

# **ISSUE 10** December 2015 News

Explore. Dream. Discover.

# Principal's Report



As the year draws to a close; I would like to thank parents and carers for their support throughout the year. It is really important to have close working relationships between school and home as it provides students with common messages about the importance of learning. I would also like to thank all our partners, for without them we would not be able to provide the wrap around care that our students need for success.

I am immensely pleased with the College's progress in

2015. This year was the first year as Coodanup College; all the students look fabulous in the new school uniform and the branding on all our communications looks very smart. We believe this reflects our vision "Explore. Dream. Discover." I believe that image is very important for our College and the students we serve. My wish is that every time a student applies for either part time or full time work that being a Coodanup student is a contributing factor for the employers when choosing employees. I firmly believe that our students are well placed when competing with students from other schools as they are committed and determined to be successful in life.

The House Faction system was launched in Term 3 and has been a huge success across the entire College. The students were our main focus when we reintroduced the factions back into the College. By having the students involved in the initial concepts, they were able to take part in the selection process of name choices, colours and mascots of the houses. The activities that have formed the House Competitions have been a fantastic demonstration of teamwork and leadership in both students and staff. It has been a great way to get all students involved, no matter their abilities, and the level of participation has been very pleasing.

I hope that you have all had the opportunity to visit our new website. We are very proud of how it has turned out. In 2016, you will see a number of new opportunities for communicating with the College. School Stream, which is a communication app for mobile devices, will come online early in Term One. This should make it easier to get up to date information instantly on your phone and will make it more convenient to access our website and newsletters through this service. A new way of booking teacher/parent meetings will also be available.

I would like to make a particular big thank you to the staff of Coodanup College. At a recent review it was noted that the school staff are committed to its students and do whatever it takes to support students to be successful.

To our Coodanup students; please be safe over the holiday break. I have been very pleased with the work you have all done this year particularly in meeting the expectations on you to show an improved effort to your learning throughout the year.

Ms. Vicki McKeown **Principal** 



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"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade Explore. Dream. Discover."





# **Murdoch University** Creative Art Initiative



This year Coodanup College continued its partnership with Murdoch University to help inspire our students for further education.

Murdoch Academics worked with the students in the Certificate II Information, Digital Media and Technology VET course.

Over a ten week period the students designed and created a real time strategy zombie game. They worked through the whole game process, from brainstorming the ideas for the game to character design and layout of the game environment.

At the conclusion of the program the class were invited to Murdoch University for the premiere showing of "Uprising" and awarded certificates for their participation.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the program as it gave them a sound understanding of how games are made, as well as the different job opportunities available in the gaming industry.

### Jeremy Britton Teacher

Jack Wilkinson, Wade Clare and Joshua Smedley (left to right)



# Reminder to Parents & Carers

All outstanding fees and charges for students must now be paid. We now have EFTPOS onsite for ease of payment and payment can also be made directly to our bank account.

**ANZ Bank BSB: 016 742** ACC: 4395 00159

Please quote student surname and year as reference.



A reminder that the last day of school for Term 4 is Thursday, December 17th. Term 1 2016 will commence Monday, February 1st.



### Year 8 students commencing their secondary education at Coodanup College this year have settled in well.

Their move from the primary school model to the daily changes of the high school model was made easier as a consequence of the numerous transition days most of them experienced the year before. The majority were already familiar with the school, had become acquainted with a number of staff, and were conversant with several school operational procedures such as the Positive Behaviour Support, our online reward system of earning Vivo points, and the expectations that would be placed on them in terms of their academic progress.

As the Year 8 Co-ordinator, it has been a pleasure to work with this delightful group of students. I have enjoyed watching them adapt to their new environment and seeing them forge friendships with each other and positive relationships with teachers. I am proud of their efforts in facing the many challenges with which they have had to deal as a consequence of the implementation of the Australian Curriculum.

I look forward to working with them again in 2016 as their Year 9 Coordinator and supporting their social, emotional, and intellectual growth. It will be a privilege to be part of their development into confident, capable and contributing members of our community.

Toni Chin Year 8 Co-ordinator

# R U OK Day

Are you okay? A question used by many yet holds little meaning. The way we celebrate 'R U OK DAY' at Coodanup College gives back the full meaning it once had.

On the 10th of September 2015, Coodanup College held an annual 'R U OK' day. The mascot for this year was a Minion from the famous movie Despicable Me. He chilled with students and staff, took a few pics and even received banana milk from the Coast Crew!

The exciting activities on the day included a drone visit and photo, a visit from the 97.3 Coast Van, a 'Go Nuts 4 Donuts' van selling delicious donuts for \$1 run by the lovely ladies Jenny Lancaster and Irene Shone, Kingdom-City Church entertainment such as sumo wrestling and a performance by Ryan Charles.

