



MOUNT LAWLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LAWLEY UPDATE Term 1 February 2012 No. 1

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to all students for 2012 school year. A warm welcome is extended to all families, especially parents with a student attending Mount Lawley Senior High School for the first time.

In 2012, Mount Lawley SHS commences operations as an Independent Public School. The visible face of this to parents is the School Board, which replaces School Council. Parents elect a parent representative each year for a two year term and one representative is elected on an annual basis by the P&C.

Nominations for the parent representative for the next two years will be sent home shortly. The retiring member, Mr Don Rowe, will not be re-nominating as he has "graduated" from Mount Lawley SHS. I would acknowledge the tremendous work he has done as a representative of parents for the last four years. Thank you Mr Rowe.

The Board also has several community representatives and parents are asked to bring to the attention of members of the community that they know the opportunity to nominate to serve on the Board. There is one vacancy for 2012-2013 and the Board may increase the number of community members should it be required. Good people are always welcomed to assist the school. I am happy to answer any question that a potential Board member may wish to ask.

The school year commenced smoothly for most students and classes were in operation after recess. We experienced a significant number of new enrolments and these required work by staff to place students in class for them to begin their program. Due to the numbers of students coming from within boundary, there are no places for those families seeking a out-of-boundary placement. It is not even possible to accommodate siblings. Mount Lawley SHS remains a school of choice.

One factor driving families seeking enrolment is the manner with which student well being is cared for. The Middle School is renowned for attending to student needs whilst delivering good academic results. School policy is very clear on violence – Mount Lawley SHS will be a safe school. Any student fighting will be suspended. Likewise, using or selling drugs will be dealt with. This will include referral to the police. There are many options to assist students with issues and resorting to violence is not acceptable conduct.

A THOUGHT
Per aspera ad astra
(Through hardships to the stars)
Juvenal

65 Woodsome St, Mount Lawley WA 6050

GENERAL SCHOOL ENQUIRIES

PHONE: 9471 0300 FACSIMILE: 9271 1126

MIDDLE SCHOOL (YRS 8-9)

PHONE: 9471 0350 FACSIMILE: 9471 0338

SENIOR SCHOOL (YRS 10-12)

PHONE: 9471 0320 FACSIMILE: 9471 0329

<http://www.lawley.wa.edu.au>
enquiries@lawley.wa.edu.au

PARENTS UNDERSTANDING ASIA LITERACY

Registrations are open inviting parents from around Australia to participate in 'Parents Understanding Asia Literacy: Building demand for Asian languages and studies'. This program is being conducted for clusters of schools across Australia in 2012 and will be in Perth on 19 March.

Program aim: to build parents' understanding of the importance of learning about Asia and Asian languages to increase career and life opportunities for their children.

Ian Dalton, Australian Parents Council executive director said. *'We know that parents influence the subject choices students make. If they are appropriately informed and engaged they can also drive school curriculum choices and pathways that are best for their children.'*

Information and registrations are available at:
<http://www.pual.org.au/>

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

Assistance is available to eligible families for payment of school Contributions & Charges and Clothing.

Parents/Guardians must hold one of the following cards:

- Centrelink Family Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Card

The cards must be valid some time during first term.

An Educational Program Allowance of \$235, and Clothing Allowance of \$115 is payable.

Please see the Finance Officer, Main Administration Office, to make your application

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE
FRIDAY 9 MARCH 2012**

EVENTS CALENDAR

February 9 Thursday Music Support Group Committee Meeting
AGM 7pm. ALL PARENTS WELCOME

February 13 Monday Prospective GATE Parent Meeting 6.30pm

February 14 Tuesday Yr 8 BBQ and Parent Information Evening

February 15 Wednesday SVAPA Parents Meeting 7pm

February 21 Tuesday Language Parent Support Meeting 7.30pm

February 21 Tuesday Art Auction Committee Meeting 7.30pm

ALL PARENTS WELCOME

February 23 Thursday Whole School House Swimming Carnival

Terry Tyzack Pool ALL STUDENTS ATTEND

February 27 Monday P & C Meeting

February 29 Wednesday GATE Parent Meeting 7.30pm, Start of SVAPA Camp

March 2 Friday End of SVAPA Camp



Bullying, either in the traditional physical form or the cyber variety, is likewise unacceptable. There are times when students do not let staff know about being bullied and therefore, no action can be taken. If you are aware of bullying please let staff know so that a relevant intervention can be made. Bullying can be stopped.

The 2011 Year 12 results were pleasing with a number of individual highlights. These included:

- 1 Certificate of Distinction (Mathematics).
- 15 Certificates of Excellence.
- 3 students with ATAR 99 or better.
- 34 students with ATAR 90 or better, 44.4% 80 or better.
- 3 Top 10 subjects – French, Media Production & Analysis and Psychology.
- 11 WACE courses above the State average.
- 5 WACE courses above Like School average.
- Graduation rate (98.16%) above the State average.
- Of students studying Stage 1 courses, over one third gained an 'A' grade, an improvement over 2010.

