



# HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

## Narrogin Senior High School

Issue 3 2017

### NSHS ANZAC DAY



David Hallam MC welcomed students, staff and special guests to the Narrogin Senior High School ANZAC Assembly. Jasmine McDonald delivered Acknowledgement of Country. Our theme for this year was the Nurses of World War I. Year 12 students Abbey Wilson and Bradley O'Neill worked together to research both Australian and New Zealand Nurses, and gave a wonderful speech along with a PowerPoint presentation on "The Forgotten ANZAC's", recognising the stoicism and bravery of the often overlooked nurses who volunteered for active service. We further acknowledged our ties with New Zealand with Nicole Davies leading the school band in the Australian National Anthem, followed by Te Aniwa Hotene singing the New Zealand National Anthem.

Each year a group of Year 9 students travel to Canberra. This trip includes a visit to the Australian War Memorial. As part of their History studies, students are asked to choose a soldier to research. Many students chose family members who served in WWI. At the War Memorial, students were asked to locate the name of soldier they had researched and place a poppy alongside their name on the board of honour. A PowerPoint, of the students' visit to the War Memorial, was shown while the school band played and dignitaries entered the room.

The local Army Cadets, made up of NSHS students formed the catafalque guard and raised the flag. Their respect for the fallen and the self discipline involved in their training as members of the armed service, adds a reverence to the Ceremony, highly respected by all.

Nicole Davies, Astine van Wyk, Georgie McKenzie, Margaret Burgess, Rica Sta Ana and Te Aniwa Hotene, along with the school band performed a wonderful rendition of "*Spirit of the ANZAC*" by Lee Kernaghan, before the Prayer of Peace was delivered by Chaplain Martin Vause. David Hallam, then invited Prefects, School Councillors and representatives from the RSL and three local schools to lay candles and wreaths, together with our Head Boy Bradley O'Neill and Head Girl Jasmine McDonald. The NSHS band played "*Auld Lange Syne*".

A tradition of our service is our Family and Friends PowerPoint; an ongoing tribute to those close to us who have served, or are currently serving, our Country. This year saw the inclusion of Robert Hallam (Head Boy 2015) along with family members of staff and students.

Thank you to the Narrogin Nursery Café & Gallery for their continued support of our ceremony with the plants adorning the stage.

We once again represented NSHS at the Combined Schools ANZAC Service, where Janka Reynders read the final letter written by Pvt Abel Porter before he was killed in action at Pozieres in France in 1916. Private Porter was the great uncle of local farmer Pip Porter, whom we would like to thank for sharing his family history with us. A wreath was laid by Head Girl Jasmine McDonald and Prefect Patrick Armstrong-Hetzel and the school band performed the music. Thank you to both Paddy and Jasmine for also representing our school at the Morning Service on ANZAC Day where Jasmine re-read the letter from Private Abel Porter in the presence of his family members.

**Mrs Nanette Steer**



# Principal

**Mr Steve Quartermaine**

**O**ur Year 11/12 Semester 1 Exams are have been completed as have our Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN testing. I am very pleased with the way our students have approached these. I believe that exams and tests are learning activities to improve student understanding of testing processes and how to maximise their scores. Tests and exams provide valuable feedback on gaps in understanding and skills that need to be revised.

Subject selection books for 2018 have been finalised and the process for students selecting their courses has begun. I often talk about predictors of success. New research shows that the biggest predictor of ATAR success is academic performance at age 15. Students have to be performing well in Years 7-10 to achieve success in their final examinations.

Student achievement in Australia has received a lot of attention in the media recently. The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) reports confirmed Australia risks falling behind the world unless educators and policymakers take action. Now we are behind New Zealand. We are in 10<sup>th</sup> place.

The Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham said the full (PISA) had identified discipline, engagement and ambition as being an important part in improving Australia's education system. "By all measures, we have some of the world's best teachers and school leaders helping students to achieve outcomes that are the envy of many other countries," the Minister said. "What matters are cultural norms and professional practices". "Ill-discipline or a bad attitude doesn't only hurt the outcomes of the student who brings such an approach to school but can infect entire classrooms of students".