If it wasn't for Jess Halliday and her Student Services team Christina, Meghan, Maree, Chris, Mel, Ingrid and Katrina this day wouldn't have been possible.

We interviewed Jess and our School Chaplain Melissa Pike to find out what 'R U OK Day' means to them.

Jess: "It's about the concept that a conversation can change your life. Really about suicide prevention, by asking someone that you know and care about





if you can see they aren't doing too well. Asking the question 'R U OK?' and just listening, not providing advice or judgement, just listening and helping, and to think about what you can do or how you could seek help."

Mel: "R U OK Day is a very valued day for us at Coodanup and we believe celebrating it like we do is the best way to embrace the fact that we live and breathe each day knowing that people do love and cherish our presence today, tomorrow and forever. Nobody will ever be alone, there will always be help through every stage of life available for everyone. Just speak up and share a hug. That's all anyone can ask

We interviewed many amazing people and to sum it all up 'R U OK Day' is about valuing everyone's health and wellbeing. Asking such a simple question can make a great difference. One lady said, "I had never heard of 'R U OK Day' until now." She now believes it is a wonderful thing for everyone to celebrate and that she will forever value it for herself, her family and her friends' health and wellbeing.

Just remember - a simple conversation can change/save a life.

Iacinta Grimshaw & Amber Gardner Students

# Website Launc

We are pleased to announce that the brand new Coodanup College website is up running. The website contains plenty of updates including our curriculum, available programs, and important information and news for parents and carers.



The site will be very informative and we encourage you to take a look. Find us at

# School Stream App Launch

To support our new website, Coodanup College will be launching smartphone application in 2016 via the app School Stream. This will instantly communicate information and alerts to you via your mobile device.

# Children's Festival

On Sunday the 25th of October, Coodanup College and Clontarf Football Academy had a stall at the Children's Festival held at the Mandurah Foreshore. Our student volunteers taught circus skills to visitors and Clontarf members were teaching handballing. Children who visited the tent could obtain temporary tattoos and were thrilled with the opportunity to learn some fun circus and football tricks. It was fantastic to see our young people donating their time to celebrate childhood and make such a special festival occur with the City of Mandurah - well done to all involved.

Coral Richards **Aboriginal Education Committee** 



### Inspire Academy Camp 2015





On Wednesday the 21st of October, the Inspire Academy students went on their annual camp to Geographe Bay Resort in Busselton. The trip down was exciting, with Ms Campbell and Mr de Fries on board the bus and Chris Bennett following behind in her car.

After settling in and having lunch at the resort, we went into Busselton to walk along the beach and the jetty. Many students took the opportunity to go shopping. In the late afternoon, we had fish and chips along the foreshore, before making our way back to the resort.

On camp, students played many team building games on the beach and enjoyed each other's company. On the Friday coming home we stopped in at Bunbury for a competitive game of Ten Pin Bowling.

Chris Bennett Inspire Academy Coordinator





# On Track *Placements*

Congratulations to our Year 12 students who have successfully gained a placing in On Track. On Track is a Murdoch University course, giving students free university preparation and offering an alternative entry pathway into Murdoch. This opportunity gives our successful students a new experience and helps them find a career they love.

Well done!

Chris Bennett **Inspire Academy Coordinator** 



# State-Wide Student Parliament

In September, I was given the opportunity to represent my college in the State-Wide Student Parliament. The seat I was given was in the Legislative Council and I was representing the South West region.

The event spanned over 3 days. The first day was an orientation day and we learnt where we were supposed to be and what was going to happen in the following 2 days. We were also treated to a ferry cruise of the Swan River and we dedicated that time towards getting to know the other student parliamentarians.

The second day was the sitting day. The Governor of Western Australia opened our Student Parliament which was a huge honour. We had to present our tasks that we were given to the Legislative Council. I was asked to prepare and present a petition, speak in favour of the Voting Age Bill 2015 and also prepare a Member's Statement.

The last day we received our certificates of participation and we also had morning tea with the Governor of Western Australia. After the certificate ceremony, we were able to watch Question Time in the Legislative Assembly and we received a shout-out from the Speaker of the House.

Overall, it was such an amazing opportunity which I am very grateful for and it provided me with so much knowledge. This was a once in a lifetime experience and I would like to thank all the teachers, staff and friends who supported me.

Kasey Whitehall Student



# Canberra Trip 2015

On Sunday the 8th of November, 12 students and 2 staff from Coodanup College met at the Perth Domestic Airport to begin our Canberra Trip.

We arrived in Sydney the following morning and took our connecting flight to Canberra. There we met our bus driver Mike, who took us for breakfast before we began our tours. By the middle of the day we all began to fall asleep on the bus and some on the tours, so we were all glad to arrive at our accommodation that evening.

