



## Kids Teaching Kids About Sustainability

Sevenoaks Senior College has been part of the Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative since 2005. This means that the teaching of and for sustainability was the responsibility of all learning areas. Our focus has been balanced between economic, social, political/cultural and ecological sustainability.



As part of this program, eight students represented Sevenoaks Senior College at a "Kids Teaching Kids Sustainability Conference" on August 29 and 30. Ten schools took part, of which four were secondary schools. The secondary schools were required to teach primary students the benefits of sustainability.

Our students did the College proud. They twice conducted a workshop on sustainable housing and grazing. Their confidence, poise and knowledge



certainly impressed the members of the Mandurah City Council and the representatives from Melbourne. We have some budding teachers!

Much was taught and learned by our students. They learned of the climate change problems facing Mandurah and the mitigation/adaptation strategies to address these problems. And, our students taught the others all about H.O.P.E. (Helping Our Planet Earth) for the future.

**"Our students taught the other students all about H.O.P.E for the future"**

Congratulations to the following students and their inspirational Geography teacher, Mr Fettes Falconer:

- Letitia Bain
- Jimmy Roch
- Enya Serna Rodriguez
- Stehan Janse van Rensburg
- Stephanie Sandjaja
- Kyle Tait
- Sarah Campbell
- Ayden McCall



## RU OK Day

One in five young people struggle with depression and anxiety at least once in their life. Being a teenager is difficult and many feel alone going through tough times.

September 12, was the national mental health awareness day called RU OK Day. The mission for the day is to encourage and empower all people to regularly and meaningfully ask "are you ok?" to support those struggling with life. This time of the year is stressful particularly for students working towards exams or completing assessments.

Under the coordination of Ms Bev Smith, students gave cheerful yellow balloons with positive messages to other students throughout the day. It was a day that brought smiles to many faces.



# 40 hour Famine

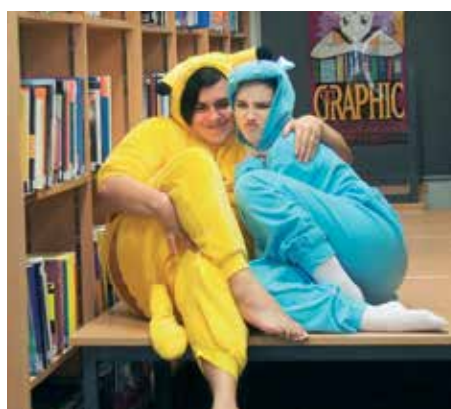
22 eager students participated in the sleepover for the 40 Hour Famine. Whilst some partakers sacrificed food, others forfeited their voices and remained mute for 40 hours. This was a choice that delighted their teachers in their Friday classes. It was also very entertaining as charades were used to convey their needs. One student gave up her legs and experienced life in a wheel chair for the duration of the famine.

The starving group's energy levels were depleted and so the modus operandi was very low key. Events included games and group activities. Pizza provided to break the fast was gleefully eaten.

The group was totally dedicated to meeting their commitments and did so with a keen sense of community spirit knowing that their sacrifices were contributing to such a worthy cause. The students' social conscience is commendable.

Thanks to Ms Kirstie Cusens, Ms Rosa Cauchi, Mrs Brenda Earl and Ms

Cally Nelson for their own sacrifice in assuring such a worthwhile event ran so smoothly.



# Rotary Breakfast

On July 25, the Student Guild was inducted into the Sevenoaks Interact Club of Welshpool. The Interact club is a youth division of the Rotary Club and aims to fundraise and help one international and one local project. This year the students have chosen to support two charities. The local one being the collection of can ring tabs to make artificial limbs and the international charity is an orphanage in Rwanda.

The students were treated to a scrumptious breakfast, then participated in a Rotary meeting before being welcomed to the club and presented their badges.



## From the Principal

**Dr Karen Read**

Welcome to our term three newsletter. Our teaching staff have been very busy supporting all students in achieving their educational goals. To help this, all teachers were trained to support students in setting goals. The setting of goals is an important skill for our students to develop. Being able to have a specific goal to work toward can help with planning, organization and a sense of direction. Achieving goals which have been planned can lead to success and a sense of personal pride.

For all students this is an important time of the year in preparing for a successful end to the school year. For our University bound students, this means preparing for their final exams in November, for our training students this means finishing a Certificate II or III, whilst for our general students it means preparing applications for further education, training or employment. Our Canning Skills students are also working very hard on a range of projects to support them in achieving their goals of completing their secondary schooling.

I wish our year 12 students the very best in preparing for their final WACE exams in November. This is a very important time and I advise them all to spend time wisely in preparing for this final part of their schooling. To those year 12 students who are not doing the WACE exams, I urge them to do the very

best in order that they can achieve the very best results from their course work. This will help them with their post-school goals.

Finally, as I informed all parents in a letter, the Western Australian government has recently announced funding reforms and a reduction in resourcing which will commence in 2014. At this point in time I am still working through the implications of the reforms. I will communicate with all parents the likely impact of these reforms for Sevenoaks. However I want to reassure all parents, students and community members that the quality of our program delivery and service to our students will be maintained through this period of change.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

# Preparing for Work

In Semester 2 our Year 12 Career and Enterprise students prepare for mock interviews. This involves each student having a formal 20 minute interview with a professional in recruitment.

