

Melville Matters

A Proud Member of the Macleay Educational
Community of Public schools

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Term 4 – Issue 3

Tuesday, 21 November 2017

Term 4

Week 9 T

Tues 5th Dec - Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day

Week 10

Wed 13th Dec - Presentation Evening

Principal's Report

This will be my final message to the Melville High School Community as I have reached the decision to retire from teaching after 38 years serving the NSW Public at various schools across all areas of the state. I leave Melville High with fond memories of the Students, and Community and proud of the achievements that have taken place over the past 4 years since I commenced as Principal.

This week the Director for Mid North Coast Schools, Mr John Baker, has advertised for a new Principal to fill the position from the beginning of 2018. I have taken my long service leave confident in the leadership of Mrs Staunton and the school Executive team while on my leave and I am also confident that the new Principal will uphold the strengths of the NSW Public School system. I thank all the staff for their dedication and have found they are among the best in the state and I thank them for their continued efforts on behalf of the students of Melville High School. I also would like to thank the P & C and community for their support and interaction as it is vital for the school to be able to best serve the needs of the students we teach. I wish everyone a productive future and hope that the programs and decisions that have been implemented lead to students reaching their full potential in our society. Melville High has a strong history of academic success and continues to provide the best education available for the students of the Macleay Valley through the Public school system. There has also been increasing variety of options made available to the students who do not choose the path to University and we

have seen increased success for students leaving school with alternate options for their future. The strength of the school lies in the caring and support shown by the dedicated staff across the entire school to every student to ensure that their concerns and needs are fully attended to.

I will continue to follow the success of Melville High even though my direct daily connection will change. I look forward to seeing the achievements of the students in all forms of endeavour and as productive members of our community. Once again thank you for the opportunity to serve this community, best wishes.

Regards

Mr Jeff Hollingsworth
Principal

Relieving Principal's Report

It is with great sadness that a long time employee of Melville High School, Kerry Fisher, sadly lost her battle with brain cancer on Monday evening. She was very active and well respected member of the Melville community and she will be greatly missed. Our condolences go out to her families and friends.

What a wonderful evening on Wednesday night at the Year 12 formal. The Year 12 students looked absolutely stunning and handsome for their final event with Melville High School. It was a fantastic evening at South West Rocks Country Club. I wish all Year 12 students the best with their future careers. I would like to thank Traycee McKay, Pat Staunton, Rohan Kallmier, Kylie Hattenfels and Barb Coughran for their efforts in the event management. There is always much more that goes on behind the scenes for these events to be successful. Our student leaders did a great job hosting the evening and Year 11 Hospitality

students served the meals. As always they demonstrated their excellent skill levels and represented the school proudly.

I would like to congratulate Corazon Garcia-Kytola for having her major Textiles and Design work selected in TexStyle, an exhibition of the top projects in New South Wales HSC works. This is a first for a Melville High School student and indicates the high standard of work being completed in this course. Congratulations to Traycee McKay for guiding her through as her Textiles teacher.

On Tuesday evening I attended the West Kempsey Rotary Citizenship Awards where Zac Williams received the award for Melville. A very deserving recipient, he is always willing to help others and demonstrates to the highest standards the qualities of a well-respected citizen. It is great to see community organisations recognising the wonderful qualities in our young people.

I would like to remind all students and their families that the use of mobile phones in the classroom is banned, especially filming staff and students and then uploading this onto social media. This is unacceptable behaviour, even with a student's permission to do so. Not only is it against the law and the school it is often a subtle form of bullying, especially when comments are made on the posts. Incidents of this nature will be dealt with seriously to ensure everyone's safety at school.

Victoria Staunton
Relieving Principal

English Faculty

In 8J English this semester, the students have been hard at work on a Space Travel module. As a part of that module, students were required to compose a piece of science fiction creative writing and an accompanying picture book adaptation. Below are some samples from different texts composed by the class.

Lapse – by Angelina Burke

I felt the beat of my heart intensify, a thousand buffalo hooves thundering away from danger all trapped in my chest, unable to escape. My breathing was sharp, ragged and shallow, the effect amplified by my constricting, skin-tight under suit, which also made my hands wobble spasmodically as if I had Arthritis. To make matters worse they were drenched in sweat making it impossible to focus my thoughts or even do any of my tasks successfully. My eyes scanned the laboratory room. Machinery was occupying every spare space that wasn't being used by scientists busily travelling between computer desks like worried ants before a storm, building the tension and anxiousness until it was thick and suffocating even a sword couldn't cut through it. My nostrils were filled with the wafting odour of the musty suit. I tried comprehending that this is what I would be smelling for another hour or so. It made my throat uncomfortably dry, so I grabbed the water bottle on the table beside me and took a deep sip to try and suppress that horrible consuming feeling that was coming over me.

The Deceiver- by Alice Holmes

I blinked awake as the sun blinded my eyes and my alarm sent a ringing through my head. I slapped my bedside table on a voyage to find my phone. Eventually my fingers stumbled upon charger cable which was a map to my phone. The light which shone from the screen made my head feel like it was a cymbal being played. Twenty – seventh of July. Why did that date remind me of something?

Space Bar- by Lachlan Munday

We look around the next hall and there is no one there. Jim whispers, "His room is the third from the end on the right," which is way down the hall on other side. We creep from doorway to doorway when we get a couple of doors away, four guys walk out of the Delta Leader's room with blood all over them. They're high-fiving and congratulating each other and all head away from us. We sneak into the room and see the leader lying on his back on the floor in a pool of blood. Jim kneels down and shakes him by the shoulder. After a few seconds of deathly silence he coughs and starts

pointing to the underside of the bed. There is a laptop there. "It's a weapon," he croaks, "It can blow the planet up into tiny pieces. I want you two to deliver it to this location". He hands over a slip of paper and gestures for us to go.

Time Travel- by Olivia Waide

The excruciating bright light flashes before my now stunned eyes, then the world goes into sudden darkness. At first all I can feel is my fingers tingle, it's like they have pins and needles, then in a millisecond my whole body is awakened with the same buzzing feeling. My whole body is stimulated, it feels like I've just taken the most powerful drug ever created, it's so thrilling. I feel more alive than I ever have before. I'm also scared; I can smell my own fear as it overpowers the smell of the metal barricaded around me. My hearts beating so hard and fast against my chest, it's as though it no longer wants to be inside my body. The way I'm feeling is completely in human, no human has ever done this. In a sudden instant, in a blink of an eye, I'm standing in the middle of a shopping centre. It takes me a few seconds to get my head straight and when I do, it clicks; I just became the first person to ever travel through time to visit the future.

Support Unit Snap Shot Term 4

An excursion to the Big Banana Coffs Harbour was an exciting day for all students in the Support Unit. We have been welcoming year 6 students for transition days as they get to know the school and are introduced to new friends before they become Year 7 students in 2018.

We have some very excited students and staff who head off to School Spectacular in Week 7. The week will be exhausting with two days of rehearsals before two performances each day on the Friday and Saturday. I think it will be a quiet trip home on Sunday.

Week 9 is our camp at Delicate Nobby's. This should be a packed filled few days of sun, surf, fun and games. It is a great time for our students to

learn those extra curricular skills in real life settings.

***Leanne Weatherhead* Head Teacher Support**



Jake, Jacoba, Jai, Kane, Krissie & Joshua D



Jayden



Tarryn & Brodie



Krissie



Our School Spectacular group: Monique, Jake, Joshua, Abby, Jacoba, Zac, Clayton, Jade