

Melville Matters 70

Aug/Sept 2017



MELVILLE
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Good Luck to our graduating class who are about to bunker down for exams following their farewell breakfast on Friday.



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From the Principal

As term 3 draws to a rapid end it is important to note the school year, and indeed 12 years of primary and high school education, is drawing to a close for our class of 2017. Completing 12 years of formal education is a cause for celebration for students, their parents and indeed the whole school community. It is also a time when many students face their final ATAR exams, which can be a very stressful period for all concerned. It is important therefore to have some perspective around these exams and to remember that there are now many pathways into university education besides the one gained by exams. This is not to say that students shouldn't continue to study and work hard in preparation for the exams, because they should! It is never too late to pick up that extra mark or two by studying right up to the day of the exam. It is also worth remembering that a good ATAR score will ensure direct entry into university which for many is the easiest way to get into their desired course. My point though is that if, for what ever reason, a student falls short of the ATAR score they need, all universities now provide alternative entry pathways so all is not necessarily lost on the basis of a one off bad day. If you remember nothing else from this article, please note that Mr Tills is available over the Christmas holiday period if you need advice on alternative university entrance. All this said, on behalf of the entire Melville community of staff, parents and students I would like to wish our Class of 2017 all the best in their coming exams and remind them that we are here to assist them through this demanding time, whilst also wishing the best to those who are completing their secondary schooling at the end of this term. I will say this again at your graduation - but you are a great group and I have enjoyed our time together.

During term 3, Melville SHS certainly experienced many successes and it is exciting to share this with our school community. Week 8 saw the annual Sports Dinner, when all our students who have competed in our inter-school and school sports teams were given a chance to celebrate and acknowledge their peers who have achieved at the top of their chosen sports. It was also a time for the many coaches to award and recognise improvement, persistence, leadership and success. At the dinner we had the opportunity to acknowledge our sporting teams that had won finals at a high level and in doing so particularly acknowledge the achievement of our senior boys netball team in winning the state-wide High School Cup. The 230 students gathered, had a great evening during the awards, dinner and dancing that followed. I would also like to acknowledge the fantastic work of our Health and Physical Education department and especially other Melville staff who provided a wide array of curricular and co-curricular sporting opportunities. Well done and thank you to everyone concerned.

In addition to the performances of our Music in Focus Program and ensembles earlier this term, our Vocal Ensemble once again performed at the WA Government Schools Make Music at the Crown. This was led by Ms Stephanie Ryan and Ms Ana Milas and the feedback and praise from this performance was, as always outstanding.

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Visit by Premier

In week 6, the Premier the Hon. Mark McGowan and the Minister for Education Sue Ellery MLC visited the school to witness a Year 6 class from Melville Primary School involved in the launch of the \$20m Primary School Science Classroom upgrade initiative.

In other news our Year 7 Gifted and Talented English class, for the second year running, took out the National Championship in the Word Mania competition. It is wonderful to see a group of students so enthusiastic about spelling. Just like last year, this world-wide event came down to the last day, when we regained the lead and won the overall competition. Well done to Ms Madeleine Jennings for leading this initiative.

Within this edition of Melville Matters there are many examples of leadership shown by staff and the successes of our students. The fact that we provide a better than world class education at Melville has been recognised again at the whole school level when we received the news that we are one of four schools nominated as a finalist, for the second time in two years, in the WA Education Awards Secondary School of the Year category. I am also delighted to note that one of our young science teachers, Ms Kristy McKay, has also been nominated for the Beginning Teacher of the Year Award. Kristy had her visit from the judging panel in week 9 and the school will host the judges in week 1 of term 4. The results won't be known until the 'Academy Award' style ceremony at the Crown Casino in late November but I would like to acknowledge that by being nominated and then selected as finalists both Kristy and the school are already winners. Go to the link below to vote on us.

The recent state government budget contained both good and bad news for Melville SHS. After much lobbying it was pleasing to note the budget contained confirmation that we will receive \$4.5m towards our long awaited performing arts theatre. I have already had the first meeting with Department of Education representatives about the building of this much needed facility and it looks likely that work will commence in the second half of next year. Given the disruption that will be caused when our Administration Block upgrade commences in term 4 of this year, it is probably not a bad thing. The theatre is likely be built between the existing Arts building and the oval. This will see the need to relocate or replace three general purpose classrooms (currently three demountable classrooms) so there is still a bit of planning to go.

