

# **Balcatta Bulletin**

## **Issue 3 2017**

**Highlights** 

Page 3 Minister's Visit

Page 4 - 5 Our People

Page 7 Senior School Ball

Page 8 Curriculum News

Page 10 - 11 Art News

Page 12 - 13 Athletics Carnival

Page 14 - 15 Semester One Awards





## From the Principal

As we near the end of Term 3, you will see from the many highlights in this Bulletin that show that the staff and students have been engaged in many different academic, social and sporting events during the term. As I look back over the term, I realise how busy and productive it has been for students and staff alike. Individuals and groups of students have been involved in the river cruise, the Senior School ball, various excursions, visits, art exhibitions, competitions and dance performances. I would particularly like to congratulate the Senior School students who attended this year's school ball at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Perth. It was a glittering, 'Hollywood themed' event and the evening was a great success owing to the dedicated team of staff and students who prepared the venue, especially our Year 12 Coordinator, Mrs Jo Keep and her band of supportive helpers. I also thank all of the staff who attended this important evening on the school's social calendar.

While there have been a large number of events during the term, it is important not to forget the important teaching and learning that has been happening in all classes throughout the term. I wish to thank all staff and students for the way that they have kept a focus on their academic school work in addition to all the wonderful extra-curricular events that have been taking place.

Lesley Street, our Principal, has just recently won a fixed position role for six months as Principal of Mount Lawley Senior High School. She left to take up this role at the start of September. For the remainder of the year, I will be taking the role of Principal. Mr Kevin Fraser has taken on my role as Assistant Principal for the remainder of the year. I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating Lesley on her appointment to Mount Lawley and welcome Mr Kevin Fraser to Balcatta. Kevin has recently come from the Instrumental Music School Services where he was the Deputy Principal.

This term we were privileged to have a visit from the Minister for Education, The Hon Sue Ellery MLC and David Michael MLA, the local member for Balcatta. You will see from the article in this Bulletin that the Minister has announced that the process for the \$50 million significant building and refurbishment of the school has begun. While in the school, the Minister had an opportunity to inspect the facilities and also to meet with staff and students.

The results of the school's NAPLAN testing from the latest Year 7 and Year 9 Literacy and Numeracy tests were released this term. It is pleasing to see that there has been an improvement in Numeracy and all aspects of Literacy in Year 7 from 2015-17, and students are performing within the expected standards. There are similar improved results for Year 9 though with a slight decline in Numeracy scores in Year 9 in 2017. As expected, there are many of our students who have achieved Bands 9 and 10, the highest bands, and those who have achieved well below the standard expected for their age group. These results show that the school is adding value, especially in the improvements from 2015 to 2017. We continue to work closely with students who have not met the expected standards and prepare them for success in the OLNA tests in Year 10 if they have not achieved the required Literacy and Numeracy results in the Year 9 NAPLAN tests.

During the second week of the September/October school holidays our Year 12 ATAR students will be involved in their 'mock' exams. This will be an important opportunity for them to show what they have learned over the year in all their courses, and get feedback from teachers on areas that they need to revise and consolidate for the forthcoming WACE examinations in November. On behalf of all the staff, I would like to wish the students success in their forthcoming exams.

Helen Maitland Principal



Abdurahman Osman, Year 7, leading the way at the Athletics Carnival



Beau of the Ball (Behrad Hosseinzadeh Oroumi) and Belle of the Ball (Sarah Hashimi)

# **Minister's Visit ICAS Awards**

The Hon Sue Ellery MLC, Minister for Education and Training, and David Michael MLA, member for Balcatta, visited the school on Thursday 27 July to tour the facilities of the school and meet with staff and students. The Minister announced that architects are being sought to design the significant building and refurbishment of the school as part of the government's \$50 million allocation. She also indicated that preliminary design work would commence in September 2017. In her press release, the Minister indicated that the investment would ensure state of the art facilities at the school. The funding formed part of the government's election commitment to provide outstanding facilities to support students' educational needs.

Local member David Michael MLA explained that once the architects were appointed, the process of consultation with the community would begin. It was important, he commented, that the redevelopment reflected what the students, staff and the community need, so that consultation is important. He reiterated that "staff and students have been doing a great job in ageing facilities but it is important for students to learn and staff to teach in the best possible environment."

