On Monday of this week, I attended the Top Public School function at WA. Mount Lawley Senior High School received this accolade for the fine performances of a number of Year 12 students last year. Whilst the fall in ATAR and some subject issues must be improved, the fact that a number of students achieved should be noted and celebrated. The award was presented by the Minister for Education, the Hon Peter Collier, MLC and the Director General of Education, Ms Sharyn O’Neill.

The first meeting of the School Board took place this week and Board members received a brief on results from last year and achievement of the School Business Plan goals. Members engaged in a robust discussion across the range of student performance factors. The paper on the achievement of plan targets is available on the school’s website. This is located in the School Business Plan section.

Nominations for parent membership of the Board close today (Friday, 22 February 2013) and if an election is required, voting papers will be posted next week.

The first P&C meeting is Monday evening (25 February 2013). This is the AGM and all positions will be declared vacant and selections conducted. There are a number of parents leaving the P&C with their last child having graduated last year. They have provided sterling service and we need to maintain the excellent value the P&C provides the school. We need new members to join and fill the void. I would encourage you to attend the meeting and assist the P&C. There will be like minded people there and many hands share the work.

Last Friday, the school conducted the first assembly for the year. This acknowledged 29 students from last year with 90 plus ATAR and winners of Certificates of Distinction for outstanding subject performance. It was pleasing to see so many able to attend and personally be inducted into the 90s Club. Certificates of Distinction were awarded to 2012 Dux and 99+ ATAR student, Kingsley Nguyen and the school’s first VET Distinction was won by Alexander Vuduris in the Information and Communications field. Well done.

Kirsten Chick spoke on behalf of the 90s Club members and addressed the school community on the opportunities that she, and her peers, enjoyed at the school. Younger students have every reason to strive and

A THOUGHT

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man’s character, give him power.

Abraham Lincoln
emulate their success. Again, congratulations are extended to the high achievers from 2012.

The assembly also acknowledged the scholarship winners for this year and students gaining awards for excellent Semester 2 reports. With the 90s Club, over 200 individual students were acknowledged. With the value of Achievement the school notes success across the plethora of student activity — in this case, academic results. The behaviour of students was also positive.

The air cooling program is being completed and all units should be operating shortly. There has, however, been some electrical failures and these are being remedied. All students should be able to enjoy the benefits of cooling in classrooms.

In the last Update, the efforts of Head Boy, Jack, in gaining selection to the prestigious National Art Summer School was acknowledged. Head Girl, Teelah, is also to be congratulated on being selected as a member of the Western Australian Youth Symphonic Band and Flute Choir. She joins 2012 Graduate, Brittany Faranda, as a member of the Symphonic Band, a marquee youth orchestra. Year 12 student, Zachary, is congratulated for being selected to attend the National Mathematics Summer School in Canberra over the recent holiday period. This followed his outstanding performance in the Australian Mathematics Competition and he was able to participate in a number of extension activities, including university level mathematics challenges.

On the evening of Friday, 8 March 2013, the School Ball will be conducted. This is a huge enterprise and has taken great staff effort to prepare. It is noted that it is now a major focus for students and no doubt, when over, will enable them to concentrate on Year 12 work. One factor that has emerged, as the number of Year 12 students rises, is the difficulty of sourcing a venue that will enable outside partners to attend. It may be that we will be forced, as do many other schools, not to accept outside partners. Whilst this may not be required for the current Year 11 cohort, it is something that will need to be assessed in the near future.

The Ball is an alcohol free and tobacco free event. This is clear from the excursion proformas and information provided. Students, and their partners, who do not comply with this requirement will be excluded, parents contacted and sent home. No refunds will be made. Please stress to your son/daughter attending this invitation event carries with it the responsibility to comply with societal norms. I am sure all will enjoy the night, through respecting others.

Mount Lawley SHS does not support the notion of “after ball parties”. The school has no duty of care for these events. Whilst all parents will of course extend their sympathies to the family of the boy lost in the recent tragedy, any “after ball party” should be subject to close parent scrutiny and if there are doubts about the activity or level of adult supervision, a wise course of action may be to deny permission to attend. Advice on parties is found on the school’s website under the Parenting Resources section.

I have spoken to the Year 11 group about study periods. Due to detailed analysis of student performance over the past few years, especially last year, a number of students with a poor ATAR only studied 4 examination courses. Had they studied more, they may have gained a better result. There are also students who gained a satisfactory ATAR, however, had one low scoring subject of the four they studied. In 2014 a study period (dropping a subject) will no longer be seen as “a right”. ATAR students are expected to study at least five Stage 3 courses. Any requests for a study period will require a parent interview. This is introduced to seek to improve student ATAR and accessing first choice university courses.

Milton Butcher, Principal
SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The School Swimming Carnival is on this term (Wednesday 6 March) and we look forward to having your son/daughter participate in this whole school activity. The introduction of the “Water-based Excursion” policy by the Education Department requires all parents to complete a CONSENT FORM for the school swimming carnival. The consent form must be completed and returned by Friday, March 1 to your child’s Form Teacher.