The bad news in the budget is that we are one of 25 large secondary school who will have \$1145 per student cut from our budget for every student above 1,200 (about \$230k for us). All Independent Public Schools are also losing around \$55k that was provided to allow for efficient self-management and at Melville, we will also begin to incrementally lose the \$500k transitional funding we were being provided to allow for a shortfall in the one-line budget method of allocating funds that commenced in 2015. The so called transitional funding will be cut by \$120k in 2018 and we think will be reduced by the same amount over the next four years until it disappears in 2021. The net loss for 2018 is around \$430k, which will increase by \$120k per year until 2021, by which time our net reduction will be around \$800k per annum! So, as you can see a 'good news, bad news' budget! How will we manage this cut? In 2018/19 the loss reflects roughly the current operating surplus that we have used under the one-line budget for building/classroom and grounds refurbishment. But by 2020 we may need to lose staff to make ends meet. We will of course commence the



Beginning Teacher of the Year Finalist

Congratulations to our Science teacher Kristy McKay, selected as one of four finalists in the 2017 WA Beginning Teacher of the Year Award. This is a wonderful acknowledgment of her contribution to public education and is an affirmation of the wonderful things that Kristy is doing in the wider community.

Melville SHS is also once again a finalist in the awards and they will be announcement in November. See the article from the Melville Times [HERE](#)

**Tell the World why
our Ms McKay and
Melville SHS
are the
BEST
[VOTE HERE](#)**

belt tightening in 2018 in an effort to minimise the impact on our staffing levels but our capacity to manage our own building program will be lost and we will be able to sustain fewer smaller classes. Hopefully though, we will be able to get community support for our next big building project which, I suggest, should be a canteen upgrade to provide the cafeteria style of eating that our students deserve.

Finally, in what has been a very busy term I would once again like to thank the staff at Melville SHS for their ongoing commitment to ensuring that we provide a world class education to our students - your children. In mentioning this I need to add that while we will always strive to provide the best education possible for your child there are some things we simply cannot do. This includes allowing students to shift classes because they don't like the teacher or the subject or because they made a poor subject choice. Having been in education for a very long time my advice to parents/carers is that the best support they can provide their child if they are unhappy in a particular class is NOT to request that their child get shifted - which is often not possible in any case. If such a situation arises, which it invariably will over a six year time frame, the best support a parent/carer can provide their child is to assist them in developing the resilience that comes from putting up with something that they don't like - by sticking it out! This doesn't mean that a parent shouldn't insist on 'the best' and assist their child in getting this by arranging a meeting with the teacher concerned, or the relevant learning area head or the relevant year coordinator or the relevant deputy principal - but this should be done with a view to working out a problem rather than changing a class. If a situation in a class gets so bad that it warrants a complaint, you have my promise that this will be followed up and if a member of staff is found to be at fault they will be counselled etc. But the default position cannot be a request to shift classes.

This applies equally to students in specialist subjects who are also generally in smaller classes. Applying for and winning selection into a specialist program means a commitment from Years 7 to 10 (specialist programs conclude in Year 10 so there is no obligation to continue with them into Year 11) and it is not fair on the hundreds who applied and missed out for students to simply change their mind! Besides the need to develop resilience in our students, the simple fact is that we are full at Melville and there is generally no option to shift classes, as we are bound by department rules that mandate that class sizes cannot be more than 32 in Years 7 to 10 or 25 in Years 11 to 12 or 22 if they are a practical class. As we cannot operate outside these rules, supporting your child to build resilience is the best answer for them coping with having to do something they don't like but have to do, not just for their time at school but also for the rest of their life!

Kind regards
Phillip White AM, RFD, BA, Grad Dip Ed, Med (Man), psc
Principal



2018 Head Boy and Head Girl

Congratulations to Charles Morley-Wong and Jamie Lau who are our Head Boy and Head Girl for 2018. They were grilled in an interview and won their roles against a very strong field. Both students are in academic extension classes and Charles keeps busy with Aviation Studies and Music in Focus. Jamie is an overseas student who is from Macau.

English

Picked for Performance

Congratulations to Year 11 student Mina Wallis who has had her work accepted to be performed in the Shorelines festival. It is an annual competition that provides a unique opportunity for writers to present their work to a live audience and adapt their craft to the art of performance. Staff were not to be outdone with Ms Xan Ashbury selected for her play and Ms Emma Gregory to perform her poem. Good luck to these bards for their performance in October.