Principal Lesley Street, staff and students are very excited about the planned building and refurbishment program at Balcatta Senior High School and are looking forward to being engaged in the forthcoming consultations. They welcome the opportunity to work and study in 21st Century learning spaces.



**Minister for Education visit** 



**Minister with Year 12 History** 

# Students Shine in Australian Science Competition

Sixteen of our students recently participated in the recent International Competition and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Science assessment run by the University of New South Wales. ICAS Science assesses students' skills in the key scientific areas of observing and measuring, interpreting data, applying data, investigating and high-order skills.

We are very proud of the achievement of the following students and congratulate them on their outstanding results. Dante McGee of Year 7 achieved a Distinction which placed him in the top 10% of participants from across Australia Jacqlin Parker of Year 8 achieved a Merit which placed her in the top 45% of participants from across Australia. Igor Pavkov of Year 9 achieved a High Distinction which placed him in the top 1% of participants from across Australia.

Our special thanks go to Science Teacher Priya Kumar who encouraged the students to enter this national competition and who coordinated the 2017 entry process for them. We congratulate all the students who participated in this competition and encourage them to keep developing their understandings and skills in Science. Your interest and achievement in Science will continue to open up the exciting fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in the future.



Mrs Kumar with Dante McGee, Jacqlin Parker and Igor Pavkov

# Our P

## **Emily Gibbons**

On Saturday 29 July, Emily competed in the Australian Irish Dancing Association (AIDA) WA Inc. 2017 Premierships and the State Ceili Championships held at Morley Sports and Recreation Centre. Emily was placed first in the 9 years and over Solo Primary Premiership category, achieving a perfect score. This event was a lead-up and practice event for the Solo State Championships which was held on 19 and 20 August at Newman College.

Emily has trained four times a week for Premierships and now for the Solo State Championships. She trains 11 hours a week at formal lessons plus the private hours she puts in at home. This is a huge achievement for Emily as she has only been doing Irish dancing for one year. To win in this category was a huge success especially as she came into the sport as an older dancer. The win is testament to Emily's hard work and dedication to her Irish dance.



**Emily Gibbons** 

## Val Terry

Volunteers are critical to the existence of School Breakfast Programs. Thanks to their dedication and commitment, thousands of students every day sit down to learn with a full stomach. Their contribution goes beyond the simple provision of food as it positively impacts the whole school community. The School Breakfast Program (SBP) Volunteer Awards allow Foodbank to assist schools to formally recognise the outstanding contribution that volunteers make to their School Breakfast Program. Val Terry has received this award for her contribution towards this program ensuring its continual success at our school.



## **Torren Whisson**

Torren Whisson, one of our talented Year 10 students in the Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Program, has been selected as a finalist in this year's 13-15 year age group in the prestigious Young Archie Competition for budding artists. The competition is judged by the NSW Art Gallery. This accolade is a superb recognition of Torren's talent and we know that her painting was selected as one of only five finalists from over 2,000 entries across Australia. Her oil painting titled 'Portrait of a Veteran' of war veteran Herbert Harrison was entered on her own initiative and painted largely during out of school time. She also received support from our Art tutor Mark Tweedie. Her work will be exhibited in the Art Gallery of NSW in conjunction with the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes exhibition. This is an outstanding achievement and we hope that Torren goes on to become the winner of this national competition. Winners will be announced 16 September 2017.



**Veteran Herbert Harrison with Torren Whisson** 



'Portrait of a Veteran'

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## Ari Gillespie

During the July school holidays, Year 12 student Ari Gillespie visited remote Aboriginal communities in the Kimberley as a part ICEA's first holiday program. The ICEA (Indigenous Communities Education & Awareness) Foundation is a youth-run not-for-profit organisation with the overall goal of achieving reconciliation through mutual respect for all Australians. Their purpose is to bring together young Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians to create positive shared experiences, build enduring relationships and promote greater cross-cultural understanding.

Ari visited the remote communities of One Arm Point, Djarindjin, Beagle Bay and Lombadina as a part of the program which aimed to provide engaging activities for Aboriginal children within the communities. He organised, through Nikon Australia, the donation of 10 cameras and equipment to facilitate photography workshops with the children. The children actively participated in his workshops and gained a lot of useful knowledge of photography, while building positive social relationships and maintaining a connection to their country.

