



## MOUNT LAWLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

### LAWLEY UPDATE Term 2 No. 7 2014

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students and Staff,

Last time I wrote to you it was just the beginning of exam time for senior school students. Exams are now over with students having had the opportunity to celebrate their successes and to formulate their plan of academic attack for Semester 2. For Year 12s we are now down to the last dozen weeks of their high school education. Every day and indeed every lesson counts for them to be focused and to achieve their best. I can assure them that every effort made now will be well worth it as it will reduce the stress of last minute swotting for exams or assessments.

#### Recent Student Successes/Achievements

Our sporting teams have been performing creditably with the boys' football team achieving their greatest success in many years. They beat fancied opponents Cunderdin Ag College a couple of weeks ago and only narrowly lost to the highly favoured Warwick SHS team by one point. This was indeed a top effort especially since Warwick is a specialist football school. Bravo to Mr Ruck who trained the boys so well and inspired them with positive coaching right up until the last seconds of the final game. Congratulations to all involved.

- One Year 9 debating team lost to Perth Modern School by only 2 points.
- Chaz, Jadviga and Olivia quizzed the Hon. Alanah MacTiernan on a range of big issues including the deregulation of tertiary course fees, future industries that could replace mining, and the identity of Perth, as part of the ABC Drive program Student Press Gallery. Feedback from Ms MacTiernan and radio listeners has been very positive. Bravo to all involved.
- The Commemorating Indigenous War Veterans Service in Kings Park on 28 May with Aboriginal students led by Dr Phil Paioff and Michael Camilleri was a fabulous learning opportunity for students.
- Run for a Reason: well done to students who pushed themselves in either the 4km or 12km

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#### CONGRATULATIONS



**Alex 11H2** has been busy this term competing in the Adelaide Track Grand Prix and the Australian Road Nationals in Canberra in July. We wish Alex all the best in his cycling competitions.



**Max 11F2** will be representing the school in the WA Schools Cup for Golf. Well done, Max.



**Tessa 12O1** has been selected for the Australian Lacrosse Squad and will be attending a training camp in Adelaide. Congratulations, Tessa.



**Rylie 12O1** is representing Western Australia in the National Frisbee Competition in Melbourne. Well done, Rylie.



tion.

**Christian 12M3** has been accepted into the NSR Scholarship program. This enables Christian to go to a US College playing fulltime soccer and furthering his education in his chosen field. This scholarship allows Christian to continue his studies and obtain a degree from an internationally recognised US institution.



**Tareen 11M3 and Jacob 11O2** have been short listed for work experience at the ABC studios in East Perth.

Multi-Cultural Food Stall at the Careers Expo & Whole School Report Day Thursday 3 July. Come along, have a sweet or savoury bite and support language activities within the school. Stall will be located next to the library.

Please support our Green initiative by reading the rest of this Update online using the school app or at <http://www.lawley.wa.edu.au/view/newsletters/lawley-update> or P & C Website <http://mlshspc.org.au>



Chaz, Jadviga with the Hon. Alannah MacTiernan and Olivia

- Follow The Dream: the induction for this program and the Aboriginal Excellence Program was highly successful. Parents and caregivers of our students were very happy and we had significant interest from surrounding schools seeking application to join our program.

### Art Auction

This sensational event occurred recently. It was just amazing to see the transformation of the senior school foyer and classrooms into an art gallery and auction room. The auctioneer, Mr Frank Hayes, kept proceedings moving swiftly and created a very engaging atmosphere. Once again our school benefited from the skills of Mr Russell Goodrick in his capacity as MC. We appreciated the support of the Hon Michael Sutherland, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, MLA, the Hon. Alannah MacTiernan, MP, the Hon Alannah Clohesy, MLC, the Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson, MLC and Ms Janine Freeman, MLA who eagerly participated in proceedings. Thank you to the Art Auction Committee, in particular the Art Auction Convenor Sonja Davidson, for their unflagging efforts on the night and the many months before. Thank you also to all staff and students who made a contribution to ensure that the evening was a resounding success, resulting in significant funds being raised to benefit our SVAPA and Music students.

### Attendance

Stars in the attendance competition are our Year 8s with 93% attendance. This is a top result. Let's see if we can get it up to 94% for the next Update. Sadly the other four year groups are all below our attendance target in our business plan of 90%. Let's see if we can make an improvement, especially for the start of Term 3. Remember, every day counts and being at school maximises your chances of performing at your best.

