

Melville Matters



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Term 3– Issue 3

Monday, 29 August 2016

Term 3

Week 8

Mon 5th- Fri 9th Sept Yr 10 Science VALID

Week 9

Wed 14th Sept P&C Meeting 6.30pm

Social Science & LaST

Year 11 Aboriginal Studies have been working on an assessment task, involving research about a significant Aboriginal person, and actions they have taken during their lifetime, involving their heritage and identity as an Aboriginal person.

Here is one such response, including the questions and answers provided by our Elder in Residence at Melville High School – Uncle Bob Smith.

Q. What are the big changes you've seen in your lifetime, in regards to the lives, freedoms and opportunities for Aboriginal people in Australia?

"I wasn't politically aware as a young bloke. Other blokes I knew were involved in politics and Aboriginal Rights, and were called activists at that time. They included Charlie Perkins, Chicka Dickson, Gary Foley, Gary Williams, Faith Bandler and Herbert Groves, Paul Coe, Bobbi Sykes, Isabelle Coe, Norma Ingram and Michael Anderson."

"I remember the day the 1967 Referendum was held, and helped out on the day, but at that time had no idea what it meant for our people. My parents had been given "dog tags" and were therefore granted exemption from the segregation laws when I was growing up. They were allowed to vote. I knew that we weren't allowed to attend the local swimming pool, but I didn't really care

because the river was so much more beautiful anyway."

There have been many changes over Uncle Bob's lifetime, including the acceptance of Land Rights, the handing back of Wave Hill on Gurinji Country, the passing of the native Title Act, the debunking of Terra Nullius and the acceptance of Eddie Mabo's unbroken link to his ancestral lands. Gough Whitlam was the Prime Minister who created the first National Aboriginal Congress and the department of Aboriginal Affairs, and the Apology to members of the Stolen Generation given by Kevin Rudd. These events have brought about significant changes for Aboriginal people.

Q. What has motivated you to work here at Melville High School.

"I really hope to help at least some of our students change their attitudes about the future, opportunities, and their role in the world."

"Education is the foundation for your future. Who do you want to be? Do you want to have a home, a car, a job, holidays etc. You can't blame the white fellas for where you are. We all make our own decisions. You have to accept responsibility for your decisions and your action. This needs to be reinforced time and time again. If you want to be the class clown, you need to accept the consequences of your actions."

"Some kids haven't realised that this is the best time of their life. School is a place where you set yourself up. Make the most of it. Don't waste it."

Q. What do you see as the greatest challenge to cultural maintenance in the Macleay valley and the Dunghutti Nation?

"Many young people don't know who they are or where they come from, or even who their mob is."

They may know the names of a few people, but if you don't know who you are, and your heritage, how you can show respect for culture, and learn your culture. Respect for this process would include listening to your elders, and learning where as a people we have come from in terms of social and legal justice."

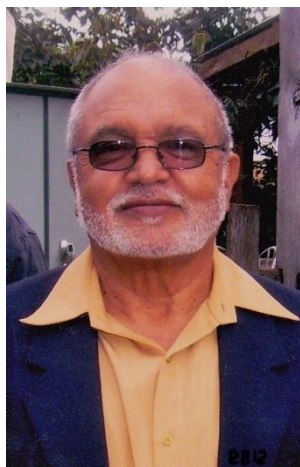
"The scourge of excessive alcohol and drugs being used in our community is probably the biggest single destructive force to culture and well-being that we are faced with. Our young people seem to have a "me, me, me" focus, and only a few have an interest in what was. Without the "what was", the "what is" becomes blurred—and we lose sight of "what could be"."

"The cycle needs to be broken — we need education to be the focus and see culture regain its importance and be the motivation.

Uncle Bob at age 16 at the time of the "1967 Referendum"



Uncle Bob as he is today



The University of Melbourne

Leroy Fernando's Murrup Barak Experience and Leadership Camp 2016.

The University of Melbourne's 2015 - all expenses paid National Experience Camp program has been extended to include a full day leadership experience enabling students to combine their exploration of the range of opportunities on offer at the University of Melbourne with an introduction to leadership. The camp was offered over 4 days (3 nights), which commenced on the evening of 29 June in Melbourne and ending on 2 July 2016.

