



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

# Melrose High School Newsletter



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

Issue 8: 30 June 2017

## Leadership Team News

We've made it half way and look what we've all achieved! What an amazing start to the year. Thank you to the families who shared the Semester Awards Ceremony with us on Friday. We hope you all have a restful break and we look forward to seeing your smiling faces on Monday, 17 July 2017.

To our educators, those who impart knowledge and mould our young people, we say good bye and good luck to Trish Tandy. Thank you for 40 years of education, enjoy all the pleasures of retirement and relish your travel and relaxation.

To our General Service Officer, Geoff Moore, what will we do without you? Who will fix our broken things, who will mend our resources, who will build our supplies? You have left huge shoes to fill, enjoy all the pleasures of retirement and relish your travel and relaxation.

To our Business and Facilities Manager, Fiona Dempsey, we say a fond farewell and wish you all the very best in your next adventure at Alfred Deakin High School.

To our relief teacher, Lizzie Delgado we say goodbye, good luck and big thank you.

We would like to give a big Melrose High School welcome to Kris McCreath who has joined us from Wannassa Hills Primary School as the Business Manager. We would also like to welcome Emma Housden who has joined us from the AFP as the Staffing Officer.

## Semester One, 2017 in numbers

### Student Census

Melrose HS currently has 721 students enrolled, including:

- 40 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- 31 identified Special Needs students
- 14 International students

### Big Picture

- 31 students participated in the Big Picture Program (BP)
- 5 participated in the Learning Through Internship for their BP Project
- 21 students will be in the Year 9 Big Picture Advisory for 2017
- 10 students will be in the Year 10 Big Picture Advisory for 2017

### Academic Curriculum Extension (ACE) Program

- 22, 32, 31 students participated in ACE Science (Yr 8,9,10)
- 28, 30, 28 students participated in ACE Maths (Yr 8,9,10)
- 31, 29, 29 students participated in ACE English (Yr 8,9,10)
- 10, 30, 25 students participated in ACE HaSS (Yr 8,9,10)
- 16 students participated in ACE Drama
- 23 students participated in the Elite Sports Program (ESP)

## **ACE and other students participated in the following competitions**

- Australian Geography Competition – 20 students
- ICAS Spelling Competition – 6 students
- ICAS Writing Competition – 21 students
- ICAS Digital Technologies Competition – 22 students
- Big Science competition – 27 students
- ICAS Science Competition – 38 students

## **School Leadership**

- 44 Year 10 students participated in the Peer Support Leadership Program
- 22 students were members of the School Representative Council (SRC)

## **Vocational Education and Training**

- 2 students participated in the C4 Construction Program through the Master Builders Association
- 27 students have participated in Work Experience
- 8 Science Mentors placements
- 1 student participated in a Flexible Learning Option for Certificate I in Community Services
- 1 student participated in a Flexible Learning Option for Group Fitness
- 1 student participated in an Australian School Based Apprenticeship in Plumbing.

## **Physical Education**

- 15 students acted as an Official at the cluster primary school sporting carnivals
- 2 students represented MHS at the Zone and ACT Swimming Carnivals
- 65 students represented MHS at the Zone and ACT Cross Country

Students participated in the following School Sports teams:

- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Touch Football

## **21 Century Learning**

- 32 teachers are using the 21st Century Fluencies to embed a project based learning assessment task(s) into one of their units
- 205 primary school students, 6 visiting teachers and 30 MHS student leaders participated in a Thinking Carnival

## **Student Wellbeing**

The school is committed to the social and emotional wellbeing of students and as part of this commitment has:

- Extended the days that the school has an available School Psychologist
- Connected with external agencies to provide pastoral care programs such as:
  - Choose Respect and Angry Faces through the PCYC
  - Two groups of students from Year 8 & 9 participated in the Swing Into Life Program
  - 5 students participated in the Menslink Program

Year groups participated in:

- Clean Up Australia Day
- Lunch time sports in House groups
- National Day of Action
- World's Greatest Shave

## **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education**

We have 40 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students whose personalised pathways have included:

- Access to the Indigenous Education Centre
- 8 students participated in the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME)
- We welcomed 3 staff from the WA remote area school, Pia Wadjari who shared in a language lesson with our students

## Special Needs Program

We have 31 identified Special Needs students whose personalised pathways included:

- 5 participated in core classes in the Learning Support Unit
- 11 participated in core classes in the Learning Support Centre
- All students have participated in mainstream Physical Education and electives program.