The result of the children's photography workshops was displayed at a gallery event in Fremantle on Friday 18 August, where Ari opened the exhibition in front of the gathered crowd. Prints were sold on the night and almost \$2,000 was raised from the proceeds of these sales. The money raised will be given back to the remote communities to support their schools.

Both the workshops and the exhibition would not have been possible without Ari's hard work in sourcing the cameras, equipment and teaching the children the skills they needed to create the photographs. Many current and former students and staff attended the exhibition and were impressed with the quality of the work produced by the children and the professional nature of the exhibition. Well done Ari!



**Ari Gillespie with Mrs Middleton** 



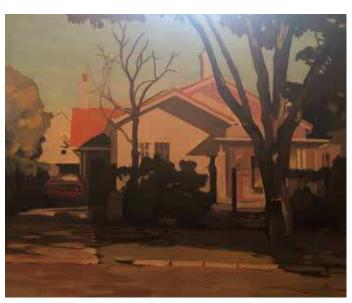
An example of their photography

## **Reece Cahill at Curtin University**

Gifted and Talented Visual Arts graduate of 2016 Reece Cahill, gained successful folio entry to Curtin University's School of Design and Art. He joins Kody Mason, another 2016 graduate who is currently studying there. We look forward to hearing more of his progress.

## Ms Jamie Arkeveld

As well as arranging for our students to enter a variety of Art competitions, our Head of Learning Area Arts, Ms Jamie Arkeveld has also entered her work into the Claremont Art Awards. Her work 'Agett Street Painting' has been shortlisted for this event. The Award announcements and exhibition opening took place on 15 September. Artwork will be on show to the public at the Town of Claremont building, 308 Stirling Highway, Claremont from 16 September to 30 September 2017.



'Agett Street Painting' by Jamie Arkeveld

# River Cruise Fundraiser

The Year 9 and 10 River cruise was held on Wednesday 2 August and was held on a two-storey, glass enclosed boat called 'Crystal Swan'. The boat travelled west under the Narrows bridge and past the Old Swan Brewery into Matilda Bay. Students enjoyed the views of Kings Park, along with the city skyline and river foreshore. The night was filled with lots of dancing singing and excitement. Crystal Swan cruises provided a beautiful evening with great food, music and service.



Year 9 girls enjoying the cruise



Year 10 boys enjoying the night



Year 9 girls

## **Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea**

This term, the Certificate II in Hospitality students were given the opportunity to organise and cater for the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea. They researched both sweet and savoury recipes, produced many delicious finger foods and planned how the entire event would be conducted. On Wednesday 16 August, the Year 12 Hospitality students gave up their own break time to present and serve food to the staff members who all donated so generously. Foods such as sausage rolls, pizza scrolls and finger sandwiches all went down a treat with many of our staff members opting for the scrumptious chocolate brownies and coconut truffles.

All the staff members were so impressed by the efforts made by our students and the Hospitality students really loved showing off their talents. We are so pleased to be able to donate \$483 to the Cancer Council and we thank everyone for their generous contributions.



Fatia Ahmed and Bridgette Osei serving Penny Ornket



Hospitality students serving staff

# **Senior School Ball**

On Friday 11 August, the Senior School Ball was held at Pan Pacific Hotel, Perth with the theme this year being 'Hollywood'. We had 124 students and 26 staff in attendance. The evening was very wintry with the rain holding off until after the arrivals. A great celebration was had by everyone who attended.

Award winners of the evening were:

Duke of the Ball - Mr Curtis

Belle of the Ball – Sarah Hashimi
Beau of the Ball – Behrad Hosseinzadeh Oroumi
Best Dressed – Mareena Mitias and Maia Jacobs
Best Dancer – Wilson Chalwe
Best Couple – Isabella Morton and Kobe Williams
Year 11 Princess – Amy Burgess
Year 11 Prince – Jack Bos
Duchess of the Ball – Ms Blitvich



Venue decked out in Hollywood theme



Nichelle Goh, Marina Stankovska, Aleksandra Spiroska and Mareena Mitias



**Fatia Ahmed and Riya Amin** 



Justin Martin and Sachi Morrow



Nadine Campbell and Rhiannon Nicholas



Mercy Aneno, Izabela Folau and Rebekah Davids



Nevena Pavlovic and Matthew Milner



**Domonique Barone, Tahnee Brookes and Loren Perkov** 



Polly Chambers and Beau Ambler

# **Curriculum News**

## **Year 12 History Excursion**

Year 12 Modern History students and their teacher, Ms Blitvich, attended a student seminar day at Notre Dame University. Fremantle, on Saturday 2 September. Students participated in lectures delivered by members of the History Teachers' Association of Western Australia, in preparation for their final exams later this year. A vast majority of students in the class attended and travelled a significant distance in order to participate in this important event, as a culmination of their two years of study in Modern History. Over their two years of study, students have carefully examined important events from the 20th Century, including the rise of the United States as a world power, Nazi Germany, the Russian Revolution and the Soviet Union and finally Australia's engagement with Asia. All of our History students should be commended on the excellent manner in which they have represented our school both at this event and previous seminar days.



