

3 November 2023

## From the Principal

It has been very busy with a number of events both in and out of school showcasing our students' talents.

Our athletics team performed exceptionally well at the Interschool Athletics Carnival as we were placed second overall (our best performance in quite awhile). Daniella Santich (Year 9) won Champion Girl in Year 9 Division and Almozamel Hussein (Year 12) was runner up Champion Boy in the Year 11/12 Division. Congratulations to the students and staff who attended with a special thank you to the five Year 12 boys who came back to school to compete.

Congratulations to Year 10 students, Jasmin Caccetta, Nadya Igusti, Ashleigh Sharman and Jessica Thompson who won the **Senior High School - People's Choice Award** in the Super Tax and You Competition for 2023. Thank you to those who voted for them.

### Year 12 Presentation Ceremony

On Friday 27 October, we acknowledged and celebrated the Year 12 Class of 2023 on their successful completion of 12 years of schooling. The event was held at the Octagon Theatre, Nedlands. This was a massive undertaking to organise such an event, and I thank all staff who contributed to this significant milestone event for the Year 12 students.

The evening showcased special performances from our School Choir, Specialist Dance students (including Year 12 students Veronika Eres and Joko Narra) who performed "Rescue" and Year 11 student, Lakeisha Arifianto (together with former student Sabrina Tengku) performing a musical piece.

Congratulations to the following Special Award winners:

**Senior School Special Commendation Award** – Utsah Nakarmi

**North Metropolitan Education Region Commitment to Excellence Award** – Finn Holman

**ADF Future Innovators Award** – Finn Holman

**ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award** – Jessica Betti

**Stan Perron Award** – Ra Szep

**Sportsperson of the Year Award** – Almozamel Hussein

**Ampol Best All Rounder Award** – Jessica Betti and Finn Holman

**Principal's Recommendation for Outstanding**

**Achievement Award** – Finn Holman

**General Dux Award** – Jeryn Huntley

**ATAR Dux Award** – Finn Holman

Congratulations to our Year 12 students. We wish them the best for their future endeavours and look forward to hearing about the next part of their learning journey. Good luck to the ATAR students sitting their final WACE exams. It is also the end of the Balcatta SHS journey for a number of our families. I thank them for their support of the school over the years.

### Annual Gifted and Talented Visual Art Exhibition

The annual Gifted and Talented Visual Art Exhibition featuring

the artworks of our Gifted and Talented Visual Art students was held on Wednesday 1 November in the Ron Murphy Art Gallery.

In a dazzling display of creativity and passion, our school's Gifted and Talented Art Exhibition proved to be an outstanding success. The event not only showcased the incredible artwork our students crafted throughout the year but also featured a breathtaking Wearable Art Fashion Show, where students paraded in their own stunning creations.

The exceptional talent of our students was on full display, highlighting the remarkable results of their hard work and dedication. The exhibition served as a testament to the endless possibilities that arise when passion meets artistic skill.

The heart of this success lies in the Gifted and Talented Art Program, a nurturing environment where students are encouraged to explore diverse mediums and freely express their creativity. Their artistic prowess was further enhanced by the guidance of our dedicated teachers and the inspiring atmosphere of the Saturday morning sessions. Under the wonderful mentorship provided, our students flourished, producing outstanding work that captivated all who attended the exhibition.

The exhibition not only celebrated the culmination of a year's worth of artistic endeavours but also emphasised the importance of fostering creativity and passion within our school community. It was a testament to the incredible potential waiting to be unlocked and shared with the world that resides within each student.

As we reflect on this extraordinary event, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to its success. The talent, dedication and passion exhibited by our students serve as a beacon of inspiration for us all. We eagerly anticipate witnessing their continued artistic growth and future accomplishments.

Congratulations to our gifted artists, whose brilliance illuminated our school and left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of experiencing their exceptional work. We look forward to more awe-inspiring creations in the future as our students continue to thrive in their artistic pursuits.

Top performing students were acknowledged as follows:

**Awards of Excellence** – Year 7 – Miya Do, Year 8 – Ava Grzelec, Year 9 – Annabell Goodridge, Year 10 – Annie Frencham, Year 11 – Elora Atkins-Webb, Year 12 – Jeryn Huntley.

**Shaun Tan Emerging Artist Award** – Year 10 – Sierra Tylor-Gregorio.

Congratulations and farewell to the Year 12 students – Danny Antal, Eli Barr, Asher Beard, Jessica Betti, Kaitlyn Butson, Kai Dunbar, Jeryn Huntley and Riscia Vinta.

Acknowledgement for the planning of this event goes to Sherree Tomlinson, our Gifted and Talented Visual Art Coordinator, The Arts Learning Area and Home Economics Department.

## Balcatta Update

### Reminders – Student behaviour in the community

We have received several emails from members of the public concerning some of our students' negative behaviours on public transport. As you can imagine, it is very concerning to receive such emails as the students are clearly identified from their uniform and the descriptions provided. It is not an accurate or appropriate representation of our students. If students are identified, parents will be contacted. I am seeking your support to remind your child about appropriate behaviour on public transport in the community. I would like to advise businesses to report anti-social behaviour to the police.

