



# Balcatta Bulletin

## Issue 4 2017

### Highlights

**Page 3**  
Premier's Visit

**Page 4 - 5**  
Year 12 Presentation Ceremony

**Page 6 - 7**  
Our People

**Page 8 - 10**  
Events Around The School

**Page 12**  
Dance News

**Page 13 - 15**  
Art News





## From the Principal

As the end of the year approaches, it is an opportune time to celebrate the many events, excursions, camps, transition days, the Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Exhibition, Dance performances, and the special Year 12 Presentation night that have occurred during Term 4.

The Year 12 students have now completed their external examinations and we wish them every success in their results and in their future choices of career or further study in 2018. Years 10 and 11 students have also finished internal examinations. Parents and guardians will soon be receiving student reports. Reports will give parents an opportunity to discuss with their children their academic and social achievements and progress for the year, celebrate the successes and consider what might need to be done to improve the results in 2018. Our partnership with our parents is designed to help each child do his or her best at school academically, socially and emotionally, and is an important part of Balcatta Senior High School's mission.

I had great pleasure in attending the Year 12 Presentation Ceremony on Tuesday 28 November to see so many of the students receiving awards and being acknowledged for their contribution to the school, by volunteering, being prefects or their achievements in art, sport or citizenship. It was a positive evening and all parents should be proud of the achievements of their sons and daughters. Many of the students who spoke to me on the night indicated that they wanted to study at university, others were going on to take up TAFE courses and still others had been accepted by various training institutions to study electrical, plumbing and ICT trades. I am very pleased that many students also spoke of the wonderful opportunities that they had at the school and how they were supported and encouraged by our staff.

On Friday 24 November, we conducted our whole school Celebration Assembly to showcase the many activities and achievements of our students. I congratulate Mr Witcombe and his students for the wonderful IT video presentation promoting Balcatta Senior High School to the incoming Year 6 parents and students; Ms Murning and the Wearable Art video made during the students' fashion parade for the Art exhibition; the ICAS awards and the Milo 20/20 Blast cricket awards. These awards continue to remind us what a group of talented and creative students we have at the school and how well they are encouraged and supported by our staff.

In 2018, Balcatta will become an Act-Belong-Commit school. This program aims to provide young people with simple guidelines they can adopt to look after their mental health and increase their self-esteem, confidence and resilience. It encourages students to adopt mentally healthy behaviours early in life, which will build their resilience so they can cope better with problems and stress, help with academic outcomes and exams, and the pressures of growing up.

As the end of the year approaches, it is also very important that students remain focused on their school work. There will also be many camps, excursions and fun activities planned as the year draws to a close and I hope that in all these activities students will continue to show the maturity and respect that is a hallmark of our students in the community.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank the School Board and the P&C for their work during the year. It has been a pleasure to work with such a committed and supportive group of individuals who always have the interests of the school and its students at the centre of their decisions and activities.

Helen Maitland  
Principal



**Our outgoing prefects**



**Tahnee Brookes with Mrs Helen Maitland**

# Premier's Visit

On Friday 13 October, the Premier Mark McGowan, Education and Training Minister Sue Ellery and member for Balcatta David Michael MLA visited the school to have a look at the grounds and talk to some students with regard to the future redevelopment and upgrades of the school.

The McGowan Labor Government is redeveloping and upgrading secondary schools in Western Australia, including a major \$50 million redevelopment at 50 year old Balcatta Senior High School. The 2017/18 State Budget included significant investment in school infrastructure, including the redevelopment of ageing secondary schools.

An architect will soon be appointed to design the Balcatta Senior High School redevelopment with construction to start in 2018. The Department of Education has engaged a heritage consultant to undertake a preliminary site assessment and develop a heritage conservation plan to identify buildings that must be retained in the redevelopment. The new works at Balcatta are due to be completed in 2021.

Comments attributed to Premier Mark McGowan:

"We are delivering on our multimillion dollar commitment to provide upgrades to secondary schools across the State. This is part of our major investment in public school infrastructure - to build high-quality learning spaces for WA students and create new jobs for Western Australian workers."

Comments attributed to Education and Training Minister Sue Ellery:

"Balcatta Senior High School has long been in need of an upgrade to modernise its facilities and provide students with high-quality learning spaces. This is part of our commitment to provide outstanding education facilities that support students' educational needs and to ensure that students can learn and staff can teach in the best possible environment."

