



MELVILLE  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

# Melville Matters 82

March/April 2019



Year 12 Politics and Law students at Parliament House - Photographer Dylan Lauritsen



Confident Innovative Successful

An Independent Public School

Proud to be a  
**Waterwise  
School**



## From the Principal

Welcome to the second edition of Melville Matters for 2019. For the benefit of our new parents we produce one hard copy and one electronic copy of Melville Matters per term. 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 (sometimes referred to as a Syllabus) 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 Connect, 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, the school uses Connect 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). 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 will be for all year groups (7 - 12) and will be held on Tuesday 23 July running from 9am - 6pm. To assist in facilitating this will be a student free day.

## The School Ball

The school ball was held in week 8 and was a huge success. The school would like to thank Year 12 Coordinator Ms Sally Narvaez for her great work organising the event and the many staff who attended. The students really enjoy the night and having so many staff there makes this important event in their lives all the more special. As is the case with all things Melville our students were superb. They not only looked stunning, they behaved with great maturity, dancing the night away with good natured enthusiasm. It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all with mocktails and a fabulous buffet dinner followed by hours of dancing.



School Ball 2019

Our swimming team have competed in the B Division of the State Swimming Carnival and came third. They also won the Meritorious trophy for best result based on the size of the schools involved. They swam their hearts out and were a credit to the school. Congratulations to those who were announced Champion swimmers and Runner Up Champions who are listed in the swimming article in this edition.

Although our attendance rates are generally very good at Melville (currently 93%+ in all year groups except year 11 where it is 91%) every year at this time 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 91% attendance is essential for academic success. My teaching staff in general and my Student Services Team in particular, monitor the attendance of your child on a daily basis and will report to you if there is any cause for concern. In the past our attendance rates have dropped off a little in Years 9 and 11 and generally more so for girls than boys. However, as said, this trend has changed and it is really only Year 11 where I have concerns at the moment and then only for about 10% of our students. The message for all students though is 'every class every day'. 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). Finally on this topic, Student Services staff really appreciate it when parents advise them in advance or at the time that a child is going to be away. Remembering to do this serves to reinforce the strong partnership that exists at Melville between school and home.

At Melville, I am lucky to have very talented staff as well as delightful students and supportive parents. One of the risks though with having great staff is that they will be identified by people outside of the school, either for promotion or other system-wide leadership opportunities. At the moment there are a number of promotional positions available for Deputy Principals and it is reasonable to assume that one or more of my Executive team may win a position out of Melville SHS at short notice. If this happens I will naturally work hard to minimise any impact on service delivery. But I also know you, my community of parents, will bare with me if you notice a difference while my team sorts itself out. On this note, I can announce that one of my four Deputies, Ms Stephanie McDonald, Deputy Principal Student Services, has been seconded by the South Metropolitan Regional Office to lead the implementation of the Minister's Task Force response to violence in schools across the south metro area. Steph will be gone for the rest of the year. The school has selected Ms Sandy Olney-Thurstun as replacement; Mr Josh Barker has been selected to replace Sandy as the Senior School Manager and Mr Sam Maguire will replace Josh as Year 10 Coordinator. Congratulations to Steph, Sandy, Josh and Sam.



School Ball 2019

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 their 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 5 of term 2 for Years 11 and 12 and week 7 for Years 8 and 10. Accordingly, I strongly recommend that all students ensure that they have an active revision program covering their term 1 classes and that they commit to some study over the holidays.

## NAPLAN Testing

Commencing on Tuesday May 14 and running for two weeks (weeks 3 and 4), Year 7 and 9 students will take their national NAPLAN tests, which for the first time will be completed online. 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 (Ms Suzie Leith) or English (Ms Nupur Davis) or the Literacy and Numeracy Testing Coordinator (Ms Heather Anderson). By the way, the school has just received a letter identifying us as one of the best performing NAPLAN schools in Australia. This is a credit to the 2018 year 7 and year 9 students and of course the Maths, English and literacy support staff.

