



Coming Together in Harmony

On March 19, the College promoted our multicultural diversity with a festival celebrating Harmony Day. Our theme this year was *Everyone Belongs*. "Our College community is very diverse with over 50 different nationalities represented and we openly celebrate and learn about our various traditions and customs", Dr Partridge our College Principal commented.



Sevenoaks celebrates the wealth of cultural knowledge that shares and embraces a peaceful, caring and inclusive campus. Harmony Day is one of the most important days of the College calendar. Highlights of the event included world dance and music performances (including Turkish whirling), bubble soccer, make-your-own wood fire pizza, henna tattooing, African drumming, Indonesian gamelan lessons, international food stalls, native animals and boomerang painting.



Event organiser, Natasha Georgiou, said that the purpose of the day was to "provide an opportunity for our students to come together to celebrate our diverse community". Natasha believes that when students share their cultures, they become proud of their ethnic backgrounds and get to share this with the rest of the school community.

Community organisations were involved in the event and included Communicare,



Medicare Local's Aboriginal health team, Save the Children, Refugee and Migrant services, the Indonesian Consulate and Samaritan's Care Line.

Many thanks to all staff, students, parents and organisations who made this event such a successful and memorable day.

New College App

Last month Sevenoaks launched its free app. This smartphone app has been designed to provide up to date information to parents, students, staff and the community.

This app allows users to:

- Email enquiries directly to the school
- Email student absentees directly to the school
- View the calendar of events and term dates
- Notify you of important school news
- Add important events to your phone calendar
- Receive instant notifications
- Find out about more about important school information
- Keep up to date about careers and employment
- Allows you to send in photos of events



You can download this app now from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. There is also an app available for the iPad.

Year 12 College Ball

The night garden theme selected by last year's ball committee complemented the spectacularly attired Year 12 student group on March 7.

Elaborate table decorations of silk rose petals and candelabras made by the Education Support students, under the tutelage of the talented Mr Merv Alcock,

Student Leadership Camp

The serene environment of Byford set the tone for the first of a two day leadership camp for the newly elected years 11 and 12 Student Guild. It was in this setting that the 13 students were challenged to test their grit and determination to step outside their comfort zone.

A high ropes course, six metres above the ground, tested the students sense of balance and trust. Working in a small group to make a raft capable of floating and bearing the weight of four rowers resulted in success for every single group.

During the evening leadership games helped to unite what promises to be

the College Design & Technology Teacher, set the mood. The evening was well attended with students' self-selected music providing the necessary rhythmic accompaniment to dance the night away. It was a memorable evening notable for the camaraderie and friendship that marks our events.

one of our best Guilds ever.

Congratulations to the Guild of year 11 students: Vito Yusuf, Melissa Staniland, Brayden Jones, Lyndon Issacs, Carlos Englebretsen and Hilman Isvandiar, the year 12 students: Head Girl, Lily Noordin, Head Boy, Poe Ba Blu, Tarsha Ford, Nathan Lazzarini, Pamela Sawie and Sarah Campbell and Aiden Clyde for their successful election to the Guild and their valued participation in the camp.

Thank you to Mrs Cally Nelson and Mr Craig Lynch for their involvement in organising and running the camp and to Mrs Linda Lynch for sharing one night with us.



From the Principal

Dr Kath Partridge

A very warm welcome to Sevenoaks students, families and community members; I do hope you enjoy reading about some of the brilliant College activities that have taken place over the term. Already we have enjoyed several prominent events including the College Ball and our Harmony Day celebration. Both of these events were a huge success. I would like to publically acknowledge the hard work College staff invest into these events to ensure our students experience rich and rewarding extra-curricular activities.

Our annual Harmony Day event continues to expand and evolve. This year's new format for the festival allowed many different events to be staged concurrently providing our staff and students with a variety of cultural experiences.

The 2014 Student Guild participated in a Guild Leadership Camp where each and every member was challenged to participate in activities that really made them think differently. Congratulations to our newly elected Guild members; I look forward to meeting with you over the year.

