

Melville Matters 99

June 2021



RESILIENT INNOVATIVE SUCCESSFUL

Achieving excellence today and
building bright futures for tomorrow.

From the Principal

We have had a busy end to this term with plenty of highlights. These especially included the Performing Arts matinee and evening performances, where students displayed their talent in Music, Dance and Drama. We also had Outdoor Education and Gifted and Talented camps, interschool debating; Specialist Program interviews for prospective students and Mathematics activities celebrating Pi day. We particularly thank the P&C for funding new Science DNA Profiling and Chromatography equipment. Melville SHS will be one of two schools to own these in the state.

NAPLAN testing for Years 7 and 9 and exams for all other year cohorts have concluded by the time you read this edition and the Semester 1 reports distributed electronically by Connect. If you haven't received your child's report via Connect, please contact the school on 6274 1300. It is important that when you read the report you remember to take advantage of the opportunity to make an appointment to meet with your child's teachers for our Parent-Teacher interviews on Tuesday 20th of July (Term 3, Week 1) from 9 am to 6 pm. As is customary, this is a student-free day. Parent bookings via PTO are essential and instructions for how to do this have been issued separately.

We are hosting the staff from the Riverside Network of schools who represent the nine local intake primary schools for Melville SHS on Monday 19 July. Our agenda will be addressing gifted and talented education and I would like to thank Deputy Principal Mr George Tills for managing the complexities of hosting the over 250 staff.

Finally, I would also like to thank the wonderful Melville SHS staff, P&C and Board for supporting me during Term 2 while I was acting Principal and heartily welcome our Principal Mr Phil White back for Term 3.

Kind regards

Alanna Sherwood
Principal

Year 9 Specialist Netball (more pictures in the HPE sport article)



English

Futurist World Wide Winner

Year 12 Melville SHS Gifted and Talented student Zak Alpers has come second in the World Final of the Future Problem Solving International Competition in the USA in the scenario writing section. This is the second time Zak (pictured top left) has been a world champion as he came fifth in 2019. He has been the Australian national champion for the last two years.

Sadly, Zak has missed travelling to the US to represent Australia twice because of COVID and instead competed online through a virtual platform. The awards were announced via a Youtube Live presentation in Week 9.

His Literature teacher and Future Problem Solving Coach, Ms Tammara Yeo, said "This is a very prestigious competition which has been running for 30 years and showcases the best schools and students from across the world. To come second in the world is a huge achievement for Zak and really demonstrates what an extraordinarily gifted student he is."

To Be or Not to Be

In Week 9, the Bell Shakespeare Company visited the school to perform for Year 7 and 10 students at the Performing Arts Centre. The show was titled 'Just Romeo and Juliet', co-written by Andy Griffiths of the 'Treehouse' fame and you can see from the photos at the bottom that the students found it very funny and inspiring.

Creative Writing

In Week 9, Melville SHS hosted the first Creative Writing Workshop for Years 10 to 12 students. Approximately 20-25 students attended the workshop led by Young Teen fiction author Deb Fitzpatrick. The English department would like this to be an ongoing event at the school. Students (including some Year 10s who came to school especially) are pictured top centre.



Mathematics

Maths Relay

The Year 9_5 Mathematics class were intensely involved in their Friday mathematical relay. Mr Kang (pre-service teacher from UWA) designed 30 questions for students to solve in 30 minutes. A tie-breaker was required as we had three teams who ended with the same score. Both Mr Kang and Ms Rigelsford were impressed by the level of engagement and the number of correct solutions from these students.

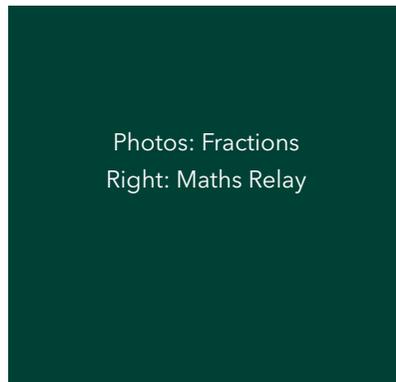
Each Friday afternoon, this class participates in a practical lesson. Other examples from this class include investigating formulae using cut-outs and solving linear relationship problems using a "carousel" approach. 9_5 work very well throughout the week and look forward to their Friday investigations.

