

# Melville Matters



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Term 1 – Issue 2

Tuesday, 23 February 2016

## Term 1

### Week 5

Monday 22 – Thursday 25 Feb Year 12 Wk Placement

### Week 6

Thursday 3 March

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

**Melville High School P&C AGM Meeting  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm**

## *THE SOCIAL SCIENCE FACULTY*

Teachers in the Social Science faculty would like to take this opportunity to welcome all students back to Melville High School and wish them the best for the school year ahead. There have been a few staff changes for us this year, and the staff in our faculty now include:

Matthew Smith - Head Teacher Social Science and VET

Leon Ruhl - Relieving Careers advisor (replacing Mrs Cavanagh for the year)

April Kerr (replacing Victoria Mascord for the year)

Kylie Hattensfels (replacing David Barry for the year)

Sasha Sherriff

Emily King

Rohan Kallmier (Junior Geography and Senior History)

All classes have now been issued with their assessment schedules which outline the tasks they will complete this semester and the marks allocated for each task. Most classes have also

begun work on their first assessment task or are preparing for it.

## *7J Students enjoying classes in Social Science*



*From Front to Back: Jasmin, Georgia, Ella, Alice, Angelina*



*L to R: Mia, Marley and Amielle*



*Back L to R: Dylan, Thomas, Noah, Brady. Front L to R: Eleanor, Gypsy*

**HELLO**, I'm Ms Hattenfels and I am filling in for Mr Barry this year while he is on a well-earned break. I have worked at Melville in the PDHPE faculty, but I am really enjoying the change to HSIE, and especially the chance to teach my favourite subjects Commerce and Business Studies! Of special note is our Year 11 Business Studies class with an impressive 29 students! We are currently working on our first assessment task, a Media File and Business report, looking at the influences on business. The media file is a great learning tool, encouraging our students to be aware of the events that happen around us all the time, and to consider the implications they have on business, and ultimately us all, as consumers.

### ***Extension Class 2017***

The Gifted and Talented team has begun preparing the application process for the 2017 Year 7 extension class. This successful program is now in its second year and is proving to be very popular. Students speak highly of this initiative and we have seen application numbers for this class growing each year. The application process includes students, parents and teachers completing an application form and submitting it to the school. Interested students then sit an entrance test and participate in an interview. The GATS team then collates and analyses student's performance, after which offers are made. Application forms will be delivered to all local primary schools early in Term 2. Students, who do not attend a local public primary school and wish to apply, will be able to contact the school.

### ***Australia's Population - Year 9 Geography***

How many people lived in Australia when you were born? We learnt in class this week that Australia's population has now reached 24 million. This is double the number of what it was when many of our parents were born. It was also very interesting to learn that when we are our parents' age, Australia's population is predicted to be 40 million. While this number of people seems large to us, it is even more astonishing that our second nearest neighbour, Indonesia, has almost 260 million people with only a quarter of the land size to fit them all in.

## SOCIETY AND CULTURE

HSIE at Melville offers Society and Culture as a Stage 6 course. The central goal of this subject is the development of Social and Cultural literacy and a clear understanding of the interaction of persons, societies, cultures, environments and time. HSC students also develop social and cultural research skills by completing a 5000 word Personal Interest Project (PIP) which is marked externally and worth 40% of their HSC mark in this subject. The PIP is a challenging but rewarding major piece of work and as it is a structured research project it is beneficial for those who go into further tertiary education, being similar to university style work. In 2015, Ellie received a Band 6 in the subject. She produced an interesting and informative PIP investigating the influence of romance novels on women's perceptions of ideal romantic partners and choice of contraceptive methods.

Students are able to choose any topic they desire that interests them personally and so results in a diverse range of creative research questions.

The 2016 cohort are currently working on topics including the pressures of the HSC on students, the Legalisation of Medicinal Marijuana, should Party Drug Testing be introduced in Australia, is tradition of Marriage outdated, and Teenager's views of living in blended families. We wish year 12 and Miss Kerr well as they work progressively to produce great quality PIPs for submission to the HSC Markers.

Year 7 students have been at Melville for 4 weeks and have settled in remarkably well, as the 7J comments below stand testament. Students studied two very interesting and relevant subjects from the Social Science faculty. These being Geography and Aboriginal Studies. Students undertake Aboriginal studies for four periods a fortnight for the length of the year. Geography on the other hand is study for eight periods a fortnight and is undertaken for a semester.