PISA reported 46% of students in low socio economic schools were badly behaved, compared to 32% of students in high socio economic. That's 1 out of every 2 or 3 students misbehaving in every school across Australia.

Where do we sit in this? Our school is little under middle range socio economic index. We are a Positive Behaviour School and have a comprehensive Behaviour Management Policy and the support of a dedicated student services team. This ensures a positive and safe learning environment for our students. Our parents and carers are very supportive of the school reinforcing community values and helping to change behaviour. Attendance is also very important and is something that we need to work together to improve. Even 90% attendance means that your child misses 20 days (one month) every year. Narrogin SHS is a fantastic school. You can get to wherever you want to go by coming to our school.

Above 95 ATAR, Medicine at UWA, apprenticeships in restaurants, auto electrical and the list goes on. To take advantage of these opportunities please ensure that your child attend every day.

Last week I attended an education conference in Melbourne. The conference brought educators together from around Australia and New Zealand to discuss the educational trends from around the world. Presenters from USA, Canada, Scotland, England and Australia presented their research and strategies for improvement. It was very pleasing to see that Narrogin SHS is on pace with the research and developmental trends. Attending the conference reinforced the direction that we are taking with Professional Learning Communities, Formative Assessment, Feedback, Peer Observation and Visible Learning. All members of the School Leadership team have attended a similar conference in 2017, building on their skills to support learning area staff to continually improve the performance of our students. Teachers coaching each other and differentiation of a viable curriculum are areas that need to be developed to make our school even better.

## Student Achievements

Congratulations to:

Paddy Armstrong-Hertzel – English and David Hallam – Geography for being selected into the Purposeful Academic Classes for Excelling Students – Outstanding students in public schools program.

Janka Reynders - Premier's ANZAC Tour to Singapore 2017.

Denica Stoffberg for making the Rostrum Speaking Competition Semi Finals

Dirk Du Plessis for his Write 4fun short story competition being published later on in the year.

Alicia Isaacs for being accepted into the Indigenous Reading Program. She was selected from a national field of 800 applicants.

On the sporting field

Michaela Pratt recently won the U/15 and U/17 Open Junior Squash Championship Squash Tournament in Darwin.

Caitlin Pratt came 2<sup>nd</sup> in U/13 and 3<sup>rd</sup> in U/15 Championship

Darryl Anderson has been selected in the WA State 16s AFL team

Courtney Donnelly won the Junior 100 state title at the Northam Speedway.



**W**elcome everyone back to Term two, but as we're now half way through (where is the year disappearing?), holidays are next on the horizon.

### EXAM WEEK

We've all had a very busy start to the term with our Year 11/12 ATAR students knee deep in their exams. The PAC is eerily quiet with only the faint scratching of pens being heard as students answer questions which hopefully they've studied and laboured over and committed to memory in the preceding weeks. Once exams are completed, the marks are tallied and entered in Reporting To Parents, it will give our Year 12 students some aspects on which to focus for the fast approaching WACE exams, and our Year 11 ATAR students, some aspects on which to shine the spotlight. Whilst the majority of attention is focused on ATAR, our General course students are also sitting their Externally Set Task this week. This is a task which has been generated by SCSA to moderate students' progress across Western Australia. It is worth 15% of their total semester mark. Each students' mark is moderated against every other student in the state for that course and it gives us as a school, a really good snapshot as to whether our staff assess our students too hard or too easy, or that we're right on the bullseye.

### OLNA

On Monday we received the individual reports from the OLNA assessments which identified Year 10-12 students sat back in March. Whilst there were a number of students who achieved the required category (Cat 3) across Reading, Writing and Numeracy, there were some who didn't achieve these levels. We will be putting plans in place for these students and working them hard for the next round of testing in September. One of the really good aspects of the OLNA, is that each student who didn't achieve Category 3, received an in-depth diagnostic report. This details exactly what they need to focus on. Please check with your child as to their result. Some examples of this feedback are:

### READING

- Understanding a familiar text of limited complexity that incorporates a table.
  - This means that the student had difficulty reading information in a table, such as a bus timetable.
- Recognizing the structure and distinguishing features of a familiar text type (ie checklist)
  - This means that the student had trouble reading information contained in a checklist of some sort

