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The accolades and publicity have been overwhelming since the announcement of the winners of the Western Australian Education Awards for 2015, with Guy Stapleton officially recognised as the winner of the WA Premier’s Secondary Teacher of the Year award. This recognises the outstanding career of Guy; his competence as a teacher and his ability to engage students to become life-long learners. This is a very significant achievement and Guy deserves every accolade for receiving this much deserved award. Personally, I think it is wonderful that a career of greater than 25 years of teaching has been recognised and as a school community we can take great pride in the achievements of one of our many outstanding teachers.

Recent world events remind us to look globally and act locally. The terror attacks in Paris and the continued conflict in various parts of the world such as Syria remind us how fortunate we are to live in a country like Australia, and reinforce the need to hold true to our values of learning, excellence, equity, inclusivity and care and respect. It is through our actions at school, home and in general society that we shape our world and define how we wish to live. These events challenge us to remain true to our ideals and behave consistent with our values.

At Melville SHS we pride ourselves on treating every student as an individual and continually strive to meet their academic, cultural, sporting, citizenship and pastoral needs as we prepare them to meet the challenges of the future. We are a school where all students are given the opportunity to become confident, innovative and successful learners and are supported in the process of defining themselves. So it is as we enter into the final part of the 2015 school year that we reflect on some of these outstanding achievements and events.

Our Graduating class are anticipated to maintain our 100% WACE record, with their WACE Examinations the final element in confirming this achievement. At our recent Valedictory evening we recognised course and special award winners, with Sahil Pradhan and Nigel Valle recognised as ATAR Dux and VET Dux respectively. We anticipate an exceptional rate of Attainment (100%); a measure of the number of students achieving an ATAR greater than 55 and/or a receiving a Certificate II or higher in VET. We eagerly anticipate some outstanding ATAR scores from our graduating students, and will be inviting back our highest achievers as members of the 95 Club.

Our Inter-school Athletics team competed in the A Division Carnival finishing an outstanding second overall and winning the Meritorious Shield for the second consecutive year.

Our cultural program, exemplified through the Arts and Technology learning area, continues to demonstrate outstanding opportunities and outcomes for students. The Art and Technology showcase held recently was a very powerful demonstration of the student achievement.
occurring across every area of the arts, media, graphics, music, dance/drama, home economics and design and technology, with almost every student in the school with work on display and work of exceptional quality and merit. It was particularly powerful to see students proudly showing their work to their equally proud parents, family and friends. The Music in Focus program continues to deliver quality showcases of student musical talent and performance, with the Swing Band, Intermediate Concert Band, Senior Concert Band, Classical Guitar Ensemble and Vocal Ensemble ably led by their conductors Ms Milas and Mr Brooks-Crew.

Our commitment to implementing an ongoing capital works program to ensure modern facilities has seen significant improvements to classrooms, facilities and the grounds. The renovation of our toilets has been partially completed with the upper floor toilets now available and the work on the lower floor toilets and gymnasium due to be completed for the start of the new school year.

Classrooms in Humanities and Social Science have been renovated and reflect the contemporary classrooms that our students deserve. Over the break the renovation of classrooms will continue, with the upper floor IT rooms and adjacent classrooms scheduled for completion for the start of the year. Similarly, significant grounds improvements will be occurring, with new seating areas and play areas being created over the holiday period in the areas adjacent to the oval, courts and demountable classrooms. Some may have noticed reference to our healthy bank balance in the media recently; noting that the significant majority of the funds referenced are committed for current and future projects.

Information Technology remains a major priority with infrastructure improvements such as our comprehensive installation of projectors into classrooms. This complements the continued significant investment in pedagogy and equipment to transform the learning of students in all learning areas. The model continues to evolve and adapt to meet the learning needs of our students and parent support, through the Bring Your Own iPad model, is greatly appreciated.

The 2015 year marks the move of Year 7 students to secondary school and we have welcomed over 220 students to Melville SHS this year. The Year 7 students have adapted readily to secondary schooling and have contributed to our excellent achievements in the academic, sporting and cultural domains.

The Year 7s combined with the departure of the half cohort, has swelled our school population to around 1350 students. As the school of choice for the local and wider community, we continue to attract significant interest in student enrolments. We received enormous numbers of applications for positions for 2016 and interest in each of our specialist programs in Gifted and Talented, Aviation, Graphic Design Media and Netball were extremely popular.
I take a great deal of pride in recognising the efforts of the school’s staff, who are superb professionals, doing the utmost for each student. Do not underestimate the hours, personal commitment and efforts of your teachers. They put in much longer hours than you may think, looking for ways to improve your achievement and engagement, and hold themselves to the highest academic standards. They care about students and their schooling.