Literacy Week

Week 6 rocked when the English department opened their house for Literacy Week. The week incorporated the Book in a Day Competition when Gifted and Talented students came to school early and left after dark in order to write a whole novel in groups in one day. The events also included competitions to see who could read the most library books (with book voucher prizes for winners in each year group) and a Book Cover Photo competition. Students got into the swing with a Slam Poetry performance and Year 7s attended a poetry workshop. There was a daily quiz, Word of the Day and 360 Days of Wonder posters. Whew. Staff and students (pictured below) dressed as their favourite book character for free dress Friday.



Dress as your favourite book character

Maths

Numero

In week 5, our Maths teacher Ms Hilary Browton took 14 Year 7, 8 and 9 Gifted and Talented and Academic Extension students to compete in the Secondary NUMERO competition at Woodvale Secondary College. 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. There are four different events; Individual Top Take, Team Top Take, NUMERO Game and, the very physically active, Scramble.

The standard of competition amongst the eighteen teams was high. Our team *Melville Superheroes* (Ethan Hardy-Atkins, Jeckmen Wu, Diarmuid O'Connor and Hamish Patel), was placed first from 18 teams in Individual Top Take, equal sixth in the Numero Game and ninth Overall. The *Melville Avengers* (Max Kelly-Taylor, Emma Beros, Olivia De Rosa and Shrada Shibu) was placed fourth in the Individual Top Take, equal fifth in the Team Top Take, equal sixth in the NUMERO Game and a most credible sixth Overall. The *Melville Magnificents* (Sadeed Ahmed, Aasmik Arora, Logan Pratt and Stella Simes) competed enthusiastically throughout the day. The Year 7 competitors are pictured below. Well done to all the students who attended on the day, including our two enthusiastic reserves, Micah Selvakumar and Nitya Tewari. A special mention should also be made of the dedication of the twenty students who attended the many practice sessions over many weeks prior to the competition.

Maths Author Enthuses ATAR Students

The Melville SHS Mathematics department would like to sincerely thank Alan Sadler for his seminar on Mathematics Methods to the current Year 12s. Alan is a retired Math teacher and has written many fantastic texts for Mathematics students in WA. His Mathematics Methods student books fully cover the Australian Curriculum: Senior Mathematics for Western Australia. The clear, worked examples and graded exercises enable students to progress through their mathematics learning with ease, and allow for a range of abilities in the classroom.

Mr Sadler (pictured below right) gave an educational, entertaining, thoughtful and insightful presentation to our Year 12 students. He has been a fundamental influence on Mathematics education in Australia for the last thirty five years and continues to be an active mentor to countless staff and students to this day.



Aviation Alumni

Congratulations to Thomas Ayoub from the class of 2016, who has got a scholarship with QANTAS and will be flying jets within two years. He has received the recognition through the indigenous Dreamsky program and the funding covers accommodation, flight training and a living allowance.

R.U.O.K?

In week 9 the Student Services team held R U OK Day. Some of our amazing Student Services staff are pictured below right. Students and teachers were encouraged to take a moment to ask those around them, R U OK? They were told that one simple question can change a life. Staff and students were encouraged, by starting a conversation and commenting on the changes they've noticed. It could include a family member, friend or workmate. If they say they are not OK, they could follow the conversation steps to show they are supported and help them find strategies to better manage the load. If they are OK, that person will know there is someone who cares enough to ask. More information on the steps is [HERE](#).

Arts and Technologies

Visual Arts

Young Originals exhibition is presented in partnership with Edith Cowan University, School of Arts and Humanities, and the Sangora Education Foundation. The exhibition celebrates the innovative creative visual arts programs delivered in WA public schools and the talents of our young artists. It is a selective exhibition with only a limited number of entries chosen. This year over 200 entries were received and students from the Year 7 Graphic Design Media program and Year 12 ATAR Visual Arts student Theresa Tedeschi, were chosen to have their work exhibited (Theresa's art is pictured centre below). Congratulations also to the Year 7s Mia Edge, Jack Adrian, Emma Perosa, Atticus Crappsley-Pope, Rowan Pieloor, Diarmuid O'Connor, Tasman Thurstun, Merrick Lembke, Philip Shen and Michael Johnston. See their Transformation Animation [HERE](#).

