

News

Welcome to the final edition of Music Matters for 2014.

This year's Valedictory evening took place at Mount Pleasant Baptist Community College on 24th October. Our talented music students Molly Snowden, Benjamin Long, Sean Hayes, Oliver Toole and Maximilian Wickham provided the evening's entertainment as we said goodbye to the Graduating Class of 2013.

On Sunday 27th October, the Swing Band performed at South Lake Childcare Centre for their 25th anniversary. Staff, parents and children watched on and some danced to the music as the Swing Band played. Students enjoyed themselves and were rewarded handsomely with large boxes of chocolates and iTunes vouchers.



Swing Band at South Lake Childcare Centre

31st October and 1st November saw a couple of hundred primary school students take part in Year 7 Orientation at Melville. Over the two days, primary school students were greeted by school administrations and a musical performance from Callum Howman, Lachlan Price, Isryan Ramlan and Molly Snowden. Students were aided by peer mentors and took part in a variety of activities designed to make their transition into high school next year a little less daunting.

Thank you to all of our Captains of 2013 for their dedication and commitment to the Music in Focus Program at Melville SHS. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors. They were;
Music Captain: Jonathan Gee, Swing Band Captain: Rhianna Brims, Senior Concert Band Captain: Abigail Cocken, Intermediate Concert Band Captain: Joshua Gee, Classical Guitar Ensemble Captain: Morgan Remaj and Vocal Ensemble Captain: Tarquin Bateman.

Congratulations to Morgan Remaj who has been accepted into University of Western Australia's School of Music, where he will continue his studies in music performance, specializing in

classical guitar.

All music parents are invited to attend the Music Information Evening, which will be held in the Carly Smith Studio on 13th February 2014.

Thank you and goodbye to Mark McLeod. Mr. McLeod has accepted a teaching position closer to home at Eden Hill Primary School. We wish him the best of luck.

The Music Department at Melville SHS has had a very successful 2013 due to many people who were involved. Thank you to our SIM teachers Chris Booth, Annette Daniels, Wayne G'Froerer, Paul Hines, Simon Jeans and Robert Matthews. Thank you to our MSG parents for their hard work throughout the year, to the music students, parents and families, Arts staff, school Reception ladies, members of the local community, MegaMusic, Crescendo Music, Murdoch University, West Australian Mandolin Orchestra and everyone who came and supported our young musicians throughout 2013. We look forward to another fantastic year filled with music and a big Year 8 cohort in 2014. From all of us in the Music Department, we wish you a happy holiday and a restful break.

By Ana Milas

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Friends of Melville SHS Music

Are you a past music student? Are you a grandparent or a friend of a current music student? If you would like to be included in our Friends of Melville SHS Music email subscription, send us your email to receive information on current and upcoming music news and events.



Swing Band @ Murdoch Uni

The last performance for the Swing Band took place on Thursday 28th November at Murdoch University. The band was invited to perform at the annual Deans Reception, a cocktail event in the foyer at Law School.



Students performed for lawyers and law professors and were well received by all who attended.

Commendations

Students are mentioned for positive contributions towards the Music Program. This may be demonstrated through their work in class, during SIM lessons, at performances or in ensemble rehearsals.

Congratulations to:

Sophia Sunthang - Yr 8
Natasha Cocken - Yr 9
Molly Snowden - Yr 10
Xiaowen Pan - Yr 11

Music Matters

Words from the Music Captain

While it is difficult to measure how far Melville Senior High School's Music in Focus Program has come during my time at Melville, it is easy to identify the troubles it has faced and how well it has overcome them.

Looking back at my high school life, it only now strikes me how pivotal the role of the music program was. I would even say that the music program was the highlight of my time at Melville and I know that my graduating peers feel the same. Events like the band and group festivals every year during third term, the weekly band rehearsals, the biannual music tours and the production in 2010 and most importantly the four music lessons during school every week helped to keep the grind of high school in check as there was always something to learn, something to look forward to or that buzz when you know you nailed a performance.

I'd like to thank the teachers, staff and parents who have put their dedicated time and effort into the music program over the last few years, especially the amazing Mrs Ana Milas who has slowly rebuild the program.

I am confident that the Melville Music in Focus Program will continue to grow and thrive in future years as future classes look promising and I will be watching from the audience now with keen interest at future events. I hope that everybody involved with the music program in 2013 will continue to support the program in the years to come.

By Jonathan Gee



Twilight Concert

The year wrapped up with the annual Twilight Concert held in the Middle School Quadrangle on 25th November. Hosted by YouthCARE District Council, this event was a fundraiser for the school chaplains Annie and AJ, which managed to raise over \$2,000. Performances featured Year 8-10 music and dance students as well as beater bands from Melville Primary School, Caralee Primary School Choir and Bicton Primary School Band. Unfortunately, this was the last performance by the Bicton Band, which is folding next year. Thank you to all of the primary school students, teachers and family who came on the night - the turnout was fantastic and the event was able to bring a whole community together under the stars. Thank you to South City Church for providing the PA and sound operator for the event.

More photos are available for viewing by visiting [Melville SHS Performing Arts Facebook page](#).



Melville Primary School beater band



Caralee Primary School Choir

Upcoming Events in 2014

- **Students commence Term 1** - 3rd February
- **Music Information Evening** for **ALL** music parents - 13th February, 7pm in the Carly Smith Studio.

This will be a great opportunity to introduce new music parents to MSHS Music in Focus Program, as well as the new general stream. On the agenda will be educational reforms and how they will affect the music program, classes, bands and ensembles, calendar of music events in 2014, instrumental teachers and a Q&A session.

- **MSG Meeting** - 25th March, 4pm
- **Music Brunch** - 6th April, 9am

Old Instrument Drive

Do you have old instruments that are lying around the house unused? We are looking for ANY instruments that can be gifted to our growing Music Department, in particular acoustic and bass guitars. All instruments can be dropped off to the Arts Office. We thank you in advance!