

News

It's back! After some time away, we are resuming with our e-newsletter, covering all things music at Melville SHS.

We hit the ground running at the start of this year, with the official opening of the new Performing Arts Centre (PAC). The Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble and Swing Band performed to a number of dignitaries, including WA Premier, the HON Mark McGowan MLA, the HON Sue Ellery Minister MLC for Education and Training, and Lisa O'Malley MLA.



HON Mark McGowan MLA

We invited a number of alumni students who are successful musicians in the Perth scene, and members of The Dance Collective (a local dance company) to perform at our big Semester One showcase at our big Semester One showcase, but alas COVID-19 hit and the concert, with a number of our planned extra-curricular activities were unfortunately cancelled. As well, all of the IMSS festivals, which take place during Term 3, were also cancelled. In addition to the breaks in rehearsals and changes in staff, student resilience was challenged with the many uncertainties.

We welcomed a number of new staff, including Daniel Connor (IMSS saxophone), Carl Harper (IMSS Intermediate Concert Band), Rachel Pointon (IMSS flute), Niall Ridgeway (classroom) and Katherine Smith (IMSS clarinet). As Nikala Cunningham went on maternity leave to have her beautiful baby girl Violet, we welcomed Pia Nidd to the team. Before the end of the year though, another change would see Ewan Stevens join the team in the classroom. A big thank you to the teachers who stayed on and adapted as our climate changed. This year they were: Ana Milas (TIC Music), Paul Hines (IMSS classical guitar), Chris Booth (IMSS drums), Chris Goudge (IMSS contemporary guitar) and Lani Melrose (voice).

Given the challenges and restrictions we had to manage, everyone showed great resilience and tried to make the most of the situation. Teachers turned their attention to content and the creative ways in which we could teach students and get them to engage with the coursework during isolation and lockdown. As teaching and learning move online, teachers and students got accustomed to new software and programs.

Most students returned within the first few week of Term 2 as we tried to regain some sort of normalcy. Bands and ensembles began to rehearse again, students were refocused on face to face curriculum and encouraged to turn to music as their creative outlet.

As restrictions began to ease, our first concert in Term 3 saw most of the Caralee Community School walk up to Melville. On 28th August, Caralee school choir performed a song and they were treated to items from our Certificate III in Music groups, Swing Band and Senior Concert Band.



MSHS Senior Concert Band

Soon after on 7th September, we hosted a WAAPA group. They spoke about the pieces they were performing, gave information to students about the jazz program at WAAPA and other pathways into music after high school. They spoke highly of the new venue and we look forward to making more links with WAAPA in the future.



WAAPA jazz group

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For more photos and videos, please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/Melville-SHS-Performing-Arts-190304531006367>

By Ana Milas, TIC Music

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Fundraising



The Music Department is fundraising by selling Entertainment Book memberships. For the price of \$70, you can download an app, which gives you access to thousands of discount vouchers for Perth and WA's selected restaurants, cafes, attractions, theme parks, hotels, resorts and more. For every book we sell, we keep \$14. All proceeds go towards acquiring new resources and experiences for music students.

To order your membership, please go to: <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/89p325>

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Music Matters

Music By Night 2020 - End of Year Concert



The Music by Night concert on Thursday 3rd December was a wonderful night with many talented performances. Along with Tiana Hatton and Emma Beros, I was MC. I also performed with the Senior Concert Band and played with my ATAR group. It was my first time being an MC and I was very nervous at the start, however everyone was friendly and sweet, and made me feel welcome and at ease. I'd like to thank all who came to watch and support the musicians. I'd also like to thank the teachers and many volunteers who helped out on the night, including the students who were performing too. As MC I was able to see and listen to every performance on the sidelines, something which I was never able to do before. I was amazed at the bravery of the younger students such as the year 7s, some of whom have never performed in front of a crowd before. It was a showcase of the skill and dedication of all the musicians who performed on the night. Overall the Music by Night concert was a great success and I look forward to many more performances and shows next year.

By Julia Coleman, Music Captain



For more videos please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEffxYyyoQkqYyN8BMIIeQAIcJpXIjvDH>

News Continued

At the end of Term 3, the incoming captains were announced. We'd like to thank our outgoing captains and congratulate the current ones. We are sure they will do a fantastic job!

- help/assist ensemble directors to set up and pack up rehearsals
- encourage and actively include all music students from Years 7-12
- remind younger students of backstage and onstage etiquette
- take on performance or backstage role in music events
- coordinate and direct small groups of students during rehearsal, class or performance
- be a positive role model by displaying excellent behaviour and uniform
- collaborate with other captains to train and maintain the Arts student group

Music students not only develop their musicianship whilst playing music, but music activities encourage the soft skills that so many industries are after. With a big focus on STEM, our focus next year will be to explicitly teach our students what those soft skills are and what STEM thinking is, which includes: problem solving, creativity, critical analysis, teamwork and collaboration, independent thinking, initiative and communication.

Other events our students performed at included the Year 12 Farewell Assembly, Valedictory Evening, assemblies and Gifted and Talented Awards Night. In comparison to Semester One, so many events took place during the second half of Term 4. Well done to all of our students and thank you to parents, family and friends for your ongoing support. It is such a pleasure to have a venue like the PAC to showcase our talented students. It's a beautifully designed building and our students and teachers have enjoyed rehearsing and performing inside. The acoustics are fantastic and cater to the wide range of instruments and contexts our students are engaging with. Thank you to principal Phil White and the P&C Committee for partially funding the parlour piano, which is a fantastic and much needed resource that sets the tone for the PAC. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the construction fund and a big thank you to our Music Support Group parent body. From all of us in the Music Program, we wish you a safe and happy holiday. See you all in 2021!

	Outgoing	Incoming
Music	Lorna Anderson	Julia Coleman
Swing Band	Emily Ward	Tiana Hatton
Classical Guitar Ensemble	Ethan Hardy-Atkins	Nadine Damjano vic
Senior Concert Band	Reece Maney	Olivia De Rosa
Vocal Ensemble	Georgia Williamson	Emma Beros

What exactly is the role of a captain? A captain is a student representative for the music program at Melville SHS. Some of their objectives include:

- promote and raise awareness of the music program by speaking at assemblies or writing articles etc