



# Balcatta Bulletin

## Issue 4 2018

### Highlights

#### Page 3

Armistice Centenary Project

#### Page 4 - 5

Year 12 Presentation Ceremony

#### Page 6

Invictus Games Captain

#### Page 7

Balcatta Academic Challenge

#### Page 10

Gifted and Talented Visual Art  
Exhibition

#### Page 15

Roots TV



## From the Principal

2018 has been a memorable year for the school. An important part of this year has been the planning for the commencement of works in 2019 of the school's \$50 million rebuild and refurbishment. The presentation of the plans, photographs and scaled model of the buildings was positively received by the community at our October Community Day.

I recently received a letter from the Acting Director General (with a sincere apology for the delay). The letter was congratulating the school on the Year 12 results achieved in 2017. The Vocational Education and Training results of students who gained a Certificate III and higher qualifications are an exceptional achievement, as well as the number of students to be awarded School Curriculum and Standards awards. The school received a certificate which is on display in the front office.

I wish to inform the school community that Principal Ms Lesley Street has been appointed the substantive Principal to Mount Lawley Senior High School. I sincerely thank her for her contributions to Balcatta and wish her all the best.

We farewelled the Year 12 Class of 2018 at the Presentation Ceremony on Tuesday 27 November. The purpose of the evening is to celebrate and acknowledge every Year 12 student as they have now completed their secondary education at Balcatta Senior High School. I had a conversation with every Year 12 student regarding their future plans and I felt very honoured to hear about their future ambitions which were shared with the audience. They leave us as fine young men and women, excellent upholders of the school's values of Respect, Unite and Excel. I would particularly like to acknowledge and thank the Head Prefects, Ana Rychlak and Robert Kollie, ably supported by Prefects, Alicia Gregg, Simon Naumoski and Isaac Milner, for their initiative and hard work in representing the school and the student body in 2018. Congratulations to our special award winners and course award winners. As a community, we look forward to learning about the next phase of their learning journey.

Term 4 is also a wonderful time to look back on a number of the amazing events that showcase our commitment as an Act-Belong-Commit school. Some of these events include:

- EnvirArt Exhibition
- Interschool Athletics Carnival
- 'Vertex' End of Year Dance Concert
- Dance performances: Osborne Park Show and Westfield Innaloo
- Gifted and Talented Visual Art Exhibition
- Celebration Assembly
- Armistice Centenary Project Exhibition
- Inaugural Year 7 and Year 8 Music Event
- ICAS Writing and Maths Competition
- Year 6 Orientation Day
- Outdoor Education Camp
- Inaugural Year 5 Academic Challenge
- Numerous excursions and incursions

I would like to thank all staff for their contribution towards such activities and the delivery of engaging teaching and learning curriculum. Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank all members from the School Board and P&C. As a school community, we are very privileged to have such a committed and supportive group who always have the needs of the school and our students at the forefront of their decision making.

Helen Maitland, Principal

## From the Chair of the School Board

As 2018 draws to a close and Balcatta Senior High School (SHS) completes its second year as an Independent Public School, we reflect on what has been another very exciting, busy and productive year for the Board and our school community. In 2017, it was announced that Balcatta SHS was to be the beneficiary of a \$50 million dollar upgrade for the redevelopment of our school to include a new administration block, performing arts centre, science and general classrooms, sports hall, change rooms, cafeteria, staff areas and design and technology workshops.

The planning for the project began in earnest and, by the end of 2017, a distinguished team of architects led by Mr David Gulland from Hassell Studio had been appointed to design the redevelopment and oversee the refurbishment of the existing heritage listed buildings.

I was honoured to be included on the Project Consultative Group (PCG) amongst the other stakeholders including the Department of Education and Building Management and Works (BMW) as the Board and community representative. I am grateful for the support and confidence of the Board and the wider community to allow me to make a contribution to this project. I am humbled by the opportunity but very proud to partake in the discussions and decision-making process.

During the year, a number of important issues and policies were discussed and tabled at meetings. These included but not limited to:

1. The development of the Balcatta SHS Marketing Plan and Communication Review placing a greater emphasis on electronic communication and upgrading our school website.
2. The School Uniform Policy where the Board advocated a more consistent approach to the dress code by parents/ caregivers, students and teaching staff and the marketing of this policy through the school's website, the Balcatta Update and Connect messages.
3. Discussions on student achievement and strategies to improve results in WACE, OLN and NAPLAN.
4. A new approach to timetabling and teaching at Balcatta SHS during 2018 promoting flexibility and opportunities to student classes.

The 2018 School Board is comprised of staff representatives, community members and parent representatives. All our members have brought their unique and valuable skills, wealth of experience and expertise to the Board. Their input and contribution to Board discussions, deliberations and decision making have been greatly appreciated. I sincerely thank our Board members for their enthusiasm and commitment during 2018.

