



newsletter

Term 1 - 2012

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we move close to the end of term, I am happy to report that Term 1 has been a very full and busy term for students and staff. In particular, our Year 8 students have made a very successful start to their secondary school studies and our Year 12 students have been working with a great sense of purpose in their approach to this important final year. For our Year 12 students, the college year is relatively short and the importance of working consistently from the very first part of the year and staying focused on the goal of achieving the requirements for the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) becomes very critical. Some of our Year 11 and 12 students will be striving for entrance to university, whilst others will be looking towards TAFE entry or employment opportunities. Whatever the goal, there is much information acquired. The Wednesday Period 3 program for our upper school students seeks to provide this information and each Wednesday a different topic is covered to maximise student achievement.

Year 8s

The Year 8 Family Night was held on 28 February in the Paterson Quad. A good time was had by all; students, parents and teachers alike. It was a great opportunity for parents to meet and greet the teachers in a fun and friendly atmosphere. There was a good turn out of families and teachers and it is obvious that we have a fantastic group of Year 8 students at John Forrest Secondary College.

Student Achievement

On 9 February the college conducted the first assembly for the year celebrating the outstanding achievements of our 2011 senior school students. Successful Curriculum Council Award winners from 2011 were invited back to the college to receive recognition of their significant achievements.

The following students received:

Certificate of Distinction:

Vivian Chen; Certificates of Excellence: Vivian Chen, Ann Marie Edwards, Claudia McGrath, Kathline Ochea, Beau Redwood, and Martin Tanner;

The following students received an ATAR score above 90:

Finn Macleod, Claudia McGrath, Dylan McHugh-Graham, Melody Motearefi, Mustii Nure, Andrew Philp, Carina Pirozzi, Beau Redwood, Revender Sarai and Martin Tanner.

In addition, the successful Year 8 ACP Scholarship recipient, Erica Ketterer, was recognised in front of parents, teachers and her peers at the assembly.

Students were encouraged to set personal goals in their work and to work hard to achieve these goals. It was stressed to students *"Natural ability is only one contributing factor to achieving well at school. A positive attitude, effort and sincerity in doing the best you can are equally important factors that contribute to achieving good results."*

Attendance

It was also highlighted to students the importance of attending school. This year the college is focused on achieving 90% and above attendance for all students. The required attendance levels at 90% is critical. We know an attendance rate below this impacts on achievement success. It is very important that students are at school. Family holidays outside the normal school holidays should be avoided and need to be negotiated with the college. Please contact Mr Walsh (Year 8-10) or Mr Nuich (Year 11-12) to discuss planned absences outside the school term.



Student Leaders

Our new student leaders have made an excellent start to their turn in office. They began the year playing a key role in the college assembly, the 50th Anniversary celebration and assisting with the College Ball preparations. Congratulations to our college student leaders: Faye Baker, Simon Crow, Joseph Bangura, Jo Brown, Bonnie Crabtree, Eliza McGuiness, Hazwani Raymond and Alex Walker-Slaven.

Our Head Girl, Faye Baker and Head Boy, Simon Crow, had the privilege of being invited and attending the Community Luncheon with State Cabinet Ministers held at the Morley Sports & Recreation Centre on 12 March.

2012, our 50th Anniversary Year, promises to be an exciting year as we celebrate our past and continue our journey as an Independent Public School. We hope you will be actively involved in both the college and in your child's educational journey. We extend a welcome to you for all college events, assemblies, carnivals, P & C Meetings, as a volunteer and parent evenings. We always encourage your input and feed back—get involved—we are stronger when we work together.

Judy Silbury, Principal

AUSTRALIAN TRAINING AWARDS 2011 WINNER
SCHOOL PATHWAYS TO VET AWARD
www.australiantrainingawards.gov.au

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dates are Subject to Change—Please check the John Forrest website for recent updates (*Important Dates/Dates for Parents*)

Public Holiday—25 April.
Students commence school—26 April.
CAPs Meeting—7 May.
Year 5/6/7 Parent Information Evening—8 May.
Year 6/7 Netball Trials (1)—9 May.
Year 6/7 Tennis Trials—9 May.
Year 10 Lightning Carnival—10 May.
Information Evening (Year 10)—17 May.

Assembly—18 May.
P & C Meeting—22 May.
Year 6/7 Netball Trials (2) - 25 May.
Year 10 Examinations—21-25 May.
Anniversary Concert—25 May.
Work Experience (Year 10) - 28 May-1 June.
Year 11/12 Examinations—28 May-8 June.
College Board Meeting—29 May.

