



The Key to Student Success

The 2012 graduating class achieved great success in the Western Australian Certificate of Education exams held in November last year. The students' performance enabled the College to be ranked tenth across all government schools.

Our 2012 Dux, Nhu Nguyen, achieved an incredibly high 99.45 for her ATAR whilst our Head Girl, Ruby Tancred, achieved an ATAR of 95. Six other students achieved an ATAR in the 90s:

Zakiah Hussaini

Yuting Xin

Jhenn Javier

Al Jovyl Bautista

Deepika Rajamanickam Pandi

David Stout

The following are some insights to their success.

Nhu Nguyen

What are your plans for the future?

I'm planning to study Town Planning at a university in Calgary, Canada, as my family is moving there. Calgary was declared by the UN to be the world's top eco city. My dream job is to be a city planner.

What's the secret to your success in year 12?

I worked hard and loved learning new



things. I always had an up-to-date study schedule and planned when I would work on assessments as soon as I got them. Being organised is very important.

I would study on average 3-4 hours a day. Most of them were in the free zones in College and some at home.

How has the school and teachers helped you to achieve such outstanding results?

Teachers always offered to help the students when needed. It is important to always be in class on time and ask for help when you didn't understand something. My teachers also helped me out with my assignments and checked my drafts to see if I was on the right track.

Ruby Tancred

What are you studying now and where?

After being accepted in to studying Law at UWA, I have changed my career direction and I'm now applying to study Zoology.



What are your plans for the future?

I would love to be a Zoologist at Australia Zoo in Queensland.

What's the secret to your success in year 12?

It is important to balance study with downtime. I always had a day to relax.

I also had a study plan and was organised and I never left working on

assessments to the last minute.

David Stout

What are you studying now and where?

A Bachelor of Science majoring in Physics at Curtin University.

What three things would you recommend as being essential to doing well in Year 12?

1. Make sure you understand concepts learnt on the day, by asking questions and lots of thinking and reading. This will help you when it comes to exams.
2. Aim for 100% attendance.
3. I used free zones in the library. I spent more time in the library than socialising at school. When I am at school I give study 100% of my attention. The flexible timetable gave me the necessary time to study at College. I saved socialising and distractions for home.

We are very proud of the achievements of the class of 2012.

The Director General of the Department of Education, Sharyn O'Neill, acknowledged the performance of the College in a letter received by the Principal recently. She commented:

"Congratulations on the outstanding year 12 results achieved by Sevenoaks College in 2012. This achievement is clearly the result of the high standard of learning opportunities offered by your school and the commitment by you and your staff."

Well done to the class of 2012 and we hope that the class of 2013 will also achieve to these standards.

Year 12 College Ball

On March 8th the annual Sevenoaks Ball was held at the Novotel Langley in Perth. This year's theme was 'Hollywood Red Carpet' and the students lived up to this style with glamorous dresses, dashing tuxes and bling, bling, bling.

The night was outstanding and well enjoyed by all. A big thankyou to the dedicated students on the Ball Committee and Mrs Kirstie Cusens, who put a lot of time and effort into the theme and invitations.



Students Vote for their Guild

The votes have been counted and the Student Guild for 2013 has officially started in their roles as leaders of the school.

This year's Guild is led by Head Boy, Christian Solatorio, and Head Girl, Monique Tancred. They are supported by fellow Year 12 students Andyriya Kena, Dureti Said, Jei Taylor and Mereseini Veikoso.



Providing voices for the Year 11 students are Arhell Dasmariñas, Tarsha Ford, Siti Noordin, Klara Pacak, Ba Blu Poe and Sami Woldemichael.

A big congratulation to these students and we look forward to seeing their plans, which they will discuss at the annual Student Guild retreat to be held on April 18-19.



From the Principal

Dr Karen Read

A warm welcome to families and friends of Sevenoaks to our term one newsletter. This year has started well with all students engaged in their learning programs.

Already we have had several major events to commence the year. The annual College Ball was held on Friday 8th March at the Novotel in Perth. This was a great success enjoyed by the many students who attended.

Our annual Harmony Day was held on Thursday 21st March, and was a huge success. It was a great day as students shared their culture with each other. With over 40 different nationalities there were many cultural ways which were shared across the College.

Thursday, April 11th, was our first parent evening with interim progress reports being issued. It was pleasing to see so many of you in attendance. I trust that you enjoyed meeting the teachers. If you were unable to attend you can still contact the College to make an appointment to meet with your son/daughter's teachers.

2013 is the third year that Sevenoaks Senior College has operated as an Independent Public School. The

College has recently been reviewed by independent reviewers. Our performance was mapped against the 2010-2013 Business Plan. A full report will be released to the College by the beginning of term two.

Attendance is very important for all students to achieve their educational goals. Students must attend *all day, every day* unless they are sick or have urgent family business. All students should aim for an average attendance of 95%. Attendance below this figure will impact on student learning.

