



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

# Melrose High School Newsletter



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

Issue 14: 8 November 2019

## FROM THE SENIOR EXECUTIVE

### Safe & Supportive Schools

#### **Positive Behaviours for Learning**

Many parents and carers will have heard about a program called Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) and wondered what it involves. PBL is a framework that schools use to get everyone – students, staff, families and the school community - on the same page to create a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. As part of the Program, schools create clear expectations and rules using positive language, for example "walk" instead of "don't run". This is done for all areas across the school and everyone involved in the school community. Students and families are involved in this decision-making process. Schools are supported in implementing PBL by an external PBL Coach and Senior Psychologist from the Education Directorate. Melrose High School is proud to begin our PBL journey in 2020, with training for some staff already underway. To find out more, attend our Teaching & Learning Expo on Thursday 12 December 2019, 4.30-6pm or visit the: Positive Behaviours for Learning section of the Education Directorate website. <https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/positive-behaviour-for-learning>

#### **How can you support and promote safety at school and online?**

We all have the right to be treated with fairness and dignity. We all have the right to learn and work in a safe, respectful and supportive school environment that values diversity - an environment free from bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence. This includes at school, in the community and online.

The Education Directorate website provides information and resources to help families. It includes links to useful websites such as the eSafety Commissioner who provides strategies for families around online safety and the Student Wellbeing Hub and Bullying No Way websites that provide useful information for parents and young people. To support families we have developed a suite of supports that can be accessed through the Support for Parents link on our Melrose High School website. [http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our\\_community/support\\_for\\_parents](http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our_community/support_for_parents)

To find out more visit: Safe and Supportive Schools section and the Being Safe Online section of the Education Directorate website. [https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/safe\\_supportive\\_schools](https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/safe_supportive_schools)

#### **Safe and Supportive Schools Contact Officers (SASSCO)**

We are committed to building a diverse and inclusive learning environment that benefits all our students. As part of this our school has four members of staff, two female and two males, who support and respond to students who may be experiencing bullying, racial or sexual harassment. They have undertaken specific training for this important role. They frequently remind students that they are available to help them with any concerns. If you would like to know more about the range of approaches, we take to ensure our school is safe and supportive of all students, please talk to your child's teacher or the Students Services Deputy Principal, Ryan Kay. The SASSCO can be located at school or contacted by email; they are:

Angela Edwards	Room 115 & Gym	Angela.Edwards@ed.act.edu.au
Peter Freeman	Room S05, S09 & 247	PeterS.Freeman@ed.act.edu.au
Ryan Kay	Room 111, 112 & 245	Ryan.Kay@ed.act.edu.au
Angela Lewis	Room 115 & Gym	Angela.Lewis@ed.act.edu.au

Renu Narayan	Room S04 & S05	Renu.Narayan@ed.act.edu.au
Tatum O'Meara	Room 307, 230 & 311	Tatum.O'Meara@ed.act.edu.au
Des Proctor	Room 111, 115 & Gym	Des.Proctor@ed.act.edu.au

### ***Parent Engagement Session***

We invite you to join us on Monday 25 November 2019 at 5.00-6:30pm in the School Library, for our final Parent Engagement Session for 2019, focussing on Year 6/7 and Year 10/11 transitions.

During the session parent/carers will hear from transition specialists about how to support their young person as they transition to a new school setting. After this the group will separate into two smaller groups to hear more specific information for the high school and colleges settings and what to expect. There will also be time for a Q&A with high school and college representatives.

We look forward to seeing you there, please RSVP by email to: [MelroseHS.Events@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:MelroseHS.Events@ed.act.edu.au)

### ***Teaching & Learning Expo***

We welcome you to attend the Melrose High School Teaching & Learning Expo.

WHEN: Thursday 12 December 2019, 4:30- 6pm

WHERE: Melrose High School Hall.

Briefly the evening will involve:

- Acknowledgement of Country from the Cultural Integrity Team
- Message from the School Board Chair, Arron Scolnik
- Overview of the School Improvement Plan from the Principal, Simon Vaughan
- Overview of the evening from Deputy Principal, Shannon Carnovale
- Access to Expo to speak directly with staff and students to better understand what this means in practice in our classrooms and share our learning.

We look forward to seeing you there.

