**News**

Welcome to an extended edition to Music Matters.

We commenced Term 3 by participating in a number of music festivals.

**Western Australian Schools’ Jazz Festival**
Venue: John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School
Band: Melville SHS Swing Band
Date: Sunday, 7th August
Director: Lachlin Brooks-Crew

**Western Australian Schools’ Concert Band Festival**
Venue: Churchlands SHS Concert Hall
Band: MSHS Intermediate Concert Band
Date: Saturday, 13th August
Director: Chris Booth
Band: Melville SHS Senior Concert Band
Director: Lachlin Brooks-Crew

**WA Classical Guitar Ensemble Festival**
Venue: Carine Senior High School
Performing Arts Centre
Ensemble: Melville SHS Classical Guitar Ensemble
Date: Saturday, 20th August
Director: Paul Hines

**WA Government Schools Music Society (WAGSMS)**
Venue: Crown Theater
Band: MSHS Intermediate Concert Band
Director: Chris Booth
Ensemble: Melville Vox Ensemble
Director: Stephanie Ryan
Date: Thursday, 25th August
Soloist: Marisa Gardiner

All students represented Melville SHS extremely well and each band/ensemble should be proud of their accomplishments this year. Well done to all of the directors and captains.

Congratulations to the following students who have won their captaincy for 2016/2017:
- Music Captain: Ashley Ure
- Swing Band Captain: Isha Sai
- Intermediate Concert Band Captain: Emily Ward
- Senior Concert Band Captain: Morgan Ure
- Classical Guitar Ensemble Captain: Cian Butler
- Melville Vox Ensemble Captain: Sophia Sunthang

A part of their duties include:
- promote and raise awareness of the music program within the school and wider community
- help/assist ensemble directors to set up, pack up and run rehearsals
- encourage and actively include the younger students to participate
- remind younger students of backstage and onstage etiquette
- be a positive role model at all times
- help organise and take on performance and backstage roles at performing arts events where appropriate

We have no doubt that each of these students will be successful in their role.

**JazzNow! Jazz Camp 2016**

During the winter holidays, I attended JazzNow! (an educative initiative of JAZZWA) which hosts an event called Jazz Camp every year. Jazz Camp is an amazing event that provides incredible opportunities to students that attend. It not only builds on the skills that we already have, but extends our knowledge and techniques in jazz music.

The Camp was held at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). We attended masterclasses relating to our instruments and we received one on one attention from tutors that are well-known in the Australian Jazz scene and who have had years of experience teaching and performing. My tutor, Robert Bresland, has worked with the world-famous musician, Sting!

We attended rhythm classes at the end of each day, aimed in helping us with our timing, which is a crucial aspect in all forms of music. At the start of every day, we attended improvisation classes where the aim is to build our improvisations skills and confidence, by giving us the opportunity to improvise solo in front of our peers.

During the entirety of the Camp, we were also split into various groups to create ensembles and bands. In these groups, we got the opportunity to work with others to play famous jazz pieces in various forms. At the end of the Camp, we have the opportunity to perform these pieces to all of our friends and family at the Jazz Camp Final Concert, which was held in one of the theatres at WAAPA. But these are just the educational aspects to Jazz Camp. One of the best things about the Camp are the friends that I have been able to make, who have similar interests as myself. Students that attend are from a large range of schools and play a variety of instruments.

This is an amazing event that develops students’ techniques, builds contacts in the music industry and enhances musical skills. All in all, it is an amazing program and I encourage others to attend.

By Isha Sai, Senior Concert Band Captain
Soloist Night Concert was well attended this year. Held on 12th September in the Carly Smith Studio, all year 11 and 12 Music ATAR students performed selected repertoire as part of their formal assessment. It was a fantastic opportunity for the younger students to see the level of musicianship required to complete the course. Thank you to all who attended.

The Valedictory Evening was held in Term 4, 27th October at Mt Pleasant Baptist Community College. Thank you to Elissa Gruelich, Zarah Suamili and Sophia Sunthang who provided the entertainment for the evening.

Artometry was an exhibition held a day later, on 28th October at various locations within Melville SHS. Inspired by a 2016 Oxfam statistic, which states that 1% of the world's population owns more than 50% of the world's wealth, selected students were asked to reflect on, reinterpret and respond to concepts of equity and equality, whilst integrating Maths, Economics and Visual Art. Local artists Chris Nixon and Haylee Fieldes worked with Visual Arts students and teachers Jenna Antonioli, Alison Blackwell and Melissa McCarthy to create fantastic murals that were strategically painted around the school grounds. Not only do they beautify the school, but help to also create a sense of belonging and continue discussions. Students’ achievement was celebrated during the exhibition and the Artist-In-Residence Program Coordinators Ms Antonioli and Ms Blackwell, for their work throughout the year. Music students were able to support the exhibition through a range of performances, which included the Swing Band and Certificate III in Music students.

