

# MELVILLE MATTERS 75



MELVILLE  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MAY/JUNE 2018



Specialist Netball Program Fun at the High School Cup

CONFIDENT

INNOVATIVE

SUCCESSFUL

An Independent Public School

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Mentally Healthy School

Proud to be a  
**Waterwise  
School**



ANZAC Ceremony

Photos by:  
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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the third edition of Melville Matters for 2018. Accompanying this edition is a copy of our 2017 Annual School Report. While it has been on our website for a few months now, it is intended that every member of the Melville community (parents and staff) should receive a copy and take the opportunity to at least skim read it. As the School Board chair Mr Paul Richards and I state in the introduction, while it seems like a long time ago now, 2017 was an outstanding year for Melville SHS. The headline academic data showed that in national and state wide standardised testing our Year 9 students exceeded state, so called 'like school' and Australian averages in NAPLAN testing and 11 of our Year 12 students achieved an ATAR of 95+ with one of them receiving 99.75.

The introduction also highlights the numerous successes of our school and, if nothing else, I urge you to read this 'executive summary'. Initial feedback from parents and community members attending the School Board meeting, where the annual report was tabled and accepted, commented that the production values of the Annual Report continue to be superb. These views were supported at a subsequent P&C meeting. Parents at both meetings also told me how proud they are to have their child associated with a school that is doing so well. This is always great for a principal to hear.

However, as an organisation we can never rest on our laurels. To achieve the best outcomes for our students, your children, we work hard at sustaining a culture of self-reflection and continual improvement. To accomplish this there is clearly a need to analyse and respond to data and the achievement of the targets contained in the School Business Plan 2018-20, a copy of which was posted home earlier this year and which is also available from the school website.

After you finish reading our Annual Report, if you don't want to keep your copy, rather than throwing it out, please consider passing it on to a friend (ideally with school aged children who don't come to Melville SHS) or leave it in a medical practice waiting room (or the like) as we believe the messages it contains, as well as the quality of the production, make it a worthy advertisement for our school and I would hate to see the good news go to waste!

In week 3, NAPLAN testing occurred for almost 500 Year 7 and 9 students, Year 11-12 exams took place in weeks 4 and 5 the Years 8 and 10 exams occurred in week 6. The exams will be followed up by the semester 1 reports which for the first time will ALL be electronic with hard copy by exception. Reports will be sent via Connect in the last week of this term and a parent/teacher meeting event will be held from 9am to 6pm on Tuesday 17 July 2018 (week 1 of term 3). These and other key dates are all shown on the Fridge calendar enclosed in this edition of Melville Matters

Note also that these parent/teacher meetings can only be booked using PTO on-line (availability dates will be confirmed in a separate letter that will be emailed home). With teachers needing to be available for meetings from 9am-6pm, the school will be closed for students (including the IEC) all day to allow for extended meeting opportunities.



Netball Specialist Program in Action



Looking to the future, subject selection books for 2019 Year 11 students (currently in Year 10) will be distributed in week 8 and a parent briefing will be held on the 21 June. If your child is in Year 10 (and therefore will be in Year 11 in 2019) it is important that you attend this briefing. Our view is that the 'Pathways' we introduced a few years ago, which have been refined every year since, have been highly successful and they will continue to be the basis for course (subject) selection.

Typically between 45 to 60% (depending on the cohort) of Melville students will study an ATAR pathway, which will lead to university entrance, while also completing the requirements of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE). Certificate pathways are also selected by between 45 to 60% of our students who see themselves as TAFE or employment bound. Certificate pathway students are required to select from a series of fixed pathway options based on General (as opposed to ATAR) WACE courses (subjects). Critically, this includes at least one (and often more) Certificate courses. This practice of offering an ATAR or Certificate pathway has proven very successful, providing our students with a set of courses targeted at viable, meaningful career pathways that position them to gain university and/or TAFE entrance, while also maximising their chances to satisfy WACE requirements.

Finally, we are increasingly aware as a society and a school that our children are exposed to many more pressures in life than we typically were at the same age. This is leading to greater levels of anxiety and an alarming upsurge of adolescent mental health issues. I mention this for two reasons. Firstly an ATAR pathway exposes a student to the pressures associated with exams, class rankings and deadline driven critical work completion dates. The good news is that universities have recognised that getting an ATAR should not be the only way to gain tertiary entrance and a range of alternative university pathways are now available. Please feel free to explore some of these options with Mr Tills who will be available throughout the parent/teacher meeting day and at the parent briefing.