## The Future of Education

We would like to invite our entire community to a conversation. We are assisting the ACT Education Directorate and the Minister for Education in a territory wide discussion on the future of Education in the ACT. This is a very exciting discussion for the ACT and Melrose High School in particular.

**Discussion Papers** ([Discussion Paper One -1Mb](#))

## Research and Real World Experiences

We are very interested in the real world experiences of school communities, and will be looking at local, national and international experience as well as taking on academic views.

## Who will be Involved?

Our Future of Education discussion process needs to be firmly grounded in the people of Canberra. There will be direct consultation happening across the community and we will be having conversations with local industry, universities, community groups, non-government schools, and of course with public school communities. Canberra public schools can have an active role in the consultation and the Directorate's Education Support Office will be supporting principals to actively participate in this conversation by providing information and guidance. All members of the Canberra community will be able to provide their views directly to the ACT Education Directorate Future of Education team and through Your Say – a way for the Canberra community to engage online, share ideas and have their say on ACT Government projects and initiatives.

The ACT Government is also actively engaging with, and seeking the views of, community organisation, professional associations, academics and researchers, early childhood education and care providers, and peak bodies. Importantly, to seek the widest range of views, we will be reaching out to those who do not typically engage in consultation and working in partnership with others to extend that reach even further. Taken together, the views of schools and others involved in the community conversation will inform a blueprint for the Government's future of education strategy. As equity is at the heart of this issue, we need to reach beyond the usual participants in our consultation and actively seek views we might not otherwise hear. More broadly the ACT Government has a commitment to strengthening community engagement, which includes well planned, extensive engagement. The Future of Education conversation is an ideal opportunity to model such engagement within our community.

## Please join the conversation

There are many ways to contribute to this important conversation.

Email: [futureofeducation@act.gov.au](mailto:futureofeducation@act.gov.au) | Phone: (02) 620 54124

Your Say: <https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/> #EducationforthenextGeneration

Facebook: [@ACTpublicschools](#) | Twitter: [@ACTEducation](#) | Instagram: [@ACTpublicschools](#)



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)

### New Phone numbers

The telephone system at Melrose High School has been updated and as such so have the phone numbers.

Our new numbers are:  
Front Office - (02) 6142 0700  
Rolls Office - (02) 6142 0703

## For your Information

### Calendar Updates

The most recent version of the Melrose Calendar can be found on the Website at [http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our\\_community/calendar](http://www.melrosehs.act.edu.au/our_community/calendar)

### Sick Bay

If students are unwell they must go to sickbay, 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 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](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 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 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.

		Melrose High School <a href="https://www.facebook.com/MelroseHSCanberra">https://www.facebook.com/MelroseHSCanberra</a>
		Melrose School Library <a href="https://www.facebook.com/MelroseHSLibrary">https://www.facebook.com/MelroseHSLibrary</a>
Connect with us and keep up to date with what is happening around the school		Melrose Magazine <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Melrosemagazine">https://www.facebook.com/Melrosemagazine</a>

## Students Services Semester Summary

Over the semester we have been working on improving the school culture and increasing opportunities for students to contribute to the school and wider community.

At Melrose this semester we have

- Participated in the National Day of Action Against Bullying
- Had students represent our school at Students Advisory Council
- Ran programs for boys around respect, facilitated by the PCYC
- All students participated in Clean up Australia day and this has been an ongoing activity for our school every few weeks.
- Students attended Angry faces program at the PCYC
- Ran a friendship group
- Supported enrolment of a dance group in Kulture Break performance
- Two year groups have attending a teambuilding session at Swing into life
- House competition at lunch time and for targeted behaviours
- Promoted and instilled pride in wearing our school uniform
- Had House Group challenges around attendance, uniform and participation in school activities
- Malrose Day- To acknowledge and remember a former teacher
- Implemented a new system to notify students and teachers about students absences.
- Continued to promote the [URSafe@melrosehs.act.edu.au](mailto:URSafe@melrosehs.act.edu.au) email address as a way of communicating issues and concerns

There will be many other opportunities and programs offered next term, if you have suggestions, or feedback please contact [sonja.marmont@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:sonja.marmont@ed.act.edu.au)

### Swing Into Life

As a part of the program, students were invited to participate in an activity course which includes a number of different obstacles and activities that encourage students to work as a team and overall build confidence whilst being physically active. The course will be adjusted to suit the needs and ages of all students to make sure that it is done in a safe and fun environment and the course has links to the Australian Curriculum. We have taken two groups of students from Melrose this semester. It was so much fun for both staff and students.

