

# Melville Matters

A Proud Member of the Macleay Educational  
Community of Public schools

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Term 4 – Issue 5

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## Term 4

### Week 9

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Dec Clontarf Sydney  
Incentive Excursion

Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Dec Gold/Silver Excursion/  
Big Banana

### Week 10

Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Dec Presentation Night 6pm

Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Dec Yr 10 Whitecard  
Training

## Parent Online Payment is Coming to Melville High School

Parents and carers may make online payments to Melville High School using either a **Visa** or **MasterCard** credit or debit card.

**Access to the portal will be available via the school website from December 12th 2016.**

### IMPORTANT:

- Please make online payments **by 6pm the day before payment is due**. If a payment is made **after** 6pm the school will not see that payment until the second business day. **For example:-** Payment made at **7pm on Monday evening** will be on the report the school accesses on **Wednesday morning**. So it is imperative to make your payment by 6pm the day before payment is due to make sure payments for excursions etc. reach the school on time as late payment can affect cut off dates/times for events.

### TO MAKE A PAYMENT:

Click the link **Parent Online Payment** to be redirected to the **secure Westpac payment page**. You will no longer be in the Melville High School website. (If using an Apple computer, you may encounter difficulties using Safari. Please try an alternative browser.)

To make sure the correct student and payments are identified, when you access *Parent Online Payment*, you must enter:

- Student's **FULL** name (Given Name, Preferred Name, Family Name)
- Student's Year or Roll Class
- Date of Birth
- Fill in Payers details.

Where a parent/carers is paying for **multiple students** the parent should enter payments separately for each student by selecting *Make Another Payment* option, after completing the first student's transaction.

### SECURITY

- Details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. **No student's details are given to Westpac.** As a consequence, payments for each child need to be made separately. You must also enter details about the person making the payment.
- This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit details are captured in a secure manner. These details are not passed back to the school.

### How does it work? (Short summary)

- Under payment options, you enter the activity or item for which you are paying. Write a title in the Payment Description (eg. General Contribution, Yr 7 Camp, Yr 12 Graduation

dinner, Yr 10 Food Technology subject fee, etc) that will enable the school staff to match your payment with the school activity or item.

**For excursions**, write the name of the excursion plus the Receipt Code which in future will be found on the permission slip (eg **Yr 8 Camp, 044-181.**)

- Multiple items can be paid for in one transaction. There is no minimum amount applicable to online payments.
- If you have received a **Statement of Account** and wish to pay the total, you may list this as "Full payment of account" in the *Other* field, without having to list each item individually.
- You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed.

### Receipts

- You can print your own receipts and/or have the receipt emailed to your email account. This gives you immediate proof that you have paid for the item. Optionally, the Parent Online Payment Receipt number may be written on permission slips to assist the school to identify your payment.
- **The next morning**, details of the payments are passed to the school where they will be matched against your child's account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page, a further receipt will not be issued by the school.
- It is very important for parents to **keep receipts**. If parents have made an error they need to contact the School Administrative Manager immediately.
- After making an online payment, please return the excursion permission note to the box in the front office marked POP payments. This is especially important for excursion payments as permission for students to attend must be received.

### *From the Learning and Support Team*

Term 4 has been a busy time for the Learning and Support team with two new SLSOs joining our team, Susie Parsons and Kim McIntosh as well as development of programs such as Equine Therapy, Girls Group, Boys Group and Seasons for Growth.

**Equine Therapy** is a wonderful opportunity offered to some of the students for connection to self-awareness, understanding boundaries and mindfulness with the gentle nature of the ponies brought into the school on Tuesdays.



**Girls Group** brings together a selected group of students under the program recently purchased "Fearless Girls". The work is based around self-image, self-esteem and relationships.

**Boys Group** has made great contribution to the garden around the school, pruning, mulching, weeding and planting.

"Tara", Fiona's Poodle is also a fun loving personality in the room who loves to interact with the students and enhance wellbeing.



The **SLSO's** have made excellent progress with the recent Quicksmart students and supporting Mr Smith with the Focus 10 program by helping the students compile their folders and joining in the individual interview process.