A second contributing factor to increased childhood anxiety is the obsessive use of mobile devices. I believe that schools should play our part in attempting to moderate this situation. Accordingly I am announcing the establishment of a working party of staff, students and parents to review and re-write (as required) our current policy on the use of mobile devices (including mobile phones) at school. At some stage later this year feedback from parents will be sought, most likely as part of the bi-annual community satisfaction survey due for completion by the end of 2018. More to follow.

Kind regards

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

## ICT

### **Mid-year reports are coming to parents soon - are you connected?**

A reminder to all parents about informing the school if any details, especially email addresses, change. Now that reports are issued electronically, this is critical to communication getting through.

**Reports will be on CONNECT for Senior students on 15 June and all other year groups on 27 June.** If you do not get a CONNECT notification, this means we do not have your correct email details. Please ring the school on 6274 1300 to update your email address.

### **iPad**

The school encourages all students to bring their iPad or laptop to school every day. It is part of the 'Have you got your 6?' campaign and when all students are prepared, it allows for better use of ICT strategies. Teachers at Melville recently attended a Microsoft 365 professional learning session and several teachers have already started using this great collaborative tool with their classes in addition to Connect. Classes are using interactive tools like Kahoot, Padlet and Quizlet to make the learning even more fun. These types of activities work really well when all students have their device to work from.

# HASS

## MOCK TRIALS

Congratulations to the six Year 10 to 12 students who have been representing Melville SHS in the successful Mock Trial team. Ex-Melville Gifted and Talented student Rhianna Brims is studying International Relations at Curtin University and has been mentoring the students throughout semester one.

A mock trial is a simulated court case in which teams contest a fictitious legal matter presented in the Western Australia court system. The cases are presented by two teams - a prosecution/plaintiff team and a defence/defendant team - made up of students playing the roles of barristers, solicitors, witnesses and court officials.

The Mock Trial Competition provides an enjoyable, dynamic way of introducing students to the law. It provides students with an opportunity to learn valuable skills in research and in the development and presentation of a persuasive argument. The team is made up of Year 10s Elton Miranda and Ramon Razvani; Year 11s Bri Allison, Alex Pong and Sami Rashid and Year 12 Roydon Elliott. They are pictured below with Rhianna. They competed at the Supreme Court in the first trial and defeated Morley SHS where the Melville team won both the court case and the competition. The team then won Round Two of the competition against St Hilda's.

## GEOGRAPHY

Year 11 Geography students attended a seminar in Mundaring to support their study of natural hazards in Fire Geography. The students engaged in lectures, fieldwork and environmental studies to expand their understanding of the importance of fire management in the biophysical and managed environment.

Student took a guided walk and engaged in geographic fieldwork to examine the impacts of both natural and managed fire on the ecosystem. They learnt to identify the difference between bush fires and prescribed burning and why prescribed burns are critical for protecting life, property and the environment.

## STUDENTS TAKE *STREET LAW* TO THE CLASSROOM

Third year Murdoch University Law students are nurturing a passion for law among Melville SHS Year 10, 11 and 12 students as part of a program that aims to advance legal knowledge around the world. The Street Law initiative began in the United States in 1972 and has since become a global organisation developing classroom programs that educate communities about law, democracy and human rights. The program is called *Law in the Community* and it trains undergraduates to go into classrooms to provide information and legal education to pupils in a fun and engaging way.

The Murdoch students have been delivering lessons on topics chosen by the teachers, and then returning to run sessions which address topics identified by the students as important to them. Teacher Cheryl O'Connell said. "It was a fantastic opportunity for students to interact with law students, to ask questions of courses available but to also see how Murdoch students have interacted with society, either in schools, migrant centres, legal aid, and not just the court room. Law is more than just a courthouse"



# ENGLISH

## INTER-SCHOOL DEBATING

In Week 4, Melville SHS hosted Round 1 of the Fremantle Districts Inter-school debating competition. Melville SHS had a team in all groups from Years 7 to 10 and the Year 10 team won the day. Congratulations to the team (pictured left) and particularly Shayla Trautman, who was top debater in her year group. The teams and reserves are made up of the following students:

Year 7: Byron Fisker, Saxon Murray, Kobi Dixon, Raymond Khoe, Amal Sebastian, Daniel Shin, Dhruv Gehlot, Albin Veluthepilly

Year 8: Josh Cabutaje, Arjun Mungekar, Sadeed Ahmed, Tobias Beauchamp-Saunders, Lithesh Manivelan

Year 9: Shrada Shibu, Xavier O'Brien, Zach Alpers, Petra Kovacs, Emma Beros (session 4 only)

Year 10: Reese Dixon, Shayla Trautman, Trish Noah, Taniya Shrimali



## MATHEMATICS

In week 3, the Mathematics department once again hosted the mathematics mastermind Charlie Watson. Charlie spoke to senior school Maths students about the intricacies of their Graphics and CAS calculators so they can get the most out of their devices for upcoming exams. Pictures are below. Mr Watson has 30 years experience teaching Mathematics, has been a ATAR marker for the past 15 years and regularly runs professional development courses for teachers. He is director of WA Exam Papers, which publish trial ATAR exam papers used by nearly all WA schools.