Public Holiday—4 June.
CAPs Meeting—18 June.
Assembly—20 June.
Bush Ranger Camp—21/22 June.
UK Cricket Trip—28 June-14 July.
Mid Year Music Concert—29 June.
Students last day—6 July.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

It has been a busy start to 2012 for the Student Council.

The year began with a team building day in the John Forrest Cottage. During the day the Student Councillors got to know each other with ice breakers, team building games, problem solving and planning activities.

Valentine's Day followed soon after. The Councillors sold and delivered roses and hearts with attached messages to many students. Then it was the organisation of the first College Assembly for the year, where our past Year 12 high achieving students were welcomed back.

Later that day in honour of the College's 50th Anniversary, the Councillors ran sausage sizzles in each quad for students and staff. Thank you to Phil Glossop, Helen Watson, Kevin Fletcher and Kristian Lie for cooking the sausages.

In week 7 the Councillors concentrated their efforts on Crazy Hair Day, entertaining students with witty and well written advertisements on the PA system and spraying their hair a rainbow of colours to raise money for leukaemia.

This year, apart from raising money for many worthy causes like cancer, the Student Council aim to raise enough money to buy a new lectern for the John Forrest stage. This has been a three year project and it is hoped to present the college with the lectern at the final Year 12 assembly early in Term 4.

Lori Redwood, 2012 Student Council

YEAR 8s SETTLE INTO COLLEGE LIFE

The Year 8 students have begun their journey into secondary school with a very positive yet busy start. A number of the students are currently participating in our specialist programs such as netball, tennis and cricket and travelling to other schools and venues for competitions. Some students attended the Bush Rangers camp in week 7.



All Year 8 students had the opportunity to attend an activities day at Whiteman Park on 23 February.

This involved students being allocated to a group and embarking on a range of activities such as cricket, earth games and bush walking. The students went "all aboard" on the Whiteman Park train and completed a quiz on the facilities of the park. The aim of the day was a "getting to know you" theme and many new friendships were formed on the day.

A week later, on 28 February many Year 8 families attended a welcome



BBQ at the college and had the opportunity to meet the staff of the college and other Year 8 families. It was a fantastic evening as we were spoilt by the kind weather and enjoyed the fantastic sausage sizzle cooked by Mr Glossop and Mr Clarke.

Throughout the term the Year 8 students have participated in the Peer Support Program with the Year 11 students providing leadership at a group level. It has been a wonderful chance for the students to get to know each other better and also build some connection to the older students of the college.

Well done to the Year 8 students on such an impressive start to high school. You have done yourselves and your families proud.

Helen Watson, Year 8 Coordinator

PEER SUPPORT BBQ

The Peer Support Program for 2012 culminated with a BBQ held on Wednesday 28 March in the Paterson Quad to thank all students involved in the program.

The Peer Support Program involved Year 11 students mentoring a group of Year 8 students for six weeks, to help them become familiar with the college and get to know each other. This process is an important

part of Year 8 transition into high school.

Thank you to all the students involved for making this program a success and many thanks to Mr Glossop for his continual support.

Glendah Migro, Year 11 Coordinator



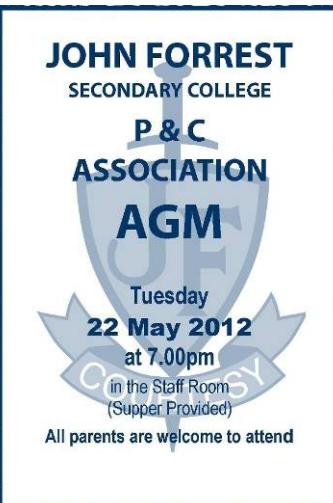
INTERIM REPORTING AFTERNOON

On the 28 March parents and guardians were invited to an Interim Reporting Afternoon where they had an opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss the progress of their children following the recent mail out of Interim Reports.

The new electronic system for making appointments was again a successful initiative and teachers schedules were full within days of the link being made available on the website.

The reporting afternoon was a great success with parents/guardians and teachers expressing positive feedback.

Parents who were unable to make an appointment for the reporting afternoon are encouraged to contact individual teachers to make an appointment.



STAFF CAR PARK

Parents and Guardians are reminded not to use the Staff parking area for dropping off and picking up students.

Thank you for your cooperation.