It was terrific to have the opportunity to speak with parents/guardians and some of our top performing students at last week's Parent Report Evening. I hope that this evening provided parents and students with the opportunity to speak one-on-one with course

teachers so that we can all work together to ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved.

I draw to your attention the College Business Plan that can be located in the 'Downloads' section of our College website (www.sevenoaks.wa.edu.au). Our Business Plan details our College values and priorities and importantly it highlights the specific targets that we are all working towards; targets designed to extend and challenge our students.

I wish our students and families an enjoyable break over the upcoming school holidays and I do hope that I have the chance to meet with you during the year.

Student Success

The 2013 graduating class achieved excellent results in the Western Australian Certificate of Education exams held in November last year. Many students achieved above their predicted Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) with 54 Year 12 students gaining first preference to a university of their choice.



Our year 12 Dux, Amelia Toh (pictured above), achieved an outstanding ATAR of 97.30 with seven other students achieving an ATAR in the 90's:

- Dureti Said
- Pauline Angkola
- Dai Whowell
- Leon Ticharwa

- Ellie Hoyer
- Sonakshi Nayyar
- Steven Nguyen

The following are some insights to their time at Sevenoaks and their academic success.

Dai Whowell, who was accepted into Engineering at Curtin University stated, "The subject teachers encouraged us to improve our grades and pushed us when we are feeling down so as to give us confidence. The teachers are easy to talk to."

Hayley Jacobs (pictured below), who was awarded the top non-ATAR student, attributes her success to "the support from my teachers. We showed mutual respect for each other. I also focused in class."



Scholarship Winners

The College is the benefactor of a major scholarship for students.

The Wayne Lyon Memorial Scholarship provides two students with a \$1000 scholarship each year. This generous scholarship is available to Sevenoaks Senior College for 20 years.

Recently the two recipients of this scholarship were introduced to Tracy Lyon who generously presented each student with their scholarship and a lovely book to mark the occasion.

We were very pleased that Tracy could attend our College assembly to meet the worthy recipients.

The successful scholarship winners are Ba Blu Poe and Sarah Campbell.



A Mandela Encounter in History



Nelson Mandela was a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, politician, and philanthropist who became the first black President of South Africa in 1994 and was an inspirational leader.

The students of Modern History were privileged to share some very special

moments of this great man's life through a meeting with Mr Stanley Kawalsky. The principal lawyer from Kawalsky Lawyers visited the college and spoke to students about the 15 years he spent working for Nelson Mandela.

Mr Kawalsky's personal experience with Mandela while he was imprisoned on Robben Island was moving and we feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to hear first hand some tales of Mandela's life.

Meet Our Board

As an Independent Public School (IPS), Sevenoaks Senior College benefits greatly from the services of a very experienced and dedicated Board.

The College Board comprises nine members and two ex-officio members. Issues discussed at the recent term one Board meeting included 2013 results, College research findings, the new Delivery and Performance Agreement for IPS and College finances. The College Board members are noted below:

Professor Marnie O'Neill, (Board Chair, pictured below) Senior Honorary Research Fellow Graduate School of Education, University of Western Australia

Ken Wyatt, AM, MP Federal Member for Hasluck

Associate Professor Jan Gray, Associate Dean of Research, Edith Cowan University

Professor Ron Dullard, Adjunct Professor University of Notre Dame

Brian Chanter, Engineering & Automotive Training Council Project Manager

Jennifer Brannigan, Portfolio Manager Metals, Energy and Electro-technology

Kath Murray, SSC Staff representative

Chris Jayatilake, Parent representative

Dr Kath Partridge, College Principal

Ex-officio members:

David Proctor, Vice Principal

Tona Lewis, Business Manager and Minutes Secretary



Uni Entry Results

Sevenoaks Senior College was the top state school in WA in regards to how many of our year 12 ATAR students received their first university preferences for 2014.