### ***Introducing Melville's new Junior AECG (Aboriginal Education Consultative Group)***

Melville has recently formed a Junior AECG, consisting of three Committee members and a few helpful team members. The Committee includes:

- President – Mikayla Johnson
- Vice President – Jorja Hoskins
- Secretary – Christina Barlow

All the members are from Year 7 and are eager to lead positive changes for Melville from within this group. The other team members are girls from

both Year 7 and Year 8. More girls and boys are encouraged to be involved.

"Junior AECGs provide advice and ideas that they have rather than parents and elders telling young people what they want. The NSW Junior AECGs structure provides leadership opportunities for youth to lobby for what they want and how they want it done."

Melville's Junior AECG has decided to have its motto to be "ENCOURAGEMENT". This word aptly describes the core of what we are aiming to achieve.

The group is currently working towards its first big, fun activity for the school. So get ready Year 7 & 8, its coming for you!!

### ***From the Social Science Department***

#### ***10 Commerce***

Students in year 10 commerce have recently finished our unit on Travel. The assessment task for this, was a series of activities designed to build their understanding of the requirements of international travel including where to find travel advice, how to plan an itinerary and calculating currency conversions. These real-life skills will come in very handy when they achieve their ambitions to travel! I have enjoyed getting to know these students and look forward to seeing them continue their school careers in Year 11.

#### ***11 Business Studies***

Our year 11 Business Studies class have made the step up into the HSC course work, where the focus has shifted from Small Business in Year 11, to Big Business in Year 12. Currently we are looking at the Operations function of business. This is the area responsible for turning raw materials into the finished goods we all use as consumers every day. We have been enjoying our fortnightly revision quizzes (who knew chocolate could be so motivating!) and should all be studying hard for our first assessment at the end of the term.



### ***Careers News***

A busy year in careers is drawing to an end. The Year 12 students have started to receive early entry offers ranging from Law at the University of New England, Environmental Science at Macquarie University to local offers at CSU of a Bachelor of Education Health and Physical Education. With too many offers to list here I would like to congratulate the entire class of 2016 on a sterling effort this year. Hot on their heels are the newly crowned Year 12's who were recently introduced to University life with a visit to Southern Cross University. I must commend the students on their dress and conduct on the day it was outstanding. I must also congratulate those students completing School Based Traineeships on the commitment they showed to complete these studies while at school. And last a shout out to Elissa Burgin an ex student of Melville awarded Trainee of the Year for NSW by HVTC a state-wide training organisation.

### ***Visit to Melville by Aboriginal Artist Adam Hill***

The final workshop for the 2016 RANSW Grant hosted by Melville High School has now been completed. It was a wonderful finale to the workshop series, with our visiting guest artist, Adam Hill conducting the workshops. He is a high profile Aboriginal Political artist, from Redfern NSW. He has work exhibited worldwide, but values the opportunity to present workshops to the kids of Kempsey.

For this workshop a group of youngsters from the Clontarf Academy were selected, (22 students participated in the workshop and had the opportunity to explore new ways of expressing themselves.

Adam Hill spent 3 days at Melville doing a series of PowerPoint presentations involving art and Adam's art practice, and also had a thorough introduction to the Yidaki (didgeridoo). The students conducted a number of drawing activities, and photographic workshops. Ultimately this led to a comprehensive tuition in Graphic Design.

For Adam it was good to be at Melville High school because this area is the homeland of his people, and this gave him the opportunity to work with his distant relations. It was good for the students to

have Adam here because they get an insight into what can happen artistically in the outside world. It shows them the importance of creating the kind of art that Adam can create i.e. art that has a strong voice, and art that needs to be heard by mainstream Australia.

Adam loves doing what he does because it makes you feel good inside and it also keeps you humble and keeps you on your toes as an arts practitioner. It's kind of like dotting the "i" (no pun intended).

On a disciplinary level Adam says "What I try to instil is a modern day ceremony, whereby students participate in various levels of cultural learning in a modern sense. I try to impart elements of respect that I learned from my old people, and hopefully impact individuals who are open to embracing that respect."



**Above some of the students who attended the workshop run by Adam Hill.**

**Back L to R:** Kevin Sines, Richard Kennedy, Jamia Lawrence, Leitham Close, Selwyn Smith, Cody Kennedy, Visiting Artist Adam Hill.

