

# Melville Matters



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Term 1– Issue 1

Monday, 9 February 2015

## Term 1

### Week 3

Tuesday 10 Feb                      Swimming Carnival

### Week 4

Tuesday 17 Feb to                      Year 7 Camp

Thursday 19 Feb                      to Yarrahapinni



The destruction caused by the fire, to our Support Unit Classroom on Thursday night 29/1/2015

## ***PRINCIPAL'S REPORT***

Welcome to 2015. The start to the Year was very promising and all staff and students are looking to continued good progress on targets established in 2014. This was slowed partly by the unfortunate fire which destroyed the Support unit classrooms and Staffroom on the evening of the 29<sup>th</sup> January. I have included a photo of the complete destruction as a result. The impact an incident like this has on the school can be devastating. I have been uplifted by the positive responses of the Support Unit staff lead by Leanne Weatherhead (Head Teacher) and the offers of assistance from all corners of the School and Community of Kempsey and the Greater Macleay and beyond. These offers are being acted on and as I write, the hope

is the students from the affected classes can all return as of Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of February. Melville High appreciates the fantastic effort of the Department of Education staff, Asset Management and O'Donnell & Hanlon to start immediately the alterations necessary to accommodate disabled showers and toilets, and to move equipment such as lifting frames and specialist equipment, which had commenced even while the Fire Brigade were mopping up the last of the fire. I also wish to acknowledge the great work of the Kempsey and Port Macquarie Fire and Rescue teams who brought the fire under control with minimal loss to surrounding buildings and infrastructure, a job very well done under difficult circumstances.

I would also like to acknowledge the understanding shown by the mainstream students and staff who have had to make significant adjustments to allow us to keep the support classes onsite at Melville High. I greatly appreciate that many of these requests to move out of preferred rooms or spaces can then have a flow-on effect on other teaching areas. It is this example of team work and cooperation which are strong characteristics of the Melville High success story. We will keep the community posted through the "Melville High School" Facebook page and via the new school website which has been established for 2015, links to the Facebook site are available on the webpage.

In regards to offers of fundraising, I will approach this topic at the P & C meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February (6.30PM in the Library) and see how we can co-ordinate the many possibilities that have been suggested or offered.

The HSC results for 2014, continued the high standards of previous years, Finnian Murphy reached an ATAR (University Admission rank) of 96.95, Rohan Thomas – 93.45 and Daniel Ting – 92.75 as the top 3 achievements. This places Finnian as the best ATAR for any HSC student in any school - Public or Private in the Macleay

region and it also confirms the quality education available within Melville High school. Once again, I thank all students, parents and staff for the continued hard work which leads to these high standard results.

Finally, I again encourage everyone to participate in some way in the school, whether it is volunteering some time to assist at the canteen, attending the P & C in the Library at 6.30PM on the Second Monday of the Month (9<sup>th</sup> of Feb) or contacting staff to see how you can help your child with their work in the classroom.

Jeff Hollingsworth  
Principal

### ***Melville High School P & C Committee***

Meetings scheduled for 2015 will be held in the Stan Johnson Library on the following dates at 6.30pm and light refreshment will be provided:

- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March AGM
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November

Participation in the P & C meetings enables parents and carers to make an active contribution to the school which ultimately has a positive impact on students learning.

### ***Melville High School P&C Committee Support to the School***

In 2014 Melville High School P&C Committee offered each of the faculties a \$1000 each to spend on a "Wish List Item" that they could not afford in their day to day educational budget. The item/s needed to be for the educational purpose and to support students' engagement and learning.

Below is a list of the items that were purchased for each faculty:-

**Support Unit** - Sensory Garden for students.

**Music** – Electronic Drums, iPad Interphase and Mic stand.

**Maths** - 63 Calculators.

**Science** – Year 7 Text books including ebooks.

**English** – Flat screen TV for Rm 15.

**Visual Arts** – Artists Elite Mat Cutter, including blades and Ipad 16GB WiFi, TAS – Lego Robotics for the engagement of Yr 9, & 10 students and encourage students transitioning into Yr 11 & 12, PE – New set of AFL Jersey's.

**History** – 20 copies of the graphic novel "Asterix & Cleopatra" and posters from Tirine History Catalogue for the "new" curriculum for both History & English,

**Social Science** – 2 iPad mini's for the interest of students' equity and to develop their technological skills.

**Library** – 3 sets of explorer series - Enigmas of History - 8 volumes, Inventions and Discoveries - 12 volumes and Explore the Solar Systems - 10 volumes.