Comments attributed to Balcatta MLA David Michael:

"The school has a proud history, and its students and staff deserve facilities to match its commitment to excellence. This redevelopment will be the catalyst for re-energising secondary education in the area, providing local families with a high-quality secondary school option for their children into the future."



# Year 12 Present

On Tuesday 28 November the school farewelled our Year 12 students at a Presentation Ceremony held at the Victory Life Centre in Osborne Park. The evening celebrated twelve successful years of education for 92 students, and was an important milestone that acknowledged a new chapter in their lives.

It was a very special evening and the staff, families and friends were all united in their support of our graduates. In her Principal's address, Helen Maitland suggested to the students that they should remember the various stages of their school days, which helped them develop into who they are today. Celebrate your future successes, whatever form it may arrive in, take opportunities in life and try to make a positive difference in the world.

Following the Presentation Ceremony, staff and graduates attended a celebratory dinner at Beiyrut Restaurant in Tuart Hill. The evening was a great opportunity for students to get together as a group for the final time and to have a relaxed and fun-filled evening after the ceremony.

On behalf of the entire school community, we congratulate the Subject and Special Award winners who received certificates, gift cards and financial scholarships from various universities.

## Special Awards

Ruthvik Devarapalli was the recipient of the Best and Brightest ATAR Dux as well as ATAR High Achievers Award which was presented by Mrs Helen Maitland, Principal.

Jessica Cameron was the recipient of the Best and Brightest VET Dux which was presented by Mrs Helen Maitland, Principal.

Jacob O'Halloran was the recipient of the Balcatta Senior High School Sportsperson of the Year Award presented by Ms Helen Notis, Chair of the School Board.

Tyler Fleming was the recipient of the Senior School Special Commendation Award presented by Mr Julian Vinciullo, Principal of West Balcatta Primary School.

William Chiew was the recipient of the Caltex All Rounder Award presented by Mr David Michael MLA, Member for Balcatta. William was also the recipient of the Edith Cowan University Scholarship presented by Ms Tessa Curtis, Associate Principal.

Domonique Barone was the recipient of the ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award presented by Mr David Michael MLA, Member for Balcatta.

Matthew Milner was presented with the Commitment to Excellence Award by Dr Peter Reynolds, Engagement & Transition Manager of North Metropolitan Regional Education Office.

Saffron Somers was the recipient of the Australian Super Award for Excellence in VET presented by Dr Peter Reynolds, Engagement and Transition Manager, North Metropolitan Regional Education Office.

Kim Nguyen was the recipient of the Anna Kristancic Outstanding Achievement Award presented by Ms Anna Kristancic.

Ari Gillespie was the recipient of the Joan Ewers Community Service Award presented by Ms Tessa Curtis, Associate Principal.

Riya Amin was the recipient of the University of Western Australia Excellence Scholarship presented by Ms Tessa Curtis, Associate Principal.

Sarah Hashimi and Renaz Mizori were the recipients of the Curtin University/Principal's Recommendation Scholarship presented by Mr Kevin Fraser, Associate Principal.

## Year 12 Subject Awards

The Arts awards were presented by Ms Jamie Arkeveld, Head of Learning Area Arts to the following students:

Shannon Muggeridge - Visual Arts ATAR

Luke Salter-Williams - Visual Arts General

Jamie Montgomery - Dance General

The Technologies awards were presented by Mr Matthew Witcombe, Teacher in Charge of Technologies to the following students:

Giada Liberti - Certificate III in Business

Kobe Williams - Certificate II in Information, Digital Media and Technology

Tyler Fleming - Certificate II in Visual Arts (Wood Focus)

Thulfekar Khdaier - Building & Construction General

Marziyeh Moeinisam - Certificate III in Retail

Phoebe-Lee Schmiedte - Certificate II in Hospitality

Marziyeh Moeinisam - Food Science and Technology General

Ms Elisa Lewis, Acting Head of Learning Area for English/Humanities and Social Science presented both the English and Modern History awards to the following students:

Behrad Hosseinzadeh Oroumi - English as an Additional Language/Dialect ATAR

Nuradin Hassano - English as an Additional Language/Dialect General

Ruthvik Devarapalli - English ATAR

Giada Liberti - English General

Matthew Kacki - Modern History ATAR

Mr Geoff Birkett, Teacher in Charge of Health and Physical Education presented The Health and Physical Education awards to the following students:

Jessica Cameron - Physical Education Studies

Jessica Cameron - Certificate II in Sport Coaching

Mr Arul Niroshan, Teacher in Charge of Mathematics presented the Mathematics awards to the following students:

Ruthvik Devarapalli - Mathematics Specialist ATAR

Ruthvik Devarapalli - Mathematics Methods ATAR

Matthew Kacki - Mathematics Applications ATAR

Jessica Cameron - Mathematics Essentials General

Mr Rod Blitvich, Head of Learning Area Science/Mathematics presented the Science awards to the following students:

Ruthvik Devarapalli - Chemistry ATAR

Ruthvik Devarapalli - Physics ATAR

Shannon Muggeridge - Human Biology ATAR

Phoebe-Lee Schmiedte - Psychology ATAR

Jessica Cameron - Psychology General

Mr Matthew Witcombe presented the Vocational Education and Training award to Saffron Somers for achieving top student in Authority Developed Workplace Learning Endorsed Program.

# ation Ceremony



Matthew Kacki with Mr Arul Niroshan



Thulfekar Khdaier with Mr Hal Schmiedte and Mrs Helen Maitland



Tyler Fleming with Mr Julian Vinciullo



Year 10 Dance students performing 'So Excited'



William Chiew with Mr David Michael MLA



Sophie Moeinisam with Mr Matthew Witcombe



Kim Nguyen with Ms Anna Kristancic



Jessica Cameron with Mr Geoff Birkett

## Former Head Girl returns to do volunteer work

Marikah Longo was our Head Girl in 2013. She successfully completed her ATAR, gaining entry to Curtin University and completed a Science degree. Marikah now works at St John of God Midland, as a sleep therapist.

In order to widen her life experiences, Marikah unselfishly volunteered to help Science classes one morning a week at Balcatta Senior High School. She has been doing wonderful work with small groups of students in Ms Henry's Year 7 Science class. Marikah has also helped Mr Blitvich with aspects of the Year 12 Human Biology course. Marikah has impressed us with her wise head on such young shoulders, as well as her compassion and caring nature. She certainly illustrates what a great 'family' our Balcatta community is.



**Marikah Longo with Year 7 student, Imelda Cortez**

## Leroy Sassine, Year 9

Leroy has been selected to represent Western Australia in Basketball at the 2018 Special Olympics Australia National Games to be held in Adelaide from 16 April to 20 April 2018. The Games are the pinnacle of competition in Special Olympics Australia, only coming around every four years. Selection for this event is testament to the many hours of preparation and training he must undertake. We wish Leroy every success in this event.



**Leroy Sassine**

## Ari Gillespie

Ari Gillespie, a Year 12 student, has been recognised for his valuable contribution to the WA Youth Health Policy by the Department of Health. Ari was introduced to the Department of Health by their communications colleagues at the Education Department. He was given a brief outline to develop a series of illustrations which could be used in the WA Youth Health Policy. The illustrations were to be reflective of young people as a diverse group and representative of what 'health' means to young people. Ari met with the team and discussed the project and subsequently delivered a fantastic set of illustrations which have been used in the draft of the Western Australian Youth Health Policy 2018 - 2023. Ari's illustrations inject youthfulness to the policy document, making it visually stimulating and relatable. The policy is expected to be published in March 2018. Many people have already commented on his exceptional artwork. The policy aims to drive equitable, effective and coordinated health services that optimise the health and well-being of young people aged 10 to 24 years in Western Australia. The team had great pleasure working with Ari on this project and have been very impressed with his professionalism throughout this process. Well done, Ari!



**Ari Gillespie**



**Leroy Sassine in action**

## Millie Jackson-Rigby

Millie has been selected as a member of the Jitterbugs Synchronised Ice Skating Team for 2017 as a representative for Western Australia. The competition will be held at the Australian Figure Skating Championships in Brisbane from 28 November to 4 December 2017. This program is endorsed and supported by the Department of Sport and Recreation and the Western Australian Ice Skating Association. It is a great honour to be selected to represent your state and we are thrilled that Millie and her team have been given this opportunity to compete against the strongest teams in the country. Millie was selected for this team after many hours of training and this is testament to her skill, dedication and positive attitude. We wish Millie and her team every success in this competition.