87% of our 43 students who sat university entrance exams got into the course of their first choice, which was equal third in all schools in the state! A record 100% of students who applied for UWA entrance were successful and 90% for Curtin. These results aptly resonate with our motto of "Find Your Future".

Mrs Brenda Earl offers outstanding career support and advice and has been a significant contributor to our student's university attainment.

Talent Shines at the Art Gallery

Every year the Art Gallery of WA holds the Year 12 Perspectives art exhibition. This is a collection of some of the most talented graduating high school artists in the State. This year Sevenoaks has the privilege of having a student included in this prestigious event. This is a huge honour as only 56 works were chosen for the display.

Ellie Hoyer is a gifted artist who has had one of her paintings chosen; it is a painting of her nana at the age of 14 (simply titled 'Nan', pictured right).

VET Exhibition Award Winner

Benita McGinty, a 2013 year 12 student won an Exhibition Award for Vocational Education and Training, a first for Sevenoaks and an outstanding achievement for Benita.

Benita moved to Perth from her hometown of Fitzroy Crossing at the age of 12 to complete her studies. She has now completed this journey with outstanding results and returns home as an accomplished young woman with a WACE, Certificate II in IT, Certificate II in Business, a series of awards and accomplishments and to top it all a VET EXHIBITION AWARD!

After living on the edge of the Great Sandy Desert, she was initially confronted by the billion dollar engineering company, Monadelphous, where she spent two years on a business School Based Traineeship.

Graduate Sonakshi Nayar (pictured right with Mrs Earl) said she received a place at UWA studying Science thanks to support from Careers Advisor, Brenda Earl.

"The tremendous support that Mrs Earl provided along with the school has created a pathway to my success," she said.

We also had another record at the College with a 100% graduation of all Aboriginal students studying year 12.

Congratulations to all of the staff who worked with our students to ensure they achieved these outstanding outcomes.

Art Teacher, Lynnelle Wilton, states "I have had the honour of teaching Ellie for two years and I can honestly say I have never experienced such a hardworking and dedicated artist. She even attends art classes on the weekends to hone her skills. All of this hard work paid off when she was awarded 100% in her external practical exam."

Visitors to the Gallery will also be able to vote for their favourite artwork in the Santos Year 12 Perspectives People's Choice Award.

From a girl who was used to simple country life she learnt how to work on some of Australia's most complex construction projects in a dynamic business environment.

Benita attributes her success to the strong family support she receives and the help of the Follow the Dream (FTD) Program at Sevenoaks Senior College.

She comments that, "without FTD I would not have done so well. Jennet Hansen (pictured right with Benita) mentored me and followed me throughout my journey, always encouraging me, helping me to apply for different opportunities and making sure I was happy and had all my work done. Now that I have finished my schooling, I want to get into land management and help build our country for our people."





Patrick Ingelman



Rebecca Killeen



Felicity Ivison



Meet Our New Staff

Welcome to our four new teaching staff for 2014. Mr Ingelman, is our new Mathematics teacher. Ms Killeen, teaches in our Canning Skills programs. Mrs Ivison, teaches Geography and Mrs Gilgallon, is one of our Workplace Learning Coordinators.

Patrick Ingelman

I am a high school Maths teacher from Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. I am on a teacher exchange with Ms Suzie Leith for one year at Sevenoaks. I have 15 years of teaching experience, with a background in Maths, Science and Physical Education. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to teach here and I am really enjoying my time in Perth and other parts of Western Australia. When asked about my Canadian accent I often say, "I don't have an accent; I just wish I could speak like an Aussie!"

Rebecca Killeen

I moved to Australia from England almost a year ago. I am originally from Yorkshire. I have been working as a teacher for 6 years in Newcastle, at Burnside Business and Enterprise College. I started teaching Business and Economics. Three years ago I got involved with a programme called

'The Alternative Curriculum', which was a vocational based programme to target students not able to perform in mainstream subjects. This is why I applied for the job in Canning Skills. I have really enjoyed my time here so far. The staff and students are great and have really made me feel welcome. This has been the perfect school to start my Australian teaching career.