**Front L to R:** Isaiah Tuiaki, Richard Dixon, Slade Vale-Donovan, Jarrah Egar-Hoskins.

### ***From the Principal***

The highlight of the academic year at any school is the annual presentation night. This will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> of December starting at 6.00pm. It is our opportunity to recognise the students who have achieved excellent results in their classes and courses, as well as those who we encourage for good efforts and trying their best. The Sporting achievement awards will also be presented as part of this evening. For those not in these special

categories the final reports will be issued in the last few days of school and will compile the results of one years' worth of work for all subjects a student has completed. These should be closely scrutinised for areas of improvement which can be the focus of personal goals in 2017.

As is the case at the end of each year we have several staff changes. Due to reduced student numbers at Melville High, the Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts position, so ably administered by Mr Alan Guihot for most of the History of Melville High, will not be staffed. The outstanding work of staff within this faculty through the time Mr Guihot has been in charge has contributed to some excellent educational experiences for the students over the years. The Art work produced, the Drama performances presented and the Musical efforts of the students are of the finest standard that you will see in any school across the state. As a school community we thank Mr Guihot for his dedication, time, and efforts to make Melville High CAPA faculty such a success.

We also will see the following long term Temporary staff leave Melville High at the end of 2016. Mr Leon Ruhl has so ably worked across Hospitality and Careers areas and has brought enthusiasm and industry experiences to our school. Mr Ruhl has also held the position of Year Advisor for the past 2 years. Ms Emily King has also worked as a teacher across many faculty areas and has also contributed to the Arts and cultural development and promotion of the Aboriginal community in this area. Megan Hudson has secured a permanent position and as an ex-student we again wish her all the best in her new role. Kylie Witchard has also left Melville High after contributing many years of hard work and dedication to the students of this school and providing extra care and support for a variety of programs. We thank all staff who have contributed to the education of students at Melville High and have been a strong part of the team which has ensured the best education for the students of this area.

The next P & C meeting will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> of December, followed by an end of year dinner. The meeting commences at 6.30pm in the Gladstone Hotel function room and all parents and carers are welcome and

encouraged to participate, please RSVP for this meeting followed by dinner to Robyn Townsend at the school.

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December all staff will complete the final extra Staff Development afternoon for the year. This will run from 3.30pm to 6.30pm and the focus will be on CPR and Anaphylaxis training. On 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017, all staff will return to work for a Staff Development Day with a focus on Wellbeing programs across the school. Students will return from Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> January.

As this is the last newsletter of the year, I would like to wish all students and families a safe and happy holiday, and thank everyone for making Melville High school the wonderful Public School that it is. The efforts of all staff and community are the reason why we receive so many positive comments about the things that happen within this school.

Jeff Hollingsworth  
Principal

### ***Melville Clontarf Academy Update*** **Teamwork and Wellbeing**

At the Melville Academy teamwork and wellbeing are about the boy's ability to work as a team and to lead healthy lifestyles. This term we've involved our students in a variety of activities in an effort to inspire them to encourage others, build camaraderie and to participate more actively in their own learning. On the field teamwork means running hard to support your mates but around the Academy it's the 1percenters. Carrying the jumpers to the bus after a game, filling water bottles, saying positive things, shaking hands or wiping down the benches after a meal are all the little things that we believe will develop these strong young men into great blokes.







## Leadership

The Melville boys are working on their leadership skills and have represented their Academy, their school and this proud region as they helped out at community working bees, primary school clinics and transition events. They've also visited Coolmore Stud in the Hunter Valley, met local businesses, and competed in football, cricket and basketball from Toowoomba to Tamworth, Singleton and Sydney. Through all these events the boy's manners and social skills have grown and we are excited to see the positive contributions that these boys will make to the Melville community in 2017.





## Education and Employment

When they sign up with the Academy boys agree to make the most of their opportunities as they strive to discover and secure the sort of work that will make them the happiest. For some that might be football but just in case it's not we develop our understanding of the link between school and work by visiting employment agencies and taking the boys to workplaces around the Macleay Valley, broadening their exposure and understanding of a range of potential work opportunities.





## Sport

In the short existence of Clontarf in the Macleay Valley the boys have been involved in a number of sports displaying a range of skills that will ultimately make them the best blokes they can be. By taking turns, playing fair, demonstrating good sportsmanship and having a go, the boys have done themselves proud. We have played football, cricket, basketball, touch footy, Oz tag, table tennis, soccer, ultimate hockey, bull rush and many more games at Melville and across the state.

