

4 September 2023

## From the Principal

Our Athletics Carnival was held on Thursday 31 August, a great event for us to participate and enjoy as a school community and provide positive competition between the four school Houses (Artemis, Aurora, Poseidon and Zeus). As you read through this newsletter, you will see how many exciting, interesting and creative opportunities students have been able to access recently. Week 6 was particularly colourful and creative, culminating on Friday 25 August with many students and staff choosing to dress up to represent an artist for Arts Festival Week, a favourite character for Book Week, or something purple for 'Wear it Purple' Day. Anyone dressing up was asked to donate a gold coin to contribute towards the fundraising for our Sister School, Treng Treng, in Cambodia.

### REMINDER: Mix 94.5 Masters Milk Carton Regatta

Mr Attey has registered our school in the [Mix 94.5 Masters Milk Carton Regatta](#) which will be held on Saturday 18 November at Hillarys Boat Harbour. We need your help to build a winning vessel.

Please drop your donations of **Masters 600ml milk cartons** (all flavours) in the donation bin located in the Admin foyer. **Only Masters 600ml cartons will be accepted.**

Tessa Curtis  
Principal

## Learning Area News

### Guitar Festival and Choral Festival

The WA International Classical Guitar Ensemble Festival is an annual event hosted by the Classical Guitar Society. It provides a unique opportunity for ensembles in primary, secondary and tertiary education (both public and private) to perform in a formal environment and receive feedback on their performances. The festival was held at Carine SHS on Saturday 19 August and Sunday 20 August. The following students were awarded an "Excellent" certificate:

**Year 7:** Natalie Gagg, Katie Krekora, Taylor Jalla, Yurino Kobayashi, Hannah Gavanzo

**Year 8:** Kai Percival, Allegra McGee, Tsheyang Lhazom

**Year 9:** Jaime Jalla

**Year 10:** Elishah Gavanzo, Matthew Lewis

On Saturday 2 September, the WA Public Secondary Schools' Choral Festival was held at Churchlands SHS. The festival was open to public secondary school choirs, under the direction of Instrumental Music School Services teacher, Ms Bronwynn Sprogowski. The following choir students attended:

**Year 7:** Tamara S Chhetri, Melissa Foomani, Harlee Laver, Isabelle Summers, Abbey Vanderheeg

**Year 9:** Madeleine Glasson, Epiphany Kondo-Morcom  
**Year 11:** Hannah Sharma, Angelica van der Westhuizen

### Choreography Night

Our Specialist Dance students were ready to 'seize the night' with their annual Choreography Nights held on Thursday 24 August and Friday 25 August. Tickets sold out for both nights. Students were engaged in intensive project-based tasks for several weeks and put together a show guaranteed to entertain.

### Prime Minister's Spelling Bee

Mrs Sookraj and Miss Duong entered two Year 8 teams and one Year 7 team in the Prime Minister's Spelling Bee competition. This is an online competition open to all Australian schools. The first round was a competition against all WA schools. Teams who made it to the top level advanced to the State/Territory finals to be held from Monday 28 August to Friday 1 September. If a team finishes in the top level of the State/Territory finals, they will enter the National Finals to be held from Wednesday 6 September to Thursday 7 September.

Mrs Sookraj is proud to announce eight of our students have advanced to the State/Territory finals on Friday 1 September in the Year 7 and 8 categories. Congratulations to the following students. We wish them all the best.

**Year 7:** Morgan Nowicki.

**Year 8:** Patricia Arazo, John Luxford, Andrew Bozich, David Klimoski, Howra Al Mansori, Julia Kim, Daisy Roberts.

### Write A Book In A Day

On Monday 28 August, selected Years 7 to 10 Academic Extension students participated in an exceptional challenge to "Write a Book in a Day", showcasing their creativity and determination. For 12 intensive hours, from 8.00am to 8.00pm, the budding authors planned an entire book, complete with front and back covers, chapters and illustrations. They collaborated in their teams to work within certain parameters, pouring their imagination onto the pages, and crafting captivating tales from scratch. The endeavour was not only a test of their writing prowess and teamwork, but also a meaningful contribution, as the day aimed to raise funds for child cancer research. Their dedication resulted in not just completed books, but also a heartfelt effort to make a difference. Kudos to our sponsors and our talented writers for their commitment and compassion.

### Book Week

Book Week was a whirlwind of literary excitement. The library had a "Blind Date with a Book" display, where students eagerly selected their wrapped books based on hints on the wrapping paper. The selection of books was carefully curated by our school's very own "Pages & Tea Book Club". Daily quizzes tested the students' knowledge of books, sparking friendly competition and encouraging exploration of various genres. The highlight of the week was Friday's dress up day, which coincided with Wear It Purple Day and the Arts Festival "Inspirational Figures" dress up. It was fantastic to see beloved characters and contemporary figures, such as Sherlock Holmes and Adam Sandler, during the lunchtime parade outside S Block.