Students are expected to dress appropriately and be prepared to answer a range of questions about themselves and their understanding of the job they are being interviewed for. They also produce a career portfolio of evidence which displays their most recent achievements, awards and certificates. These interviews are invaluable to our course and in developing a certain confidence in our young people

when applying for jobs and courses. Good interview skills are becoming a necessity for the competitive labour market that we live in today and it is important that we prepare our students for this.

As always there is a lot of nervous anticipation by the students, as some have never had a formal interview before. However, our students have all agreed that they got so much from the practice in terms of being able to speak with confidence about themselves to someone they don't know and then reflect on the experience.



# Politics & Law Comes Alive



Learning about politics and law could appear to be a dry and dull course. However, under the guidance of teacher Mrs Joan Reimers, students are learning about the subject through the experiences of practicing politicians, lawyers and academics.

The Stage 1 Politics and Law classroom was very full when Mr Steve Irons, the Federal Member of Swan visited. Mr Irons spoke about his early challenges including being a ward of the state, to playing league football, to his proudest achievement of raising his son as a

single father. His visit gave the students insight into the world of politics and the challenges faced by politicians.

Senior Associate at Allens, Ms Fiona Potter, visited in August to speak about how she became a lawyer. She provided some interesting insight into what could be achieved with some hard work and what it is like to live and practice law in Dubai and Malaysia.

Jim Ashendon, a TAFE lecturer, spoke to the students about the signing of legal contracts. Students showed respect and participated in this rather fun lesson. It was impressive that students took part in dressing up in costumes and carried out minor repairs on Jim's equipment without any complaints!

# WA Hockey Clinic for Students

The Physical Education students are always looking for new sporting challenges. Almost none of the year 11 and 12 students had played hockey before, but they became proficient after a ten week course run by Physical Education teacher Ms Bev Smith.

Three State players from West Australian Hockey ran a 5 week hockey clinic, adding more difficult skills to the

students' repertoires. A previous captain of the Australian Women's Hockey Team, Laurie Packham, volunteered her time to run a goal keeping clinic.

Staff and students were enthusiastic about the final game between the year 11 and the year 12 students. It was the highlight of the course. Competition was fierce but friendly and the year 11 students won.



# Most Valuable Players

Our annual Sports Breakfast was held recently to acknowledge all the students who represented the college this year in an inter-school team.

Students enjoyed a fully cooked breakfast which was then followed by the presentation of the Most Valuable Player (MVP) trophies by the Principal, Dr. Read.

This was also an opportunity to thank all the coaches, managers and helpers which enabled the teams to participate this year.

Congratulations to the following players voted MVP by their coaches:

- Jayden Helwig (Football)
- Molly Husbands (Netball)

- Lauran Morphett (Soccer)
- Montel Millar (Soccer)
- Briana Hayden (Touch Football)
- Jordan Jacob (Touch Football)
- King Fue (Volleyball)
- Jeremiah Grese (Volleyball)

Over 110 students participated in a sporting team this year, which is over 24% of our student population! We have had many successes across the field and much fun was had by all.

We especially would like to mention the efforts of Mr Lynch and Mrs Lynch, who have spent much time in coordinating coaches for teams, managing, taking photos and promoting our College sports.



## WorldSkills Australia Challenge

On August 9, five year 11 Certificate II Automotive students from the Trade Training Centre: Liam Brown, Mathew Crowe, Janet Jumngong, Nathan Lazzarini and Tammeeshya Vokojevich participated in the Automotive Services category of the 2013 WorldSkills Australia Regional Competition. The VETis Challenge is one for students to be the best in their skill area. The competition aims to test the competitors' skills against those of their peers and was open to all schools. Sevenoaks' students performed extremely well, with Tammeeshya and Liam winning gold medals and Nathan awarded a bronze medal.

The students had two weeks to prepare for the competition in the Automotive workshop of the Trade Training Centre. During the competition. The students

were required to complete the following five projects:

- Brake system service
- Wheel bearing service
- Electrical system service
- Cooling system service
- Fitting task

Mr Rob Wood, our Automotive teacher, is very pleased with the performance of all the year 11 students who participated and said that the medal winners may be eligible to compete in the national competition when it is announced later in the year.

Congratulations to the medal winners.



## Mathematics Whizzes

On August 1, thirteen year 11 and 12 Stage 2 and 3 Mathematics students entered the Australian Mathematics Competition, under the guidance of their teacher Ms Sue Leith.

Students from year 3 to year 12 compete on the same day, making it possibly one of the largest single events on the Australian education calendar. It tests everything from basic numeracy skills through to advanced problem solving.

Five of our students obtained a Distinction Certificate:

- Pauline Angkola (top 7% of WA)
- Nathan Gane (top 7%)
- Zuyu Shang (top 12%)
- Mary Young (top 19%)
- Dai Whowell (top 25%)

Other students who received a Credit and Pass were Isabel Zhang, Aldo Mado, Jun Huang, Zach Martin, Leon Ticharwa, Ameliah Toh, Say Say Wah Win and Christian Cereno. The whole group are a testament to hard work and dedication towards their subject. Congratulations and well done!



