

Melville Matters



Principal: Mr J Hollingsworth B.Ed, Dip. Teach (P.E.)
Deputy Principal: Mr T Stewart B.A. (Hons), Dip. Ed. M.Ed.
Deputy Principal: Mrs V Staunton B.Sc, Dip. Ed.
T 6562 7511 F 6562 7405 E melville-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 1– Issue 3

Friday, 6 March 2015

Term 1

Week 7

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|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday 9 th March | P & C AGM |
| Thursday 12 th March | Yr 12 Geo Excursion Creative Arts Night 6.30pm |
| Friday 13 th March | Yr 12 Geo Excursion |

Week 8

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| Thursday 19 th March | School Photos TAS Excursion |
| Friday 20 th March | School Photos Catch up TAS Excursion |

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

How quickly the time goes, already into week 6. The school planning is coming along and will be published on our school website by the end of term. Please find below the Vision Statement that has been developed from consultation with staff, if you would like to make comment about it please contact myself or Mr Jeff Hollingsworth.

School Vision Statement

The Students, Staff and Community of Melville High School will create a learning environment in all classrooms and in the broader school where all students are encouraged and supported in working to achieve their full potential.

School Happenings

There will be some staffing changes next term due to an adjustment in enrolment numbers. This will affect the timetable and there may be some changes to some student's classes. We will keep parents informed of this process as we get closer to finalising any changes.

It is great to see so many students have settled into their classes so well and they are engaged in

their learning. We would welcome any parents that may want to tour the school to make an appointment with the front office.

Currently some of our students are involved in developing their Personalised Learning Plans (PLP's) with the year advisors, parents/carers and staff members. It is great to see the students' parents be a part of their child's learning and help them make some future goals and plans.

The Support Unit demolition will begin this weekend and will only be conducted on the weekends. The entire process is monitored by the State Government and will be completed as soon as possible, with replacement demountables hopefully being installed soon after. Once again we thank the community and parents for their support through donations, offers of support and understanding. We also thank the NSW Police force in their efforts into the investigation.

Just a reminder that it is important that students get to school on time, 8:55, so that they can attend roll call to be marked present for the day and to hear the daily announcements. It is also important students are wearing enclosed leather shoes at school for safety reasons.

Vicki Staunton
Deputy Principal

FREEDOM RIDE 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMES TO KEMPSEY.

The original Freedom Ride came to Kempsey 50 years ago. It was a bus trip around northern NSW organised by students from Sydney University and led by the late Charles Perkins. The trip was to bring awareness to the general public the discrimination of Australian Aboriginal people. Some discrimination examples included kids not being allowed in the town pools (Kempsey), returned soldiers from WW2 not being allowed in the RSL club (Walgett) and picture theatres (Bowraville) having roped off areas for Aboriginal people. Following the Freedom Ride,

discrimination was decreased and Aboriginal people were accepted as Australian citizens following a referendum in 1967 and the road to equality had started.

The re-enactment had some of the original students on it as well as current students. The original students were given a hero's welcome when they arrived at the showground. Some of the original students spoke and shared their positive stories. Present students said they appreciated the welcome and would return. Some Elders spoke of what it was like before and after the Freedom Ride of 1965 so the younger generations can learn about history as it changed over time. This was a significant event in Australian history.

A concert was started by 2 local singers one being Amos Morris an ex Melville student and Paul Kelly and Troy Casser-Dailey followed. They all were excellent. The song "From little things Big Things Grow" has historical significance.

The organising committee of the Kempsey re-enactment suggested that Melville High have a collection for the rebuilding of the Support Unit following the fire. We thank them for thinking of us. We must thank community member Ruth Waite for her work both before and volunteering during the concert to collect money. Melville staff including Mr Hollingsworth, Mr Stewart, Mrs Coughran, Mr Scanlan, Mrs Jacobs and Mrs Hassain very willingly helped collect all the generous donations. Robyn Townsend quickly organised the banking. Over \$1000 dollars was raised which was excellent, indicating the support we have from the local community.



Photo of ex-student and Melville High Brospeak team member Amos Morris singing one of his

original songs to the large crowd including Prof Shane Houston (on left) and the Vice Chancellor of Sydney University Dr Michael Spence (on Mr Houston's right) in front row. (photo, I Denyer)



Troy Casser-Dailey and Paul Kelly at Kempsey Freedom Ride concert (photo Prof. Shane Houston)

Iven Denyer

The TAS Faculty has had a busy start to the year.

We have a few new faces in the Faculty. Mr Peter Roberts will be replacing Mr Fletcher while he is on leave. Miss Megan Hudson is replacing Mrs Drinan and Mr Smith is replacing Mrs Naylor while she is on leave.

I have had an opportunity to visit many classrooms this term and have seen all students engaged in some wonderful activities. If any parent would like to visit their child's classroom, please contact me at school to organise an appropriate time.

Miss Hudson's Yr 12 Food Technology class recently visited Ricardoes Tomatoes and Strawberries and 'The Other Chef' in Port Macquarie. The students were able to see sections of the Australian Food Industry and food manufacturing processes first hand.

Many VET students are out on work placement this week. Students are working at various businesses throughout the Macleay Valley in the fields of Construction, Hospitality, Exploring Early Childhood and Information Technology. Without the continued support of these wonderful business houses, Melville High students would not be able to gain the valuable practical experience and skills they obtain whilst out on work placement. I personally would like to extend my gratitude to these business houses.

In our next report we will have an update of the Textiles and Hospitality excursion to Sydney.



