

Melville Matters 103

December 2021



MELVILLE
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Resilient Innovative Successful

Achieving excellence today and
building bright futures for tomorrow.

From the Principal

Welcome to the final edition of Melville Matters for 2021. Melville Matters for 2022 will be transformed into an entirely online publication to promote sustainability and reduce the amount of print materials the school produces. Term 4 is always a hectic time for staff and students with course completion, exams, carnivals, concerts, exhibitions, reports, graduations, inductions, welcomes and farewells to cram into an already crowded schedule.

Of particular significance from earlier this term were the farewell activities for our Year 12 students who have successfully completed six years of life at Melville Senior High School and twelve (or more) years of education. As we have come to expect with Melville SHS students, the class of 2021 have made us all proud with their attitude, behaviour and results. As a group and as individuals our graduating class have shown immense strength of character as their school routines were modified more than once throughout their two years of Senior School.

By the time you read this, the ATAR exams (and indeed exams across Years 7 to 11) will have finished, and I know that each of us wishes our students every success. As we approach our final few days for the year, it is fantastic that our students are given the opportunity to reflect on the year and take part in awards, performances and reward activities. I know next year will be just as busy as we welcome another cohort of Year 7s. The Year 7s have already completed their full day of transition activities and have met essential staff for the beginning of their journey through high school in 2022.

As we have in previous years, this year, we have many staff to thank for their dedication and efforts, which all combine to make Melville Senior High



School a great school. I want to pass on best wishes and congratulations to Ms Sandy Olney Thurstun, who has won a permanent Deputy Principal role at John Forrest Senior High School for 2022. Ms Alanna Sherwood is relieving as an Associate Principal at Harrisdale Senior High School, and Mr Paul Cooke continues his fixed-term role at Coastal Lakes College. This means that Mr Chris Gill will continue in a Deputy Principal role for Term 1, Mr Tills will return to his position within VET, and the school wishes to welcome Ms Samantha Steele who will be joining us for Term 1 as Deputy Principal Middle School. Ms Steele comes from Belmont City College, where she has been an Associate Principal for ten years.

On a final note, we couldn't finish the final Melville Matters for 2021 without acknowledging Mr Phil White. Mr White was the Principal of Melville SHS for thirteen years and has made such a lasting impact on the school, staff and students. He is enjoying his retirement and spending time with family and bike riding. In true Mr White fashion, he has not stopped still for long. I know he appreciates hearing how the school is going and will remain connected within the school community.

I hope you all have a well-deserved holiday period and enjoy spending time during the Christmas break with friends and family. I look forward to seeing you all again in 2022.



Photos: 'Illuminate' Dance and Drama Concert.

Technologies

STEM Blast

In Week 7, Melville SHS blasted into a world of STEM celebration, with STEM Blast returning for another fantastic year.

Many STEM activities provided the opportunity for external partners and providers to highlight the great work they do in the field of STEM and further develop links with our feeder primary school students.

This year, the event held a Space and Aerospace theme with Perth's leading experts displaying a variety of technologies to excite students from Years 6 to 11. Space and Aerospace theme participants of the event included The International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research, the Space Science & Technology Centre at Curtin University, and the Omni Executive Aerospace group.

Year 6 students from local Primary Schools attended as part of their Transition Day activities, and Years 7 and 8 from the school also took part in facilitated activities. The event later opened to the public after school, allowing families to attend and view the fantastic displays exhibited.

The event had an aeronautical theme and the Aviation Program students in Years 7 and 10 showcased their Drone flying skills through demonstrating drones taking flight through an obstacle course which had been designed as part of a task in class. Representatives from The University of Western Australia (UWA) brought an enormous sized drone for students to engage with - the excitement on the faces of students was elating for staff.