### ***The importance of Check-In (formerly Roll Group)***

Check-In is part of our wellbeing program and is designed to give students and their families a teacher to support them in their time at the school. This teacher is a contact for families and students (their first port of call) to discuss social issues, academic and attendance and any other issues that may arise. Students meet with their Check-In teacher for 10 minutes every morning for roll call, wellbeing activities and daily announcements.

It is required that students attend Check-In every morning from 8:50 – 9am. If you are unsure who is your child(rens) Check-In teacher, please email a member of the Student Engagement Team:

Student Engagement Deputy Principal, Ryan Kay: [Ryan.Kay@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Ryan.Kay@ed.act.edu.au)

Student Engagement Executive Teacher, Nathan Hitchcock at: [Nathan.Hitchcock@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Nathan.Hitchcock@ed.act.edu.au)

Student Engagement Teacher, Des Proctor at: [Des.Proctor@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Des.Proctor@ed.act.edu.au)

The School Administration System (SAS) sends SMS messages to inform of student absences. You will receive an SMS message to let you know your child has been recorded as absent on the morning of their absence or has missed Check In and signed in late. We will endeavour to send this by 10 am every day. This will reassure you of your child's arrival at school and make it easier for you to keep your child's attendance record up-to-date when they are absent.

You simply reply via SMS, with your child's name and the reason for your child's absence or late attendance and we will update our records. If you do not reply, your child's absence will be recorded as: "unexplained".

For unexpected absences, responding to the SMS will streamline our processes. While we still appreciate receiving advanced notice of planned absences via the Rolls Office email at: [rollsoffice@melrosehs.act.edu.au](mailto:rollsoffice@melrosehs.act.edu.au), we are encouraging you to respond directly to the SMS message.

Some examples of Parent Replies:

- (Student Name) is sick today, thanks (Parent Name)
- (Student Name) (Roll Class) was late to school this morning because ....., thanks (Parent Name)
- Both (Student Name) (Roll Class) and (Student Name) (Roll Class) will be absent from school (date) because ....., thanks (Parent Name).

### ***Your input is requested***

Melrose High School is reviewing two components of it's delivery to students and community. We would like to get feedback from parents and carers on our Check-In structure and our Parent Engagement Sessions. We would like to make decisions from an informed position with input from our whole community.

**Please take a few minutes to answer our SURVEY at <https://forms.gle/RXXFuhf9wWD25TLAA>**



Simon Vaughan  
Principal

[simon.vaughan@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:simon.vaughan@ed.act.edu.au)



Shannon Carnovale  
Deputy Principal

[shannon.carnovale@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:shannon.carnovale@ed.act.edu.au)



Ryan Kay  
Deputy Principal

[ryan.kay@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:ryan.kay@ed.act.edu.au)

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## **2020 ELECTIVE SELECTIONS**

Students in Years 6-9 will select their Electives for 2020 in Week 5. Further information will be sent to parents/carers before the selection form opens on Tuesday 12 November. Students will access the Web Preferences selection form from their SchoolsNet email account. To prepare for selections, parents and carers are encouraged to look through the Elective website linked below with their child.

<https://sites.google.com/ed.act.edu.au/melrosehighschoolselectives/home>



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 7.5% 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/>

The month of November is 'Yes-Vember' at the club, and as part of this the club is doubling everything they donate to school and community groups! This means we will get 15% of everything spent on food and drink at the clubs during this time!

# 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](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](mailto: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 6142 0703 and leave a message or email the Rolls Office at [rollsoffice@melrosehs.act.edu.au](mailto: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 to 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. 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, at recess or the first half of lunch time.

## FINANCE

In an attempt to ensure security around payment of monies to the school for camps, excursions, programs and voluntary contributions, we would like to encourage payments to be made via Quickweb, the secure online payment portal.

Below is an explanation of the payment options available.

1. Online payments are the preferred method of payment. Payments are made via the School Website to a secure Westpac Bank site, called "Quickweb" <http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/payment>
2. Instructions can be found on the Payments TAB simply complete the fields with as much detail as possible, including the Fee Code which will be advised on the notes requesting payments.
3. All payments can be made using Quickweb, using a debit or credit card. Westpac will provide you with a receipt which you can email to [melrose.finance@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:melrose.finance@ed.act.edu.au)
4. Payments can still be made in person at the Front Office with cash, cheque, EFTPOS, or a deposit direct into the Melrose High School Bank account BSB 032777, Account - 001658. If paying by direct deposit an email to the school financial section would be appreciated at [melrose.finance@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:melrose.finance@ed.act.edu.au)

For all payments, please ensure you include:

- Student Key ; Family Key ; Fee Code

For any enquiries regarding payments please contact the Finance Officer on 6142 0704.