We had some very positive feedback from students and parents. One parents wrote:

*"Thank you so much! He absolutely loved it, I haven't seen or heard him that excited about anything. He spoke a lot about 'helping' his team mates and I think that has given him a real confidence boost. Thank you for offering him the opportunity to go".*



## Science

The Science faculty have had fantastic start to the year with a successful first semester. Year 7 students have learnt about mixtures, solutes, solvents and solutions in order to understand the properties of substances. They have also learnt about forces and the applications of simple machines. Some students created Rube Goldberg Machines to demonstrate their understanding of simple machines. Year 8 have learnt about the periodic table and the elements that make up our world. Further they have studied the rock cycle and how the Earth was formed. Year 9 studied chemistry, in particular the atoms that make up everything and the reactions that take place all around us. Year 10 studied the genetic code and how the subtle variation within it allow for great diversity in our population.

Some students took part in the Big Science competition and the ICAS Science competition earlier this term. We look forward to receiving their results early next semester and congratulating them on how well they have done.

ACE Science Mentors has had a great start to the year with a record number of projects in all disciplines of Science. The students have been dedicated and are using their time constructively to create amazing reports. ACE science students have been active this semester with multiple trips to Science facilities in and around Canberra. The Science faculty look forward to a productive Semester 2.

---

## P.E. Highlights Term Two 2017

Down in P.E. we are finalising the Semester with our “world cup” soccer format. Classes across each line are broken into countries and are playing each other in a “round robin” format. This year we have based the teams on the Confederation Cup which of course Australia is currently playing in.

We ran our very successful cross country carnival again early in the term. The weather was spectacular and we had a very high level of participation. Our special P.E. awards assembly run by the maestro Des Proctor was a great way to showcase the running carnival. We had former student Nathan Hart who is a current Olympic cyclist, present and talk about his exploits. We gave away many prizes and vouchers to lucky students. Many students then progressed onto Zone and ACT.

Our “Fit for Life” classes are proving to be highly successful with students working on their individual programmes over at Club Lime Mawson. Three classes will run again in Semester Two. Classes have begun to utilise the synthetic football pitch for a range of sports. We aim to get more students out onto the pitch during the next semester.



## Mathematics

It has been a very busy semester with high quality learning happening across all levels. Peter Freeman's Year 8 class has been looking at the relationship between Maths and their future jobs and careers. Year 10 found out about the college expectation of working and studying hard right up to the end of the year in preparation for college.

### Equipment

Now is the time to replenish equipment. Students require a 5 millimetre grid book, pens, lead pencil, eraser, ruler and a scientific calculator every lesson. They should also bring their electronic device that meets school educational requirements (not a phone).

**Maths Tutorial** is help with classwork, homework and assignments. Come to:

- Room 104 each Tuesday lunchtime with Mr Morris
- Room 240 each Wednesday lunchtime with Mr Mansfield
- Or anytime to the Maths staffroom and we will be happy to assist

The **Australian Mathematics Competition** will be on 27 July 2017 in the library. All ACE and Level 1 Maths students are strongly encouraged to enter. For more information, visit <http://www.amt.edu.au/>

**Maths Enrichment and the Maths Challenge:** Those ACE students interested in these extension opportunities should contact Charles McIntosh for further information.

**Retirement:** Best wishes to our Executive Teacher, Patricia Tandy who retires at the end of this semester, after a wonderful 7 years at Melrose High School.

Have a safe and happy break and see you next Semester

The Maths Faculty

---

## Road Ready program for Year 10 Semester 2

Ms McFarlane and Mr Mansfield will be the teaching Road Ready program to Year 10 students over terms 3 and 4. The program will begin during week 1, Term 3 and hopefully, be completed by week 6, Term 4 for all students who have signed up (some will finish earlier if they are successful on the first attempt of the Knowledge Test). Please note, classes are run after school.