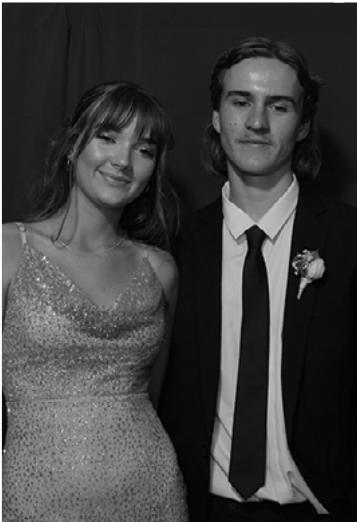
As always, kind regards

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

## Performing Arts Centre Building Fund

Melville SHS is embarking on an exciting project to build a much needed centre for performing arts, seminars, student awards, parent meetings and much more. The State Government has contributed \$4.5 million and we have to now find an extra \$ 420,000 to make this a worthy addition to our increasingly beautiful school. We hope you will complete the donation flier [HERE](#) to contribute to a tax deductible building fund. Hopefully, you value this school and the education your child is receiving at such a reasonable price. This building will be used constantly by all students at the school for a huge variety of events so we are hoping you can get behind it.





School Ball 2019

## English Creative Writing

In week 7 of the term the entire Yr 11 ATAR English cohort attended a whole day incursion aimed at improving their results in the Composing Section of the English ATAR examination. The students enjoyed the presentation of Kevin Price (author, teacher and lecturer) with his interactive approach and found the workshop equipped them with a range of techniques to support the development of their narrative writing.



## Apology

Apology to former student Jordan Lukan, whose name was spelt incorrectly in the last edition of Melville Matters.

## Maths Have Sum Fun

In week 7, keen Year 7 to 10 students headed off to All Saints College for the interschool Have Sum Fun Competition. This is an exciting mathematics initiative that uses a quiz-night format where teams of six students race against the clock on a Friday evening to solve four intense rounds of eight challenging problems. Melville was represented by four teams who attended practice at lunch times, competed well and stretched their brains to the max.



The Year 9 and 10 Have Sum Fun Teams

## HASS Law Courts Excursion

Year 12 Politics and Law students had the opportunity to attend an excursion to the courts of Western Australia and the Western Australian Parliament on Tuesday of Week 6. While there, the students witnessed a variety of court cases, including a sentencing and were exposed to the inner workings of the justice system in WA. At Parliament House the students had an extensive tour where they were given exclusive access to the private members' chambers and spoke with the Speaker of the House about the role of the Speaker in a modern Democracy. The students were also honoured to speak with the Member for Bicton and express their gratitude for the hospitality shown to them on their excursion.

## Mock Trials

The Law Society of Western Australia Mock Trial Competition is underway again with Melville Senior High School fielding two teams, Melville Gold (represented by Senior School Politics and Law students) and Melville Green (represented by Year 10 students).

The first of the Mock Trials took place in week 8 at the Old Supreme Court building against Mercedes College. It was a strong showing from both teams with Melville Green winning their case. Unfortunately they were both defeated in narrow margins on the final mock scores. A special mention must go out to all of the debut members of both teams who thrived in their first Mocks. Melville Gold and Green are scheduled to next take to the courtroom against La Salle College in May.



## Aviation Come Fly With Me

In Week 9, the Years 5 and 6 primary school students attending the Term 1 Come Fly with Me program, went on their excursion to Jandakot Airport. The 16 students had the chance to take to the skies in a real aircraft and experience all the theory they had learnt in class.

Students take part in an 8 week course (a two hour session each week) and learn about aerodynamics, meteorology for aviation, paper plane design and flight lessons on a flight simulator. The course culminates with a flight in a real aircraft. Students who are interested in enrolling in the course should contact the school or find a link to the application [HERE](#)



## Arts and Technologies

### Socialising and Entertaining with Food

In week 5, Year 10 students were caught in the act of preparing meals to present for assessment. The unit includes learning what makes up a formal menu, food styling, plating up, current food presentation trends and social etiquette. The task photographed, sees the students designing, preparing and presenting a two course formal menu featuring a pasta recipe in the main course.

The menu included spaghetti bolognase or lasagne, salad (watermelon, coleslaw or tossed green) and dessert (lemon cheesecake). The students had to show their skill in food preparation techniques, food storage and time management in order to present all three items in the final presentation of their chosen meal.



### Music In Focus

Our beloved Swing Band, led by Teacher-in-Charge Mr Brooks-Crew, has completed its visits to local primary schools this term. North Fremantle, Bicton and Winthrop Primary Schools were the lucky venues and students were toe-tapping to the band at their assemblies. The band is made up of the top music students from Years 10 to 12 and a couple of talented solo singers. These performances give the music students important live practice and inspire youngsters to take up an instrument and continue the IMSS program through high school.



## Health and Physical Education

It has been a very busy start to the year both for students and staff within the Health and Physical Education Learning Area (HPE). Students across all year groups have been working hard to acquire new skills and knowledge and have actively engaged in all activities.