# Aboriginal Education

## Aboriginal Innovative School

As an Aboriginal Innovative School, Sevenoaks has been working with Yule Brook College to ensure that all Aboriginal students are well supported with their transition from Yule Brook College to Sevenoaks.

Two key programs which have been very important with this transition are Follow the Dream and the Clontarf Football Academy. Students coming from Yule Brook feel a strong sense of belonging due to these programs and the connections which they have made with other students, teachers and support staff.

Our aim is to continue these connections to support all Aboriginal students achieve their goals. A launch of the Aboriginal Innovative Schools plan will be held at Sevenoaks on Thursday October 31. We will be extending invites to all families and we will look forward to your attendance. Sevenoaks and Yule Brook continue to be leaders of best practice for Aboriginal education across Western Australia.

## Follow the Dream

Jennet Hansen, our Follow the Dream (FTD) Coordinator, was recently nominated for the Department of Education leadership award for her role in improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal students. During her time at Sevenoaks, Jennet has coordinated the FTD program whilst implementing the Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme which provides one-to-one tuition for each Aboriginal student.

A fully integrated model operates across the College which enables every student additional support in a range of courses to meet their individual needs. Jennet has accelerated the outcomes for Aboriginal students in achieving positive post-school options. During her time, Jennet has built a program which has proved sustainable and engaging whilst building connections to other schools in the south-east metropolitan region.

The aim of FTD is to support year 12 students to achieve graduation whilst ensuring they move to viable

post-school options. Since 2008, 46 Aboriginal students have graduated from Sevenoaks, 100% of those who were enrolled as year 12 students. Of these students 6 achieved direct entry to University; 9 enrolled in University bridging courses; 11 went to employment; 5 went to further training; 5 achieved traineeships and 2 gained apprenticeships.

Jennet has developed a powerful model of support for students with each student enrolled in the school (approximately 70 annually) receiving tuition from experienced teachers and university students. In addition, her liaison with other schools to support students with FTD tuition has enabled them to effectively transition into Sevenoaks as a year 11-12 campus and continue seamlessly with their education.

Engagement and connections, literacy and numeracy, improved attendance and pathways to real post-school options are all outcomes which Jennet has focused on. The attendance rates of the FTD student has typically been above state attendance, like school results under Jennet's leadership. We congratulate Jennet on her nomination and the outstanding work she has done with FTD.

## Aboriginal Support Program

Our Aboriginal teacher, Kayleen Hayward, has been a strong advocate of support for our Aboriginal students. Kayleen works with families to help them in supporting their children achieve success at the College.

Kayleen frequently visits homes to offer assistance and to ensure students are welcomed into Sevenoaks. She has also been working on the Aboriginal Innovative Schools initiative.

Her knowledge of the cultural practices of Aboriginal people have enabled us to progress our work with the Aboriginal community. This was witnessed in the 2013 NAIDOC Week celebrations that happened in July (see photos left). We have learnt from Kayleen who has been an integral part of success of the Aboriginal Innovative Schools initiative.



NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS



Jennet Hanson



Kayleen Hayward



# Calendar of Events - Term 4 - 2013

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>October</b> <b>1</b>	<b>14</b> Start of Term Four Eid al-Adha Day/Fest	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> ACE Your Exams Yr 11 Visit Exam Venues Yr 12	<b>18</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	Yr 12 Presentation Ceremony Rehearsal (9am) Visit Exam Venues Yr 12	<b>24</b> <b>25</b> Last Day Yr 12 Breakfast and Rehearsal (from 7.30am)
<b>November</b> <b>3</b>	<b>28</b>	Republic Day of Turkey <b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	Aboriginal Innovative Schools Launch (11am) <b>31</b>	School Development Day <b>1</b> No Students
<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	Yr 12 Presentation Ceremony Sat. 16 November 2pm <b>15</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>18</b> Yr 11 Exams	<b>19</b> Yr 11 Exams	<b>20</b> Yr 11 Exams	<b>21</b> Yr 11 Exams	Yr 11 Exams Last Day Yr 11 <b>22</b> Lebanon Independence Day
<b>7</b>	Workplace Learning 2014 Placements Start (2 weeks) <b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Hannukkah Day	<b>29</b> Yr 11 Reports Posted
<b>December</b> <b>8</b>	Yr 10 Orientation All Students <b>2</b>	Yr 10 Orientation All Students <b>3</b>	Yr 10 Orientation ATAR Students <b>4</b>	Yr 10 Orientation ATAR Students Thai National Day & The King's Birthday <b>5</b>	Yr 10 Orientation ATAR Students <b>6</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	School Development Day <b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> End of Term for Teachers	<b>20</b>

**University Applications close Sept. 27**  
**TAFE Applications close Oct. 31**  
 Please see Mrs Earl

**Year 12 Semester 2 Exams**  
 During Term 3 Holidays  
 Tuesday October 3 to Tuesday October 8