Students who have signed up via email will receive an email asking them to join a Google classroom for Road Ready. Once they signed up to the Classroom they can download and print an information letter and permission note. The permission note is required to be returned to the Road Ready teacher on the first class after school. We still have places available so students can still sign up during week one of Term 3 (no later than Wednesday). After week one, no more places can be offered.

Please see the timeline below which includes the important dates to remember:

- Permission note: Due Date: Wed July 19/Thurs July 20.
- First Class: Week 1 Wednesday July 19 or 20 @ 3:30 – 4:20 then weekly until Nov 15/16\*.

\* Students may finish earlier if they successful pass the online Knowledge Test

If you have any questions about the program please contact me by email: [jeffery.mansfield@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jeffery.mansfield@ed.act.edu.au) or [Amy.Mcfarlane@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Amy.Mcfarlane@ed.act.edu.au).

Jeff Mansfield  
Road Ready Coordinator

## Arts Tech Highlights

This has been a busy and always exciting semester for the Arts Tech faculty.

Our students and staff were actively involved in a range of events and some of the highlights were the:

- Music Camp at Birrigai
- Australian National Eisteddfod – Senior Band Performance at Llewellyn Hall, Canberra School Of Music (ANU) Arts Camp to Sydney
- Entertainment Night
- Acquisition on 3D laser printer for Woodwork

Well done to everyone involved.

### Entertainment Night 2017

In Week 9 of Semester One, Year 9 and 10 Arts/Technology students had the opportunity to showcase the work that they have been developing across Visual Art, Drama, Dance, Entertainment and Hospitality and Music. Visual Art works were displayed around the Hall for the audience to view before the show and during interval, showcasing students' skills using a range of media. The Drama students performed a variety of works which focused on realism and student-written scripts. Dance students performed a variety of routines that reflected their technical ability and also their ability to choreograph interesting work. Music students performed in the concert band, while individual artists and also a number of bands blew the audience away. To top off the night, the food and drink on offer was catered by the Entertainment and Hospitality students and was very popular with the audience. The Arts/Tech faculty is extremely proud of all of the students who were involved on the night and the work that they were able to not only produce but also perform.



### The 2017 Arts Camp

The 2017 Arts Camp to Sydney this year was without a doubt the best one so far! Fifty eight students and four teachers were chauffeured to Sydney on one of Cooma Coaches finest rigs. Not only did we have the pleasure of staying right on Sydney Harbour in the historic Rocks area for three days and two nights, we experienced professional workshops in all areas of the Arts.

Highlights of the trip were experiencing the amazing Vivid festival which opened up our eyes to the imaginations and creative spirits of those who dreamt, designed and created it, viewing the energy packed musical 'Kinky Boots' at the Capitol Theatre, 'Mr Burns', a surrealist performance at the Belvoir Theatre and enjoying the skills of The Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the Seymour Centre.

Other highlights were Madame Tussaud's Wax museum, multiple art galleries and the crazy amount of shopping we were able to do at Paddy's Market in China town. A big thank-you must once again go to the senior executive team for allowing us to experience this eye opening venture.

All teachers accompanying the tour were absolutely blown away by the positive attitudes, generous courteous spirits and mature and responsible mindsets of the fifty eight young adults that were the 2017 Melrose Arts Tour.





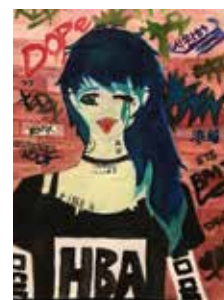
## Melrose Visual Artists

Melrose Visual Artists' have had an exciting and busy Semester one. Year 7 and 8 students have had the opportunity to learn about the elements of art through a range of tasks. Inspired by artists such as Van Gogh, Monet, Andy Warhol and Giacometti, students have created many amazing pieces of art. Emphasis has been on the experimentation of mediums, colour mixing and drawing.

## 21st Century Solution Fluencies

Year 9 and 10 students have been focusing on the development of a Major art piece which has allowed them to express their individuality through the solution fluencies. Students have been concentrating on Printmaking, Painting and Sculpture. Emphasis on the development of their ideas in their Visual Arts Process Diary has enabled them to focus deeply on their making experience and present their voice visually.