### WRITING

- Write meaningful, coherent sentences with few grammar errors
  - This means that the student composed their sentences with too many spelling errors and sentences didn't make sense
- Punctuate sentences correctly (with capital letters and full stops) and attempt to use apostrophes and commas where appropriate
  - This means that the student didn't use basic punctuation

### NUMERACY

- Interpreting a simple map and following directions
  - There were a few maps in the tests which asked students to move to a particular place and give coordinates
- Calculate the total amount of money in a collection of notes and coins
  - Very straight forward

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

Whilst these activities have been happening there a few other exciting bits of information. David Hallam (Geography) and Paddy Armstrong-Hetzel (English) were identified as students who achieved outstanding results during Year 11 and were offered a place in the Purposeful Academic Classes for Excelling Students. They now have the opportunity to go to four academic sessions during this year to help prepare for their WACE exams.



We were visited on Wednesday April 5 by members of the South Fremantle Football Club, Marlion Pickett, Matty Parker, Tyson Pickett and Cameron Palmer ran three sessions, one for the Year 7/8s, one for the Country Week AFL team and in Period 5, one for the Year 9/10s. They handed out signed posters and stickers and awarded a football each session to one of the students they thought showed the best sportsmanship. Alex Isaacs was one of the winners.



The best news though happened just last week. Burdiya Mob won BEST SONG in the Schools 15-17 division in WAM (Western Australian Music awards). A number of our Noongar students were involved last year with CAN (Community Arts Network), who ran a project at school incorporating Dance, Video, Photography, Cultural awareness and Song/lyric writing. Kelly Ugle and Matika Ugle accompanied me up to the event held at the WA Maritime Museum and we



were all ecstatic and jubilant when Burdiya Mob was read out. Fantastic effort from all of the students involved and a special thanks to the community for their support as well.



Kelly and Matika





**Almost** half way through the year and we are certainly kept busy.

By the end of Week 6 – Parents from Year 7 – 10 will have received a SMS regarding **Semester Two School Reports** available electronically. Parent/ Caregivers can receive these reports through Connect, this will save you storing them and then trying to find them again. If you wish to have a hard copy please let Sue Jacobs (front office) know. If you have not received a SMS please contact the front office on 9881 9300 and ensure your contact details are up to date.

Following the Reports we have a **Parent/Teacher Evening** scheduled for Thursday 29 July 2017 from 4 – 8pm. These will be loaded onto the School Booking System and you may book online from 9am Tuesday 5 June 2017 by clicking into [www.sobs.com.au](http://www.sobs.com.au) If you are unable to access the website please phone Carol Potts on 9881 9300.

**Year 7 Interm Swimming Lessons** will take place throughout Week 10: Monday 26 June – Friday 30 June 2017. Notes will be going home with the students on Wednesday 30 May 2017. Please ensure that notes are returned and completed by Friday 8 June to assist with the organisation of the event. This is a compulsory event and all students are expected to attend the swimming lessons.

**Country Week (Week 10)** is predominantly for Senior School students. Normal timetable will be running for Years 7 – 10 and it is important for those not participating in Country Week that they attend school throughout this week.

The Year 7s and 9s were impressive in their participation of **NAPLAN**. 100% of the Year 7 students completed their Numeracy test and just below 100% for the others. Results will be out later in the year. The data is used to gauge how we can value add towards student learning.

Feedback regarding **Connect** has been outstanding – the information and usage for Connect continues to grow. I realise that at times there are inconsistencies of the amount on Connect between various Learning Areas – however we are working at this incrementally so as not too overwork staff in a small period of time. We appreciate your continual support with this.

A group of parents, along with representatives from our P&C have formed a **uniform committee**. This was brought about due to some concerns in regards to our uniform. We disseminated a survey and had an overwhelming response – 110 Parents responded and 80 students. Thank you to all the respondents to the survey. The results did provide some insight into what the school community want. I will post these up onto our Facebook Page.