### Buildings

The construction of the new building is progressing



Mary (9O2) and Mitchell (9H2) laying the wreath at the Commemorating Indigenous War Veterans Ceremony at King's Park

course. We hope to have a larger contingent next year.

- Year 10 Leadership camp. Students acquitted themselves admirably, participating in the challenging program. I am confident in the capacity of these students to be outstanding leaders when they are in Year 11 and 12.

- Chloe sang for staff at morning tea as part of her assessment for her course. She is definitely a star of the future!

- Year 10 students participated in a song writing and recording workshop over two days with the lead singer of Eskimo Joe, Kav Temperley. This was very well received by the students and staff. I was absolutely impressed with the quality of the song writing.



Art Auction held in the Senior school Building



well with no hiccups reported. The first storey slab on one section has occurred and building is continuing. The slab will be extended to another section when the infrastructure is complete in that section. Internal walls are being constructed. The brickwork is 90% complete in the Staff Resource Centre. The Aboriginal brick artwork is completed on the entrance to the building.

### Feedback

We received positive feedback on our Ex-POW Memorial Service: "The President, Committee and Members of the Ex-Prisoner of War Association, WA were most appreciative of the contribution your teachers, staff and students applied towards the very successful conduct of our annual commemorative service at the Ex-POW Memorial, Kings Park. All present were highly impressed with the efficient organisation and conduct of the ceremony and the warm and sincere affection shown to all the veterans."



There are times when I receive feedback that is not favourable. That is also appreciated and acted upon. I am a great believer in generating solutions to problems. I would urge any parents and caregivers who have any concerns or issues to address these in the first place with the person who is directly involved, usually the classroom teacher. Almost always a solution can be generated by having a conversation and working through the problem with the parties directly involved. If resolution cannot be reached it is appropriate to move to the next level.

### IPS review

The leadership team and the Board have read and discussed the IPS review report. Our next step is to continue to work on our targets within this business plan cycle (that is due to finish at the end of this year) while simultaneously formulating our next business plan.

### Parking

The Learoyd Street Proclamation has been signed and is expected to be gazetted this week. Policing of the street can commence following gazettal. This

means that there will be consequences imposed by ECU for those people who choose not to abide by parking regulations.

### Reports

Reports have been posted this week to give students and families time to read them before our reporting day on 3 July. I encourage all families to take advantage of the opportunity to meet with staff to discuss your child's results and progress.

### Traffic safety

Recent conversations with Mount Lawley Primary School have centred around the need for a shared understanding of the use of our car park and roads around our school. We all acknowledge that there is significant traffic travelling down Woodsome and surrounding streets, particularly at drop off and pick up times. I ask that parents and caregivers do not use the front carpark as a circular driveway and drop off point. This creates congestion and makes it very difficult for assigned users of the carpark and delivery vehicles to use the carpark safely. Recent near misses with primary school students and an accident with a secondary school student have highlighted just how careful we all must be in sharing the roads and abiding by the guidelines of each school.

### Year 10

Several weeks ago we held a very successful Year 10 information evening related to subject selection for Year 11. People were literally sitting in the aisles of the ECU lecture theatre! Thank you to all of the families who made the time to attend and to the staff who presented on the night. This was followed up with the Year 10 counselling sessions that have only just finished. Again, thank you to staff who undertook the training and dedicated days to provide high level counselling to students and their families.



Year 10 Leadership Camp

Have a lovely fortnight and I wish everyone a restful time over the July break.

**Lea Fairfoul-Hutcheon, Principal**




## Parent Focus Article

### WEEK 16

#### Middle – Researching Senior – Research Resources

**These articles are to be used with the School Diary which has been supplied by the P & C Association**

#### Learning Goals - at the end of this week your child should have:

- An understanding that the intention of researching is to inspire their curiosity to be knowledge creators, not copiers and pasters of chunks of information from the net.
- A preparedness to question and then check the authenticity of information, an awareness to search for patterns and messages in the information and an understanding of how to compile a bibliography.
- A proactive attitude to use the weekly Habits of Mind and Thinking Tools to strive, thrive and flourish in their living, learning and thinking.

#### Value for Life – Curiosity

Identify three positive behaviours which show Curiosity at home, then at school and then in the community.

#### Wellbeing Focus

Throughout our student's school careers they will be required to complete projects, assignments and investigations into a numerous range of topics. Building resourceful habits into their learning and thinking will enable them to confidently define, experiment, imagine, analyse and make predictions from the knowledge they investigate and create.

