



Girrawheen SHS April 2015 Newsletter

From the Principal



Term 1 ends with a number of positive activities and some sound results that our school can be especially proud of.

Last week the Year 11 & 12 students enjoyed a fabulous night at AQWA celebrating their Ball. The young men and women on the night looked so elegant that some were unrecognisable. I am particularly proud of their conduct throughout the night. The students spent the night dancing with each other performing some of their fabulous dance moves, while making all the staff feel welcome and an integral part of their celebrations. A number of staff attended including some of our very new staff who enjoyed this unforgettable night. **Ms Melinda Allen** is to be congratulated for organising this special and memorable event. I extend my thanks to The School Ball Committee, consisting of students and some key staff who were vital to the preparations. I also wish to extend my thanks to Staff who supervised on the night.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Last week a School Board meeting was held. Our school farewells **Professor Helen Wildy** from the University of Western Australia. Professor Wildy has ended her two year term with our School Board. We welcome **Mr Pascal Felix**, Executive Director – Organisational Development, Main Roads.

This term's Board meeting focussed on a school self-review based on reporting to the Department of Education, WA's Annual Reporting processes and for the school's first Independent Public School Review. The Review will take place on the 30th April and 1st May. The Board has endorsed the school's Annual Report and will be commenting on the report to the Independent Reviewers. The report provides strong information about the improved results the school has achieved in the school's priority areas of Literacy & Numeracy, WACE, VET, ATAR results and Attendance.

The Board will be integral in assisting with setting our school's future priorities. Our school's positive image and behaviour management will be a focus.

HARMONY DAY

On Friday 27 March our school celebrated Harmony Day. This year's theme "Everyone Belongs" reflected our school's logo "Unity is Strength", a school that works together as one. A school assembly was held with 4 students singing the national anthem. Unity, the Performing Arts students and our Clontarf boys also performed some wonderful dance routines that had the crowds moving to the rhythm.

A team of people kindly worked behind the scenes and on the day to support this event. **Retz Oddy, Samantha Eaton, Loan Tran, Jonathan Bughiu, staff, canteen ladies** and the **Victory Life Church** offered some amazing food representing cultures across the world.

Mr Geoff Davies from the WA Labour History Society presented the Ron & Millicent Labour History essay competition award to **Rebecca Bogle** for her essay. Rebecca received a sum of money for her efforts from the society.

A very special guest also attended our assembly to watch our students perform. We were honoured with **Mr Carmelo Pizzino's** company. Carmelo has been one of the Dancing with the Stars performers. He has partnered many famous celebrities and has become a dancing icon not only in WA and Australia but worldwide as well. Carmelo is currently undertaking his Dancing degree in Europe. This year Carmelo was honoured by his selection to be an Australia Day Ambassador.

Carmelo also held workshops for our Unity team throughout the day. We sincerely thank Carmelo for his precious time and welcome him back to our school.

GALLIPOLI

Last year I highlighted **Jet-rik Bernal's**

selection to attend this year's commemorative Centenary ANZAC service. Jet-rik went through an amazing process of essay writing and interviews. This is quite an opportunity. Jet-rik has already presented himself as our schools Ambassador. While in Gallipoli he will be representing Public Education and West Australians. We congratulate **Jet-rik** and wish him all the best on his journey.

VIETNAM ANZAC 2015

During week two of the school holidays Wednesday 15 April to Sunday 26 April students, led by **Ms Bolt, Ms Tran, Ms Newton** and **Mr Noack** are heading to Vietnam to commemorate soldiers who fought in the war. During this trip students will hold commemorative dedications for soldiers who fought in the war as well as attend the Long Tan dawn service.

This will be an experience of a lifetime as we attend the hundredth celebration since the Gallipoli ANZAC service in a very special place for Australian service personnel and our Vietnamese community. I wish all staff and students a fulfilling journey.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL TERM 1

THURSDAY 2 APRIL
STUDENTS RETURN TO
SCHOOL
TERM 2
TUESDAY 21 April

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 27 April
ANZAC DAY Holiday

Wednesday 29 April
P & C Meet & Greet @ 6:30pm

Tuesday 5 May
Year 8 Immunisation
Year 10 Lightning Carnival

Tuesday 12 May – Friday 15 May
NAPLAN

Monday 18 May
P & C Meeting @ 6:30pm

Monday 18 May – Thurs 21 May
Clontarf Camp Year 7-8

Thursday 28 May
Year 9 Lightning Carnival



Girrawheen Senior High School

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SCHOOL VALUES

SCHOOL PRIORITIES

✓ Respect ✓ Resilience ✓ Drive your best ✓ Numeracy/Literacy ✓ Positive Behaviour ✓ Attendance

HEIRISSON ROTARY DUCK DERBY

On Sunday 22 March twelve students from our Performing Arts team and our Co-president **Dylan Gould** volunteered their time at the Heirisson Rotary Duck Derby in a park in East Perth. The students assisted with surveying the community, face painting, dropping the ducks into the water to begin the race and helping the organisers with anything that required support. I thank our students for making this great effort. In particular I would like to thank **Mr Miln, Ms Wood** and **Ms Pearce** for their time. I also enjoyed spending some quality time with students who worked so hard on the day. Heirisson Rotary will be involved in supporting our school over 2015. We look forward to a great relationship with them.