**Millie Jackson-Rigby**

## Blessing Ntwari

One of our Year 9 students, Blessing Ntwari, has been selected to participate in Summer Science Alive 2018. This four-day summer STEM camp is a collaboration between the Department of Education (Statewide Services) and the Organisation of African Community of WA Inc. This is a unique opportunity for Blessing to gain a head start into Year 10 whilst networking with other students from African backgrounds. We are very proud of Blessing and look forward to hearing about his experience when he returns to school next year.



**Associate Principal, Ms Tessa Curtis with Blessing Ntwari and mum, Abigail Damba**

## Katerina Rufov and Serena Ormsby

Katerina Rufov and Serena Ormsby, both in Year 8, recently came first and second respectively out of 23 competitors at a Novice Solo Calisthenics Competition held on Sunday 5 November. The students trained for three to four hours per week at their respective clubs, as well as extra training at home. Katerina has been a member of Carine Calisthenics for three years. Serena was a member of Carine Calisthenics for four years and for the last six years has been a member of Athena Calisthenics. Their results are testament to their many hours of hard work.



**Katerina Rufov and Serena Ormsby**

## Final Year 12 Morning Tea

The final Year 12 assembly was held on Tuesday 17 October followed by a morning tea in the staff room. The Year 12 Prefects announced the incoming 2018 Prefects at the conclusion of the Farewell Assembly. Congratulations to the following Year 11 students: Alicia Gregg, Ana Rychlak, Simon Naumoski, Isaac Milner and Robert Kollie on being chosen by their peers to fulfil this important leadership role for 2018.



**Year 12 Prefects say 'Goodbye'**

# Events Around

## Debating Team

It was a pleasure to introduce the Year 6 students from Tuart Hill Primary School to the joys of debating. Over the course of the five week program, which consisted of five sessions run on Thursday mornings, commencing in August, students from the Year 8 debating team were fabulous role models and instrumental in facilitating the program.

The Year 6 students were introduced to the rules of debating leading up to a formal debate between the best affirmative team and the best negative team. The debating topic was, 'Should Computers be Banned in Schools?' It was a close battle with the negative team winning the debate. Well done to all students who took part.

Both adults and students from Tuart Hill Primary School were impressed with the debating girls' skills, maturity and enthusiasm. I would like to thank the following students who made our school proud and highlighted one of the many extra-curricular activities our school has to offer.

Selena Clough    Yesha Parekh  
Tabitha Mathew    Jacqlin Parker  
Elena Momirski    Tahlia Wells-Vasile  
Aayushi Pandeya

Every student demonstrated excellent leadership skills and were formidable public speakers. You are a credit to yourselves and our school.



**Selena Clough and Tahlia Wells-Vasile assisting the Year 6 students**

## Year 7 English as an Additional Language/ Dialect Class Cookbook

Ms Blitvich's Year 7 English class spent Term 3 working on the features and conventions of procedural texts. The students learned about different types of procedural texts, including recipes and instructions. They then had the opportunity to write their own procedural text – a recipe that was important to their family or culture. The whole class learned a lot about each other during this process. Our class represents over 14 different countries and cultures, including Bhutan, India, Thailand, Macedonia and Italy. They also represent indigenous cultures including Nyoongar and Maori.

Together, the class contributed their special recipes to make a Multicultural Cookbook – celebrating the cultural diversity of our class. Some of our students even demonstrated their linguistic diversity by translating their recipes into their first language. Ms Blitvich was very impressed!



**Year 7 English class**

## Year 8 English visited by local member of Balcatta, David Michael MLA

Students from Ms Blitvich's Year 8 English class created a collection of persuasive posters and pamphlets. The students were tasked with creating a persuasive text for the local Member of Parliament, David Michael MLA, about how they want the government to spend the \$50 million promised to Balcatta at the state election. The students took this job very seriously and completed their work to an excellent standard. They conducted themselves professionally and gave persuasive explanations about their area of improvement.



**Year 8 English class**

## Grand Prix

On Monday 11 September, students in the Year 9 Woodwork class were required to research, design and eventually build a race car made from balsa wood for the annual CO2 Grand Prix race. They used CO2 cartridges to power their model cars along a 20 metre track. It was important that the models they built be as aerodynamic and as light as possible as the aim was to see which racer went the fastest. The race has been run at Balcatta Senior High School for six years now and students try to beat the best time set by each student which means that the fastest racers travel at a speed of more than 60 kilometres per hour.