## MELROSE HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

The School Board meet on the second Tuesday of each month (where possible). The function of the School Board is to establish strategic direction and priorities for the school, monitor and review school performance, develop relationships between the school and community, encourage parent participation in their children's learning, approve and monitor the school budget, and develop and review policies for the school.

The next School Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 12 November 2019. Should you wish to contact the School Board or a parent representative on the Board please email

[Melrose.Board@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Melrose.Board@ed.act.edu.au)

## ARTS FEST 2019

Melrose High School's annual ARTS FEST is on again! Arts Fest is a series of events that showcase the work of our amazingly talented dance, music, drama and backstage production students. This year we are holding three major events as part of our Arts Fest celebrations, and we invite you to come along to all three to support and enjoy the hard work of our students. The details of this year's events are outlined below:

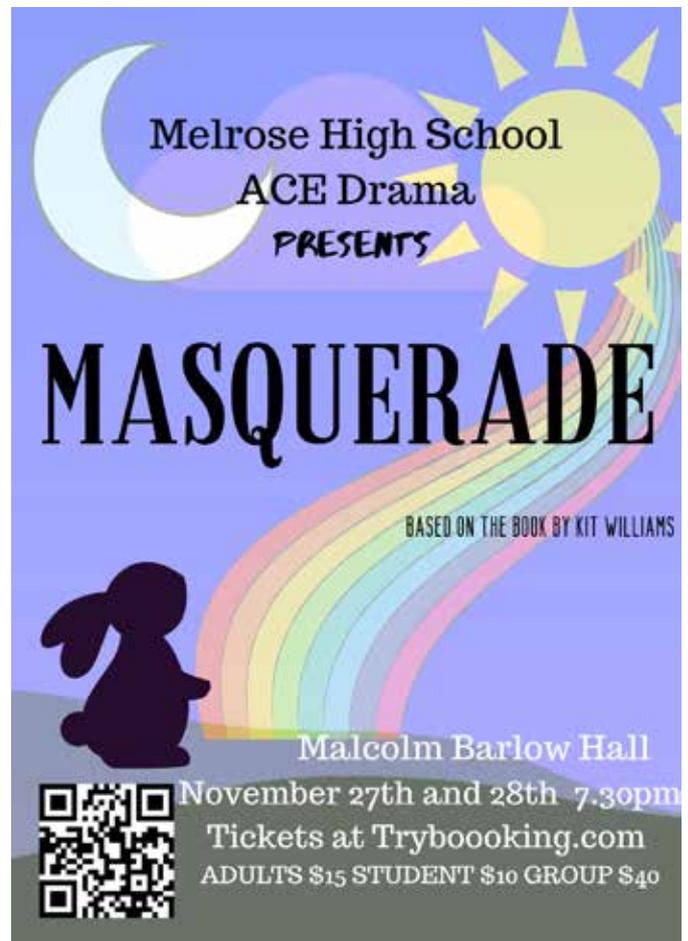
**DANCE & MUSIC NIGHT-** Thursday 14, November: a performance night involving the Concert Band and Year 9/10 Music and Dance classes. This performance will be in the Malcolm Barlow Hall at 5.30pm and there will be a sausage sizzle from 5pm and snacks available during interval.

**YEAR 7-10 DRAMA NIGHT** – Thursday, 21 November: a showcase of all our drama classes in the Drama Studio.

**'MASQUERADE'**– Wednesday, 27 & Thursday, 28 November: Our major production of the Australian play "Masquerade" put on by the ACE Drama class and the Backstage Production class. This production will run over two nights in the Malcolm Barlow hall. It is a magical 'Alice in Wonderland' style story of amazing characters and celestial beings, suitable for all ages!



