# R U OK DAY

# NEWSLETTER



#### Halls Head College Education Support Centre



IN THIS ISSUE:

The Great Race
Athletics Carnival
Big Night Out
Classroom News



#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



We are fast approaching the end of the 2017 school year! This term has flown by with so many fun learning activities. In this newsletter, you will enjoy photos and stories from; The Great Race, Athletics carnival, Year 10 Big Night Out, Work Place Learning and the Galaxy Choir as well as finding out what students have been learning in their classrooms.

At this time of year it is always a little sad to say goodbye to our year 10 students. We will miss this great bunch of students and we wish them all the best. We also say goodbye to some members of staff. Farewell to Mrs Newman who has been an Education Assistant with us for an amazing 16 years! So many students have benefited from her skills and dedication over this time. Enjoy your tree change Mrs Newman. Ms Sarich is also leaving us after 7 years of bringing her creative energy and the "You Can Do It' program into our school. Ms Sarich and her family are heading up North to Karratha. We will also say goodbye to Mr Werrett who has taught our year 10 students this year. We say thank you and farewell.

I would like to acknowledge our very own Mrs Meryl Fick, for being named the *Manager Corporate Services of the year* at the 2017 West Australian Education Support Principals Association (WAESPAA) Awards night recently. Meryl has been with the school since its inception in 2001 and is so deserving of this award for her service to our school community.

In closing, I would like to thank all of the staff for their dedication to providing a great learning environment for our students. Thanks also to parents, our School Board and P &C for supporting our school in 2017. Finally, thanks to our wonderful students. I hope you all have a safe and happy Christmas break.

Mrs Deb Fieldwick



# Year 7.1 with Mrs Halls









The year sevens this term have done many end of year tests and I would like to thank them for how they have conducted themselves throughout the assessment period. They should be proud of how far they have come and the goals they have achieved this year.

We have completed assignments on Natural disasters for Science and students have learnt about how tectonic plate movement can cause volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis. They completed a poster on Earth layers, showing the crust, mantle, core and inner core. Did you know that the inner core is believed to be solid and made up of iron and nickel?

In English, students have begun an assignment designing their own islands. They have drawn a map (incorporating maths skills), designed a flag and made a plant native only to their island. They have been required to write a report on their native plant, detailing the description and its purposes.

With the end of year nearing, we have started doing some of our Christmas craft. In Woodwork, the year sevens have been making advent calendars and in our own classroom, we have been busy making cards, stained glass windows and decoration Christmas stars.

I would like to congratulate the year sevens on a fantastic year and wish them all the very best of luck for year eight.















Being the last quarter of the school year, a significant slice of Term Four has been devoted to taking stock of what students have learnt throughout the school year in English and intensifying instruction where needs have been identified. For some of my students, Term Four provided the opportunity for reflection, recapitulation and consolidation of learning while other students continued to ascend the ladder for their English and literacy developments. These scenarios manifested in different ways in our classroom in Term 4 including intensive MultiLit interventions, public speaking, reading comprehension, story/essay-writing, punctuation exercises, activities on letter names and sounds as well as basic synthetic phonics of Vowel-Consonant (VC) and Consonant-Vowel-Consonant (CVC) words. In the end, the destination was the same – all my students made progress.

Mathematics and numeracy instruction in Term Four took a similar path as described above for English. The instructional strategies employed were based on explicit instruction, multisensory approach and teaching for the transfer of learning, oriented in the 'from concrete to abstract' philosophy. The contents covered included counting, multiplication and division of numbers. Students also had the opportunity to develop their money skills including counting a collection of Australian coins and notes to make a given value.

The first few weeks of Term Four were devoted to concluding the activities on 'Indigenous Australians' that commenced in Term Three. The later part of the term focused on some aspects of *Citizenship and Civic responsibilities*. Some of the learning activities that were covered in Term Four under Humanities and Social Sciences included discriminating between Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, identification of some cultural symbols of Australian Aboriginal people, students learning about their roles as Australian citizens, defining the term 'citizen' and understanding the differences between rules and laws.

