



MOUNT LAWLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

LAWLEY UPDATE Term 1 No. 4 2014

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Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students and Staff,

Oh what a night, as Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons would say! The school ball was a fabulous success thanks to the efforts of many, but most especially Andrew Ruck in his capacity as Year 12 Coordinator. Congratulations to everyone who contributed to its success. The snow globes and Polaroids (I felt as if I were back in the 80s!) were the hit of the evening with students departing the Hyatt with a kitschy memento of the event. Students behaved in an exemplary manner, the standard of dress was very high, the food of excellent quality and the dancing quite exhausting for those of us over 20! I think that it was the best school ball that I have ever attended.

School Board

Thank you to all who nominated. Voting has been finalised and I am now in a position to congratulate the following people who will be joining our board:

Parent representative: James Watson
P & C representative: Jo Furness
Staff representative: Donna Gardiner
Student representative: India

Our first meeting with the new board is on Monday 24 March and parents/caregivers are reminded that this is the AGM and annual open meeting. I look forward to working with the Board throughout 2014.

Recent events

As always there have been many successful events held recently including the Year 8 Parent barbecue; the Year 8/9 River Cruise; our interim reporting afternoon; the Year 6/7 Parent focus group meeting; the GRIP leadership conference; the MicroBlitz camp; the school ball. Thank you to all staff involved in providing these opportunities to our students and thank you to parents and caregivers for your ongoing support.

Interschool Swimming carnival

Mount Lawley came second in the recent 'B' division interschool carnival. Congratulations to the team who acquitted themselves magnificently. Full credit to students who were asked to "swim up" in order

CONGRATULATIONS



Tianna 1003 has been selected as WA's state representative at the Diving Australian Age National Championships to be held in Melbourne during April.

EVENTS

Monday 24 March 6.30pm School Board AGM and Annual Open Meeting. Conference Room. Main Admin Building.

Tuesday 25 March from 11.30am Photo Catch Up Session, upstairs Main Admin Staff Room, use external stairs.

Wednesday 26 March Year 6 Parent Information Night, 7pm ECU Lecture Theatre 17.157

Thursday 27 March Year 7 Parent Information Night, 7pm ECU Lecture Theatre 17.157

Monday 31 March SVAPA Application Form due Year 6/7.

HAVE YOU TICKED THE OPTIONS IN THE NEW SCHOOL PHONE APP ?



Type in - Mt Lawley SHS in either iTunes Store or the Android Market to download.

THEN YOU MUST GO TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OPTIONS AND TICK WHICH NOTICES YOU WISH TO RECEIVE.

If you fail to tick any announcements then NO NOTICES will be sent to your app even if you have downloaded the app.

Announcement options	
Year 7	✓
Year 8	✓
Year 9	✓
Year 10	✓
Year 11	✓
Year 12	✓
SVAPA	✓
Bush Ranger Cadets	✓
Middle School	✓

Please support our Green initiative by reading the rest of this Update online using the school app or at <http://www.lawley.wa.edu.au/view/newsletters/lawley-update> or P & C Website <http://mlshspc.org.au>



that we had a representative in as many races as possible.

Individual highlights were **Morgan**- Year 11 Champion, **Kiah**-Year 8 Champion and **Liam** -Year 12 Runner-up champion. Bravo to **Samantha & Liam** for leading such a wonderful team. As a result, we will advance to the 'A' division for 2015.



Feedback

I continue to receive feedback from parents and caregivers on our performance as a school and as a team of professionals. This week's positive feedback has come from the parent of a Year 11 student who has indicated that the early closure on Wednesday has made a "tremendous difference... allowing her to be far more organised and at this stage she certainly is achieving very pleasing results." Great to hear!

MicroBlitz

Continuing on with the theme of feedback: recently a select group of our Bush Ranger Cadets visited Albany to participate in the MicroBlitz launch for 2014. I received a letter from the MicroBlitz Manager complimenting our students on their contribution, describing it as "nothing short of outstanding" as they "instructed 50+ workshop participants on how to collect a soil sample". Subsequent emails from other key UWA staff and former Chief Scientist Lyn Beazley endorsed these comments. Bravo to our students, and to Andrew Paul and Bianca Sciberras

who worked with them on this worthy project.

Independent Public School (IPS) review

On Monday 24 March we will experience the first instalment of our IPS review. This involves three independent reviewers visiting our school to discuss our progress against the Delivery and Performance Agreement and our school business plan. This half day is predominantly about setting the context of our school. The team will meet with some staff, the Board Chairperson and the P & C President. We will provide the reviewers with considerable documentation to take away and read in readiness for the full two day visit that will occur in Week 9.

