’s role in global affairs and its representation in Europe.

Over the 10 days that followed, we visited some of the most breath-taking cities in Europe, such as Vienna and Prague. We then arrived in the city of Munich where we visited Dachau, the Nazi concentration camp, and made a trek up the Bavarian Alps to see the incredible Neuschwanstein Castle.

Our next stop was Geneva, where we visited the UN Headquarters. This was an incredibly stimulating experience, as I was able to understand the true extent of international diplomacy and its importance in the world today. While in Geneva we also visited CERN, home to the world’s largest and most powerful particle accelerator, the Large Hadron Collider.

Paris was our next destination, where we had a whole four days to experience everything the city had to offer! On our first day our facilitators shocked us all with a surprise visit to Disneyland! After a day in ‘the happiest place on earth’ we had plenty of time to explore Paris and took full advantage of our free time. Over the next three days, we visited the Palace of Versailles, revelled in the artwork of the Louvre and got caught up in the hustle and bustle of the Champs Élysées. Our time in Paris ended with a trip up the Eiffel Tower to see the stunning views of the city at night.

What is Happening This Week?

If you would like to know the latest details on what is happening for students and parents, look up the Melville SHS Calendar. If you filter the dates it gives you advanced warning of school events, meetings and activities.
Welcome to our new students in Year 8 who went through the rigorous three stage testing to obtain their places. We hope that you will have a happy and productive time in GDM.

This year sees the program expanding beyond the boundaries of the Arts Centre and into the workshop spaces upstairs. Over the holidays builders spent some time converting the existing area to accommodate a new multi-purpose space which contains both top-end ICT capacity and also traditional workshops. Students will now be able to (in theory at least) work with clay, plaster, model construction, 3D printing, animation, digital design and film editing - all in the same session. In addition to walls being moved, new storage spaces are being installed, and ‘slip on’ desktops have been added to existing woodwork benches. Airconditioning and data cabling have all been installed and new editing workstations are on order and due to arrive soon. These will be large format iMacs. Exciting times!

Master Classes

Our second year of the program has had a flying start with three (yes three!) master class workshops, professional lectures and excursions in the past week. So what have the students been up to so far? Year 8s are currently working on a print design project geared to increase their understanding of the design process and the value of multiple ideas and mind-mapping. It is about designing with both sides of the brain in tune with one another. The Year 9s are also very busy with a stage set design project which has been testing their drawn design skills as well as their spatial 3D conceptualisation.

In Week 4 we had our first master class of the year. Australian toy designer Alex Kubalsky was the first (and still the only) western toy designer to break into the Japanese toy market. It was his brains behind the re-design of the Transformers series, which was then developed into the film. He wowed both year groups with his images of early through to fully realised concepts from this series. He also outlined his work with cartoon networks and most recently Lego. After his talk, Alex graciously stayed behind to work with the Year 8s on an exercise to get them to create an articulated character on paper using one of his many ideation exercises. This taught students to break out of their old drawing styles and to think of the figure as a balanced structure linked by rotation joints. It was a very successful workshop and the students did not want to go to recess at the end, but carry on.

The next master class involved Year 9s travelling to the State Theatre of WA where they took part in a stage design workshop with top WA designer Fiona Black. Fiona was a top WAAPA graduate and in a few short years has amassed an impressive portfolio of dozens of stage productions, from major company productions to fringe events. She was inspirational to students who were impressed by the standard of her work, the level of ideas and the techniques used to establish these ideas.
After outlining the technical steps a stage designer goes through from brief to opening night, Fiona let the students see her own portfolio and several of her model marquettes she had constructed. Fiona and the theatre stage manager then took the students into the theatre itself, where they were able to get a real feel for the space while watching a production undergo sound testing. Now back at school the Year 9s are about to start designing their actual stage set, by using both 3D software and traditional model making tools. After this, they go onto costuming and photography.

The final master class for Year 9 was given by one of our alumni students, Fiona Fauzi, who has recently completed her double degree at Curtin University in Illustration, Photography and Design Graphics. She offered to let the students see her folio, discuss life as a student and her plans and aspirations for the future. Fernanda was in the midst of packing to undertake a scholarship award residency in Hamburg, Germany to continue her design career, so it was great she could take the time to visit us. Her visit made students realise that GDM is not only a possible career choice but is also fun and varied with many rewards, both financial and creative.