The Leadership Program aims to equip Indigenous scholars with the skills to lead themselves and their communities to address the problems facing our society as a whole. This program ran from 2 July – 3 July 2016 and was eligible to students who are studying subjects to achieve a University score that has the potential to be greater than 75.

This year, Melville High's very own Year 11 student, Leroy Fernando applied and was subsequently selected to attend this camp!

His thoughts of this experience:

"It was an absolutely amazing experience, the program, the Uni, the staff and places we went to. It was a pretty big eye opener. Not just about what and where I'll go but also culturally. I would highly recommend the Murrup Barak experience to anyone!"

Last Newsletter we mentioned Ajay Rix had been selected to attend the UBS Finance Academy in Sydney. He has since been and found it a very rewarding experience that other students should attend if they have the opportunity.

"The Academy started Monday the 11th of June and lasted 5 days. During the week I stayed on campus at Dunmore Long College in Sydney. Every day was jam packed with different opportunities to learn about the jobs involved in the finance industry, from different presentations delivered by UBS employees, to speaking with them one on one at a Canapé function. Other events and activities included going through the Myers Briggs program, attending the Art Gallery of NSW, and a tour of an American new studio (CNBC). The highlight for me was touring the UBS trading floor and watching all the action unfold in

person and just experiencing that sort of working environment”

From the Principal

Hello, I am very happy to report funding recently announced by Member for Oxley, Melinda Pavey, for the construction of a Fitness centre within Melville High School. The cost will be shared between the Melville High P & C and State Government and will provide a wonderful modern training centre for all our Students, Staff and Community. See the link to the story elsewhere in the newsletter.

On 17th August, for the first time, staff made themselves available for a second Parent / Teacher night at South West Rocks. We have received many positive comments from Parents and Carers from this part of the school area and are now evaluating how we may improve this for future evenings. If you have any thoughts, please let us know, so we can incorporate all opinions into our planning.

Year 12 have now completed the HSC trial exams and are in the final few weeks of revision or course completion. There are many staff available to support students with their “last minute” tasks and any concerns that may or usually arise. Please contact the school if your child needs any assistance to complete the HSC.

We have had several parents contact the school for advice related to social media, cyber safety or online issues away from the school environment. Last week we had a visit from Brainstorm productions who entertained students from Year 10 and 11 with the “Cyberiea” performance, generated many questions from our students and provided many answers to safer online presence. To support this, Senior Constable Steve Jeffery will also be presenting the legal side of the Cyber safety message to students from all junior years.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, Parents and carers are reminded of the importance of keeping the school informed about student medical details. Please note the details required as we have some students with serious Health concerns which require specific Health management plans.

Also recently, I have spoken at the assembly about the benefit to the whole school of setting a good image within the community. I remind all students that whether travelling to school or home or while on an excursion, they represent the school and when wearing the uniform they must ensure they do it RIGHT at all times, because the reputation they earn will benefit all members of the school community. I congratulate the majority of students who are proud to be from Melville High and do many wonderful things which bring the school great credit, well done.

Jeff Hollingsworth
Principal

A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child’s health

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Jeff Hollingsworth
Principal

Funding boost for local school infrastructure



From Left: Jeff Hollingsworth - Principal, Debbie Portelli - P&C President, Blair Wise, Josh Hughes, Sam Applegate, Melinda Pavey - Member for Oxley, Beau Docherty - Clontarf Foundation. Front Ashley Allman

Melville High School will have a fitness learning space constructed after the State Government announced a funding increase in NSW school infrastructure.

Member for Oxley Melinda Pavey welcomed the funding which will improve facilities for local students.

"As part of the program to be rolled out in Oxley, a fitness learning space will be constructed at Melville High School under a joint funding arrangement," This will be an important addition to Melville High's infrastructure and education facilities."

"The NSW Government will spend \$554 million in 2016/17 – an increase of 37 per cent on last year's expenditure, Mrs Pavey said. *(Article from The Macleay Argus)*.

Melville Education Head Quarters

Assessment – Curriculum – Welfare

Welcome to the second half of Term Three. This edition of Melville HQ focuses on Assessment and, for students, how it may relate to yourself or, for parents, your child. A new resource has been developed by BOSTES (Board of Studies,

Teaching and Educational Standards) to assist parents to understand how schools are structured, how curriculum is determined and what teacher qualifications are now required with the new Accreditation procedures being implemented. It is beneficial for parents to familiarise themselves with these details so as they are in a more informed position and better able to be an integral part of their child's **INDUSTRIOUS TEAM**.

