



# Balcatta Bulletin

## Issue 1 2018

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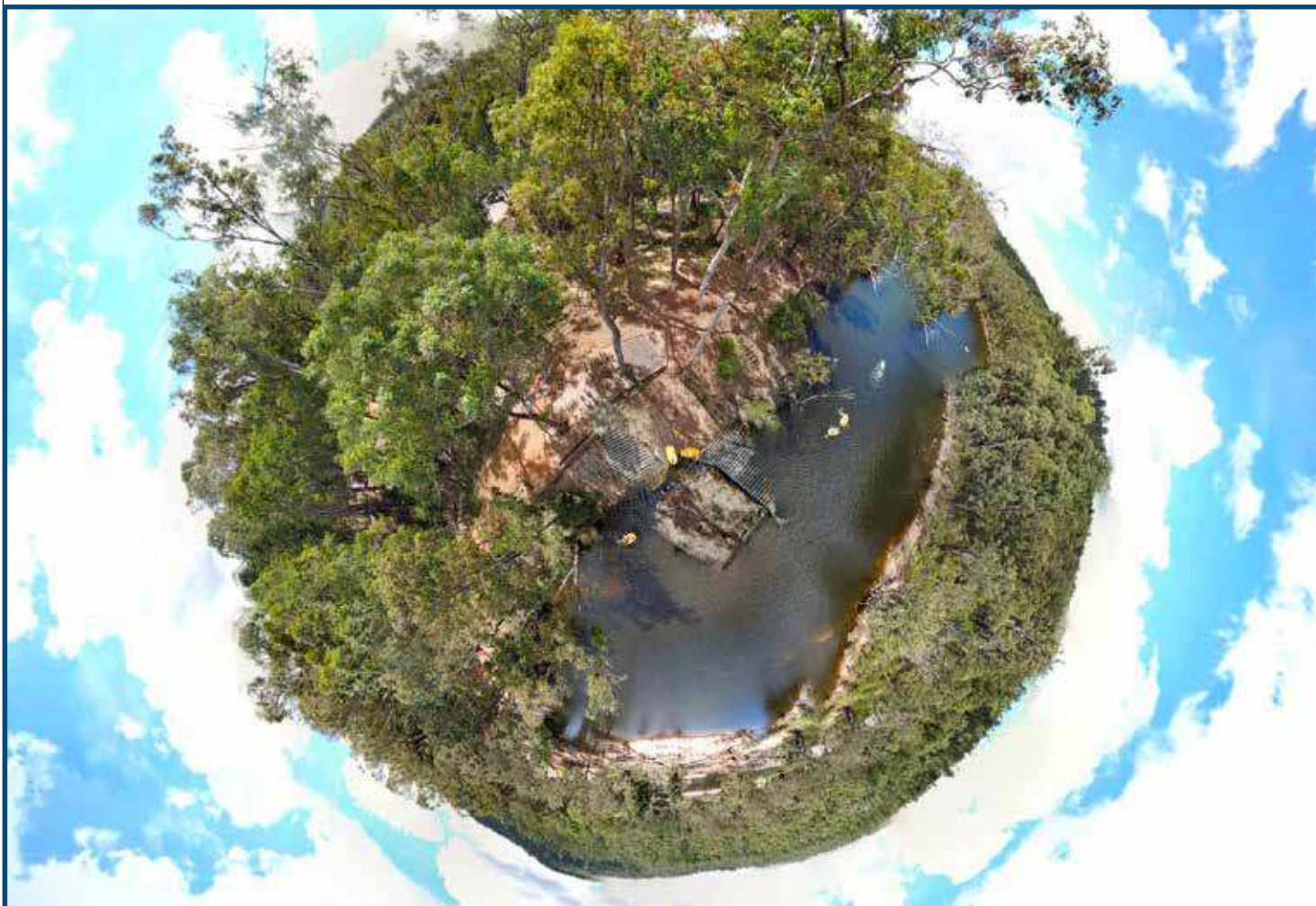
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## From the Principal

Each year it is important to restate the important core values of the school: Respect, Unite and Excel. These are more than just words; at Balcatta Senior High School we put these values into action every day in every classroom.

We are also pleased to have welcomed a new group of Year 7 students into the school and other new students who have enrolled in other year groups. We are particularly pleased at how well the new students have settled into the school, and we continue to encourage all students to do their best academically, socially and in their physical activities. Balcatta Senior High School offers a variety of different pathways to students to help them achieve and reach their full potential. All of our courses provide an engaging, challenging and creative curriculum that gives each and every student the opportunity to achieve his or her potential. We also look forward to the exciting and creative work of our special Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students.

### Student Success

Congratulations to our 2017 Year 12 students on their results in both ATAR and VET studies. There were many successes in the 2017 results. One of our students Ruthvik Devarapalli achieved an outstanding ATAR of 99.5 which placed him in the top 1% of ATAR achievement in the state. Our attainment rate of 98% was excellent. 89% of our students achieved a Certificate II or higher in their VET studies. Seven students achieved an ATAR of over 80, with 13% of our Year 12 ATAR students performing in the top third of the state.

Special mention and congratulations to those students who were acknowledged by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority for the following awards:

**ATAR 95+:** Riya Amin, William Chiew, Ruthvik Devarapalli  
Certificates of Distinction: William Chiew, Shannon Muggeridge  
Certificates of Merit: Riya Amin, Tahnee Brookes, Jessica Cameron, Ruthvik Devarapalli, Giada Liberti, Renaz Mizori, and one student who chose not to have their name published.

### Student Leadership

Student leaders are an important part of our community at Balcatta Senior High School. They take on many roles around the school, provide role models for the younger students, officiate at many school functions during the year and represent the student body on decision-making within the school.