In Physical Education, Years 7 to 9 students have completed units in swimming, working on developing correct stroke technique as well as the awareness of lifesaving techniques and protocols. Our Years 7 and 8 Advanced Athletics, Swimming and Sport (AASS) classes have been training hard to gain the fitness and skills required to successfully complete a mini class Biathlon and Triathlon respectively. The Year 9 AASS have completed a unit on water polo and have, over the past few weeks, been put through their paces completing a series of fitness sessions with a local gym. By the looks on some of their faces after completing these sessions, the workouts are tough!!! Year 10 students have completed units in Softball, Gaelic Football and *Tchoukball* developing their ability to apply more advanced skills and strategies within game play situations. It has been great to see a number of students look to transfer these skills into competitive situations by nominating for Interschool Softball.

Students who have selected Outdoor Education have been working towards completing their Bronze Medallion, which officially recognises their skills and knowledge in lifesaving principles. As part of their course, all year groups have completed small laboratory tasks or investigations into scientific principles associated with sport. These activities have included looking at force absorption by catching water balloons; students identifying the impacts of exercise and training on heart rate and breaking down a throwing action to look at how we can achieve optimal force.

In Health Education, Years 7 and 9 students have completed a timed, typed task to provide an opportunity for students to practice writing persuasive texts under timed conditions in preparation for their NAPLAN in Term 2. Students in Year 8 have completed a unit focused on valuing inclusivity and diversity. Students have been listening to Indigenous relaxation music and dot painting their symbols and stories and have gained a new interest and respect for the Indigenous culture. Students have been busy applying these skills creating their own dot paintings which will be displayed in the gym foyer over the coming weeks. Year 10 students have been learning about the concepts of health literacy and advocacy and are currently advocating for change relevant to Sustainable Development Goals.

In senior school subjects, the Certificate II in Sports Coaching and Outdoor Recreation students recently completed their Senior First Aid Course, acquiring and demonstrating the skills to respond to first aid situations and effectively administer CPR. Students within our Outdoor Education programs have been participating in practical lessons involving mountain biking, kayaking, fishing and snorkelling culminating in excursions to Penguin Island and Rottnest in Week 10. Both ATAR Health and Physical Education Studies students have completed a number of assessments and Year 12 students in General courses have been busily preparing for their Externally Set Task to be conducted in Week 2 of Term 2.



In order to better meet the needs of our students the entire Health and Physical Education (HPE) team has completed a variety of professional development to up-skill our knowledge and skills in water polo and softball. We were fortunate to complete PD organised by Natalie Turner with Sue Smith from Cockburn Water Polo to learn more about the game and teaching the skills. The intent is to introduce water polo into our curriculum and take teams to interschool water polo at the end of the year.

A new initiative from the HPE team has been to hold a reward breakfast for students who consistently demonstrate the "theme" of the term. This terms theme was "who has made the best start to the year?" Staff have identified those students who they believe have displayed a positive attitude towards their learning early on in the year have consistently worked hard to develop skills or knowledge in the relevant HPE subject. Students have all received their invites and the first gala rewards breakfast is being held Friday Week 10 providing an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of those selected. A new theme will be introduced at the start of Term 2 and we look forward to being able to reward more students for their hard work and dedication within the HPE Learning Area. Congratulations to those who have received an invite!!

We encourage students to reflect on their achievement throughout Term 1 and look for areas to improve. The HPE team look forward to a busy but rewarding Term 2.

## Netball Specialist Program

In week 9, Years 9 and 10 Netball Specialist teams had practice against Atwell College in preparation for the High Schools Cup being held in Term 2. It was a hot day for a winter sport but the girls were on their game and good sports for the whole day. It is always fabulous to see the coaching and umpiring done by other year groups, with the aim of encouraging a well rounded netball player and volunteer.



## Interschool Swimming Carnival

Melville has been awarded the Meritorious trophy in Athletics and now for the first time, we have one for swimming. We are the Meritorious School in B Division for swimming. Our school is also ranked eleventh in swimming in the state.

In week 7, an enthusiastic squad of our best swimmers headed for HBF Stadium to compete in the B Division Interschool Swimming Carnival. The team of swimmers was there to represent our school in a program of 130 races - and we did it! We had a well organised, capable squad in which everyone played a part and made a contribution to our success. Every swimmer is to be congratulated.