My sincere thanks to our Principal, Mrs Helen Maitland, for her support and encouragement throughout the year. Mrs Maitland's hard work and tireless contribution to Balcatta SHS have been generous and selfless. I commend Helen on her collaborative and effective leadership of Balcatta SHS and praise her commitment and dedication to our school, our students and our school community. Helen continuously identifies with and encourages our values of Respect Unite Excel within the Balcatta SHS community.

To our teachers and support staff, I acknowledge your hard work throughout the year and thank you for supporting and helping our children reach their potential.

Finally, I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and I look forward to 2019 which will see the commencement of our upgrade and our third and crucial year as an Independent Public School.

Helen Notis, Chair

# Armistice Centenary Project

On Wednesday 7 November, a number of Balcatta Senior High School staff and students acknowledged the Armistice Centenary by presenting an exhibit at the RSL, Osborne Park Sub-Branch. The event was hosted by the Principal, Mrs Helen Maitland, in conjunction with Mr Norman Wells AM, President of the RSL Osborne Park Sub-Branch.

The school was successful in securing funding from the Federal Government for this event, which resulted in the exhibition of projects and artwork by our Year 9 and Year 10 students.

There were a number of dignitaries present including Hon Michael Keenan MP, David Michael MLA, City of Stirling Mayor Mark Irwin, as well as members from the RSL, School Board and the general public.

Students had the opportunity to showcase their work as well as discuss with some of the dignitaries about their projects/art work.



Year 10 artwork display

## Year 9 Documentaries, Year 10 Documentary Covers and Propaganda Posters

This exhibit was created by Year 9 Humanities and Social Sciences students. As part of a Project-Based Learning task, students had to investigate key concepts of World War I to create a documentary.

## Year 9 World War I Letters and Portrait Recreations

This exhibit was created by Year 9 students during their English, Humanities and Social Sciences and Photography classes. As part of a Project-Based Learning task, students had to recreate period letters and portraits from Australians during World War I. Students developed a greater understanding of Australian perspectives during World War I while improving their literacy capabilities of text creation and interpretation of texts. Students further enhanced their understanding of photographic skills and processes, employing digital manipulations to reconstruct period photography.

## Armistice Centenary Portraits

This exhibit was created by Year 9 Gifted and Talented Visual Art students who were asked to choose a service veteran or identity from World War I that they related to, either with a similar background or from a town in common with their ancestors from this period. They were asked to research the veteran and their background. Using a photograph, they were to develop a tonal portrait, under the tutelage of award-winning Perth artist and tutor, Mark Tweedie. Students also completed comics and portrait drawings based on these stories.



HaSS teacher, Mr Dragecevic with students



Year 9 students with their teachers, Mr Dragecevic and Ms Arkeveld



Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi with her portrait of veteran, Percy Cameron



ANZAC Artwork Display

# Year 12 Present

On Tuesday 27 November the school farewelled our Year 12 students at a Presentation Ceremony held at the Churchlands Community Centre in Balcatta. The evening celebrated twelve successful years of education for 89 students, and was an important milestone that acknowledged a new chapter in their lives.

It was a very special evening in which 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 Beirut 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

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

Jimmy Chen 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.

Robert Kollie and Alicia Gregg were the recipients of the Balcatta Senior High School Sportsperson of the Year Award presented by Mr Richard Karamfiles, President of the P&C Association.

Madison Rabnott was the recipient of the Senior School Special Commendation Award presented by Mr David Michael MLA, Member for Balcatta.

Greer Medley was the recipient of the Caltex All Rounder Award which was presented by Councillor Adam Spagnolo from City of Stirling.

Robert Kollie was the recipient of the ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award presented by Joseph Millington, Warrant Officer Class Two, Sergeant Major Instructor Gunnery

Ryo He was the recipient of the Commitment to Excellence Award which was presented by Mr Ross Luckman from North Metropolitan Regional Education Office.

Judith Pazhooparambil 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.

Melissa Adley was the recipient of the Anna Kristancic Outstanding Achievement Award presented by Ms Helen Notis, Chair of the School Board.

Alicia Gregg was the recipient of the Joan Ewers Community Service Award presented by Mr Julian Vinciullo, Principal of West Balcatta Primary School.

Timeea Tus was the recipient of the Edith Cowan University Scholarship presented by Ms Tessa Curtis, Associate Principal.

Jimmy Chen was the recipient of the University of Western Australia Scholarship presented by Mr Kevin Fraser, Associate Principal.

Sourav Rawat and Habib Sultan were the recipients of the Curtin University/Principal's Recommendation Scholarship presented by Mrs Helen Maitland, Principal.