I had the pleasure of interviewing the Year 12 Prefects and was

very impressed with their leadership qualities, maturity, positive attitudes and their willingness to engage in and represent the school and the students. Ana Rychlak and Robert Kolli have been elected as Head Prefects and are supported by Alicia Gregg, Simon Naumoski and Isaac Milner. We look forward to a successful year as this fine group of young adults carry on the important tradition of leadership at Balcatta Senior High school.

### Community Events

This term there have been a number of events that have provided an opportunity to meet with parents and caregivers of our students, to outline the school's activities and operations and more importantly, discuss their child's progress. The school hosted an enjoyable and successful pool party and we were delighted that we were able to meet many parents informally at the start of the year. This was followed by our successful and well-attended parent information evenings for Years 7 to 12 where parents were able to find out more about the school, its facilities, the courses offered and to meet members of the administration team and teachers.



**Years 7 and 8 students enjoying the Pool Party**

Harmony Day is a special and important day on the school calendar. It is on this day, 21 March, that staff, students and the whole community acknowledge and celebrate our cultural diversity. At Balcatta Senior High School, we take special pride in our cultural community and pay respect to the wealth of their cultural, religious and ethnic diversity. This year's activities focused particularly on our Year 7 students and included dance sessions, Faces of Balcatta, black and white photography portraits, Music World, My Story and Harmony Wings created by the Arts Department.

### Academic Performance

As Term 1 comes to an end, it is important for students (and their parents) to reflect on their progress. Getting off to a good start academically is very important and I am pleased with the effort teachers have made in Term 1 to ensure all students are getting sound teaching and learning. Interim reports were sent out during the term and parents were invited to separate meetings with staff for Years 7 to 12 students to discuss their child's progress and achievement in Term 1. These sessions were well-attended and we were delighted to receive positive feedback and many questions from parents about what their son/daughter has achieved to date, and the important things they needed to do from this point to continue to improve their results.

### Inaugural Music Program

The Years 7 and 8 Music and the Year 11 Certificate II in Creative Industries (Music) courses are underway in the school for the first time this year, with full classes. This is a very exciting new program at the school and includes voice, guitar and band combinations. Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS) are providing tutors for the students and these have already commenced and are being well-received by the students. Students have already performed successfully to full houses in



the Performing Arts Theatre on Harmony Day and many more performances are planned for future school events.



**Performance by Stefan Minic, Symon Legacion and Jason Shore**

### **School Upgrade**

In 2017, the State Government announced a \$50 million upgrade for the school. Planning is underway to upgrade and improve the facilities. To date, there have been three meetings with Hassell architects and representatives from the Department of Education. The school has also been provided with sketch drawings, a project plan and a schematic design for the new facilities and buildings. It is hoped that Balcatta Senior High School will be in a position to enable future growth of our student population to 1,075 students. The rebuilding will provide state of the art facilities and refurbishment of the heritage status buildings. The key stakeholders in the project include the School and School Board, the Heritage Council of WA, the Department of Finance, Building, Management and Works, the City of Stirling, the Project Design Team and the Balcatta community.

The first stage of this building process is proposed to commence in 2019. More updates will follow as the plan and timelines are finalised.

### **Gifted and Talented Visual Arts**

2019 marks the 40th anniversary of our Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Program at Balcatta Senior High School. This program has a long, distinguished creative history at the school and has many eminent graduates from the program in the community and across Australia. Planning is underway to commemorate this important anniversary where we will be able to meet and celebrate with current students and their parents and former students of this program. Further details will become available on the school's website in the coming months.

I look forward to an exciting and productive year, working with the School Board, staff, students and the parent community in offering the best personal education to each and every one of our students. There are many plans and activities on our calendar for 2018 and it very important that we, as a community, keep our strong focus on the important academic, physical, emotional and personal well-being of all our students.

Helen Maitland  
Principal

## **Prefects visit Government House**

The Commonwealth Day Youth Harmony Program is organised through the Royal Commonwealth Society WA, which is celebrating their 150th anniversary this year.

The WA Branch focus is on opportunities for youth by preparing young people to be better equipped members of the community in which they live, work and serve for a long time beyond their school years.

WA Branch activities include:

- Commonwealth Day - Multi-Faith Observance
- Commonwealth Day Youth Harmony Program
- The RCS WA Branch Speech and Leadership Contest
- WA Day Flag Raising and Cadet Parade

Each year a theme is chosen for the Commonwealth Day with events to mark the day and they also assist in guiding activities by Commonwealth organisations throughout the year. This year the theme is 'Towards a Common Future'.

Balcatta Senior High School was invited to participate in this special event on Tuesday 20 March. The Year 12 Prefects, Ana Rychlak, Robert Kollie, Alicia Gregg and Simon Naumoski attended the special Commonwealth Day Youth Harmony Program along with Mrs Helen Maitland. The program was opened by Her Excellency, the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC, Governor of Western Australia and included performances and speeches from a number of schools. The official launch of the RCS Speech and Leadership Contest was presented by Professor Lyn Beazley AO, FTSE, CIE (Aust), WA Australian of the Year 2015. The event was held at the Government House Ballroom and we felt very privileged to be a part of this special event.



**Prefects at Government House**

# School Ball

On 16 March the school ball for Senior School students was held at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Perth. The theme of the ball this year was 'Masquerade' and students and staff entered into the spirit of the evening with some unusual and exciting masks. The students were extremely well-behaved and were a credit to our school. There was some excellent dancing on the night with students and staff enjoying the evening tremendously.