ACP—MEANS EXCELLENCE—ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE PROGRAM (AEP)



Change of Name

The Academic Excellence Program is an extension program which aims to engage students with materials that are complex and challenging and provides students with an environment in which high levels of thinking can be practised. Students are engaged in critical thinking games and stimulating assignments to achieve their full academic potential.

This program was formerly known as the Academic Challenge Program and following discussions at the College

Board meeting held in February it was decided to rename the program for 2012.

Scholarships in 2013

Six scholarships will be offered in 2013 to able Year 7 students applying for the Academic Excellence Program who demonstrate outstanding academic ability and citizenship qualities. Each scholarship recipient will receive a \$600 voucher to cover Year 8 Charges and Voluntary Contributions and Laptop Loan lease payments.

For further details and an application form please contact Mr Brad Walsh at John Forrest Secondary College. T: 9473 4000 or E: brad.walsh@det.wa.edu.au.

Year 9 AEP Excursion

The Year 9 AEP class were fortunate to visit the Francis Burt Law Centre and Lyric Duckett and Jack Hartland wrote of their experience:

"This term in our Year 9 Academic Challenge Program Society & Environment class we have been learning about law and politics with

Mr Plimmer. We have learned about all the different types of laws and how the courts operate.

On Wednesday 28 March we went on a class excursion to the Western Australian District and Supreme Courts. We arrived at about 10 00am, where we met our two tour guides Dean and Sarah. We then split up into two groups and went our separate ways. My group went with Dean to see a live court in session. Before we got to see the court he briefed us on what it was about and took us to an empty courtroom. Everyone was put in different areas of the room and he explained who sat where. After this we were ready to see the live court in session! The room we walked into was much bigger than the room Dean had shown us earlier and we were greeted by the terrifying glare of a tattoo riddled Rebel Bikie gang member. We stayed in the room for about half an hour, listening to the witness being questioned. There was a particularly funny incident that he recalled involving a nappy, but I don't think you need to hear the details! Dean then signalled that it was time for us to leave and back to the Supreme Court we ventured.

We were led to an old, fairly small building outside the Supreme Court and Dean showed us inside and explained how it was in fact the oldest building in Perth, having finished construction in 1836. It was also the biggest building at that time. Inside a bunch of costumes awaited us, as well as scripts from the famous John Gaven case. We all selected our roles and had the pleasure of acting out the entire session. Dean was taking action shots of us, and some of us weren't too shy of the camera. It was very interesting to see how cases were addressed. Once we finished Dean asked the class to give our verdict. Everyone thought John Gaven was innocent, but Dean had much delight in informing us that we were incorrect. John Gaven was the first European to be hung in Western Australia. Unfortunately our time was up and we had to leave the Supreme Court Gardens and go back to school. Thanks Mr Plimmer for organising such an informative and entertaining excursion."

College Ball official photos available www.paulsphotopres.com/johnforrest.

YEAR 12S VISIT A WINTER WONDERLAND



Our Year 12 students celebrated their College Ball at the Fraser's Function Centre in Kings Park on Friday 30 March. On their arrival at 6.45pm the dazzling group of young ladies and gentlemen looked stunning dressed in beautiful ball gowns and smart suits. They were welcomed into a *Winter Wonderland* with the backdrop of the spectacular Perth skyline. A perfect setting!

The guests gracefully made their way down the staircase and walked the red carpet as they entered the function room where they were treated to pre-dinner mocktails and canapés as they admired the beautiful views of the Swan River and the lights of the city. Photographers were in attendance and the guests quickly made their way to have photos taken as mementos of this special occasion. A delicious buffet dinner and desserts were served and enjoyed by all. Dining and formalities over, the guests went on to dance the night away. Special thanks go to the Ball Committee who worked

tirelessly to make sure that the night was perfect and the John Forrest staff who attended and ensured that the night went smoothly. A big thank you to Mrs Petrice Shannon (decorations), Ms Angela Trees (tickets), Miss Veronica Van Den Bogert (awards) and Mrs Suzie Martinelli (mementos) for all their help with Ball organisation.

College Ball Awards 2012

Belle of the Ball Joanna Brown
Beau of the Ball Brendan Campbell
Best Bling Nina Zupins-Hodgson
Best Tie Joseph Bangura
Best Hair (Female) Chloe Newman
Best Hair (Male) Joseph Bangura
Cutest Couple Karry Goodhue & Riccardo Fernandes
Best Dancers- Emmanuel Linares & Joseph Bangura

Charmaine Baker, Year 12 Coordinator



BUSH RANGER NEWS

Bush Ranger Camp Term 1

Bush Rangers enjoyed three days in the bush during Term 1. They were involved in a variety of activities aimed at promoting an understanding of biodiversity and the importance of caring for endangered species. Cadets helped to trap animals and record their details. They also observed the Ranger tagging previously uncaught animals.