On 16th September, Minister for Education, Peter Collier, visited Melville SHS. Mat Taylor, MLA Bateman, who was also in attendance, organized the visit. The Minister met with many staff and students and was particularly impressed with the Artist-In-Residence program murals and a music performance by the Year 10 Music in Focus students. The visit ended in a commitment from the Minister to support a purpose built performing arts theatre, which has been heavily promoted by our School Board Chair, Paul Richards. On 12th December, Mark McGowan, MLA, also visited Melville SHS to view our facilities.

Music tour preparations are well under way. The first parent Information session was held on 13th September. 34 students with four staff will be attending the Rhapsody Rotorua Music Festival in New Zealand in June 2017. Fundraising has commenced and we are looking for a sponsor for the event.

One of the fundraising efforts included two mini tables and chairs. Made by the D&T Department and painted by Visual Arts students, teacher Beverly Wild donated the sets as raffle prizes. Congratulations to the two winners, Killian Albrecht, pictured left, and Penny, who are now owners of a unique set of table and chairs.

Thank you to all of the Music Support Group parents for your continued support. We would especially like to acknowledge Ezrina Fewings for coordinating numerous sausage sizzle fundraisers at Bunnings and Masters throughout the year.

From all of us in the Music Department, we wish you a very happy, relaxing and safe holiday.

By Ana Milas
Music Matters

Music By Night

Mr Taylor, MLA, and his family were also in attendance for our final music event for the year, the Music By Night Concert. The concert took place on 28th November in the Middle School Quadrangle. Students in Year 7-11 performed on the night, and they had many backstage roles also. The program was packed with fantastic soloists, duets and small groups, as well as all of the bands and ensembles. Thank you to everyone that attended and braved the cool night in support of our talented students.

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STEAM Project - Recording

The Certificate III in Music class was given a song brief by Mr Stapleton in Term 1. Our task was to arrange his song called “Drop and Swap” and record it. Once we decided on instruments and the structure, it was fairly easy to arrange the song. We made sure that we played it regularly throughout Term 2 and 3 so that we would be ready to record on the day.

When the day came however, three of our class members were unable to attend the excursion, so we had to find someone to fill in on vocals and bass. Luckily Sophia was able to jump in for Zarah and Ben switched from playing guitar to bass. We started the day by gathering all of our instruments and having a quick rehearsal of the song. We met up with Year 10 Media students and left for Murdoch Uni just after 9am on 1st September. We were entertained by Ben, who played “My Heart Will Go On” on his recorder.

Once we arrived, we walked out into the university and were greeted by Jade, the Outreach Officer and a media student currently studying at Murdoch. They walked us through the campus toward the Media Arts Centre as they gave us information on which courses Murdoch offered. Once we got to the building, we were separated from the media students and sent to the sound stage. We arrived at a high tech facility with soundproofing and a room just for the sound engineers (we had four 3rd year students and a lecturer work with us). There were specific microphones for every instrument and they were so serious with their sound that they even walled off the drums to stop sound from bleeding. We went through the sound checks, testing levels for every instrument and then started recording. The class went through the song around 5 or 6 times so that we could get the best result possible. After the recording was done, we were given the opportunity to ask questions about the screen production and sound programs and also about the process of recording and mixing a song. We were given time for lunch and when we came back, were sent into an editing lab. Dr. Simon Order then gave us a short lesson on how to use their software so that we could mix our own version of the song. After about an hour that felt like five minutes, we had finished. We all saved our files, received the free merch and then were sent back to school.

It was a great day. We learned a lot about the recording and editing process and I am considering enrolling in one of the sound production courses on offer at Murdoch once I finish Year 12.

By Jack Curran, Year 11 student

Thank You & Farewell

We would like to farewell John Davis, brass teacher, who has been at Melville for the past few years. Mr Davis commenced teaching brass with IMS (Instrumental Music School Services) in 1979, so we wish him all the best for his well-deserved retirement. Stephen Taylor will be taking over for Mr Davis as brass teacher in 2017.

We also farewell Stephanie Ryan, vocal teacher, who has also been at Melville for the last couple of years. Miss Ryan has secured a contract teaching music and a Year 5 class at a primary school. We wish her all the best in her teaching career. Taking over voice tuition in 2017 will be Sophie Foster, who has been relieving Miss Ryan whilst she was on her pre-service teaching practicum this term.

Connect App

Connect Now is available as an app. It allows you to receive push notifications on your iOS or Android device and gives you access to notices and discussions in one convenient place. Just a reminder to please notify school admin of any change to your contact details, in particular email.

For more photos, visit: Melville SHS Performing Arts Facebook page