There are many items on this website (<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/parents/>) which may be of particular interest to parents and it has direct links to information:

For parents of teenage children (Years 7–10)

For parents of teenage children (Higher School Certificate)

Parents' Associations

Frequently Asked Questions

This is an excellent resource for all parents and students as it provides information on the RoSA and the HSC as well as providing links to all areas of the curriculum.

For those parents about to support their child through the HSC Examinations and for current parents of Year 10 and 11 students, a must read are the websites on the procedures of the HSC, including assessment, HSC examinations, illness and misadventure and the different pathways available to students as well other links on how you can support your child through this difficult and stressful time.

Remember, while there is a great deal of emphasis placed on the students to make **HEALTHY** choices in terms of their education, the benefits that supportive parents can give their children, by being part of their **TEAM**, are undeniable. This support will undoubtedly assist your child in **GROWING** into the best student that they can be.

Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 6562 7511 and ask to speak to the relevant Year Advisor, Deputy Principal or the Careers Advisor.
Skills to Work Assignments

Jayden Moore



Jayden Moore trains in archery at a local club just out of Kempsey, Brenton Rd – State forest. He started 2 years ago in March-2014. He has won first in NSW and in ABA - Australian Bow Hunters Association, and he has also come

first place in the 3D branch in Northern NSW, class-freestyle, Unlimited-Juniors.

He trains and shoots almost every Saturday and uses an elite pure which is a bow that he uses and he says its "best round for its shoot - ability". You don't have to have a license to shoot but you need to be a member of ABA in order to compete in competitions or join clubs. The clubs can supply bows for newcomers if needed. The competitions are mostly up and down the coast of NSW but there are clubs all around Australia.

When they go shooting in the state forest some of the targets come in different shapes and sizes. Here are some examples. The IFFA is a round circle with the bullseye centre part, 3D targets of an animal, Bults-plastic filled bag and ABA flat target with a painted animal on it. They have a Facebook page if anyone is interested, Macleay Valley archery.

Australia is holding the IFFA - International Field Archery Association in the world titles on Monday, 26 September, at Wagga Wagga Field Archers in 2016.

Written by Saxon Lowe

John Holmes



John Holmes is a year 11 student at Melville High. John started taking a course to referee in soccer at age 13. This is the earliest age you are allowed to and he started to referee straight away. He does it for the club in South West Rocks and gets paid to referee. Refereeing a game

usually nets you 10 dollars for younger games and 40 to 80 dollars for older games. John says it's easy and fun. He referees every second Wednesday and plays soccer himself in his free time.

To referee you need basic medical training like how not to move someone who has a broken limb. Reporting serious incidents is mandatory as well

as staying calm as to avoid fights with spectators or players. Keeping up with the game means you need to be fit and able to run up and down the field while keeping an eye on the ball.

John says he has never had a fight on the field and hopes he never will. John has played soccer for other teams like Kempsey. He enjoys both refereeing and playing and he definitely recommends it to others.

By Ethan Edgar

Jamie-Lee Delmas



Jamie-lee Delmas is a student at Melville High School, she started Martial Arts at age seven. The motivation and inspiration towards doing Martial Arts was that she found it interesting, it looked fun to do and she was interested in self-defence. She is obviously happy with her choice, as she has

done it for seven years and has intentions to continue to do it for years to come.

She has extensive training and is still learning more. She does not have a hero or anyone that she looks up to, and she would recommend trying a form of Martial Arts for yourself. It is good to know that there are people in our school doing great things in the community, and to know that we can all do things like this, and join groups like these.

Jamie-lee trains with her San Chi Kai club twice a week for two hours. Bill Wolvey is the instructor for the club. She enjoys these sessions because all levels of skill participate at the same time. Jamie-Lee competes regularly in local and state tournaments. The tournaments are usually divided into divisions based on gender, age and belt. She has achieved some great results from these competitions.

VALID is a state-wide testing of Science in Years 8 and 10. VALID is conducted online.

Dates for VALID are:

Year 10: 5th September – 9th September (Week 8. Term 3)

Year 8: 2nd November- 11th November (Weeks 4 - 5. Term 4)

All students will be registered for the exam and have a trial practice to familiarise themselves with the process prior to the online exam.