OLNA

The Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA) testing has been occurring over the past fortnight. Thanks go to all involved, in particular Karen Mortlock who is our OLNA Supervisor, Steve Raphael and Belinda Derby and all of the staff who have accommodated room changes.

I thought that some background to OLNA might be useful for the viewers at home. As part of the new WACE in 2016, students have to demonstrate an acceptable standard of literacy and numeracy. There are a number of ways in which students can meet this requirement. One is through NAPLAN testing in Year 9. Students who have achieved Band 8 (on a scale of 10 bands) in NAPLAN are deemed to have met the literacy and numeracy requirements. Those students who have not are required to sit the OLNA tests. We have been advised that students will have numerous opportunities to sit the OLNA. Currently it is in March and September each year.

What are the key messages for students and their families? Firstly, NAPLAN testing is significant for a further reason now. Achieving Band 8 will mean that students do not have to sit OLNA in Year 10 or subsequent years. Secondly, failure to pass OLNA tests will mean that students will be ineligible to achieve a WACE. There have been cases in the past fortnight where students have been unable to take



Mt Lawley Bush cadets with MicroBlitz team leader W/Professor Andy Whiteley and former Chief Scientist Professor Lyn Beazley



Mt Lawley Bush cadets taking soil samples for the MicroBlitz project



up any of the opportunities provided this round to sit the OLNA tests. I encourage families to remind their Year 10 children that these tests are important and that it is in their best interests to perform as well as they possibly can.

Attendance

Our focus on attendance continues. As part of the high standards that we have at Mount Lawley we do expect that students will attend every day (unless ill or there is a very good reason) and that they are punctual. This is also part of preparing students for a world beyond school where there are also expectations about attendance and punctuality. All of the evidence shows us that there is a direct correlation between high attendance and good achievement at school. It is very difficult to ensure that students are afforded exposure to the full extent of curriculum when their attendance is either irregular or interrupted by absences. The recent introduction by the Department of Education of the 'K' code that "identifies students whose parents have taken them on an in-term holiday" is further demonstration of the requirement of schools to be vigilant in monitoring carefully student attendance.

Communication

Our website continues to be updated regularly as is our App. Increasingly we are using these key methods of communicating with our school and wider community.

Year 7 Transition

We continue to work closely with our local intake area parents and caregivers. The Year 6/7 Parent Focus Group meeting was very positive with great discussion and very positive feedback received for the work that we are doing in ensuring that Year 7s will be afforded a supportive and fun secondary experience in 2015. Thank you to all involved, particularly Michael White, Associate Principal of the Middle School, for his meticulous organisation. Parents on the night gave us some great suggestions for additional information that we can incorporate in our presentations on Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 March in the lecture theatre at ECU. I look forward to seeing you there.

Have a lovely fortnight.

Lea Fairfoul-Hutcheon, Principal

PHOTO CATCH UP DAY NOW TUESDAY 25 MARCH....

Reminder that those students who were absent on Thursday will have the opportunity to have their photograph taken on Tuesday FROM 11.30am upstairs in the Main Admin Building. Remember to use the external doors. All students will be photographed for school records, so if your child was absent can you please ensure that they attend their catch up session. Spare envelopes can be obtained from the Main Administration Office.

Orders for the School sporting and other group photographs, such as councillors, which were taken on Thursday can be ordered once the photographs are delivered to the school. An order form will be provided to your students from the photographer outlining how to order these group photographs.

Mt Lawley SHS Year 6 & 7 Parent Information Nights

Wednesday 26 March Year 6 Parent Information Night,

7pm ECU Lecture Theatre 17.157

Thursday 27 March Year 7 Parent Information Night,

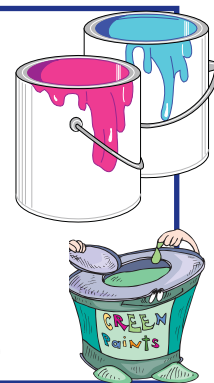
7pm ECU Lecture Theatre 17.157



WANTED PAINT POTS!
Design and Technology
Department require
pots of sample paints!

(Water Based House Paint)

Please drop off @ Main Admin Office



SAVE THE DATE

Lawley Art Auction is on Saturday, 14 June 2014. Now in its 11th year, the Lawley Art Auction is the School's major fundraiser for the art and music departments. Featuring original art by WA artists from the wider arts community, the Auction relies on sponsorship, whether cold, hard cash or in-kind. If you are able to assist please contact Michele McDonald sponsorship@lawleyevents.com

REMINDER

2014 CHARGES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to all the parents/guardians that have paid their child's Charges and Voluntary Contributions account.