ARTS FEST 2019  
DANCE AND MUSIC NIGHT  
Thursday 14 November  
Doors open 5pm for 5.30pm start  
Malcolm Barlow Hall, Melrose High School  
Tickets \$5 on sale via [www.trybooking.com/BGGOV](http://www.trybooking.com/BGGOV)  
children under 12 free  
sausage sizzle, snacks and drinks will be available



Melrose High School  
ACE Drama  
PRESENTS  
**MASQUERADE**  
BASED ON THE BOOK BY KIT WILLIAMS  
Malcolm Barlow Hall  
November 27th and 28th 7.30pm  
Tickets at [Tryboooking.com](http://Tryboooking.com)  
ADULTS \$15 STUDENT \$10 GROUP \$40

## DANCE

The Year 9 and 10 dancers were very busy at the end of last term with their performances at Limelight and Dance Festival. This term all dance students have been busy working toward their self-devised performances at Arts Festival. Congratulations to the ACE Dance students for all their hard work this year and to Bridget Davey for her choreography of "Youth", which has resulted in the class being requested to perform at the Year 10 Excellence Awards at the Canberra Playhouse toward the end of the year! A huge accomplishment and achievement for the students.



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## HELLO FROM THE FRIENDS OF MELROSE

Hi, my name is Stuart and I am a parent of a Year 8 student. I thought I'd let you know how you can help at Melrose Homework Club. I went a few times last term for the first time, sometimes Monday, sometimes Wednesday depending on other things happening at work and at home. There are many kids that stay back after school for it, and their parents come along later to pick them up - it works really well.

There are a several teachers who go along and help the kids with their work and are simply there for the kids to chat with. There is a great need for extra help. Some kids want to get help with their assignments that are due in. Some kids want help working through the regular worksheets and online work that is assigned them in preparation for the next test or exam. As you are probably aware, the times for these seem to fit a pattern - week 3-5 build up and do the test, week 5-7 build-up and submit the assignment. This is very typical timing for most subjects throughout the school years. The Homework Club helps to smooth their learning across these busy times across the term, so the tests and assignments are not so stressful, and they maximise the time for absorbing what's being taught them. It's a chance for the student to ask questions of different adults and get another perspective on what is expected of them by the teacher, the rubric, and the Australian Curriculum. It's a 'no problem zone' where they feel safe, and encouraged to talk, engage, then learn at their pace. It's a chance for one-on-one, and talk about what they need to talk about, to have the discussions they need to move on, and to have fun learning.

The only thing you'll need to bring, is your good will, and a Working With Vulnerable People card. If you haven't already got one, it's easy to apply through the government shopfronts, and online at: [https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/1804/~/working-with-vulnerable-people-%28wwwvp%29-registration](https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1804/~/working-with-vulnerable-people-%28wwwvp%29-registration)

Come along and catch-up - it's a nice therapeutic break from the crazy workplace  
Homework Support Group - Monday and Wednesday 3:10 – 4:10pm.

For more information please feel free to email one of the MHS staff who facilitate the Homework Club:

Mary Antonios: [Mary.Antonios@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Mary.Antonios@ed.act.edu.au)

Mark Baldwin: [Mark.Baldwin@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Mark.Baldwin@ed.act.edu.au)

Emily Dunn: [Emily.Dunn@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Emily.Dunn@ed.act.edu.au)

Renee Phillips: [Renee.Phillips@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Renee.Phillips@ed.act.edu.au)

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## REMINDER - YEAR 7 IMMUNISATION ROUND 2

Thursday 28 November 2019

For more information: <https://www.health.act.gov.au/services/immunisation>

## ACE CLASSES FOR SEMESTER 1, 2020

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the ACE review, conducted earlier this semester. Below are the details of the initial changes we will be making to the program to support the selection process for Semester One, 2020. We are hopeful that these initial changes will ensure clear and transparent communication. A full set of recommendations will be tabled with the School Board for endorsement before being added to our school website.

Please note that Expressions of Interest for Semester One 2020 ACE classes will open for all students on Monday 4 November 2019, and they will close at COB Friday 8 November 2019. All applicants will be required to provide the current email address of a parent/carer as part of the EOI so that feedback can be provided to both students and parents.