Belle of the Ball – Annalise Foley

Beau of the Ball – Tyler Te Mana

Best Couple – Pandora Eleche and Michael Gonzales

Best Dancer – Daniel Sorani

Best Dressed – Micaela Resurreccion and Robert Kollie

Prince – Seth Batten

Princess – Jaryn Caruana

Duke of the Ball – Mr Cameron Farmer

Duchess of the Ball – Ms Kristina Balic



**Belle and Beau of the Ball – Annalise Foley and Tyler Te Mana**



**Best Couple - Pandora Eleche and Michael Gonzales**



**Sourav Rawat, Stefan Minic, Luka Stjepanovic, Oscar Choi and Jimmy Chen**



**Kayla McGlade, Amber Fleming, Gareem Aquino, Shairyn Legacion, Ivana Spanja and Seth Batten**



**Calista Drobnjak, Indi Ravindran and Ana Rychlak**



**Ms Tess Curtis, Mr Kevin Fraser, Mrs Jo Keep, Mr Hal Schmiedte and Mrs Helen Maitland**



**Wyatt Fraser (partner of Abi), Abi Sun, Micaela Resurreccion and Ronniel Borile (partner of Micaela)**

# New Staff

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**Kevin Fraser, Associate Principal**



**Grant Edwards, Manager Student Services**



**Sharlene Sookraj, Head of Learning Area English and HaSS**



**Michael Aird, Mathematics teacher**



**James Cutler, Mathematics teacher**



**Regan Jarvis, Education Assistant**



**Manoj Joy, Mathematics teacher**



**Laurie Nunes, Mathematics teacher**



**Muktesh Vig, Mathematics teacher**



## Lara Filocamo

Lara is a former student of Balcatta Senior High School and has recently visited the school as a representative for the Act-Belong-Commit program. Lara was invited to speak to Ms Kirsty Johnson's Health Studies class. She has also spoken with Year 7 students and Years 11 and 12 students on the subject of Mental Health as well as speaking at other schools. Lara has been suffering with a mental illness for a long time until diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder in 2017. She currently works as an Emergency Department nurse and has written an autobiography which is currently in the hands of her publisher.

Fremantle picked Lara with their fourth selection and 29th overall in the 2016 AFL Women's draft. Lara finished fourth in the 2017 AFLW Fairest and Best, having a very good season playing as an inside midfielder and third in Fremantle's Fairest and Best. This has been an amazing achievement for her.



**Year 7 students with Lara Filocamo**



**Year 11 Health Studies class with Lara Filocamo**

## Ari Gillespie

Year 12 Perspectives 2017 is an exhibition of art by some of the best, brightest and most talented graduating high school artists in the State. Last year, a former Year 12 Visual Arts student Ari Gillespie had his work, 'Iwanoff Series: Paganin and Schmidt-Lademann' selected.

This is a diptych series of prints and mixed media works which celebrates the work of the architect Iwan Iwanoff. We look forward to seeing his work on show at the Art Gallery of WA from Saturday 17 March to Monday 16 July 2018.



**Ari Gillespie with his artwork**

## City of Stirling's Youth Advocates

City of Stirling have selected Year 11 students, Elroy Gelok and Suhasi Patel as part of a group of enthusiastic young adults as Stirling's Youth Advocates for the Youth Advisory Committee. They are part of a committee, responsible for planning events for National Youth Week commencing on 14 April 2018. Their aim is to bring together young people from this locality for a fun afternoon of events including the organisation of local talent who are in performing groups from schools or clubs. There will be food trucks and bubble sumo wrestling followed by a movie at the outdoor cinema. Elroy, Suhasi and the other committee members attended a dinner with the City of Stirling Mayor, Mark Irwin on Wednesday 21 March. They were also representatives during a breakfast meeting with the Rotary Club on Tuesday 27 March.



**Elroy Gelok and Suhasi Patel**

# People

## Student Councillors elected

Year 7 – election results not available until Term 2.

Year 8 – Marina Minic, Ethan Litchfield, Kaitlyn Pope and Izahry Fortun.

Year 9 – Condoleezza Deada and Jessica Santich

Year 10 – Franchesca Mojica and Seth Dropulic-Sokmas

Year 11 – Ana Denona, Christian Rodriguez-Rivera, Abbey Rigby and Hannah Okumu.

The Years 9 and 10 students had the privilege of being shown how the process of how elections are conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission.



Year 9 student, Doyo Doyo submitting his vote



Year 9 student, Theolin Govender submitting his vote



The AEC showing Year 10 students the election process



Marina Minic, Year 8



Ethan Litchfield, Year 8



Kaitlyn Pope, Year 8



Izahry Fortun, Year 8



Condoleezza Deada, Year 9



Jessica Santich, Year 9



Franchesca Mojica, Year 10



Seth Dropulic-Sokmas, Year 10



Ana Denona, Year 11



Christian Rodriguez Rivera, Year 11



Abbey Rigby, Year 11



Hannah Okumu, Year 11



# Events Around

## Harmony Day

On Wednesday 21 March, our Year 7 students enjoyed a variety of activities to celebrate the significance of embracing all cultures.

The day started with an action packed dance session in the Gymnasium hosted by Rita from Elan Dance group. For the next two periods, the Year 7s took part in a rotation of activities, including a black and white photography session hosted by Mr Giles called 'My people'; personalised stories from our upper school students regarding their journey from their home country to Australia and their trials and tribulations, called 'My Story' and kindly hosted by Mrs Christie; a music session hosted by Mr Rees called 'Music of the World'; and an artistic session hosted by Ms Tomlinson that culminated in creating the amazing 'Harmony Wings' which made a great backdrop for photos.