Jimmy Chen and Mr Kevin Fraser

## Year 12 Subject Awards

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

Greer Medley - Visual Arts ATAR  
Calista Drobnjak - Visual Arts General  
Stefan Minic - Certificate II in Music  
Wilbert Tagle - Certificate II in Visual Arts (Photography Focus)  
Micaela Resurreccion - Dance General

Ms Tessa Curtis, Associate Principal presented both the English and Modern History awards to the following students:

Keetsho Tshering - English as an Additional Language/Dialect ATAR  
Kaye Ann Mendoza - English as an Additional Language/Dialect General  
Greer Medley - English ATAR  
Judith Pazhooparambil - English General  
Cynthia Pham - Modern History ATAR

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

Jimmy Chen - Mathematics Specialist ATAR  
Jimmy Chen - Mathematics Methods ATAR  
Muna Jibril - Mathematics Applications ATAR  
Amy Burgess - Mathematics Essentials General

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

Jimmy Chen - Chemistry ATAR  
Melissa Adley - Human Biology ATAR  
Jimmy Chen - Physics ATAR  
Muna Jibril - Psychology ATAR  
Kevin Nimeno and Janssen Pilapil - Psychology General

# ation Ceremony

Mr Matthew Witcombe, Teacher in Charge, Technologies presented the Technologies awards to the following students:  
Ryo He - Applied Information Technology General  
Abi Sun - Certificate III in Business  
Aqsha Ghiffari - Building & Construction General  
Jessica Paull - Certificate III in Retail  
Kevin Nimeno - Certificate II in Hospitality  
Kevin Nimeno - Food Science & Technology General

Mr Geoff Birkett Teacher in Charge of Health and Phys Ed presented the Technologies awards to the following students:  
Jack Clough - Physical Education Studies General  
Ajaypal Singh - Certificate II in Sport Coaching  
Micaela Resurreccion - Health Studies General  
Cayden Van Boomen - Outdoor Education General

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



Performance by Year 10 Dance students



Ajaypal Singh and Mr Geoff Birkett



Mr Matthew Witcombe and Abi Sun



Daniel Sorani and Mrs Helen Maitland



ATAR Dux Jimmy Chen and VET Dux Judith Pazhooparambil



Muna Jibril and Mr Arul Niroshan



Judith Pazhooparambil and Mrs Helen Maitland



Keetsho Tshering and Ms Tessa Curtis

# Our People

## Brendan Hardman – Invictus Games Captain

Brendan Hardman graduated from Balcatta Senior High School in 2004 having attended the school from Year 9. He enjoyed the multicultural aspects of the school that made him feel accepted as a person. Even though he did frustrate teachers with his lack of attention and 'class clown' attitude, there were teachers who had a huge impact on his life, including Mr Blitvich who, as well as giving him an insight into creative thinking and questioning the nature of science, taught him about the body and how to conduct himself as a young man.

His life goal was to become a certified tour guide and travel Europe working on Contiki Tours. However, he felt that something was missing from his life and realised it was the Army and serving his country. That became a reality as he was sworn in at Defence Recruiting in Perth and left that same day



On assignment overseas

to The Royal Military College Duntroon in 2009. The armed forces gave him discipline, structure, a career and future but, most of all, graduating as a Lieutenant gave him the ability to lead, which is something that he will always be passionate about.

Brendan first injured his back quite severely in 2011 and had to do some intensive rehabilitation to get himself fit again to deploy, which he did, but over the next 4 years, just as he got back to peak fitness, he would injure it again and have to start over. From 2013 to 2017, he would go through his own personal hell and have the most challenging period of his life thus far. Within 6 months, he had completely ruptured the disc in his back in the same spot so the doctors needed to take more serious action to fix the issue. Brendan had a spinal fusion and ended up with two titanium rods in his spine and removed the disc completely. Subsequently, he was medically discharged from the Army in April 2016.

In mid-2015, after struggling in silence for a long time, his fiancé (now wife) convinced him to seek help and booked an appointment with the GP where he was diagnosed with severe depression and anxiety. He began seeing a psychiatrist regularly and went on more medication which led to an attempt on his life and the knowledge that he had to stop taking drugs and get his life back. He started to take his mental health seriously as he never wanted to get back to a suicidal state again.

A week after this happened, he started playing wheelchair basketball and found something he could do and loved it. Brendan worked hard at playing basketball and was selected for the 2018 Invictus Games and named as captain of the wheelchair basketball team. Representing his country at Invictus was a great achievement and he will try to get there again in 2020.

His advice to young people going through mental health problems is to always look after their friends when they are down and to understand that they are completely normal, but they should not ignore the signs and always reach out for help because there is so much help out there. Even though Brendan can't do everything he used to do, he says he has never been happier or healthier and his struggles have made him a better person.

The full version of Brendan's story can be read on the Alumni page on the school's website at <https://baccattashs.wa.edu.au/community-events/alumni/>



The Captain scoring goals for Australia



Brendan and wife Monique



Brendan in action at the Invictus Games

## Joondalup Youth Portrait Selection Exhibition

At the Joondalup Youth Portrait Selection Exhibition, Jeryn Huntley of Year 7 was presented with the 'Exceptional Work' award in the 8 to 12 year age category as well as the People's Choice Award. He received a certificate and a gift voucher for his efforts and the only prize offered outside of the official judging over both age groups. It was a fantastic result to take home these awards in his first Art Gallery invitational. The exhibition was run by the Joondalup Community Arts Association (JCAA) at Joondalup Art Gallery and sponsored by Jackson's Drawing Supplies.