Throughout the five days in Canberra, we all agreed that the War Memorial and the Wreath Laying Ceremony were the highlights of our trip, however given more time we would have enjoyed exploring the War Memorial. We also enjoyed visiting the Royal Australian Mint, the High Court of Australia, Government House, Australian Institute of Sport and both Parliament Houses, the old and the new.

On the Thursday night after dinner we gathered together to tell funny stories about the trip and were awarded funny awards by Mr Bennett which were called the 'Stacie's'. We all had a good laugh that night.

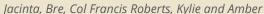
Friday morning we were all up, packed and on the bus early because it was our last day in Canberra. We all enjoyed our last day and were sad to leave. We thanked our bus driver Mike, for showing us around Canberra and Mrs C. Bennett and Mr A. Bennett for organising and participating in the trip.

All 12 students and 2 staff were very tired when we arrived in Perth, where we were greeted by our family and friends. I believe all students and staff enjoyed their trip to Canberra.

Kylie Moore Student

#### **War Memorial Canberra**







Laying a wreath at the War Memorial in Canberra

## SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Years 7 to 12 You may be eligible for up to:

towards school expenses

DO YOU HOLD A: • CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD

> CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD (OR)

(OR) VETERANS' AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

> **Applications Close** Friday 8 April 2016

ASK SCHOOL RECEPTION FOR MORE INFORMATION

## The Arts

#### YOUTH ART AWARD

Coodanup College entered several students' work into the 2015 Peel Regional Youth Art Perspective Exhibition at the Mandurah **Performing Arts Centre.** 

Held in September, the exhibition is an initiative supported by Alcoa Australia that gives students the opportunity to express ambitions and apprehensions about their future, along with youth values and cultural and social issues. Our Year 11 student Laura Abela won a Highly Commended Encouragement Award for her piece "One World, One Vision". Well done to all students featured, and special congratulations to Laura!

Jane Bradbrook-Mann Teacher



# Work Place Learning 2015

2015 has seen Work Place Learning go from strength to strength with both our Year 11 and 12 classes.

Many students have taken the opportunities offered to them by local employers to develop their employability skills, with several students securing part time jobs with their employer as a direct result of successfully completing their work placement.

I cannot stress enough the importance of students taking on this subject with a positive attitude, and the expectation that they will embrace their experience fully.

Not only are employability skills learned whilst in the work place, but many soft skills like manners, humility and integrity are also developed along the way, and for many employers this is a priority when they look to employ future prospects.

This year we have had students sample a variety of work placements - from childcare to teaching, mechanical/auto, bricklaying, real estate, and reception work.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our local business owners

and work place affiliates for their continuous support of this very important learning experience in assisting and preparing our young people for the world post school.

Tamara Gavrilovic **WPL Coordinator** 



**ART WORKSHOP** 

Rachelle Ingram, Kylie Bond, Sarah Nicholls and Rachelle Rolfe attended a Public Art Workshop with Mrs Fitz at the Mandurah Performing Arts

on Sutton's farm with his wife Susan,



# The Arts continued...

Since the Gala Night in August, we have had an eventful second half of the year in The Arts.

Specialised lighting workshops were run for our senior students at Murdoch University and we also had the opportunity to host two productions in our newly renovated Treasure Box Theatre. This included the New Zealand Playhouse's hilarious version of *The Importance of Being Earnest* and Louise

Helfgott's moving *Whispering Leaves* based on the story of Yaburgurt. Senior students in our "Live Production & Events" certificate course played key roles in the bump-in/bump-out of the shows and running sound and lighting tech

For a grand finale to a wonderful year in The Arts, 18 of our top students were invited to attend Disney's The Lion King at Perth Crown Theatre. Take a look at the photos of all of this semester's endeavours in The Arts below.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful staff and students of Coodanup College for making me feel so welcome this year – I have truly loved my time at the College and believe the future of The Arts looks very bright!

Elisa Dumitru Performing Arts Teacher

# The Arts Gallery



















# Year 7 Cohort

In 2015, Year 7's joined us at Coodanup College for the first time. Three classrooms in E block were allocated to them with purpose built playground equipment just outside. This meant the students had one area in the College they could claim as their own. Core subjects in literacy and numeracy operated under the one classroom one teacher model to help students settle into secondary education and build a strong pastoral care relationship with their teachers.

Early in Term One, Coodanup College ran a Year 7 & 8 sleepover. The Friday featured a bouncy castle and a disco was held, which was supported by the City of Mandurah. This was a great opportunity for students originating from different schools to get to know each other and continue to build relationships with the teaching staff.

A big focus for the Year 7 cohort has been setting the standard with attendance and we are pleased to say the cohort has maintained the average attendance above 85% this year. Many students have maintained attendance in excess of 95% and they, along with students who have demonstrated improvement in their attendance, have been acknowledged throughout the year with Certificates and VIVO points. It is critical that the cohort maintains these attendance standards throughout the remainder of their secondary education, and in 2016 parents can expect ongoing vigilance from homeroom teachers and the Year 8 Co-ordinator around this.