Bush Ranger Cadets participated in night walks and the feeding program at Barnamia. They were also able to utilise their artistic talents, creating landscape sketches using ochre and charcoal and their navigational skills to uncover buried treasure (YUM).

The Cadets demonstrated the extent of their domestic skills with food preparation, cooking and clean up (we have evidence). We also discovered that some are very good with a sewing needle and those who weren't still gave it a go. Amongst our group we also have many talented singers and dancers.

A great time was had by all and on behalf of the instructors I would like to say thank you to a great group of young people.



Minister's Visit

On 12 March the staff and Bush Ranger Cadets were fortunate to receive a visit from Robyn McSweeney, Minister for Youth Affairs. Minister McSweeney was very interested to hear about the Bush Ranger Program at John Forrest and the activities the cadets were involved in. She was shown a video on Bush Ranger recruitment and watched the cadets perform their drills. The staff and many of the cadets had the opportunity to chat to Minister McSweeney about their involvement in the program.

Colleen Michel, Bush Ranger Coordinator

2012 KAGOSHIMA VISIT



John Forrest Secondary College was delighted to host sixteen students from Kagoshima National College of Technology for six days this March. The students arrived on the afternoon of Tuesday 15 March and went directly to our college for orientation and to meet host families.

Many thanks to our host buddies Natasha Wockner, Megan Smith, Jade Jackson, Tommy Nguyen, Harshad Hirani, Jesse Winsor, Ben Dawson, Hilmi Abdul, Denzel Paul, Caleb O'Sullivan, Rory Brice, Brandon Smith, Hima Veernala, Noa Warner, Rhys Harman,

Tristan Broadbridge, Skye Beales, Henry Mills and Tiana Marius who gave a college tour and participated in exchange lessons and ceremonies. In particular, Harshad impressed all with his perfectly pronounced short welcome speech in Japanese.

Our visiting friends enjoyed a range of activities across John Forrest Secondary College including ESL, robot making, origami, Cricket, Dance, language exchange and a range of other exchange lessons with their buddies. Thank you to all teachers and students who supported the exchange visit to make it such a success.

This is Kagoshima Kosen's second visit to our college. We very much appreciate hosting families for giving our visitors such a friendly home-stay experience. We are happy to hear that it was so rewarding for you also. Unfortunately it is always difficult to secure enough host families for each Japanese exchange visit to our college. If your family is considering hosting at a later date, please register your interest via email at Philip.chadwick@iinet.net.au.

Phil Chadwick, Head of The Arts



JAPANESE ASSISTANT TEACHER PROGRAM

We have been very fortunate to continue to attract wonderful Japanese assistant teachers to our college to enrich the Japanese language program. Ms Momoko Kawai has been assisting us since the beginning of the year, offering creative lesson ideas, producing resource materials and providing language and cultural expertise.

Students are enjoying interacting with Ms Kawai, learning about Japan and practising their Japanese speaking skills and writing skills. Ms Kawai has been especially helpful in providing a second voice for the Nekochan video series that has been uploaded onto YouTube as a resource for our students. Ms Kawai has also created name cards for all students so they can view each others name in English and Japanese.

Thank you Ms Kawai for all you have done to enrich the Japanese program at our college. We hope your are successful in your aim to return to Perth to undergo postgraduate studies. *Mr Chadwick, Japanese Teacher*



STEP UP PROGRAM NEWS

Garden Project

The Step Up Program garden project forms a major part of the Step Up students' Life Skills Course. The students to date have weeded, planted and cultivated; corn, beetroot, carrots, parsnips and artichokes and also have olives, oranges, avocados and grapes growing.

During Term 2 as well as continuing to develop the garden, students will begin to propagate seedlings in the hot/shade house that is currently being repaired, ready for autumn planting.

Bunnings Morley donate to the Garden Project

Late in Term 1 following a request from the Step Up Program, our local Bunnings Store in Russell Street Morley generously donated a significant amount of broken bags of fertilizer, soil improver potting mix and lawn improver together with other items that will be used to help the Step Up students with their garden project.