Year 9 students, Aliyah Nieass and Chontal Wallam together with Year 11 students, Fromi Mohammed, Suhasi Patel and Hugh Zhang; and Year 12 students, Keetsho Tshering, Robert Kollie and Kaye Ann Mendoza, generously gave up their time to share their stories with the Year 7 students. They inspired fellow students with their stories of overcoming adversity and dreams for the future. The Year 7 students were very engaged and asked many insightful questions. It was pleasing to see students from all ages and backgrounds come together to share and learn from one another in such a respectful manner. Diversity is our strength at Balcatta; this was well and truly on display on Harmony Day.

Lunch time was a food lovers' paradise, with Ms Powney and her Year 12 Certificate II Hospitality students, serving up a variety of dishes including Butter Chicken, Spaghetti Bolognese and Chicken Curry whilst Mr Rees hosted another musical session in the Performing Arts Theatre with performances from his music students.



Year 12 Hospitality students serving lunch



Charlotte Artemjev-Raats and Jazmin Rabnott

## Skill Hire Scholarship

Balcatta Senior High School has entered into an exciting new partnership agreement with Skill Hire. This is a prestigious scholarship program involving theory and practical elements with a focus on bricklaying, carpentry as well as a significant workplace component. They will utilise some work areas in M Block on Fridays for Certificate II Building and Construction (trade pathways). The following Year 11 students were interviewed for this scholarship program: Lyric Heke, Jack Carter, Ruben Sassine, Izel Fortun and Jordan Maton-Patia.

The Construction Training Fund (CTF) has selected up to 200 WA students to become the building and construction industry's first choice to employ as an apprentice/trainee. Skill Hire WA is one of the successful Registered Training Organisations delivering this program under the 52824 WA Certificate II Building and Construction (Pathway – Trades) in four different locations including Balcatta Senior High School.

The Scholarship includes the following:

- Tuition, RTO enrolment and resources costs
- Safety equipment and clothing
- Work experience
- Regular mentoring by industry personnel
- Specialist workshops about building and construction
- Advice about career pathways
- Meetings with industry employers - regular reports to parents and schools.

The program is supported by the industry and will provide participants with the skills, experience and knowledge that employers look for in a new apprentice or trainee.



Jordan Maton-Patia, Izel Fortun and Ruben Sassine



# The School

## Vocational, Education and Training (VET)

Many students are taking advantage of training opportunities off campus during 2018. Students are participating in qualifications such as:

- Population Health – preparation for Nursing
- Screen and Media
- Hairdressing
- Automotive
- Information Technology

Course options vary from year to year but are typically one year in length. Students can apply for qualifications that suit their interests and future goals to enhance their educational experiences through senior school. Often participation in these qualifications confirms their career goals and sets students on their training pathway.

Years 11 and 12 students who are attending Workplace Learning are also completing Log Books and Skills Journals to document their experiences. This semester, students have been placed in radio, office work, child care, plumbing and metal fabrication workplaces, to name a few.

Our students always represent our school in a positive light. Host employers say they are polite, hard-working and great ambassadors for the school. Years 11 and 12 students will complete their first placement requirements at the end of this term and will be required to do a further 55 hours in a second placement in Term 3.

In preparation for selecting Year 11 courses and off campus trade-based experiences, a group of Year 10 students completed their White Card training at Joondalup with Paragon Corporate Training, a company specialising in training delivery for school students. All students completed the training successfully and are now eligible to undertake work experience and qualification training in a construction work-site context.



White Card recipients, Alby Dawson, Brayden Pizzino, Jarrad Hunton and Dakotah Leach



Sherie Soronio at the Perth Law Courts

## 'Have Sum Fun' Maths Competition

During Term 1, we had some of our talented mathematicians compete in the 'Have Sum Fun' competition organised by Mathematical Association of WA.

On Friday 9 March, we had a team of our senior students from Years 11 and 12 compete at Hale College. Then a week later, on 16 March, we had a team from Years 7 and 8 compete at Duncraig Senior High School and a team from Years 9 and 10 competed at Woodvale College.

The students worked very hard in the competitions, which took the format of a quiz night. They held their own in some very tough tie-breakers and problem-solving questions. The students had to tackle some very challenging questions within strict time limits. Our students performed well and a highlight of the competition was our Years 7 and 8 students placed 10th out of 32 teams. It was wonderful to see the students understand how challenging and rewarding mathematics can be in real life.

Congratulations to the students for their wonderful persistence, their efforts and hard work. We already have students wanting to compete again next year. 'Have Sum Fun' provided an exciting and challenging opportunity to expand their thinking and mathematical abilities whilst having fun and meeting new people.

Years 7 and 8 students:

Dante McGee, Harry Dos Santos Babic, Malisha Octian, Herin Patel, Lucas Agostino.

Years 9 and 10 students:

Dania Ibrahim, Grace Kang, Igor Pavkov, Jacqlin Parker, Jerry Nguyen, Maye Deada.

Years 11 and 12 students:

Suhasi Patel, Harvey Ma, Josh Barron, Jimmy Chen, Isaac Milner, Ryo He.



Years 11 and 12 students at 'Have Sum Fun' competition

## Years 7 and 8 Pool Party

On Tuesday 27 February, the Year 7 students held their inaugural pool party, together with Year 8 students, on a perfect sunny afternoon. Under Mr Birkett's watchful eye, staff and students cooled off in the pool, splashing around with their families and friends. Everybody enjoyed a sausage sizzle. The P&C Committee set up an area for parents, taking the opportunity to meet and mingle in an informal way. They arranged for pizza and slushies to be enjoyed by the parents. These activities are a wonderful opportunity to showcase the school, particularly to new parents and students. Thanks to the staff for their attendance and organisation, and all parents and students who took the opportunity to attend.