### **Assessment and learning**

In 2015 the Year 7 students sat their NAPLAN test and teachers were able to get a clear insight into where each student is at with their progress in literacy and numeracy. Plans have been developed to target specific learning outcomes that this cohort will need to achieve in order to gain a higher band in NAPLAN by 2017 when they will be retested.

#### Uniform

Going into 2016, please remember that uniform is compulsory at Coodanup College. Please take time over the Christmas break to visit Hot Klobba on Park Road in Mandurah to refresh your child's uniform.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Enjoy the summer holidays and we will see you all again in February 2016.

Russell Trowbridge Year 7 Co-ordinator

# CLAN

Year 7 CLAN have had an amazing year! All students have participated appropriately and responsibly both in and out of College settings. Our recent highlights have been helping the College's new Educational Support Dog Justus settle into his new life at Coodanup College. We have also been working as volunteers in the community cleaning up rubbish at the Coodanup Foreshore. Thank you all for a fun year! Have a great holiday.

Mrs Bell & Justus



# Athletics Carnival 2015



The 15th of October was an exciting day at Coodanup College as the annual Athletics Carnival took place, featuring the brand new House Factions for the very first time. The day commenced with a House Parade of war cries, flags and mascots, and the Northern Bulls, Western Wolves, Eastern Sharks and Southern Lions took to the field. Students participated in a range of sports throughout the day, including track events, high and long jump, discus, shot-put, Vortex and a range of novelties like tug-o-war, tunnel ball and sack races.

The closing relay events saw each year group chase the final

victory, with even the staff getting involved in a race. After the total points were counted for each House, the Closing Ceremony began with an address from Ms McKeown. With a total of 1224 points, the mighty Bulls were named the 2015 Athletic Carnival Champions! Following were the Lions with 1159 points; Sharks with 1061 points; and finally the Wolves with 861 points.

It was a terrific day of fun for all students and staff involved. We were very proud of everyone who participated and the enthusiasm surrounding the new House Faction system was infectious. Our thanks to those who helped with the smooth running of the day – we can't wait for next year. Go Bulls!

Lisa Webster Teacher

	Champion	
Year 12	Boy	Brendon Hill
	Girl	Kayla Bennell
Year 11	Boy	Wade Bennell
	Girl	Joan Bonga
Year 10	Boy	Fletcher Williams
	Girl	Alyeesha Cross
Year 9	Boy	Luke Swinson
	Girl	Peta Bennell
Year 8	Boy	Smiley Slattery
	Girl	Tahleshja Waller
Year 7	Boy	Brodi Stein
	Girl	Jade Johnson







# **House Competition**

The House Competition was launched in Term 3 this year and has grown quickly to become part of the College culture for both students and staff. A great sense of team ethic and willingness to help has developed, along with healthy rivalries. Student faction leaders were given the opportunity to name and brand their teams and organise mascots and fellow students to wear the team "onesie" outfit to promote and encourage participation.

Competitions have been held on a fortnightly basis, along with the annual Athletics Carnival, held early Term 4. Prizes and Vivo Points have been given throughout the year to the top earning students, along with the victorious House winning the College Shield which is to be presented at the end of the year. All House points earned by students go towards their individual and House total.

Next year we look forward to other House events such as a whole school beach day, where students will compete for the best sandcastle built, beach sports and other fun novelty games; House debate competitions; the fortnightly sports competitions including staff vs. students matches, and lots of other fun activities promoting different talents students can share, not being limited to sporting events. Our House competitions intend to embrace all student abilities and encourage them to participate in different activities which celebrate the range of gifts and abilities that are found amongst our College.

Stefanie Collins Education Assistant



# Are your *personal details* up to date?

It is very important that we have your current details up to date for our **College records.** If you change address, change your email address or have acquired one, or have a new phone number, please let our Administration Office staff know, so that we can ensure that you are receiving the relevant information that you require.

# Mobile Phone and Computer use

A reminder of College policies regarding mobile phones and computer use.

- · Students to have mobile phones off and away in College bags at all times.
  - · Students to only use mobile phones out of College hours.
  - · Students to use their internet account to look for acceptable material that is only related to learning at College.
- · Students to only use their own log-in account and keep their personal password secure.
  - · Students to make sure internet use is as efficient as possible.
  - · Students to abide by Copyright Laws and do not download or install any software.



# **Facebook**

Coodanup College's Facebook page will communicate information

Please "Like Us" then you will receive up to date information instantly.

> www.facebook.com/ coodanupcollege



Always wear your full College uniform.

- · Change into Physical Education uniform when attending PE lessons.
  - Always wear closed in shoes.
- Follow the directions of any teacher to put on your College uniform or ring home to get a uniform brought to the College.