I also acknowledge the enormous efforts that parents and school support staff have made. These selfless people have made it possible to have the wonderful experiences and achievements that provide such seminal school experiences for students.

In the continued evolution of Melville Senior High School we have initiated some exciting changes in staffing with the addition of two new Deputy Principal positions. This year we created the position of Deputy Principal Strategic and Operations, with Ms Kylie Bottcher moving into this position. Ms Alanna Sherwood has fulfilled the Deputy Principal Middle School (Years 7-9) role and has been confirmed substantively in this role. We have created a new Deputy Principal Student Services position for 2016, privileging the importance of student welfare and Ms Stephanie McDonald has been appointed to this position to lead and complement our student services team.

Mr Mike Andrews, our long serving Head of Mathematics, will be stepping down from this role for 2016. We are very fortunate that Mike will continue his association with the school and he will focus on teaching high level Mathematics courses and developing student numeracy. Ms Randa Collett will be joining us as our new Head of Mathematics. Mr Richard Slade, Head of English, will be moving to Shenton College and Ms Christine Edgar has been appointed to replace him. At the point of writing the appointment of our new Head of Arts and Technology is yet to be finalised. On behalf of the school community I would like to thank Mike and Richard for their outstanding commitment to the learning of students at Melville SHS through their exemplary teaching and leadership of their learning teams.

I have enjoyed my brief stint as Principal, and thank all staff, parents and our community for your support. Mr White will be returning as Principal and I will revert to Deputy Principal Senior School (Years 10-12). Thank you to Mr Tills who has taken on my usual role for the year, and Mr Cooke for also filling in during the absence of Mr Tills.

In conclusion it has been another very successful year for the school; students and staff alike. Melville SHS continues to strive to provide opportunities for student success by providing a high quality educational and extra-curricular program. We look forward to another successful year in 2016. I would also like to take the opportunity to wish all students, parents and staff a safe and enjoyable festive season and associated holiday.

Mr Evan Floyd
The school is extremely honoured and excited to have Guy Stapleton (picture 1) named as WA Premier’s Secondary Teacher of the Year. Our Science Department and all teachers at the school are dedicated and enthusiastic and Guy’s award is a fantastic public accolade to this fact.

Motivation and inspiration are integral to Guy’s teaching and his enthusiasm can’t help but lead to students wanting to learn more. He combines a love of technology with an almost intuitive knowledge about how students learn, and shares his powerful teaching strategies with colleagues. The result is that his students achieve excellent results in Science and he contributes to system-wide technology developments.

Guy has been up-front and out-there in the classroom in his colourful lab coat. Parents will also know him well if they have students in Year 11 and 12 Human Biology and the Year 8 Gifted and Talented Science class. He has been part of the team of teachers behind the School’s STEM initiatives (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).

Guy was instrumental in getting our students to RoboCup this year, where the school performed so well. He has taken these coding initiatives and organised Year 8 students to pass on their knowledge to local primary school students, who can’t wait to get to high school next year and become a part of our Science program. The photos show Melville Primary School students hard at work learning coding from Year 8 GAT students.

Guy has been an avid enthusiast of Elevate, a note taking method to help students be effective in their learning and study. Using Elevate’s note taking method called *Dynamic Reading Exercise* [DRE], Guy revised his teaching program in order to improve his students’ literacy skills with Science text. Guy initiated, organised and lead professional development in DRE for his Science department colleagues and then presented the DRE learning strategy and findings to the whole school.

As a part of his plan to help students retain information he has created songs to stimulate interest in topics such as *Chemical Change* in Chemistry, *Forces* in Physics and *Gene Expression* in Epigenetics. His songs are popular with the students who are often observed filming them in class and sharing them with their friends. Guy even performed one song during the Art Week concert in order to stimulate the student engagement. He uploads his songs and podcasts onto Connect so teachers and families can view and learn the concepts.

Guy uses acronym characterisations, such as Mrs GRENC and props such as wooden planks and tennis balls to demonstrate active and passive transport of materials across the cell membrane. These are just a few of his enthusiastic methods to encourage kids to embrace Science. See the award speech HERE (minute 2:13).
DIGESTION CARTOONS
Year 8 Science students had the opportunity to showcase their work on digestion by creating a cartoon story board of the progress that food takes through the body to be broken down (some are pictured left). They were displayed in the Library and were great fun.

THE HOUR OF CODE
In week 9, many Melville SHS students participated in the Hour of Code, the largest learning event in history. Students from all year levels participated in fun, easy coding and the basics of how computer codes work to create games and other useful apps. Lessons were self-guided tutorials and were accessed via iPads.