Year 12 History students at Notre Dame University

many exciting and challenging careers in journalism, law, education, the performing arts, business and medicine. Warren was the Senior Consultant for English K-12 at the Department of Education for more than 10 years and has been a WACE English marker for more 30 years. Having marked and written examinations over many years, Warren is well placed to provide tips and insights into how students can best maximise their performance. He is a member of the English Course Advisory Committee of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) and has previously chaired the English and Literature syllabus committees.

Warren teaches undergraduate students at Curtin University and has taught graduate students at the University of WA. He is especially committed and excited to be helping the students at Balcatta Senior High School gain confidence in their reading, writing and critical literacy skills, and also to do the best they can in assignments and exams. Everything he does is designed to reinforce and complement the excellent work done by the school's classroom English teachers.

## **Urban Landscape Excursion**

Two Year 9 Photography classes have been working on an assessment about Urban Landscape. On Friday 11 August and 18 August, they ventured into the city to produce a series of photographic design work in the medium of 'Urban Landscape'. Using the categories of 'The Lonely City', 'Urban Decay', 'The Secret City' and 'Utopian City'. They were asked to take closeup photos of city buildings emphasising grids as a symbol of modernism, look at the geometry of the buildings, the structural elements of the architecture, the doorways, windows and geometric patterns. They also took photos of reflections in glass of other buildings, city environment, sky, trees and of themselves, as the photographer taking the shot. Students were also asked to photograph aspects of the city choosing shots that express the feeling of decay, for example, factories, abandoned buildings, the older part of the city and graffiti. After the excursion, students returned to school to prepare their photos. They used Photoshop to manipulate images to reflect and emphasise the theme by cropping, changing exposure, brightness and contrast, manipulating colour levels and saturation and finally mounting their photo for display.

## **English Master Class**

For much of this year a number of Year 12 ATAR students have been attending a Master Class in English every Monday afternoon after school to help improve their preparation in English for the important WACE examinations in November. These classes have been building on the important lessons that their class teachers have conducted each week. The classes give the students a chance to hone their skills and possibly use ATAR English as their best score for University entrance in 2018 if that is their desired pathway. There have also been many opportunities to provide students with individual help and feedback on their English performance.

The class is conducted by Warren Grellier an experienced teacher and educator who has more than 35 years' experience teaching in secondary schools and senior colleges and in presenting revision seminars and workshops for students and teachers across the state. He was a Head of Learning Area English at a number of schools and his students have gone on to achieve



Year 9 Photography class

# Project Based Learning

## Year 9 World War One project-based learning

Project-based learning refers to students designing, planning, and carrying out an extended project that produces a publiclyexhibited presentation. In Humanities and Social Sciences, the Year 9 students used inquiry-based learning and problem solving skills to investigate key features of World War One. Students worked in pairs to analyse primary sources to evaluate and develop their understanding of World War One. They created a fantastic PowerPoint presentation including archival footage, historical music and sound effects. Students narrated their presentation by incorporating their research and understanding. The class worked collaboratively with the Year 10 Photography class to commission a piece of artwork that embodies their research. The artwork was based on the Year 9s debrief of their research that the photography students reinterpreted into a visual display to enhance and accompany the documentary. The result was a visual banquet of historical knowledge and understanding that was exhibited to senior leadership and is currently on exhibition in the school library.





# **Dance News**

## 'Synthesis' Choreography Nights

On Thursday 27 July and Friday 28 July, our Specialist Dance students presented 'Synthesis', Choreography Nights for 2017. The two nights of performances highlighted the choreography and achievements of all our dance students from Years 7 to 12.