Have students ever been explicitly taught how to research, present their findings and complete a bibliography? They were not born knowing how to and we can't assume that they will "pick up these skills " naturally along the way. To cultivate students' researching habits it is essential that they are explicitly taught a logical step by step process, creative and critical thinking and learning what to do when they don't know what to do.

The temptation for 21st century students is that they believe Google will provide all they need to know to complete their learning needs. They Google a topic and often mindlessly copy chunks of information and insert it into their assignments; no defining, no imagination, no experimenting, no discerning, no depth of thought and no grooming of lifelong learning and thinking habits.

Following are some of the aspects of researching that we need to teach students and practise in everyday learning and thinking:

- Brainstorming – encouraging students to think hard about and connect with what they already know about the topic.
- Adventure and adaptability – learning in different ways, in different places and from different sources.
- Meta-cognition – thinking about what type of thinking they need to use in particular situations.
- Gathering and assessing information – being able to find information and be discerning as to its authenticity.
- Reading between the lines – seeing beyond the written word and identifying patterns to investigate.
- Synthesising – putting all their findings together in a coherent and stylish manner.

Another researching approach well worth looking at, which is similar to the one in this week's focus, is called Big 6; Googling will find it for you.



## Parent Focus Article

The Learning Curve™

## Parent Focus Article

The Learning Curve™

### WEEK 17

#### Middle – Research Process Senior – Research Process

These articles are to be used with the School Diary which has been supplied by the P & C Association

#### Learning Goals - at the end of this week your child should have:

- A willingness to practise the research process steps and to search for patterns, bias, inference and messages in the information.
- A seeding of 'big picture' thinking so that they can be knowledge creators and evaluate their findings critically.
- A proactive attitude to use the weekly Habits of Mind and Thinking Tools to strive, thrive and flourish in their living, learning and thinking.

#### Value for Life – Organisation

Identify three positive behaviours which show Organisation at home, then at school and then in the community.

#### Wellbeing Focus

The main thing our children will be doing in their lives in the 21st century is learning; the world is evolving so rapidly it is essential that we have young adults leaving our schools with the habits and capabilities necessary to learn what they have to learn. These habits include being able to look at an issue or problem and:

- Knowing what to do when they don't know what to do.
- Relate and understand how it connects to their world.
- Identify and find the information they need to address it.
- Develop a timeline to solve it.
- Analyse their findings and look for bias, patterns, inference and implications.
- Present what they learned with clarity and precision.
- Evaluate their thoughts and make sense of them in relation to their world.
- Make forecasts and predictions from their findings.

We need to cultivate these in their every day thoughts and behaviours so that they become embedded habits. This week's focus is on building students' learning and thinking power in this area by introducing them to reliable and resourceful research processes. They provide scaffolds, which enable students to be curious experimenters while at the same time moving forward logically in addressing the issue or problem and making balanced predictions.

Another purpose is to encourage a discerning disposition in them to judge the suitability and authenticity of material from the Net, books, software and resources they source for their research needs. Then once they have researched a topic, the process of correlating, presenting the information collected and then reaching meaningful conclusions are essential components to lifelong problem solving.

*"I am easily satisfied with the very best."* Sir Winston Churchill

### WEEK 18

#### Middle – Writing a Report Senior – Writing a Report

These articles are to be used with the School Diary which has been supplied by the P & C Association

#### Learning Goals - at the end of this week your child should have:

- An understanding of a logical sequence to follow to compile a meaningful report of their experimenting, findings and predictions.
- A raised awareness of the importance of communicating with clarity and precision and a willingness to use their dominant Multiple Intelligences in compiling their reports.
- A proactive attitude to use the weekly Habits of Mind and Thinking Tools to strive, thrive and flourish in their living, learning and thinking.

#### Value for Life – Composure

Identify three positive behaviours which show Composure at home, then at school and then in the community.

#### Wellbeing Focus

Cultivating a habit in our children to follow their curiosity, experiment with their learning and be knowledge creators will assist them to develop positive, resilient, resourceful and reflective lifelong learning habits. This often means that we need to change our own approaches and not start from positions of certainty – why do we have to know first?

It is essential to focus on teaching students how to clearly and meaningfully communicate to others what they have learnt and how it relates to their worlds through the Habits of Mind, Communicating with Clarity and Precision and Striving for Accuracy.