# School Events

## Balcatta Academic Challenge

On Friday 23 November, the inaugural Balcatta Academic Challenge took place. The purpose of the Balcatta Academic Challenge was to promote Balcatta Senior High School as a school of choice for talented students. The Challenge provided primary school students with the opportunity to experience academic extension and enrichment activities across a variety of learning areas.

The Challenge was designed to encourage local intake primary schools to select and enter their high achieving students to compete on behalf of their school to win the prestigious perpetual trophy, to be displayed at their school, for one year.

Fifty five Year 5 students participated in the Academic Challenge and will also receive an invitation to apply for the 2020 intake of the Academic Extension program. Students competed in four challenges that spanned across all Learning Areas. For each challenge, students earned 'points' – West Balcatta 3 earned the most points at the end of the day and was presented with a perpetual trophy for the Balcatta Academic Challenge. Prizes were also awarded throughout the day for students and teams who demonstrated excellent team work, critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Congratulations to West Balcatta 3: Samantha Thrush, Amytis Kabir, Steven Le, Evan La Galia and Ben Ellis



West Balcatta 3 Winners with Principal Mrs Maitland



Runners Up - Takari Team 1

## World Challenge Tour

Balcatta Senior High School is one of the many schools in a sister school relationship with a Cambodian school as part of the Angkor Project. The sister school relationship commenced in January 2009 when the then Principal, Anna Kristancic, and Deputy Principal, Pat Serrell, travelled to Cambodia and negotiated a sister school relationship with Treng Trayeoung Secondary School in the District of Phnom Sroud.

The Angkor Project ('Children Helping to Rebuild the Schools of Cambodia') focuses on supporting schools and staff in the Kampong Speu Province, located 50 kms west of Phnom Penh, which is one of the poorest rural provinces in Cambodia and one in most need of support. The Project aims to address poverty by enhancing student attendance and participation at school, supporting infrastructure improvements, and building the capacity of teachers in schools and staff in the Provincial Education Office.

Treng Trayeoung Secondary School has a population of approximately 1,500 students from Years 8 to 12. Balcatta Senior High School supports the Treng Trayeoung Secondary School through fund raising events during the year. Fundraising by Balcatta Senior High School assists their sister school with projects such as water fountains, physical education equipment, learning resources, computer equipment and painting of various buildings in the school grounds.

Every two years, a group of students and teachers from Balcatta Senior High School visit the school and help with specific projects as part of the World Challenge Program. On 20 November 2018, a group of Year 10 students, Evangeline Armstrong, Holly Fitzpatrick, Aleshia Mavlian, Neeyanta Nakarmi, Lily Johnston, Georgia Ellis and Isabella Pezzali flew out to Cambodia to commence the World Challenge tour including a visit and project activities with our sister school. The students raised funds by making coffee for staff, Entertainment Book sales, greeting card sales, bake sales, Free Dress Days and sausage sizzles at athletic carnivals. We look forward to hearing about their adventures on their return.



Year 10 students leaving for Cambodia

## Primary School Art Exhibition

On Wednesday 19 September, Year 5 and Year 6 students from the local intake primary schools were invited to produce a piece of artwork for the exhibition with the theme 'Under the Sea – Sustainable Art Creature'. Excellence and Commendation Awards as well as a Principal's Award were presented in the Art Gallery. Invited guests and parents who attended the event were impressed with the quality and creativity of the artwork presented. Thanks to our judge, Jodie Davidson, one of our Art Tutors; Sherree Tomlinson, students and parents who helped make this event a wonderful success.

Congratulations to Benjamin Ellis of Year 5 at West Balcatta Primary School, who was awarded with the Principal's Award as well as the People's Choice Award.

Certificate of Excellence:

Snehil Insan of Year 5, Balcatta Primary School  
 Amy Kim of Year 5, Takari Primary School  
 Dristi Adesh Mahatekar of Year 6, Tuart Hill Primary School  
 Jacob Wendt-Ziapur of Year 5, West Balcatta Primary School

Certificate of Commendation:

Jenna Vance of Year 5, Balcatta Primary School  
 Mei Percival of Year 6, Balcatta Primary School  
 Josh Atkinson of Year 6, Takari Primary School  
 Maja Hadzic of Year 5, Takari Primary School  
 Keryl Fomba of Year 5, Tuart Hill Primary School  
 Gus Edmondson of Year 5, West Balcatta Primary School  
 Stephanie Litchfield of Year 6, West Balcatta Primary School



**Benjamin Ellis of Year 5 at West Balcatta PS accepting the Principal's Award**



**Artwork by Benjamin Ellis**

## Urban Art class murals

The Year 9 Urban Art class have finished their works along the walkway to the library.