In terms of Certificates of Excellence, the 15 awarded is the most for many years. These 15 students are applauded as gaining a minimum of 10 'A' grades over Year 11/12 is a mighty achievement. Early data from university entrance indicates that 63% of graduates were offered a course of first choice and 92% offered a place – the latter better than the State average.

Of those students undertaking four examination courses, 34 gained an ATAR of 90 or better and 44%, 80 or better. Students gaining at least 90 have been invited to the school's first assembly on Friday, 10 February 2012. Here, they will be inducted into the "90s Club". Of that group, 3 achieved an ATAR of 99. In terms of comparison to other similar schools, Mount Lawley SHS students gained a median ATAR that was within the expected range - +0.2 above the expected result.

The data set on student performance in 2011 across NAPLAN, MSG 9 and Year 12 shows that the school's results were within expected like school parameters. The school had a good set of 2011 student results. Parents can have confidence that the school offers students the chance to succeed and on leaving school, transition to a pathway of choice.

The main area of concern lies with attendance. The school's attendance from last year is likely to be below that expected for like schools. Frankly, there are students who should be at school and are not. Parents have a legal obligation to send students to school and there are times when this should be exercised rather than let them remain at home. I am seeking your support in making sure students attend school unless there is a compelling reason (such as illness) in order to improve attendance. Additionally parents have a responsibility to account for student absences. This may be done through a note, email, telephone call or SMS response. Again, your support is sought.

There are some new teachers commencing this year and they are featured in this Update. They are also welcomed to the school. In terms of the school's leadership, Mrs Burnside and Mr Johnston remain as heads of their respective schools. In the Middle School the Community Leaders are:

Year 8

Mr Colin Hawke
Mr Steve Raphael

Year 9

Mr Peter Sharrett
Ms Belinda Derby

In the Senior School the Level 3 leaders are:

Mr David Beckwith – English
Ms Lynne Noack – S&E
Mr Ken Stewart – Maths (Term 1 only)
Mr Ian Barrett – Science
Mr Mark Howard – Physical Education
Mr James Cheah – Languages
Mr Neil Hudson – Student Services

Two positions in the Arts and Technology have been disestablished and the various disciplines will be managed by a Senior teacher. The SVAPA program will continue to be administered by Dr Irving and this will be outlined to all SVAPA parents shortly.

The former Head of Languages, Mr Millimaci, resigned at short notice and this position, along with the Mathematics position will be advertised shortly. For those students undertaking the Italian Tour, this will be led by Mr Camilleri.

There is an expectation that staff at this school will keep you up-to-date with student progress – the “no surprises” rule. If you have any concerns about your child please speak with a member of staff. Teachers understand the need to engage with parents early where there may be challenges.

Advice has been received from the Health Department that a current Year 10 student was exposed to TB last year. Due to the nature of TB, there will be a screening program offered to staff and students who may have had contact with the student.

Further advice will be provided directly to those students in due course by the Health Department’s staff. It is therefore important that the school has your current address. If you moved recently, please advise your new address.

I wish all students and parents the best for 2012 and trust that it will be a rewarding year for students.

Milton Butcher, Principal

Welcome to New Staff for 2012

Left to Right :

*Ms Janice Gunn - TIC Home Economics,
Ms Roberta Sampson - Italian,
Ms Gianatti - Maths Middle School,
Ms Tayna Chapman - Music,
Ms Rebecca Bruce - English Middle School,
Ms Uma Ramiah - Business Studies and
Ms Amy Patterson - English Senior School.*



FINANCIAL MATTERS

Thank you to all the parents that have paid their child’s Contributions & Charges accounts. We would like to remind those that haven’t yet paid that payment is accepted in the front office weekdays between 8.30 am-4 pm.

We accept Mastercard, Visa, EFT, Cash or Cheque.

Those parents who would like to pay on-line may do so by paying to BSB 066118 ACCOUNT 00900116.

Please include your child’s surname, initial and form group in the ‘reference’ field e.g. SMITH, H 80F1.

Any enquiries regarding your account can be made to our Finance Officer, Mrs Faranda on **9471 0302**.

If you are experiencing difficulties with payment, please do not hesitate to contact us and a payment plan can be arranged.

**Elaine Millea
Business Manager**

Do you know a person who can help the school?

The Mount Lawley SHS School Board is seeking expressions of interest from members of the community who would like to join the Board. The commitment is two meetings a term. The qualification is a wish to improve the school and to bring a skill or an experience to the Board. Any interested community member is welcomed to speak to the Principal, Milton Butcher on 9471 0300.