A competition ran over the first Term regarding **Attendance**. The top four forms that had the best attendance for the Term had a morning tea prepared for them. Congratulations to the following Forms : Mr Wilson's T04 (92.29%), Mr Hall's S02 (94.48%) Student Council (96.05%) and Prefects (97.23%). These figures are impressive. This term our competition is for each Year Group - The Year 7s are inching forward at the present with 92% in front of Year 12s at 90.51%....we have four more weeks to go and it can still be any year group to take the prize....Good Luck everyone.

We are utilising the **Facebook** page more and more as we feel this provides an avenue for us to get information out to the community in a timely manner. Please make sure you have access to this to keep up to dates with good news stories and celebrate with us. We also find that event reminders are most successful using Facebook.



**Students at Morning Tea**



## Do You Want To Dance?

**Stoked 2 Dance is coming soon.**

Classes will be after school on Mondays including jazz, contemporary, hip-hop and acrobatics.

Come see Miss Stokes in the Phys Ed office to register your interest for the classes as there are limited spots available.

# English Department

## Published Authors!

**T**his week, the English Learning Area received some really exciting news. Five of our Senior School students will have their short stories published as part of the 'write4fun' 2017 Schools Writing Competition.

This national competition was entered by our students, online, during Term 1 and the terrific news is that our students were all judged through to the next round which will see their short stories published in this year's anthology.

Dirk Du Plessis (Year 10), Jarod Brechin, Meg Conway, Georgia Dyson and Shawn Samson (all Year 12 students) constructed narratives from fantasy/ science fiction to stream of consciousness – a particularly challenging genre which students have studied as part of their ATAR Unit 3 course.

We are now eagerly awaiting the final results of this competition, with a \$1000 cash first prize to be won!

Fingers crossed for our Narrogin students!

*(A really proud) Joan Armstrong*

## The Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad 2017

**O**nce again, our students have enjoyed success in the online round of this Olympiad. This is an extremely challenging academic competition where students are required to use their logical and linguistic abilities to solve complex problems.

Particular congratulations must go to our Silver certificate winning team of: Elizabeth Jacob, Lochlan Horobin- Lavan, Janka Reynders and Anri Van Niekirk who scored in the top trile of all competitors from across WA.

*Joan Armstrong*



*You can read our  
published poets' work  
which is currently on  
display in the library*

## PACES 2017

**L**ast month, I was invited by the Department of Education to attend the annual Purposeful Academic Classes for Excelling Students (PACES) course at Curtin University. These courses are provided free to the top ATAR students and I was selected to represent Narrogin SHS for English, based on my Year 11 results. The course is a series of four sessions which happen during Terms 3 and 4, and I attended the first one last week.

As the only country student present, I had the opportunity to share, discuss and develop my learning alongside students from Perth Modern, Churchlands and Duncraig Senior High Schools. I was pleased that I could show that my knowledge of the ATAR course was on a par with my peers there, and I was even able to introduce a few concepts that we have learned in class here but these other students hadn't yet covered.

Being able to network with these Metro students also gave me the opportunity to predict how I will cope academically at university and now, my challenge is to come up with a few 'top tips' that I can then bring back to share with the ATAR English classes here at Narrogin.

*Paddy Armstrong-Hetzel*

## 2017 Rostrum Roundup

**C**ongratulations to Denica Stoffberg, a Year 7 student, who participated in the Preliminary Heats and the WA State Semi Final of the 2017 Rostrum Voice of Youth Speaking Competition. The Preliminary Heats were held on the Sunday 9 April. Over 250 young people from 10-15 years of age participated in this event with 40 students selected to proceed to the WA State Semi Finals. Denica spoke for six minutes on her chosen topic, 'an unlikely hero' and, along with another student from her heat, was selected to move on to the next phase – the Semi Finals.

"It was quite scary at the start because I felt like I was the youngest and we were one of the few state schools involved but once I'd spoken I felt quite proud that I was selected to go through to the next round." Denica commented.

On Saturday 20 May, Denica again delivered her six minute speech at the Bob Daniel Community Centre in Inglewood. She was also asked to prepare a three minute short notice or impromptu speech on an unseen topic. Denica had 15 minutes to plan and then present her impromptu.