The event had something that catered for every student. The Year 6 Transition Day students enjoyed

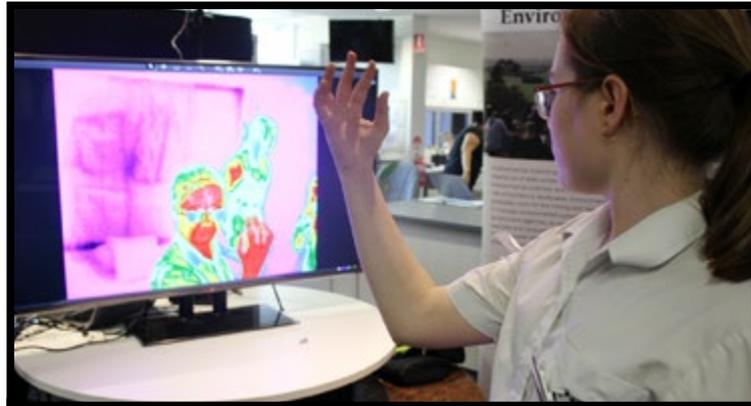


the treasure hunt activity, making polymer snow with Engineers Australia, making slime with Murdoch University and much more! Other highlights included:

- Curtin University displayed a Cubesat, designed, coded and built by staff and students from the Space Science and Technology Centre (SSTC). Their Binar-1 was launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on a SpaceX rocket in August.
- The School of Engineering at Edith Cowan University showed students the exciting world of robotics with a dynamic and user-friendly humanoid robot known as "JD" who can walk, talk, and even respond to voice commands.
- Chemcentre attended with their interactive chemistry emergency response team.
- Representatives from the Australian Defence Force outlined STEM careers available with their mini-expo display.
- The Sports Science Department from Edith Cowan University (ECU) demonstrated how to develop the best athletes, from everyday people trying to get fit to Olympic athletes vying for gold! The display allowed students to try a few standard exercise tests that get used in the field, including a bike.
- Student nutritionists from Curtin University ran demonstrations of how enzymes help us digest carbohydrates and cause the browning we see in fruits and vegetables.

The internal Melville SHS Department organised displays included:

- Mathematics fractals produced by Mandelbrot and Julia Sets.
- A display of award winning EV challenge cars.
- Mr Maddy's History and Social Sciences (HASS) stall of fantastically fun explosions.
- Year 11 students, Om Sharma and Jeckmen Wu, shared their experiences of participating and



achieving award winning results in the Future Problem Solvers competition.

- The Virtual Reality (VR) Club led by Year 11 students Josh Cabutaje and Noah Verney held virtual reality light sabre fights.
- Ms Wood, and her assistant Scientists for the day, demonstrated a range of BioBarcode challenges and exploding volcanoes which participating students were able to make explode.
- Year 10 student, Adam Lewis, showcased his Minecraft game modification.
- Year 10 Digital Technologies students showcased hand held computer games which had been made and designed in their class.

Tiny Tree House Project

Throughout Term 4, the Year 7 Woodwork class has worked diligently to build the outstanding model tiny tree houses seen pictured. This term was the Year 7s first experience of using woodworking tools in the Melville SHS workshop. It was great to see how quickly the students learned the skills and developed such interest in woodwork.

The students created furniture out of sticks, garden scapes out of sand, mailboxes, basketball courts and many other creative objects to furnish their tiny houses. This class should be immensely proud of what they have built and the creativity that they have shown.



Aviation Approved Specialist Program

Flying Achievements

Congratulations to Year 11 student Luke Yaxley who won the Education Ministers Aviation Scholarship for 2021. Luke intends to put the \$5,000 prize towards achieving his Private Pilots Licence, which allows him to take passengers during flight. According to the three judges on the panel, he was a stand-out entrant. This win makes it two years in a row that a Melville SHS student has won this award. Luke also passed his Recreational Pilots Licence in Week 8 and is pictured right with his certificate.

This term, Aviation students who gained flight achievements included Year 10 student Erwin Entalai and Year 9 student, Keli Crew. These students worked extremely hard to achieve their first 'solo status' flight. Keli said, "I completed a circuits lesson, and then also completed my first solo flight with Kadin from Air Australia. I will be continuing to do my second solo in the next week or two".

Drones

Year 10 aviation students have been busy working towards their Remote Pilot license. This composes of a semester long course where students learn the theoretical aspects and advanced flight skills which



Photos clockwise from top: Alex Fabbris Year 7, Luke Yaxley Year 11, Keli Crew Year 9, Serena Huang Year 10, Shani Ariyaratna Year 7 and Erwin Entalai Year 11.



culminates in the CASA flight exam and practical flight test. All 22 students passed with flying colours, which makes 58 students who have gained their licenses in the last three years.