## Balcatta Update

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes were given to the best dressed, with Serena Alvaro and Matilda McKay, dressed as Walter White and Jesse Pinkman (from Breaking Bad), winning the top prize for senior school, and Benaiah Yohannes, dressed as the Notorious B.I.G, taking home first prize for lower school.

### Water Corporation

Students in Year 7 Humanities and Social Sciences have been studying Geography this term. On Wednesday, the Water Corporation came and presented to all students in Year 7 about water use and supply in Perth. In the presentation, they learnt from where WA sources its water and the challenges to maintaining our water supply given challenges being faced due to a growing population and climate change. All students have been encouraged to rethink their shower time, with all students receiving a 4-minute shower timer to help them do their part to maintain this precious commodity.

### Geography and History Competitions

This year, as a part of the Academic Extension program, students in Years 7 to 10 participated in the Australian Geography Competition. Over 700 schools across Australia participated in this competition. Students achieving a Distinction in the competition were in the top 15% of all students across Australia and a ranking of High Distinction placed them in the top 10% of students. Seven students in Years 7 to 10 achieved a High Distinction and eleven students achieved a Distinction.

Students in Years 9 and 10 were further challenged by participating in the Australian History Competition with seven students achieving a Distinction and one student receiving a High Distinction.

This is a fantastic result. Well done to all.

### Whole School Athletics Carnival

On Thursday 31 August, we were finally able to hold a whole school athletics carnival. The weather was perfect and the atmosphere was electric. Students were dressed in their House colours and costumes and a sausage sizzle was provided at lunch time. Students were able to compete in many events and activities such as long jump, sack race, Izzy Dizzy relay, triple jump, tug-o-war, leader ball, shot put, 100m, 200m and 400m. Long distance races and high jump were held over the last two weeks.

Thank you to Geoff Birkett for organising this huge event and to staff for their assistance. Students were well-behaved and very much engaged for long periods particularly in the novelty events, whilst the traditional events saw a mix of intense competition and a "give it a go" attitude.

### Champion Girls and Boys

Year 7	Girls	Boys
1 <sup>st</sup>	Emily Frencham	Taylor Jalla
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sasha Rowland	Bank Biakhunthod
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jade Burnett	Arda Aytemur

<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Boys</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Charli Patrick	Enzzo Velez
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hazel McCallum	Tenzin Kedah Chogyel
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nikita Taylor-Sandes	Carlo Deluca
<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Boys</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Daniella Santich	Matthew Santich, William Frencham
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rigsel Wangchuk	Jordan Duong
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chiara D'Alessandro, Leah Visser	Calais Lye
<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Boys</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Annie Frencham	Steven Le
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ashleigh Sharman	Riley Lee, Jamie Macapagal
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Faith Patrick	Matthew Lewis
<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Boys</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Minaida Peters	Dylan Pike
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Princess Guipo	Thomas Robinson
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Yassmin Ahmed	Tyler Ugle
<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Boys</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Tiana Crompton	Jerome Pazhooparambil
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tamara Josevski	Almozamel Hussein
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Amalin Trajkoski	Levi Susac

### House Points

Artemis	1,854
Aurora	1,755
Poseidon	1,640
Zeus	1,570

## From the P&C

The P&C has been busy this term hosting our first Quiz Night and assisting the Dance Department with a pop-up canteen selling food and drinks at the recent school dance events.

We had just over 100 parents and friends attend the Bamboozled Quiz Night and Quiz Master Ian kept us all entertained through the night. The total amount raised from this event was \$3,125.58. A big thank you to everyone who supported this event and to Saraceni Real Estate for sponsoring the event.

Our pop-up canteen and raffle at the dance shows raised \$451.55 plus \$91.85 in donations for the event's programs making a total of \$543.40 which will be donated to the dance department for new costumes.

We will be running another pop-up canteen at the end of year dance shows in Term 4 Week 2 and we are looking for donations of baked goods and volunteers to help in the canteen before the shows and at intermission. If you are interested in assisting, please contact us at [pandcbalcattashs@gmail.com](mailto:pandcbalcattashs@gmail.com).

Our next P&C meeting is Monday 16 October at 7.00pm. We hope to see some new parents and teachers join us for this meeting.

P&C President  
Stacey Litchfield

## Important dates

11-15 Sep	Act/Belong/Commit Week
14 Sep	"R U OK?" Day
14-15 Sep	6.30pm "Groove Gala" Years 7-10 Music Incursion in PAT
18 Sep	PS Art Competition
22 Sep	Year 12 Breakfast and Final Assembly