Overview of the results from the ACE Review:

- ACE applications will be replaced by an Expression of Interest form. These forms will be made available via email to all students for a five day period each semester. Students will need to be logged into their schoolsnet account in order to access the forms.
- Each Expression of Interest form will clearly state the selection criteria that will be used to assess whether or not a student is a suitable ACE candidate. Students may also be required, in some subject areas, to provide additional information as part of their EOI, including but not limited to an audition, interview, formal piece of writing or portfolio of work. This will also be clearly stated in the form.
- Teachers will be available throughout the EOI period to assist students, and students may also choose to have their EOI proof read by another adult, however the EOI must be the sole work of the student named.
- All selection criteria and terms and conditions of participation in an ACE class will be published.
- The current ACE students are in the process of developing their own statement detailing the aim of the ACE program and the role of an ACE student. This has been drafted by our current Year 9 ACE students and will be refined to include feedback from our current Year 8 students, once finalised it will also be published on our website.
- Once ACE class lists have been finalised for each semester, applicants and their parents/carers will be emailed. These emails will be personalised and include some feedback as to why each student was successful or unsuccessful at that point in time. These emails will also include the direct contact details of the staff members who can assist you and your student should you require additional information or support.

Further information about the ACE Review will be made available through our Teaching and Learning Expo on Thursday 12 December 2019. If you would like any additional information, please contact Aine McAuley via email at: [aine.mcauley@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:aine.mcauley@ed.act.edu.au).

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## ICAS DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

We would like to congratulate all the students who participated in the ICAS Digital Technologies Competition earlier this semester. Students received their awards this week, including five Participation Awards, one Merit Award and 4 Credit Awards. We would like to extend a special congratulations to Benjamin Gray, Samuel Gray and Chris Hubbard, who received Distinction Awards. Well done to everyone involved!



## NATIONAL SCHOOLS JUDO COMPETITION

Congratulations to Year 8 Rebecca Eichner who placed 3rd in the National Judo Competition held at the Gold Coast on 4 October 2019. Well done Rebecca a fantastic result!



## YEAR 10 AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS WEEK 2019

In Week 10 of Term 3 approximately 100 Year 10 students participated in Australian Business Week. The work they produced was exceptional. The students coped extremely well with the work load, stress and time pressures. They were one of the most impressive groups of students I have seen work through the program.

This program provides students with a unique and real life working environment to demonstrate their skills and talents at school and learn new ones to help them in the future. It always astounds me what they are capable of doing throughout the week. This program is a highlight of my teaching and their learning whilst at school.

Students were placed in teams by the teachers to ensure there were students with differing talents and abilities in each team. It was amazing to see how the teams came together and worked like real business people with an elected CEO. Throughout the week each company had to:

- run their company for a simulated two years on the share market using a computer program provided by ABW Enterprise Education;
- produce a written company report about their activities over the simulated two years;
- give a Shark Tank style oral presentation in front of a panel of business people;
- come up with a new product idea, mock up the product and showcase it at a Trade Display; and
- film and edit a video ad promoting their new product.

All of this in 5 days! Each year the students say – “Can’t we have more time?”, but this is not the idea of the program. It is meant to be run in 5 days. This program would not be possible without the support of the business community. This year we were lucky enough to have support from Coordinate Marketing, Spectrum Photo Booth Hire, Civium Property Group, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and Gold B Digital Photography.



The program also incorporates guest speakers. To commence the week Owen Davey, the husband of one of our staff, spoke to the Year 10s about setting up his own businesses, the experiences and challenges he faced doing so, and what he thought people needed to success in business. Our very own Nathan Hitchcock spoke to our students on the Tuesday about how important planning and setting goals are to the success of a business, and how to develop an organisation that reflects your own values. Jarred Powell from Coordinate came on Day 3 of the program and spoke to the students about what is required to design and edit an effective and memorable TV advertisement. He was very impressed with the students’ creativity, professionalism and maturity when they spoke to some of the groups following the presentation about their ideas for their TV ad for their new product idea.

We had about 125 votes submitted at the Trade Display on the Thursday afternoon. It was great to see such support from the parents, carers, family members and friends of the students involved. The effort that the students went to was just outstanding. We had several judges evaluating the students and they were all impressed at the displays: Kerry Henshaw from Civium Property Group, Kate Goldsby from Gold B Digital, Head of Student Engagement Nathan Hitchcock, our Deputy Principal Shannon Carnovale, as well as our ex-ABW Coordinator Rachel McGann, who had run this program for over 10 years. This event really gives an insight into the sorts of things on offer at our school which makes us unique to other high schools.

Thank you goes to the teachers and business mentors who volunteered to be part of the program this year. They were: Emily Dunn, Matthew Madsen, Debbie Bartlett, Hayley van Davey, Hannah Brickhill, Yasmine

Solomon, Angela Lewis, Angela Heading and Lynn Hart. A massive thank you goes to Rachel Kane who worked extremely hard throughout the week making sure everything ran smoothly and thank you to the school's IT and Graphic Design expert, Deidre Kelaher. Special thanks also to Ruth Mahon, the Building Services Officers Sean and Alan and Judy in the front office for their assistance.