Felicity Ivison

I graduated as a teacher in 2009 after a varied career in the public and private sector. After working as a Society and Environment teacher for four years at Southern River College, I was very pleased to come to Sevenoaks to specialise in the subject I love – Geography!!!

Sharon Gilgallon

I have been a teacher with the WA Department of Education for 34 years. I have taught a variety of subjects in both country and metropolitan schools. I have been involved with Vocational Education since 1988 and a Workplace Learning Coordinator for 21 years. I am passionate about Workplace Learning and know how much it can benefit young people.

Snake Handling Workshops

A group of Aboriginal girls in our Canning Skills Program have been having a lot of fun doing a series of workshops on snake handling with people from the Millennium Kids Program and the Public Transport Authority, as well as being supported by Kayleen Hayward, our Aboriginal Support Teacher.

Once the girls have finished the workshops they are going to share their skills on how to handle snakes with a group of Transit Guards at the Public Transport Authority's Guildford office. The sharing of skills learned is part of a program designed to break down communication barriers on the trains and build positive relationships.

Sevenoaks Basketball Team

For the first time in a few years our school has an Interschool Boys' Basketball team. Our team had an amazing start to the season opening up with a 20 point victory over Southern River. To then prove this wasn't a fluke the team backed it up with a seven point win over Rehoboth College and then in our best game for the year had a huge success against Belmont College winning by a massive 40 points!

Leading the way for us was Captain Alex Wilson who was dominating at both ends of the court. Yonas Gebregziabher and Liam Safiotti worked hard bringing

the ball down court and were well assisted by Carlos Vergara and Alec Managuit. Bringing pace and flair into the team was Dylan Ryder and Arnold Punch and defensive players James Omandam, Ethan Bruce and Cedric Anderson were making scoring difficult. After our initial hat trick of wins our team then lost momentum to record three losses. However, with two games left including at least one next term Coaches Anthony Murace and Brad Cox are confident the team can bounce back in the next two games.

Calendar of Events - Term 2 - 2014

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
May 1	28 Start of term 2 for staff	29 Start of term 2 for students	30 Yr 12 UNIPathway Elevate - Time Management 2.40-3.20pm	1	2 Start of Workplace Learning (Y12)
2	5	6	7 Yr 12 UNIPathway UWA Presentation 2.40-3.20pm	8	9
3	12	13	14 Yr 12 UNIPathway Notre Dame Presentation 2.40-3.20pm	15	16 Year 12 UNIPathway Careers Expo
4	19	20 East Timor Independence Day	21	22	23 Year 12 Exams
5	26 Year 12 Exams School Development Day	27 Year 12 Exams	28 Year 12 Exams Ethiopian National Day	29 Year 12 Exams Nigerian Democracy Day	30 Year 11 / 12 Exams Start of Workplace Learning (Y11)
June 6	2 Western Australia Day Public Holiday	3 Year 11 Exams	4 Year 11 Exams	5 Year 11 Exams	6 Year 11 Exams
7	9	10	11 Start of Semester 2 units Yr 12 Murdoch Presentation	12 Phillipines Declaration of Independence Russia Day	13
8	16	17	18	19	20 World Refugee Day
9	23 National Day of Somalia	24	25 Semester 1 Report Night	26	27 Ramadan Begins (Muslim) June 28
July 10	30 Congo Independence Day	1 Canada, Burundi, Rwanda & Somalia National Days	2 Yr 12 UNIPathway UWA Fairway Presentation 2.40-3.20pm	3	4 End of term 2 Independence Day (US)

Semester 1 Report Night

Wednesday 25 June
3pm-6pm

Please attend for report collection and teacher interviews

Careers Expo

What should I do after I finish school?

Find out this answer plus more at the Expo held at the Perth Convention & Exhibition

Centre May 16-18. **Year 12 Exam Students will attend on Friday May 16.**