TODAY’S YOUTH TOMORROW’S LEADERS

Aged 12y 6m – 18 yr

Do you want to meet new people?

Are you interested in the Defence Force ?

Want to learn new and interesting skills ?

Bored ?

Want Weekend Adventure or camping with a difference ?

Then

We need you to Come and try

57 Army Cadet Unit, Morley (57ACU)

Where: Morley Senior High School (entry on Bramwell Rd, Noranda)

When: Each Wednesday night (during School terms)

Time: 6:30 pm to 9:30pm on Wednesdays

On the first night, please have a parent attend with you.

Bring a friend

More Info / Contact:

Captain(AAC) Sue Knight 0410 526 235 or 9362 1031 Sue.Knight@cadetnet.gov.au

Website: <http://www.cadetnet.gov.au/aac>



2012 Calendar (This calendar is accurate on the 1/2/2012. For an up to date calendar please refer to the MLSHS website.)

Contributions & Charges Payments Monday 23 January - Wednesday 25 January - Uniform Shop Sales Monday 23 January, Tuesday 24 January, Tuesday 31 January

Term 1 2012	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	23	24	25 Level 3+ Professional Development	26 Australia Day Public Holiday	27 Level 3+ Professional Development	28	29
1 JAN / FEB	30 School Development Day All Staff	31 School Development Day All Staff	1 Students Begin Welcome Assembly MS Trimester 1 Commences	2	3	4	5
2 FEB	6	7	8	9 Music Support C'tee/AGM 7pm	10 Whole School Assembly	11	12
3 FEB	13 Prospective GATE Parent Meeting 6.30pm	14 Prefect/Councillor Training Day 3-6pm Yr 8 BBQ & Parent Information Evening	15 Linguistics Olympiad Training Day Finance C'tee Mtg SVAPA Parents Mtg 7pm	16	17	18	19
4 FEB	20 School Board Mtg	21 Languages Parent Mtg 7.30pm Art Auction C'tee Mtg 7.30pm	22 Yr 11 Psychology Excursion	23 House Swimming Carnival	24	25	26
5 MAR	27 P&C Mtg	28	29 Linguistics Olympiad Exam SVAPA Camp GATE Parent Mtg 7.30pm	1 SVAPA Camp	2 SVAPA Camp Yr 11&12 Interim Reports Posted	3	4
6 MAR	5 Labour Day Public Holiday	6 Languages Soiree 6pm Dee Kaf Music Soiree - Tricycle Theatre	7 Yr 10 Staff/Parent BBQ 5-7pm	8 Music Support C'tee 7pm	9 GATE Club 1 School Ball - Hyatt	10	11
7 MAR	12 Yr 8 Councillor Nominations open Prefect Impact Leadership Conference Yr 10&11 WPL	13 Yr 10&11 WPL SVAPA Parent Information Night 7pm	14 Yr 10&11 WPL Photo Day Finance C'tee Mtg SVAPA Parents Mtg 7pm	15 Interschool "B" Division Swimming Carnival Yr 10&11 WPL	16 Yr 10&11 WPL	17	18
8 MAR	19 School Board Mtg	20 Yr 12 Outdoor Ed Skindiving Camp Yr 11 River Cruise	21 Yr 12 Outdoor Ed Skindiving Camp Arts Festival Day Whole School	22 Yr 12 Outdoor Ed Skindiving Camp Yr 8-10 Interim Reports Posted	23 Photo catch-up day am	24	25 Bush Ranger Cadet Wellington Camp Languages Car Rally
9 MAR / APR	26 Bush Ranger Cadet Wellington Camp Yr 12 Drama Production - The Visit P&C Mtg	27 Bush Ranger Cadet Wellington Camp Yr 12 Drama Production - The Visit Senior School Assembly	28 Yr 12 Drama Production - The Visit	29 Yr 11 Outdoor Ed Sailing Camp Yr 8-12 Interim Report Parents Night	30 Yr 11 Outdoor Ed Sailing Camp	31	1 Italian Cultural Study Tour
10 APR	2 Yr 11 Outdoor Ed Sailing Camp Italian Cultural Study Tour	3 Yr 11 Outdoor Ed Sailing Camp Italian Cultural Study Tour Yr 8 Councillor Elections	4 Italian Cultural Study Tour SVAPA UK/Paris Tour	5 Italian Cultural Study Tour SVAPA UK/Paris Tour	6 Good Friday Italian Cultural Study Tour SVAPA UK/Paris Tour	7 Holidays Italian Cultural Study Tour SVAPA UK/Paris Tour	8 Holidays Italian Cultural Study Tour SVAPA UK/Paris Tour