The following students deserve to be acknowledged for achieving a top three finish in some of their races:

| Year 7             | Year 8             | Year 9             | Year 10           | Year 11              | Year 12            |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Archie Tames 1     | Robin Lissmann 1   | Callan Albrecht 1  | Cody Banks 1      | Jesse Connelly 1     | Georgia Elliott 1  |
| Alex Webb 1        | Ireh Balley 2      | Isabel Spy 1       | Christina Smith 2 | Celeste Johns 1      | Evan Perera 1      |
| Ellie Nichols 2    | Charlie McIntosh 3 | Darcy McNamara 1   | Emma Beros 2      | Natashia Jorgensen 1 | Sijmen Drenth 1    |
| Maia Ravenscroft 2 |                    | Aiden Branch 2     | Edan Wallace 2    | Jye Rowe 2           | Josh Yeo David 1   |
| Anna Wilkes 2      |                    | Arwen Schifferli 2 |                   | Euan McCann 2        | Ieuan Fisher 1     |
|                    |                    | Brian Caffrey 2    |                   |                      | Lucy Scheepmaker 1 |
|                    |                    |                    |                   |                      | Jaime Bliss 1      |

There are seven students who deserve special recognition for outstanding achievement:

|               |                  |                 |   |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Year 8 Boys   | Runner Up        | Eben Prinsloo   | four top three finishes and a time of 29.21 for his 50 fr/st                          |
| Girls         | Second Runner Up | Mia Tigchelaar  | four top 3 finishes and a 31.01 50 Fr/st.   |
| Year 9 Girls  | Runner Up        | Indi Strom      | three top 3 finishes and 32 points for Melville.                                      |
| Boys          | Second Runner Up | Levi Hartley    | four top 3 finishes.  |
| Year 10 Boys  | Runner Up        | Michael Henning | A grade swimmer   |
| Year 11 Boys  | Champion         | Sean Beck       | who earned 75 points and placed in seven races, with a time of 27.04 for his 50 free. |
| Year 12 Girls | Second Runner Up | Shelbi Mott     | took our Yr 12 relay from fourth to second.   |



As well as these individual efforts, many of our relays also gained a top three finish. These include the Yr 9 & U Boys and Girls Medley and Yr 10 & O Boys Medley. Of the freestyle relays eight of the twelve teams gained a top three finish: Year 7 Girls, Year 8 Boys, Year 9 Boys and Girls, Year 10 Boys, Year 11 Boys and Year 12 Boys and Girls Relays.

We were aiming for a top two finish which would have put us back up to A grade. A third place means we stay in B grade in 2020 and we can look forward to more students gaining Champion and Runner Up at an Interschool level. Coordinator Ms Fran McCarthy said, "I feel that this is the best team we have ever taken to interschool swimming. We had the depth and the students who, like Celia and Sean, were prepared to take on extra races. The team was not just capable; the team was ready, willing and able. Not once did we have a no show or a disqualification; all day we had sensible, well behaved competitors. It was a great team effort that earned us the 878 points we gained". The schools competing came in the following order:

1. Duncraig
2. Mt Lawley
3. Melville
4. Ocean Reef
5. Como
6. Kalamunda
7. Comet Bay
8. Darling Range.

A big thank you is extended to the upper school students who volunteered to be student officials. Thanks also to team manager Mr Rowan Gerrard, Ms Sally Narvaez for the training breakfasts, Mr McDougall and Ms McNeil for the training, our HOLA Ms Kylene Coonan and especially our interschool sports coordinator, Ms Felicity O'Sullivan. These teachers put in much extra time and effort to organise and support the team.

## IEC Swimming Carnival

The IEC Swimming Carnival also 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 swimmers in each House. 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          |
|------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Girl | Khanh Hoang         | Cecile Surjanegara |
| Boy  | Raphael Surjanegara | Tor Kongpard       |

The final results of the carnival were: fourth place - Aquila, third - Pegasus, Second - Cygnus and in first place was Gryphon. So Gryphon gets the biggest boost to the overall House Points. 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 Year 10 House Captains, who did a great job making sure the carnival went smoothly.



## Learning Resource Centre

Year 7 students participating in the Reading and Digital Literacy Program have recently been learning about the school's World Book Online subscription. This platform hosts over 44,000 articles, learning resources, and research tools including a citation builder and is designed to make using online information easy for students. A new feature this year is that students can listen to audio of the articles and even translate them into over 100 different languages. Teacher/Librarians in the Learning Resource Centre demonstrated how to access the platform to Year 7 classes, but all members of the school community can access it. Access is via the link on the LRC page on the school website or directly [HERE](#). The username and password are 'melville'

The use of the Wheelers eBook platform continues to grow and the school recorded over 200 loans last month alone. Mrs Lewis recently added over 250 classic titles from the Gutenberg Press for access through ePlatform. Many of these are titles recommended for older students to read as they study English and English Literature in Upper School. Students can add the app to their device as another reading option.

