

# Melville Matters 74

March / April 2018



MELVILLE  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Confident Innovative Successful

An Independent Public School

Proud to be a  
Waterwise  
School



Mentally Healthy School

## From the Principal

Welcome to the second edition of Melville Matters for 2018 and our first electronic version for the year. For the benefit of our new parents we produce one hard copy and one electronic copy of Melville Matters per term. Accordingly, if we don't have your latest email we can't send you every second copy of our wonderful school magazine. Please send email address changes (or second addresses) to [melville.shs@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:melville.shs@education.wa.edu.au).

As I write, we are about to finish term 1. By now all students should have well and truly settled into their classes and while there may still be a bit of last minute shuffling based on the Year 11 and 12 Interim Progress Statements, this should also have settled by now as well. Each student should now have also received Course Outlines and Assessment Programs for every course across Years 7 to 12. Course Outlines should be thorough enough to give students (and parents) a general idea of what is being taught and when, while the Assessment Program should indicate what assessment tasks are due, what the assessment is, when it is due and its relative weighting. We all know that realistically these outlines and programs may change but I expect staff to keep students and their parents updated with any adjustments they might make as well. Broadly speaking, if you look at the Course Outline and Assessment Program and, after conferring with your child, still have no idea what they are studying and when they have assessments, you will need to get in touch with the teacher concerned and ask them to explain the situation with you. This can be done by email (preferred) or through a note in their student diary or by phone (which we have found to be much less reliable).

To make this whole process of teacher/parent communication easier, as most of you should be aware by now, the school uses the web-based Department of Education Connect program and we have 100% of our teachers with course outlines and teachers' marks books posted live for you to look at 24/7 anywhere in the world. All of our students have their marks transferred directly from their teacher's marks books straight to Connect (so you can see how they are doing often before they get their work back!). If you haven't yet done so, to access Connect you need to apply for a parent login through the school. You can get an application by ringing the front office or from [HERE](#). Connect is a VERY POWERFUL and useful program that is revolutionising school/ parent/ student communications so please take advantage of this facility and "log on". While I expect all staff to be using Connect and that they will reply to your email concerns in a timely manner, it is important to remember that teachers will often have in excess of 150 students so allow at least 2 to 3 working days for them to reply before you start getting worried that they may have missed your email.

Course Outlines and Assessment Programs are just one way the school tries to keep you informed about the study requirements for your child at school. Another important way is using the format of the traditional parent/teacher meeting night. In week 8, we had the Years 7, 10, 11 and 12 Parent/Teacher Night. Thank you to the many parents who were able to attend this important meeting aimed at providing an early snapshot into the extent to which students have settled into either their first year at high school (Year 7), their final year before selecting senior school courses (Year 10), their first year in senior school (Year 11) or their final year of school (Year 12). I need to also thank the teaching staff for their ongoing commitment and professionalism in remaining back at school until 6pm in order to see as many parents as possible. The next Parent/Teacher Night by the way will be held on Tuesday July 17th and will be held between 9am to 6pm to give parents more opportunity to meet with teachers across EACH year group 7 to 12. Obviously to facilitate this extended meeting time, students will not be required to attend school at all on this date and we will continue with the very successful 'on line' booking process using PTO.





Since I last wrote, our swimming team have competed in the A Division of the State Swimming Carnival for the first time in many years. Although the team came eighth, they performed their hearts out and were a credit to the school. The students competed against much larger schools, that in some cases have an extra 1000 students compared to us. I am delighted to write that Amelie Prinsloo was the Year 9 Girls Champion and Eben Prinsloo was the runner up Year 7 Boys Champion.

Every year I remind parents that the attendance of their child at school is one of the biggest contributing factors to successful achievement. As a rough guide, it is considered that a minimum of 90% attendance is essential for academic success. My teaching staff in general and my Student Service Team are monitoring the attendance of your child on a daily basis and reporting to you if their attendance is causing concern (and they will do this even if you have given permission for your child to be away). Typically, our attendance drops off a little in Years 9 and 11 and generally more so for girls than boys. The message is 'every class every day'. Remember, we really need parents to stand firm when their child asks to stay home - particularly if they are NOT especially unwell. We also ask parents to understand that taking their child on an extended holiday throughout the school term is not OK either and risks considerable academic hardship (please use the school holidays, not the school term, for holidays - that is what they are there for). Student Services staff really appreciate that parents advise us when a child is away, reflecting the strong partnership that exists at Melville between school and home.