"Sitting in a room preparing my speech felt quite weird, especially as I was sitting with all boys. I was slightly disappointed when I heard I did not get selected for the Grand Final but I knew I did my best and it was great to reach the Semi Final stage." Denica explained.

Rostrum is an organisation dedicated to helping people from all walks of life improve their communication and organisational skills. Juliet Park, the 2017 convenor of the Rostrum's premier speaking competition for Secondary School students in WA, commented, "There is no better way to improve your confidence, to become a better communicator and to enhance your organisational skills than by joining a Rostrum Club or participating in one of our speaking events."

*Ms Denise Lavan*

## To learn Mathematics is to do Mathematics

Term 2, Mrs Alagusundaram's Year 10 maths class has been busy studying volume and surface area of 3-dimensional objects.

They measured the garden beds in year 11 quadrangle to calculate the volume of soil needed. They investigate the volume and surface area of a prism through making sandwiches at our Hill Top Café.

Also, students explored the formula of a pyramid by doing hands on activities.



## Year 9 Applied Maths

Students in Year 9 Applied Mathematics have been virtual designing houses. This includes costing of such a project. They have also been taught how to design a kitchen using 3D software.



**Quinlan Paice**



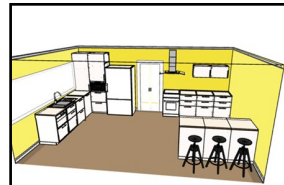
**Xavier Windsor**



**Daniel Conlan**



**Michael Gentle**



**Joseph Ramshaw**

## We've Got Mathletics

Mathletics is a web-based learning program which integrates home and school learning via the internet. Mathletics covers all years of schooling and is currently used in over 3900 Australian schools. Over 200,000 students access Mathletics every day. Our Year 7, 8 and selected 9 and 10 students have 24 hour access to Mathletics by using a unique user name and password.

Mathletics can be used on iPads, tablets, laptops and home computers. We recommend that you spend time looking at the program so that you can gain the greatest understanding of how Mathletics will benefit your child.

Benefits of Mathletics:

- ◇ Live Mathletics - students compete live against students from around the world in mental arithmetic
- ◇ Full curriculum coverage to practice, revise and extend students mathematical knowledge
- ◇ Support Centre - step by step animated support for learning concepts
- ◇ 24/7 access - learn anytime, anywhere

Congratulation to all students for embracing Mathletics in their classroom.

Mr. Wholohan's year 7 class, celebrating Chelsea Scott and Callum Giles-Morton achieving the first two bronze certificate at Narrogin Senior High School.



## NSHS Canberra Sydney Study Tour 2107

Planning is well underway for the Canberra Sydney Tour 2017. Forty-five Year 9 students and five staff are all looking forward to the visiting Australia's Capital City to provide students with on-site learning about our national democratic, historical and cultural institutions. We will be visiting Parliament House, Old Parliament House, and The Australian War Memorial, among other places.

Sydney provides a cultural contrast to our beautiful town, and there are many landmarks we will be visiting to learn more about how and why they came to be.

This Study Tour has been made more affordable for the students and their families through the continued support and funding received from The Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER). Without this funding, the cost of the trip would increase by \$260 per student.



### WAAPA Winter School 2017

These July school holidays WAAPA is offering exciting programs for students in years 4 to 12. The Winter School includes classes in acting, drama, dance, screen acting and music theatre. For information about the many courses on offer please visit [WAAPA Winter School Holiday Programs](http://WAAPA Winter School Holiday Programs) or contact Gabrielle Metcalf at [g.metcalf@ecu.edu.au](mailto:g.metcalf@ecu.edu.au) or 9370 6775.



## Bendigo Community Bank's High School Netball Carnival

On Thursday the 4 May, four teams from the Narrogin SHS Netball Academy attended the Bendigo Community Bank's High School Netball Carnival in Albany. 12 schools from across the region participated and 49 teams were nominated to play in all levels of competition. Two teams from year 7 and year 8 played in the lower school girl's competition and two teams from year 9 and 10 played in the middle school girl's competition.