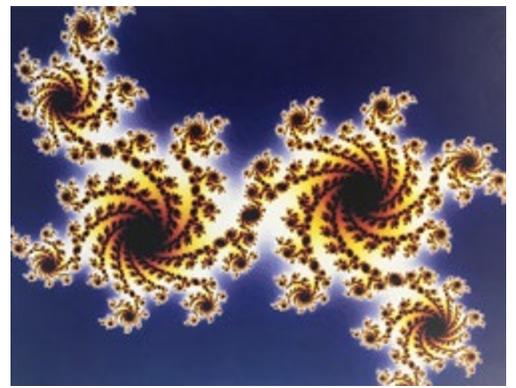
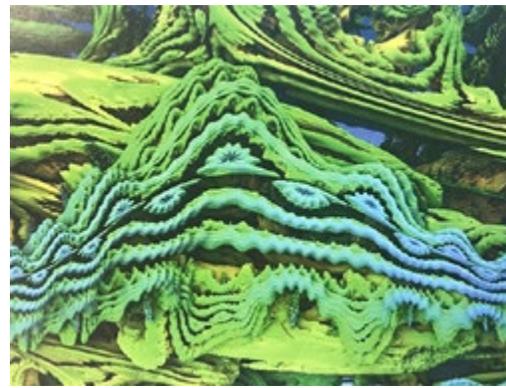
Fractious Fractions

Year 8 students exploring fractions. They worked really well on developing concepts of fractions using Mathematical manipulatives from our department.

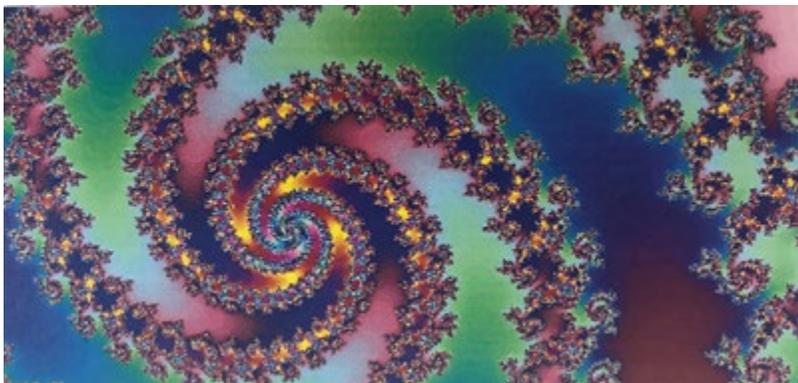
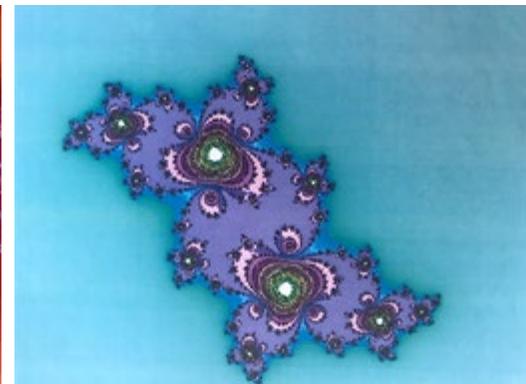
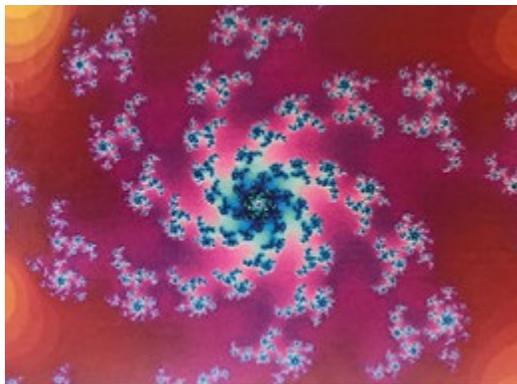
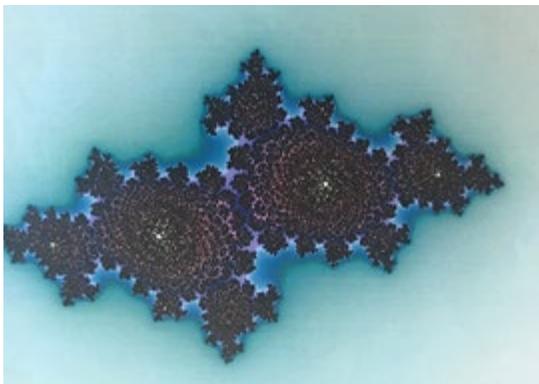
Year 12 Specialist

Earlier this year Ms Leith's Year 12 Mathematics Specialist class delved into the intriguing world of complex numbers. Through their investigation into the fractals produced by the Mandelbrot and Julia Sets they were able to produce the intricate and hypnotising images displayed on the next page.