In 2014 MHS P&C Committee will publish a regular article in Melville Matters, to let our school community know of the efforts that the P&C committee are making to improve the school. Our P&C committee provides valuable support to our school by fund raising and in the form of advice and consultation regarding important decisions and policy. All parents and carers are invited to contribute to this group by attending meetings and ultimately will have a positive impact on your child's learning.

### ***The School Canteen***

All profits made at our P&C canteen are returned to the school for the purchase of student resources, improvement to the school grounds and other worthwhile projects.

We employ two full time workers, but with up to 850 students in our school it is an extremely busy operation, therefore we do rely on parent/carers and volunteers from our community for support on a daily basis.

If you can volunteer one day per month from 9am to 1.45pm, your support would be greatly appreciated, our canteen is now air conditioned and you will have a fun filled day.

Please phone Val Hudson Canteen Coordinator on 6562 7511.

### ***Saints Comets Netball Club***

will be holding their Registrations days on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> February at McDonalds Kempsey from 9am till 12noon.

Fees for the 2015 season are as followed up till 13<sup>th</sup> March

Divisions	Ages	Fees
Seniors	18+	\$150
Juniors	11-17yrs	\$130
Hard Court Netta	8-10yrs	\$122
Grass Court Netta	8-10yrs	\$102
Grass Court Netta	5-7yrs	\$102
Net Set Go	5-7 yrs non players	\$55
Non Player (Coach, Umpire or Official)		\$50

If your fees are not paid in full by the 13/3, there is an additional fee of \$20 to be paid to the Macleay Netball Association.

Any enquiries please see or phone Robyn Townsend (Vice President Saints Comets Netball Club) on 6562 8361 or 0439 404 257.

### PDHPE - The "Beep Test"

With the year now well under way, junior PDHPE classes have been completing the multi stage shuttle run (more commonly called the beep test) in practical classes. While not all classes are yet to complete the test the following students (in no particular order) have excelled and should be proud of their results:

Ashley Allman 11.5	Brad Dyet 11.1
Kate Ferguson 11.8	Caitlin Fitzgerald 10.8
Georgia Hollis 10.8	Ben Jago 11.5
Eve Hudson 9.2	Cleay Lawrence 12.8
Sarah James 9.2	Tyrone Walker 11.10
Honey Kassel 9.2	Hannah Bannerman 8.8
Michael Pascoe 12.9	Kalil Parsons-Lockwood 10.8
Esther Walder 9.1	Isaiah Tuiaki 10.2
Luke Allman 13.4	Tiana McClenahan 8.2
Mason Powick 10.1	Kevin Kennedy 12.2
Nakitta Green 9.8	Isabella Walder 8.8
Kyle Harris 13.1	Lachlan Bird 11.2
Brett Morn 12.7	Aaron Kelly – Parsons 12.5
Hayden Morris-Simonovic 11.2	Harold Thompson 12.1

The "Beep Test" will be run again at the beginning of term 2 and term 3, with students getting the chance to improve on their results.

Well done to every MHS PDHPE student who has tried their hardest in the "Beep Test" this semester.

### Sport 2015

2015 brings a year of changes to Melville High School Sport. Tuesday afternoon sports are now a thing of the past as the junior school moves into a block style sports set up.

Year 7 – Have sport on Tuesdays, beginning the swimming (mandatory in NSW public schools). Year 7 will then gain experience in athletics, winter sports and summer sports throughout the year.

Year 8 - Have sports on Wednesdays, beginning with a class based competitions in a range of sports, both in school and using local sporting facilities.

Year 9 and 10 – Have sport on Thursdays, with a range of choices both in school and using local sporting facilities.

All 7-10 are reminded that sport notes need to be returned to the PDHPE staffroom or roll call teachers ASAP. Students cannot leave the school without signed permission notes.

### The Swimming Carnival

Due to poor weather the swimming carnival scheduled for Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February has been postponed to Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

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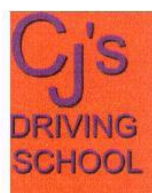
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When you miss just ...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	nearly 1 year
1 day each week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	over 2 years
2 days each week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	over 5 years
3 days each week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	nearly 8 years

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