Weekly goal-setting by students has provided them with a sense of direction on what area to focus on in their quest for personal development throughout the school year. It is gratifying to note how much progress individual students have made under the five keys of the "You Can Do It" program. The highlight for me as a teacher is to see my students learning to get along with each other regardless of individual differences.







Year 7.2

with Mr Enoma







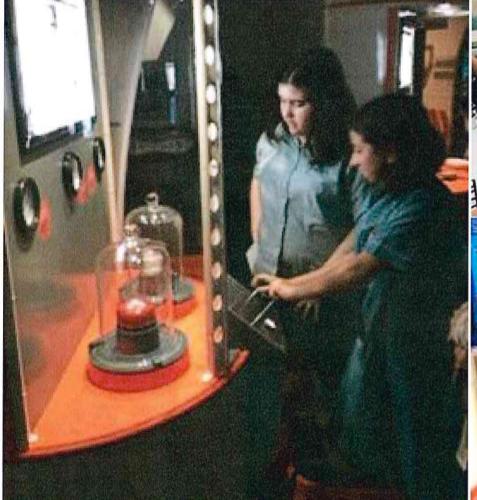


## Year 8 with Mrs Enough

This term, the Year eight students took part in a number of learning activities in Mathematics. These included the addition, subtraction and multiplication of numbers as well as money skills involving the calculation of change.

Independent reading and writing were among our focus areas in English this term. Regular reading and writing practices gave rise to fluency and increased confidence. Students include themselves in the excitement that flowed naturally from the empowerment gained from being able to make meanings from texts, decode words, and construct their journal writings independently. Our literacy mornings began with 'DEAR – Drop Everything and Read' which is a variant of silent reading. The DEAR activity has been very successful in creating an atmosphere of orderliness in the classroom and settling the students down for the rest of the day's activities.

Students have had a busy term in Science and have enjoyed every bit of it. They learned about the three different types of rocks such as igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. As part of the learning process, students went rock hunting which involved analysing and classifying the different rock samples they had collected. By way of instructional strategy, we used nicknames for each type of rock from their respective names to make it 'cool' and to sustain students' interest. Thus, by referring to igneous rocks as 'iggy', sedimentary rocks as 'sedi' and metamorphic rocks as 'meta m' kept students engaged and helped them to recall the real names for the different types of rocks. The highlight was the class visit to Scitech, an experience that no doubt enhanced their knowledge and complemented our classroom activities. Both students and staff had plenty of fun!





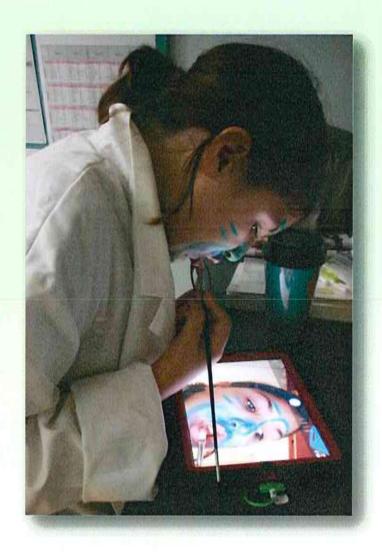


# **ARTISTS CORNER**

During the term students have made Monster mugs from paper clay. We have built them using a coil method of clay making. Each student learned how to slip and score their clay and all worked on their individual projects with some help. Students then glazed their work once it had been bisque fired.

Students are currently finishing of their bush tucker food inspired mosaic designs. Each class has been working well and I am pleased to say that we have lots of interesting and creative artists among us. Enjoy your festive holiday break, keep safe and be good to each other. Next year I am off to work at a new school in Karratha. I have enjoyed my time working seven years at Halls Head College Education Support Center and wish you all well.

Ms Sarich





# CHOIR TIME

With Ms Pemkharst

This year the school choir, 'Galaxy Choir', have been practising extremely hard to learn new songs and choreography. Because of this, we were able to take part in 'Showcase by the Sea' and perform at the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre. Students made their school and choir teachers very proud by performing in front of a full audience. They were extremely well received and looked amazing in their choir tops.