With a double year intake in 2015 of Year 7s and 8s the testing process in Week 9 is going to be a massive event. Applications close March 21 and parents will be informed by letter of the testing dates and procedures. However, many prospective students parents have called in for clarification on the portfolio component to the test and what it should contain. Teacher in charge Lev Vykopal stated:

‘The portfolio is a wonderful way to see how the child is developing and where their interests lie as well as their technical skill and proficiency already mastered. Portfolio entry is used in many specialist arts programs as well as by University and TAFE. Students should place in the file work which they feel best expresses their top achievements; especially in any applied design form. There is not set list of pieces and it can include such things as designs for posters, cartoons, illustrations, 3D objects, fashion, architectural and structural designs, photographs, animations, short films, observational drawing, painting and scrapbooking, among many others. Work can be hard copy print or in digital form on a USB thumb drive or disc. Commonly we receive both in the folio. The size of the folio can vary but A3 seems to be the standard we receive.

Placing names clearly on portfolios is essential and we advise that sculptural (clay, card, metal, plaster etc) models be photographed for the file rather than leaving them on the day. Also that nothing too precious is left in files (photos of paintings and prints is also fine). Folios are returned at interview stage and if your child does not make it to that step, they need to be collected from the front office.’

Mr Vykopal is about to head off on long service leave so we shall see him back in Semester 2. In the meantime, parents wishing to find out more information on the program should contact Sandy Olney-Thurston on 9330 0291. For questions on new applications contact Bridget Fraser on 9330 0315.
Visit from the Attorney General

The Attorney General visited Melville Senior High School in Week 5 to make an announcement to the press about a funding initiative to fight crime. They chose our school because we have some fantastic initiatives happening for our Aboriginal Groups through Nyoongar Sports (and it was a central location).

The visit was arranged by Nyoongar Sports who will receive $200,000 to run supervised sport and educational workshops for at-risk Aboriginal youth from the cities of Kwinana and Rockingham. Pictured right is the Attorney General Hon. Michael Mischin MLC, Minister for Commerce. He had a great time learning how to take set shots with some Melville SHS students over-looked by the press.

Swing Band Has them Grooving

The Melville SHS Swing Band had its first outing for the year when the group performed at the Kardinya Primary School assembly in Week 5. Under the guidance of enthusiastic music teacher Mr Lachlin Brooks Crew, the students and parents were tapping feet and clapping in time. The band (pictured below) performs at local schools to encourage younger students to take up musical instruments through the School of Instrumental Music.

Pool Fun

Term 1 is swimming time for students at Melville SHS. The pool is used constantly in summer and is financed partly by the P&C. The Year 10s to 12s had their carnival in Week 4 (pictures opposite) and the Year 8 and 9s will have one in Week 6.

Parent Power

The Melville SHS parents are becoming involved in many aspects of the school, whether it be P&C, Board, helping out at the canteen or being a part of Specialist parent groups. Please join these very active groups, as many hands make light work.

School Board

Call for Strategic Thinkers to Nominate for the School Board. The School Board has an important role in school strategic planning and guidance (including budget setting) as well as some policy ratification within the school. It is not an operational role and should not be confused with the P&C, which is a parent forum. The Board meets twice a term in Weeks 4 and 8 on Monday night from 5.30 to 7.30pm in the library conference room (for a full list of meeting dates please see the school website).

At the first meeting of the School Board for 2014, the following new or returning members were approved for two year appointments as community representatives: Mr Paul Richards (who will continue as Board chair); Mr Mark Hobley; Mr Phil Lovelock and Mr Bob Somerville AM.
With these appointments the Board has one community position (NB: the applicant does not have to be a parent), one school staff member and the P&C position vacant. Nominations for the community representative are now open.

If you would like more information, if you would like to apply for the position of community representative or if you know someone who you think would be suitable (who might be too modest to apply), please ring Mrs Elaine Vardy on 9330 0300. An indication must be sent no later than Wednesday, 19 March, so a briefing pack can be forwarded to you (or your nominee) for consideration by the Board at the next meeting, which is on Monday 24 March.

On behalf of the whole Melville SHS community the School Board would like to thank the following retiring members for their service throughout a period of sustained improvement in the life of our school: Mrs Helen Cobb (P&C representative), Mrs Yolanda Cool (staff representative) and Dr Khadeeja Ibrahim-Didi. The Board notes that without your dedication and commitment to ‘community’ Melville SHS would not be the world-class school that it now is.

P&C News

AGM

The P&C AGM is on 24 March. Please come along and be involved or just attend to hear issues within your school community.

Canteen

Volunteers are needed to help in the canteen. It would be fantastic if you can help for even a few times a term. Can you please contact Jodie Row at: rowie11@iinet.net.au

MASC - Melville Aviation Support Group

MASC is the Melville Aviation Support Group, made up of parents, alumni and friends keen to keep the centre as a state of the art facility. Every year deserving students receive support from MASC in the form of scholarships and flight training subsidies so they can reach their ultimate goal of becoming a pilot - possibly even before graduating from school or obtaining their driver’s licence!