Greg Joyce, Step Up Coordinator

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION LEARNING AREA NEWS



Inter house swimming carnival

In week 5 the college ran the inter house carnival at Bayswater Waves. As always the events were strongly contested with students giving their all to swim to the best of their ability. At the end of event only one point separated the winning house. The final house results were Hasluck 231, Stirling 329, Giles 416, and the winning team Mitchell on 417.

Special thanks needs to go to the Year 12 helpers, Mr Christou for computer input for the day, Mr Glossop for his help throughout the day and Ms Silsbury who came and watched a number of events and presented the Shield.

The individual points score for the age groups are as follows and congratulations to these students for an outstanding carnival.

Under 13

Champion:	Erica Ketterer	Ryan Douglas
Runner-Up:	Jasmyn Hesford	David Serra

Under 14

Champion:	Shanelle McCullaugh	Sean Hill
Runner-Up:	Keira McNamee	Meihana Broadbridge

TENNIS NEWS

Tennis Match Play Day

In week 4 the Tennis students were involved in a match play day where students across all year groups had the opportunity to compete against each other in a round robin singles competition. All students involved played great tennis in excellent playing conditions. A special thanks needs to go to Tongie Quartermaine and James Cartledge who helped in the running of the day's competition.



Tennis Vs PSA Schools

During the term the Tennis students had the opportunity to compete against Scotch College and Christchurch Grammar. All students involved had a terrific time and experienced some great and even competition tennis, playing both doubles and singles matches. These types of competition have been scheduled to become a regular event on the tennis calendar and offer the tennis students a great opportunity to test their skills against other schools.

Under 15

Champion:	Lily Zupins-Hodgson	Alex Downey
Runner-Up:	Holly O'Neill	Keon Bown

16 Years

Champion:	Amelia Trenaman	Leon Wormuth
Runner-Up:	Nina Zupins-Hodgins	Tongie Quartermaine

Interschool Swimming

Approximately 60 students attended the interschool swimming Carnival held at Challenge Stadium on Wednesday which included competitors and student helpers. The college competed against six other schools from around the metropolitan area and one country district was also involved. John Forrest had representatives in all the events and all the students competed to the best of their ability. Special mention must be made of Matthew Hart who won the Champion Boy for his age group and Lily Zupins-Hodgson who was runner up in her age group. Well done to all students that attended and represented the college in a very positive and competitive manner.

John Campbell, Head of Health & Physical Education



Slazenger Cup and Herbert Edwards Cup

The tennis students performed very well in the Slazenger and Herbert Edwards Cup held at the State Tennis Centre and Belmont Park Tennis Club with over 100 teams competing across all the events. The boys' teams performed extremely well with three teams qualifying for the play off. The boys' team 1 played off in the Division 1 finals play off with all the players playing fantastic tennis. The team consisted of Alex Downey, Jason McGlew, Radu Vaidean and Seth Lansdown. Team 2 reached the final of the Mursell Shield narrowly missing out on winning the event when they lost two tie breakers in very close matches. This team consisted of Tyson Cooper, Steven Millar, Thanh Pham and Riley Cinquina. The girls' Slazenger Cup Team 1 finished third in their pool.

John Campbell, Head of Health & Physical Education

CRICKET NEWS

John Forrest Second at Inaugural Dalyellup 20/20 Competition

A team of Year 10 and 11 Cricket Academy students travelled to Dalyellup, south of Bunbury, and played games over two days on the 27 and 28 March. The boys came second in the carnival with the highlight being a win over Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School (BCG) in the final game.

Stand out performances were Ben Lynn's 69 off 48 balls against BCG, Rhys Hopper's batting (29) and bowling (3/4) against Dalyellup College and Arun Kamaraju Shanthi's consistent bowling over the two days.

Mr Knuckey from Dalyellup praised the John Forrest team for their sportsmanship and quality efforts in the field.



20/20 against Thornlie Senior High School

On Thursday 29 March the Year 8 Cricket Academy students played the annual 20/20 game against Thornlie Year 8 and 9 students. The game was played in fantastic spirit and the John Forrest team played well. In a very exciting game John Forrest were defeated by one run!

Cricket Trials

On 2 April John Forrest, together with four other specialist cricket schools, held the annual specialist program cricket trials at the WACA. Students from Years 5, 6 and 7 were invited to come along to trial for a position as a Year 8 in the Cricket Academy. Thanks go to the WACA Development Officers for assisting the college staff in the preparation and running of the day. We look forward to welcoming the selected students into the Academy in 2013.

