



ACT
Government
Education

Melrose High School Newsletter



"A community of learners building on a tradition of excellence"

Issue 2: 2 March 2018

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS

It is our great pleasure to welcome and welcome back our families to the 2018 school year. We are excited to introduce the following teaching staff to our community: Helen Bannister, Alison Carson, Emily Dunn, Crtomir Kores, Renee Newton and Greg Tozer. Returning to the Melrose family are Rebecca Hanrahan, Georgia Kearney, Angela Lewis and Steve Reynolds. Additionally we congratulate Tiffany Prieto, Shannon McAlister, Erin Smth, Humaira Jalil and Larry Stevenson who have become permanent teaching staff and Aine McAuley, Ryan Kay and Eleanor McMillan on becoming permanent Executive teachers. Our classrooms are being supported by new Learning Support staff Judy, Rebecca, and Annabelle as well as contract teachers Lisa Walker, Andrew Bakker and Andrew Wright.

Our 2018 Year Coordinators are:

- Year 7 - Charles McIntosh
- Year 8 - Tatum O'Meara
- Year 9 - Paul Harriott
- Year 10 - Lucy Sedlacek.

Please feel free to make contact with them. You can contact the Front Office on 6142 0700 to set up an appointment or email them directly.

As many of you will be aware there is a whole new school management system being rolled out across the ACT system and this has caused some communications issues which are slowly being rectified. All families can expect routine messages from teachers around the achievement and strengths of their children as the system becomes more operational. We would like to particularly thank Ryan Kay, Ruth Mahon and Susie Boer for the many hours of work getting set up and through the teething troubles and our amazing school support staff for getting us up and running in 2018. We would also like to note the thanks of our school community for all the work of Susie Boer as she heads off to a new career opportunity at Caroline Chisholm School.

Families will have received their Chromebooks by now and it is with massive thanks to Aine McAuley and Daniel Vigliotta that this went as smoothly as it did. It has been very pleasing to be in the classrooms with the students all engaging in e-learning. Skins for the computers have arrived and will be distributed via House Groups for students to apply to their chrome books. Any parents still wishing to organise a Chromebook skin, can still order one at a cost of \$12. A reminder to families who have ordered but have not yet paid, the skins will be distributed to students with a payment receipt.

Melrose High School has once again been a popular choice for families to enrol their students which has seen a big increase in enrolment numbers. This has necessitated some timetabling adjustments for students in particular and we would like to thank everyone for their patience whilst we sort out classes. We have also offered a range of new electives which are full and already producing excellent outcomes for the students in them. As we settle into assessment periods, please remember to be proactive with your child around their learning. Questions like, "what was something you really enjoyed learning today?" go a long way. Be persistent.

We commenced the year by asking the student cohort to consider being innovative but sticking to some basic

community principles:

“Be punctual; smile; say thank you; wear your uniform with pride and be the best you can be; try things that are new and challenge you, this will make you grow.....

Work hard; play nicely; be kind to others; choose to see the best in the world and choose to speak kindly of others ... be good to family because they want the best for you and because they pack your lunch and provide a home for you.

Be honest; be honourable; make mistakes; learn from your mistakes ... and make a difference! “

This year to date we have had a swimming carnival, a number of excursions and assemblies and the next big adventure will be Year 7 Camp followed by a visit from our friends from Makubetsu, Japan. (To those families hosting students, our sincerest gratitude.) Our thanks to the whole school community for a great start to a busy year.



Simon Vaughan
Principal
simon.vaughan@ed.act.edu.au



Shannon Carnovale
Deputy Principal
shannon.carnovale@ed.act.edu.au

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

A reminder that voting closes promptly at 11 am on Monday 5 March 2018 in the Election of the Parent representative on the School Board. Please see our website for details of the nominees. All votes must be completed on the official voting slip available from the Front Office.

 Find us on facebook.	 Melrose High School https://www.facebook.com/MelroseHSCanberra
	 Melrose School Library https://www.facebook.com/MelroseHSLibrary
Connect with us and keep up to date with what is happening around the school	

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Calendar Updates

The most recent version of the Melrose Calendar can be found on the Website
http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our_community/calendar

Contact details

The school relies on having the most up to date contact details for families to ensure we are able to communicate efficiently with you regarding the wellbeing of your child. If you have made any changes to your address, phone numbers and email address in recent months please contact the Front Office on 6142 0700 or email frontoffice@melrosehs.act.edu.au

Sick Bay

If students are unwell they must go to Sick Bay, with a note from their teacher. The Front Office staff will contact parents/carers if needed. The students are NOT to contact parents themselves and then go home. If your child contacts you asking if they can go home sick, ask them to get a note from their teacher to go to Sick Bay and the Front Office staff will then contact you. Thank you in advance for your support.