More Year 12
Specialist Mathematics
fabulous fractals and the
class above.



HASS

Geography Win

Congratulations to Year 8 student Abbie Barrett who has been awarded equal first prize in Western Australia for the 2021 Australian Geography Competition. Students had to answer multiple-choice questions testing geographical knowledge and skills. The highest-performing geography students in each State and combined Territories in each year level receive a prize and a special certificate.

Abbie pictured top right (representing Melville SHS at Soccer) is busy in many areas, as she has a place in the Aviation Specialist Program, the Music in Focus and Academic Extension Program.

Political Visit

Mr Vagg's Year 11 Politics and Law class was pleased to host Lisa O'Malley MLA this morning. Students enjoyed the opportunity to speak with Lisa about her political journey and her role as the local member for Bicton. This was an excellent opportunity for students to further develop their knowledge of Political Representation in Western Australia



Aviation

Space Shuttle Construction

This term, Year 7s have been busy completing their Space Shuttle construction task. They have enjoyed cutting and glueing their models together and solving a few problems along the way. Design and problem solving is part of the STEM process. Next term they will be flying the DJI Tello drones and building water rockets.

Solo Lessons

Year 10 student Luke Buchanan is well on his way to 'going solo'. He is pictured bottom right with Mr Brink in a quick selfie whilst in the circuit at Jandakot Airport.

Year 11 student Luke Yaxley achieved an aerial solo flight in June. He and a number of students, who are at various stages of their licence, have been flying with Mr Brink and the flight instructors at Air Australia.

Don't forget to come along to the Air Race at Air Australia on July 4th - check out the Connect notice for details.



Gifted and Talented - STEM

Wise Women 2021

In week 6, the ladies of Gifted and Talented, from Year 8 to 10 attended the Wise Women event that was held at Murdoch University.

It was a very insightful and interesting experience that showed us all the different career pathways involving STEM.

We started our day with a PowerPoint presentation by a Year 11 student, she showed us her experiences in STEM and what she has achieved at a very young age. We then explored the wonderful Murdoch campus, our favourite spot being the in-campus IGA. We attended two workshops throughout the day, first being a Science related workshop about food webs and food chains, then a forensic science case study. We completed the complex food chain with help from the wonderful student ambassadors at Murdoch.

In the forensic science case study, we had to find the murderer in a *cold* case and prove the innocence of the suspect. Our groups were very fast and efficient at finding the killer.

To finish the day, we attended a Q&A with four panel guests. We were given the chance to ask questions about their careers in STEM and for advice in the pursuit of a STEM-based career. This experience was very insightful as we got to learn more about Murdoch University, the courses they have, as well as all the different types of jobs in STEM.

The event was very helpful to many of us, as some of our students will be choosing their subjects for their senior years next year. As for the rest of us, we now have many ideas on future career ideas and more knowledge about life after school.

The Wise Women event is something many of us would love to attend again.

By Year 8 Students Aeryn Wood & Farah Marcellus



Science

Year 7 and 8 students have been studying the field of biology this term. Students have been lucky enough to explore the school's vast array of vertebrate and invertebrate specimens and learn how organisms are classified from Kingdom through to species level. Some students also undertook the fun activity of creating cell models, with many students opting to create tasty cakes that were wonderfully decorated and enjoyed by their fellow students.

Year 9 students have been exploring the periodic table. Students have been learning about the atomic model, isotopes, ions and how elements are classified and organised on the periodic table.

Year 10's have just finished sitting their Semester 1 exams, which was a new experience for all students, who undertook either a longer 1.5 hour or a two-hour exam. These exams aim to prepare students for life in upper-school, and also assist teachers in allocating pathways for students going into Year 11. Science staff hope that you tried your hardest and are pleased with your results when you receive them!

Mr Rosenthal and Ms Daleys' General Human Biology classes have been doing some exciting practical work this term. Students have completed a heart dissection, as well as completed facial reconstruction. The facial reconstruction activity is a complex one, with students having to recreate all of the underlying muscles of the face, before creating a clay "skin" to wrap over the top.