Sam Davis/Peta Verco, Specialist Cricket Teachers

NETBALL NEWS



John Forrest Secondary College Netball students have been involved in a busy start to the school year. Officially in pre-season our college teams are preparing for the premier interschool Netball tournament for 2012 "Champion Schools".

We made an early start to our 2012 campaign on Academy Day which was held on Tuesday 14 February (because we all love Netball) at Morley Sport and Recreation Centre. Year 8, 9 and 10 students were involved in fitness testing and matchplay throughout the day in preparation for team selection. Our Year 11 and 12 Sports Coaching Certificate II students were being tutored by Sue Gaudion, a past West Coach Fever coach, to gain their foundations in coaching netball accreditation. All students were successful on the day and are now practising their coaching skills with the Year 8 students. Next week the Year 12 Netball Certificate II coaches will travel to Kulin to hold a number of coaching sessions for school and community groups.

On Monday 19 March our Year 8 and 9/10 teams participated in Specialist School Netball Pre-season Carnival at Perth Netball Club. Even though the conditions were very warm our players participated well. There are no official placings awarded at this carnival but

coaching staff are able to assess that our Year 8 Team 1 and Year 9/10 Team 1 are ranked in the top group of teams. Our Year 8 Team 2 and Year 9/10 Team 2 played better than expected and just need time at training to become more familiar with each other on court.

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected into the Noranda Netball Club Talent Identification Program:

Emily Anderson, Chloe Bradshaw, Kimberly Garay, Chloe Staggard and Isabella Ward. Special mention to Keira McNamee, Year 8, who has been selected into a representative team for Perth Netball Club for the Memberships State Carnival on the June long weekend and to Kimberly Garay Year 9 for being selected to represent Noranda Netball in the Darling Range Region home and away series on a Friday night at Kalumunda Netball Club.

The majority of Netball students are playing Club/Association netball at Noranda, Perth, Wanneroo, Swan Districts and Belmont Netball Clubs. Coaching staff are very pleased with the way in which Netball students are combining school and club netball. Well done girls!

Diane Papas/Samantha McShane, Specialist Netball Teachers

MUSIC CAMP 2012

This year's Music Camp was held much earlier, in March. The students from Senior Band, Swing Band, Electric Guitar Ensemble, Senior Guitar Ensemble and Chamber Choir travelled to Swanleigh Camp for 9-11 March. On Friday morning the students, their bags, instruments and huge amounts of equipment were packed into buses and off we went. The forecast for our weekend was 38C, 38C and 40C and it definitely got there! For all the complaining about the heat the students were real troopers - continuing to rehearse and generally being great despite the trying conditions.

The purpose of the camp was rehearse, practise, rehearse! The various ensembles spent about six hours a day in un-air conditioned discomfort rehearsing and preparing for the end of camp concert and the other performances that they will be doing this year.

The first night of camp wouldn't be complete without a quiz night, ably organised by Phil Glossop. We had rounds of general knowledge questions interspersed with various challenges involving M and Ms, marshmallows and toilet paper.



The second and third days were full of more rehearsals as well as time for the students to spend time with each other and bond. It was great to see friendships forming across year groups and ensemble members getting to know one another better and helping each other both in and out of rehearsals.

We were fortunate enough to have not only the Music Staff but also the Ensemble Directors from the School of Instrumental Music, Phil Glossop and Alistair Cummings join us for the weekend. Our most sincere thanks to not only Phil and Alistair but to Mike Kingham, Elizabeth Lyon and Tammy De Wind for giving up their weekend to work with the students.

On Sunday afternoon all the parents joined us for a concert to showcase a little of what we'd done over the last few days. Each of the groups performed to a high standard (even the percussion ensemble that only met for two hours over the camp) to present two pieces for the delighted audience.

Stephanie Parr, Specialist Music Teacher

USING YOUR moodle

Want to see inside your child's classroom?

The college Moodle enables courses and other information to be placed on the intranet so they are accessible to students at all times. The Moodle is found by navigating to the college web page (<http://www.johnforrest.wa.edu.au/>) and using the student log in section where The Moodle will appear.

You will see a list of most learning areas and a quick look will reveal there are many courses with links to course outlines, assignments, due dates, Logbook worksheets, term calendars, lesson notes, links to websites for tasks, links to large PDF docs where required and even recipes prepared at the college.