# GIFTED AND TALENTED

Year 10 Gifted and Talented students have been introduced to various speakers who are practicing in the commercial industry to guide them to make more informed subject choices in Years 11 and 12. Thanks to Melville SHS parents Mr Saxon (civil engineer) and Mr Nicholas (Finance) who gave up their time to talk about their careers and alternatives for a future careers.

In week 5, Year 9 Gifted and Talented students held a debate to discuss education funding in public versus private schools.



## AVIATION

Former student from 2016, Thomas Ayoub has just got his commercial pilots licence in May this year. At only 19 years old this is an amazing achievement.

Ben Seow pictured below with his Flight instructor Min Kwon, went solo in week 4. He has set a school record of going solo in 9.1 hours. A massive effort on his behalf, as I believe Chuck Yeager, who first broke the speed of sound went solo in 9 hours.





# LANGUAGES

In week 2, Chinese prac teacher Ms Hua taught Chinese language students how to make Zongzi (sticky rice dumplings) for the Dragon Boat Festival, which is one of the most important traditional Chinese festivals. Students learned about the meaning, history and traditions of the Dragon Boat Festival. Students also made paper Zongzi to decorate the classroom. The Year 9 Chinese class are pictured below busy making lunch.



# ARTS AND TECHNOLOGIES

## ART MEETS STEM IN MASTER CLASS INITIATIVE

This month artistic training consultant Will Huntley presented an exciting workshop to students and staff, sharing his industry experience in a resin and mould casting master class. Students (pictured top right) changed into appropriate clothing for the messy tasks and got busy casting.

Huntley is a professional multidisciplinary artist with many years of experience in the fields of art, design, film, theatre, special effects, and prototyping. With previous employers including Disney Studios, he worked on the blockbuster films Alien 4, Austin Powers 2, Jingle All the Way, Starship Troopers, Wild Wild West and many more.

The workshop provided a fun and energetic, hands-on experience in the fundamentals of casting and moulding. Using a range of materials including resin, plaster, clay and silicone, students learnt valuable new techniques to apply to their class projects and teachers from visual art, design and technology, digital technology, media, and science, gained new skills and ideas to bring back to the classroom.

## DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

In week 4, the Year 10 Jewellery students went on an excursion to Contemporary Metals in Osborne Park to spend the day with master gold and silversmith Philip Noakes. Mr Noakes (pictured right centre with the class) has over 50 years experience in the industry and generously shared the real love of what he does. Students enjoyed looking at the beautiful work he displayed and came away inspired and in awe.

Students all had their own bench space and each set about under guidance making a beautiful hammered sterling silver bangle, some also made twisted rings and copper bangles. Melville students took full advantage of the chance to experience the wonderful specialized jewellery workshop facilities at Contemporary Metals and have returned to school inspired and full of ideas.

## DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Students from Year 10 Creative Computing entered the *Grok Learning's Intermediate Web Comp 2018* and achieved high scores. The coding competition teaches new coders from around the world how to design their own websites. Students competed for five weeks alongside over 6,000 other students from across Australia and the world, using code to design websites of increasing sophistication and complexity. The twist? Many of them had never written a line of code before!

In the final week of the competition, students used their new coding skills and creativity to produce their own website designs and submit them into the design tournament, where other competitors and the public voted on the best designs in head-to-head rounds. Several students from the class achieved high scores in the competition:

LeAnn Yap	Perfect Score
Chakhrit (Charlie) Bunthaweensaensuk	High Distinction
Marcus Robertson-Wall	High Distinction
Gede Wirayuda	Distinction
Ella-Rose Corby	Distinction
Carl Uy	Merit





# ANZAC DAY

ANZAC Day was celebrated at the end of term 1 at a ceremony in the school gym. Special guests included Melville Councillor Pat Phelan, P&C member Jennifer Lindley and Melville Rotary members Jacquie Heron and Emma Maxwell. Anzac Day commemorations are held around Australia on or near 25 April to acknowledge the sacrifice of the original soldiers who fought at Gallipoli as well as those who have served in defence of their country in conflicts since. Year 12 student Min Dee Chia spoke movingly about her trip on the Quiet Lion Tour to Thailand and is reproduced below.