Yr 7 Timber Tech

Yr 7 Timber Tech students have started the year by developing basic skills in how to use measuring and marking tools as well as some machinery. Students have moved on from making a basic pencil holder project to a pencil box which will provide them with opportunities to gain further skills in cutting, sanding and basic assembly.



Chelsea showing off her pencil holder



Yr 11 Construction

Yr 11 Construction students have started their course with an introduction to Carpentry and Joinery Skills. Students have been 'chipping away' making an Oilstone case where they have learnt how to develop skills of planning, measuring, marking out and chiselling.



Joseph working away on his Oilstone Case.

Yr 11 Engineering Studies

Yr 11 Engineering Studies students have begun their course learning about historical developments of material use and recently began work on strengthening their Mathematical knowledge by focusing on learning about Engineering Mechanics.

Students have also been engaged in a Civil Engineering Challenge where they were set a challenge to make a structure as tall as they could using limited materials that needed to withstand the 'force' and 'mass' of Mr Roberts standing on it, without breaking.



Jeff assembling a group structure.

Yr 12 Construction

Yr 12 Construction students have been working through a Bricklaying Unit they started in Term 4 Of 2014. Recently a familiar face, Mr Fletcher came in to visit to help guide the students developing various skills.



Mr Fletcher demonstrating how to mix mortar.

2015 has started with a bang and a splinter for the woodworkers of Melville HS.

This follows hot on the heels of the wonderful successes of Yr 12 Industrial Technology 2014. The HSC students can boast of four Band 5 results and, as a class, the overall results were well above state average. The hard work and consistent efforts of this talented group are a credit to them and they all deserve praise and recognition. Special mention goes to Tom, Jarrod, Drew and Jake for their amazing projects.

The Yr 12 Industrial Technology Timber class of 2015 is currently hard at work and racing the clock to complete their practical projects and design folios by the August deadline. The students have designed some challenging and unique items in their quest for quality results. This year's Yr. 12 cohort has the honour of two girls amongst its number and both Suzy and Jessie-Anne are blazing a trail with their amazing work.

The Yr 12 Construction class have just completed the Brick and Block Laying Unit and have successfully erected a beautiful brick wall with an arch and keystone.

The Yr 11 Industrial Technology Timber class have commenced their Three Drawer Jewellery Box which features exposed dovetail joinery and

inlaid designs. Jacob, Baily and Jack lead the pack by a nose in this class.

In the junior classes students have settled into the New Year smoothly and great results and high levels of engagement are already apparent. The Kempsey Show fast approaches and Melville students will be encouraged to submit their work for judging in the pursuit of the coveted Best Junior Woodworker Exhibitor Award. Our record at the show is outstanding and this year should be no different.

Stay tuned to Melville Matters for more exciting future Woodworking news.

John Kassel

Just some of the amazing work done by Melville High School Industrial Technology Timber students



Year 7 Parent / Teacher BBQ

On Wednesday 4th March Melville High Held a Year 7 BBQ to allow staff and parents to mingle and chat in a fairly informal environment about the progress of our Year 7 students.

The evening was very well attended by all interested groups who were very well catered for by our Hospitality Unit, and entertained by Sophie, Willow, Chloe as well as others who also raised money via their performance for the Support Unit. Now that is really acting as part of a TEAM!

It was a delight to see so many people who have the interests of our students at heart given this opportunity.

DONATIONS TO MELVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORT UNIT

If you would like to make a donation for the purpose of replacing resources, not covered by the Department of Education, for the support unit at Melville High School they can be made to the account outlined below.

A/c Name: Melville High School Support Unit Rebuild Fund
BSB No: 704-189
Member No: 58014
Account No: 00050675



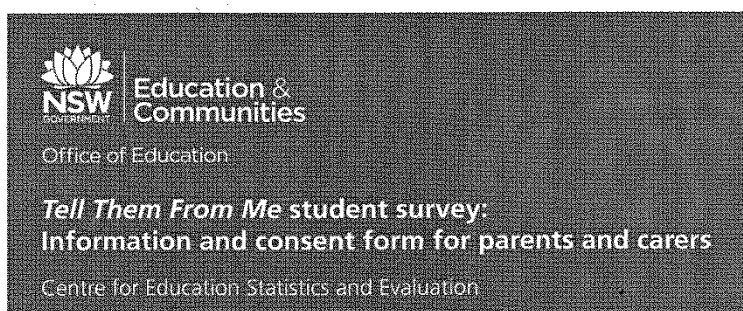
The performance will be held in Melville High School Hall on the above date and time.

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 9th March AGM
- Monday 11th May
- Monday 15th June
- Monday 10th August
- Monday 12th October
- Monday 9th November
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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.



February 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

This term, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, **The Learning Bar**, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will **not** be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will **not** be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students' personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you **do not want your child to take part** in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child's school by **Friday 13 March**.

More information about the survey and the research is available on the CESE website:
<http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

Dr Jenny Donovan
General Manager
Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS AND EVALUATION
E cese@det.nsw.edu.au www.cese.nsw.gov.au



Email: melville-h.School@det.nsw.edu.au
 Website: www.melville-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Nicholson Street, South Kempsey 2440
 Phone: 02 6562 7511 Fax: 02 6562 7405

Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

If you **do not want** your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school **by Friday 13 march 2015.**

I (print name) **DO NOT** give consent

For my child/children (print name/s).....

of roll class/es.....to participate in the **Tell Them From me student feedback survey.**

Signed:.....**Date:**.....

A member of the Macleay Educational Community of Public Schools