The Aviation program now has two axis moving simulators (SIMs) and both were partly funded by MASC. Melville SHS is the first school in the State to have a SIM, which can be set up to train on any aircraft type including jets. The students mainly use it for single engine aircraft training to assisting their real flights in Cessna 152s.

For more information contact the MASC President at: masc.aviation@gmail.com

Specialist Aviation Scholarships

The Defence Industries School Pathways Program is pleased to support the Specialist Aviation Program at Melville SHS by offering funding four $250.00 scholarships for Years 8 or 9 students.
GDM Parent Support Group

The first GDM parent support group of the year took place in Week 3. Around 60 parents and staff attended to get a welcome from Teacher in Charge Lev Vykopal as well as a program overview and what to expect from this year.

One of the issues raised was fundraising and how well the support group had done last year with over $7000 raised to help fund such initiatives as the master class visiting professionals and trips out to Murdoch and ECU universities. Many thanks again to all parent last year for their tremendous efforts, not only in fundraising but in the level of feedback and social events that have really helped bond the cohort as a group. Also thanks to this year’s new parents for already being so proactive in attending meetings and offers of help.

For more information on GDM Support Group contact: sandra.olneythurstun@education.wa.edu.au

GSM - Music Support Group

Parents interested in all aspects of the Music in Focus program attended the recent Music Information Evening at the Carly Smith Studio in Week 3. Music parents have an opportunity to become involved, help at events and fundraise by joining the GSM. They meet once a term and more information becomes available through the Music Matters Newsletter emailed to families of Music students. Back copies are on the website.

For further information please contact: ana.milas@education.wa.edu.au

School Building Programs
Nearing Completion.

Since the last Melville Matters the following building/facilities projects have been completed or almost completed:

- Air-conditioning of the school Gym and Library worth $70,000 (this includes a $12,000 donation from the P&C)
- High quality blinds in classrooms to reduce heat and glare costing $56,000.
- Oval top dress and scarify costing $10,000.

With the exception of the last project, the school has provided all of the funding from within our own resources ($110,000). This would not have been possible without the International Fee Paying students whose parents ‘vote with their wallet’ and chose to send their children to Melville SHS. We both thank them for their decision to send their child to Melville and congratulate them on their wisdom!

Aerosol Deodorants

A reminder to all students that Aerosol deodorants should not be bought or used in school at any time. These can cause significant problems for both staff and students with asthma and other respiratory difficulties.

Year 8 Camp

In Week 3 Year 8 students had a get-to-know you, fun, confidence-boosting series of camps. Each two day camp (the year was split to make numbers manageable) was packed with fun activities that included: slip-and-slide, a beach carnival, Nations Games, an outdoor movie, the ‘ring of silence’, recreation room activities, board games, morning fitness, abseiling, archery, fun on the flying fox and low ropes, a visit by a magician, team building games and Drumbeat.

The kids had a ball and it can clearly be seen in the photos opposite taken by Ms Janelle Cahoon.
Melville Senior High School

Approved Specialist Program Testing

Specialist Programs:
Aviation | Graphic Design Media | Netball

Selection into a Specialist Program is via school based testing and interview. Details are available on our school’s website or alternatively please don’t hesitate to contact our school reception. Placement into Specialist Programs 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).

School Based Focus Programs:
Academic Extension | Music in Focus

Academic Extension (AEC) is aimed at students who show academic talent in Science and Mathematics and/or the humanities. Students selected are in separate classes for these subjects from day one.

Music students have classroom and instrumental lessons components and are required to join the Intermediate Concert Band, Senior Concert Band, Junior or Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble or the Vocal Ensemble.

There is a double intake for programs in 2015 for those entering Year 7 and Year 8. Testing Dates: 2 April (Year 6) and 3 April (Year 7).

Applications close
21 March 2014

Melville SHS 2013 Results
• Top Public School Award 2006 to 2013
• 100% WACE Completion – equal FIRST in State
• 99% Attainment Rate - 5th best Public School
• Median ATAR of 78.6 - 15th best Public school
• 37th best in Top 50 WACE Schools – 7th best Public School in metro area
• VET: 15th best in Achievement
• 4 Students in ATAR “99 Club”: George Pickering (99.8), Adam Gawn (99.65), Theresa Nguyen (99.65) and Ignasius Setiaputra (99.25)
• Special Certificate of Distinction in Mathematics: George Pickering (top 0.5%)
• 7 Students achieved a School Curriculum and Standards Authority Certificate of Commendation
• Melville SHS students were the highest performing in the State in: Accounting, Chemistry, Geography, Physics, Mathematics and 3C/D
• 96% of our students achieved a ATAR sufficient to make them eligible for university entrance

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