Ms Pankhurst would like to say a big thank you to the parents and staff who supported the students in the choir.









# Year 9.1 with Ms Kaleas

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year has arrived! 10 months have passed very quickly!

The year end always brings with it a tremendous sense of accomplishment. So many things have been achieved this year from the Halls Head College ESC year 9 crew who have been involved in an extraordinary number of activities. Of course, we should not forget the tremendous amount of learning which has taken place during the year. Throughout all of these activities our students have demonstrated great character!

In math, the students have shown growth in all areas: numbers and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability. They have used these skills and implemented them in real life scenarios such as shopping and being able to read train and bus schedules.

In science, students have learned to recognise the major plates on a world map, they have modelled the sea-floor spreading and related the occurrence of earthquakes and volcanic activity to constructive and destructive plate boundaries.

RDA has finished and all of the students passed with flying colours. Each of them received an award congratulating their success.

The Great Race was fantastic. We all loved the Big Picture crew joining our groups and helping us out. We have enjoyed having them as mentors and learning new social skills using the Keys to Success program.









# Year 9.2 with Mr Barker

In English this term, the Year nine students worked on their Ideal Job Power Points, where they researched tasks, skills and education needed to be either employed in their ideal job or manage their own ideal business. They presented their Power Points to the class.

The students were also given the privilege of watching the puppet theatre performance of "The Arrival" based on the Shawn Tan picture book of the same name. Students then followed-up on this play by researching issues related to refugees and creating art pieces based around the story.

In Humanities, the students have been making predictions of what the future would look like and in what way they would like to be a part of it. They each proposed an idea for an invention that may help make the lives of people easier (e.g. a robot garden weeder). Students also continued to look at how businesses can shape cities, looking at cities such as New York and the Gold Coast.

The Year nines have participated in experiential learning activities to develop their social skills. As a result, they are starting to see a clearer view of how and why their peers think a certain way about particular topics and issues.



### YEAR 10 With Mrs Hodge & Mr Werrett

Term four is a very busy time of year as we begin to wind down, but also prepare for the end of our Year ten students time here at Halls Head College ESC. It has been an eventful year, full of exciting activities.

Our students returned from the Term Three holidays refreshed and ready to go for another action-packed Term. The first two weeks were marked by concentrated activity as they worked tirelessly to put the finishing touches on their ASDAN portfolios for review and certification, knowing that easier times were just ahead. It is a credit to all students who were able to achieve the high standards required by ASDAN. Congratulations on a fine effort sustained throughout the year. Special thanks are due also to the dedicated team of Education Assistant's who have, through their hard work, contributed greatly to the success of our students. Student work files along with their evidence portfolios went to Perth to be moderated, and came back with glowing feedback. Our year tens have put in a tremendous amount of work and deserve the praise to go with it.

We paused briefly in Week Three to catch our breath and celebrate finishing our ASDAN portfolios with some 'down time' in the form of a movie and popcorn reward.

During week four our year tens attended John Tonkin College ESC as part of their transition to Senior School. It was an exciting and fun week in which students were able to get a taste of what school life will be like for them next year at JTC ESC. Once again, our students distinguished themselves as fine ambassadors for our School and demonstrated that they have the adaptable mindset, maturity and social skills to fit in anywhere. All students enjoyed the experience immensely. In fact, some were ready to make the move early.







Now that the formal academic side of student learning has come to an end, with reports due home soon, it was felt that it was due time for the year tens to have some fun before they move onto greener pastures. Students have been involved in a Boys/Girls Club program to focus on development of grooming and deportment, etiquette and some finer points of social interaction; Yoga, Meditation and Mindfulness, an international cooking program and a Film Making project. From week five they have also been involved in breakfast club twice a week. This is a great opportunity for all students to showcase their kitchen and cooking skills. They all work together to prepare food, cook, set up, serve and clean up afterwards. We recently purchased gorgeous café settings which the students have all been utilising, giving a sense of pride and belonging. These activities have been very enriching for our students and nicely round out their final few weeks with us at HHC ESC.

