Melville Matters

Principal: Mr J Hollingsworth B.Ed, Dip. Teach (P.E.)
Deputy Principal: Mr T Stewart B.A. (Hons), Dip. Ed. M.Ed.
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Term 1 – Issue 3

Monday, 7 March 2016

Term 1

Week 7

Friday 11 March  Catch Up School Photos

Week 8

Monday 14 March  Yr 7 Vaccinations

Melville High School P&C AGM Meeting
Monday 14th March 6.30pm

From the Support Unit

We have now officially recovered physically from the fire in 2015 with the last of our buildings replaced during the January holidays. The staff of the Support Unit would like to thank our parents and the wider school community for your continued support and understanding during this time of rebuild.

We are off to a busy start with all our regular programs starting and students fully engaging in the activities of Sailing, Riding for the Disabled, Work experience at various establishments within the community, cooking programs and sport.

Dance Class – Jacoba, Thomas, Luke, Kaylea, Jayden, Clayton

Sailing at Port Macquarie

RDA – Clayton
From the History Faculty
The first 5 weeks of 2016 have passed, and the History faculty has been busy. Most classes in the junior school are working on their first assessment tasks as shown on their assessment schedules. Year 11 are also working on preparing for their first task, while Year 12 are preparing for their Pre-Trial. Assessment Schedules can now also be found online on the Melville website: www.melville-h.school.nsw.edu.au.

Major planning is also underway for the Legal Studies/Ancient History excursion to Sydney, 4 – 6 May. This is Week 2 in Term 2, and is for Years 11 & 12 students who study these 2 subjects. The aim is to organise this excursion biannually so all senior students studying these subjects get a
chance to participate in this very valuable excursion. This allows our students to experience some of the opportunities enjoyed by their urban counterparts. Students will be able to focus on their own subject areas, with activities such as attending the Darlinghurst Supreme Court, or viewing a mummy exhibition at the Nicholson Museum, Sydney University, and listening to talks by practising Historians and Archaeologists.

Later in the year Year 10 students will be attending Trial Bay gaol, and completing work on this historic site as part of their History Studies. Year 9 will be experiencing Life in the 1950’s Australia by taking part in a Decade Study Day. This site study and decade study are an important part of the Stage 5 History Curriculum and both students and teachers enjoy the day of 'hands on' learning.

Principal’s Report

Welcome to Week 7 of Term 1. It has already been a very busy year with many activities around the school. School photos were taken last Thursday and catch-ups will be possible on Friday. Many sporting competitions are also getting into swing with strong results in Netball and some good performances in Swimming. I will attach an information letter regarding the NAPLAN testing to occur early in term 2. This is scheduled for all year 7 and 9 students across Australia at the same time. We are able to then use the results to identify the areas we can assist the students with as they progress through High school including funding from the “Gonski” component that we receive each year.

All students are now aware that the policy for participation in sporting teams and non-compulsory excursions requires a minimum of 85% attendance. This has been covered in detail by Mr Bartlett on the morning roll call assemblies. If any parents or families would like further information about this please don’t hesitate in contacting the school. We believe that good attendance is one of the single most important factors to connect to good results.

In the second half of this year Melville High will be establishing a Clontarf Academy for Aboriginal male students. This is a jointly funded program with both State and Federal governments as well as private providers and business communities. All Aboriginal boys will be eligible to enrol in this program and will be expected to adhere to the values of the school and the Clontarf program to participate. In turn, Clontarf staff will lead the students through improved engagement activities including Football and cultural events, as well as leadership activities and assistance with job pathways and transition. We are very excited to be able to take up this opportunity.

Mobile phones have been the cause of an increasing number of incidents around the school and I remind all students, parents and carers that the policy is quite clear that mobile phones are allowed at school and they “are to be switched off and kept out of sight during class lessons”. Students generally have been very cooperative with this policy and I have made comments to many new parents that they are not normally a problem at Melville High. So, I request all parents and carers to review the necessity for students to bring a phone into the school, and if they must, to ensure they are aware of and follow the policy.

Later this term Year 12 will sit the Pre Trial exams, and they are an important component of HSC exam preparation and assessments. Students are reminded that by now they should have a strong study regime, and not just completing homework. If assistance is needed we operate a senior study room on Tuesdays and Thursdays and assistance is available to all students in study techniques, exam preparation and assessment task requirements.

The next P & C meeting is 6.30pm on 14th March, in the Library. All parents, carers and community members are encouraged to attend. This month’s faculty presentation will be from the Maths staff.

Jeff Hollingsworth
Principal

Charles Sturt University (CSU) is hosting a Parent Information evening in Port Macquarie on Thursday 17 March 2016 at 6:00pm to answer all your questions about university including important dates, application information and how parents can support their children. For more information visit www.csu.edu.au/parents.

Leon Ruhl
Careers and Year Advisor
Melville High School
**SOUTH WEST ROCKS SOCCER CLUB**  
Important dates for you to put in your diaries.

**Muster Day:** Saturday March 12th Country Club BBQ area 9.30-12noon  
**Trivia night:** Saturday May 7th (details later)  
**Gala Day:** Sunday June 19th (details later)  
**Barefoot Bowls Day:** Sunday July 24th (details later)  
**Junior Presentation Day:** at Trial Bay Saturday September 17th  
**Senior Presentation Night:** Saturday September 24th at Country Club BBQ area.

Just a reminder: You will need to register on line at myfootballclub.com.au ASAP and come to one of the registration days to collect uniform and pay your fees. We will have lap tops at rego days so if you are having trouble please come down and see us :)  
If anyone is willing to help out in the canteen this year and also anyone out there who would like to help out on the gala day please come and see Bec at rego days and she will get all your information so she can get together a canteen roster.

Thank you,  
Rebecca Everson

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**RANGERS REGO DAYS**  
Parents don’t worry you haven’t missed out in registering the kids this season  
**ALL PLAYERS WELCOME**  
No matter your skill level  
**Spots available in junior teams**  
Register on-line www.myfootballclub.com.au  

**Contact Larisa**  
**0407-597-375**  
E: info@maclayvalleyrangers.com.au

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**KEMPSEY EISTEDDFOD SOCIETY Inc**  
*66th Vocal & Instrumental Eisteddfod*  
*65th Speech & Drama Eisteddfod*  
Monday June 27,2016-Saturday July 2, 2016  

*35th Dance Eisteddfod*  
Saturday July 2, 2016 – Saturday July 9, 2016  

ENTRIES CLOSE: Friday April 8, 2016  
www.stardom.com.au  
Enquiries: kempseyeisteddfod@hotmail.com  

Find us on Facebook or visit our website
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2016

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2016 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 10-12 May 2016.

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<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 10 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 11 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 12 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<td>(Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

**Friday 13 May** – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the school principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child's participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at [www.nsp.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html](http://www.nsp.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html).