P&C's Stacey Litchfield and Jenny Ambler setup the Parent Corner



Marina Minic, Izahy Fortun, Mr Castensen and Kaitlyn Pope



Caitlin Dordieski and Aaliyah Saleem

## 'The Right Track' presentation

On Thursday 15 March, Year 8 students listened to Jonathan Beninca, representing the Public Transport Authority with The Right Track program, speak about the consequences of anti-social behaviour on the public transport system. This program is all about safer travel and encourages young passengers to become more responsible for their own safety and to make positive choices.

Jonathan Beninca was a typical teenager, and thought he was invincible. When he was 19, Jonathan was out one night catching up with friends and missed his last train home. Jonathan made the choice to jump down on the tracks and throw rocks at the stationary trains as he walked home. His next recollection was waking up in hospital, minus his right arm and a leg, as well as some fingers on his left hand. He later discovered that one of those rocks had rebounded with enough force to crack his skull and knock him unconscious on the tracks, where the first train of the morning found him.

While his dangerous short-cut changed his life forever, he now visits teenagers to speak to them about the consequences of unsafe choices and anti-social behaviour on or around public transport.

The Right Track program brings Jonathan to Perth twice a year to visit lots of schools and youth organisations to tell his story in the hopes of saving people from making dangerous choices and ending up as a double amputee like him, or worse. His interesting, funny, and at times, gruesome tale covers things like the difference between a good friend who tells you not to do crazy things and a bad friend who might egg you on; how his injury has affected his family, friends and the people who responded first, such as the train driver and transit officers.



Mackenzie Dragicevich and Seth Betti with Jonathan Beninca



Jonathan speaking to Year 8 students



## Debating Teams

The Balcatta Senior High School Debating Club is back, bigger than ever this year. Our school has entered a record six teams into the Western Australian Debating League competition. Teams competed in over five rounds on a Tuesday night at St Stephen's School (Duncraig campus) against other public and non-government schools. Members of the debating club also participate in weekly preparation classes, co-ordinated by Ms Amy Blitvich, on Tuesday mornings.

Debating improves students' confidence, public speaking, general knowledge, analytical thinking, argument construction and overall written and verbal literacy. The competition, which runs during Terms 1 and 2, provides students with an opportunity to engage in real world issues and complex problems in a fun and engaging setting. Students are encouraged to discuss big picture ideas and formulate solutions to a variety of contemporary challenges in areas such as health, education, government, technology and the media.

During Term 1, students participated in two rounds of the competition, on Tuesday 13 March and Tuesday 27 March. All students who spoke represented the school incredibly well and looked very sharp in their formal school uniform – including blazers and ties. A big congratulations should be extended to these students for their bravery and excellent ambassadorship in representing our school community.

During Term 2, future debates will be held at St Stephen's School, Duncraig commencing at 6.00pm on 15 May, 5 June and 19 June.

The following students from Years 7 to 12 make up our debating teams in 2018:

Novice Balcatta 1 (Year 8): Dante McGee, James Edwards, Isaac Gregg, Jonny Smith.

Novice Balcatta 2 (Year 7): Gemma Holman, Boni Hockley, Andre Alvaro, Lucas Agostino.

Junior Balcatta 1 (Year 10): Neeyanta Nakarmi, Maye Deada, Princess Kaylla Tiglaio, Karma Yangzom, Isabella Pezzali.

Junior Balcatta 2 (Years 9 and 10): Grace Kang, Leann Abastillas, Jessica Santich, Annabelle Wilson, Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi, Jacqlin Parker.

Senior Balcatta 1 (Years 11 and 12): Alicia Gregg, Elroy Gelok, Josh Barron, Harvey Ma.

Senior Balcatta 2 (Years 11 and 12): Hannah Okumu, Suhasi Patel, Natasha Hoseini, Ana Rychlak, Harriet Williams.

Round 1 was held on Tuesday 13 March with students from Years 7 to 12 participating in the following debates:

Novice (Years 7 and 8) - That we should ban smoking.

Balcatta 1 (affirmative) vs St Mark's 1

Balcatta 2 (affirmative) vs St Stephen's 1

Junior (Years 9 and 10) - That all media outlets should be bound to adhere to a minimum standard of truth.

Balcatta 1 (affirmative) vs Duncraig 4

Balcatta 2 (negative) vs Duncraig 3

Senior (Years 11 and 12) - That we should encourage the questioning of authority in schools.

Balcatta 1 (BYE)

Balcatta 2 (affirmative) vs St Stephen's 1

Round 2 was held on Tuesday 27 March with students from Years 7 to 12 participating in the following debates:

Novice (Years 7 and 8) - That we should have a quota for women in parliament.

Balcatta 1 (negative) vs Sacred Heart 4

Balcatta 2 (negative) vs Sacred Heart 3

Junior (Years 9 and 10) - That we should abolish the Senate.

Balcatta 1 (affirmative) vs Sacred Heart

Balcatta 2 (affirmative) vs St Marks 1

Senior (Years 11 and 12) - That the government should cease providing foreign aid to countries accused of human rights violations.

Balcatta 1 (affirmative) vs Mindarie 1

Balcatta 2 (affirmative) vs Sacred Heart 2



**Junior Balcatta 1 team, Kaylla Tiglaio, Neeyanta Nakarmi, Karma Yangzom**



**Novice Balcatta 2 team, Boni Hockley, Lucas Agostino, Andre Alvaro, Gemma Holman**



**Junior Balcatta 2 team, Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi, Neeyanta Nakarmi, Jacqlin Parker**

# Year 7 Orient

On Wednesday 14 March, 91 Year 7 students boarded a bus to Dwellingup's Nanga Bush Camp for a three-day camp. The purpose of the camp was to unite the new Year 7 group and welcome them to our school community by practising teamwork, leadership skills and sharing new experiences together. Many memories and new friendships were forged.