The work that the students have produced has been outstanding as was recently exhibited in the Malcolm Barlow Hall as part of our annual Melrose Entertainment Night. The work is currently on exhibition in our school library for all students to view.



## Cooking

The kitchens have been working overtime with students trying out their cooking, baking and barista skills.



## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

In 2017, all schools across Australia are taking part in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD). The data collected will allow all Australian Governments to better target support and resources for students who need adjustments to access and participate in education. As part of this process, we are looking at the adjustments made at the school for students so they can participate in learning on the same basis as their peers. These adjustments might include extra teacher support, flexibility around assessment tasks, modifications to class work, changes to the physical environment or specialised equipment.

The data collected does not include information that can identify an individual student. It will include:

- the total number of students at the school receiving adjustments (for cognitive, social and emotional, physical or sensory reasons); and
- the total number of students at each level of adjustment provided by the school

You can choose not to be included in the count. A copy of the opt out form will be emailed to you. If you would like more information about the collection process, you can contact Evelyn Karapanos on 61420700.

The factsheets on NCCD are available online at: <http://education.gov.au/fact-sheets-and-resources-national-data-collection>. You can also email the ACT Education Directorate at [nccd@act.gov.au](mailto:nccd@act.gov.au) for more information.

## English and Languages Update

This term, the English and Languages faculties have combined as one faculty and have been working together to continue to enrich students with language skills.

Here are some of the great things which have been happening in this faculty:

### English:

- Many of our Year 7 students have been playing with poetry this term. They have produced fantastic digital poems.
- We've had over 20 students participate in the Dorothea McKellar Poetry Competition this year! Look out for samples of our students' creative writing in newsletters next term. Many students have been working with Mr Madsen in the Writer's Workshop to hone their writing skills this year.
- Many Year 7 students recently applied to be a part of the English ACE class next semester. Thanks to everyone who applied or came along to the ACE session in the library. Ms O'Meara is looking forward to teaching a fantastic ACE English class next semester!
- Year 10 ACE English are headed to Canberra Theatre next term to watch a performance based on George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four. There are still a few seats available if any Year 9 or 10 students would like to join us – see Mrs Holder for a note (or email her: [jennifer.holder@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jennifer.holder@ed.act.edu.au)).
- Year 10 students have elected new classes for Semester Two English. Students have selected from the following options for studying English during their last semester in high school:
  - War literature
  - What If (Speculative Fiction)
  - How to Get Away with Murder (Crime Fiction)
  - Follow Your Passion (Project Based Learning)
  - Classics with a Twist
  - General English Skills



### Languages:

- Year 7 Indonesian students enjoyed a full-day excursion to the Indonesian Embassy and the National Zoo and Aquarium. At the embassy, students participated in a one-hour dance workshop and had a tour of the embassy's museum. At the zoo, students were given a behind-the-scenes tour and were very lucky to feed the Sumatran tiger and sun bears. A similar day is planned for Year 8 students in term three.
- We welcomed our Indonesian Assistant, Mita Anggaryani, at the start of the term. Mita works with Indonesian classes every Wednesday to help students develop their skills and will be with us until the end of term three. Mita comes from Surabaya on the island of Java. She is currently studying in Canberra at ANU for a PhD in Science/Communication.
- We have been very fortunate to extend our free trial of "Education Perfect" until the end of this year. Students in all Languages classes are really enjoying and benefiting from this on-line learning program. In May, our students participated in the Language Perfect World Championships answering 356,729 questions in ten days! A special mention goes to Nara Choi, who achieved an Elite Award for answering more than 10,000 questions.
- Mrs Leiper has been busy with final preparations for the Japan Trip next term! We have a group of very lucky students headed to Japan in September. They will be staying with families at our Japanese sister school, Makabetsu for 5 days before heading to Tokyo (including Disneyland), Hiroshima and Kyoto. Stay tuned later in the year for updates on their trip.
- This term, we welcomed our Chinese Teaching Assistant, Jui-Yu(Zoe) Kao, who comes from Taiwan. Since the start of the term, Zoe has worked with Chinese classes every day to help out designing teaching programs, help students develop their language skills and set up the Mandarin section for school Open Night. She will be with us until the end of term 3.
- Our Chinese sister school, Min De Junior High School, will come to visit in week 3 and week 4 of term 3. We have 17 students visiting us to learn more about Australian culture and the English language. Thank



you very much to all the homestay families who will host the teachers and students from Min De.