Materials and Wood

The Year 12s are headed off for the last time and the Materials and Wood class have finished their semester 2 projects. Photo on right is of: Lindsay Crane (standing), (L-R) Jerico Villas sitting, Huaiyuan Liu, Gabrielle Soliven, Andrew Blanchard, Daniel Stephens, Jade Hammond and Jack Britten-Jones



Music in Focus

Congratulations to the many students who have practiced and performed their hearts out over the last months at the Instrumental Music School Services Performance Festivals. All our bands and ensembles competed and were rewarded with great feedback. Thanks to the dedicated staff and parents who committed to the four weekends and the judges feedback was as follows:

Swing Band	Certificate of Excellence
Director: Mr Lachlin Brooks-Crew	
Junior Classical Guitar Ensemble	Excellent
Director: Mr Paul Hines	
Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble	Outstanding
Director: Mr Paul Hines	
Intermediate Concert Band	Excellent
Director: Mr Chris Booth	

What a Drama

In week 9, Australia Playhouse visited Melville Senior High School to perform Gatsby Unleashed. Students from Drama, Dance, Music and English were invited to attend the performance after studying different aspects of The Great Gatsby. The show began with an upbeat jazz number explaining the life of F. Scott Fitzgerald and why his novel is still popular today. Audience participation was highly encouraged throughout the performance - students were asked to chant, clap and cheer as the story of Gatsby unfolded.

With only three performers on stage, the show relied on clever use of costuming, scenery and sound effects to keep the audience engaged. The biggest success of the performance was its ability to keep true to the tale of Gatsby whilst making the audience laugh with its comedic interpretation. During the question and answer session at the end, Melville students asked some insightful questions about the process of putting Gatsby Unleashed together. Thank you to all staff involved for their support of the event and of course to the students for the enthusiasm and energy displayed in the audience. It certainly reinforced the magic of seeing a live performance! Pictured below are the performers and the crowd.



Sports Person of the Year
Winners:



Sports Dinner

One of the most significant events on the school calendar is the Sports Award Dinner, which was held in week 9. This event was attended by well over a quarter of the school, which indicates the extent that the sports domain is embedded in our school and reflects the outstanding culture that has been fostered to participate and engage. Thanks to all of the staff involved in the sporting domain especially Ms Felicity O'Sullivan and the many Health and Phys Ed staff who coordinated the event. There were also many staff from different learning areas who coached and managed teams.

Sports Person of the Year 2017

- Year 7 Prince Pommet Lily Gammidge
- Year 8 Cody Banks Amelie Prinsloo
- Year 9 Miles Davis Merry Abraham
- Year 10 Joseph Hart Daniella Titoko
- Year 11 Basil Thomas Faith Behan
- Year 12 Announced at Graduation

Interschool Sports Community Award:
Female - Priscilla Kelly
Male - Blake Rodger
Athletics team patron: Elena Pommet



Sports Dinner Award Winners - Specialist Netball Program

Year 7	Most Valuable Player	Runner Up MVP	Most Consistent
First Team	Abby Mercer	Ebony Hinchliffe	Shakia Wilson-Bandy
Second Team	Madeline Stewart	Taige Sullivan	Tyla-Rose Ellis
Third Team	Hannah Titterton	Ella Wilson	Hannah Rinaldi
Year 8			
First Team	Amelie Prinsloo	Ava Robson	Taj Tuoro-Teata
Second Team	Courtney Atem	Tahlia Lindsay	Amber Hinchliffe
Third Team	Kyesha Potaka	Lily Wozencroft	Leah Sidaway
Year 9			
First Team	Stefanie Porwell	Susan Achea	Mollie Atkins
Second Team	Tayla Scata	Clair Babich	Paris Regnard
Year 10			
First Team	Daniella Titoko	Karri Leavy	Courtney Bootsma
Second Team	Christine Messenger	Tawnee Bishop	Alisha Canas
Senior Girls			
First Team	Charlotte Terry	Megan Hooper	Sophia Matier
Second Team	Jayde Nodari	Brooke Sorrell	Lara Matier



Interscholar Sports Award Winners

Basketball

Junior Boys	Kyle Marcoleta	Tyson Kelly
Junior Girls	Danielle Wardle	Lily Gammidge
Senior Boys	Terence Kelly	Trey Lukacich

Cont'd



Cricket

Senior Boys Firsts	Jake Pumfrey	Ethan Rowe
Senior Boys 2s	Jordan Lukan	Matthew Murphy
Senior Girls Firsts	Kimberley Leavy	Zarah Suamili
Senior Girls 2s	Megan Everitt	Eliza Cook

Soccer

Junior Boys	Pilot Anzo	William Sumail	Renneth Seet
Intermediate Boys	Dieudonne Sumail	Amir Hazrin	Tex Gregory
Senior Girls	Sarah Hutch	Elsa Fuentes-Hare	Jamie Lau
Senior Boys	Callum Atkins	Corey Baker	Joseph Akongo
Junior Girls	Merry Abraham	Trish Noah	Hayley Lindley
	Marcus Robertson-Wall	Celia Evans	