From week 5 onwards students have gone on an excursion either fishing with Fishabilities or practiced their transport and community skills by participating in Community Access. There have been a number of other notable events in our busy calendar this term, including the Great Race around Mandurah town and foreshore, A Cyber Safety Van visit, a visit to Halls Head Primary School where they were welcomed into the year 1 class to read the books they had beautifully created on the iPad's, and The Big Night Out. Each event has been enormous fun whilst at the same time challenging our students to step outside of their comfort zones and to try new things. It goes without saying that these events don't just happen, but require an enormous effort of planning and preparation by the caring staff who volunteer to organise them. Many thanks to you all for giving so generously of your time and energy.

This year's Year ten students have been an especially endearing group of young people who simply amaze and impress us every day with their unflagging work ethic, caring attitude and commitment to learning. It goes without saying that we will miss them greatly. But their futures await and we wish that each of them will continue to achieve success and fulfilment.

We all look forward to seeing you at our year ten final assembly on Thursday 14th December where we will be show-casing their full year.

### **Workplace Learning**

2017 has proven to be yet another successful year for Workplace Learning (WPL). All year 10 students had the opportunity to attend their placement one day per week for 3 terms. Over the years HHC ESC students have done a wonderful job representing themselves and our school and this year is no different. Again, we have had a student gain employment through their time out at WPL, congratulations!

In week 8 we hosted our annual WPL morning tea. This event gave the staff and students a chance to thank these local businesses for supporting our students in providing opportunities for them to work on developing core skills in the workplace. The morning tea was followed by the students giving their host employers a tour of the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the school staff who put in a tremendous amount of effort throughout the school year to ensure the students are successful within their workplaces, thank you to the Year 10 team and those who have helped make this program successful year after year.

Georgina Fay Structured Workplace Learning Support Officer











Thank you to the community for welcoming us into their businesses and being so supportive:

Chuckles Childcare
Claire Hair Boutique
Coles Erskine
Coles Pinjarra
Falcon E Library and Community Centre
Good Sammy
Goodstart Early Learning Centre Greenfields
Halls Head College Library
In2Steel

Lunch N Munch and Takeaway

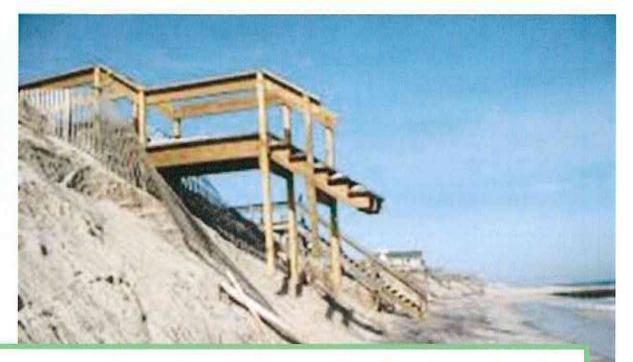
Mandurah Wildlife Rescue

Peek-a-Boo Dog Wash and Grooming
Riding Develops Ability (R.D.A.)

Riverside Education Support Centre

Salvo's Stores

Spudshed



#### Whoops now here is a job for the EcoLeaders!

The garden is looking great as we move into spring with tomatoes, celery and spinach all ready to be harvested.

On Friday 1st December our team met up with local residents who thanked us for the work done around the parks and beaches by providing a wonderful BBQ. This has become an annual event that is always fun with plenty of food for hungry EcoLeaders. It is an absolute pleasure to see how the community comes together to recognise our students and your children. It is so important for their connection and sense of place. Not only do students learn life skills and practical applications, they also build confidence and pride.

As the weather warms we will dust off the watering unit and head out to give the beach plants a final drink before the end of the year.

Finally, a thank you to parents for signing all of the notes throughout the year and sending your children to school ready for a big work day at the beach.

# Ecoleaders ... With Mr Dixon

The EcoLeaders are always working hard behind the scenes.

Win a prize!

Tell Mr Dixon what this tree is.