The winning company was WhiteX who won with an overall score of 90.85%. Congratulations to all the Year 10 students who participated. You were absolutely amazing.

Dane Wells  
ABW Coordinator

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## LANGUAGES NEWS

### Japan Trip

On the 21st of September 3 amazing teachers and 21 wonderful Melrose students, gathered at Canberra airport to bid their farewells to their families. This was the beginning of a long awaited and much anticipated trip to the land of the rising sun. Off we went, with a long trip ahead of us everyone was in a happy and excited mood, well for a little while at least. After a very long and tiring journey we arrived in Hokkaido, then after a refreshing sleep and much needed shower, we hopped on a bus and travelled to the Makubetsu region. On arrival in Makubetsu we were greeted by our friends and homestay families for the week. We all had a fantastic week filled with exciting activities and excursions but the highlight for most were the homestay families and their incredible hospitality. On Saturday we sadly had to leave Makubetsu, with lots of tears, we embarked on the second part of our trip.

Landing in Tokyo was a culture shock for some. The sheer amount of people and the business of Tokyo hit quickly. With limited time and lots to see we embraced the city and the World Cup Rugby. Akihabara, Tokyo Tower, Harajuku, World Cup Rugby match and Tokyo Disneyland, we did it all! Hiroshima provided a slower pace and time for reflection. Miyajima was stunning, but look out for those deer, they bite! Kyoto was stunning and a step back, into a city that is bursting with culture and history. A quick trip to our sister city, Nara, and a climb though Buddha's nose at the Todaiji temple provided some with good luck and, if not that, definitely a laugh for the Japanese.

Sadly, it all came to an end after 17 days away and even though there were times of tiredness and frustration, I can look back and say what an amazing trip it was with some fantastic students and 2 fabulous teachers and know that my love for this Language and Culture has been reinforced yet again by sharing Japan with others.

Sensei Kerryn Leiper

### Indonesian kites

At the end of last term, Mrs Holder's Year 7 Indonesian students designed and made their own kites, based on Indonesian designs and traditions. Students had been learning about sports and hobbies in Indonesia. Kite flying is a popular tradition in Indonesian and there are many kite flying festivals during the dry season.

### Indonesian intern

Thanks to Agahari Sianipar "Harry" (our Indonesian Intern) – for working



with us for the first 3 weeks of term. The students really enjoyed having someone to practice conversational Indonesian with and he provided an amazing, positive energy in all our classes. Harry is now off to Brisbane to work with another school there as part of the Australia Indonesia Youth Exchange Program.

### Orangutan sponsorship

Thank you to everyone who baked and/or bought cupcakes for our orangutan fundraiser. Our cake stall last week saw us raise an extra \$315. Our multiple fundraisers this year, have ensured another year of food and care for Melrose's five orangutans: Charlie, Hockey, Holland, Kobe and Jeffrey Junior. A special thank you to Veronica (Adrian Gover's mum) who crafted, and donated, an orangutan cross-stitch to boost our fundraising efforts this year. This was raffled off earlier in the year and was won by Angela Gordon's family. Well done to all the Indonesian classes, led expertly by Ibu Battaglini, for such an excellent project!



### Upcoming Overseas trips

Next year, we have two groups headed overseas. Ibu Battaglini will be taking a group to Malaysia and Singapore, while Ms Ma will be taking a group to visit our sister school in Taiwan. These trips involve a huge amount of organisation and preparation which is worth all the time and energy due to the amazing real world experience of language emersion. These trips are a once in a lifetime opportunity and the intercultural relationships forged on these experiences is one of Melrose's most highly valued assets.

### 2019 ACT Panda Competition Awards Ceremony

On November 6, Ms Holder, Ms Ma and 12 students attended the ACT Panda Competition and Awards Ceremony at the Chinese Embassy.

Rachel won 1st prize in the 13-year-old group. Saige won 2nd prize in the 14-year-old group. Lea, Renate and Kathleen won 3rd prize in their age group. Every student received a certificate and a bag of presents, we had a delicious Chinese meal and enjoyed the beautiful garden of the Chinese Embassy. We had a lot of fun and hope to go again next year!



