



# Balcatta Bulletin

## Issue 2 2017

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## From the Principal

With the end of Semester One in sight, it is appropriate to reflect on the academic performances and the many exciting events and opportunities that our students have undertaken. An important and ongoing occurrence this term has been the parent tours, and it is pleasing to note the very positive feedback we have received from the parents, which have included “the school is inclusive” and “there is a genuine sense of belonging”. During the tours, we visited a number of classes and the students were always willing to explain their learning activities. The students were excellent ambassadors for the school, and actively displayed our core values of ‘Respect, Unite and Excel’. A key focus this semester has been the successful transition as an Independent Public School. The Chair of the School Board, Helen Notis, and I signed the Delivery Performance Agreement, which outlines the agreement between the Director General of Education, the Principal, and the School Board Chair. The document succinctly outlines the mutual responsibilities of the central office, the school and the board in relation to enactment and support of greater autonomy.

### Academic Update

All Year 7 and Year 9 students have undertaken NAPLAN and their results will be released later next term. Years 10 to 12 students received their OLN results, with a number achieving the required standard. The second round of OLN will occur in September, and follow up review meetings will be actioned for those Year 11 and Year 12 students who have not yet achieved the required standard.

This term ‘Elevate’, a national study skills provider, has again worked with our students, specifically the Year 7 and Year 10 students. The students actively participated in workshops and seminars that focused on time management and study skills. These workshops are designed to increase motivation and build confidence.

Students’ progress will be outlined in their Semester One reports. This is an appropriate time for students to reflect on their performance and ask themselves “is this their personal best?”

Staff actively implemented strategies from our School Business Plan, which included the analysis and review of data to guide their planning of appropriate learning programs. I have asked staff to interpret the data, and to look at our students’ achievement and plan for future improvement.

### Student Opportunities

Looking back over this term, there have been numerous and varied opportunities and events in which our students have participated.

The Year 11 and Year 12 students started off the term with an enjoyable river cruise on the Crystal Swan.

A group of Year 10 students were fortunate to participate in a ‘Try-a-Trade’ event that included five days’ work experience. The students thoroughly enjoyed this activity and it provided them with an insight into the building industry.

We launched the Peer Skilling program with the Year 7 students, where selected Year 11 students mentored a small group of Year 7 students.

Our debating students continued to develop their talents, with a number of our teams performing well, including a win by our senior team against Perth College and our Year 10s with a win against St George’s College.

The inaugural Year 7 and Year 8 Science Fair was a huge success, with the students showcasing their scientific expertise. There was a range of innovative experiment ideas including; impact of music on plant growth, effect of caffeine on your heart rate, and many more. We had numerous visitors to this event including parents, grandparents, students, staff and students from Takari and Osborne Primary Schools.

Academic extension opportunities were offered to Year 7 and Year 8 students, with the launch of the ‘Coding Club’. Students participated in a six week after school program, and have learnt a range of interesting skills which are helping them work towards programming an Edison robot.

Our primary school transition program has been well underway this term, with a new program, “Forensic Science”, which was taken up by students from Osborne Primary School. Some of our debating students have been working with Takari Primary School.

Our Dance students performed at the Nexus Dance Concert in collaboration with Churchlands Senior High School, Rossmoyne Senior High School and Shenton College, at the Octagon Theatre on Friday 9 June. I was very proud of our students’ performances, ably led by our dance teachers, Alison Martin and Kristina Balic. The professionalism and quality of their performances were outstanding.

Our Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students have been involved in a range of competitions and events this semester. Some of their pieces are on display in the front office. We have received positive feedback from visitors to the school regarding the quality of the students’ work.

### Future Planning

We recently had a visit from David Michael MLA, where he outlined his support of the school, including opportunities for students to visit Parliament House, and support for the future upgrade to Balcatta Senior High School.

I would personally like to thank the P&C Association and the School Board for their dedication to the school.

Helen Maitland  
Principal



**Poorvika Muralidhar, Bridgette Osei, Riya Amin & Kathy Nguyen**

# Our People

## Gifted and Talented student excels

Torren Whisson, a Year 10 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts student exhibited her outstanding work, "Portrait of a Veteran". The exhibition was held on Friday 7 April at Comet Bay High School where she was able to meet the Governor of Western Australia, her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC, and war veterans. Torren is now sending the work to the prestigious Young Archie Competition which is the student version of the Archibald Prize promoted by the Art Gallery of NSW and the Bega Valley Regional Gallery. This is another of the many wonderful opportunities for students in the special Visual Arts program to have their work recognised nationally. We wish her every success.



Torren Whisson with her artwork

## William Chiew plays jazz great 'Buddy'

It was 1917 when three giants of jazz entered the world: Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzy Gillespie and Bernard "Buddy" Rich. 100 years later on Saturday 13 May at the Astor Theatre, WA Youth Jazz Orchestra (WAYJO) revisited the classics that made these visionaries beloved by jazz fans around the world while leaving an indelible mark on 20th century music. "A Night in Tunisia", "A Tisket A Tasket", "Caravan", "Night and Day" and "Manteca" are just some of the songs that have become true jazz standards. William Chiew, a Year 12 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts student was given the opportunity to display his amazing musical talent with his performance as Buddy Rich.