This year the designs created were of outstanding quality and the results were some very sleek vehicles. Congratulations to Ralph Pilapil who emerged as the winner. Ralph will have his name engraved on the perpetual trophy and receive a \$50 gift certificate.



**The starting line**



**Ralph Pulapil, winner of the Grand Prix**



# and The School

## Celebrating National Design & Technology Week

The Design and Technology Department at Balcatta Senior High School celebrated everything Design and Technology at the beginning of Term 4. From Monday to Friday during recess and lunch, our Years 9 and 10 students took the opportunity to take part in a fun activity learning how to operate a drone in the gym. During the activity, students flew five drones and explored the role that design and technology plays in our lives and our futures. Design and Technology is more than just 'making things' and we encourage everyone to take part in being creative and realise just how vital and engaging this learning area is.



**Matthew Tennant**



**Lyric Heke and Sypriss Pewhairangi**



**Dakota Leach, Alby Dawson, Theodora Simovic and Jarrod Hunton**

## Years 9 and 10 students attend Try-A-Trade

During Term 3 & 4, some of our Years 9 and 10 students participated in a three-day Skill Hire Try-A-Trade Program at their Forrestfield Training Facility. The students were introduced to the wood and brick trades enabling them the opportunity to experience hands-on activities and explore different aspects in these areas. The feedback was extremely positive with students feeling fulfilled and excited to have been involved. The students received a Certificate of Participation from Skill Hire.



**Try-A-Trade students ready to go**

## Year 10 Café Foods

Year 10 Café Foods students have spent several weeks planning their own gingerbread creation. The creativity of students in designing a whole range of gingerbread themed products was amazing, from gingerbread people, solar systems, houses, zombies and even a castle! The Hogwarts themed castle was the brainchild of Chloe-Bree Schmiedte, Amber Gillies and Shakira Parise. They pooled their collective gingerbread resources to create an amazing gingerbread abode that any gingerbread Harry, Ron and Hermione would have been proud to live in! The girls very generously offered their hard work to be on display in the staff room for staff to enjoy – viewing and sampling. It was a delicious project and well worth top marks.



**Amber Gillies, Shakira Parise and Chloe-Bree Schmiedte**

## Year 10 Climate Change

As part of their Global Issues Unit in Science, Year 10 students were given the challenge of creating a piece of art that would not only inform, but motivate people to take action on the issue of climate change. The application of art in Science is not often utilised, but there are many people who cannot or do not want to read lengthy articles or attend scientific conferences. This STEAM task required the students to use other means to communicate the important issues involved with climate change. Paintings, sketches, comic strips, poems, collages, parodies and short digital documentaries were created and now fill our classroom gallery. Students from Year 10 Science classes then conducted peer reviews of this work. Presentation of work to authentic audiences was a highlight of this project.



**Cardboard sculpture by Symon Legacion**



**Switch off - Fromi Mohammed**



**We Scream - Sasha Roob**

## Year 6 Orientation

On Tuesday 23 November, we had the pleasure of welcoming the incoming Year 6 students from our local feeder primary schools for the orientation of our 2018 Year 7 cohort. The students and parents arrived to a warm welcome at the front of the school where our fabulous ambassadors assisted in greeting and making the students feel welcome for the day. After a short walk, we held an official greeting with our Principal, Mrs Maitland in the Performing Arts Theatre. The marvellous Mr Castensen led the students through his master plan for the day's proceedings. The students were entertained on a school tour with our very capable and friendly Year 7 school ambassadors before gathering at the canteen area for tasty treats and wholesome bites. Our guests were then treated to four Learning Area events where they were immersed in a variety of experiences involving Food Science, Maths, Science, English and Forensics. The students were seen enjoying themselves while learning something new along the way. This was followed by a welcome swim for many of the students and a dance performance to end the day. I spoke to many students during the day and they had enjoyed their experiences during a stimulating and educative day at Balcatta.



**Mr Castensen talks to the Year 6s**

## Academic Extension STEM Robotics Workshop

On Friday 22 September, nominated Year 8 Science students took part in a robotics workshop to learn about NAO the humanoid robot. Students discovered how NAO can interact with the environment and, in particular, human touch and speech. NAO also entertained the group by demonstrating the ability to dance to Thriller and Gangnam Style, sit down, get up from a fall, walk, spin a fidget spinner, and most importantly perform a 'dab'. Students then, collaboratively, with the help of instructor Darp Nagarsheth from Binary Educational Resources, programmed NAO to take café orders and inform customers of menu items and prices using speech recognition.



