Welcome to all students, parents and staff to the 2013 school year. The year for students commenced smoothly with the school’s timetable commencing from the first morning. A special welcome to all Year 8 students and I trust that they have settled well and are enjoying their high school experience.

In terms of Technology results, the systemic NAPLAN and MSE 9 results were pleasing. These were reported last year. With the Year 12 results, there were some positives, with some very good results, and some concerns. The highlights were:

- Graduation rate (98.33%) above the State average.
- 1 student withATAR of 99 or higher.
- 29 students withATAR of 90 or higher.
- 34.81% of students withATAR of 80 or higher.
  (This is the lowest ATAR that will lead to entry in any WA public university.)
- 2 Certificates of Distinction – Mathematics and Information and Communications.
- 6 Certificates of Commendation (20’K’ Grades or better over Year 11 and 12).
- 9 WACE subjects above the State average.
- 11 WACE subjects above the Like School average.
- 1 Top 10 subject – Computer Science.

Congratulations to 2012 Dux, Kingsley Nguyen, who achieved a number of awards. He gained a 99+ ATAR, a Certificate of Distinction in Mathematics and a Certificate of Commendation. Other students who achieved the latter were Megan Sawyer, Kingsley Nguyen, Gurashish Bhatia, Katherine Tan, Jun Ho Jung and Danica Vo.

In 2012, the school achieved a first with Alexander Vuduris being awarded a VET Certificate of Distinction in the Information and Communications domain. This is a very prestigious award and only awarded to a very few students studying a subject. Congratulations to Álex.

The main concern around student performance was the ATAR, which again fell in 2012. This has an effective impact on a range of performance measures such as the university entrance rate, the percentage of students who achieve a 75% score, the percentage of students in the top one third of the State and the Attainment Rate. Whilst the school’s Attainment Rate
was still well above the State mean, the decline was disappointing.

When the spread of ATAR scores is considered, 21 out of 159 ATAR students gained an ATAR of less than 55. Many of these students studied a program that was too difficult for them. A number were recommended to change programs, however, chose not to change. There is a message here for parents when staff discuss pathways with you. An ATAR of less than 55 is not sufficient to gain a place in any university in Australia. Students with a low ATAR often find that they do not generally get places in the training sector either as training institutions value Certificates. Staff have a good understanding of what a student is likely to achieve based on work in Year 10 or Year 11. If a Year 12 pathway is an issue and this is discussed with you, please consider the long term implications of what your child is best placed to achieve. Staff have the best interests of students at heart. There are many ways to university and a 55 ATAR or lower will not get there. A training place pursued after school can lead to university.

The school runs a range of Certificate level courses and these are recommended to students. A Certificate II is an excellent grounding for post-school study in the training domain. Successful study can lead to a university place, and often, with a lower HECS commitment.

When students are looking at future courses, their ability to complete it successfully should be considered. For those in a university pathway, frankly not gaining an ATAR of 55 or better, is a poor choice. A VET pathway, with a Certificate II, would be a much wiser selection.

Students studying the most relevant program for them will have an impact on improving Year 12 performance measures and happier students post-school when they move into an area of choice. This is the goal of the school’s staff and many are very happy to discuss the best pathway for your child with you. Please consider their advice carefully.

Congratulations are also extended to Head Boy, Jack Caddy, who completed a scholarship week with the National Gallery of Australia. Jack was one of 16 Art students in Australia selected for this prestigious event. Jack had the opportunity to tour the Gallery’s exhibitions, participate in workshops and meet prominent artists. The Gallery also presented the school with several volumes for the library. Jack will present these to the library at the next assembly.