Upon arriving at the camp, located in the secluded bushland of our state's South West, students discovered there was no mobile or internet reception at the campsite. The digital detox was definitely a shock to many though it helped everyone connect with nature, and each other, in a more meaningful way. Students quickly settled into their shared accommodation and met the local camp manager who highlighted some of the more unusual features of Nanga, including its wildlife.

After a quick lunch, we were off on an extended bush walk which really tested our fitness and determination. Even though it was tough and challenging, the students never complained. The day was finished off with a swim and a movie night, thanks to Mr Blitvich. Most students fell quietly to sleep that night after a big day.

Day 2 began with an early wake-up call from Mr Castensen's 'interesting' taste in music (Pavarotti). Students joined staff for a walk





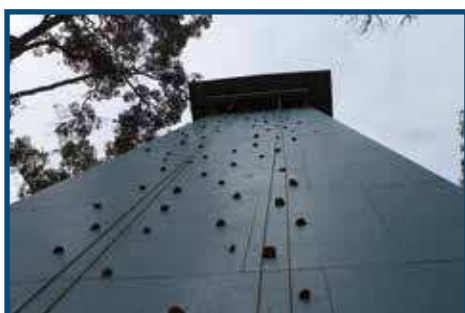
# tation Camp



at dawn where they spotted some local flora and fauna (including a 'sleeping' kangaroo and a giant mushroom on a log) before returning to camp for breakfast and getting organised for a big day of activities. Throughout the day, the Year 7's rotated through canoeing, rafting, bush cooking, wall climbing, drum beat and craft activities.

On Day 3, we once again woke to the magnificent voices of Pavarotti and Domingo. After a quick breakfast, we were back into our activities before an early lunch and camp clean-up. It was soon time to board the coach for a sleepy trip home.

This fantastic opportunity could not have taken place without the efforts of Ms Val Terry, our cook, and her able band of Year 11 helpers who ensured students were fed with wholesome and delicious homemade treats. Mr Mitch McCreery and Miss Kristina Balic, our raft experts; Mr Matthew Denholm (Chaplain) with his African drums; Mr Cameron Farmer, a 'jack-of-all-trades' and a real daredevil on the wall of terror; and Ms Emma Powney, our technical expert and another 'jill-of-all-trades'. Special thanks to Mrs Joanne Keep and the Year 12 Prefects who visited for the day on Thursday and Mr Rod Blitvich who also visited and took a thousand photographs of kids having fun. Thanks especially to Mr Kevin Castensen, Year 7/8 Co-ordinator for putting it all together, and to all the staff back at school who wanted to come, but couldn't.





## University of WA Links

Continuing our link with the University of Western Australia, we were fortunate to have Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery Curator, Lee Kinsella visit on Wednesday 28 February to discuss future collaboration and support. Currently, the curators at the gallery are selecting work from their extensive collection which will be brought out to the school as part of our joint 'Art in a Box' project. Students will get to view, discuss and analyse the work and curators will also have the opportunity to talk to students about career opportunities in the Arts.

The meeting was attended by members of the Arts Learning Area and Associate Principal, Kevin Fraser, with other discussions relating to potential music links.

## Northern Perspectives 2018

Northern Perspectives 2018 is an annual exhibition hosted by the Wanneroo Gallery which provides Year 11 and Year 12 students from the Cities of Wanneroo, Joondalup and Stirling the opportunity to exhibit their work in a professional exhibition space. This year's exhibition features artworks from a wide range of categories, including painting, drawing, sculpture and much more. Northern Perspectives is an exhibition that is gaining traction with more students entering every year. This year's exhibition features 53 outstanding works that showcase the exceptional talent of the young people in this area. Three of our former Gifted and Talented Visual Art students, Caitlin Curran, Shannon Muggeridge and Kristie Kopellis have entered their artwork into this exhibition. The exhibition opening was attended by the Principal, Helen Maitland; Board member, Helen Notis; as well as numerous teachers, students and community members.



**Shannon Muggeridge**  
Wanneroo Senior High School  
**Cradle**  
Oil on board  
In this work, I aim to depict the essence of a cradle. The cradle is a symbol of protection, warmth, and the place where a new life begins. It is a place of comfort and safety, a place where a child can grow and thrive. The cradle is a place of love and care, a place where a child can find their home. The cradle is a place of hope and dreams, a place where a child can see their future. The cradle is a place of life and death, a place where a child can be born and where they can die. The cradle is a place of everything, a place where a child can find their place in the world and where they can live their life.

**Artwork by Shannon Muggeridge**



**Kristie Kopellis**  
Wanneroo Senior High School  
**Family Connections**  
Oil on board  
This is a collection of three portraits of my family members. Each portrait is a study in light and shadow, capturing the essence of the person. The portraits are a testament to the love and connection between family members. They are a reminder of the people who shape our lives and the memories we create together. The portraits are a celebration of life and the people who make it meaningful.

**Artwork by Kristie Kopellis**



**Caitlin Curran**  
Wanneroo Senior High School  
**Murmur**  
Acrylic on canvas  
This is a collection of three abstract paintings. Each painting is a study in color and form, capturing the essence of a moment. The paintings are a testament to the power of the imagination and the ability to create something new. They are a celebration of life and the people who make it meaningful.

**Artwork by Caitlin Curran**

## Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Camp

As the seagulls screeched, the students chattered excitedly in anticipation of their upcoming ferry ride to Rottnest Island. The Rottnest ferry left on schedule at 10.30am, bound for sunny Rottnest Island. The Gifted and Talented Visual Arts group of 35 students from Years 8 to 12 together with 5 adults passed the time excitedly planning the next four days.