A reminder that we begin our school holidays this week. Please note that staff return to school on Monday 20 April for a Professional Development day and students return on Tuesday 21 April. Please note that an additional long weekend will take place on Monday 27 April with an ANZAC day public holiday.

I wish all staff and students a relaxing and enjoyable break.

Rosalba Butterworth
PRINCIPAL

GIRRAWHEEN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Girrawheen SHS have begun to use an electronic attendance monitoring system this term. Staff are in the process of becoming familiar with the application and beginning next term it will be fully implemented. This means parents/carers will receive a text message when your child is not at school.

Please respond to this message by communicating a legitimate absence to the school or sending your child to school.

Improving attendance is a target for the school as we know academic achievement, social development and school success is dependent on regular attendance. Regular attendance is achieved when students have 90% attendance. Students who have more than four days absent from school per term fall below this benchmark.

Explaining an absence does help students maintain their attendance rate but if we are aware of illness preventing attendance for a period of time we can support academic success by organising work to be sent home.

Students are provided with regular updates of their attendance and review and discuss their attendance progress with their Form teachers.

Ms Barbara Newton
Deputy Principal

HARMONY DAY PERFORMANCE

The Performing Arts Academy and Unity team were invited to perform at a Harmony Day celebration by The Smith Family at the Herb Graham Recreation Centre on Friday 20 March. The students employed their artistic and performance skills to present another polished show to a variety of audience members.

Mrs Cargill and **Ms Drpich** received such positive feedback and compliments about the students' performance and the way they conducted themselves on the day. As the only High School to perform at the event, our students were able to showcase their skills to numerous Primary School students. It was delightful to see the smiles on the faces of hundreds of small students as our students lit up the stage.

Well done to all those who took part in this important celebration!

Mrs Cargill and Ms Drpich
Performing Arts Academy Teachers



“Bullying.....No Way!”

The fifth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence was held on Friday 20 March 2015. This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say **“Bullying. No Way!”** and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time.

This year more than 1,950 schools, with more than 890,000 students across Australia participated by running local events, inviting guest speakers and running classroom lessons. All staff and students were able to collect a free wristband to show their support of this event. Congratulations to our Student Council for promoting this day at our school and to the year 7 and 8 Pastoral Care students who made promotional items to display.

Ms J Drpich
(on behalf of the Student Councillors)



Goldfields Cup Camp

On Friday the 20th March thirty of the Boomerangs students piled into the van and school bus Kalgoorlie bound to participate in the annual “Goldfields Cup.” The boys were full of excitement and anticipation with many of the new comers having never visited Kalgoorlie before. On the way up a brief history lesson was given about the city of Kalgoorlie which was followed by some trivia questions. A half way stop in Merredin was welcomed by the boys as they proceeded to prepare lunches and have a brief look around the town.

We then pushed on & arrived at our Kalgoorlie Clontarf Academy where we would stay for the night. The boys were divided into groups to unload vehicles, set up bedding and cook hearty dinners. On Saturday we were greeted by a soaring 40 degree temperature & howling hot winds. The enthusiasm did not wane and all boys participated in football games, running water or taking quality action photos. A well-deserved visit to the Oasis Swimming complex to cool down was more than appreciated by the group. Many of the boys struggled to get out the pools with some requesting a sleep at the swimming center.



After the All Star presentations were finalized we filed into the vehicles and made our way to Southern Cross Sports Club. We can't thank the community of Southern Cross enough for the hospitality that was received by our Academy. Overall the trip was a great success in terms of leadership, health and well-being along with the opportunity to play a few games of competitive footy.


"DUCK DERBY"

Our School was extended an invitation by Heirisson Rotary to participate in running the annual "Duck Derby" on Sunday 20 May. The "Duck Derby" is a public fundraising event to raise money for the Telethon Foundation. The students who took part in this event represented our school with pride. They interacted with members of the public in a vibrant and positive manner. The students were role model representatives of our school and enjoyed engaging in face-painting and donation seeking on the day.

Well done to all those who willingly gave up their time to support this event: **Dylan Gould, Ashleigh Gibson-French, Salina Tairoski, Rebecca Bodle, Sherryn McCluskey, Shari Keenan, Kristy Nguyen, Terhas Gebresselassie, Mya Barclay-Smith, Kirstie Kickett, Minesh Nandha and Maddison Gibson-French.**

Sincere thanks to **Mr Miln, Ms Wood and Ms Pearce** for their tireless efforts on the day.