The details of the day are outlined below:

- **Date:** Wednesday, March 6
- **Time:** All day 8.30 - 3.00 pm
- **Attendance:** Compulsory attendance for all students
- **Venue:** Terry Tyzack Aquatic Centre
  Alexander Drive, opposite Yokine Reserve.
- **What to wear:** PE shirt or House colours and bathers
- **Food:** Students need to provide their own food and drink.
- **Events:** Traditional events, novelty events.

*Transport:* The students must go from home directly to Terry Tyzack Aquatic Centre (DO NOT go to school) and the Form teachers will meet them inside the pool complex. The students will be dismissed from Terry Tyzack Aquatic Centre at 3.00 pm.

The normal school buses will still operate on this day.

*Pool Entry:* Students do not need to pay the pool entry fee, as this will be paid for by the school.

*Safety:* Students should wear hats and have sunscreen for protection against the sun.

We encourage your son/daughter to participate and have fun in the major Term 1 whole school activity.

Mark Howard, Head of Learning Area, Health and Physical Education

YEAR 12 STUDENTS WITH LONG-TERM INJURIES OR ILLNESSES

The Schools Curriculum and Standards Authority has provided the following advice for Year 12 students with long-term injuries or illnesses. Candidates with an injury or illness existing at the start of Term 3 are to apply to be examined in an alternative format, if the injury or illness will affect their participation in the standard practical examination of any course. There will be no sickness/misadventure consideration for candidates on the basis of an injury or illness existing at the start of Term 3.

The alternative format examination will be designed to assess the same aspects as the standard practical examination. An alternative, but equitable, marking key will be developed for these candidates.

Application is to be made on the standard special examination arrangements application form, distributed to all schools in February. The application is to be supported by appropriate medical information. The candidate and school will be advised of the outcome of the application.

Candidates will be expected to report at the designated time and location for completion of this alternative format practical examination. The scheduling of these examinations will coincide with the standard practical examinations for that course.

Candidates studying Physical Education Studies or Dance are the most likely to need special arrangements; however candidates in any course with a performance or interview component may be eligible.

Where the nature and duration of the candidate’s condition is known early (e.g. an elective knee reconstruction), the application should be made by the standard deadline of 24 May 2013. Where the injury or illness occurs after that date, application should be made as soon as it is known that the candidate will be unlikely to participate in the standard format of the practical examination. Unless a candidate with an injury or illness existing as of the start of Term 3 can be guaranteed to be recovered sufficiently to sit the standard practical examination, an alternative format practical examination should be applied for. The last date for application is 2 August 2013.

Failure to submit an application will jeopardise the candidate’s completion of the examination requirements for that course. It may also impact on their achievement of the WACE and affect their ATAR. Completion of the alternative format practical examination by a candidate with a long-term injury or illness is not discretionary. Failure to complete the practical examination due to long-term injury or illness will result in a non-genuine attempt status for that examination.

As this is the fourth year of operation for this requirement, no leniency will be provided for candidates or schools not following the required process. In 2012 a number of candidates did not achieve a WACE as a direct result of ignoring this requirement.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Accredited Level 1 Cricket Coaching: Adam Gilchrist Scholar, Perth CC colts player of the year, Australasian Marist team, NSW country 17’s squad. One on One or groups, reasonable rates. Contact: Dain Moreton Mob: 0401167485

Email: dmoreton94@hotmail.com
School students who are currently 14-16 years of age

Applications are now being accepted for Rotary Youth Exchange for 12 months commencing January 2014.

Details of the Exchange Program are contained in the initial application form downloadable from our website.

The anticipated countries of exchange for 2014 may vary, but typically include:

- Argentina
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Denmark
- Germany
- Finland
- France
- Italy
- Japan
- Norway
- Switzerland
- Sweden
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- USA
- Vietnam

Application forms are available from your local Rotary Club or may be downloaded from Rotary Taiwan

Application forms are also available from:

- Argentina
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Denmark
- Germany
- Finland
- France
- Italy
- Japan
- Norway
- Switzerland
- Sweden
- Taiwan

Application forms are also available from:

- District 9455 Chairman
  c/o Jan Gibbs
  31 Stirling Street,
  NORTHAM, WA 6401
  Email: kgibbs@westnet.com.au
  Phone: 0419 931451 (mobile)

IMPORTANT

1. Applications must be made to the Rotary Club in the area closest to your home or school and must be made to one club only. Applications must be submitted by 31st March 2013.

2. Student applicants are encouraged to participate in the involvement of family and friends to act as host families for overseas inbound students and this may be taken into account in the outbound selection process.