### **Expressions of Interest for Taiwan Trip in 2018**

We are currently seeking students interested in an international trip in 2018. We have the opportunity to visit our sister school, Min De Junior High School in Taiwan next year, during April. We will only be able to organise this trip if we have sufficient students willing to be involved. Costings for this trip have not been organised yet, however, we estimate that the trip will cost between \$3000 and \$4000. Students will have an opportunity to stay with Taiwanese families, experience the Taiwanese school system as well as engage in a number of cultural and tourist experiences.

Please email Jenni Holder([jennifer.holder@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jennifer.holder@ed.act.edu.au)), the Executive Teacher of English and Languages to register your interest in this trip by 17 July (beginning of term 3).

---

## **Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty (HaSS)**

It is hard to believe that a semester has already finished in our year of 2017. It has flown by.

We have had a busy and rewarding semester with your students in the HaSS faculty.

The students have completed units in:

- Consumer Education and History – Year 7
- Medieval History – Year 8
- Financial Literacy and Legal Studies – Year 9
- World War II History and Careers and Work – Year 10



Some of our highlights:

1. Money Smart Program with Year 7: as part of the Consumer Education unit the Year 7 students participated in a practical program that involved an excursion to the Mawson Shopping Centre. They were placed into groups and completed activities in topics such as: packaging, advertising, product placement, different shops (the Mawson shopping experience), value for money (unit pricing). They also had a scavenger hunt to complete too. Following this the students returned to school and put together a presentation for their class on the topic they completed. It was a great success.
2. Financial Literacy with Year 9: in Term 1 all of Year 9 participated in the share market game. They were each given \$50 000 to invest in the share market. About 16 500 syndicates across Australia and in international schools participated. Our syndicates had a lot of success. Only 46% of players were in profit in the entire game and 35 of our groups or individuals were above the average portfolio at the end of the game which is a very good achievement. Lachlan Ives and Alexander Amiyants achieved the best result in the school with a total portfolio value of \$55,603.85. They topped Melrose High School, came third in the ACT out of 476 syndicates and were ranked 189 out of 16 691 syndicates in the game. They both received movie tickets and a certificate for their achievement.
3. Australian Geography Competition: We had about 75 students participate in the Australian Geography Competition. The results are yet to arrive back.
4. Year 10 Leadership program that delivered the Year 7 Peer Support program: we had two classes of Year 10 leaders that worked with the Year 7 students each fortnight this semester. Ben Duggan and Angela Agius were the teachers. They developed and run workshops with the Year 7 students on a range of issues including: how to de-stress, studying skills, making friends and bullying. The Year 10 students held a party for the Year 7s this week with a scavenger hunt and sausage sizzle to celebrate their efforts over the semester.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the teachers in the HaSS faculty. I am extremely lucky to work with such a dedicated group of teachers: Angela Agius, Ben Duggan, Garry Douglas, Ian Johnson, Michelle McFadyen, Larry Stevenson and Dane Wells. We will be welcoming Andrew Bakker into the faculty next semester to replace Dane Wells who is going on a year's study leave. He is studying a Masters in History. Good luck to Dane. We will miss him and so will the students.

Rachel McGann  
Executive Teacher, HaSS

## Australian Business Week

Every year since 2002, Melrose High School has run the popular one-week business simulation event called “Australian Business Week” (ABW) for Year 10 students. This year ABW at Melrose High School will be held in Week 10 of Term 3 – Monday 18 September to Friday 22 September.

The ABW program is designed to encourage independent and cooperative learning skills and to develop an enterprise mindset prior to entering the workforce or proceeding to further study. It exposes participants to the issues of coping with stress and effective time management, both major issues that impact on students in the later years of high school and college.



During ABW, Year 10 students are divided into teams of 10 to 12 and spend five days having fun working together to:

- Manage a business through a computer simulation;
- Learn from guest speakers from business and the community;
- Develop a new product of their own invention;
- Create a video and trade display to advertise their product;
- Give an oral and written report of the week’s activities; and
- Interact with business people and teachers as facilitators.