We would like to remind those who have not yet paid that payment can be made at the Main Administration Office weekdays between 8:15am and 4:00pm using cash, cheque, credit card, EFTPOS or mailed to the school. Alternatively, you may wish to pay direct to the school's bank account. Details are as follows:

Name: Mount Lawley Senior High School
Bank: Commonwealth Bank
BSB: 066:118
Account number: 00900116

Please include your child's **full name**, Form class and a brief description eg Jones Tom 12H3 C&Cs.

Should you have any queries regarding your account or if you would like to discuss time payment options please contact the school's Finance Officer, Mrs Raddiah Evans on 9471 0302.

MS River Cruise



School Ball





Parent Focus Article

The Learning Curve™

WEEK 7

Middle – Reviewing Your Notes Senior – Reviewing Your Notes

**These articles are to be used
with the School Diary which
has been supplied by the
P & C Association**

Learning Goals - at the end of this week your child should have:

- An appreciation of the importance of planned and logical summarising and reviewing routines in their learning.
- A willingness to investigate further summarising techniques and a positive growth mindset to review their notes each day, week, month and Term.
- A proactive attitude to use the weekly Habits of Mind and Thinking Tools to strive, thrive and flourish in their living, learning and thinking.

Value for Life – Initiative

Identify three positive behaviours which show Initiative at home, then at school and then in the community.

Wellbeing Focus

Taking accurate and comprehensive notes is an essential component for high level student understanding and achievement. More importantly, these notes have to be reviewed regularly to embed them in students' long term memories.

Following are facts relating to how much the brain retains:

- Should notes not be reviewed within 24 hours, 60% to 80% of the learnt material is forgotten by the brain
- After a month with no reviews, only 3% to 4% is remembered
- When the brain doesn't see learnt material regularly, it doesn't see it as important because there are no patterns and as such 'dumps' it.
- When 50 minutes of learning is not reviewed regularly, it takes 30 to 40 minutes to relearn it – why learn it in the first place?

As renowned Polish pianist, Ignace Paderewski, once said, "If I miss one day's practice, I notice it. If I miss two day's practice, the critics notice. If I miss three days practice, the audience notices it."

Whereas when the material is continually revisited, the brain sees it as important because there are patterns. Real learning occurs when students are required to retrieve it regularly through reviewing. An excellent way to review notes is to use the interactive online Learning Curve Thinking Tools to organise the learnt material visibly in students' brains.

Students regularly train for sport and practise their musical instruments to improve their skills and capabilities; the brain is no different.

"I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand." Confucius



Parent Focus Article

WEEK 8

Middle – Notes from Teachers
Senior – Notes from Speakers/ Teachers

These articles are to be used
 with the School Diary which
 has been supplied by the
 P & C Association

Learning Goals - at the end of this week your child should have:

- An understanding of how they gather knowledge through all of their senses and an enhanced capability to recognise messages being sent through body language, verbal cues and voice tones.
- A self awareness of when they are and when they are not in the learning zone.
- A proactive attitude to use the weekly Habits of Mind and Thinking Tools to strive, thrive and flourish in their living, learning and thinking.

Value for Life – Responsibility

Identify three positive behaviours which show Responsibility at home, then at school and then in the community.

Wellbeing Focus

Cultivating conscious habits in our students to adapt how they learn and think for differing situations will build their positive growth mindsets to even greater heights. They gather information through all of their senses but may not have the self awareness to realise that they are. It is important to explicitly teach students how to be in the learning zone and adopt “active and questioning” approaches in class; being mindful of what is happening moment by moment. Very few students will naturally pick up these valuable lifelong learning dispositions along the way.

Building students’ capacity to listen with their eyes, their ears and their hearts will enable them to absorb and question the main messages and how they connect with what they already know. This in turn provides them with opportunities to extend their current reality and pursue areas of interest.

Activities focused on students learning how to read body language, listening for verbal cues and changes in voice tones to emphasise certain points, build students’ mindfulness to be in the moment; they are learning how to learn.

Encouraging students to explore and follow their natural curiosity will nurture ‘can do’ and ‘want to’ dispositions in them.

Asking themselves questions such as the following ones builds their connections with the subject material, “How does this connect with what I already know?”, “How can I use this knowledge?” “How can I apply it to new situations?” “How can I make predictions based on this knowledge?”

Arriving at class, sitting quietly and hoping that the brain will somehow absorb knowledge is non-productive and disengaging for students. Encouraging students to participate and contribute enthusiastically in class will yield increased understanding, better comprehension and a more enjoyable learning experience all round.

According to Yoram Harpaz, a noted Israeli educator, to prepare 21st century learners for a life of learning, we must move away from the 20th century classroom belief that learning is listening, teaching is telling and knowledge is an object to be transferred. Our classrooms need to become places of adventure, experimentation and exploration that arouse our students’ curiosity to flourish.