**Seth Petchell with Darp Nagarsheth and NAO**



**Kaziwa Rahman and Leann Abastillas demonstrating a Science activity**

# Health and Phys Ed News

## Interschool Athletics Carnival

On Thursday 19 October Balcatta Senior High School participated in the Interschool Athletics carnival with a select group of students who represented the school proudly. The carnival was held at the State Athletics Centre with some pleasing results.

Students were selected on merit for various types of events including running, jumping and throwing, based on the results of our Interhouse Athletics Carnival. It is always a pleasure to take students to these events as they are highly motivated, mature, well-behaved and very supportive of each other. They displayed great sportsmanship throughout the day.

Congratulations to the Year 7 girls and Year 9 boys who won their relays. Skye Lankester and Jordan Copland, both Year 7 students were placed third in their age group for champion athlete and Robert Kollie, Year 11, was champion boy for his age group. Special thanks to all the students who participated in the carnival.



**Champion Boy  
Robert Kollie**



**Year 7 Relay team, Skye Lankester, Marina Minic, Tryphena Kollie and Sam Ellen**

## Years 9/10 Milo T20 Blast Cricket Competition

Much to everyone's surprise, Balcatta Senior High School has been represented in interschool cricket. Years 7/8 and Years 9/10 students made up teams to compete in the North East Region Milo T20 Blast cricket tournament. Both teams did the school proud with the Year 9/10 team winning the area competition undefeated and advanced to the state championships which were held on Friday 3 November. Although the boys were not able to win this one, they enjoyed the return to interschool competition. The boys really 'gelled' as a team to produce some excellent



**Years 9/10 Cricket Team**

## Outdoor Recreation Camp

Our Year 9 and 10 students attended the Outdoor Recreation camp from Monday November 20 November to Wednesday 22 November. The camp was held at Ern Halliday Centre and the students were faced with many challenges. The first challenge was the long trek up to the venue by bike. The journey included a refreshing snorkelling session at Mettams Pool.

Many students had to overcome some of their fears with activities such as 'The Big Swing', 'Flying Fox' and abseiling. Every activity had a debrief which involved looking at real-life challenges and how they can be approached.

Activities on the ground included 'Lost Pilot' and orienteering. The team of Josh Barron, Thomas Vlatko-Rulo and Matthew Tennant really impressed the instructor as they scored the maximum points in record time in orienteering.

Night-time activities included 'Spotlight' and mini-Olympics events. Event winners for the mini-Olympics were:

High Jump – Thomas Vlatko-Rulo  
Long Jump – Jacinta Agostino  
Javelin – Thomas Vlatko-Rulo  
High Dive – Keisha Dawson  
Discus – Aden O'Malley  
Shot Put – Thomas Walsh

The students have to be complimented on their social skills and their ability to organise meals and cook for themselves throughout their time in the camp.

Perhaps the hardest challenge for some students was the long ride back to school in the heat of the day, knowing that they had to climb up the huge hill on North Beach Road. There were no complaints and they returned to school safely, three minutes ahead of schedule.



**Preparing for 'The Big Swing'**



**Iron Man Competition**

# Dance News

## Primary School Performances

Our Year 7 Dance students made successful visits to both West Balcatta Primary School and Takari Primary School this term. They performed one of their pieces from the End of Year Dance Showcase, and it was fantastic for some of the students to return to their former Primary School to strut their stuff.



**Year 7 Dance Students**

## Converge 2017 – End of Year Dance Showcase

On Friday 27 October, the Years 7 to 12 Specialist Dance students showcased their performances in their annual dance production called 'Converge 2017'. This event was held at the Dolphin Theatre, UWA, Nedlands. A virtually sold out show, all of our students presented a slick, polished, and very professional evening of entertainment. It was also our opportunity to acknowledge and say goodbye to our Year 12 Dance students who have made the dance room feel like their home for the last five years. Congratulations to all students on your professionalism, your collaboration, and your enthusiasm.