Finally, as always seems to be the case, term one was very busy at Melville SHS and I would like to take this opportunity to both thank all staff and students for their efforts and to wish them (and parents of course) a well-earned safe and relaxing holiday. This said, Year 11 and 12 students (in particular) should remember that the school break should also be used to revise and prepare for Semester 1 exams which start in week 4 of term 2 (May 22) and of course Years 8 and 10 students have exams in week 6 (June 5) - so I recommend developing/activating revision programs for at least some of the holidays all around.

### **NAPLAN Testing**

Commencing on Tuesday 15 May, the Year 7 and 9 students will take their national NAPLAN tests in week 3 of term 2. 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 7 or 9 English or Mathematics teacher; the Head of Maths (Mrs Randa Collett) or English (Mrs Christine Edgar) or the Literacy and Numeracy Testing Coordinator (Ms Heather Anderson).

As always, kind regards

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



## English

This term, Year 11 Literature students have been engaging in various text studies, including *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. The students enjoyed exploring the allegory that Miller created to represent ideas of anti-Communist movements through the historical period of the Salem Witch Trials. Miss Jennings and her students attended a performance of *The Crucible* at the Geoff Gibbs Theatre in March, performed by third year WAAPA students. The Year 11's loved the performance and witnessing the play being brought to life.

## The School Ball

As always, the Year 12 Ball was a fabulous success. The photos are online and more can be seen in the following link: [HERE](#) Code: Mgbs2468



## Science

Our Years 7 and 8 Gifted and Talented students (pictured top left), visited the Gravity Discovery Centre in Gingin in week 6, where they were presented with a wealth of knowledge and hands-on experience with everything gravity related!

## Maths

### Have SUM Fun

The Have Sum Fun Competition is an exciting inter-school mathematics initiative that uses a quiz-night format. In week 7, two Melville SHS students teams consisting of six students each, raced against the clock to solve four intense rounds of eight challenging problems. Mathematics teachers, Mr Michael Andrews and Ms Sheila Greenaway gave up Friday evening to support the Years 7 and 8 team (pictured top right) and Years 9 and 10 team (pictured top middle) at the competition. There was an extended group who all contributed. Our students performed very well with the Year 7 and 8 team achieving a fabulous fourth place and the Year 9 and 10 team coming seventh out of 32 teams. Thanks also to all the Maths teachers who encouraged their students to take part of the competition.

## Aviation Specialist Program

The term 1, a group of lucky Year 5 and 6 students (pictured bottom) had a fabulous eight weeks learning about Aviation in the *Come Fly with Me* course. In week 9, they 'graduated' and had a joy flight with our Aviation staff at Jandakot airport. Term 2 is booked out, but if you know anyone interested in Aviation who is in Year 5 or 6, give them the link to more details [HERE](#).



## Languages

### Chinese

What a journey our Year 7 Chinese students have undertaken this term. Learning Chinese is undoubtedly challenging but the students have demonstrated their determination, hard work, enthusiasm, and fun spirit in taking on this challenging language. They have done a great job learning about the language and culture through their China projects using PowerPoint presentations and posters. To learn to write Chinese characters can be overwhelming and some learners benefit if they envisage they are drawing pictures. The students have explored how the modern Chinese writing system works by tracing it back to its earliest forms and through stories about Chinese culture and history. The students learnt to recognise and write some basic Chinese pictographic characters, how they were created and what they stand for within complex characters. By breaking down the Chinese characters, students learn how to unlock their mysteries and have gained confidence and interest in reading and writing this very foreign language.

Some students have expressed interest in going to the China Study Tour in 2019 to see and experience China first hand and practise the Mandarin they have learnt during the class time.

### Italian

"Buona Pasqua" is the traditional greeting for Happy Easter in Italian. Easter in Italy is a time for reflection and new beginnings. Time is spent with family and friends. The Italians offer and gift each other the Italian dessert 'La Colomba' which is a dove shaped tea-cake of assorted flavours and does not disappoint!

Best served with an espresso and good company, the Italian classes enjoyed this sweet in week 9 to mark the Easter event. Pictured at the bottom are some Year 8 Italian students with Professoressa Gangemi about to devour a craft-fully sliced 'Colomba' of the chocolate and cream kind. Colomba can be purchased at many good Italian goods stores such as 'Galati's' on Wray Avenue Fremantle, 'Romano's Fine Foods' in Beaconsfield, 'Napoli Mercato' in Harrisdale and 'The Re Store' in Leederville or Northbridge. As one student summed up the Colomba eating experience, with crumbs smeared around his mouth "Prof is there any more left? I didn't get a piece!".