The school also welcomes a number of new staff. The Middle School Associate Principal for 2013 is Mr Michael White. Mr White was Deputy at Safety Bay SHS for a number of years and is well attuned to Middle School operations. Other new or returning staff include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Middle School</th>
<th>Chantal Simpson, Danielle Huljich, Juanita Stafford, Adelheid Stelter, Michael White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Michelle deRozario</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computing</td>
<td>Kimberley Hazelgrove</td>
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<td>English</td>
<td>Emma Coyne, Kieren Pearce</td>
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<td>Science</td>
<td>Alexander Vatskalis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design and Technology</td>
<td>Robert Reeves, Sarah Needham</td>
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<td>Business</td>
<td>Gabrielle Jolliffe</td>
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<td>Languages</td>
<td>Jaeik Jeong, Louise Chapman</td>
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<td>AIEO</td>
<td>Lucina Henry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clerical Staff</td>
<td>Dexter Ross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Assistants</td>
<td>Lynn McMullan, Brooke</td>
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In terms of the leadership group, Mr Raphael will continue as a Team Leader in Middle School and Mr Craig Gannon will lead Mathematics in the Senior School. Mr Lee Payne has been appointed to replace Mr Hawke, who retired last year.

This information will be forwarded to the P&C so that
parents may contact new staff, as well as continuing ones, via email. The address is First Name.Family Name@lawley.wa.edu.au. All staff are expected to work with parents to ensure the best results for students.

It was pleasing to see an improved attendance result for Semester 1, 2012 with the school achieving a 90% benchmark. The 2013 Year 12 group was the major concern with an 88% rate. 101 girls were not present for 90% of the time. This must improve if students are to achieve their best. When students are absent, parents have a legal obligation to advise the school and this can be done through a telephone call, SMS, email or a note. Please ensure this is done.

Form teachers have been asked to make contact with parents in Term 1. This presents an opportunity to interact with your child’s Form teacher. The Year 8 and Year 10 parent BBQ, which are scheduled shortly, also allow the opportunity to speak informally with teachers.

Late last year, the Minister for Education, the Hon Peter Collier MLC, visited and announced a $2 million music facility. This will be incorporated into the planned Year 7 block and work on this is progressing. Construction is expected to commence later in the year.

The school continues to be under intense enrolment pressure due to urban growth in our area and high demand from outside. A number of requests by families cannot be acceded to. For 2014, it is highly unlikely that we will be able to endorse any cross-boundary sibling enrolments. Whilst these will continue to be considered in the overall position, the forecast growth for 2014 from the local area is significant.

Parents will be aware that the government is looking at changes to upper-school from 2016. There will be no change for this year and Year 11 students must still complete Stage 2 examinations unless exempted due to a VET course. Whilst the 2016 measures will be worked through, they will impact on the current Year 9 group. More information will be provided as circumstances change.

Milton Butcher, Principal

HOUSE SWIMMING CAPTAINS 2013
Congratualtions to the following students:

FORREST:
Georgia, Ben, Jasmine, Moshe
O’CONNOR:
Gemma, Mitchell, Brooke, Nick

MURDOCH:
Philippe, Sarah, Jack, Teleah

HACKETT:
Henri, Georgia, Isabella, Callan

UNIFORM SHOP COMPETITION
In late 2012, the School’s Uniform supplier, Uniform Concepts, conducted a competition across schools. The Mount Lawley SHS winner is Ms Genet Woldu. Congratulations.

YEAR BOOKS 2012
Students who have ordered and paid for the School Year Book 2012 will be receiving these books during their Form Classes next week. Additional Year Books can be purchased from the School Finance Officer at cost of $30 in the Main Administration Office.

EVENTS CALENDAR
Sunday-Tuesday 10-12 Feb SVAPA Camp
Sunday 10 Feb Chinese New Year Celebrations
Thursday 14 Feb Music Support Committee 7pm
Friday 15 Feb Whole School Assembly P1
Tuesday 19 Feb Languages Support Meeting 7pm
Wednesday 20 Feb Year 8 BBQ
Thursday 21 Feb International Mother Language Day
Monday 25 Feb P & C Meeting Upstairs Staff Room
Wednesday 27 Feb SVAPA Parent Group Meeting 7pm Tricycle Theatre
Thursday 28 Feb Yr 11 Psych Excursion
Sunday 3 March Clean up Australia Day
Monday 4 March Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 5 March Music Soiree 6pm
Wednesday 6th March House Swimming Carnival COMPULSORY ALL STUDENTS
Terry Tzyjack Aquatic Centre

SVAPPA AND MUSIC Parents/Guardians

It’s 2013 and that means it’s time to prepare for
Mount Lawley Senior High School’s Community Art Auction

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, 12 February 2013
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

MLSHS MUSIC SUPPORT GROUP
INVITATION
Annual General Meeting 2013

Your Child’s Education - Be a Part of It!
You can be involved
Make new connections
Talk about your needs and ideas

Thursday, 14 February 2013
7:00pm
Mount Lawley SHS Music Department

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

We look forward to seeing you.