Participation in ABW is worth 10% of each student’s final mark in HaSS for Semester 2. Students who do not complete the program will have to complete an alternative piece of work, a written research assignment. While the cost of \$65 per student may seem a large amount of money it represents very good value for a five-day package. For the money, students have access to a highly refined educational program, trained mentors and a computer simulation program. The school pays \$54 per student to the ABW organisation for use of the program. The remaining money helps the school buy resources that the students need to make their products, film their video ads etc. Students in previous years report that they found the program to be very good value for money and a highlight of their time at Melrose High School.

If any parents or carers have connections with any businesses that may be able to assist the program (donations of materials, sponsorship, judges etc.) please contact me on: 6142 0700 or [rachel.mcgann@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:rachel.mcgann@ed.act.edu.au)

We do have strong, ongoing connections with the businesses listed below.

Notes have been given to the Year 10 students in an assembly this week. If you did not receive one, please email me. It is also available on the Year 10 Google Classroom page.

Rachel McGann  
Executive Teacher and ABW Coordinator



---

## LSC

In the Learning Support Unit this semester students have worked hard to gain knowledge in a range of areas. All classes have been generally engaged and students are showing great progression in general knowledge. Some of the highlights included the baking and eating of a medieval bread routine, which students washed down with water, reporting that it was very hard. They learned that this is because the bread also served as a ‘trencher’ or a plate. The class are also now exploring Early American history and learning about their First Nation peoples. In the LSC, students have been working on a range of projects including a significant piece of Aboriginal art which explores the impact of the Stolen Generations and which has been donated to

Relationships Australia. Students have also done very high level work on learning about and understanding the Charter of Human Rights and what this means for them.

Next term, students are continuing to work toward building their Portfolio of Learning to share with their parents/guardians in Term 3. They are also keen to go off on a couple of excursions to Old Parliament House and the Gallery. The whole group are super excited by the prospect of the Term 4 Camp to Mogo. Staff are also keen to head down and see the students in an 'Old Style', colonial classroom. The Literacy and Numeracy Intervention classes have worked well and there will be movement of students in semester two, with some students exiting the classes and others joining. Thank you to teachers who have picked up with Chris Johnston's absence, particularly Lizzy and Michelle. Thank you also to Helena who has filled in for Erin Smith in her absence. All have been welcome additions to our teaching team and have done a great job filling in for regular classroom teachers. We are all looking forward to seeing further broad improvements in students' literacy and numeracy capacities across the school.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing all our students back in term three. Drive carefully and relax.

The Learning Support Team

---

## ISC

Yiradhu marang, mudyi-ngadhi. Well, this semester has been a busy one, all round. Thank you to our kids, families and community members who have worked with us to start seeding new programmes and ideas. This year is a big one for Australians and so far we have marked the 20th Anniversary of the 'Bringing Them Home' report with Relationships Australia and the Healing Foundation. We have also had published the Network RAP for community consultation and will now go through the final processes of ratifying this through Reconciliation Australia. The school has missed Aunty Monique Sutherland this semester, as she has been on extended leave and will continue to be so throughout semester two. We welcome Daniel McDougall, a Barkindje man from Western NSW. Dan has worked at Harrison School as their Aboriginal Education Officer and at such places as AIATSIS. He is a keen sportsman and musician and is working with Ali Inskeep to establish new programmes to help our mob here.

Over the course of the year, we have had the school smoked by Paul House, begun the process of formalising Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country in language and our young people have begun to reconnect to their own languages and learn Wiradjuri. The first assembly back in term three will be our NAIDOC Assembly and we look forward to seeing you all there. Please don't forget NAIDOC Week begins on the 1st of July and there are many celebrations around the Canberra to mark this important week. The NAIDOC theme this year is 'Our languages matter' and we are working hard to make the school's commitment to language use and engagement ongoing beyond 2017. We appreciate all the help and support from our families and community members.

This week we had leaders from the Pia Wadjari mob in Western Australian come and run a language workshop with some of our kids and they left a rich set of resources about their language and we can call and chat with them about pronunciation. We thank Leonie and Godfrey for their fascinating presentation and the fun activity of learning our 'names' in Pia Wadjari dialect. We have also had two workshops this year for music and art and we hope to see some of our young people go to the Bangarra dance performance, called 'Benelong', later this year.

So, from all of us, mandang guwu and have a great holiday. Rest, refresh and be safe.

The ISC Team