### Amelia Street Parking Concerns

I am still very concerned about student drop off and pick up by parents on Amelia Street. All parents have been advised in previous Balcatta Updates and sent SMS messages to **NOT PARK** on Amelia Street. There are **NO STANDING** signs along Amelia Street as it is a designated cycle path on both sides. There is a parking and drop off area on Amelia Street which is open from 8.15am and from 2.30pm (except Wednesdays which opens from 2.00pm).

**Please note: There is NO capacity to park and collect students from the staff carpark.**

I will also be making a request to the City of Stirling to have the rangers monitor Amelia Street. Please be aware parking along Amelia Street in non-designated parking bays is illegal and you could be fined.



Helen Maitland  
Principal

## Learning Area News

### Waste Audit

On Wednesday 11 October, students in the HASS Academic Extension class conducted a 'waste audit' on the school grounds. The audit was led by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation - Waste Sorted Schools Program. Additional information can be found at <https://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/wss/>.

The waste which was audited seemed to be primarily from the canteen or Food Technologies classroom, with not a huge amount of everyday student waste. We counted 80 snack wrappers and 16 Ziplock bags and pieces of plastic wrap. This accumulates to approximately 40,000 soft plastic items being sent to landfill each year. Unfortunately, there are currently no recycling options for these items, so avoidance is the best option. Some of the things you can do to try and reduce lunchbox waste is to promote the benefits of buying in bulk including receiving more of the snack, saving money, and reducing soft plastics to landfill.

### Cultivating Futures Excursion

On Monday 16 October, Mr Brigg's 10.2 Science Class and Ms Dewi's 10.3 Science Class attended the Cultivating Futures excursion. The purpose of this excursion was to improve students' awareness of the career options in agriculture. We were introduced to Jaime and Lilly from CQUniversity in Queensland and they facilitated activities to discuss the agriculture challenge, sustainable development goals, skills and career pathways. They informed and introduced us to the different parts of the agriculture industry, including their own

journeys, while contradicting common assumptions about the industry's unskilled rural and low paid jobs.

Students in Mr Brigg's class visited the CBH (Co-operative Bulk Handling) Group Metro Grain Centre and Faber Vineyard. At the grain centre, a manager took students on a tour inside offices and laboratories, informing students on procedures conducted and the variety of grains produced in Western Australia. Students visited onsite where they watched trucks unloading tonnes of harvest. Later at the winery, the owner took students on a leisurely walk across his crops of grapes. Students were taken on a tour inside their factory where hundreds of wines were created and packaged. The owner discussed the yearly process of harvesting, crushing, fermenting, pressing, stabilising and tasting the wine to quality standards made in the comfort of his own home.

Students in Ms Dewi's class visited the Department of Fisheries in Fremantle. Upon arriving, we were greeted by a scientist who guided the students around the research centre and explained what they did on a daily basis and the purpose of the research centre which is to grow a particular type of fish at a given time under a controlled environment to improve rate of success. These fish are then sent to different companies who sell them to members of the public. We also visited the Specialty Feeds in Glen Forrest where we were introduced to another scientist who took us around the factory where they make and package food for research and zoo animals. These foods are made for different purposes to suit the animals' needs. Overall, the excursion was a fun, insightful and educational experience.

**This article was written by Ashleigh Sharman (10.2) and Tandin Zam (10.3)**

### Scribblers Festival Writing Workshop

On Wednesday 25 October, the Year 7 Academic Extension students attended two writing workshops presented by Gavin Aung Than and Lev Grossman at the Perth Town Hall. On Thursday 26 October, the Year 8 and Year 9 Academic Extension students attended two writing workshops presented by A.J. Betts and Gary Lonesborough. These workshops provided valuable insights into the art of storytelling and allowed the students to broaden their horizons and gain valuable writing skills. The students were also invited to participate in a number of activities and stalls held by Scribblers, including creating a podcast episode at the Conversation Caravan and viewing the art exhibit in the Council House. Following this, the students participated in a scavenger hunt at the City of Perth Library, an opportunity to test their literary knowledge and discover different stories within the stunning library.

## From the P&C

Congratulations and best wishes to our Year 12s who completed their studies last week. We wish you the very best as you plan your future.

This week the P&C held a raffle at the Gifted and Talented Visual Art exhibition. The prizes were kindly donated by Phillip Saraceni from Saraceni Real Estate.

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who bought a ticket. The raffle and sale of the students' graphic novels raised a total of \$455.10 which will be donated back to The Arts Learning Area.

We would love to see some fresh faces at our final P&C meeting of the year on **Monday 4 December at 7.00pm** in the school Admin building. We hope you can join us.

Lastly, good luck to our Year 11s who are preparing for their upcoming exams. Study hard, keep hydrated, eat well and remember to sleep.

P&C President  
Stacey Litchfield

## Important dates

3 Nov	Year 11 Reward Excursion to Adventure World
8 Nov	5.00pm Balcatta SHS Board meeting (Annual Public Meeting) – ALL parents/guardians welcome
10 Nov	Last day for Year 11 students
13-17 Nov	Year 11 Exams (Library)
20-21 Nov	Year 10 Exams