William Chiew (far right) starring as 'Buddy Rich'

## Skye Lankester

Following on from the Term 1 Bulletin article, Year 7 student, Skye Lankester attended the 2017 Australian Athletics Championships which were held at the Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre in NSW in March. Her results at this event were; first in 80m Hurdles, second in 4x100m Relay and Under 14 Australian Champion for 2017. Well done, an amazing result!



## Joel Gizzarelli

Joel has been chosen to represent Western Australia in the National Judo Championships to be held at Carrara Stadium, Gold Coast on Saturday 10 June. Whilst preparing for this journey, Joel has endured an intense six days a week of training for the past six months consisting of Brazilian jiu-jitsu, strength and conditioning at Exclusive Training Studio, and judo at the University of Western Australia with coaches who have recently been in the Olympic Games. Joel competed in U/50kgs in the Cadets Division and performed against other competitors between the ages of 15 and 17 years. Training, eating healthily and keeping up with his Year 10 studies have certainly been a challenge and are a testament to his dedication and determination in this sport. He won a medal at the championships. Congratulations on a fantastic effort.



Joel Gizzarelli (left) in a judo contest with his opponent

## Madison Rabnott

Over the past four months, Madison has been working towards her school-based traineeship with the WA Police. The traineeship includes completing a Certificate II in Government whilst getting paid. This certificate consists of twelve modules over an eighteen month period. As a school-based trainee, she attends school from Mondays to Wednesdays and attends the traineeship on Thursdays and Fridays from 8.30am to 4.00pm. Madison is currently working at the WA Police Office of Information Management which is located on St George's Terrace, Perth. She has performed many duties including processing traffic infringements, crime reports, abridged crash reports and using several databases. She has also assisted the interstate agency team, the archive team and the capture team. A few highlights include attending meetings, meeting new people and learning about everything that happens behind the scenes. This traineeship has brought Madison many opportunities including visiting Parliament House and WA Police Headquarters. She is looking forward to gaining more experiences throughout the remainder of her traineeship.



# Debating Club

This year, we have five teams of students participating in the Western Australian Debating League competition. The teams have been working very hard before school every Wednesday to prepare for their competitions. For most of our students, this is their first time participating in organised debates and they have shown great dedication, preparation and courage getting up and participating in this competition.

Debates take place fortnightly at Perth College on a Wednesday evening. Our students have debated against a variety of schools, including Perth Modern School, St George's College, Perth College and Mercedes College. Our teams have participated in five rounds of debates and tackled topics such as banning computers in schools, the South China Sea dispute, compulsory voting and the role of WikiLeaks in the 2016 US Presidential Election.

Our students have represented the school with pride across all debates and they continue to build their public speaking, argument construction and critical thinking skills. Our debating coaches, Nik Barron and Zarah Burgess, are both lawyers volunteering their time to coach the students before school once per week.

Our debating teams are made up of the following students:

Year 8 students:

Novice 1:

Elise Beirne

Selena Clough

Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi

Kaida Law

Tina Li

Jacqlin Parker

Novice 2:

Tabitha Mathew

Elena Momirski

Aayushi Pandeya

Novice 3:

Yesha Parekh

Tyson Smitham

Tahlia Wells-Vasile

Year 10 students:

Junior 1:

Cooper Barden

Josh Barron

Harvey Ma

Suhasi Patel

Tyler Rollinson

Kate Vu

Year 11/12 students:

Senior 1:

Kendal Barden

Domonique Barone

Wilson Chalwe

Chintu Devarapalli

Alicia Gregg

Ana Rychlak



**Debating teams in practice**



**Novice Team 1 preparing their debates**



**Tabitha Mathew, Elena Momirski & Aayushi Pandeya**



**Junior 1 team members, Suhasi Patel, Tyler Rollinson, Josh Barron, Harvey Ma**

# News

## Breakfast Club

Thanks to the generous support of Foodbank, the Victory Life Church in Osborne Park and Val Terry in Home Economics, the breakfast club, located in Room A10 has been open every morning from 8.00am to 8.40am this year, and provides a nutritious and delicious breakfast for up to 30 students. As breakfast is the most important meal of the day, our students can start their day with a clear mind and a full stomach to help them concentrate on their school work. The breakfast club is available to all students in all year groups. Subject to availability, toast, fresh/tinned fruit, yoghurt and Vitabrits are available on most days. Now that the weather is cooler, warm spaghetti and jaffles have been made available to students.