Student absences

If your student is absent, due to illness or leave, or needs to attend an appointment during the day, please either phone the Rolls Office on 61420703 and leave a message or email the Rolls Office at rollsoffice@melrosehs.act.edu.au. Please remember to include the student's full name, roll group and reason for absence (ie. sick, late or on leave) as well as your contact details.

Online Canteen ordering

Register now. Go to <http://www.flexischools.com.au>
Lunches can be ordered online up at 9:30 am on the day they are required.

Lockers

Lockers are available to students at a cost of \$30 per year. Students wanting to hire a locker will need to provide a lock with a shaft between 6-8mm. A key or combination locks are acceptable. Students need to bring their lock, payment and the spare key or the combination to the Finance Office before a locker will be allocated. Students can come to the Finance Office before school or at recess or the first half of lunch time.

FINANCE - Direct deposits

Direct Deposit payments can be made to the following account:

Bank: Westpac

BSB: 032-777

Account Number: 001658

Account name: Melrose High School Management Account

Online Payments facility

Families now have the option of using the Online Payments facility, provided to the school by Westpac Bank, to make secure credit card payments for voluntary contributions, school excursions and events and other activities. Each family will have received information and a card via the post, with student and family key details on it. Please keep this information handy as you will need it each time you access the payments facility. The link to access the payments facility is <http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/payment>
Payments may still be paid by direct deposit (see information above), or in person at the Finance Office.

CHROMEBOOKS & BYOD

On 21 February all Melrose High School students who opted into the Education Directorate Chromebook initiative received their new device, the ACER Chromebook Spin 11. The rollout was a huge success, with the majority of families opting into this program. As per our BYOD policy, all students are required to bring their own device to school every day.

The ACER Chromebook Spin 11 has military grade durability, a tamper-proof and spill resistant keyboard and an extra tough glass cover. The 360° hinge gives students four usage modes, and the flexibility to work or play in a wide variety of environments. All students need to ensure that their devices are fully charged when they come to school each morning, as they will be using them in their classes each day. They also need to have access to their device at home every day to complete their homework and assignments.



If students have any technical issues with their Chromebooks they should report them immediately to our IT Officer or Ms Aine McAuley. If your child has not received a Chromebook, there is still time to opt into this initiative. Please contact Aine McAuley via aine.mcauley@ed.act.edu.au for more information.

More information about these devices can be found in the parent information booklet via Technology Enabled Learning - Parent Information Booklet https://www.education.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/1130228/Devices-for-Students-Booklet_FINAL-Web.pdf

Chromebook Skins

The first order of Chromebook skins has arrived and been distributed. Please refer to the tutorial below for how to correctly apply a skin. If you would like to order a skin, please contact Ms Aine McAuley via aine.mcauley@ed.act.edu.au.

How to apply a Chromebook skin <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJV1qIcWyio&feature=youtu.be>

CHROMEBOOK FAQ'S

Who owns the device?

Under this initiative the ACT Government owns the device, but secondary students are responsible for the upkeep of the device once it is allocated to them. It is allocated to them to use for learning, in and outside of school.

What is the expectation for usage?

It is common for students to bring devices into school to support their learning and our approach to device usage has always been balanced and focused on educational best practice and alignment to the Australian Curriculum. Not all learning requires a device and there are many existing programs and opportunities in schools that will always be on offer to provide students a rich learning experience.

Can anyone use a device allocated to a student?

The devices issued to secondary students under this program will be configured to only allow Canberra public school students to log into and use them. This is not just to deter theft, but to ensure the devices are tailored best for our students.

What if the device gets damaged, stolen, lost or needs repairing?

One device Chromebook will be offered to each participating student only. It is the responsibility of the student to look after the Chromebook. Lost, damaged or stolen Chromebook must be reported to the school as soon as possible and the school may ask for evidence about what happened, such as a statutory declaration or police report.

What happens if my child goes to school without the device?

Students are expected to bring the Chromebook to school every day, fully charged. Schools have a bank of spare devices for student use and can make arrangements to provide access for students when they don't have access to their Chromebook, however, the numbers of available devices are limited and students should not rely on a spare Chromebook being available.

What about buying software?

There is no cost to parents/guardians for the applications used on the Chromebook and they do not require additional software.

Should the Chromebook be used at home?

Absolutely, students can engage in their learning whenever it suits them, all they need is access to Wi-Fi and they are away. In saying this, it is important to maintain a balanced approach to device use.

What can be done to support balanced, safe and responsible device use at home?