My First Flight

By Year 7 student Jonah Pangiarella
(PICTURED RIGHT)

On Thursday 25 November, I had an Introductory Trial flight with Mr Brink at Air Australia Jandakot. I assisted with take-off and flew around during the 30-minute flight. We flew over Yangebup Lake and across to the coast. I found it easier to fly an actual plane than the flight simulator. It was an awesome experience and I would love to get up into the sky again soon.

Come Fly with Me

The Term 4 Come Fly with Me course culminated in a flight in a real airplane at Jandakot Airport in Week 8. Years 5 and 6 students from many different primary schools learn about various facets of Aviation one morning a week for eight weeks. Pictured right is the group having their joy flight in the last week of the course. More information on Come Fly with Me can be found [HERE](#).

English

Throughout Term 4, all Year 8 students have had an extensive introduction to William Shakespeare and his works. Students worked in groups to write and perform a scene adaptation from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for their final assessment tasks. Students worked hard to adapt their script and characters but made sure that no humour was lost from the original!



Literacy and Numeracy

Spelling Bee

This term, students have been honing their spelling skills as part of the spelling Bee knockout competition. In Week 8, The following students made it through to the Grand Final:

Year 7 Aifel Thomas, Riley Spowart

Year 8 Christabel Zin

Year 9 Joel Gunasekaran, Margarette Camama

Year 10 Evan Yap

Year 11 Jeckmen Wu

Christabel Zin was announced overall spelling champion!

Languages

The Year 7 Italian classes experienced 'Italian Feast Day' in week 7. Students compiled an Italian cook book and brought along a plate of food with 'Italian' flare to share with the class. Language immersion involved students recognising that food is a celebration for Italians and many other cultures worldwide. One doesn't visit the home of another without bringing an offering of something delicious, making catch-ups not only a culinary experience but also a very special and notable one.

There was Panettone, biscotti di nocciola, crostoli, spaghetti marinara, fettuccini carbonara, pizza alla boscaiola, tiramisú, and many other dishes, which Ms Gangemi couldn't recall "due to entering a food coma". Mrs Gangemi then said that the students "are amazing and chirpy individuals who, along with their teachers, had a great year of Italian studies".



Arts

Music by Night

In Week 8, the Music Department held the annual Music by Night Concert. This year, the event was held in the Middle School Quadrangle and was ably supported by our Music Support Group parent body, who acquired amazing prizes for our raffle from local businesses and ran the popular sausage sizzle. There were over 200 tickets bought by family and members of the local community to hear performances from the Music in Focus students in Years 7 to 10.

Performances included a range of items and contexts for all practicing Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS) bands and ensembles, including Intermediate Concert Band, Senior Concert Band, Contemporary Guitar Ensemble and a combined performance by the Junior and Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble. Both vocal ensembles performed pieces individually, then came together to perform "Rolling in the Deep".

The Swing Band then joined Melville Vox, who performed their brilliant rendition of "I Can't Take My Eyes Off You". There were lots of smaller groups scattered throughout the program. These included performances from the Year 8 and Year 10 students, Certificate II in Music students and a fantastic vocal trio by Year 9 girls. It was fantastic to see several Year 11 and 12 students return to perform at the concert. Jackson Kelly and Juliana Menero performed their original piece "Stand the Test of Time".

Thank you to all the local businesses for their support, including Total Tools, Kailis, Mitre 10, Meet n Bun, Blend Café, Melville Heights Meat Supply, Melville Woolworths, MLP Lisa O'Malley and thank you to everyone who attended our event.





Illuminate: Drama and Dance
 In Week 8, Drama and Dance students from Years 7 to 12 took to the Melville Performing Arts Centre stage to perform in the End of Year Concert, Illuminate. Drama students performed Realism, Commedia Dell'Arte, and Melodrama and Dance students performing genres from Hip Hop, Lyrical to Jazz. The Dance and Drama program has grown exponentially over the years to see just over 250 students participating in 2021 alone. The arts department expressed extreme pride in the accomplishments and dedication of their students.