The solos and small group works were created completely by the students themselves and represent the culmination of their hard work and creative energy. 'Synthesis' provided the students with the opportunity to present their own creativity to an audience, and for our senior students to also delve behind the scenes and immerse themselves in the many production aspects of running a show.

"Synthesis" was a highly anticipated event on our calendar, and the hard work from all the students made it a great success.



Hold On performed by Year 12 students



Slip performed by Year 11 students



**Queen B performed by Year 8 students** 

## **Short Courses for Credit Program**

At the end of Term 2, Shannon Muggeridge, Greer Medley and Tyler Ambrose spent a week enjoying university life at Mt Lawley Edith Cowan University's School of Arts and Humanities completing a unit in drawing. These week-long specialist courses cover areas of study offered at ECU, and promote aspirations for tertiary education. Students gain a deeper understanding of how university works and produce high quality pieces. Students who pass the requirements of these courses will receive Advanced Standing (credit) for a first/second year unit once they gain successful admission to an applicable ECU undergraduate course.



Shannon Muggeridge, Greer Medley and Tyler Ambrose

## 15th annual Shaun Tan Award for Young **Artists**

The City of Subiaco's 15th Annual Shaun Tan Award for Young Artists encourages creativity and imagination, giving Western Australian school students an opportunity to present their creations in visual arts.

Shaun Tan is an acclaimed artist and writer who attended Balcatta Senior High School. Each year, the award poster features artwork by Shaun Tan himself.

The 2017 Shaun Tan Award exhibition includes fifty of the most outstanding artworks from this year's award. Where appropriate, finalists and shortlisted artists will have their work professionally framed or mounted. The exhibition was on display at Subiaco Library from Monday 10 July until Sunday 6 August.

Congratulations to Aimee Parker, Year 7 whose entry 'Self Portrait' has been shortlisted for this year's award exhibition. Aimee's entry is one of the top ten artworks in the lower secondary category (Years 7, 8 and 9).



Self Portrait by Aimee Parker, Year 7

## St George's Art Exhibition

Three of our talented Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students, Lily Routledge, Greer Medley and Shannon Muggeridge and their families. Ms Street, Ms Maitland and Ms Arkeveld attended the opening of the prestigious annual St George's Art Exhibition on Friday 21 July.

The exhibition was housed in the beautiful St George's Cathedral and staff and students were able to view excellent artworks from numerous schools while enjoying the surroundings and refreshments. Well done to all three students!

## **Greer Medley exhibits at META**

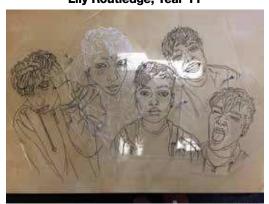
Year 11 student Greer Medley had her work selected for the acclaimed META 2017 Art and Design Exhibition presented by North Metropolitan TAFE during August 2017. This exhibition showcases work from Years 11 and 12 students across the state. Her contemporary piece, 'Refractions' involves drawing on layers of perspex was also exhibited at the St George's Exhibition in July.

## **Curtin University Visit**

On Saturday 19 August, Year 10, 11 and 12 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students went on an excursion to Curtin University for a morning of art workshops. The students had a wonderful morning learning new skills in mono printing and collage. They have already been using some of the new skills they learnt at the workshops back in the classroom.



Lily Routledge, Year 11



'Refractions' by Greer Medley, Year 11





Self Portrait by H

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r Entry



arvey Ma, Year 10

## **Emerge: Youth Art Awards**

The exhibition was presented by the City of Nedlands and held at John Leckie Pavilion on 19 August and showcased the artworks of local young people. The following students submitted artwork:

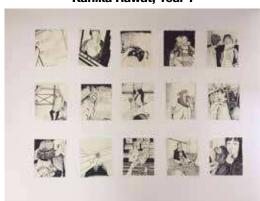
Year 7 - Samantha Antulov, Jonathan Smith, Ashlee Willis, Kanika Rawat and Xavier Slater Year 12 - Ari Gillespie, Shannon Muggeridge

## **Young Originals Exhibition**

Aspiring young artists from Years 7 to 12 in Western Australian public schools are invited to enter this exhibition which promotes excellence in the visual arts across a range of mediums including computer generated works, graphic design, photography, sculpture and textiles. The exhibition is open from Monday 11 September (opening night by invitation only) to Monday 25 September at Gallery 25, Edith Cowan University, 2 Bradford Street, Mount Lawley. Three students from our Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Program, Shynique Bicknell from Year 9, Torren Whisson from Year 10 and Sasha Roob from Year 10, have had their artwork selected for the Young Originals Exhibition. Each piece of art will be judged by a panel of representatives from the Arts in Education community through a very competitive judging process, via a digital photograph of the students' artwork.