The year 7 team consisted of Rosie Anderson, Abby Munns, Emmi Duff, Calli Beynon, Mia Slawinski, Chelsea Mulcahy, Kate Poultney, Abbie Smith and Tayla Battley. Thank you to Sarah Munns for coaching and to Sara Duff for being the team umpire. A thank you also needs to go to Jo Thomas and Lorraine Slawinski for travelling down from Narrogin for the day and being the team's support crew. This team came second in their pool which resulted in them not making it to the finals. The team that won the overall lower school girls division had only beaten them by one goal.



The year 7/8 team also played in the lower school division. The team included Katelyn Beard, Ashlyn Edmonds, Lesley Yarran, Ava Rawlings, Kristina Praetz, Ella Hull, Eliza Coppock, Melita Davey and Shaylee Annear. This team won a few games and lost a few. Thank you to Tineke Conlan for coaching and Jessica Coppock for umpiring.



The year 9/10 Narrogin 2 team played in the middle school girls division. The team consisted of Maddison Shotter, Katie Chivell, Caitlyn Blechynden, Piper Edwards, Kaitlyn O'Neill, Imogen Morgan, Morgan Spark, Phoenix Turner and Georgina Jensen. This team also came middle of their division by winning some games and losing some by a small margin. Thank you to Michelle Edwards for coaching and Ashtyn Steer for being the team umpire.



The year 9/10 Narrogin 1 team made it to the final of the middle school girl's competition, narrowly losing the game by 3 goals to Albany Senior High School. The team included Stephanie Yarran, Nuoan Smith, Chloe Hanson,

Kate Dyson, Elli Bishop, Jaelyn Ranieri, Breanna Page, Lucy Palumbo and Erikah Cowcher. Thank you to Holli Hanson for coaching and Evelyn Wilkie for being the team umpire.

Well done to all the girls who attended the carnival. They should be proud of their achievements and the exceptional way they represented the school. A special mention was made from the organisers of the tournament about how good the girls from Narrogin Senior High School were.

**Mrs Sarah Corner**  
**Netball Academy Co-ordinator**

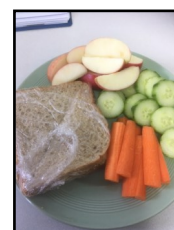
## Aranmore Netball Specialist Tournament

Each year Aranmore host a Netball Carnival at Kingsway Netball Centre at the end of term 1. This year we took a Year 9 and Year 10 team along. The purpose of the carnival is participation and therefore there is just a round robin like fixture and no scoring or finals. Both teams showed great sportsmanship and were a pleasure to take away. However these trips rely on parent help to coach, so a huge thank you to Holli Hanson and Sharon Palumbo for coming. It was an enjoyable and successful trip by all.



## Year 9 Home Economics

The Year 9 Food Science and Technologies students have been busy investigating picnic foods and appropriate, sustainable packaging to use. They designed and produced their own picnic food and were able to enjoy the last of the autumn sunshine while they shared and enjoyed the 'fruits' of their labour.



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Government of Western Australia  
WA Country Health Service

Southern Wheatbelt Primary Health

## WA Statewide Meningococcal W Immunisation Program Years 10-12

In term 3 this year the WA Department of Health is providing a new Meningococcal Immunisation Program for students in years 10, 11 and 12.

The WA meningococcal W immunisation program has been launched in response to a recent increase in meningococcal infection caused by a particular type of the bacteria, 'serogroup W'.

Meningococcal disease can affect any age group. However, some of the highest rates of meningococcal carriage and illness occur among 15-19 year olds. Of the 21 meningococcal W cases diagnosed in WA between 2013 and 2016, 24 percent were adolescents aged 15-19 years old.

Further information about meningococcal disease and the immunisation program can be found on the Consent Forms which will be sent home with students, and will need to be returned to the school by the **Friday 9th June 2017**.

Dates for the immunisations in term 3 will be confirmed at a later date.

**Please ensure you complete, sign and return the form, even if you are not consenting to the vaccination/s. No student will be vaccinated without your consent.**

If you have any concerns or queries about these vaccinations please contact **Tammy Vause - School Health Nurse on ph. 9881 9330**.

**Further information can also be found at**

**[www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/J\\_M/Meningococcal-vaccine](http://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/J_M/Meningococcal-vaccine)**

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