On arrival, we explored the town for a while to get our bearings. After some of us acquired some knowledge and culture from the local museum, we rode our bikes to Kingston Barracks which would be our home for the next four days. Boys and girls were divided up into dorm rooms with one adult for supervision. With no bed-time curfews and chores to be done, everyone pitched in where they could. A routine was quickly established.

The next morning, we cooked breakfast which we tried not to share with the local wildlife – who knew Quokkas liked bacon? We then headed off on our bikes for our morning workshop. This gave us an opportunity to explore the island and burn off a little energy until we reached our destination. The activities arranged for the first morning was 'water colours' with Mark Tweedie, our tutor who is renowned for his skills in water colours and charcoal drawings. The water colour workshop encouraged students to develop visual transference skills – painting what we saw and translating the details in colours with a soft, flowing technique.



**Workshop at the lighthouse**



**Meg Bradsell with**



**Rope basket weaving pieces**



**G & T Visual A**



After returning to base camp for lunch and a quick rest, we headed off to our afternoon workshop, 'Natural Sculptures' with Michelle Murning. Making sculptures allowed us to explore our tactile senses as we constructed our masterpieces using pieces that were found on the island and excluding using any pieces that were 'alive'. This assisted in developing our sense of awareness of space and dimensions. After that workshop, it was back to the Barracks for some downtime. We had dinner and chilled with friends and teachers as we recounted our day with encounters from the local wildlife until it was time for our night activity. For that activity, we used gel printing plates, plant material and acrylic paint to create interesting and modern designs.

On Day 3, we headed off in the morning, to meet with Jodie Davidson, who shared her skills of rope basket weaving. After lunch, we headed off to the Basin with Mr Schmiedte for some snorkelling and underwater photography. The weather was perfect to explore the crystal clear waters and underwater wildlife amongst the colourful coral. Dinner was cooked on the barbeques and after clean-up we headed off to explore the island at night. We stayed close together and enjoyed the scenery as we explored the island after dark. Our initial destination was the lighthouse and along the way explored the salt lakes before finishing at the historical grave yard.

On our last day, our knowledge was tested, as we were sent to various parts of Rottnest to answer questions on what we had learnt during our time on the island. Overall, art camp was a relaxing and enjoyable experience and enjoyed by those who attended.



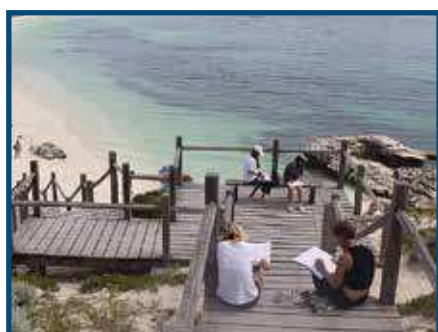
With her drawings



Arts Students



Designs using gel printing plates



Workshop at the beach

## Year 10 3D Artwork

The Year 10 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students have been given a different subject area each week in which to develop their ideas for their final artwork, 'painting on a 3D object'. The skeleton has been a favourite so far and we are enjoying having him around (thanks to Science for the loan). During Week 10, the students will be going into the city for an excursion to view local and international street artwork around Perth for inspiration.



## Wearable Art Mandurah LIVE Youth Judging Event

The Gifted and Talented Visual Arts program has offered students the opportunity to work in the area of Wearable Art for the past few years with tutor, Michelle Murning. In 2017, we had eight entries into the 'Wearable Art Headpiece Challenge' promoting courage, confidence and self-esteem. The entire process has encouraged some of the students to pursue further studies in this discipline. The students have been inspired by individual totem animals including butterflies, wolves and reindeers.

Currently, we have eight students who were selected to showcase their costumes at the Wearable Art Mandurah LIVE Youth Judging Event. This annual event was held in the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre, Fishtrap Theatre on Saturday 24 March with 20 of our students attending to view their artwork.

The Youth Category had local, national and international entrants from 8 to 18 years of age. Some young designers modelled their own wearable art, and some chose to present theirs on models. They received professional hair and make-up styling, photography sessions and saw their garments worn on fully-styled models for the first time.

## Ambassadors for 2018 have been announced

Congratulations to Year 12 students, Greer Medley and Georgia Pope who have been awarded Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Ambassadors for 2018. Ambassador duties include:

- promoting The Arts in the school
- promoting leadership within the school
- promoting working together in the art community
- assist with hosting events such as art exhibitions
- mentor other art students.

# Dance & Music

## Dance News

This term has focused on refining technique in both, Contemporary and Jazz genres, and all classes have already begun learning choreography for our first major performance 'Nexus 2018' on Friday 8 June.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Cooper Barden in Year 11, who has successfully auditioned for 'Grease – The Arena Experience' coming to Perth in January 2019. Cooper has many intensive workshops and rehearsals ahead of him this year and we wish him all the best for these workshops and his performances.

## Music News

The Music program has made a flying start to 2018. We have Classroom Music programs for both Years 7 and 8 students, and a Certificate II in Creative Industry (Music) course for Years 11 and 12 students.

In addition to this, we have around 50 students participating in instrumental lessons provided by Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS). These lessons are either individual or small ensemble-based, and run for 30 minutes per week during school hours. Students are very busy as they have the responsibility of maintaining all the work that happens whilst at their instrumental lessons and they add practice to their homework timetable. On the whole, our students have adapted well to their new schedule, building their sense of dedication and rigour around their schooling. It is lovely to hear the beautiful sounds of music emanating from several areas in the school during the week.