It is always such a pleasure to showcase examples of student work in the LRC. The most recent example was the 'Cells Model' assignment completed by Year 8 students. Parents can go to the Learning Resource Centre page on the school website to see photos of current displays throughout the year.

In week 7, a very enthusiastic group of teachers participated in a Minecraft Education Edition training session facilitated by Steven Payne, Microsoft trainer for WA. Students are very engaged with the Minecraft platform and it was exciting to learn about how this gaming environment can be used for enriching learning experiences.



## Act Belong Commit

The ABC student well being committee provided a free breakfast held in week 9. Ham and cheese toasties and banana berry smoothies were provided. There was a huge turn out and our students were very satisfied. What a great way to start the day!

In week 10 the ABC student well being committee organised a raffle for both staff and students to celebrate Easter. There were three prizes. The major prize was worth \$90



Cont'd





Mentally Healthy School

## World's Greatest Shave

In week 7, the Student Council (pictured below right) hosted a bake sale and hair colouring services (that washout!). It was cheaper than the hairdresser, with \$2 for streaks and \$3 for the whole head. This was all in support of the World's Greatest Shave fundraiser.

## Recess Soccer

A 5-a-side soccer competition was also run by some dedicated senior students during recess and lunch on Thursdays. It incorporated teams from all year groups in a round robin format. You can either have a team of students from one year group or students from across all year groups.

## Crazy Sock Day

In week 9, the Act Belong Commit student well being committee organised a wear your favourite pair of crazy socks day. A gold coin donation raised funds to go back into the committee to organise future activities and events.

## Ride2School Day

As a part of the new administration build and front entry to the school, there was much discussion about designing student access for everyone. A concerted effort was made to allow easy access for bikes, skate boards and all things on wheels. The result is a ramp from the road (that was formerly steps) so students can ride straight to the new secure cages where bikes can be kept safely for the day. There has never been a better time to ride to school. New research has found that carrying a backpack to school (15% of body weight) is good for student health and bone development. Also, getting to school independently helps student confidence and resilience.

In week 7 the school promoted *Ride2School Day* for students who live in the vicinity. Those who lived further afield were encouraged to catch a bus or be dropped a way from Potts St.

Other tips for parents:

- Set a good example by walking or cycling to local places, including school
- Remember if the walk to school is too far, why not park a few blocks from the school and allow your child to walk the rest of the way?
- Help your child become familiar with the neighbourhood and identify the safest routes (e.g. where there are safe road crossings)
- Practice and reinforce the skills your child needs to travel safely, such as riding a bike and knowing the road rules
- Slowly build independence by letting your child do things gradually. You could start by parking the car a few blocks from school and allowing them to walk
- Make a plan with your child about possible strategies for when things go wrong, such as getting lost or if a stranger approaches them
- Agree on a plan with your child for the transition towards independence, and set milestones and boundaries

More information on how to help your kids get around safely on their own info is [HERE](#)



# Student Services

## Road Safety Event

Year 10 students attended the RAC bstreetsmart event at Perth Arena in week 9. This is an event designed to show students the realities of risky behaviour on the roads. The major components of the day included the re-enactment of a crash scene, hearing from people whose lives have been affected by road trauma and the opportunity to speak with emergency services personnel. Major contributors towards this event include the RAC, WA Police, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, St John Ambulance, Royal Perth Hospital and Theatrical Response Group.

## Bye Bye Bullies - Upstanders not Bystanders

In week 6 the brave Deputy of Student Services Ms Steph McDonald and the cavalier Marketing Manager Kate Main accompanied Aviation Teacher in Charge Mr Randall Brink in a small plane to record an important anti-bullying message. Nearly 400 students were called into action to create the words UP on the oval and after the plane made quite a few circuits of Melville they created a very respectable message.

At Melville our students are learning to be 'Upstanders not Bystanders' to bullying.

Here are some things we can all safely do:

- Don't join in the bullying
- Support the victim in private - show your concern & offer kindness
- Stand with the victim & say something
- Befriend the victim & reach out to them in friendship
- Mobilise others to join in to be an Upstander - peacefully
- Always alert an adult

The 15th of March was the ninth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. The NDA gives schools the chance to take action and empower young people to be part of the solution when addressing bullying in their school community. It provides an opportunity to focus on bullying and the changes we can all make to help create safer communities for everyone. More information on NDA is [HERE](#)

Remember Martin Luther King Jr. said: 'In the end we will not remember the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.'