Our schools digital citizenship program, run through roll groups, conversations at home and role modelling desired behaviour all help in teaching responsible and productive computer use. The Office of eSafety Commissioner's website is a great resource to go to get information on supporting young people to have safe and positive experiences online. In particular, the iParent page offers a number of practical strategies to assist parents/guardians to manage internet connected devices at home. These include restricting screen time, preventing access to certain sites and games, and receiving alerts to potentially harmful social media activity. The Young and eSafe page is specifically designed for secondary students and young adults and covers online safety with respect to resilience, critical thinking, responsibility, empathy and respect. We encourage parents to ensure responsible use at home and support school efforts in promoting responsible online behaviour.

What happens to the device once a student finishes or leaves the school?

If a secondary student is leaving the Canberra public school system permanently then the device needs to be returned to the school before they leave. Where a student moves from one Canberra public secondary school to another, the Chromebook will follow the student to the new school.

BIG PICTURE

The Year 9 Big Picture Advisory is group of 24 students who have chosen to learn through the Big Picture design of project-based learning. The students completed a week long intensive Immersion Program in Term 4 last year, as well as an application process to win their place in the academy. The three teachers in the Year 9 program for 2018 are Mrs Humaira Jalil (MATHS/SCIENCE), Ms Tatum O'Meara (ENGLISH/HASS) and Mrs Ali Inskeep (ELECTIVES.).

The first weeks of this year were spent setting up the classroom and the expectations of the course but the students then moved onto completing their first exhibition 'Past, Present, Future.' They have also completed activities such as Story Sticks, Reflective Journals and Learning Styles. These will be included in the upcoming exhibition, as artefacts of their life. The exhibition is a presentation that is shared to an advisor, peers and family members.



Students completed a Learning Plan for this exhibition, breaking the task into the five learning goals; Empirical Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, Communication, Social Reasoning and Personal Qualities. Humaira's lesson on Genetics is an example of how the curriculum is part of their learning plan, ensuring that students consider Empirical Reasoning in their learning.

During this week the students presented their first exhibition 'Past, Present, Future.' This is where the students researched their family history and their first years of school. Students then explored where they are at covering aspects of their interests and then making career pathways for the future. Students invited parents and friends to attend and it was an enjoyable experience for all. Thank you to all the parents who attended their child's exhibition and the Melrose High High Tea.

Students are starting to consider places for their internships. This is when the students find a mentor who share the same passion and attend a workplace one day a week. We will be appealing to our wider school community for work placements.



ACE SCIENCE

Science education at Melrose High School continues to grow in size and sophistication. For the last few years, the number of students enrolled in the program has remained at around 30 for each class; in 2018 a record 63 students applied for an original 30 positions in Year 8, with the result that there are now two Year 8 ACE Science classes. These students join the existing 55 students in Years 9 and 10 and will experience a wide range of seminars and tours designed to develop a deep understanding of the nature and diversity of science in our society.

Science Mentors has seen similar growth, expanding by about a third for each of the last three years. In 2018, 40 students have undertaken projects and will be partnered with experienced professionals across a dazzling range of scientific disciplines. Eleven of the projects are being run through MSATT, the astronomical teaching facility at Mount Stromlo Observatory. Students are spread across Years 9 to 12, with six students attending from Canberra College. Projects will be conducted in areas as diverse as deep sky imaging, pathology, physics, mycology, robotics, cosmology and rocketry, just to name a few. Over the next six to nine months, the students will undertake investigations and prepare formal refereed and referenced reports on their findings. The completed projects will be celebrated at a formal event in late November.



The continued expansion of the program has resulted in demand for more supporters from academia, government and industry, and we are grateful for this continued community support. In all, between one and two hundred scientists, engineers and technicians are involved in the ACE Science program for the benefit of the students. The following organisations are gratefully acknowledged for their continued support:

- Australian Federal Police
- Australian National University
- Capital Pathology
- Fungico
- Geoscience Australia
- University of Canberra
- University of NSW

Inquiries about ACE Science and MSATT should be sent to:

Geoff McNamara : geoffrey.mcnamara@ed.act.edu.au Ph: 0 44 99 66 200

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

On Tuesday the 20 February, year 7 classroom teachers stayed behind to meet the parents of our Year 7 students.

This event started in the Malcolm Barlow Hall with the Principal's welcome and then some information from Year Coordinator, Charles McIntosh and digital pedagogies Executive Teacher, Aine McAuley.

There is a video of this presentation is on the schools Facebook page if you missed out.

<https://www.facebook.com/MelroseHSCanberra/videos/1875195105824928/>

Staff and parents then moved to the Year 7 quadrangle where they had a chance to meet and chat to teachers.

