PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Nomination papers for parents for the parent representative on the School Board have now been posted. There is one parent position for a term of two years. The successful parent will join Mr Carl Penkin and the P&C representative to be elected next week as parent members. The other positions include Staff (3 positions), community representatives and students (2 positions). Nominations for the position close at 4:00pm on Friday, 24 February 2012. Nominees are asked to provide a 200 word statement that will be sent with ballot papers for parents to consider in voting.

The first meeting of the Board for 2012 is Monday, 20 February 2012. The members will provide guidance on the current school planning direction and consider the broad school budget in terms of the staffing component. The Board meeting of 19 March 2012, which will be the first meeting of the “new” Board is also the Annual General Meeting. Whilst all Board meetings are open, and parents may attend, this is the “official” open meeting that must be held each year. As required, this meeting is advertised in this Update. As the Board is not an incorporated body, there is no requirement to advertise in the press.

Monday, 27 February 2012 is the first P&C meeting of the year. This is the Annual General Meeting and all positions will be declared vacant and filled by election. Long serving President, Ms Suzie Barnes, has publicly stated that she is standing down. Ms Barnes has served the Association, and the school community, with distinction. The school has been graced by outstanding parent leadership and whilst Ms Barnes’ contribution will be missed, there is an opportunity for a new President to be elected to continue the tradition of parent contribution and leadership. The AGM is always well attended. All parents are encouraged to attend and exercise the opportunity to play a role in the life of the school.

Recently, the Aboriginal students in the Middle School visited the Rock Solid Foundations at Edith Cowan University. This is a set of stones listing Aboriginal graduates of ECU and its heritage institution by decade. The students were asked to consider the hard work, perseverance and commitment to excellence exhibited by these graduates. These qualities were commended to the students. The school’s Aboriginal Excellence Program will continue this year and will see a range of services available. This includes an innovative mentoring program by the School.
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of Education at ECU. The school will be seeking Special Program status for the AEP for 2013.

This week has seen several significant events. On Monday, a GATE information evening was held for 2014 entry. This was extremely well attended and Department of Education staff outlined the various GATE programs to parents.

Henry Thai (Year 10) and Brittany King (Year 10) spoke at the event outlining this school’s GATE Languages program to parents. This was a daunting task and both did an excellent job in giving a student’s perspective. Peter Logue was an energetic and friendly welcoming officer who guided parents to the meeting. Thank you to all for their excellent contribution.

The annual Year 8 BBQ was conducted Tuesday with again, an outstanding attendance. Parents were able to listen to a presentation on the Year 8 program, meet teachers and then engage in conversations with teachers and parents over a sausage sizzle. Thank you to Andrew Paul and Suzie Barnes for being chefs extraordinaire and all staff for attending. The attendance of parents was greatly appreciated.

On Wednesday, 15 February 2012, the Premier of Western Australia, the Hon. Colin Barnett, MLA unveiled the school’s “General” Terracotta Warrior. The “General”, along with the “Captain” stationed outside the library, were acquired from the authorised replica factory in Xi’an, China in 2010. Also attending were the Minister for Education, the Hon. Dr Elizabeth Constable, MLA and the Consul-General of the People’s Republic of China, Madame Wang Yiner. Madame Wang and the Premier spoke about the strong relationship between China and Western Australia. The ceremony acknowledged the 30 years and more of Mandarin teaching at Mount Lawley SHS.

Parent, Mrs Sandra Tate made the cover for the “General” and as the Premier pulled the bow the cloth fell away bringing the “General” to view. Former teacher, Mr Geoff Davis, AM, who taught the first Mandarin lesson in WA in 1980 at this school attended. Mr Davis continues his involvement with this school as a volunteer Mandarin teacher. Board member, and Member for Mount Lawley, Mr Michael Sutherland, MLA negotiated the Premier’s visit. Thanks to Mr Sutherland for gaining the Premier’s assistance in celebrating the school’s Mandarin program. A number of distinguished visitors were present and shared the event.

On Friday, 10 February 2012 the first formal whole-school assembly was held with a number of scholarships. Thanks to former School Council Chair, Mrs Christine Richardson, the school’s Science Ambassador, who presented the Science Scholarship, former Council Member Ms Anne Griffiths who presented the VET Scholarship that is named in her honour and Cr Rod Willox, AM, RDF, ED, JP, representing Mr Michael Sutherland, MLA, who presented Mr Sutherland’s Humanities Scholarship. The Booklist Scholarships were also presented by the Business Manager, Ms Elaine Millea. The City of Vincent Art Scholarship was presented by Mr Matthew Hunt on behalf of the Mayor of the City, The Hon. Alannah MacTiernan.