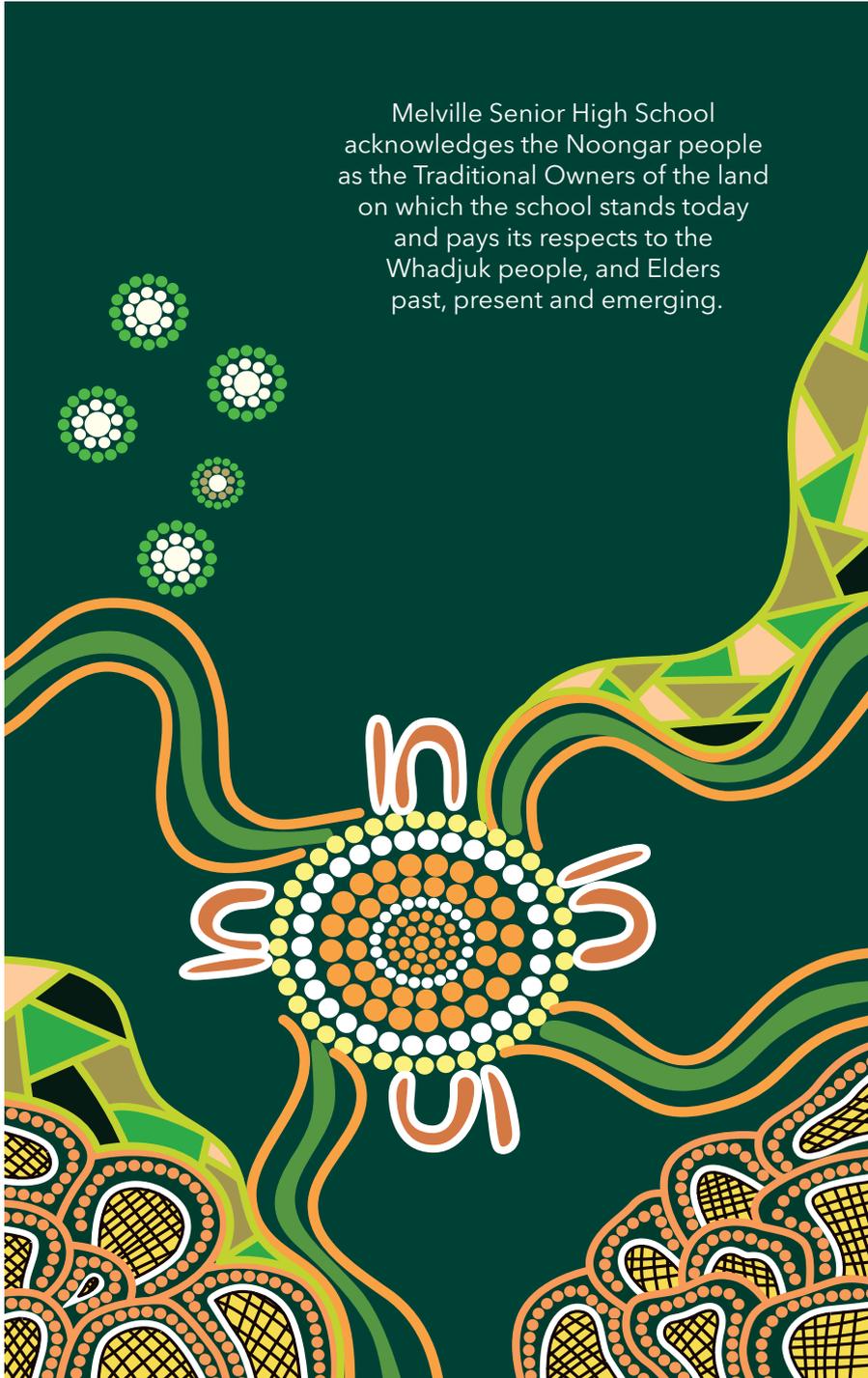


Year 10
Dinner Dance above

End of Year Awards
Below right: Values Award winners
Bottom left:
Attendance Award Term 4
Bottom Centre: Adam Lewis receiving
the ADF Long Tan Leadership and
Teamwork Award
Bottom right: STEM Blast volunteer
certificates



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.



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