Year 7 and 9 Chinese students above  
Year 8 Italian students right



## Arts and Technologies

### Art Gallery Excursion

In week 8, the Year 11 and 12 Art students set off to the Perth Cultural Centre to view the current exhibition at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts and to check out the Perspectives exhibition at the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Students also spent some time taking inspiration from their surroundings to complete set drawing tasks for their folios.

The Perspectives exhibition is held in the Art Gallery of Western Australia every year and features work from some of the best and the brightest Year 12 Art students from across the state. Melville students got a chance to find inspiration viewing the work of their contemporaries; giving them an insight to what level to aspire to if they are to be a part of this prestigious event. Students were split into groups and taken on guided tours, giving them the opportunity to see the large variety of artworks in the collection at AGWA and PICA's current shows. The tour guides also helped students understand ways to analyse and interpret work, which will be of great benefit in the upcoming exams.

Students had a small amount of time in the afternoon to draw upon their newly inspired art practice to work on their various art making tasks. They took photographs, sketched and in some cases went back into the galleries to have more time taking it all in. The day quickly came to an end and the students were ushered back on to the bus back to Melville. Thanks to the teachers, Miss Jenna Antonioli, Ms Mellissa McCarthy, and Mr Sam Cavallaro.

### Ev Electronic Car Races

Teachers Mr Dion Manby, Mr Greg Allin and Mr Matt Lord supervised the Melville Team that ventured to the race track at Wundowie in week 6. The students maintained an exceptional standard at all times despite a long drive for the families, a very long seven hours at the event and an hour long endurance race. The teams came first in A Class and third in B Class. The pit crew was made up of Callum Vincent, Michael Garret, Marcus Robertson-Wall, Tasman Thurstun and Jonathon Phillips. The drivers in



Class A were Crest Flanders, Lithesh Manivelan, Brian Caffrey and in Class B were Chloe Back, Kaden Gallant-Harvey and Ethan Rowcliffe. All students were fully engaged in their own selected roles. After analysing race results and learning about other team secrets, we have found that we have been racing against much larger motors of 750w compared to our current 300w motor. Even though some other vehicles have been using over twice as much power, we were able to keep up and remain a formidable opponent. We are now in the production stage of the 2018 November race car with enhanced performance, and we are moving towards being the first regenerative powered vehicle in the race.

### Visual Art Excursion Sculpture by the Sea and Heathcote Gallery

In week 5, the Year 11 and 12 Visual Art students attended an excursion to Sculpture by the Sea at Cottesloe beach and Heathcote Gallery in Applecross. At Sculpture by the Sea, the students attended education tours and artist spotlight talks. They witnessed a variety of sculptures and were given the opportunity to talk to the artists and hear about their creative process. The experience offered students the opportunity to explore, examine and discuss a range of creative, conceptual and artistic responses to site and landscape, form and contemporary ideas.

In the second part of the day, students viewed works at the Southern Perspectives at the Heathcote Cultural Precinct. This exhibition is by the best students South of the River who completed Year 12 in 2017 and included Melville Senior High School student, Theresa Tedeschi, who was featured in the last edition of Melville Matters. Current Year 11 and 12 students were able to see the artwork of their contemporaries, providing aspirations to exhibit in a professional setting upon their own graduation. Pictured bottom are the students on location.

### Music in Focus

In week 10 families were invited to the yearly Music Brunch, where students sang, played and danced to display the efforts of practice from term 1. The Sunday morning was fabulous and show-cased a great array of talent and hard work. Photos are on the next page.





## Netball Specialist Program

In week 6, 15 girls were invited to attend an all-day West Coast Fever Specialist coaching clinic along with the other specialist netball schools. They were:

Year 8	Darcy McNamara and Emily Adese
Year 9	Ava Robson, Bella Mentz, Taj Tuoro-Teata, Aailyah Panton, Ruby Hulm, Emma Beros and Sophie Calabrese
Year 10	Susan Achea, Nicole Robson, Abbey Heard, Bethany Savage, Katie Rigden and Mollie Atkins

### Carnival Fun

In week 9, Netball Specialist students had a whole day round-robin carnival. This was a great opportunity for the Netball specialist program staff to watch and assess teams in match-play for the upcoming High School Cup in Term 2. This day also focused on team dynamics, cohesion, communication and game strategies whilst the Year 12 Certificate II in Sports Coaching students coached, umpired and managed the day as part of their Certificate coursework.