“Learning is not the filling of the bucket, but the lighting of the fire.” Saying

Parent Focus Article

WEEK 9

Middle – Drafting and Timelines
Senior – Essays, Drafting and Timelines

These articles are to be used
 with the School Diary which
 has been supplied by the
 P & C Association

Learning Goals - at the end of this week your child should have:

- An appreciation of the importance of adopting positive growth mindsets to create planned timelines in their lives and learning.
- An understanding of how to break up tasks, allocate the required amount of time to complete each of them and a willingness to devote planning time to set detailed timelines and then stick to them.
- A proactive attitude to use the weekly Habits of Mind and Thinking Tools to strive, thrive and flourish in their living, learning and thinking.

Value for Life – Logic

Identify three positive behaviours which show Logic at home, then at school and then in the community

Wellbeing Focus

In all of their subjects students are required to complete sections of learning at home and in other settings such as the library and on excursions. In many cases students don’t have the resourcefulness on their own to set timelines to follow and plan what, when and how they are going to do it.

This weekly focus goes beyond their study timetables to looking at setting explicit drafting timelines to complete essays, assignments and other learning requirements at home and in other settings. Learning how to set flexible planning schedules and implementing them will cultivate in students can do and want to attitudes.

Home Learning and learning in places other than in the classroom are key elements in the establishment of an efficient study program and effective time management habits. Students learn from a vast variety of sources and experiences and to make connections to what they already know they require individual time away from class to reflect on it. Their confidence in how they allocate their time is the key ingredient.

Students need to set timelines for tasks such as:

- Completing unfinished learning from the school day.
- Practising further subject material to reinforce and consolidate the concepts in their minds. (If they can do it at home on their own, then they know it.)
- Connecting with and applying new knowledge learned to new situations.
- Revising what they have learnt in order to store it in their long term memory tanks to retrieve later for exams/ tests and other situations.
- Summarising and reviewing notes from class; timelines are a must here.
- Going off on tangents which interest them and investigating new possibilities to explore and experiment with.
- Reading, researching, evaluating, reflecting, thinking and imagining.

Cultivating in children a genuine love of learning through their natural curiosity is an attribute which will benefit them for life.

“People with purpose create their own lives.” Michael Morgan





COMMUNITY NOTICES

The following information is presented as a service to parents, however, Mount Lawley SHS does not recommend, endorse or promote these providers



Not-for-profit Tutoring Centre – Teach Learn Grow

Teach Learn Grow (TLG) is a not-for-profit organisation with a Tutoring Centre that provides tutoring services to Perth students. All proceeds from the tutoring centre go towards providing free tutoring and mentoring to disadvantaged rural and indigenous primary students in our successful Rural Program.

At TLG, we cater for students of all levels and provide individualised tutoring plans tailored to the ability of each student. Students are given structured notes, study tips and exam strategies to enhance their academic performance. All tutors register are from the top 4% of the state, including the Beazley Medallist, General Exhibition winners, Certificate of Distinction winners and school Duxes.

To register your interest, please visit www.teachlearngrow.com.au/tutoringcentre/ or contact us directly on (08) 9449 5668 or at tutoringcentre@teachlearngrow.com.au

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA | A CENTURY OF ACHIEVEMENT

A Day in the Life

APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Gain valuable insight into a typical day at university for a UWA student and explore the range of options available for your chosen course.

We will be holding the following 'A Day in the Life of...' events for students in Years 11 and 12 in the upcoming April school holidays:

- **Music – Monday 14 April**
- **Landscape Architecture – Monday 14 April**
- **Health Sciences – to be confirmed**

Online applications are open now!

<http://www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/about/events/year-12-students/DITL>

Applications close, 7 April 2014

For further information or to request an application form, contact:

Alison Chan

Prospective Students Adviser

achieve international excellence



Modernians Hockey Club

Enrol Now for season 2014!

Mods is a family friendly club who cater for all skill levels.

We run teams that for Pre-primary to Year 12 students.

We are actively recruiting girls currently in years 8 - 12. Training is held Thursday night in North Perth and games are either Saturday or Sunday morning. Hockey is a great way to meet new people, keep fit and no experience is needed.

Still not sure? try a training session or bring a friend.

Come and join the exciting game of hockey.

For more information:

Call: Jenny Rowbottom on 0409010941

Email: modsfnhockey@gmail.com

Website: www.modernianshockey.org

Modernians Hockey Club
Charles Veryard Reserve
Bourke Street, North Perth

Do you want to maximise your school results?

ENROL NOW IN OUR

April WACE and Skills Development Program

Years 7 – 12



Various subjects – Various Times – Study Skills – Essay Writing
14 – 17 April 22 – 24 April & 26 – 27 April 2014

Churchlands SHS, Perth Modern School and Rossmoyne SHS

Enrol with full payment before the 28th March and receive 10% discount

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