The capacity to compile well thought out reports on their learning using their dominant Multiple Intelligences is covered in this week's focus. When students have researched and investigated a topic, it is important that they have the skills to present what they have learnt, new connections and any conclusions made in a coherent and efficient manner.

Children have a variety of backgrounds, differing dominant Multiple Intelligences and an array of learning styles. As such, they should be given opportunities to write and present their reports in a number of different ways. Some inclusive activities may include oral presentations, idea maps, thinking tools such as the Five E's of Learning, essays, posters or presentations using software such as Prezi, Popplet, Animate, Knowio or Timetoglider, just to name a few.

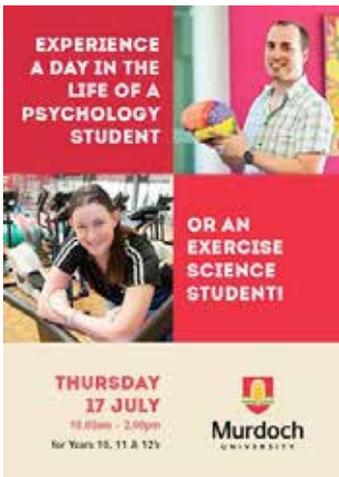
The key point is to personalise learning to cater for the needs of all children. Initiating discussions on this topic both at school and at home to build their Habits of Mind to communicate with clarity and precision and striving for accuracy will cultivate positive growth mindsets in students to flourish.

*"Be like a postage stamp, stick to one thing until you get there."* Margaret Carly



COMMUNITY NOTICES

The following information is presented as a service to parents, however, Mount Lawley SHS does not recommend, endorse or promote these providers



**PSYCHOLOGY OR EXERCISE SCIENCE**

Murdoch University is excited to announce a unique opportunity to experience what it's like to be a Psychology or Exercise Science student and warmly extends an invitation for your Year 10, 11 and 12 students to attend.

Experience a Day in the Life of a Psychology student or Exercise Science student will be held on Thursday 17th July 2014 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

This free event will allow students to find out more about courses in Psychology and Exercise Science and entry pathways offered at Murdoch University. It will also allow students to partake in practical activities in facilities relevant to their chosen area, meet academic staff and current students.

Students should get in quickly as places are limited but can register their attendance and secure their place by visiting: [www.experience.murdoch.edu.au](http://www.experience.murdoch.edu.au)

Please note that first preference will go to Year 12 students.

For information regarding presentation bookings or other services offered by the Future Students team you may contact us via our webpage: <http://www.murdoch.edu.au/Future-students/Domestic-students/Teachers/>

**MASTER MIND AUSTRALIA – ACADEMIC PATHWAYS JULY REVISION PROGRAM**

Study Skills – Essay Writing – Subject Revision For all students in Year 10, 11 & 12. This revision program aims to prepare students for Term 3 & Mock Exams. Courses will be conducted at: Christ Church Grammar School, Hale School, All Saints' College and Willetton Senior High School. Early Bird enrolment discount applies if received before 22 June, 2014 For further information on these programs contact: Dr Robert Hallam at Master Mind Australia on 9486 1377 [www.mastermindaustralia.com.au](http://www.mastermindaustralia.com.au)



This upcoming July school holidays marks the beginning of Winterland, Perth's first inner-city outdoor ice skating rink. Held at the James Street Amphitheatre within the Perth Cultural Centre, Winterland will kick-off on Friday the 4th of July and close on Sunday the 20th of July.

There will be a range of family friendly sessions and activities on offer each day, with each session beginning on the hour and running for 45 minutes. Sessions begin from 9AM just for the little ones, with aided skating tools available for the 3 – 5 year olds.

All ages sessions start from 10AM onwards, with a variety of winter-themed films being aired on the big screen for the whole family to enjoy. After 7PM its time for the over 18's to get their skates on with themed nights, DJs and more. Sessions can be booked via [www.winterland.com.au](http://www.winterland.com.au) or purchased at the box office.

Presale Under 15: \$14 15 and over: \$24 Family (2 + 2) : \$66  
 Box Office Sales Under 15: \$18 15+: \$28 Family (2+2): \$82  
 Please note, a booking fee of \$0.55 applies to all tickets. There is also a card payment fee of 1% of the transaction where applicable. Penguin Skate-Aids for toddlers are \$8.00 presale and \$10.00 at the box office to hire. Skate hire is included in tickets. Group and corporate bookings available – please contact [info@winterland.com.au](mailto:info@winterland.com.au) to secure your perfect Winter group experience.

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