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## WHAT WAS THE SHE LEADS HIGH CONFERENCE?



YWCA Canberra's *She Leads High Conference* was for girls, including female-identifying and non-binary students, living in Canberra and the surrounding regions aged 14 to 16, in years 9 and 10.

The *She Leads High Conference* was an enriching experience that educates and activates the potential of young leaders. Through exposure to a diverse range of young women leaders in the community, students were inspired to start defining and developing their own leadership pathways.

The theme, *Speak up*, demonstrated to students that leadership comes in many different forms, and that anyone can become a leader. The theme equipt students with the fundamental skills necessary to be a leader, including self-confidence, social and emotional development.

# ENGLISH NEWS

## Upcoming Book launch

Year 8 ACE have been working very hard on writing amazing original stories, two of which have been recognised by the ACT Litlinks competition for their excellence. The students have fundraised and produced their own original book of short stories. It is wonderful to see students take charge of their own projects and create real world products in our school.

## Year 8 Creative Writing

Year 8 students are perfecting their creative writing skills in class this term. They will all be writing their own original stories as a moderation task in Week 5. Students cannot prepare stories for this but can touch up on their story writing techniques. Here are some tips for story writing which you might like to discuss with your Year 8 students this week:

### Top Five Tips for Writing Stories

- A story needs good characters! Set up characters who the reader either cares about or wants to find out more about. In the beginning of your story, you need to make the reader feel an emotional reaction towards your characters – this makes them actually want to read the story. We call this the orientation in English class.
- A story needs a problem! Once you've established your characters and setting, you need drama to make your story interesting. We call this the complication in English class.
- A story needs an ending! Don't leave the reader hanging, solve the problem or change it so that the character is focused on something else. The character needs to learn, change or grow by the end of the story. We call this the resolution.
- Show off your fancy language skills! Use a variety of vocabulary and language. English teachers are always carrying on about figurative language (metaphors, similes, personification, etc) and vivid verbs (she didn't say it, she shouted it). Show off your word skills.
- Proofread and edit! Always leave time to check your work. Make sure you're are using capital letters and full stops. Check your sentences vary in length throughout your writing and that you've started a new paragraph whenever there is a change of **time, place, topic or person** (TiP ToP).

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## PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH NEWS

### Party Safe – Health and Physical Education- Years 9 and 10

Students in Years 9 and 10 will study how to be party safe this term. The Health lessons focus on the need to be informed, safe and in control when attending parties.

It was great timing that Mark Baldwin organised a talk for Year 10 students from The Canberra Hospital where they learnt many interesting things around party safety.

The AFP has some excellent information for parents and students available on their website.

<https://police.act.gov.au/safety-and-security/safe-party-behaviours>

As part of this unit students need to plan a party, develop an invitation and a checklist. This is a great way for them to minimise risk.



### Physical Education classes -2020 - Years 9 & 10

Femme Fit- We have made some small changes to the Femme Fit elective next year. Students will no longer be attending the Club Lime gym at Mawson as part of this class. If students would like a PE class that attends the Gym they will need to select Fit for Life.

Aspiring Athletes Program- Applications will soon open for students in Years 9 and 10 who would like to be in the Aspiring Athletes program. Further information is available in the Electives website. Students will need to complete an application form for this class.

OP-SHOP OPEN – Week 5 – Thursday 14th and Friday 15th November - during lunch

The Sustainability Crew will be re-opening 'REVAMPED' in its new permanent location this term. Formal dresses and suits are priced \$5 to \$10, casual wear and shoes range from \$1 to \$5. Koomarri have kindly donated the items and the proceeds from the sales will be given back to Koomarri, allowing them to support people with disabilities in the community. This op-shop allows students to be more conscious of their clothing choices and understand the negative impacts fast fashion has on the environment and wider society. Saving the environment and your wallet...how good is that?!

## STUDENT EDITORIAL

### The study of bullying

Bullying. A common occurrence in schools both young and old. There has never been a school that does not have bullying between students and staff. At some point, we always wonder what is that person's motive to inflict verbal, physical, and cybernetical harm towards other people.

I have interviewed some people and personally I have been very intrigued by their thoughts. Their thoughts and quandaries made me want to dig deeper into this subject at hand. Certain people have thought that people who bully others just want to watch other people suffer around them. I think otherwise.