**Rhiannon Nicholas**

## Osborne Park Show

Specialist Dance students from Years 7 to 10 took the stage at the Osborne Park Show in Week 6 as part of the dance finale lead up to the fireworks. The crowd was the largest we have seen in recent years, and the rain held off long enough for them to cheer and clap loudly for our students. Once again, a brilliant showcase for Balcatta Senior High School



**Specialist Dance Students at Osborne Park Show**



**Year 12 students performing 'Circus'**



**Specialist Dance students who perform**

# Art News

## Year 12 Perspectives

Year 12 Perspectives is an exhibition of art by some of the best, brightest and most talented graduating high school artists in the state held at the Art Gallery of WA. This year, our 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 the work on show at the Art Gallery next year.



**Year 12 Perspectives entry by Ari Gillespie**



**Kaitlyn Pope with Tilt Brush VR drawing tool**

## Art Excursion to University of WA

On 16 November, our Years 7 to 10 students from the Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Program enjoyed a visit to the University of WA, providing our students with the opportunity to visit and view artwork that is currently being exhibited at the Lawrence Wilson Gallery.

The students participated in various activities hosted by our art patron and school board member, Professor Ted Snell, who worked with us to plan a day full of art activities to engage and motivate the students.

The Lawrence Wilson Gallery had three exhibitions showing. The first exhibition was 'The Batavia: Giving Voice to The Voiceless'. This unique and interesting exhibition was curated by Professor Ted Snell from the University of WA and Dr Paul Uhlmann from Edith Cowan University. It was based on the story of the Batavia shipwreck and mutiny. Students enjoyed looking at an interesting range of art techniques that were used by a number of different artists and learned more about the Batavia story. The students' favourite work was the Rob Cleworth's piece which used a realistic style and pinhole camera to paint a surrealist still life image.

Other exhibitions included 'Being Tiwi' which consisted of amazingly, well-crafted Tiwi indigenous and contemporary paintings and prints, and 'Country and Colony' which traced work from female artists over the last century.

The most favoured activity of the day was the 'Tilt Brush Virtual Reality (VR)' which involved using a variety of interactive brush tools as well as a VR headset enabling the students' creations to be seen in another perspective.

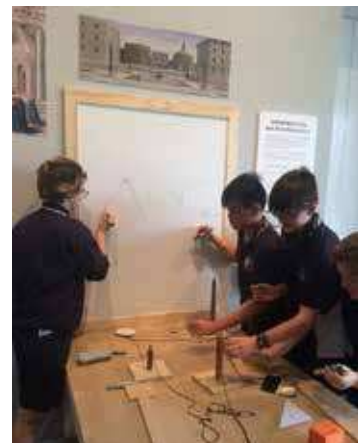
Students and staff enjoyed the hospitality of the Lawrence Wilson gallery staff as well as the experience of campus life.



**Zoe Thatcher and Phenasia Soares viewing the exhibition**



**Students posed in end of year showcase 'Converge'**



**Kaitlyn Pope, Kurt Baylon, Aimee Parker and Jack Watson with interactive perspective tool**

## Artist in Residence

One of our Art tutors, Jodie Davidson was fortunate enough to undergo a residency at Takari Primary School with Years 5 and 6 students managing to combine textiles and sculpture with geography. Students practised Japanese Shibori Folding as well as exploring traditional natural dyes using eucalyptus leaves and various plant materials. The resulting green, blue, yellow and brown dyed fabrics were cut into strips and used to wrap rope that was later turned into coiled baskets. Year 11 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students, Tyler Ambrose, Lily Routledge and Georgia Pope came along to help with the making of the baskets, which proved not to be quite as simple as the group had initially thought. In addition, the class also tried their hand at weaving, even learning to make their own stick loom. Surprisingly, the boys were much more adept at this process whereas the girls succeeded with the basket coiling. A number of students enjoyed learning these new processes and have now joined the Young Masters' program this term.



## Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Exhibition

On Wednesday 1 November, the Gifted and Talent Visual Arts Program held their annual Art exhibition. It was a wonderful evening and the event gave our students the opportunity to be recognised for the outstanding work they created in the different specialist areas over the year. Our special guest, Professor Ted Snell, officially opened the exhibition with some wonderful and inspirational words and it was such an honour to have him open our annual art exhibition this year.

The evening started with a fashion show by the wearable art students, who put on a stunning display of their artwork which they created by using recyclable and found objects. The students spent the day preparing their hair and makeup and then gave the most spectacular show displaying the outfits and headpieces they had created throughout the year with their wonderful art tutor, Michelle Murning.