Octophant – Amy Patrick and Tegan Tuckerman  
 BSHS – Faris Debassay with a little help from Sebastian Foran  
 Sugar Skull – Jacqlin Parker and Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi  
 Head of Planets – Chhime Gyeltshen and Sangay Choden  
 Percussion Squid – Seth Petchell and Ethan Robinson  
 Astronaut and Octopus – Ros Edwards, Sam Said and Taylor Thompson  
 Spray Painting Dancer – Amiithyst Darcy, Jolie Do and Jenny Tran  
 Kendrick Lamar – Jack Nixon, Joseph D'Annunzio and Marko Simovic

This project was so engaging for these students and they have exceeded their own expectations and those of their teacher, Mr Schmiedte.



**Spray Painting Dancer**



**Octophant**



**BSHS Mural**



For more detailed information and photos of articles inside this Bulletin issue, Scan QR Code to Balcatta SHS Website - News/Events



## Awesome Arts Festival

On Wednesday 10 October, the Year 7 Gifted and Talented Visual Art students attended the Awesome Art Festival at Perth Cultural Centre. The aim of the Awesome Arts Festival was to inspire creativity and expression in young Western Australians through engagement with a broad range of contemporary art forms. Students saw a world-class theatre performance and participated in a workshop in the Arts area with a curriculum focus. The students watched a great performance called 'Ruby's Wish', participated in a Dadaist poem workshop, viewed artwork at the Art Gallery of WA and took part in a 'cause and effect' engineering workshop with some crazy German inventors. Their artwork from the printmaking activity completed in class were also on display on the big billboards and display boards around the Perth Cultural Centre.



Students keeping busy at a workshop



Students outside Arts Festival



'A Galaxy Far Far Away' by Kai Dunbar of Year 7



'Mutant' by Danny Antal of Year 7

## Year 9 Photography Competition

During Term 4, Year 9 students have entered an in-class photo competition organised by photography teacher Mr Giles. The theme was "shadow and light". Mr Giles awarded prizes for Best Image and staff voted for a People's Choice Award.

The winners from each Year 9 Photography class were:

Best Image:

9.1 - Sammy Edwards

9.2 - Lili Stjepanovic

Runner Up:

9.1 - Qays Hersi

9.2 - Chontal Wallam

People's Choice Award:

9.1 - Markus Gopcevic

9.2 - Vanessa Notis



Photo by Sammy Edwards



Photo by Markus Gopcevic



Photo by Lili Stjepanovic

# Art News

## Gifted and Talented Visual Art Exhibition

The Gifted and Talented Visual Art Exhibition 2018 was held on Wednesday 31 October in the Ron Murphy Art Gallery. Dr Kevin Robertson, a well-renowned Western Australian artist, officially opened the exhibition. He exhibits nationally and is represented in Perth by the 'Arts Collective WA'. He is a seasonal academic at Curtin University and an art tutor at the Fremantle Art Centre. We have had the pleasure of having him working here with our students as an art tutor on Saturday morning art sessions with foundation drawing and landscape acrylic painting workshops this year.

It was a stunning night with a huge crowd of staff, parents and students who viewed the outstanding works in which the school's Gifted and Talented Visual Art students created over the year. Those who were able to attend were fed with beautiful grazing tables that had been set up and prepared by the amazing Home Economics staff and Hospitality students.

The skies were lit with fairy lights and dramatic stage lighting. Dry ice and smoke machines set the mood as Michelle Murning's Wearable Arts students rocked the fashion catwalk, showcasing their artwork in the form of dresses and costumes made from anything they could get their hands on, to re-use and recycle. Patron of the Gifted and Talented Visual Art Program, Professor Ted Snell AM, presented the inaugural Patron Award to Gabriel Martinez Rivera of Year 10. Gabriel was highly commended for his amazing artwork.

The Principal Helen Maitland said, "the quality of work exhibited was exceptional. The exhibition showcased the many talents of our students including Music and Hospitality." Our Visual Art program provides students with outstanding creative opportunities to develop their artistic skills and knowledge. They have had the opportunity to participate in Saturday morning workshops conducted by industry professionals, artists, designers, illustrators and curators throughout 2018. The skills acquired from these workshops are invaluable and instrumental to the development of our students in the Gifted and Talented Visual Art Program.