#### Transition

#### Michelle Lockley EA Lead & Transition Coordinator

The year six students have finished their transition visits to Secondary School and are looking forward to commencing year seven in 2018. All of the students have come a long way, from being scared, anxious and nervous, to being really excited about what we have to offer at Halls Head College ESC.

The visits in term 4 have allowed the students to showcase their excellent cooking skills, as they made yummy pikelets with fruit on top with a dash of maple syrup. They also got to use their handy craft skills by making pop stick photo frames and decorating them with all sorts of embezzlements. In the last visit they made trendy Christmas tree ornaments, which they were able to take home. We also had the students participating in small group sporting games and outdoor activities, which brought about lots of laughter and fun.

All of the activities are designed to focus on getting to know their peers from other schools and making new friends and more importantly working together as a team. This helps to alleviate any concerns and anxiety for when they start high school next year. It also allows our staff to get to know the students and their quirky personalities in preparation for next year.



#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#### Supporting your child's safe online social networking

Social networking is an extension of offline friendships and we should treat people respectfully in the same way we do in real life. Chatting to friends using IM (instant messaging), chat or social networking is a great way to stay in touch and make new friends. However, your child should always keep in mind that there are some risks meeting people online – especially if they don't know them in real life.

Discuss the following aspects with your child to help them safely enjoy social networking.

Limit your friend list. Do you know your online friends in the real world? If not, consider changing your settings to limit interaction with them or remove them.

Protect personal information. Restrict information that people can use to access your finances, and to identify where you live, work or go out.

Check on your images. Does everything about your life really need to be online? How might this affect you and your reputation in the future? Take a look at the eSafety website for some tips for taking photos and videos and sharing them online.

Stay Respectful. Are your posts respectful to friends and others? This is real life; being online is no excuse for bad behaviour.

Think twice before meeting offline. If you want to meet someone offline it is essential to take an adult with you, meet in the daytime and in a public place. Don't share personal information too early.

It is important to note that there may be age restrictions that apply to your child joining a social network. Many popular social networks are restricted to users above 13 years of age. Check out the infographic "Is there an age limit for kids on social media?"

If your child or someone they know wants to talk about challenging online friendships, call the Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 or eheadspace on 1800 650 890.

# The Great Race



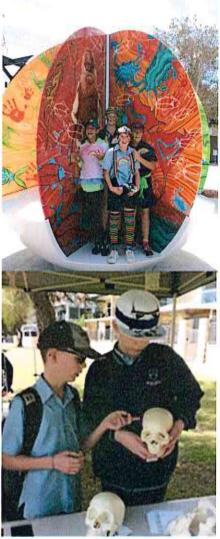












#### Health and Physical Education

with Mrs Hardy



A highlight of semester two and a culmination of term three athletics in physical education classes from years seven to ten was the Halls Head College Athletics Carnival.

On Friday November 17<sup>th</sup>, nineteen Education Support Students nominated themselves and joined hundreds of other students from years 7 to 10 at the Halls Head College Athletics Carnival. Clayton and Preston lead the ESC team, participating independently with year ten students from Halls Head College. Both boys performed excellently. Preston won the ESC Champion Boy and Monique the ESC Champion Girl. Georgia, Monique and Vianna performed excellently in all their events, with Georgia running an amazing leg of the relay, Monique representing ESC and then HHC in two relays and Vianna starring in the three leg race.

Sophie was in the successful tug of war team and Sam joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> place leaderball team, both girls took part in all the year nine girls events. Brilliant! Jack's performances throughout all the events were excellent and Lachlain followed Jack's lead to go in every event. Fantastic.

For the year eight boys Griffen starred and made the final of the boys 100m, putting in 100% effort all day. Mason was a good sport and overcame initial nerves to participate in all the events, well done. Connor put in his best effort during the day. Taliah represented the year eight girls and received a special mention for her great effort.