All students should be congratulated for the amazing work on display, which showcased their outstanding skills. The following students were identified as Top Students from each of the studio disciplines taken throughout the year:

- Top Student Cardboard Sculpture - Samantha Antulov
- Top Student Digital Art - Torren Whisson
- Top Student Foundation Drawing - Xavier Slater
- Top Student Landscape Painting - Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi
- Top Student Photography - Luke Salter-Williams
- Top Student Portrait Painting - Grace Kang
- Top Student Portrait Painting - Shynique Bicknell
- Top Student Steam Punk Arms - Meg Bradsell
- Top Student Urban Art - Sakshi Gupta
- Top Student Wearable Art - Vanessa Santich
- Merit Award Portrait Painting - Jacqlyn Parker

The Award of Excellence Trophy is awarded to one student from each year group that has demonstrated excellence throughout the year in all areas. The following students have joined our honour board.

- Year 7 - Kanika Rawat
- Year 8 - Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi
- Year 9 - Shynique Bicknell
- Year 10 - Torren Whisson
- Year 11 - Greer Medley
- Year 12 - Shannon Muggeridge

Congratulations to the following Year 12 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts graduates for their commitment and dedication in being a part of the Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Program over the past five years. The program has seen each individual emerge with a range of highly specialised skills and they will be missed around the art studios.

- William Chiew
- Caitlin Curran
- Ari Gillespie
- Kristie Kopellis
- Shannon Muggeridge
- Luke Salter-Williams



**Vanessa Santich, Year 11**



**Students modelling their Wearable Art**



**Samantha Antulov and Ms Arkeveld**



**Wearable Art by Aliyah Nieass**

## Year 10 Photography Excursion

The Year 10 Photography classes have been working on an Urban Landscape assessment. On Thursday 2 November and Friday 3 November, they ventured into Northbridge and Perth City to create a series of images within the medium of 'Urban Landscape'. Using the themes of 'Utopian City', 'Urban Decay', 'Secret City' and 'Lonely City', they were tasked with capturing close-ups of buildings emphasising grids and lines as symbols of modernism, look at the geometry of buildings, the structural elements of the architecture, doorways, windows and geometric patterns. They took photographs of reflections in glass, the city environment, the sky, trees, other buildings or even themselves as the photographer taking the shot. They were also tasked with capturing images of the city that expressed a feeling of decay; for example, factories, abandoned/old buildings and graffiti. After the excursion, students returned to school and prepared their images. They used Photoshop to edit and make adjustments to reflect and emphasise the theme of their photographs by cropping, changing exposure and contrast, manipulating hue and saturation, and applying filters or effects to their images.



**Year 10 Photography group**

## Native Animal Mural for West Balcatta Primary School

During Semester 2, Year 10 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students designed a mural to be placed in the Pre-Primary area of West Balcatta Primary School. The students have all contributed ideas to the design process and are now busy painting large boards which will be assembled and attached to the building facing the Pre-Primary play area. We look forward to seeing this in place before the end of the term.



**Mural designed by our Year 10 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students**

## Abdul Abdullah visits our students

We were very privileged to have a special guest, Abdul Abdullah, visit our school to talk with the Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students. He was a judge at the recent Youth Archibald Prize held in Sydney earlier this year. Torren Whisson, a Year 10 Gifted and Talented student and Young Archie finalist, met with him at that event and made arrangements with him to meet our students. Abdul Abdullah is an artist from Perth, currently based in Sydney. He was a Gifted and Talented Visual Arts student himself, attending Applecross Senior High School. The students had the opportunity to hear inspiring stories about his journey as an artist.

Abdul is a four-time Archibald Prize finalist and has just returned from the Venice Biennale. He shared his career experiences and described the work practices and mind sets which promote his success. It was a fabulous experience for our students and they were very engaged, listening and viewing Abdul's art journey.



**Abdul Abdullah**

Each year The Beven Hill Acquisition Prize is awarded to a Year 12 student in the Gifted and Talent Visual Arts Program. Their work will join Balcatta Senior High School's extensive permanent collection. This year, the recipient of this prize was Shannon Mugeridge, for her work titled 'Cradle'.



**'Cradle' by Shannon Mugeridge**



**Kristie Kopellis, Luke Salter-Williams, Ari Gillespie, Shannon Mugeridge and William Chiew**



Year 9 Chemistry experts demonstrate to Year 6 students