There are multiple reasons as to why someone decides to bully another person. Some people might have problems at home with family or in the playground at school with friends and colleagues. They might have been bullied previously in their life. All of these reasons are eye-opening motives for getting your anger out on other people. These are valid reasons but in the end, we all truly don't know what is inside the head and the motives they carry of a person who bullies others. What do you think?

Frederick Van Konkelenberg MHS, Year 7

**McNamara-Saunders Astronomical Teaching Telescopes**  
MSATT is an astronomical teaching facility at Mount Stromlo Observatory designed for student-centred research projects in astronomy.  
No experience with astronomy or telescopes is necessary.  
Students from Year 9 to 12 in the ACT region are welcome to apply.  
Students wishing to visit MSATT or undertake projects in 2020 should contact:  
Geoff McNamara AM  
Manager, MSATT  
Phone/text 0 44 99 66 200  
[geoffrey.mcnamara@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:geoffrey.mcnamara@ed.act.edu.au)  
[msatt.teamapp.com](http://msatt.teamapp.com)  
*There is no cost for any MSATT activities.*

ACT  
Australian National University

**ACT** Education  
**SCIENCE MENTORS ACT**

**Science Mentors ACT** provides ACT public school students in years nine to 12 the opportunity to work with science and engineering professionals on extended, student-driven investigations.

Through Science Mentors ACT, students gain a genuine science and engineering experience. Students will:

- work with a professional scientist or engineer in a field of the student's choice
- develop experimental, analytical and evaluative skills specific to their chosen field
- gain experience and skills writing professional level science reports.

If you would like to would like more information on Science Mentors ACT, contact [sciencementors@act.gov.au](mailto:sciencementors@act.gov.au).



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

# **ACT SECONDARY BURSARY SCHEME 2020**

**DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN IN HIGH SCHOOL?**

**The ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme can  
provide financial support for students in  
Years 7 – 10.**

**To be eligible applicants must hold a current means  
tested Centrelink Card or a Health Care Card.  
Please see application form for more details**

Application forms are available at all Primary Schools, High Schools,  
Centrelink Regional Offices and online at  
[https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/financial-  
assistance](https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/financial-assistance)

**Enquiries: 6205 8262  
Email: [ACTSecondaryBursary@act.gov.au](mailto:ACTSecondaryBursary@act.gov.au)**

# WODEN ARTS FAIR

**WODEN TOWN SQUARE**  
11 - 2 pm SATURDAY DECEMBER 7

ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS WITH:  
LEFT LANE OUTREACH THEATRE  
WAREHOUSE CIRCUS  
NATURE ART LAB  
CO.LABORATORY

CONNECT WITH ARTS ORGANISATIONS  
HEAR LOCAL MUSICIANS  
MEET LOCAL ARTISTS  
ENJOY A SAUSAGE SIZZLE!

Presented by the WODEN ARTS OFFICER  
SUPPORTED BY WODEN COMMUNITY SERVICE

ACT

CANBERRA COLLEGE DRAMA PRESENTS

# AWAY

BY MICHAEL GOW

FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER  
7:30 PM  
SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER  
12:30 PM & 7:30 PM

HIBBLES & DRINKS @ 7 IN CCPAC

\$10 STUDENT     \$15 ADULT

AWAY - 2019

FIND US ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE INFO

YEAR 12 PHOTOGRAPHY PRESENT

**A 113**

## A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

Silent Auction for CanTeen Canberra  
Friday 15th - 19th November  
Canberra College Performing Arts Centre  
Opening 6pm

canTeen

CANBERRA COLLEGE  
Learning. Enrichment. Action.

MAKE A NIGHT OF IT!  
VIEW THE DRAMA PRODUCTION OF 'AWAY' BY MICHAEL GOW AT 7:30

Erindale College

## INFORMATION NIGHT

Introduction for prospective Year 11 Parents and Carers to academic package stream requirements and Career, WEX, ASbA Opportunities at Erindale College

19 | 11 | 2019

TUES 5.30 - 6.30pm

ERINDALE COLLEGE SCIENCE THEATRETTE  
MCBRYDE CRESCENT  
WANNIASSA ACT 2903

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jennie Sheppard  
Transitions and Careers Officer  
jennie.sheppard@ed.act.edu.au

Course change sessions  
(no appointment necessary)  
10 & 11 December 2019  
8.30am-10am & 2pm-4pm

Yr

11