WA’S FORMER CHIEF SCIENTIST VISIT
In week 7 Melville SHS hosted another very successful Women in Leadership speaker for staff from schools in the area. Deputy Principal, Alanna Sherwood [with Professor Beazley (left) in picture 3], has coordinated all three speakers for 2016. The very engaging Professor Lyn Beazley returned to the school to be keynote speaker. She had also talked to selected girls in term 3, to encouraging them to study STEM subjects. Food Science and Technology students provided an amazing array of canapés and cakes for the visitors.

MATHEMATICS
AUSTRALIAN MATHS COMPETITION
Melville SHS regularly participates in the Australian Mathematics Competition and in 2015 we did very well. Distinction winners (top 2%) were awarded certificates late in term 3 and Year 9s are in picture 1 and Year 10s are in picture 2.
ARTS AND TECHNOLOGIES

PERSPECTIVES SELECTION
Year 12 student Gemma Kouzina’s work (picture 1) was selected for the Perspectives Exhibition. This exhibition displays the best Year 12 artwork from across the State at the Art Gallery of WA. It will be on display early next year.

SHOWCASE EXHIBITION
The Arts and Technology Department ran a very successful Showcase Exhibition evening in week 5. There was a broad range of student work on display including five audio visual presentations, eV cars, Graphics Folios, Kodu programming, furniture design, painting, sculptures and much more.

The diverse range of skills and activities the students are learning within the Arts and Technologies is a testament to the creative and inspirational teachers who are continually challenging students to become innovative, imaginative and resilient learners.

The event was well attended, with over 100 visitors including students, parents, teachers and even a few external community members. It was fantastic to see such a large turnout for the first Exhibition of its kind at Melville Senior High School for many years. Once again, Food and Technology provided the fabulous catering for the night.

EV WINNERS
Melville SHS has come out as one of the big winners in electric car races held last week-
end. The school entered for the third time in the ITC Global eV Challenge, held at the Hurricane Go Kart Club track in Wundowie. The school is Champion Junior School (Year 10 and under). Despite finishing fourth in the senior event, we were the second best school in that event too, with Wesley College filling the top three positions.

We also won second place in the ECU Engineering and WA Sports Car Builders Club Engineering prizes. To put icing on the cake the school won the inaugural DATTA (Design and Technology Teachers’ Association) award for a short film outlining the project. See the Video HERE.

The eV Challenge is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education event where students design, construct and compete with a small single seat electric vehicle. The aim is to complete as many laps in one hour, with a restricted battery capacity.

Melville SHS cars are built by a group of dedicated Year 8 to 11 students and are made with plywood techniques and wheels from recumbent tricycles. The team used aircraft construction techniques and spent many hours constructing the vehicles after school. Lithium batteries power hub motors, similar to those used for electric bicycles.

The event split into three classes:
- Class A for students up to Year 10 (Junior category)
- Class B for students up to Year 12 (Senior category)
- Class C for tertiary institutions and private and corporate teams

Melville SHS won Class A and the Junior Championship, finishing ahead of two cars from reigning champion school Donnybrook DHS. The school finished fifth overall and fourth in-class, in the second senior event. They took second place in the ECU Engineering Prize for school built cars and second place in the WA Sports Car Builders Club Engineering prize.

Photo 1 is Darcy Harry, Godfrey Huen, Chloe Back, Elayna Studley and Campbell Marley. Those involved with the project also included Alethia Bone, Nic Fulton, Jamie Lau and Shania Peters. Madlin Herold, Isabella Stubbs, and Amberley Evans worked flat out (along with Ms Beth Glasson) to complete the media video.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY
In the final few weeks of school six teachers were provided the opportunity to develop ICT skills, particularly around use of iPads for teaching students. An on-going NEXT PL mentoring program will allow the dissemination of information and be expanded to the teaching staff next year. The six mastered exciting apps for students that included Socrative, Quick Maths/MathsSpace, NearPod, Padlet, Digital Curation, Weebly, Book Creator, Video Analysis and many more.
SPORT

STATE NETBALL
Congratulations to Melville SHS teacher and Netball coach Sue Gerrard (picture 1) who has once again been appointed coach of the State Schoolgirls Netball team. Best of luck with the tournament.

Congratulations also to Kimberley Leavy (picture 2) who has been selected in the Indoor Netball WA Junior State Squad. Karri Leavy has been selected as an emergency player. The team will compete in Adelaide in December.

BALLROOM DANCING
Year 7 student Dylan Chua-Limargana (picture 3) has won the WA state final for Ballroom Dancing in his age group. He will now represent WA at the Australian Dance Sport Championship in Melbourne. His Year 7 homeroom is showing fantastic support by holding a fundraiser to assist with his travel to the competition.