## QUIET LION TOUR

### By Min Dee Chia - Year 12

As a participant of the Quiet Lion Tour last year, I have learnt about the hardships of the ANZAC soldiers, who have led me to appreciate the significance of this day. The story of Sir Weary Dunlop, and the torture and hardships endured by the prisoners of war working on the Burma Thailand Railway and Hellfire Pass epitomise the perseverance of man.

I am grateful for the opportunity given to me to learn about the stories of the prisoners of war and the hardships, bravery and mateship of our soldiers, doctors and nurses. The ANZAC ceremony at the War Cemetery in Kanchanaburi was a memorable experience honouring those who have made a sacrifice for our country. We paid homage to those who survived and returned home broken in body and sometimes in spirit. Some were the same age as school students.

I believe that the younger generation should actively learn about the stories of our soldiers and the sacrifices that were made for our country. If we could expand our knowledge on national history, then we can come to fully respect the efforts of our past leaders and soldiers.

I would like to thank the Melville Rotary Club for the amazing opportunities they present to young people. Also a huge thank you to the school for introducing students to tours as such this.

I encourage other young people to get involved by applying for the Quiet Lion Tour to experience what I have experienced. The significance of the heroism, comradeship and sacrifices made by the men and women of war should always be remembered.

## QUIET LION TOUR 2018

Year 10 students Lora Tran and Melody Amalfi travelled to Thailand on the last school holidays as the Melville SHS representatives on the Quiet Lion Tour. They spent the holidays reliving the plight of WWII soldiers who were prisoners of war.

One of the first students to attend Melville SHS in the early 60s, Mr Max Gamble, was in Thailand for the wreath laying ceremony and said the following: "As you know during the sixties we had the Vietnam conflict, yes I was one of the many that come out of the barrel ... Being there was a very moving experience even for me. At the time of laying the wreaths I was surprised to hear that students representing Melville Senior High School were there to lay a wreath ... as a returned veteran it made me feel so humble that I could stand with your girls and be apart of the tribute to our fallen comrades (picture bottom left).



Min Dee Chia with Melville Rotary Representatives



Amelie Prinsloo

# HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION



## STATE TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

Year 12 Head Girl Jamie Lau has just competed in the under 18 state tennis championships. She was part of the WA team who came second overall at the nationals in Brisbane.

Year 9 student, Amelie Prinsloo has competed at the Australian National Championships for Surf life saving over the past holidays and received a Bronze medal in the 2km beach run. She also went to the Swimming National Age Championships held the week after in Sydney and managed to make the finals for the 100m backstroke, finishing seventh overall in the 13 year old girls division.

Also congratulations to Year 11 student Lewis Rigden who has been selected to represent WA in the School Sports WA 2018 Baseball team. The team played on the last school holidays in Adelaide.

## LIGHTNING CARNIVAL

In week 3 the Year 7 students attended the inter-school Lightning Carnival. The Netball girls were outstanding with all three specialist teams winning their divisions.

## INTER-SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

In week 3 the school sent a team to the Inter-school Cross Country Championships and out of the hundreds of participants in each division the team had some great results:

Girls 17& over	Elsa Fuentes-Hare	15th
Boys 16 Years	Michael Peoples	17th
Girls 14 Years	Amelie Prinsloo	22nd
	Indi Strom	29th
Boys 13 Years	Chadd Dunscombe	23rd
Boys 12 Years	Eben Prinsloo	29th

## INTER-SCHOOL SOCCER

Last week was quiet on the soccer front, however the Junior Girls coached by Josh Brun came away with a win against Cannington Community College 2-1 despite only playing with 10 players. Our Senior Girls team under the direction of Sam Maguire are also undefeated after two games.

## SENIOR BOYS AFL

The Senior Boys AFL team have played three games against Seton College, Corpus Christi and Fremantle College on Wednesday afternoons and have now concluded their fixtures. Unfortunately they did not manage a win but tried hard against some tough opposition. There were plenty of memorable moments, at times they had some great passages of play and posted some respectable scores in most games. Thanks to Brendan Crozier and Brett Cooper for giving up their afternoons to coach and supervise the boys in this competition. It is always tough with after-school fixtures, as numbers can vary and we are never certain of how many will be available for each game, but the teachers did a great job motivating and encouraging the boys during the games.