Year 12 students enjoying breakfast with Ms Val Terry

## Youth Focus – Understanding Mental Health

During Term 2, Youth Focus was invited to present to parents and guardians about “starting the conversation” regarding mental health. The session aimed to increase knowledge and understanding, as well as to help seek avenues for parents when concerned about a young person. Of the parents that attended, pre and post data was taken anonymously to help measure the success of the session. A high understanding was evident in the following areas:

1. The parents' knowledge of the symptoms of depression and anxiety increased from 80% to 100%.
2. The percentage of parents that would seek professional help, if they felt depressed or anxious increased from 40% to 80%.

As a follow-up from the parent session, all Year 9 students participated in a session aimed at equipping them with help in seeking behaviours for themselves and people they are concerned about, as well as breaking down the barriers and the stigma attached to mental health. Our students engaged very positively with the session and they look forward to continued sessions in the future.

Year 9's were divided into two groups with pre and post data taken anonymously to help measure the success of the sessions. A high understanding was evident in the following areas:

1. The students' knowledge of the symptoms of depression increased from 65% to 88% (Group 1) and 76% to 89% (Group 2).
2. The percentage of students that would seek professional help, if they felt depressed or anxious, increased from 24% to 44% (Group 1) and 20% to 38% (Group 2).
3. The percentage of students that would recommend/assist a friend, who was feeling depressed or anxious increased from 38% to 93% (Group 2) and a slight decrease 86% to 84% (Group 1). We hope to run the session again in 2018 and further increase our school community's participation.

## ANZAC Assembly



Year 12 Prefects with Mrs Helen Maitland and CPO Radio Supervisor, Lynton Michael

On Friday 28 April, Balcatta Senior High School held an ANZAC Day commemorative service recognising the sacrifices of the original ANZACs who fought and died in all wars. The ceremony was held in the morning in the school gymnasium which was decorated respectfully with poppies.

A slideshow, paying respect to the ANZACs was playing in the background for the duration of the ceremony. Army cadet students, represented by Damien Maddox, David Huang, Jacqlin Parker and Joshua Miller, were also in attendance.

Our five Year 12 Prefects, Domonique Barone, Matthew Milner, Sarah Hashimi, Kate Surace and Wilson Chalwe took turns at speaking, with Wilson beginning the service with the Acknowledgement to Country. Domonique read a poem, “For the Fallen” by Laurence Binyon and, both she and Sarah laid two wreaths in front of the flagpole prior to the reading of the ode. We were privileged to be joined by a guest speaker, CPO Radio Supervisor, Lynton Michael from HMAS Stirling, to present a speech and pay respects to the ANZACs.

## Work Experience Groups

A small group of Year 10 students who participated in the recent Try-A-Trade activity with ABBTF have completed a five day work experience in an industry area of their choice. Students were able to select their placements which covered trades, sports teaching, fitness, automotive and retail.

The focus of the program was to experience the workplace, try new tasks and learn new skills, create networks and use the experience to shape possible career and work goals and aspirations.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed this experience and the employer feedback acknowledged their enthusiasm, reliability and willingness to become completely involved in the work and the team. It was a pleasure to be involved with this select group of Year 10 students. They showed maturity and commitment and truly represented themselves and the school in a very positive light.

Due to the success of this opportunity, it has been decided to open the program to all Year 10 students with three more placement times available. How the program is delivered and placement specific details can be obtained from the information brochure and application form available in Mrs Middleton's office.



Angus Thompson and Ruben Sassine

# News

## Years 11 and 12 River Cruise

This year's Senior School River Cruise was held on Wednesday 3 May and was an upmarket affair aboard the Crystal Swan Perth. The stunning glass boat has two levels with a large dance floor and magnificent panoramic views from both levels of the city skyline.

Huge congratulations for the exemplary behaviour, dress and dance moves from the 113 Year 11 and 12 students who attended the River Cruise on Wednesday 3 May 2017. We had an amazing night on the Swan River with all our students doing us proud. The night was also enjoyed by a large turn out from the staff, including Associate Principal, Mrs Hawley. The dance moves kept everyone entertained and lots of fun was had by all.



**Aaron Watbwami, Attila Burkas, Atilla Durmus, Alemi Soro, Behrad Hosseinzadeh Oroumi**



**Calista Drobnyak and Ana Rychlak**



**Kate Surace and Jayden Boxell**

## Year 10 Try-A-Trade

On Thursday 8 March, some of our Year 10 students participated in the Try-a-Trade experience with The Australian Brick and Blocklayers' Training Foundation (ABBTF). The one day program provided an opportunity to try bricklaying for the first time, demonstrate work ready skills and hear about employment prospects and future training in the construction industry. All students had an engaging experience and staff visited throughout the day to see how the students were progressing.

At the end of the day, Ian Fitzgerald, the qualified bricklayer trainer, congratulated the participants and encouraged them to look at the various construction-related trades as possible career pathways. He also recommended that the students participate in any work experience programs and specific trade training options such as School-Based Pre-Apprenticeships.



