



Principal's Report to the P&C November 26 2019

School Life	<p>As the end of another successful and rewarding school year approaches, our students continue to thrive and challenge themselves to be the best they can be. The busy calendar of events has continued in Term 4 with examinations for students in Years 9-12, farewells to the Class of 2019, a variety of stimulating excursions and incursions, camps, Honour assemblies and theatre performances. Teaching staff are busy completing student reports and planning for next year, while front office staff are juggling preparing and distributing information for 2020 whilst supporting the generation of certificates, reports and critical end of year materials. This is a particularly busy time for staff and their dedication to the success of their students is enormous.</p> <p>WACE examinations ran smoothly with students appearing calm and confident. With all examinations now completed students can enjoy a well-earned break from study. The Year 11 exams also ran efficiently and have now been completed. Year 9 students also completed exams last week and have now returned to school whilst Year 10 students are currently in the second week of their exams. Thanks to Steve Jurilj and Grant Staffe for organising and overseeing the successful running of the examinations.</p> <p>The Perth Modern School Board has a new parent representative, Dr David Zhang, who is the successful nominee for a three-year tenure after an election was held. The School received 12 high calibre nominations for one position and I congratulate Dr Zhang on his successful candidacy and look forward to working with him commencing in 2020. I also thank all parent nominees for their interest in serving on the School Board.</p> <p>Senior School students had the chance to show off their incredible pieces of artwork (many of which have received prestigious art awards) at their Senior Arts and Technology Showcase held in the Mills Building. It was an amazing display of student creativity and I thank the Arts and Technology staff for their hard work guiding the students and pulling together another successful showcase.</p> <p>This year, students in Year 9 were invited to attend one of three camps/tours: Ningaloo Reef Tour, the Canberra Civics Tour or the large-scale Year 9 Camp held at Ern Halliday. All three events were very successful with students very much enjoying the activities. Thank you to Head of Year 9 Monica Franz as well as Nikki Reilly, Sophie Gaunt, Tie Chisholm, Grant Staffe, Jane Nicholson, Dr Ormonde Waters, Mia Siliquini, Connor Bailey, Tracey Enslin, advocacy teachers and all staff who participated.</p> <p>The Year 8 students who attended the Year 8 Camp at Ern Halliday in Hillarys had an absolute ball. The Camp challenged students physically and provided endless opportunities for them to get to know each other better in a caring and supportive environment. Thank you to Head of Year 8 Scott Marshall, Lisa Andrews as well as all teachers who attended for a great few days of fun activities.</p> <p>The Year 7 Concert held last week for parents and other guests was a wonderful way to celebrate the musical learning that has taken place throughout the year. All Year 7 students participate in music before it becomes an elective from Year 8 and the students really seem to enjoy being part of the program, participating in a choir or ensemble if learning an instrument and performing in front of an audience. Thank you to A/Head of Music Liz Hamer and all Music Department staff for a fabulous concert.</p> <p>Last week Perth Modern School held a two-day conference: Gifted Education in the Modern Way. It was a highly successful two days of learning for the 60 plus attendees who came from a variety of schools in Perth and WA who were keen deepen their knowledge on gifted and talented education.</p>
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Key learning principals across the two days included effective pedagogy, understanding the gifted learner, curriculum delivery and differentiation, Thinking Routines, Habits of Mind, 21st Century Learning Design, Gifted Music, Social and Emotional needs of Gifted Learners as well as presentations from teachers in the various learning areas. **Dr Leonie Kronberg** from Monash University presented two lectures at a Master's level. Thank you to **Val Furphy** for organising the conference as well as presenting, staff members **Celia Christmass, Nikki Reilly, Danae Brazier, Caitlin McGuinness, Olivia O'Rourke, Lu Zhang, Monica Franz, Sophie Gaunt, Francesca Candaten, Aureliana Di Rollo, Sarah Eve** and **Mya Skirving** for their fantastic presentations and **Kerry Kitson, Thalia Cole, Mel Hall** and **Samantha Bennett-Bremner** for their help with administration and catering.

The **2019 Year 12 Presentation Ceremony** was held in the **Tyler McCusker Sports Centre (TMSC)** on Saturday, 16 November. This very special event was a wonderful occasion for Year 12 students to have their hard work and many achievements acknowledged in front of their families and peers. It was a very successful and joyous evening. Congratulations to Dux **David Wilson** and Runner-Up Dux **Bertrand Nheu**. The full list of prize winners is available on the school website: www.perthmodern.wa.edu.au/2019-prize-winners/

Many thanks to **Lauryl Wallace** and **Thalia Cole** for their organisation of the ceremony and catering along with Heard of Year 12 **Chris Rapley** and **Steve Jurilj** for their help at the event as well as our student MC's **Dylan Crowe** and **Julia Aguinot**, **Year 11 student helpers, Heads of Departments** and the many staff and students for their work in organising a very successful event.