Designed by Sami Antulov of Year 8 and modelled by Kaida Law of Year 9



'Pink Vigilante' by Leilani King, Year 12

The following students were award winners in their selected studio disciplines:

- Top Student Landscape Painting - Leilani King
- Top Student Film - Torren Whisson
- Top Student Wearable Art - Vanessa Santich
- Top Student Wearable Art - Aliyah Nieass
- Top Student Portrait Painting - Meg Bradsell
- Top Student Portrait Painting - Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi
- Top Student Photography - A'Janae Braysher
- Top Student Photography - Xavier Slater
- Top Student Urban Art - Greer Medley
- Top Student Digital Art - Philip de Jong
- Top Student Printmaking - Malisha Octian
- Top Student Foundation Drawing - Harrison King
- Top Student Acrylic Landscape - Aaliyah Geyer
- Top Student Acrylic Landscape - Kanika Rawat
- Top Student Ceramics - Georgia Pope

The **Award of Excellence** trophy is awarded to one student from each year group that have demonstrated excellence throughout the year in all areas. The Year 10 and Year 12 students' names will join our honour board and they will be presented with a cheque.

- Year 7 - Award of Excellence - Malisha Octian
- Year 8 - Award of Excellence - Zöe Thatcher
- Year 9 - Award of Excellence - Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi
- Year 10 - Award of Excellence - Meg Bradsell
- Year 11 - Award of Excellence - Torren Whisson
- Year 12 - Award of Excellence - Greer Medley

The **Bevan Hill Acquisition Prize** is awarded to a selected Year 12 student. Their work will join Balcatta Senior High School's extensive permanent collection. This year the prize was awarded to Leilani King for her work titled 'Pink Vigilante'. She received a cheque for \$500.



Designed and modelled by Vanessa Santich of Year 12



Designed by Nikita Lindop of Year 7 and modelled by Debbie Stevens



Artwork by Gabriel Martinez Rivera, Year 10

# Dance News

## Vertex 2018

On Friday 26 October, the Specialist Dance students performed in a dance showcase for the annual dance production titled 'Vertex 2018'. 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, collaboration and enthusiasm.



'Disney Princesses' by Year 8 students



'Water Dance' by Year 8 students



'The Greatest Show' by Year 11/12 students

## Westfield Innaloo Christmas Pageant

Based on our involvement in last year's inaugural Westfield Innaloo Christmas Pageant, we were invited to participate again this year. The pageant was held on Sunday 11 November and was a great opportunity for our Specialist Dance students from Years 7 to 10 to be involved in this community event.



## Osborne Park Show

On Saturday 17 November, Specialist Dance students from Years 7 to 10 took the stage at the Osborne Park Show as part of the dance finale lead up to the fireworks. The crowd was the largest we have seen in recent years and the weather was perfect allowing the crowds to cheer and clap loudly for our students.



'Toy Story' by Year 7 students



'Where is the Love' by Year 11/12 students

## 'Zemblanity' Music Concert

On Tuesday 13 November, our students participated in a music concert held in the Performing Arts Theatre. At the beginning of the year our music teacher, Daniel Rees supported by Jamie Arkeveld and Kevin Fraser, initiated a plan to develop a Music Program to accompany the rich Arts culture at Balcatta SHS. The program gave students an opportunity to develop and produce a music performance at the end of the year. 'Zemblanity' was the pinnacle of the growth of this program. Many staff and students were involved in the planning, support and performances in an extraordinary manner for a professional production.

The Instrumental Music School Services (IMMS) teachers, Steven Sutherland, Kezia Grocott, Greg Brenton and Erryn Booth made a substantial contribution in preparing the students for the concert. With the assistance of Steven and Kezia on the night, the concert was a wonderful experience for our music students. Staff involved with music classes, Alison Martin and Trevor Ghouse together with Daniel Rees, are thrilled with the efforts and improvement in the students this year. This concert has exemplified why we are so proud of our students and why it is so exciting to be growing the program for next year.

Thanks to staff and parents who attended and supported our students.



Nadia Chaiyasat, Brandon Allen, Sergio Lomerio and Stella Diev



Sabrina Tengku performing with ukulele



Asha Budalich, Iraiah King and Callum Case-McGlade



Guitar, Percussion and Flute Ensemble

## SciTech Robotics Club

The students have been meeting in the library each Thursday after school. They have been learning and having great fun experimenting with electronics. Students have investigated voltage, resistance, current and covered electrical safety. The students are using Brain Box electronic kits and using their new-found skills to boost an electric motor to create a flying spinner.

At the final SciTech Robotics Club session for 2018, the amazing animal-like electronically controlled creations were showcased and filmed in action. The creations included a flapping bird with light-up eyes (Blake Beggs and Max Stadnik), a mean vibrating snake (Dante McGee), a frilled-necked lizard (Jacqilin Parker), a tail wagging cat (Joko Narra), Tim Lockwood, the father with the bushy eyebrows in the movie Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (Jeryn Huntley and Jye Rigby) and a lucky cat that turns feral when someone approaches it (Harry Dos Santos Babic and Adzi Zein).



Adzi Zein and Harry Dos Santos Babic with their feral cat, Jacqilin Parker working on a frilled-necked lizard



Joko Narra with his tail wagging cat

## Grand CO2 Prix Drag Racing

Year 9 Design & Technology students were able to test and race their CO2 dragsters in the annual Balcatta Senior High School Grand CO2 Prix Competition held on Wednesday 17 October. CO2 dragsters are vehicles designed to Australian competition specifications. Each dragster is made from balsa timber and powered by CO2 canisters. The dragsters are raced over 20 metres with average speeds reaching around 70km/h.