The students in 7J were surveyed to gauge their feelings on their first few weeks at Melville High School. There was some commonality in their responses with many indicating that they liked moving around to different classes and having a variety of teachers. The variety of food that is sold in the canteen was rated as a positive in many

comments. Most students mentioned that they enjoyed making new friends. They all mentioned that they love the subjects and singled out their favourites.

Specific comments included:

'The things I like are the teachers, the computers and the Ag farm. It is not as different as I thought it would be. It is easy to get around and remember your classes and I've kept my friends and made old friends new again'

'These few weeks has been a great experience and I have loved making new friends'

'I have really enjoyed sport.'

'Teachers and students are all very welcoming and are happy to help you if you are lost and have trouble in class.'

'It is good having your classes split up with short breaks in between. Having access to the Ag farm is a great experience.'

'Before I started high school I got to choose which high school I wanted to go to, my choice was Melville. I chose Melville because we get encouraged to learn and also I love to sing. I came to Melville because they have a lot of opportunities for me. I've been here for three weeks and I've already seen that Melville encourages music. I love most of my subjects.'

'I like the teachers – or at least the ones I've met. They are really nice and seem to have a good sense of humour. I actually expected high school to be a lot more strict, but we're free to sit where we want at lunch and in most classes. We are also free to use our phone and devices at recess and lunch.'

'On my first day of school I was feeling a whole heap of emotions, ranging from nervous to excited. But once you meet all the awesome teachers and see all your mates you don't want to leave. I am looking forward to seeing how Melville's sporting teams go as I know they will go well. Melville really is the best school to go to because you won't get your head flushed down the toilet, as at other schools you probably will'.

'I am getting used to going around the school, it is actually easy'



### ***The New Shed - Alias The New Gym at Melville High School***

Last year a proposal was successfully made to Melville P & C for funding. This funding was to construct a large industrial shed to be set up as a permanent gymnasium for all of the students and staff of Melville High. The P & C agreed to a sum of money which has been matched with a grant.

Various school staff are working with the Department of Education Planning section to plan the gym to get ready for its construction in the near future. The space will be used for PDHPE, SLR, Sports Science and Sports classes. It will also be available for use at others times during the week. There will be a mix of cardio and weights equipment to use including rowers and bikes, weight benches and machines.

This is an exciting project which should benefit all students and staff immensely.

Miss Kerr  
Social Science

### ***Years 7/8 Netball NSW Schools' Cup 2016***

The Netball NSW Schools' Cup is a round-robin carnival with 3 divisions having a "Local Day" at the Kempsey courts on March 17th, with overall winners progressing to a Schools Cup "Regional Final". If successful, then on to the Netball NSW Schools Cup State Final in September, Sydney Olympic Park!

Once again, Melville is participating in this competition and there has been a flood of eager students willing to play. The girls have had one training session already and will need to attend a selection training session on Wednesday 24/2 after school from 3:45pm to 4:45pm to be placed in appropriate teams. Unfortunately, only two teams are able to compete and so some girls won't be able to play this year. All parents and relatives are encouraged to attend the day to cheer on the girls.

**GO MELVILLE!!**

### ***Principal's Report***

In the last newsletter I promoted a major exhibition for the "Painting Country" arts project which involved staff and students from across the Macleay valley during 2015. I am happy to report that the feedback from everyone who came to view the artworks and watch the documentary was extremely positive. I know at times audiences were both laughing and crying at the significance of this project and those who participated in it. We had schools visit from Bowraville to Port Macquarie and everywhere in between and all have started thinking how they may be able to do something similar with their community. Once again, I acknowledge the great work of Uncle Bob Smith and Emily King for bringing this all together, and the financial support of Kempsey Shire council.

On Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> we held the Year 7 "meet the teacher" evening, and this was also a resounding success. We had a large number of families and staff gather in the Wutu Mutu Café area and they were very ably catered to by staff and students from the Hospitality program, led by Mrs Traycee McKay and assisted by Mr Pat Staunton, all the TAS staff and volunteer students. Once again feedback from those present was very positive and it allowed introductions and conversations to take place in a less formal setting.