**REDEEMED CARE
&
THE CITY OF STIRLING**
Presents
Men's Health Seminar


Diabetes Awareness
Men and cancer prevention & Awareness Session
Heart Foundation
The Power of a Father / Father Figure
African Men Counselling (The African approach)

Facilitators:
James Larkin, Mark Strickland, Bob Matthews, Wayne Bradshaw & Ernest Nnadigwe







DATE: April 18, 2015
TIME: 10 AM - 4:15 PM
Registration Starts at 9:00 AM

VENUE: Mirrabooka Multicultural Centre, Herb Graham Centre, 38 Ashbury Crescent, Mirrabooka WA 6061

Scan code to register online



Partners



HOW STUDENTS CAN APPLY FOR A TFN FROM 1 JANUARY

Students can no longer apply for a Tax File Number through the School. Please see the following information from the Taxation Department

Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post Office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information about applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for QC27248.

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax File Number – application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for "QC22604".

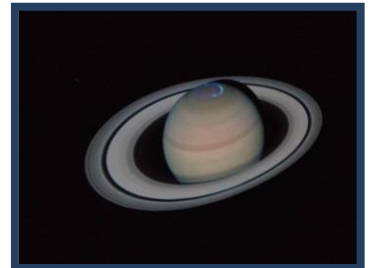
SCITECH EXCURSION

On Friday 20 March a group of Year 7, 8 and 9 students were invited to join **Mr Miln, Mr King, Mrs Alexander and Ms Karman** on a Rewards excursion to SciTech.

What a fantastic day it was! The students were amazed at the concept of a dress being made out of wine by the world renowned "**Gary Cass**". The planetarium was also "Out of this World".

The concept of a portable surfboard was very interesting and as **Mrs Alexander** and **Mr King** thought, a very "game" idea. The students were in awe of the man-made tornado and how high the flames went in tornado formation. There were several games and experiments for the students to enjoy.

Overall a terrific day was had by all and student behaviour was excellent. The students should be proud of themselves.



The Malaga Friday Market operates each Friday at Princess/Wallington Reserve Balga.

Sellers admitted from 6:30am to 12 noon at \$10.00 per Bay, and buyers from 8:00 am to 12 noon for no cost. Bric a brack, plants, clothing, tools, books, toys etc. are all for sale and morning tea/coffee, light snacks, cool drinks can be purchased. For further details please contact Renee Colvin on 0422 327 909 or Alan Stafford on 9342 4895



P & C MEET AND GREET 6:30 - 8:00PM WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL



Refreshments provided by the P & C

A brief AGM will be held. This should take no longer than 15 minutes (max) and will be followed by refreshments and a meet and greet of parents from the school. ALL WELCOME

RSVP to: Kris Crew on 9247 0540

CARMELO PIZZINO VISITS GIRRAWHEEN SHS

On Friday 27 March, we were very privileged to have media personality and world champion celebrity dancer Carmelo Pizzino visit our school. Carmelo shot to fame in 2006 by making his "Dancing with the Stars" debut. Carmelo was impressed by the Harmony Day performers which featured 90 students from the Performing Arts Academy, Unity Team and Clontarf Academy. He was so impressed with the professionalism and energy displayed by the performers and told the students that he "didn't want their show to end."

Carmelo treated some Performing Arts Academy students to some tuition in dances such as the Samba, Cha-cha and Jive throughout the day. The students quickly learned how easy professional dancers can make things look.

Carmelo's visit to our school was a once in a lifetime opportunity and will long be remembered by staff and students.

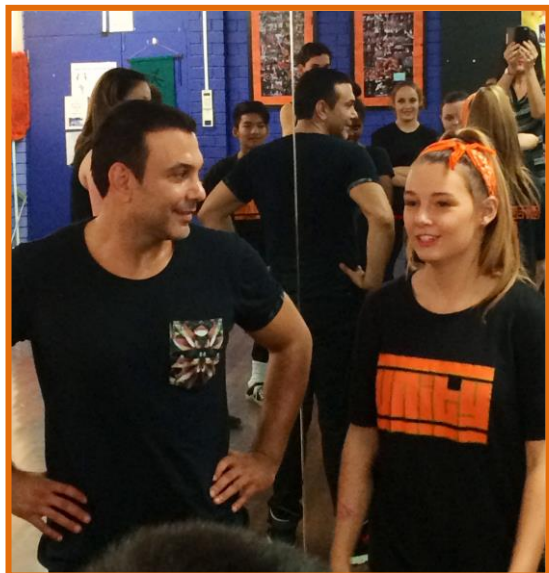


Photo: Rebecca Boodle (year 11) thanks Carmelo for visiting



Photo: Carmelo (centre, kneeling) with some of the Performing Arts Academy students