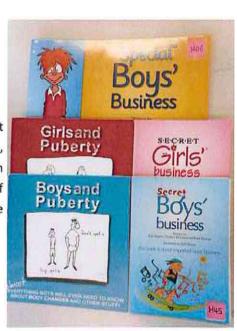
The year seven athletes were Emma, the cheering supporter, Keira, first in her 100m run, Montana, ready for every event and Shantell, selected in the HHC year seven relay. These four girls participated in all events like champions. Cameron volunteered to join extra teams, showed leadership and encouragement and performed with excellence. Eithan came well prepared for the day and participated in a variety of events. Well done.

A special mention to our HHC students, Jacob, James, Tehlia, Isabelle, Caillen, Harmony, Shae and Jessica for their outstanding support, care and consideration of the needs of the ESC students. Thankyou to Ms's MacQualter, Cavanagh, Verdon, Pankhurst, Dean, Anderson and Mr Wilton for your support and encouragement throughout the day and to staff who remained at school.

#### HEALTH EDUCATION

This semester students from years seven to ten studied the many changes that occur in the human body from a baby to an adult. The importance of physical, mental, emotional and social changes and the way in which we manage our health during this time of change was discussed. In addition to identifying characteristics of good relationships the year ten students studied more information about the knowledge and understanding of good sexual health practises.

This is an example of some of the excellent literature used by students.



#### **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

End of Year Fun Day-Wednesday 13th December 2017

#### Term Dates 2018

Term 1-Wednesday 31st January 2018-Friday 13th April 2018

Public Holidays-Monday 5th March 2018-Labour Day

Easter Weekend-Friday 30th March 2018 and Monday 2nd April 2018

Term 2— Tuesday 1st May 2018—Friday 29th June 2018

Term 3— Tuesday 17th July 2018—Friday 21st September 2018

Term 4— Monday 8th October 2018—Thursday 13th December 2018 SDD - Friday 19th October 2017







Companion cards and Smart Riders are likely to be required for the majority of activities. If you do not have either of these it. As well on 0411597008 or Georgin as well Bidirections as now. There are 8 spaces for each author, these will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. All activities will start and finish as first Denny Street, Mandruck.

Please ensure you bring the following sterm on the day of your activity:

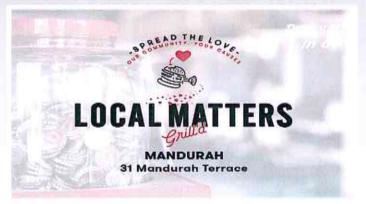
- A water bottle list
  Bathers, a towal and a change of clothes (for the beach and water activities) Appropriate Incomese and clothing for the activity.
  The correct money for the day's activity.

#### **Bookings Form**

Please complete the following form by marking which activities you would like to book o 2017 to technicirit@directions.sin.eu or mail to 12 Bleckburn Street, Meddington, 6019. ok onto. Return the form by Friday 15" Decem

Week Two		Week Three	
Mon 15/1/18 Indoor Volleyball		Mon 27/1/18 Rockingham Beach	
fues 16/1/18 Movies		Tues 23/1/18 Mandurah Museum	
Wed 17/1/18 Serpentine Falls		Wed 24/1/18 Fishing	
Thurs 18/1/18 3 Hearts Ceramics		Thurs 25/1/18 End of holiday party	
Fri 19/1/16 Cohunu Koala Park		PUBLIC HOUDAY - no activity	
	Indoor Volleyball fues 16/J/18 Movies Wed 17/J/18 Serpentine falls Thurs 18/J/18 3 Hearts Ceramics Fri 19/J/18	Indoor Volleyhall  Typs: 16/1/18	Indoor Volleyball





We've been selected to participate in Local Matters at Grill'd Mandurah this December!

Local Matters is the Grill'd community donation program that sees each Grill'd restaurant donate \$500 back into the community every month. The donation is split between 3 local community groups \$300 / \$100 / \$100.

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP?

We'd love your support in receiving the highest \$300 donation! Simply head to Grill'd Mandurah during December for a burger and pop your Local Matters token in our jar. The group with the most tokens at the end of the month receives the largest donation.

It's a simple (and delicious) way to show your support!

You'll find us on a jar at Grill'd Mandurah, 31 Mandurah Terrace Mandurah.