Students learn a variety of different skills whilst manufacturing this project. They learnt basic science terms such as aerodynamics, mass and friction, and how they are an integral part of design. They also learnt that to successfully manufacture a design project, various different areas of the design process must be completed. This year's winner was Tyson Smitham and the runner up was Caleb Petchell. The race was so close that the judges had to consult the camera footage on the finish line. Congratulations Tyson for your efforts. Tyson received the winning prize of a \$50.00 gift certificate and his name engraved on the trophy.

# um News

Congratulations to all the students who have competed and demonstrated our school's values throughout the year. A special mention must go to Tahlia Wells-Vasile for her innovative carrot dragster.

The Design & Technology Department would like to thank Bunnings Warehouse in Balcatta, who again donated the balsa timber.

This is the seventh year the students have enjoyed this project and we hope to continue it for many more years.



Runner-up Caleb Petchell and Winner Tyson Smitham



Mr Jahn with Vyom Patel and Tyson Smitham

## EnvirArt Competition

Our Year 10 students were given the task of creating a piece of art that informed and motivated people to take action on issues such as environmental destruction and climate change. Why? Because these issues affect everyone and every community, however, most people cannot or do not want to attend scientific conferences or read lengthy scientific articles on this topic. It was decided that it was important to reach people in a different way.

Previous students' work for this task won for the school, the City of Stirling 2018 Living Green Award (Art to Inspire). The artworks this year were judged by a panel of experts. This included local artist, Roslyn Nolen and environmental scientists Simone Janney and Associate Professor Hayley Norman (CSIRO). Winners received certificates and prizes donated by CSIRO and Climarte (an organisation in Melbourne, Victoria with a similar vision to ours, using art to make people more aware of climate change and encourage them to live a sustainable life).

The level of student engagement in this cross-curricular task was high, as teachers across several different learning areas – Science, HaSS, Psychology and Art – collaborated to organise and promote the event. Students completed an in-depth study of the causes of environmental destruction and the concept of climate change. Our expert Psychology teacher, Mrs Debbie Taylor, gave the students a presentation on the state of denial, the emotive power of colour and the use of images to prime an audience. Students also participated in a workshop on how to effectively critique a piece of art. Each student used this wide range of information to create their art work.

Student works from Governor Stirling High School were also submitted in the competition. Parents and other interested guests added to the audience at the presentation held on the morning of Thursday 11 October. The atmosphere was buzzing as students shared their scientific knowledge through a unique, artistic voice.

## World of Maths

On 13 and 14 September, during Numeracy Week, the Mathematics Department organised a World of Maths incursion for Year 7 to Year 9 students. Students from each year group participated in a 100 minute session in which they worked in groups to solve different problems. They had loads of fun and enjoyed the hands-on nature of the activities.



Students solving a Maths puzzle



Ashleigh Curedale, Keisha Dawson, Holly Fitzpatrick, Tatiana Stjepanovic and Melissa Josevski-Sustainability Award

Aaron Villota being presented with a Merit award



Neeyanta Nakarmi - How to perfectly charcoal the earth

# Health & Phys Ed News

## Interschool Athletics Carnival

On Thursday 18 October, our students participated in the Interschool Athletics Carnival held at the State Athletics Centre in Floreat. Even though the weather was dreary, it didn't dampen their spirits.

Our team was successful in many events, with 11 students placing first, 8 students placing second and 21 students placing third.

A special mention to Tryphena Kollie who was runner-up champion girl for the Year 8's and Skye Lankester of Year 8 who competed in the 100m sprint against Year 11/12 girls and blitzed them.

Well done to all who competed, you did Balcatta proud!!



Jack Nixon preparing for his event



Robert Kollie at the finish line

## Year 10 Outdoor Recreation Camp

On the morning of Wednesday 14 November, 18 Outdoor Recreation students along with teachers, Mr Taseff and Mrs Johnson, caught the ferry and headed to Rottnest Island for three days of camping, cooking, cycling, sight-seeing, surfing and quokka spotting.

Upon arrival, there was time to have a quick exploration of Thomson Bay and then eat our pre-packed lunch. After refuelling, we headed out on a 30-minute bike ride (including A LOT) of hills to our secluded surfing spot where we met our surf coaches. The surf was perfect and meant that everyone was able to, not only stand up, but also catch some decent rides. After an hour in the water, it was time to head back to the settlement and to our campgrounds to unpack our luggage and set up camp. This was going well until one group of girls discovered they had left their tent poles back in Perth. So with some ingenious suggestions from Mrs Johnson, they were able to 'borrow' a large orange traffic cone from the nearby building site, sit this on their esky and construct a circus type tent which they happily slept in for the next two nights.