**Acacia Wanoa and Ms Debbie Stevens**



**Bricklaying students working in the shed**



**Ruben Sassine working his bricklaying 'mud'**

## PARTY Program

The PARTY (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth) Program is a one-day injury awareness and prevention program for youth aged 15 years and older. Our Year 11 Health Studies class and some Year 10 students were selected to attend the excursion on Wednesday 3 May. The PARTY Program is about prevention and awareness and takes young people through the path of a trauma patient as they are rushed through the trauma room doors, into surgery, rehab and recovery. This program was hosted by experienced nurses at Royal Perth Hospital, who worked in collaboration with doctors, special guest speakers and injury survivors. Students who participated in the program left with an increased knowledge of the workings of an emergency room and can now encourage their peers to be more aware of the consequences of their actions.



**Micah Prestipino testing out the wheelchair**



**Students learning about trauma room processes**

## Forensic Science

We recently had a visit from Osborne Primary School's Year 6 class to attend the first of a four week program in Forensic Science. The students were introduced to the science involved in human fingerprinting. They had the opportunity to take a set of their own fingerprints and then identify their unique patterns. The inquisitive students had such a thirst for knowledge in this area and provided staff with an endless supply of questions. These new fingerprinting skills were later used to make a personalised laminated bookmark using their own unique print.



**Osborne Primary students engaged in forensics**

## Year 10 Drama Excursion

On Wednesday 10 May, the Year 10 Drama students attended a play at the State Theatre. For most of the students, it was their first experience of live theatre. The play was 'The Lighthouse Girl' and it was presented by the Black Swan Theatre Company. 'The Lighthouse Girl' is a courageous story that inspired the roaming spectacular of The Giants seen in Perth in 2015 as part of the Perth International Arts Festival.

The play depicts the story of Fay, a sweet young girl, who lives an isolated life with her lighthouse keeper father on the bleak, windswept Breaksea Island in the Great Southern region of Western Australia. With the outbreak of war in 1914, Fay finds purpose in transcribing Morse Code messages from soldiers stationed off-shore, becoming their last hope of getting messages to their loved ones before heading to the front line. On the other side of the country in rural Victoria, Charlie and his best mate Jim, abandon the outback for the excitement and adventure of seeing the world. As soldiers in the Light Horse Brigade, they quickly discover the brutal realities of life on the frontline.

This gentle play entwines the lives of Fay and Charlie and brings to life the stories of those left at home during the war waiting, wondering, hoping and the struggles of the young men who valiantly enlisted to help defend their country. Based on Albany author Dianne Wolfer's wonderful novels 'Lighthouse Girl' and 'Light Horse Boy', this evocatively written play embodies a powerful and truthful sense of a pivotal time in Australia's development as a nation.

The Drama students attended the play in order to write a review as part of an assessment in the Year 10 Drama course.

## Coding Club

A group of Year 7 and 8 students have been meeting every Tuesday after school for Coding Club. Our Digital Technologies teacher, Mr Matthew Witcombe and Andrea Conte from Fire Tech Camp Australia, have been taking the students through an introduction to coding. Students have been learning and experimenting with data types, coding flow, modules and functions. Students have been progressing well and we are planning to transfer their skills to programming an Edison v2.0 robot soon.

Students involved in this academic extension program have been issued with a series of coding challenges to pursue at home using the Python coding environment.

In recognition of the commitment to learning and participation in this club, each attending member has recently been issued with a badge. Students can wear this on their school uniform to show other students and staff their commitment to their chosen field of academic extension.



**(Front to back) - Aimee Parker, Adzi Zein and Zoe Thatcher**

# Year 7 & 8 Science Fair

Ask a question, conduct an experiment, analyse the results, arrive at a conclusion and communicate the results. 200 lower school Science students worked collaboratively for several weeks to investigate science phenomena that piqued their interest. Organised and motivated chaos reigned with groups of students going in many different directions. Student directed education drove project-based learning.

Years 7 and 8 Science classes were inspired and guided by Ms Hoy, our resident STEM expert, who asked why we couldn't conduct more realistic and meaningful scientific investigations. She encouraged students to investigate concepts such as:

- Does music affect a plant's growth?
- Does the colour of light affect how a plant grows?
- Does caffeine affect a person's heart rate?
- Which containers are better for preserving foods?
- Does music help you concentrate?
- What are the effects of video games on the body?
- How fast can you talk with accuracy?
- Does the weather really affect your mood?
- How does time perception change as you get older?
- Does storage temperature affect orange juice's acidity?

The culmination of the project was a living display in the library. Parents and local primary schools were invited to attend. Guest judges from the Perth Science community, Dr Alan Aitken (Year 7 judge) and Mr Ben Hoy (Year 8 judge), attended this event to evaluate the presentations.

Dr Alan Aitken from Curtin University enjoyed his visit and commented, "I attended the Year 7 Science Fair exhibits unsure of what to expect, and received a pleasant surprise, as I saw over 40 science projects, the vast majority of which were of a really high quality. I saw many examples that demonstrated the key science values of carefulness, communication and innovation. I found it hard, therefore, to settle on prize winners, but I selected winning projects that displayed exceptional scientific rigour, presentation quality and novelty. Congratulations to all Science Fair participants."