I look forward to meeting you during the 2013 school year.

Scholarship Winners

The College is the benefactor of two major scholarships for students at Sevenoaks.

The first is the Wayne Lyon Memorial Scholarship. Tracy Lyon has generously donated two \$1,000 scholarships to the College for the next 20 years. This is the second year of the award of the Scholarships.

Emilee Plater was awarded the first scholarship for her commitment to the river and the environment with a focus on sustainability. Say Say Wah Win was awarded the second scholarship to support her in achieving her personal goals with her education.

The next Scholarship has been awarded for the first time in 2013. The Scott Scholarship is named after Mrs Ethel Scott who donated a sum of money to Outcare to provide scholarships for young people with their education. Three \$1,000 Scholarships will be awarded each year. The 2013 recipients are Ellie Hoyer for her commitment to her University studies; Jermaine Lewis for his commitment to his TAFE studies

in training as a Chef; and Emanuel Krakouer for his commitments to his studies in the Canning Skills programs.

We wish all these students success in the future and thank the generosity of Tracy Lyon and Outcare for their contributions.



5000 Meals, 12 Schools, 1 Day

“Prepare, Produce, Provide” is a community based project sponsored by the Crown Casino, Food Bank and the Home Economics Institute of Australia. We were lucky enough to be one of 12 selected Perth schools, who offer the VET Hospitality Course. The aim is to value add to rescued, donated, surplus and local produce to develop nutritious meals that will assist people in need.

Students, teachers, industry chefs and Crown Perth apprentices will work together on July 3 to produce 5000 meals for people in need. Food preparation will be carried out in the week prior and the meals will be put together and packaged over a single day, culminating in a Celebration Expo at Crown Perth.

Some of the outcomes of the program are: the opportunity to develop relationships with industry professionals; provide students with role models to aspire to and improve their understanding of what it is like to work in the industry; the opportunity to work alongside apprentices in a ‘real world’ environment; involvement in the ‘cycle of giving’; and, develop and promote community spirit.



Sustainability is Alive

Sevenoaks Senior College is a member of the Australian Sustainable Schools Initiatives Western Australia (AuSSI-WA). In Western Australia we insist on including social, political and economic sustainability as well as the most important: ecological sustainability.

At Sevenoaks we have adopted an across the curriculum approach to sustainability with the aim of reducing our ecological footprint and increasing our social handprint. With regards to increasing our Social Handprint we place more emphasis on the following:

- The harmony of our cultural and social diversity
- Indigenous culture
- Student wellbeing

An example of promoting harmony in our very diverse student cohort is celebrating Harmony Day.

With regards to reducing our Ecological Footprint at Sevenoaks we place more emphasis on the following:

- Water, waste & energy reduction

We also have the aim to increase our on and off campus biodiversity. An example

of increasing on campus biodiversity is the Sevenoaks wetland created in 2001.

An example of promoting off-campus biodiversity:

Year 12 Earth and Environmental Science students run an earth worm farm. The worm soil/castings are sold and the money raised is donated to The Gilbert’s Potoroo Action Group. The Gilbert’s Potoroo is one of the world’s most endangered mammals.



Furthermore, on-campus is Santa’s Workshop where retired people volunteer their time to renovate toys which are then donated to disadvantaged children. Students are able to learn from the adults practising sustainability for they are reducing waste, re-using and recycling old toys.

Everyone Belongs

This year's annual multi-cultural celebration had the theme of "Many Stories: One Australia" with the overarching message that everyone belongs. March 21 is national Harmony Day, which also coincided with the United Nations International Day for the 'Elimination of Racial Discrimination'. Sevenoaks celebrated the event with a hands-on festival where students and staff experienced many different world cultures through activities, food, music and dance.

Some of the highlights of the day included the vibrant African drumming workshop, henna tattoos, Asian umbrella painting, Turkish belly dancing, boomerang dot painting, and handling Australian native animals including a baby joey and a snake, thanks to NativeARC. We also had special guests from the Indonesian Consulate, who performed the beautiful shadow puppet theatre called *Wayang kulit*.

This year many of the students participated by bringing in delicious food, running cultural activities, dancing, singing and generally helping out during the day.

The Coordinator of the event, Ms Natasha Georgiou, stated that the purpose of the day was to "bond the students and create a cohesive school community". She says that when students share their cultures, "they become proud of their diverse ethnic backgrounds and get to share this with the rest of the school community which reduces racial tensions".

This is especially important as the College has students from over 40 different nations, with different cultures and faiths. Sevenoaks positively celebrates the wealth of cultural knowledge that we share and embraces our peaceful, caring and inclusive campus. Harmony Day is one of the most important days of the College calendar.