Prior to the Year 12 Presentation Ceremony, a **Pin Ceremony** for incoming Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 students in 2020 was held. The ceremony is a wonderful occasion to celebrate our new students and present them with their Sphinx badges in front of their families. A special thank you to **Thalia Cole** and **Mel Hall** for organising and running the ceremony and managing the catering on the day. Thank you also to **Student Volunteers** and **Student Councillors** for their help on the day and also **Val Furphy** for her input.

The **Class of 1959** from Perth Modern School held a reunion at the school a few weeks ago with approximately 50 people attending. I attended and gave a brief speech, and the Modernians enjoyed a tour of the school to see the upgraded facilities, a delicious lunch and a visit to the History Museum. The Modernians thoroughly enjoyed catching up with one another and reminiscing about their school days at 'Mod.' Thank you to our student volunteers who came along to take photos.

The P&C will be holding a **Christmas Concert and Picnic** for the school community on Friday, 6 December. Stalls, fun activities and delicious food vans have been organised. The extravaganza will follow on from the **Charity Day, Variety Concert** and **Orientation Day** for incoming students in 2020. **Year 9 Leadership and Entrepreneurship** students will be organising and running the stalls for Charity Day. This is also the last day of school for Year 11 students. Thanks to the **P&C Executive**, the **Music Department staff** and **Friends of Music** for helping to organise the activities.

A number of students have received awards and accolades recently. These include:

- **Alan Lee** and **Zachery Thexiera** in Year 11 have received places for Chemistry at the **Australian Science Olympiad Summer School** at ANU University.
- **Elle Chentang** in Year 10 has won the Lester Prize Youth Award for Years 9-10 (formerly known as the Black Swan Prize for Portraiture).
- **Micah Sinclair** in Year 10 has been selected in mathematics for the **National School of Excellence**.
- **Callum Dekkers** in Year 7 will be appearing on the TV show **Child Genius Australia** on

	<p>SBS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three students won Gold in the National History Challenge – Virginia Plas in Year 11 in the Democracy category, Huda Zaidi in Year 9 for Indigenous history and Max Judd in Year for Women's History. The senior team of Dean Winarto, Alice Law and Dipika Choudhury came 17th overall (out of over 600 teams from 60 countries) in the World Scholar's Cup held at Yale University. Dipika achieved 16th place overall as Top Scholar. Virginia Plas in Year 11, Prisha Goel in Year 11 and Tommaso Puccini in Year 10 won awards in the 2019 Alliance Française competition. Virginia won First Place for Year 12, Prisha was the Year 11 First Prize Winner and Tommasi was the Year 10 Second Prize winner. Year 7 student Archie Taylor was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Subiaco as well as a Junior Ranger Medal for his efforts in rescuing a stray dog. Jonty Coy from the Class of 2013 has won a prestigious John Monash Scholarship: Master of Music Performance. Jonty intends to begin a Master of Music Performance at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris (CNSMDP). Yi-Wen Lim in Year 9 has won gold medals in two archery competitions - the National Indoor Championships and the WA State Target Championships. Tommaso Puccini in Year 10 won the Intermediate Boys Champion race in the School Sport WA Champion Schools Triathlon (intermediate division).
Staff news	<p>Sarah Eve who teaches Visual Art has been nominated for a ASG National Excellence in Teaching award.</p> <p>Nikki Reilly has been appointed permanently to the Deputy Principal/Manager Senior Years position.</p>
Facilities	See attachment – last page.
School Committees	<p>The Finance Committee meets four-eight times a year to plan ahead for the following year's budget. The committee consists of</p> <p>Lois Joll, Val Furphy, Steve Jurilj, Jan Fallows, Karen Wedemeyer, Louise Secker, Rachel Miller, Rick McMahon, Peter Farr (Board Representative) and Scott Walkinshaw (P&C Representative). It is a particularly busy time for the Committee as there is a great deal of preparation and planning involved to ensure the 2020 School Budget is reflective of the school's needs. After much work the draft budget has been endorsed by the committee.</p>
Parents and the Community	<p>The School Board met on October 29 and discussed school policies and student wellbeing. The board is holding an open meeting tomorrow night in which parents are invited to attend.</p> <p>The Modernians met on November 25 and discussed ways in which to support the school.</p>