Notwithstanding our wonderful prize winners, we also acknowledge the other students and their teachers, who saw first-hand, the connection between science and everyday life.



**Judge, Dr Alan Aitken with Emily Gibbons, Jigme Lhendup, Madison Ward, Ali Jaffery, Abdurahman Osman and Ms Hoy**



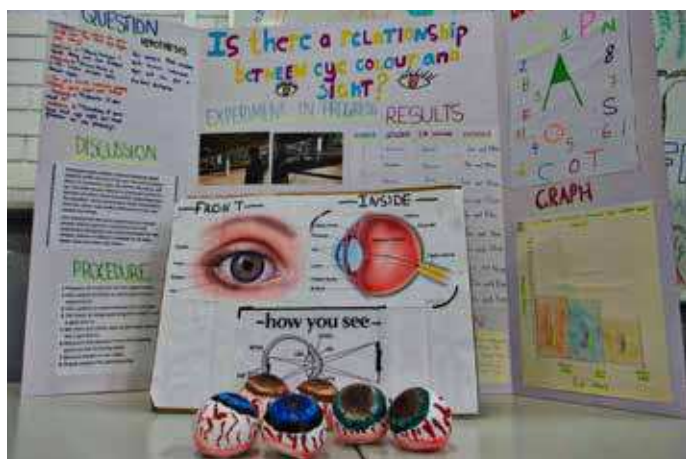
**Year 8 winning group: Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi, Prachi Dindyal, Yesha Parekh with judge, Mr Ben Hoy**



**Ms Hoy and Mr Ben Hoy with Year 8 winning group, Kaida Law, Selena Clough, Elise Beirne and Jacqlin Parker**



**Ms Hoy, Dr Alan Aitken with Year 7 students, Tryphena Kollie, Emma Miles and Jessinee Law**



**Year 8 winning project: 'Is there a relationship between eye colour and sight?'**





**Year 8, Katerina Rufov, amazed at her success in growing crystals**



**Year 7s, Anastasia Skordas and India Thompson with their project chart**



**Year 7s, Aimee Parker and Imogen Dean working on 'testing vision in different coloured light'**



**Year 7s, Jigme Lhendup and Rocco Liberti working on 'the effects of music on plant growth'**



**Year 7s, Abhishek Vyas and Bailey Sheehan working on their volcano experiment**



**Year 7s, Eloise Vlatko-Rulo, Jordan Kitanovski and Penny Ornket examine the effects of coffee on the body**



**Year 8s, Katerina Rufov, Hemal Patel and Jessica Santich experiment on the best way to create crystals**



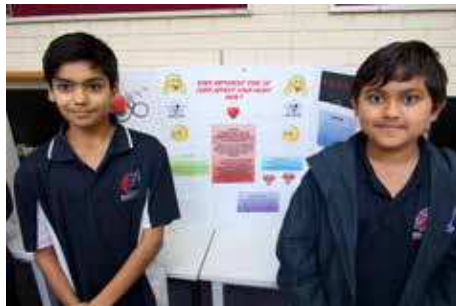
**Year 7, Karim Aghabalaiey working on 'how weather impacts people's mood'**



**Year 7s, Chanel Vaatuitui and Mariam Al-Abdari working on 'how caffeine affects heart rate'**



**Science project: 'Does caffeine affect heart rate?'**



**Year 7s, Ritesh Dindyal and Vraj Panchal**



**Year 7s, Kaitlyn Pope and Izahry Fortun working on their project about how video games impact heart rate and blood pressure**



**Year 7s, Erika Legaspi and Fatema Alyaser answering questions about their project**



**Years 7/8 Science students and Takari Primary School students asking questions**



**Interested Year 8/9 students displaying projects on 'Earth Science'**

# Art Exhibitions and Activities

## Exhibitions and Competitions

Balcatta Senior High School's Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students were invited to design the City of Stirling's entry to **'Banners in the Terrace'** for 2017. This annual competition/exhibition of banners is coordinated by the Western Australian Local Government Association and is held on St George's and Adelaide Terraces in Perth. This competition allows communities and regions throughout Western Australia to represent themselves to thousands of people who travel along this route every day. In 2017, the banners will be displayed along the terraces from Sunday 23 July to Saturday 5 August.

As Balcatta Senior High School celebrated its 50th year, it was suggested that our entry could reflect the school's impact on the community over the years. The Year 9 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students (working with art tutor, Kody Mason), had the opportunity this year to design and digitally produce the banner. The students were very enthusiastic to produce their sketches using the graphic tablets and working and collaborating as a team to produce the final design.