## When is it OK to Miss School?

**It is important for children to attend school all day, every day**

### When is it OK to not go to school?

An OK reason is one that prevents your child from getting to school. This could include:

- when your child is sick or unwell
- attending cultural or religious observances such as sorry time and funerals
- an unavoidable natural event such as flood waters or a cyclone
- an unavoidable medical appointment

The principal decides if the reason given for your child's absence is acceptable.

### It's NOT OK to miss school if your child:

- is celebrating a birthday
- is going on a family holiday
- is visiting family and friends
- has slept in or had a big weekend
- is looking after other children
- has sport or other recreational activities that have not been approved by the school
- has appointments such as haircuts and minor check ups

If possible, routine medical and other health appointments should be made either before or after school, or during the school holidays.

### Do you need to let the school know if your child will be away from school?

Yes, you need to let Student Services office, the Year Coordinator or AIEO know the reason why your child is going to be, or has been, absent from school as soon as possible. Where possible, please discuss any upcoming absences in advance so we can let you know of important learning or activities your child will miss out on. This requires a responsible person, usually a parent, to provide a reason for the absence within three school days.

Having information about why your child is missing school helps us plan for their return to school and work out whether we can provide any further help to you.

### MELVILLE YEAR COORDINATORS ARE:

- Year 7 [Jamie.Pearce@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Jamie.Pearce@education.wa.edu.au)
- Year 8 [Caitlin.Boogaard-austin@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Caitlin.Boogaard-austin@education.wa.edu.au)
- Year 9 [Ben.Leech@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Ben.Leech@education.wa.edu.au)
- Year 10 [Samuel.Maguire@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Samuel.Maguire@education.wa.edu.au)
- Year 11 [Sam.Glazbook@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Sam.Glazbook@education.wa.edu.au)
- Year 12 [Sally.Narvaez @education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Sally.Narvaez @education.wa.edu.au)

### Why is going to school so important?

- At school, many concepts such as literacy and numeracy are taught in a sequence. Missing school means missing out on learning - which can often make it difficult to catch up later.
- Going to school every day helps children learn the important life skill of 'showing up' - at school, at work, to sport and other commitments.
- Research from the Western Australian Telethon Kids Institute shows that every day at school counts towards a student's learning. Students who attend regularly, generally do better at school and in life.
- Students are more likely to become anxious when they miss out on valuable information taught in class; this can snow-ball particularly when assignments and tests are due. The best way for students to be prepared is to attend classes and ask the teacher for help.

For more information please contact Deputy Principal Student Services - [Sandra.OlneyThurstun@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Sandra.OlneyThurstun@education.wa.edu.au)

## Notices

### Uniform Concepts

Below are the uniform store's Easter Trading hours.  
The shop will be closed for the Easter Weekend  
Friday 19th April  
Saturday 20th April  
Monday 22nd April  
And  
ANZAC Day  
Thursday 25th April  
30 Kembla Way  
Willetton



### Support Melville Senior High School - Music! Get your new Entertainment Membership today

Want to know how to tackle the school holidays and help us raise much needed funds? The new Entertainment Membership is here, packed with amazing offers, including family activities, casual dining and tasty treats. So who wants an ice cream?

Purchase your 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Membership today! ORDER [HERE](#).

## Murdoch University Information

**Parent Power Hour Series** – Preparing and applying for university can be a huge step for most students, and parents play a key role by providing their guidance and advice. Our Parent Power Hours aim to provide you with the right tools and information to confidently support your child's journey into tertiary education, tackling topics such as employability and managing exam stress.

**A Day in the Life of a Murdoch University Student** – is back again this year! The hugely popular A Day in the Life of a Murdoch University Student is open to students in Years 9-12 on various dates in the April and October school holidays. Detailed schedules for the Year 11 and 12 programs will be out early next month. In the meantime, email [engage@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:engage@murdoch.edu.au) to express your interest.

## The Australian Defence Force

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) has several information evenings coming up in the next few months. All events (other than Army Reserve) are held at Defence Force Recruiting Centre, Level 7, 66 St Georges Terrace Perth. You MUST register to attend the events.

The ADF also provide regular updates on facebook. Go to Defence Jobs Australia and follow them for regular updates.

The website link to Perth events is [HERE](#)