Kind regards,
Sue Faranda
Secretary, Music Support Group
25 HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Mt Lawley SHS is hosting a group of Japanese students who will be visiting for a week between 24th March 2013 – 31st March 2013. The Japanese students will stay with a family from the school and participate in regular classes alongside our students.

This experience will include an excursion for both Japanese and host students on Saturday 30th March to visit Rottnest for the day with swimming and bike riding activities. The excursion comes at no extra cost to families. The aim of their visit is to experience our Australian school and family life and improve their English speaking ability. We are looking for families to host a student and give them a taste of our ‘Aussie culture’.

Hosting an international student offers many unique opportunities, including the chance to learn about another culture and build life-long friendships. Strong bonds are often forged between the host families and their Japanese student, remaining in contact for the rest of their lives.

A host family payment will be arranged to assist with costs incurred during the hosting period.

If you are interested in hosting a student please return the Host Family Expression of Interest Form below to the office.

For more information please contact Jason Hutchinson, the Director of Gold Intercultural Learning (GIL) on 9481 1694 or 0417 773 846 or email at jason@goldil.com.au

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**Host Family Expression of Interest**

**PLEASE COMPLETE ALL FIELDS**

I ___________________________ _______ am interested in hosting a Japanese student.

student’s name

**Grade _______________

**Parent’s / Guardian’s name ___________________________ _____________

**Parent’s / Guardian’s mobile number _________________ home number _____________

**Parent’s / Guardian’s email________________________________________________

**Best time to contact: ____________________________
TUART HILL JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB

Tuart Hill Junior Soccer Club is taking registrations for new players aged from 5-18 years on Sunday 10th February from 10am to 12pm, at the Tuart Hill Clubroom, Woodchester Reserve, Woodchester Road, Nollamara.

We are also taking registrations for our Equal Football team (soccer for players with disabilities, aged from 11-18 years).

For further information, please contact Angie Belfiore on 0416 267567 or email angie@tuarthillsoccer.com.


A great family club for all junior and senior players, to help grow community spirit within our local area.
SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE
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 2013 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, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, and Spain. 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 scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.

WANT TO PLAY SOCCER IN THE USA?

NSR Soccer Australia scout, evaluate & promote Australian players to 2500+ USA Colleges.

For more information and enrolment contact Academic Task Force
Ph: 6314 6951, email: learn@academictaskforce.com.au, or visit: www.academictaskforce.com.au

Behavior Tonics
Engaging Adolescents®
Parenting skills for resolving teenage behaviour problems

The Presenter
This course is facilitated by Dr Dorothy Lenthall. As a mother of 3, a school psychologist and teacher, she has had extensive experience with teenagers.

What we cover:

- Understanding adolescence: A time of reconstructions, redeveloping social landscapes, brain snaps and body make-overs.
- Understanding your job as parent of a teenager - observer, advisor, negotiator, director
- Asking the question - Is it serious? What's worth reacting to and what's not....
- How to hold the difficult conversations more successfully.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL AS PLACES ARE LIMITED

Name: Engaging Adolescents 28th Feb
Address:
CONTACT DETAILS Ph:
Mob:
Email:
Enclosed is my payment of $ EFT: Behaviour Tonics BSB: 016 464 Acc. No: 108 707 285
Please debit my: VISA  Mastercard  
Cheques to be made payable to Behaviour Tonics
Card No: Signature
Name on Card: EXPIRY Month Year

Please post to Behaviour Tonics PO Box 1431 West Leederville WA 6901 Fax 9382 1184