The **Atwell Youth Art Awards**, now in its 15th year, is for young artists of high school age and is an opportunity for them to exhibit their work in the Atwell Gallery in Alfred Cove. Seven of our Years 7, 8 and 9 students from our Gifted and Talented Visual Arts program have their work displayed in this year's show. Entries include work that the students have created in their Saturday morning art workshops from Wearable Art, Photography and Cardboard sculpture.

Year 8 students, Yuna Sangil, Tina Li and Kaida Law, have a piece from their Saturday morning wearable art class, which is run by Michelle Murning. Year 8 students, Tyson Smitham and Seth Petchell, have had their photographs selected; Aimee Parker, Year 7 and Maddison Curry, Year 9, have a combined cardboard sculpture which has been selected.

On Wednesday 14 June, the school was advised that three of our Year 8 students were shortlisted as finalists. The final results for these students are:

Winner - Tyson Smitham for his photographic entry.

Highly Commended – Seth Petchell for his photographic entry

Highly Commended – Tina Li for her headpiece made in wearable art.

All art work produced and submitted by our students are on display at the exhibition in the Atwell Gallery.

**Hypervision** is a City of Swan Art exhibition which calls for entries from young artists aged between 15 and 25. The exhibition, which is a joint initiative between the City of Perth and the Hyper Team, will take place at the Midland Gate Shopping Centre from Monday 3 July to Sunday 23 July with the winner receiving a prize of \$1,000.00.

Each year the competition has a theme that artists are encouraged to explore through their work. This year's theme is 'Instability' which delves into the artists' views on the community, personal relationships and what they deem as stable and unstable in their own lives. We have six successful entrants this year:

**Somnolence** by Torren Whisson (Year 10)

**Two Sides to Everything** by Eloise Vlatko-Rulo (Year 7)

**Unfocused** by Franchesca Mojica (Year 9)

**Three Left of Myself** by Shynique Bicknell (Year 9)

**Lost in Colour** by Meg Bradsell (Year 9)

**Dying Heart** by Aliyah Nieass (Year 8)

**St George's Art** has become a premier annual event in art education in Western Australia, attracting schools from all sectors. Participation in this exhibition provides an outstanding opportunity for schools to present work by students in Years 10, 11 and 12 in the unique setting of St George's Cathedral. At the Gala Awards Night, prizes are awarded to selected works by a prestigious panel of judges. This year we have three students, Shannon Mugeridge Year 12, with Greer Medley and Lily Routledge, Year 11, who have had their work selected for this exhibition.



**Somnolence** by Torren Whisson, Year 10



**Three Left of Myself** by Shynique Bicknell, Year 9



**Two sides to Everything** by Eloise Vlatko-Rule, Year 7



**Unfocused** by Franchesca Mojica, Year 9

There are many more competitions and exhibitions that are coming up that our students are currently working towards entering, so we will keep you posted.

The annual **Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Camp** is set to take place in Week 9 from Monday 19 June to Wednesday 21 June. The students are going to Camp Leschenaultia. We will hold a mini art exhibition early in Term 3 to showcase the students' work that they produced at the camp.

The **Young Masters'** art classes have been a real success this term with 34 students from Years 5 and 6 joining our Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students on Saturday mornings to participate in a six week art course. The students are working on a screen printing project, with a theme of Pop Art and Vintage Cartoon. They are having a great time as well as learning new printing techniques.

### Two New Art Tutors

This term we have said goodbye to two of our art tutors. Firstly, Christophe Canato is leaving to travel through France for a few months. His students will miss him as they have gained so much from his experience and photography expertise. Taking on his role will be Tiffany Kennedy, who is very excited to be joining our team of art tutors here on a Saturday morning.

Secondly, Kathryn Longman, our landscape painter, is leaving us as she is about to have baby number two. We wish her the best. Replacing Kathryn is Jarred Marty who will be running a landscape painting course, giving the students an introduction to some of the basics of landscape painting such as atmospheric perspective, how to create an engaging composition, how to use different marks to represent foliage, how to accurately mix colours and the role of the under painting.

### Visit to Curtin University's SODA Workshop

The Balcatta Senior High School Visual Arts Department has been establishing links with the art staff at the School of Design and Art (SODA) at Curtin University, and has been invited to take part in a morning art workshop.

Years 10, 11 and 12 students will join the staff from the Department of Fine Art at Curtin University for a stimulating workshop, where they will receive guidance and tuition from some of this state's leading arts educators and artists. The school is one of Western Australia's longest established art institutions with an esteemed alumni of artists, educators and industry professionals working in Western Australia, interstate and internationally.

The art students in the Gifted and Talented Visual Arts program have been working hard to complete their artworks to enter into the many up and coming art competitions and exhibitions. We have submitted the artwork from eight students into the Shaun Tan Award for Young Artists which is in its 15th year and is run by the City of Subiaco. This visual art award is open to Western Australian school students and encourages imagination, innovation and creativity. We are waiting to hear if there have been any successful award winners in this competition.