The Moodle is being used in Workplace Learning, Certificate I in Business, Year 8 and 9 SOSE and Economics 2A, Year 9 Enrichment and Year 8 Science, 1AB and 1CD Children, Family and the Community - Living Independently, Year 8, 9 and 10 Home Economics and Year 11 Woodwork. There is also a short mini course 'Japan and Us' in Moodle, which is a part of the Year 8 SOSE program and is used by the SOSE teachers when they study Asia.

It's a great online lesson tool, an easy way for students to keep up with coursework and a great way for parents and carers to keep abreast of what's happening in the subjects their child is studying.

Lindsay Wood, Design & Technology Teacher

STUDENT SERVICES NEWS

Laptop Program

The College is now in its second year of the Take Home Laptop Program and Year 9 to 11 students are currently reaping the benefits of the federally funded initiative. This year the program has expanded to make MacBook Pro laptops available for Year 8 students on loan and 142 laptops have been issued.

Students are using the computers at the college to access online teaching resources, tutoring and literacy and numeracy activities and there has been an increase in the number of students accessing the library before and after school to complete homework.

Specialist courses are using the technology to design and model building projects, perform movement analysis and create media compilations as part of their learning and assessment programs.

Having access to a laptop and maintaining the privilege of taking it home is an important responsibility and reminding young people of the rules and proper care that is needed is a role both the college and parents can work on together to achieve. All the information, rules, guidelines and instructions for setting parental controls are available on the college website at www.johnforrest.edu.au under Courses & Programs. Year 8 students can refer to the Laptop Loan Program information.

As a resource for students to develop skills and understanding in the many uses of technology, parents can greatly contribute to the success of their child by monitoring home use, setting clear boundaries and discussing the value of good communication skills when using social media.

Students also benefit from parents taking a positive and keen interest in their child's learning and asking them to spend time with you on Moodle, Spelldrome, Mathletics and other educational applications is time well spent.

Attendance

It is vitally important that parents and schools work together to promote the value of education and to develop the values of responsibility, consistency and punctuality. Students at John Forrest are expected to arrive on-time each day and to maintain 95% attendance throughout the year.



Where a student's attendance falls below 90%, they may be missing out on carefully sequenced learning programs and assessments and be at risk of falling behind. Supporting your child to be on-time and attend school every day improves their ability to be a confident and successful learner and develop important values.

The college is committed to providing attendance information to parents through the daily SMS notification system and by regularly mailing attendance summaries. Parents are asked to make sure current mailing addresses and mobile contact details are provided and to contact the college if they have any queries about their child's attendance information.

In the event your child is late or unable to attend school, it is important that parents contact the college in writing or by phone and provide a medical certificate or explanation to avoid accruing unexplained absences.

The Department of Education provides information regarding attendance, the Parental Support and Responsibility Act 2008 and the Positive Parenting Program. To find out more, visit www.det.wa.edu.au and read about the *Better Attendance: Brighter Futures* initiative.

Adrian Lee, Student Services Coordinator

REO SHIELD

REO (Respect Each Other) is a program in the college with the purpose of building positive relationships in the college community, to improve the ethos of the college. The REO House Shield recognises behaviours and deeds that aid in developing a culture of respect.

Students can earn REO points by:

- Assisting our college at sports carnivals and parent nights.
- Helping to promote our college at events such as college productions.
- Earning an A grade in upper school.
- Receiving a *Performance Memo* from their teacher.

Student who earned the most REO points in 2011 were awarded with digital photo frame prizes. These students were:

- Year 8 winner: Merissa Lekhoathy, Stirling.
- Year 9 winner: Wenxin Zhang, Hasluck.
- Year 10 winner: Amelia Trenaman, Mitchell.
- Year 11 winner: Kaya Hughes, Hasluck.

In 2011 the house with the most REO Shield points was Hasluck which was 40 points clear of Mitchell.

Students who are awarded *Performance Memos* receive two copies. The white copy can be placed in a box in the Chaplain's office to score points for the student and the student's house. The pink copy is to take home and show parents.

A *Performance Memo* draw is also conducted each term. Prizes in the past have included digital photo cameras, a shaved ice maker, a milkshake maker and iPod dock clock radios.

Phil Chadwick, Head of The Arts



Hasluck House Captains proudly display the REO Shield.

NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Date:	Tuesday 17 April (10-13 years) and Thursday 19 April (14 to 18 years)
Place:	The RISE, 28 Eighth Avenue, Maylands.
Time:	10.00am to 1.00pm.
Admission Price:	Free.