Catering was provided by the Year 7 Food Studies class. What a class full of stars.

We have emailed a feedback form, and the response has been positive.

Thank you to all that attending, including our musicians, students guides, and Year 7 Food studies class.



CAREERS CENTRE

The ACT Education Directorate has implemented a web based application, InPlace, which connects students with the workplace. Students in Year 9 and 10 can access, search and apply for workplace learning opportunities on InPlace via the Digital Backpack. Students can obtain instructions on how to apply for workplace learning on InPlace from the Careers Office.

Other workplace learning opportunities available to Year 10 students are:

- Canberra Hospital (nursing, medicine, allied health and non-clinical). A popular choice and available weeks are filling quickly. Application forms available from Careers Office.
- Defence and AIE (Academy of Interactive Entertainment). Applications will need to be completed on line.
- Questacon 2018 – Applications open on 30 April and run to 28 May and will need to be completed on line.

ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Arts and Technology are off to a flying start this year. We are welcoming many new year students to our school in all years and we look forward to the opportunity of working with you over the coming year.

All classes in the Arts and Technology area have a Google Classroom which students need to access and parents are welcome to join to keep an eye on what's happening in all classes. On these classrooms there are the unit outlines and assessment tasks, along with all other resources student will need for class. These digital classrooms work very well on all devices, including the new chromebooks which students are encouraged to bring with them to school each day. These classrooms will become a hub for all information and another way in which students can connect with their teachers. If you have any further questions about particular classes, you can always reach us via email, using the following format: first.last@ed.act.edu.au example: Renee.Newton@ed.act.edu.au

We have welcomed some new teachers in to the Arts and Technology Faculty this year and we also have lots of our established teachers working hard with students on their learning.

We welcome Lisa Walker, who is taking Food technology, Year 7 IT and Maths, and Renee Newton, who is the new SLC of Arts and Technology and also teaching Architecture, Media and Year 7 Art.

Continuing this year with us is Anna Russell (Visual Arts), Lucy Sedlacek (Dance), Nathan Sciberras (Music and Band), Mark Schmidt (Drama), Parmilla Naidu (Food/Textiles), Sonja Marmont (Food), Neil Craven (Wood and Metal), Deirdre Kelaher (Digital Design)

We have a big term coming up with many of our students preparing and working hard on visual and performing artworks for showcase in their classes. Food technology students are learning how to manage their time and improve their skills in the kitchens and are beginning to create some very tasty dishes. Wood and Metal technology students have discussed the safety associated with being in the industrial arts workshops and are ready to bring their projects. We are looking forward to a very productive and positive semester of learning with all students.



LANGUAGE NEWS

Year 8 Indonesian Excursion

Year 8 Indonesian classes are walking to Asian Provisions in Phillip to complete a treasure hunt activity in the store. Once they have finished the activities, students are then able to purchase (at their own cost) Indonesian snacks and drinks to try.

F Line – Wednesday 7 March – during class time (12.25 – 2pm)

C Line – Wednesday 14 March – during class time (12.25 – 2pm)

Permission notes are to be returned to Ibu Battaglini ASAP. Replacements for lost notes can be found on individual Google Classroom pages. rebecca.battaglini@ed.act.edu.au

Language Perfect

Thank you to those students and families who have already paid for a Language Perfect subscription. Your names have been forwarded and accounts will become active very shortly. All language students (Year 7-10) are encouraged to purchase a subscription for 2018. Subscriptions are \$15 and can be paid for via the Front Office. We will send a second list to Language Perfect for those who missed last week's closing date. Replacement notes for Language Perfect can be found on individual Google Classroom pages or from class teachers. Language Perfect is a fantastic online learning program and will be accessed regularly in class; making great use of everyone's digital devices.

Orangutan Update – Jeffrey Junior

Last year Indonesian classes raised money to sponsor some orphaned orangutans in Indonesia, so that they can be cared for and ultimately returned to the wild. This week we received an update on Jeffrey Junior from the Orangutan Foundation International.

"The past months have been kind to Jeffrey Junior and he is developing at a fine pace. He has put on an encouraging amount of weight and maintained good health since his challenging arrival to the OFI Care Centre. Orangutans in the wild have access to a wide variety of fruits, and at the Care Centre, Jeffrey Junior also has an abundance of choice, particularly since this is the fruiting season for cultivated fruits. Some of his favourites include mangoes, bananas, rambutans and citrus.

Jeffrey Junior is also starting to show some independence. He explores the forest in earnest

going from one point of interest to the next, wherever it might be. Even while casually hanging from low branches, he continues to scan and contemplate his surroundings."