Following the Dream

Follow the Dream is now in its 9th Year at Sevenoaks Senior College. It continues to support aspirant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to complete Year 12 and continue into tertiary studies or employment. Some of our success stories for the year are:

hopes to study Pharmacy at University of Sydney.

- Celebrating Aboriginal culture at Harmony Day, Andrew Yarran, our Year 12 student who is aiming for an ATAR and Ian Wilkes, ex Follow the Dream student, now a professional dancer/actor graduated from WAAPA Aboriginal theatre course. Ian has travelled overseas showcasing his culture and stars in many shows in Perth.
- Congratulations to David Borsic Bronze medallion in high jump-Little Athletics Maddington.
- Congratulations Larissa Bennell, who was chosen for the Under 17 Australian Softball Squad and the WA School Sport Softball Team.



- Congratulations to Sherelle Bowron for volunteering her time to help students at a school in Uluru but also winning a fully paid trip to attend the Inaugural University of Sydney Indigenous Pharmacy Camp. Sherelle is also a student who is aiming for an ATAR and





Trade Training Centre

The Year 12 Trade Training Centre students in the Automotive and Metals & Engineering streams have got off to a great start in 2013.

The students continue to work towards their Certificate II Metals & Engineering or Certificate II Automotive.

Before the end of term 1 almost all students will have had the opportunity to spend two weeks in the workplace where they put their skills into action. Our industry partners who take the students for their work placements are again impressed by the students' 'can do' approach and their willingness to get down to work.

Over the term the year 12 students have been designing their own four page newsletters using industry standard desktop publishing software. They have had to write all the content themselves and take appropriate photographs to go along with the articles. When complete, the best of the newsletters will be printed and issued to our industry partners, year 10 students who plan to enter the program in 2014 and parents.

The aim of the newsletter is to give a

snapshot of life in the Trade Training Centre. Articles in the newsletter include a review of a recent work placement, an interview with a Trade Training Centre specialist teacher and an interview with a current student outlining what attracts them to the program.

On the practical side there is a description of different machines available in the automotive or metals and engineering workshop, an outline of what each machine is used for and, importantly, how to use it safely. The students also have to write about a project they undertook in 2011 and how they tackled the task.

The newsletters should provide interesting reading and will be available from the end of semester 1.



The Year 11 students have made a great start to the program and we will focus on their successes in the next Sevenoaks Senior College newsletter.

Helping Year 12 Exam Students

58 Year 12 students are planning to sit the WACE Exams in November with the aim of achieving University Entry.

To assist these students with their preparations for University, they attend a Pathways to University course once a week. It is a compulsory, timetabled class that was introduced in 2012 to cater for the specific needs of the Year 12 exam students.

As part of this course, students learn how to apply for University, listen to guest speakers from each of the Universities and are also provided with seminars on how to maximise their time management, study and exam preparation.

It is often a surprise to students to discover how much is involved in getting into the right course at University as well as the costs and other requirements associated with their choices.

Early in term two, students will receive a predicted ATAR score to help them make course application decisions. This prediction proved to be highly accurate for our 2012 students and will be the basis of career and university counselling with Mrs Earl.



Calendar of Events - Term 2 - 2013

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
May 1	Start of term 2 for staff	Start of term 2 for students		Yr 12 UNIPathway MURDOCH Presentation 2.40-3.20pm	Yr 11 and Yr 12 Workplace Learning commences
2				Yr 12 UNIPathway Memory Mnemonics 2.40-3.20pm	Year 12 UNIPathway Careers Expo
3	Independence Restoration Day East Timor	Vuela Alto Chile		Yr 12 UNIPathway CURTIN Presentation 2.40-3.20pm	
4		Ethiopia National Day		Staff Meeting	Year 12 Exams
June 5	Western Australia Day Public Holiday	Year 12 Exams	Year 12 Exams	Year 12 Exams	Year 11 / 12 Exams
6	Year 11 Exams	Year 11 Exams Year 11 Last day to apply for WPL Semester 2	Year 11 Exams Philippines Independence Day Russian Indep Day	Yr 12 UNIPathway ATAR Ranking 2.40-3.20pm Yr 11 Exams	WPL Semester 2 Interviews
7		POLYTECHNIC WEST Yr 12 Presentation 10.30-11.20am Advocate Groups 1-15		Yr 12 UNIPathway ECU Presentation 2.40-3.20pm	End of Semester 1 Units
8	Start of Semester 2 units	POLYTECHNIC WEST Yr 12 Presentation 10.30-11.10am Advocate Groups 16-35		Semester 1 Report Data Due Staff Meeting	
July 9	National Day of Somalia			Semester 1 Report Night	End of term 2 Stages 2/3 English Excursion

Semester 1 Report Night

Thursday 4 July
3pm-6pm

Please attend for report collection and teacher interviews

Careers Expo

Wondering what's out there after school with work & study?

Find these answers plus more at the Expo held at the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Year 12 Exam Students will attend on Friday May 17.