Kanika Rawat, Year 7



Sasha Roob, Year 10

## **Outside the Frame Art Awards**

Outside the Frame showcases an array of contemporary artwork by some of the best young artists in the Southeast Metropolitan region. Established as a stepping stone to develop our young creative artists, viewers enjoyed perusing the works and exploring the hot topics of the next generation. These awards were open to students in Years 11 and 12 from across the Perth metropolitan region. High schools put forward student works for seven categories: painting, drawing, prints, sculpture, digital media/photography, textiles and mixed media. Outside the Frame Art Awards were presented by the City of Armadale and an exhibition was held on 12 August 2017 at

our students and school out in the community. They were: Year 11 – Greer Medley and Lily Routledge Year 12 – William Chiew, Caitlin Curran, Ari Gillespie and Luke Salter-Williams

Armadale District Hall. Six of our students submitted artwork for

these awards. They are a great example of positively promoting

## **Banners along the Terrace**

This annual exhibition of banners along St George's and Adelaide Terraces in Perth allows communities and regions throughout Western Australia to represent themselves to thousands of people travelling along these routes each day. Every year councils across Western Australia are invited to submit a banner celebrating their local area and acknowledging Local Government Week.

This year the City of Stirling invited students from Balcatta Senior High School's Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Program to create a banner to celebrate the school's 50th anniversary.

## 2017 Black Swan Prize for Portraiture Award

The Black Swan Prize for Portraiture Youth Award provides young artists with an opportunity to showcase their creative talents and to challenge them from an artistic perspective through the field of portraiture. Students in Years 7 to 12 were invited to paint a portrait of a well-known Australian; an Australian they respect and admire, or undertake a self-portrait.

Original artworks will be on display to the public at Tower 1, Brookfield Place, 125 St George's Terrace, Perth from 30 October to 24 November and the printed display of artworks at the Perth Cultural Centre during November 2017.

The following students submitted their self-portraits for the awards:

Year 9 Grace Kang Year 10 Sakshi Gupta Year 10 Harvey Ma



William Chiew, Year 12











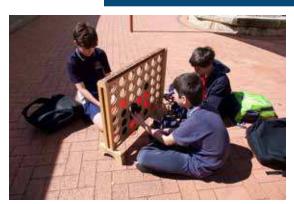
















































# **Semester O**

## **SEMESTER ONE AWARDS**

Semester One Awards were held on Tuesday 27 June for students from Years 7 to 12. Certificates were awarded to students for 'Top Student' and 'Merit Student' for curricular subjects.

The following students were also awarded certificates:

Respect/Unite/Excel Awards - awarded to students who follow the values of Respect/Unite/Excel:

Eloise Vlatko-Rulo, Year 7; Dev Kansara, Year 8; Neeyanta Nakarmi, Year 9; Sakshi Gupta, Year 10; Kendal Barden, Year 11 and Phoebe-Lee Schmiedte, Year 12.

Academic Excellence Awards – awarded to high achieving students:

### Year 7

Caesar Htat Lily Karamfiles Rebecca Kopellis Aimee Parker Adzi Zein

## Year 10

Joshua Barron Harvey Ma Regielyn Moreno Suhasi Patel Kate Vu

## Year 8

Elise Beirne Markus Gopcevic Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi Elena Momirski Jacqlin Parker

### Year 11

Jimmy Chen Muna Jibril Leilani King Cynthia Pham Micaela Resurreccion

## Year 9

Meg Bradsell Dania Ibrahim Lilian Johnston Neeyanta Nakarmi Kaziwa Rahman

### Year 12

Riya Amin William Chiew Chintu Devarapalli Shannon Muggeridge Rados Nikacevic



**Year 7 Award Winners** 



**Year 8 Award Winners** 

# ne Awards



**Year 9 Award Winners** 



**Year 10 Award Winners** 



**Year 11 Award Winners** 



**Year 12 Award Winners** 



**Year 11 Award Winners** 



Ana Rychlak & Isabella Gage assisting at awards assembly



**Gearing up for the 2017 Athletics Carnival** 

## Balcatta Bulletin