UWA SEMINAR:

YEAR 12 STUDENT INFORMATION EVENING
(REPEAT SESSION)

Information session for Year 12 students and their parents

Wed, 06 Mar 2013 18:00 - Alexander Lecture Theatre, UWA Arts Building

If you’re a Year 12 student, or a parent of a Year 12 student, this session will give you information about UWA’s courses, admission requirements and how to achieve your study and career goals.

UWA staff from the Prospective Students Office will be available to answer questions after the presentation.

URL: http://www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/about/events/yr12-info

For more information: Alison Chan  alison.chan@uwa.edu.au
(+61 8) 6488 2477

Starts : Wed, 06 Mar 2013 18:00
Ends : Wed, 06 Mar 2013 19:00
RSVP Required.

This event can be viewed on the web at:
http://events.uwa.edu.au/event/20130116T035540Z-1829-26574@
events.uwa.edu.au/whatson/events

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE AC HIEVED

Why not meet university entrance requirements before the rest of your class via this VET/TAFE program?

This VET study option will not conflict with your day time high school commitments.

You can be less stressed in your final HSC tasks knowing that you have already qualified.

Commuting Semester 1, 2013, Polytectnic West is offering high school students the opportunity to complete nationally accredited VET courses during a week night.

You will enter into a Business stream that will prepare you for university, employment or higher level VET studies.

How long is the course? 3 weeks starting in July 2014

When do classes start? From 5 March 2013

How many days per week? 1 day per week, held on Tuesday evening.

How long are the classes? 3 hours, from 5:30-8:30pm

Where will classes be held? Thornlie Campus, Burslem Drive.

Who can apply? Year 11 & 12 high school students.

How to Apply*
You must complete an ‘Evening VET/TAFE for Students’ application form.

Submit Applications to:
Submit Applications to:

For more information: Raymond Simmons via email address below.

POLYTECHNIC WEST

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Australian National University Applications for the Tuckwell Scholarship for 2014.

The scholarship provides each of the 25 winners with $20,000 pa for up to five years.

Conditions for the application.

To apply for a Tuckwell Scholarship for study commencing in 2014, you must:

- be in Year 12 in 2013, or on a gap year having completed Year 12 in 2012, and be aged 17-20 years as of 1 March 2014
- be predicted by your school to achieve an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) of 95 or higher including any ANU Educational Access Scheme Bonus Points, where relevant
- be a resident of Australia and be connected and committed to Australia. This is an indicator of your potential to give back to the program and to Australia in the future
- demonstrate the attributes of a Tuckwell Scholar
- be available for interview in Canberra on the weekend of 6 and 7 July 2013, and intend to apply to and enrol at ANU as a full-time undergraduate award student commencing in 2014, with ANU listed as your first preference in the August 2013 UAC round. Applicants wishing to apply for more than one ANU program are welcome to do so through their first and subsequent preference.
- Note that successful Scholarship applicants will be offered a conditional place, subject to achieving the ATAR set for you in our offer and satisfaction of program entry requirements.

*Commencement of classes is dependent on student numbers and may be cancelled if sufficient applications have not been received.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
(08) 9267 7614
raymond.simmons@polytechnic.wa.edu.au
What is it really like being a doctor?

One of the great problems with advising students who think they would like to be a doctor is that their personal assessment of what “being a doctor” means can be a long way from reality. Indeed their assessment of what “being a doctor” means may have been formed by anything from the personal experience of one or two doctors who have treated them, to their viewing of TV medical dramas.

It is a fact that medical dramas get huge audience figures, but rarely do they convey anything approximating to reality. On the other hand, some teenagers will have been influenced by the fact that a family member is working in the medical field. But even this may give a warped view of what being a doctor really means.

So, before any student starts applying for the many years of study required to qualify as a doctor, it is incredibly helpful for them to get some firsthand experience of what being a doctor actually entails. Which is why we offer students the opportunity to see what the world of medicine is really like. Through our facilities, would-be medical doctors travel to Tanzania, the Czech Republic or Thailand toshadow experienced doctors and healthcare professionals. Not only does this experience help students to make the right decision about their future careers, but it is also a useful addition for their applications to medical school.

In terms of the practicalities, students are met at the airport by one of our specialist staff team members and are looked after by an extensive staff team throughout their stay.

To find out a lot of detailed information regarding the placements go to www.gapmedics.co.uk OR Call 00 44 191 230 8080 or email us at info@gapmedics.com and we’ll send a brochure in the post.

Do you have room for a foster child?

If you make room in your heart and home for a foster child, you’ll change their life forever. You’ll give them a chance to be safe and nurtured, as every child deserves to be. We need people like you.

Come to a Foster Care Information Session on Saturday March 16 from 12-2 at Wanslea Scarborough – 110 Scarborough Beach Road, Scarborough and on Saturday March 23 from 12-2 at Wanslea Cloverdale- 311 Abernethy Road, Cloverdale

To register call 9245 2441 or email support@wanslea.asn.au

www.fosternow.com.au or follow Wanslea Foster Care on Facebook