YEAR 10 OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP
An expedition to Bickley Camp School gave Year 10 Outdoor Education students the opportunity to put their learning into practice. A diet of noodles and cleaning trangias hopefully made the students appreciate the smaller things in life. Highlights included abseiling, canoeing and the campfire jokes. Photos are on page 2 to 4.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM
Our school Chaplin Ms Anni Crouch, attended an event at Foodbank to celebrate 15 years of the school’s breakfast program. The school has partnered with the organisation for 10 years and Anni has been running the Breakfast Club five days per week for nine years.

Melville SHS was presented with a certificate for this achievement and the photo is of Anni with Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO, Governor of Western Australia (picture 5). The Breakfast Club could not exist without many volunteers from both our staff and school community. Myaree Baker’s Delight has also been supporting us with bread each week for all those years.

TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP
Quality training plays an important role when students transition from school to employment and beyond. Each year Options Employment awards Student Training Scholarships to give more students a head start to their careers.

Congratulations to Year 11 Thomas Murray (picture 4) from Melville Learning Centre who last week was awarded a Student Training Scholarship for 2016. Thomas will use his scholarship money throughout next year to assist with training costs such as course fees and associated costs, as well as to purchase equipment for his VET trade studies.
50TH REUNION

Melville SHS welcomed its first Year 8 and 9 Students in 1961. This group graduated in 1965 and celebrated their reunion at the Left Bank in week 8.

Many thanks must go to the organising committee. They did a lot of work finding long-lost contacts. One highlight was Alan Hall who travelled from Tuscany specifically for the event. He left Perth 30 years ago and is now a consultant in the customs industry. He is in picture 1 with the organising committee Shirley Duggleby (nee Tyson), Trish Phelan, Robyn Cain (nee Watts), Alan Hall, Margaret Sheridan and Jan Mackay (nee Birch). More photos are on the next page.

COMMUNITY

RAFTLE PRIZES

Thanks to Harvey Norman who have donated Apple TV boxes used in raffles at the music night and the aviation awards night.

MENTORING AT MELVILLE SHS

Do you have an hour or two per week to spare, care for the welfare of young people and would like to make a difference?

In 2016 the school will be partnering with Ed Connect (formerly Schools Volunteer Program) to provide mentors for students. Mentoring can help students who are struggling to realise their potential in social or academic areas. Ed Connect will train and support volunteers then our co-ordinator Chaplain Anni Crouch will help match them with students.

If you are interested to mentor or to know more, please visit www.edconnectaustralia.org.au, email edconnect@edconnect.org.au, or contact Chaplain Anni Crouch at annic@youthcare.org.au.

UNIFORM CONCEPTS

Melville SHS recommends student buy uniforms now to avoid the chance of missing out on a popular item or size.

There is now a new item available, girls-cut sport shorts (pictured).

The shop will be closed between 24 December and 4 January.
Shop opening times will be:
Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm
Thursday 9am – 6pm
Saturday 9am – 1pm
**SAIL AWAY WITH THE STS LEEUWIN II**

With the New Year fast approaching, don’t miss out on your last chance to jump on board the Leeuwin’s annual voyage from Busselton to Fremantle. We are excited to kick off 2016 with one of our favourite voyages along the stunning West Australian coastline, followed by two of our popular Fremantle voyages.

12 Jan – 17 Jan  Busselton to Fremantle
22 Jan – 28 Jan  Fremantle to Fremantle
2 Mar – 8 Mar   Fremantle to Fremantle

We have two school holiday voyages scheduled for anyone who is not able to participate during term time. Endorsed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority, our program is a great way for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to earn 5 WACE points towards their senior graduation before the school year has even begun. A Leeuwin voyage can also count towards the Duke of Edinburgh or Queen’s Scout Award.

Book before the end of 2015 and you can save $120 by securing a place at this year’s price of $1,980, before the marginal price increase in 2016. For anyone in need of financial assistance, we do still have a few scholarships available. However, these scholarships are limited so we strongly advise anyone interested to apply as soon possible to give them the best chance of receiving some financial support.

We are also fortunate to have the support of many local service clubs, businesses and local governments who are willing to sponsor young people who wish to take part in a voyage, making our program accessible to anyone.

The Leeuwin’s Youth Explorer Voyage program is both exciting and rewarding, teaching participants all aspects of living and working aboard a traditional tall ship from steering, navigating and setting the sails to standing watch through the night and climbing to the top of the 33m main mast. The program aims to increase self-confidence and self-awareness as well as developing communication, teamwork and leadership skills, which future employers and tertiary education providers will be looking for in their applicants.

For more information and to see our voyage program for 2016, please visit our website www.sailleeuwin.com
Alternatively you can contact our team on (08) 9430 4105 or by email at office@sailleeuwin.com

Join one of our dynamic teams:

**SCHOOL BOARD**
Nominations Open 2016
Two vacancies exist

**P&C**
Nominations Open 2016

For more information contact Elaine.Vardy@education.wa.edu.au