**Mr Daniel Rees with the music students**

# Phys Ed

## Cricket and Basketball Competitions

As part of School Sports Program, Mr Niroshan formed a Senior Boys cricket team consisting of the following Years 9 to 12 students:

Josh Barron, Thomas Vlatko-Rulo, Matthew Tennant, Alby Dawson, Nik Currie, Vyom Patel, Ajaypal Singh, Marko Krebl, Tyrese Damons, Jack de Gracie and Aaryan Sachdevani.

It has been 20 years since the school has had a cricket team. The students competed in the Graeme Wood Shield fixtures playing against five other schools. They represented the school in an excellent manner and made us proud.



**Senior Boys Cricket team**

Mr Robinson formed a Senior Boys basketball team, playing their games after school. The team was made up of the following students:

Robert Kollie, Steve Saweeris, Christian Rodriguez-Rivera, Jordon Maton-Patia, Stephen d'Souza, Owen Thaweesap, Raphael Almajar and Pema Wangyal.

The basketball team are to be complimented for its commitment, willpower and unity. Despite constantly coming up against teams of 'giants', the boys never stopped playing to the best of their ability. They were all proud to represent Balcatta Senior high School and were never disheartened.



**Senior Boys Basketball team**



## Swimming Carnivals

During Term 1, Balcatta Senior High School held swimming carnivals for each year group. The carnivals are a great way to foster school spirit and to celebrate all those who contributed as participants and supporters. Students were encouraged to participate in what were fun and enjoyable days. They give the better swimmers an opportunity to compete for Champion Boy and Girl. Each race was followed by a novelty event which gave all students the opportunity to be involved, have fun, exercise and earn points for their House.

### Champions and Runners Up:

Year 7 Champion: Girl: A'Janae Braysher	Boy: Harry King
Year 7 Runner Up: Girl: Mali Frazer	Boy: Asher Read
Year 8 Champion: Girl: Lexie Hull	Boy: Adzi Zein and Ethan Litchfield
Year 8 Runner Up: Girl: Eloise Vlatko-Rulo	Boy: Jordan Kitanovski
Year 9 Champion: Girl: Liliana Stjepanovic	Boy: Cooper Irving
Year 9 Runner Up: Girl: Katerina Rufov	Boy: Thomas Bekkers
Year 10 Champion: Girl: Tatiana Stjepanovic	Boy: Thomas Walsh
Year 10 Runner Up: Girl: Melissa Josevski	Boy: Jerry Nguyen
Year 11 Champion:	Boy: Leo McDonald
Year 11 Runner Up:	Boy: Cooper Barden
Year 12 Champion: Girl: Alicia Gregg	Boy: Tyler Ambrose
Year 12 Runner Up: Girl: Kendal Barden	Boy: Tyler Te Mana

### House Points:

	Ice	Fire	Water
Totals	410	405	388



**Katerina Rufov and Liliana Stjepanovic**



**Eloise Vlatko-Rulo and Lexie Hull with Mr Castensen**



**Cooper Irving and Thomas Bekkers**



**Adzi Zein, Ethan Litchfield, Lexie Hull, Eloise Vlatko-Rulo with Mr Castensen**



**Years 9 and 10 Champions and Runners Up with Mr Taseff**



**Champions and Runners Up**



# Outdoor Edu

On Tuesday 27 March, Mr Robinson took ten students from his Year 11/12 Outdoor Education class to Lancelin for three days away from the hustle and bustle of the city.

The bus left Perth and headed north, with the passengers feeling excited and ready to 'rough' it, on the three-day expedition. After arriving in Lancelin, they headed to Back Beach for their first surf, which quickly built up an appetite for lunch. After riding some good waves, they returned to their campsite to prepare lunch and set up camp for an overnight stay. After lunch, it was time to head off to the dunes for a stint of sandboarding for a couple of hours. There were many 'stacks' and 'tumbles' during their time on the dunes and hilarious laughter all round witnessing these escapades.

As part of their studies, students had to research, design, provide and cook their own meals, so it was straight to their stoves at camp to commence the preparation of dinner after an exciting day. Their studies also included learning to surf and development of camping skills which were being put into practice during this expedition. After dinner, it was down to the local jetty for some night fishing. Dolphins and stingrays were spotted, however only one fish was caught on the night by Thomas Vlatko-Rulo. This was then generously 'donated' to the locals.

After breakfast the next morning, everybody again ventured to Back Beach for some more surfing. All too soon, it was time to return to camp and pack up for the next part of the adventure – camping at Sandy Cape which was an hour away by bus. After making lunch and setting up camp, the students decided to explore the area. During this time, they came across a film crew making a movie. The day ended after more fun times on the dunes playing a game of 'Spotlight' then retiring to bed after a cup of Milo and biscuits.

The next day saw the happy campers head off towards Jurien Bay, with a few having a nap along the way. After a quick meal in Jurien, it was time to head back to Perth.

Thanks to Ms Balic for her participation and assistance. The students' behaviour on this expedition was exemplary, they were respectful, caring and looked after each other at all times.

Everyone is looking forward to their next expedition in Semester 2.



**David Huang and Thomas Vlatko-Rulo venturing into the water to fish**



**David Huang sandboarding down the dunes**



**Georgia Pope ready to sandboard down the dune**



**Thomas Vlatko-Rulo with his catch of the day**



**Joel Gizzarelli, Edward d'Orazio Scammell and Leo McDonald**



# Education Camp



**Panorama of Lancelin sand dunes**



**Time to setup camp**



**Outdoor Education students ready to surf the dunes**



**Alicia Gregg, Simon Naumoski, Robert Kollie, Ana Rychlak and Isaac Milner**