In 2016 we have 3 new permanent staff members – Ms Sandy Jackson as new Head Teacher PDHPE, replacing Mr Dave Thomas, Mr Nick Domenicos in English replacing Ms Vicki Naden, and Mr Cal Kalavala in Maths and computing replacing Mrs Mary Brown. We also have several new temporary teachers across the school, Mrs Faye Aspiotis in Mathematics and Engineering, Ms Briony Young in TAS and Hospitality and Mrs Fiona Walker in Learning and Support. We welcome all the new staff to Melville High.

This year we are completing a number of consultation processes. You will find attached to this newsletter several invitations to respond. These include consultation on the MECS (community of Public schools) name and role. Please complete the hard copy or online versions of the MECS recognition survey. Also, I will include an invitation to Year 7 parents (initially) to attend a focus group evening later in term 1. It will allow parental input to the direction Melville High will take in the future. Please return the tear off slip with your child. There will be similar opportunities

for Parents from all other year groups through the year. Finally, I would invite all those who can, to come to our Aboriginal Education focus group meeting on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 1.00pm (lunch). This group also provides input to the direction the school takes to support the 186 Aboriginal students at Melville High and also the whole perspective of Aboriginal Education across the school.

Finally, our student numbers return for 2016, has resulted in a small reduction from the anticipated number submitted in August. This will allow us to maintain the majority of our current timetable with only a few changes in some classes. Unfortunately the dropping numbers is likely to lead to a reduction of 1 Head Teacher position across the school. Should we see a rise in numbers during 2016 or at the start of 2017, then the position will be retained.

Please try and attend the P & C meeting 6.30pm on 14<sup>th</sup> March, the more input to all our meetings the better and true representation of all members of the community.

Jeff Hollingsworth  
Principal



## RANGERS REGO DAYS

Don't worry you haven't missed out

### ALL PLAYERS WELCOME

No matter your skill level

**From under 6's to Seniors**

Register on-line

[www.myfootballclub.com.au](http://www.myfootballclub.com.au)

### Come along to a rego day

Size up for your uniform

**20<sup>th</sup> Feb 11pm – 2pm**

**Kempsey Macleay RSL Club**

(Complimentary voucher to Tabatinga for non-competitive ages)

**21<sup>st</sup> Feb 3pm to 5pm**

**Kempsey RSL Sports & Bowling Club**

Need more info contact: Larisa

E: [info@macleayvalleyrangers.com.au](mailto:info@macleayvalleyrangers.com.au)

M: 0407-597-375

## SOUTH WEST ROCKS SOCCER CLUB

Important dates for you to put in your diaries.

**Registration days** : Saturday 13th, 20th & 27th Feb at Seabreeze beer garden. 9 - 12noon

**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](http://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

	<b>FREDO SPURS FC</b>		
	<b>INFO DAY: FEB 13, 20, 27 SAT</b>		
	<b>VENUE: FLANAGAN ST, FREDO</b>		
	<b>TIME: 10AM - 1PM</b>		
<b>CONTACT: 0431268123</b>			
<b>REGISTER AT MYFOOTBALLCLUB.COM.AU</b>			

EMAIL - [fredospursfc@gmail.com](mailto:fredospursfc@gmail.com)

FACEBOOK - FREDERICKTON HOTSPUR FOOTBALL CLUB

## MECS Recognition Survey

Survey address: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCPLW7D>

Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey. Your contribution will provide us with the important information needed to help us to celebrate the wonderful achievements of your children and our students into the future.

- 1) Have you heard of MECS before?
- 2) If you have heard of MECS, could you please describe what you think MECS does?
- 3) Who do you think are members of our MECS group?
  - Only Macleay public primary schools
  - Only Macleay public high schools
  - All Macleay public schools
  - All Macleay public and private schools
- 4) "MECS" actually stands for "Macleay Educational Community of Schools" and consists of all public primary and high schools in the Macleay. Independent schools are not members of this group.

The purpose of MECS is to provide our students the fullest range of opportunities and our staff the best professional learning from across our 17 schools. MECS is responsible for a number of highly valued initiatives.

Due to the significance of MECS and its benefit to local students we are considering the option of a name change. From the list below, could you select the name you think is the most ideal for our group or suggest one or your own.

- Macleay Educational Community of Schools
  - Macleay Schools
  - Macleay Public Schools
- 5) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Educational Community of Schools" as our name, please comment why you think it is suitable or otherwise.
  - 6) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Schools" as our future name, please comment on why you think this name is suitable or otherwise.
  - 7) Thinking specifically about "Macleay Public Schools" as our future name, please comment on why you think this name is suitable or otherwise.