Cooking was prepared on the camp BBQ's for the night then as it got dark we headed off for our 'Twilight Tales' tour of Thomson Bay. We met our guide who took on the character of Colonel Angelo who was the superintendent of Rottnest from 1890-1898. He told us many fascinating stories of the history of Rottnest plus some tales of the ghosts who live on the island too. After the ghostly storytelling, it was back to camp for a snack and then to bed. I don't think anyone had a great night's sleep as they all had to contend with flat air beds (or no mattress at all), quokkas constantly trying to steal food, flapping tents and a very early rising at 5.00am due to the sun beaming through the tents. The lack of sleep did not dampen their spirits and by 8.30am

Ms Stevens had arrived at camp to accompany us on our day of snorkelling and exploring the island. First stop was the crystal clear waters of Parker Point followed by a short walk to the beautiful Little Salmon Bay. Everyone had a snorkel and saw amazing corals, heaps of different fish and followed the underwater snorkel trail where there are plaques under water with different pieces of information on them to read. Robert decided it would be here that he would catch up on his missed sleep from the previous night. This sleep may have contributed to him winning the 'lobster award'. From here, we went to the Wadjemup Lighthouse and then out to West End where we saw a large group of seals just floating around in the water in front of Cathedral Rocks.

It was then back to camp to cook up a big lunch before heading out to test our golfing skills at mini golf. After mini golf, it was time to relax or go fishing. Mikael Sisko was the only one to catch a fish and with the help of Ms Stevens, he cleaned and cooked it for dinner. After showers and dinner, we headed out again in the dark to go on a stargazing adventure. We walked to a lookout on the hill and were then informed of all things to do with planets, stars and their constellations by our guide. It was back to bed after this, for another night of restless sleep with those scavenging quokkas.

Finally, Friday was here so we all got up at 6.00am for an early morning fishing expedition. The fish weren't biting and soon it was time to head back to camp and pack up. Once we were finished, we rode out to The Basin for a look around and before we knew it, it was time to head to the inflatable water park. We had the park to ourselves and it was heaps of fun. Giant slides, water volleyball, trampolines and more were all well-used. Sadly, that soon came to an end and it was time for us to get ready to board the ferry back to Perth. The ride was so smooth and a perfect way to end an amazing camp. Thank you to Mr Taseff, Mrs Johnson and Ms Stevens for making the camp so enjoyable.



Ready to explore



Learning to surf



Breakfast at the campsite

# Student Services

## Jade Lewis

On Monday 15 October, Year 9 students participated in an incursion, co-ordinated by Mr Curtis, as part of the Social and Emotional Curriculum for 2018. Jade Lewis' presentation draws upon her own experiences as a teenager and offered encouragement, insight and realistic strategies in which students can use when faced with intense challenges and changes in their lives.

Jade reiterated to the students, they need to become connected to a group, counsellor or support networks; forge new friendships and sustain existing positive friendships; have something to live for and create short term and long term goals.

Students were highly appreciative of the opportunity, and are well-placed to tackle any challenges in the future.



## Man Up – Beautiful By Design Personal Development Program

This term, our Chaplain, Merrilee Wong, selected a group of Year 9 students to take part in a personal development program facilitated by youth leaders who are successfully running the program within multiple high schools.

It combines the use of practical, inspirational and experimental approaches toward learning and is designed to equip young people with the essential skills and knowledge to develop a secure identity and to have vision for the future.

The topics presented to the Year 9 girls which are relevant today included bullying, social media, healthy relationships and beauty. The topics presented to the Year 9 boys included anger management, respect and teamwork, healthy relationships and choices.

By the end of the program, the students left feeling equipped to become effective global citizens for the future, with a greater understanding and confidence in who they are, where they're heading and to see the value and contribution they can bring to the world around them.



Year 9 students with Chaplain, Merrilee Wong

## Roots TV

During Term 3, Year 12 students, Ajaypal Singh, Robert Kollie and Temesgen Gebremichael were selected to act in a mentoring role with our school's new partnership with Roots TV. Roots TV is a community-based not-for-profit, media empowerment program supporting young people to create and distribute films about their visions for a more just and sustainable world.

The students collaborated on a short film called "54" with students from Balga Senior High School which explores the serious issue of credit card fraud.

On Friday 8 August, this short film was shown to the community at the Herb Graham Recreation Centre in Mirrabooka, where a number of school leaders and Western Australian Police representatives were in attendance. As part of this project, our students also recently took part in a radio interview on Noongar Radio 100.9 - the largest Indigenous radio station in Australia. Robert has subsequently been offered a volunteer position at the station. The students have also been put forward for a short term paid mentoring contract through MercyCare.



Year 12 students with Ms Jaye Christie



Students listening to a representative from Roots TV



Year 9 boys listening to the program leader



Year 9 girls taking part in the program



Students and special guests at the Armistice Centenary Exhibition