The City of Bayswater is inviting young photographers aged 10 to 18 years to get creative and join a free photography workshop being held during National Youth Week!

For further information and to register, please contact: Gemma, Community Development Officer on 9272 0658.

BE THE BEST THAT YOU CAN BE

Recognition of Outstanding Achievement at John Forrest Secondary College



Congratulations to Alex Downey who recently competed in the National Tennis Championships and is a top ten player for his age in the State.

Congratulations to Travis Keys who has been selected to represent Western Australia in the 2012 State Cricket Team. This team competed at the National Schools Championships in Hobart in February/March.

Congratulations to Keanu Pinder on being selected to represent Western Australia as a member of the Metro Men's State Basketball Team. The team will be competing at the 2012 U18s Australian Junior Championships in Perth during April.

Congratulations to Roland Oates on being selected for the U18s Basketball Squad.

Congratulations to Mitchell Parker on being selected for the U15s Basketball Squad.

Congratulations to Erica Ketterer on receiving the Year 8 Academic Challenge Scholarship for 2012.

Congratulations to Tongchai Quartermaine who represented WA at the Junior National Athletics Championships in March in Sydney competing in Long Jump and Triple Jump.

Congratulations to Seth Lansdown on being awarded the 2012 Kelso Award for Excellence in Music.

Congratulations to Isabelle Macri, Maddison Weekes and Nicholas Brabon on being elected to the Student Council at the end of Term 4 2011.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

John Forrest was named in the prestigious:

- First 50 WACE Course Examination Schools Table in 2011.
- First 50 Schools—Vet Achievement Table in 2011.

Outstanding results for 2011 included:

- 100% of John Forrest Secondary college students gained English competency.
- A 99.07% Graduation Rate.
- An 81.8% Median ATAR (State Median ATAR 78.55%), the highest achieving school in the neighbourhood.
- Recognition by the Curriculum Council for high performing students in Chemistry Stage 3.

Scholarship Winners

- Georgia Nielsen received a Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Scholarship of \$5,000 for academic and citizenship/leadership achievements.
- Beau Redwood received a UWA Excellence Award for his High ATAR score and was awarded a Fogarty Foundation Scholarship of \$500.

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The 50th Anniversary Staff Reunion took place on Friday 23 March in the Kelso Quadrangle. Principal, Judy Silsbury, welcomed former Principals Rose Moroz (1995-1996), Stefan Slusarczyk (1979-1990), Digby Mercer (2005), Di Turner (2006-2011). In addition former Deputy Principals Larry Manno (1989-1996) and Peta Bowen (1961-1981) attended. A total of about 160 former teachers and non-teachers enjoyed the balmy evening and reminisced about their days at John Forrest.

Superbly organised by a committee led by Alby Nuich, Helen Watson and Angela Trees, guests enjoyed the hospitality and informative speeches of Larry Manno and Phil Shea.

This event is the first in a series of events to mark the 50th Anniversary of John Forrest. There will be a Music Concert on the 25 May for ex staff and students. Rehearsals will begin shortly. Please check the website for further details.

In August the students will perform their fourth whole school

production. The showcase is an original performance that depicts the history of the College since its inception. Each decade of the College's history will be represented appealing to all members of the community, especially past students of John Forrest. There will be two performances in Term 3; an evening performance on Friday 17 August and a matinee performance on Sunday 19 August. Tickets can be purchased from The Arts Office for \$10 (T: 9473 4030).

On Saturday 27 October there will be a special function for former students.

A lot of work has been done to collect and collate past school magazines and records of former staff and students at the school and college. Ken Washbourne (Head of Mathematics) and Bindi Hammond (Librarian) are to be commended for their diligence.

Former students of the school are encouraged to donate or loan any special items in their possession.

Phil Shea, Deputy Principal

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The John Forrest 50th Anniversary Celebrations has been generously sponsored by the **City of Bayswater**.

NEW DISPLAY CABINETS FOR THE STUDENT FOYER

Thanks go to all parents/guardians who to date have contributed to the John Forrest Building Fund.

Last year the Building Fund Management Committee agreed that funds would go towards display cabinets to be located in the Student Foyer ready for the 50th Anniversary Celebrations. Under the guidance of

Karen Kirk (Business Manager) these have now been installed. Memorabilia is currently displayed and parents are encouraged to view these items when visiting the college.

The Building Fund Management Committee is currently deciding on the next project for the Building Fund. Staff and students will be surveyed for project recommendations.