COLES SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS

Families - Collect the vouchers from coles after you shop and bring them into school. There is a box at the Front Office.

Coles are supplying participating schools with a range of free sporting gear. This was a highly successful programme for us a few years ago.

STUDENT SERVICES NEWS

The House system is in full swing with all students attending their first house function, our swimming carnival in Week 2.

House spirit was alive and well. The House leaders worked hard on the day to encourage students to participate, and we had an amazing carnival with record participation.

House Leaders are:

Wallara

Mateo Biscotti
Sofia Aranguren
Josh Bilski
Josh Bathie
Paria Akhtar

Bataba

Samuel Wilson Clarkson
Jacob Wu
Ebony-April Waters
Alyssa Smalley

Mankina

Imogen Parker
Connor Inskip
Kelsey Mildner
Angus Mills
Alex Lawton

Noola

Julian Haywood-Whiley
Jordan Fernando
Hayden De Vries
Samir Ezzat
Bo House
Paige Jurgens
Grace Harris



Clean up schools day

On Friday March 2 we will spend time in the afternoon cleaning up the grounds and surrounds of the school as part of Clean up Australia day.

Parent Portal

A new article has been uploaded to the Support for parents page:

When kids experience problems at school

http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our_community/support_for_parents

BRAVE SELF HELP PROGRAM FOR TEENAGE ANXIETY

Everyone feels anxious or worried every now and then. Teenagers may get anxious about things like tests, meeting new people, being away from their family, speaking in public, competing, dating and in response to peer conflict. These feelings are natural responses to common situations that are usually short-lived. For some young people however, anxiety can be more severe and persistent, to the extent that it interferes with the activities of day-to-day life and causes problems at school and at home.

The BRAVE self help program is one avenue for addressing teen anxiety. It is a free, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It can be accessed at:

<https://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au>

The BRAVE program is based on the principles of Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT), a treatment that has shown to be effective in treating anxiety in young people. It was developed by a team from the University of Queensland, Griffith University and the University of Southern Queensland and in May 2014 was made freely available online in association with beyondblue and UniQuest. The BRAVE program has been very popular with over 14,000 Australians using this program in 2016. Some teenagers prefer to receive support in person, others choose online self-help. Each approach to therapy has its own advantages and benefits. If your child needs further assistance please do not hesitate to contact the Melrose School Psychologist to identify additional resources.

Canberra Music Tuition is the provider of our private instrumental music lessons at Melrose High School. Coming up next week they are offering the opportunity to try a free lesson at one of their studios. This is a great way to see what private lessons are all about before making any commitments to regular lessons.



Free Lesson Week 2018!

Come and try a free lesson during Free Lesson Week!
Monday March 5th - Saturday March 10th



During **Free Lesson Week**, selected teachers will be offering free trial lessons to give new students the opportunity to have a go with no obligation to continue.

This is a fantastic opportunity to try out that instrument you've always wanted to learn!

Instruments are Provided!

Trial lessons are available on piano, guitar, ukulele, vocals, flute, recorder, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, violin, viola, drums, and CMT's own program for 6 month to 5-year-olds: **Little Bop Rhythm & Pitch.**

Available in Belconnen, Weston Creek and our brand new studios next to the Outlet Centre at Fyshwick!

CANBERRA SOUTHERN CROSS CLUB – COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM.



Are you a member of the Canberra Southern Cross Club? If so, you can now support Melrose High School every time you visit the club through their Community Rewards Program. Simply visit the Southern Cross Club website (link below), fill in your name and membership number, and then 10% of everything you spend on food and drinks at any of their clubs will be donated to the school. Please share this link with your family and friends.

<https://cscmarketing.wufoo.com/forms/zjfux530c342by/>

Stressed about back to school costs? Make next year different.



Saver Plus will match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500.

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

- laptops & tablets
- camps & excursions
- uniforms & shoes
- lessons & activities
- sports fees & gear
- books & supplies

Contact

Kathleen Watson
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator

Phone
0448 730 305
02 6283 7606

Email
kathleen.watson@
thesmithfamily.com.au

Web
www.saverplus.org.au



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

C.A.D.A. Drama Classes for Kids

CREATIVITY - CONFIDENCE - COMMUNICATION

After school classes throughout Canberra and Queanbeyan. Check our website to find your closest class

**Free trial classes available
ENROL NOW!**

Speech Bubbles: 4-6 years
Razzle Dazzlers: 6-9 years
Footlights: 10-14 years
Company: 15-17 years



For more INFORMATION and to ENROL contact:

www.cada.net.au
or phone 1300 908 905