## Sport

### Inter school Girls Cricket Champions

Congratulations to the senior girls cricket team who WON the inter-school Peta Verco Shield in week 7. The team looked like they had a great day from the photo bottom centre.

### Inter-school Swimming

The school's elevation into A Division this year proved to be very competitive. There were great results from individual students and some exciting relay finishes near the end of the day. The team have now seen what standard they need to achieve and the squad will continue the new swim squad training regime next year. Thanks to our loyal teachers who came to school early for training and provided breakfast. Individual Champions were Year 9 Champion Girl, Amelie Prinsloo and Year 7 Runner Up Champion Boy, Even Prinsloo.

### Year 10 Lightning Carnival

In week 10, the school sent a large group of students to the annual Year 10 Lightning Carnival. Students were well behaved and recorded great results. Most importantly they had a day of team camaraderie, school spirit and exercise. Results were:

Boys Basketball	B Division	Second
Netball	A1 Team	Third
	A 2 Team	Second
	C1 Team	First

### Senior Basketball

Senior basketball has been running after school during Term 1 with six games each week against different schools. The Melville team has come up against some pretty tough opposition but have still played some good basketball with wins against Leeming SHS and All Saints College.

### Senior School Umpire Volunteers

In week 10, four Year 12 Certificate students attended West Leeming Primary as umpires for a volleyball carnival. Students Jayde Nodari, Monique Burns, Nathan Pond and Savannah D'Alessandro were thanked for their diligence and confidence.

Next term is going to be exceptionally busy with all of the winter sports starting including: five Inter-school soccer teams (three boys and two girls) eight Inter-school volleyball teams (four boys and four girls); a Senior Boys AFL team, many students competing in the State cross country; a Year 7 lightning carnival; a Year 9 lightning carnival; a Years 7-9 touch rugby competition and a Years 7-9 hockey competition. There are also the many extra netball carnivals for our Specialist Netball teams.



## Student Services

### Ride2School Day

In week 8, students got behind National Ride2School Day. Many hundreds of students rode bikes and scooters, caught public transport and walked to school. These students were in the running to win two bike vouchers (candidates are pictured bottom left). Year 11 student Mataiasi Turagava and Year 9 student Dylan Harris (pictured centre below) won one of two \$300 vouchers to buy a bike. Hopefully the students will now make every day ride to school day!

### Harmony Week

In week 9 Harmony Week culminated in dance performances in the quad by Indian dancers from Bollywood Dance Studios and African dancers from the Sakafit Dance Group. The students were encouraged to join in and a big crowd got into the groove.



## IEC Swimming Carnival

The IEC Swimming Carnival took place in Week 7 in our school pool. Most of the twenty four events were team events and included relays in all strokes, novelties and rescue races. There were also life jacket races for students still learning to swim and a 25m freestyle gold medal race for the top eight girls and boys. All IEC students were allocated races according to their strengths and the carnival had a 99% participation rate. The feedback from the students has been wonderful.

IEC Swimming Champions were as follows:

	Champion	Runner Up
Girls	Jessie Ye	Violante Fontana and Cindy Zhang
Boys	Sean Sung	Yuanting Le

The final results of the carnival and the points which go towards the overall Champion House were: fourth place - Cygnus (204 points), third Gryphon - (213), second - Aquila (245) and in first place (just six points ahead) was Pegasus on 251 points. They have come from last to first in one year.

This carnival could not have taken place without the support of the IEC staff who acted as marshals, judges and recorders and also the mainstream House Captains who did a great job making sure the carnival went smoothly. A big thank-you to all involved.



## Murdoch University

Parent Information Evening - Calling all parents of girls aged Year 7 to 12 who are passionate about study in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) to understand how to best support their daughter to turn their passion for STEM in to a career. [HERE](#)

## Parents and Citizens

Your P&C is active again. Our next meeting is on 21 May at 7.30pm in the school library. ALL ARE WELCOME. Why not come and find out more and meet parents keen to help the school? The swimming pool needs major funds spent to make it functional and it will be discussed at this meeting. Thank you for your voluntary contributions, which help immensely with funding special projects like this.

Jonathan Gayton - P&C President