Touch Rugby

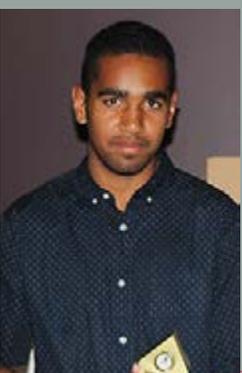
Junior Boys	Jye Rowe	Kyle Marcoleta
Junior Girls	Pimchanok Khamsingnok	Merry Abraham
Senior Boys Firsts	Jake Pumfrey	James Hall
Senior Boys 2s	Ethan Suamili	Daniel Kerr
Senior Girls	Zarah Suamili	Daniella Titoko

AFL

Junior Team	Miles Davis	Samuel Nancarrow	Thomas McIntyre
Senior Boys Netball	Terence Kelly	Nathan Pond	

Volleyball

Senior Girls Firsts	Waverley Burling	Georgia Woodall
Senior Girls 2s	Anna Le	Karri Leavy
Senior Girls 3s	Juliana Cezar	Gemma Richardson
Senior Boys Firsts	Terence Kelly	Callum Atkins
Senior Boys 2s	Blake Price	Jerico Villas
Senior Boys 3s	Amir Hazrin	Mataiasi Turagava



Inter House Athletics Carnival

Not even the cold grey skies could dampen the enthusiasm and festival atmosphere of our school athletics carnival. Friday, September 1 saw a well organised, well run carnival with real time commentary, lots of colourful participation all around the oval and a close result.

This truly was a whole school event with all the staff and several hundred students participating. Huge credit goes to Ms Coonan and her Physical Education team who spent many hours in preparation and worked tirelessly on the day. Also thanks go to the rest of the staff for their significant contribution and to the students who helped make this such a successful Melville event.

The pictures tell the story and here are the main results:

Place	House	Points
1	Cygnus	2377
2	Pegasus	2340
3	Aquila	2051
4	Gryphon	1626

Of the many athletes who competed, here are the champions:

Year	Champion Girl	Champion Boy	Runner Up Girl	Runner Up Boy
7	Taige Sullivan	Kyle MacDonald	Lily Gammidge	Prince Pommet
8	Amelie Prinsloo	Cody Banks	Sophie Calabrese	Kai Wei & Renneth Seet
9	Stefanie Porwell	Maxwell Harler	Merry Abraham	Mile Davis
10	Daniella Titoko	Joseph Hart	Chloe Kelly	Jack Coleman
11	Faith Behan	Basil Thomas	Jamie Lau	Max Babich
12	Megan Hooper	James Gallagher	Mary Tolentino	James Hall

These students will lead the school team for the 'A' Division Inter-School Competition coming up in Week 2 of Term 4. Training is every Monday and Wednesday after school with the training day at the State Athletics Centre on Monday October 9th. The Athletics Squad is listed outside the Phys. Ed office.

Of the many events the largest was the Everest Walk with over 200 students walking over 2000 laps of the oval.



The following records were broken at the carnival:

New Record	Event	Record Holder	Year
1:02.28	400m	Prince Pomet	7
3:00.50	800m	Taige Sullivan	7
2:33.35	800m	Kyle MacDonald	7
5:27.11	1500m	Cameron Anderson	7
1.46	High Jump	Kyle MacDonald	7
1.35	High Jump	Liliana Gammidge	7
9.58	Shot Put	Prince Pomet	7
7.27	Shot Put	Taige Sullivan	7
29.05	200m	Danielle Wardle	8
1:08.78	400m	Amelie Prinsloo	8
2:38.46	800m	Amelie Prinsloo	8
5:34.70	1500m	Amelie Prinsloo	8
5:06.87	1500m	Pilot Anzo	8
3.98	Long Jump	Amelie Prinsloo	8
57.71	4x100m	Gryp House	8
12.30	Shot Put	Samuel McCullough	9
4.50	Long Jump	Stefanie Porwell	9
2:18.13	800m	Joseph Hart	10
2:56.92	800m	Faith Behan	11
1.70	High Jump	Isaac Cable	11
57.43	400m	Damian Gregory	12
1:16.52	400m	Mary Avegail Tolentino	12
2:58.76	800m	Olivia Kerr	12
5.96	Long Jump	James Gallagher	12
1.55	High Jump	Megan Hooper	12