Continued



Year 11 Biology students have buried their undies in the name of science! Students in this class are participating in a citizen science project, where underwear is buried in different areas to assess soil quality. The hypothesis they are testing states that soil that is of better quality (high number of microbes and decay organisms), will decompose/break down the underwear faster than soil that is of poor quality (low microbes and fewer decay organisms). We look forward to seeing their results early next term.

Finally, many of our upper school students in both General and ATAR Human Biology have had the chance to simulate the creation of DNA profiles, using gel electrophoresis equipment. This hands-on prac gives students the opportunity to use micropipettes (just like real scientists!) to place samples into microscopic "wells" inside a special gel. An electric current is then run through the gel, and depending on the size and makeup of the samples, each sample will travel different distances through the gel. This process shows students just how DNA would be analysed in a real lab.



Languages

Chinese

The Chinese Dragon Boat Festival was celebrated by Chinese Language students in Week 9. The Chinese Dragon Boat Festival is one of the three major traditional Chinese festivals. It is when Chinese people eat the traditional food Zongzi and participate in the Dragon Boat race and other activities. Zongzi is made of sticky rice wrapped in bamboo leaves and then are boiled in water. Year 7 students made simplified versions of Zongzi during class time and Year 10 students (pictured below) made Zongzi in the traditional way.



Technologies

Food Science and Technology

The Year 11 General Food Science and Technology students had an enviable task in Week 6 making chocolate raspberry brownie cheesecakes. They then got artistic using plating techniques to present the final product using whipped cream and homemade berry coulis. Soon after the photos were taken there were only clean plates



Textiles

Textiles

In Week 7 students in Ms Di Toro's Textiles class finished their latest project to make tote bags. The students recycled an old T-shirt and made it into a tote bag using their sewing skills. Using their creativity, they decorated their tote bags and were pretty chuffed with the results.





Baby Think it Over

If some Year 11 students have been tired and on edge in Week 10, the reason could be the Baby Think It Over incursion, where students were in charge of virtual babies so they could realise what parenthood is all about. They had to take the virtual babies around with them over the three days and two nights including classes. The guest speaker also spoke to students about health during pregnancy and birth.

Bird Boxes

This term the Year 7 Woodwork class have flexed their creative minds and have made some of the most amazing model tree houses. For most of these students, this is their first time using woodworking tools in the Melville workshops. They started by sawing walls and a tree trunk to the correct size, then they hand-sanded the surfaces before finally assembling their treehouses with nails.

As a class we then spent a lesson exploring the playing fields, quadrangles and gardens to find both rubbish and aspects of nature that they could use to decorate their models. Students created furniture out of sticks, garden scapes out of sand, as well as slides, lifts and so many creative objects. This class should be immensely proud of what they have built and the creativity that they have shown.



Arts

Arts Week - Drama and Dance

In Week 7, 170 Drama and Dance students participated in the Friday evening Dance and Drama Showcase as a part of Arts Week. This year these students from Years 7 to 12 participated in this outstanding event to a full house. Various dance and drama genres were on display as the best-of-the-best were asked to take the stage.

The event was also led by the Certificate II Creative Industry students from Years 11 and 12. Organisers would like to thank all the wonderful staff, family members and students for their contributions to this event. The outfits were as marvellous as the dance and acting performances.

Arts Week - Music in Focus

Music students also performed to a packed auditorium on the Thursday evening. All of the IMSS bands and ensembles performed repertoire they have been learning throughout the semester, including selected groups from Certificate II and Certificate III in Music Industry classes. The Certificate students also had a range of backstage roles, including MC-ing, ushering, marshalling, photography, videography and stage hands. The event was ably supported by our Music Support Group.

Primary School Matinee

As a part of Art Week, local primary school students were bussed to a Matinee at the Performing Arts Centre to get a taste of the Dance, Drama and Music pieces being performed at the evening Showcase events being held later that week. The students were inspired to take up and continue musical instrument lessons. The dance and drama performances were very professional and showed students what they could look forward to in high school.

Photos of the events above are on the next three pages.

Pulse Perspective and PICA Art Gallery Excursion

In Week 9, Year 11 and 12 ATAR Art students visited the Perth Cultural Centre to view the current exhibition at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts and also checked out the Pulse Perspectives exhibition at the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Students spent some time taking inspiration from the 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 the work from some of the best and the brightest Year 12 Art students. 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 taken to PICA to view the National graduate exhibition *Hatched*. The tour guides helped students understand ways to analyse and interpret work, which will be of great benefit in the upcoming exams. Photos are below.