### Design Course at ECU

We have three senior school students who have enrolled and been accepted into Edith Cowan University's Short Courses for Credit Program. The students are Shannon Mugeridge from Year 12, with Tyler Ambrose and Greer Medley from Year 11, who have enrolled in the Visual Arts Drawing Short Course.

Course Dates: Monday 26 June – Friday 30 June 2017  
Start/finish Times: 9:00am to 3:00pm  
Location: ECU Mount Lawley Campus, 2 Bradford Street Mount Lawley.

## 2017 Maths Olympiads Competition

Balcatta Senior High School is taking part in the Australian Problem-Solving Mathematical Olympiads for 2017. 30 students have been selected from Years 7 and 8 classes. The Olympiads consist of five separate contests held approximately one month apart between May and September. The overall aim is to encourage students to develop important mathematical problem-solving skills in an enjoyable environment. Although students are competing against other members of their class and teams from other schools, they are primarily competing against themselves. Because the contests are a month apart, there will be plenty of time for practice and improvement. Mr Niroshan has been organising regular practice sessions where students will be taught the skills and techniques required to develop mathematical problem-solving skills.

## Year 10 Café Foods

Year 10 Café Foods students have been busy getting their creative juices flowing by creating a party stall presentation. Students from Miss Powney's and Mrs Jones' classes chose a theme for their party stalls and then set about creating delicious food items and decorations to suit. The result was a fantastic display of creativity that was enjoyed by visiting staff members and fellow students alike. Many thanks go to the staff members who made it their mission to come and enjoy this wonderful display.



**Shakira Parise, Amber Gillies, Millie Jackson-Rigby, Buji Ponsuge, Iliya Spiroski, Andrew Lim**



**Red velvet cupcakes**

## Year 7 Foods

Year 7 Foods students had fun planning and preparing their own packed lunch. They were given a choice to prepare either a sandwich, wrap or roll and then to decide their own fillings. They chose a piece of fruit and a muffin they had made earlier in the term and kept frozen, then packed everything in a brown paper bag ready to be enjoyed outside. The weather was perfect with the sun shining and the students were able to enjoy their delicious lunch in true picnic style near the pinnacles.



# From The Sporting Front

## Lower School Lightning Carnivals

At the end of Term 1, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 nominated themselves to represent Balcatta Senior High School in the annual Interschool Lightning sport carnivals. The carnivals are an opportunity for students to display their sporting and social skills in a positive and competitive environment. Balcatta Senior High School competed against a number of schools including Balga, Carine, Churchlands, Girrawheen, Greenwood, Perth Modern, Shenton College and Warwick. Students were responsible for the strategies and tactics used in the games and peer coached themselves.

There were too many individual moments of brilliance over the three days of competition to mention. However, a special mention needs to go out to the Division A Year 7 Girls Soccer team and the Division B Year 9 Boys Basketball team, who took out the championship trophies.

Older students volunteered to umpire and coach teams throughout the day. This was a great learning experience and helped with developing their interpersonal and self-management skills. It was pleasing to receive positive feedback from members of the community and other schools about the way the students from Balcatta Senior High School represented the school and themselves at the carnivals. Thank you to all the teachers for supervising the students in a variety of weather conditions. Without their assistance, events of this nature would not be able to go ahead.



**Year 7 Girls Soccer team**



**Jordan Dordieski, Year 8, showing his soccer skills**

## Soccer

The soccer season has started again and there is a great love shown for the game amongst our students. This year we are fielding an Intermediate Boys team (Years 9/10), a Senior Boys team (Years 11/12) and a Junior Girls team (Years 7 to 9).

Results so far are as follows:

Junior Girls – 1 win, 1 loss, 1 draw

Intermediate Boys – 1 win, 1 loss

Senior Boys – 2 losses.

The sense of belonging, being part of a group rising to challenges, and working with the teacher, are the main priorities for these students. Teachers involved in coaching the teams are Mr Birkett, Mr McCreery and Miss Balic.



**Year 8 boys soccer team**



**Year 8 boys basketball team**



**Year 9 Girls Basketball team**

## Physical Education Activities

### Years 11 and 12 Certificate II for Sport Coaching

Years 11 and 12 students have taken some learning experiences with them whilst being involved in coaching lessons.

### Ultimate Frisbee and Gymnastics

During Term 2, Year 7 students have enjoyed their introduction to high school experiencing a number of activities ranging from Ultimate Frisbee to Gymnastics.



**Certificate ii students coaching basketball**



**Strength work on the rings**



**Enjoying a game of frisbee**



**Ultimate frisbee game**

## Senior School Basketball

Early in Term 1, tryouts got underway for a coveted spot in the Senior School Basketball team. 25 students nominated for one of ten spots that were up for grabs. Over four sessions, the students were put through their paces and a strong team was selected for the 2017 season.