Perhaps the most prestigious scholarship, the Peter Sparbier Perpetual Mathematics Scholarship, was also presented. Mr Sparbier, a former mathematics teacher at the school left a large sum in his will for this award. It was presented by his friend, Mr Rodney Cunningham. Thank you to all presenters. Congratulations are extended to all Scholarship winners:

The Peter Sparbier Perpetual Mathematics Scholarship: Moshe Meyer
The Anne Griffiths Scholarship for Vocational Education and Training: Bradley Staines, Zachary Dean
Science Scholarship: Lily Baitup, Henry Thai, Lynne Huynh
The Michael Sutherland, MLA Scholarship for Humanities: Mikayla Barty, Jackson Casserly
Booklist Scholarship:
Brittany Faranda, Jayde Wilson, Mei Lyn Woon, Mei Ing Woon, Orla Bacon-Rees, Asmita Shrestha, Benjamin Ognenis, Ashlee Brown

The City of Vincent Art Scholarship:
Georgina Cotter

The school has received a significant number of new enrolments, especially in the Senior School. This has led to an adjustment in some classes to ensure that these are within industrial parameters. Whilst I appreciate the concern of some parents where a student has had to be moved to balance numbers, it is not possible to maintain classes in excess of agreements. There has also had to be some changes in the Middle School for the same reason. In closing this Update I acknowledge the many parents who have paid their Contributions and Charges for the year. We have had a good response to all areas; including the P&C contribution, Chaplain Fund and Healthy Active account. School’s rely on this income steam to meet many costs of program delivery. All funds paid by parents go to learning programs and are not retained or spent on school administration. For those parents yet to pay or make an arrangement I would urge this is addressed so that your child’s classroom experience will be resourced as best as possible.

*Milton Butcher, Principal*

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**ANNOUNCEMENT OF HOUSE SWIMMING CAPTAINS**

**FORREST:** Saxon, Jacob, Jade, Rachael,

**O’CONNOR:** Brandon, Max, Paige, Nicolette,

**MURDOCH:** Jordan, Thomas, Santi, Jordan

**HACKETT:** Jamie, Hollie, Cecilia, Kirsten

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**SVAPA AND MUSIC**

**Parents/Guardians**

It’s 2012 and that means it’s time to prepare for

**Mount Lawley Senior High School’s Community Art Auction**

The Art Auction is a prestigious annual event held in June of each year. Last year we raised almost $20,000 which was distributed equally between the SVAPA and Music programs. This money provides critical funding for our very talented children. This event is spectacular and a lot of fun. Come along and be part of an innovative team that strives to make a difference. We need YOUR help.

The first meeting is on
Tuesday, 21 February 2012  
7:30pm
in the Music Department.

Please enter the school via the large rear gate on Learoyd Street and follow the signs.

Kind regards.

Sue Faranda
Secretary
Art Auction & Music Support Committees

*A SMALL COMMITMENT OF YOUR TIME IS AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR CHILD’S FUTURE*
**GIFTED AND TALENTED SECONDARY SELECTIVE ENTRANCE PROGRAMS:**

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE TUESDAY, 6 MARCH 2012**

Applications are now open to all Year 6 students for Gifted and Talented programs in Year 8 in 2014. Applications are also open to students currently in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 wishing to apply for available vacancies in 2013. These programs offer Western Australia's brightest students the opportunity to study selective academic, languages or arts curriculum at one of 17 public secondary schools.

All applications must be lodged online on the website. Parents can also learn more about Gifted and Talented programs and view the application guidelines and key dates on this site: 

http://det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/giftedandtalented/detcms/portal/

The information brochure, Behind every gifted and talented child is a parent who saw their potential, has been distributed to schools with Year 6 classes and secondary schools with eligible students this week.

This brochure can also be downloaded from the Gifted and Talented website.

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**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 0392.

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

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**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**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**
AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY (ADFA)

Defence Force Recruiting will be holding an information session about the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) and would like to invite you and your parents to attend. Date: Wednesday 21st March 2012 Time: 6.30 - 8.00 pm Venue: Defence Force Recruiting, Level 7, 66 St Georges Terrace, Perth RSVP: 12th March 2012 Anna Katselas akatselas@dfr.com.au.

Jane Farrell, Student Recruitment Manager, Australian Defence Force Academy will present you with the wide range of career paths available within ADFA. The presentation will cover entry requirements, the benefits of an ADF career as well as provide you with the opportunity to chat one-on-one with our Defence personnel about what life is really like in the Navy, Army and Air Force. Should you have any queries about the event please do not hesitate to contact myself on the number below or on the email above. We hope you are able to join us.

Anna Katselas, Careers Promotion Coordinator, DEFENCE FORCE RECRUITING, Level 7, 66 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000 Phone: (08) 9488 7103 Fax: (08) 9488 7126 Email: akatselas@dfr.com.au

VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILIES NEED TO HOST INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS : LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”. Volunteer to host an international high school student in July 2012 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Sweden, Norway and Finland. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scceaustralia@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our booklet of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.

FREE Community Parenting Workshops

Family Services welcomes you to the Free Parenting Teenagers Workshops by Debbie Bushell, Parenting Coach.

Family Services strengthens families and community

Woodville Pavilion Hall
Corner Fitzgerald & Farmer Street, North Perth
Call Anthony for a FREE 1 MONTH TRAINING TRIAL on 0402 144 018

www.ATImartialarts.com.au

COMPLAINTS, COMPLIMENT OR SUGGESTION?
Lawley Update 2012 No. 2

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COMPLAINTS, COMPLIMENT OR SUGGESTION?
The Music Support Group presents:

Music Soiree

Tuesday, 6 March 2012
7:00pm to 9:00pm
Tricycle Theatre, Mount Lawley SHS

• Live entertainment featuring:
  MLSHS’s very talented
  Music students

• Welcome address by Directors of Music
  Chris Manning and Tanya Chapman

• An opportunity to meet instrumental and WAAPA teachers.

• Hear about the music opportunities available for your child.

• Mingle with new and current music parents in a casual and
  relaxed environment.

• Tasty treats.

• Beer, wine and soft drinks available for purchase.

Please enter the school via the large rear gate on Learoyd Street and follow the signs.