Jamie Lau

## HOUSE REPORT

Following the end of Term 1 Aquila have taken the lead in the House Points table, followed closely by Gryphon. Students earn points for themselves (and their houses) based on their academic, sporting, community service and extracurricular activities. They are publically acknowledged for their efforts and earn tiered awards based on their level of achievement, along with 'lucky dip' canteen vouchers or movie tickets in weekly assembly raffles.

## SPECIALIST NETBALL PROGRAM

The Netball students are certainly staying fit and keen with the big program underway in Term 2. At the recent Year 7 Lighting Carnival in week 3, the three Netball teams all came first.

All year groups are currently mid-way through the High School Cup and they are doing very well. Results are:

### Lower Division - Years 7/8

Team 1	First position	Through to Inter-zone Final
Team 2	Second position	Through to inter-zone Final
Team 3	Fourth in zone	
Team 4	Fourth in zone	
Team 5	Sixth in zone	
Team 6	Sixth in zone	

### Middle Division - Years 9/10

Team 1	First position	Through to Inter-zone Final
Team 2	Second position	Through to Inter-zone Final
Team 3	First position	Through to Inter-zone Final
Team 4 -	Fourth in zone	

### Open Division - Years 11/12

Team 1	First position	Through to Inter-zone Final
Team 2	Third in zone	

## VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Year 12 student Priscilla Kelly is enrolled in the Vocational Pathways Program and as a part of the program she is undertaking an Aboriginal School Based Traineeship with BUPA. Priscilla attends school three days per week and undertakes a work placement for the remaining two days. Recently Priscilla was invited to deliver an "Acknowledgement of Country" at the opening of the new BUPA health carer store in the Murray Street Mall, Perth. Whilst at BUPA, she is undertaking a Certificate II in Business as well as obtaining invaluable "real" work experience. Her employer speaks highly of her and in fact has referred to her work as exemplary. Well done Priscilla.

Year 11 student Caleb Vaoga is completing a Certificate II in Engineering, as a school based trainee though Allspec Engineering in Henderson. This has been a brilliant opportunity for Caleb, as Allspec have been very supportive of the trainee-ship. Caleb has been learning so much with on-the-job training in areas such as soldering, welding, mechanical cutting and machine operations. He attends TAFE one day per week and Allspec on another day.

## BOARD MEMBER PROFILE - PATRICA PHELAN

Melville City council member, Patricia Phelan has been involved in leading the community for the past 19 years, including a two term run as Deputy Mayor. Patricia has experience in various fields which all couple with her experience in city council. Having lived in both Palmyra and Willagee, Trish feels a strong sense of community and has an interest in town planning, elderly care and areas of community development.

Trish is strongly linked to the school as a member of the first cohort of Melville High graduates over 50 years ago. She helped coordinate the 50th Year Reunion two years ago and is part of a strong alumni from this era who meet regularly. She will an enthusiastic and knowledgeable new Board Member

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Year 10 student Dean Morris has recently been awarded the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. He was chosen to be the Duke of Edinburgh mentor for the whole of his Air Force Cadets squadron. He has also created an organisation called GOSAC (Give Our Strays A Chance) to raise awareness of adopting and donating to animal shelters. He coordinates a big day called GOSAC DAY at the Forest Lakes Forum in Thornlie. There were dogs, cats and bunnies up for adoption, face painting for kids, a raffle etc.

## STUDENT SERVICES

Students Services has been busy keeping students engaged and excited during lunch breaks. The start of Term 2 saw the arrival of a Dodge Ball kit in the Year 7-8 quadrangle. Our enigmatic and LOUD Chaplain Mr Reece Frank was MC of a competition for all-comers. It was great to see an agile girls team win the final. The staff versus students game was also very entertaining.

## YEAR 7 HOT TOPICS

In week 3, Year 7 students were given talks by the Frames Initiative a body that deliver relevant talks to promote safe and respectful relationships. The boys' discussion was *Men of Respect*, a talk about what makes true manhood. It discussed manhood based on character and addressed their developing attitudes toward women, respectful thought, speech and behaviour. It encouraged boys to make the choice to be men of respect and allies for women in their lives.

The girls were presented a talk called *Please Like Me*. Teenage girls sometimes feel pressured to look and act in a certain way to gain the attention and approval of others. These pressures can be stressful, confusing and can take the fun out of growing up. This presentation encouraged girls to develop confidence and a strong respect for self. It discusses hot topics like appearance, selfies, social media, dating and rumour-spreading and encouraged girls to look out for one another.

Dodgeball - Winners are Grinners



Priscilla Kelly



Caleb Vaoga



Mr White and Trish Phelan



Frames speaker for 'Please Like Me'

Netball Specialist Program in Action