Coming off a winless season in 2016, the Senior School Basketball team was looking for improvement. The first game of the year was an away game against Ashdale Secondary College where the boys started well and led early in the second half before narrowly going down by 8 points. In Game 2 against Balga, the boys played some unbelievable basketball, hitting 14 of 18 points from the three point line and winning comprehensively by 18 points. We came crashing down to earth in Game 3 versus Ballajura as Ballajura opened up a 19 – 0 point lead in the game and we lost to the eventual championship team by 17 points. In Game 4 against Girrawheen, the boys fell short and went down by 9 points. In a purple patch, the boys bounced back and took care of Dianella Secondary College by 8 points in a great defensive effort. The boys then made it two in a row with a great win against Greenwood College with a close 4 point win. Games 7 and 8 rounded out the season with an 18 point loss to John Septimus Roe and a 3 point loss to Mercy College.

There were many standout performances from all the players. Majoung Choman led from the front and worked tirelessly to get the ball into the paint for his teammates. Bokang Mpho was a pivotal player when on the court, making the opposition work hard with his tenacious pressure. Alemi Soro stepped up and performed his role for the team taking care of the Centre role and creating opportunities for his teammates with some wonderful assists. Isaiah Schembri relished his new role as a shooting guard and showed great agility for a big man. Thomas Vlatko-Rulo worked harder than anyone on the team, providing screens and cutting through the keyway giving his teammates plenty of open looks. Chintu Devarapalli provided our team with some much needed grunt in the engine room and never took a backward step. I am sure he would have played the whole game if given the opportunity. Dawit Gherezghier had an up and down season but when he was feeling confident, he was unstoppable, hitting three point shots from everywhere. He really improved his defensive pressure which was pleasing to see. Wilson Chalwe was our most consistent player and won a game off his own hand, shooting an incredible 12 points in one half to get us over the line against Dianella Secondary College. Jacob O'Halloran found his groove in the back half of the season, getting plenty of offensive rebounds. He also downed a few points in the second last game of the year in a stellar performance. Chaunce Nathan was a welcome addition to the team and made the difference in a number of games with his smart basketball brain often reading the play before it happened. He worked tirelessly on the defensive end, shutting down key players and then providing screen after screen as we worked offensively.

Special congratulations to Majoung Choman and Chaunce Nathan who were nominated for the North Metropolitan Team of the Year 2017. It was a wonderfully successful year in which we saw big improvements, winning three out of eight games and only missing the finals by one game. It has been an absolute pleasure to coach and spend time with the boys, watching them grow and develop into fine young men. To the Year 12s, all the best next year and keep balling. To the Year 11s keep at it and be prepared for a big season in 2018.

# Nexus Dance Concert

On Friday 9 June, Balcatta Senior High School Specialist Dance students once again shone at Nexus 2017, a collaborative dance performance held at the Octagon Theatre, University of Western Australia, and involving students from Rossmoyne Senior High School, Churchlands Senior High School and Shenton College.

In addition to performing on stage, our students were able to connect with dancers from other year groups as well as other schools, and view the final products of all their hard work.

Our students represented the school in exceptional style, not only giving their best on stage, but assisting each other backstage to ensure everyone looked and performed at their highest standard.

Thanks to Phoebe-Lee Schmiedte for capturing the photos.

Front cover photo by Phoebe-Lee Schmiedte: 'Shining' performed by Years 11 and 12 students. Choreographed by Ms Kristy Deller.



**'Oh Snap' performed by Year 10s**



**Tyrese Damons as Rafiki in 'The Lion King'**



**'He Lives In You' dance group**



**'Incubus' performed by Years 11 and 12 students**



**'He Lives in You' performed by Year 9 students. Choreographed by Ms Kristina Balic**



**'Demon Fighters' by Year 7 dancers**

# Year 7 Peer Support Program

This term a number of Year 11 and 12 students volunteered to become leaders for our Year 7 Peer Support Program held during Mentor time. Year 7s self-selected small groups and engaged in a number of activities aimed at building relationships with two leaders and each other over six sessions under the guidance of their class teachers. Topics covered included, Getting to Know Each other, Communication, Friendships, Values and Me. Year 11 and Year 12 leaders have developed leadership skills and built caring and supportive relationships with our younger students to assist with their transition through high school. We hope these established relationships continue throughout the school year. The final session will celebrate the success and to thank all students participating in the program, as well as providing valuable feedback to further improve the program in the future.

Special thanks to our Year 11 and Year 12 students who have been outstanding leaders and made valuable contributions to the school community.



**Year 12 Peer Support leaders, Rebekah Davids and Mercy Aneno with Year 7 students**



**Year 12 Peer Support leaders, Kelsey McArdle, Shannon Mugeridge and Tahnisha Lam**



**Year 11 Peer Support leaders, Habib Sultan, Dylan Agostino, Kinley Dorji and Robert Kollie with Year 7 students**



**Year 11 Peer Support leaders, Keetsho Tshering and Paniz Azarfarin with Year 7 students**



**Year 7 students 'following the leader'**



Year 12 Prefects, Ms Tess Curtis, Mrs Helen Maitland, Mrs Helen Hawley, Lynton Michael and army cadet students