Arts Week
Music in Focus Matinee
for local Primary Schools





Arts Week
Performing Arts Evening
(Drama)





Arts Week
Performing Arts Evening
(Dance)



GRAPHIC DESIGN MEDIA

Filming Masterclass

The Year 8 Graphic Design Media students have been exploring the concept of suspense in film and photography this semester. In Term 2, they filmed and edited a 60-second suspense film in small groups. As part of the course, an incursion with Filmbites Screen Academy targeted skills and techniques that could be applied to their films to make them truly terrifying.

The other masterclasses run throughout the term were a beeswax wrap making workshop for the Year 7s and a mask making workshop for the Year 10s, both with artist and designer Catherine Taylor-Burge. Photos are of the Year 8s filming and Year 10 students in action.



Art Alumni

The school received a lovely email from 2020 graduate Kita Healy that included the following line and a sample of Kita's recent work: "Just wanted to give thanks again for your awesome and lovely teaching, which encouraged me to do new things, gain new perspectives and go into this path at university! The work is about how Alzheimer's slowly washes away identity and interpersonal relationships with family members like myself and exploring these themes."



HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Interschool Sport

It has been the busiest interschool sport term ever! With many sports brought forward into Term 2, we saw multiple teams going out every week. Congratulations to all students who signed up and committed to training for our interschool teams. Those students who were committed will receive Sports Dinner invites for Term 4. Results were:

- Touch Rugby: Teams narrowly missed out on finals
- Senior Girls AFL: Due to fixturing issues out of our control, the girls narrowly missed out on the finals.
- Junior AFL went through to the finals, beat Cecil Andrews this week and will continue to the next round of finals. Congratulations boys and thank you to Mr Lucas and Mr Bevan for taking the team this week and Mr Cooper for coaching the team through the rounds.
- Volleyball:

Senior Boys		Senior Girls		Junior Boys		Junior Girls	
1	2nd	1	2nd	1	2nd	1	4th
2	5th	2	5th	2	4th	2	4th
3	4th	3	2nd	3	5th	3	3rd
4	3rd	4	4th			4	3rd
5	2nd	5	3rd			5	8th
6	5th					6	7th

- Lightning carnivals:

Winners	
Year 8	Netball A1 and A2
	Boys Soccer
Year 9	Boys Soccer



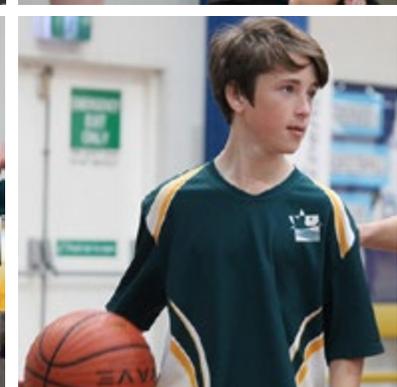
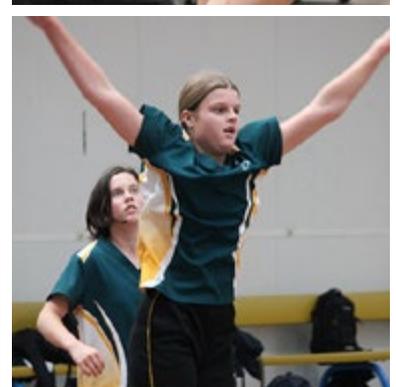
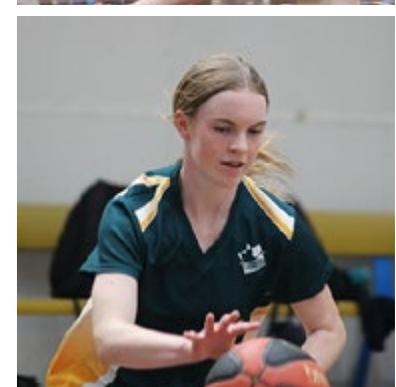
Top:
Interschool AFL

Middle: Year 9
Lightning Carnival
and
Interschool
Volleyball





Year 9
Lightning
Carnival



Netball

The High School Cup is in full swing and in Week 10, seven Melville teams competed in Elimination Day - fabulous numbers! The teams successful on that day will get to compete at the Gold Netball Centre at the state finals. It's also very exciting to see our Year 7 boys Netball Specialist team competing at the same carnival, which will be their first competition together. We look forward to seeing how they go.

It's also been great to see the Netball Specialist students in the brand new indigenous uniforms, they look great out on court in the Melville green, branding our school's Aboriginal artwork.

Photos: Year 9 Lightning Carnival

Results:

Year 8 Lightning carnival

Melville 1 A1 champions
Melville 2 A2 Runners up
Melville 3 B1 Third Place

Year 9 Lightning carnival

Melville 1 A1 Third place
Melville 2 A2 Champions
Melville 3 B1 3rd place



Interschool Sport

Congratulations to Year 7 student Palace-Anne Koia who has been selected in the School Sport WA Rugby League 12 Years and Under State Team. Sadly the 2021 Australian Championships have been cancelled and a camp is hoping to replace the event.

Outdoor Education

It has been an exciting and challenging first semester for the General Outdoor Education classes. Kayaking expeditions have included the beautiful Canning River and Shoalwater bay where students put their recently learnt skills to the test on expeditions. Students in Shoalwater Bay got to meet some friendly locals around Seal and Penguin Island!

Meanwhile, the Certificate II in Outdoor Education class recently camped in the Dwellingup forest after a day of mountain biking. Both these courses offer students the chance to develop a range of leadership and interpersonal in challenging outdoor activities while learning how to sustainably look after our environments.



Study and Life Skills Program

The highlights of Study and Life Skills Program this term are outlined below with support for students through Info Bites and after school Study Skills Workshops. We will also be offering parent support through a Parent Seminar run in week 3, Term 3. Please see details below.

Info Bites and Study Skills Workshops Term 3

As a part of the Study and Life Skills program this Term, we will be providing students with information and support on a weekly basis (Info Bites). This information will target specific areas within the program and can be found on Connect in My Spaces in the Library section. We will also be notifying students via connect when this information becomes available. The Info Bite information will also be reiterated and supported through our after-school workshops. These workshops will run on Thursday's from 3pm - 4pm. These will run in G33 and then the Library when it reopens. All year groups are welcome. In addition to our planned support (below), we can help students with a range of things including;

- Time management
- Organisation
- Note taking and referencing
- Study techniques
- Assignment support



Info Bites and Study & Life Skills Workshops for students | Term 3 Overview

Week	Year/s	Content
1	7 - 12	Syllabus docs and assessment outlines and how to use them. Organisation and creating a new study planner.
2	7 - 12	Note Taking & Summarising
3	7 - 12	Mind Maps
4	7 - 12	Mnemonics/Acronyms
5	7 - 12	Lotus Diagrams
6	7 - 12	Palm cards
7	7 - 12	How to avoid distractions and what do you do when you are getting bored
8	7 - 12	Reading (skim study and speed reading)
9	7 - 12	Dealing with stress and test/exam anxiety

Upcoming Event | Parent Seminar - Thursday 5th August 6.30-7.30pm

In Term 3 we will be hosting a parent information night which will identify ways you can support your child to improve their study habits. We will also provide information on specific areas that we believe our students need extra support in. Our Seminar will be held on Thursday 5th August 6.30-7.30pm. A link and further information will be sent out early in Term 3 for you to sign up for this event.

Mrs Cukrov & Mrs Glasson
Teaching and Learning

Student Services

Local Schools Community Fund - \$15000 grant

The Local Schools Community Fund is an Australian Government initiative to benefit students and assist established schools to meet their priorities through the contribution of funding for small scale projects and their associated costs.

Melville Senior High school was very fortunate to successfully secure grant funding of \$15000 in late 2019 from the Local Schools Community Fund. The funding was granted to run a targeted early intervention emotional regulation program - HEAT (Healthy Expressions of Anger for Teens) now known as iAm - in 2020. Running this additional program would not have been possible without the Local Schools Community Fund grant.

With the challenges of last year, the program was extended into term 1 2021.

Participating students attend 2 hour weekly workshops for a term to further develop their emotional regulation, self-awareness and communication skills. Students were taught healthy ways to express their emotions and successfully resolve conflicts without anger and aggression. All students have reported benefiting from the program, which has been supported by post-program interviews and data analysis.

The program was delivered by a private psychologist and supported by Student Services staff members including Year Co-ordinators, Chaplain and School Psychologists.



Melville Senior High School acknowledges the Noongar people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which the school stands today and pays its respects to the Whadjuk people, and Elders past, present and emerging.



Proud to be a
**Waterwise
School**



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