Principal’s Report

2016 sees us for the first time with a full complement of completed buildings for our students. This time last year we were squeezed like proverbial sardines into spaces with large portions of the school unavailable for our students as they were designated building sites. Having won the position officially, I am very proud to be Principal of Halls Head College, and very humbled by this also. I will certainly commit all my energies to build our college and further grow a culture of High Performance and High Care for our staff and students.

Term one has seen plenty of energy within classes and around the grounds. Students seem to have settled in well to the routine and with over 1300 students that is a great start to the year. Our Code of Conduct - which you will see in this Newsletter, is something that has been a focus for us, trying to ensure that all of our college community live our core values in all of our actions and words. To reflect this, and the notion of Unity and Diversity we now have an amazing mural grace our space. You can see it pictured in this newsletter. It is a wonderful piece from an artist who is building up recognition for his work globally. I love the feeling of peace and hope I get when I look at it; of the power of cooperation and positive action that it inspires. I know there has been a lot of dialogues about this mural, all of which build up a sense of who we are and a positive college identity.

The Minister for Education has officially opened the new buildings in the last week of term. We also have a number of cabinet ministers who ran a Leadership Forum with our elected College leadership group. These present our students with insightful learning moments. Our staff have been active in looking to provide more authentic learning opportunities for our students. We have students who will be away in Japan with Mr Ueda, Mrs Andrews and Ms McGuckin and others who have represented the school in sport and in the arts in a variety of forums. Multiple camps and events continue to dot our College calendar. It is wonderful to see.

Unfortunately, the end of our term has been impacted by separate events seeing the tragic death of two of our students. This has cast a shadow on our community, but I would like to commend the work of our staff, Regional Office, Headspace and the varied local services that have rallied to support our grieving community.

I would like to thank staff for their continued commitment; our students for their hard work and dedication and our parents for their ongoing support and effort and wish everyone a safe, peaceful and relaxing holiday with family and friends.

Bronwyn White
Principal
The College, our Library and Picture Books

Sebastian Berry, Sabin Roderick, Tyson Hubert, Aidan Bunn, Ryan Debono and Brayden Chacone, students from Mr McGarr's Year 7 English class, busy in the new expanded picture book area.

Our Library has just doubled the size of the picture book shelving and relocated it to a prime position in the Reading area. There are now twice as many books on the forward facing display shelves and usage levels have never been higher.

Picture books? In High School? Absolutely! Picture books can be enjoyed by all and some are not even targeted at young children. All kinds of themes are tackled from bullying to the meaning of life. There are Non-fiction books and books entirely without words. Some are just plain funny and a couple, well, don’t read them without an adult!

“I’m a dirty dinosaur” is one of the most popular books we have. “The Soldier’s gift” is one of many that powerfully open themes of war and grief. New books, “Fearless” and “The Dreadful Fluff” are new and laugh out loud funny. The good old “Where’s Wally” series is in constant use and the classic “a day, a dog” is almost guaranteed to bring a tear without using a single word. Almost without fail the art work is outstanding.

Recent research from The Centre for Independent Studies shows children who have been read to and talked to as toddlers “have heard 30 Million more words than their peers by age four and develop a spoken vocabulary twice as big”.

The research is quoted from The Sunday Times, January 31 2016, page 13.

We hope to build a School community that enjoys reading and picture books. If our students leave school with favourite books and great memories maybe they will become parents who love to read and share books with their children.

Karen Thomson
Library Officer

Library Network Meeting

On Thursday 3rd of March our School Library hosted the 1st term meeting of the local school library group. It is an open discussion forum where we share ideas and solutions. There is a wealth of experience within the group so it is a great way to problem solve, and extend what each of us do. This month the meeting was attended by teachers and officers from government and private primary and secondary schools. Our Technical Support Officer, Derek, also joined in.

The highlight was a tour of the School’s new buildings and facilities. It was guided by our Manager Corporate Services, Margaret South. Thank you! We were also supported by Management who arranged catering through a small local business run by a former Halls Head College student. The afternoon tea Holly produced was widely praised.

Karen Thomson
Library Officer
Technologies

The Technologies curriculum area at Halls Head College encompasses a broad range of subjects including:

- **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** - students learn about computer hardware and software
- **FOOD TECHNOLOGY** - students learn about healthy diets and sustainable food production
- **FABRIC TECHNOLOGY** - students learn about the fashion industry and fabric production
- **WOODWORK** - students learn practical and theoretical woodworking skills
- **METALWORK** - students learn practical and theoretical metalworking skills
- **ENGINEERING** - students design and make electronic and mechanical devices with the aid of a laser cutter
- **PHOTOGRAPHY** - students learn practical and theoretical photography skills
- **CAD** - Computer aided design for architectural and mechanical drafting.

Practical hands on skills is emphasised in each of the subjects above, but the theoretical skills including literacy and numeracy is also an important part of the teaching program. As mentioned in the last newsletter we are very fortunate to have state of the art facilities.

We have had several teachers from both the private and government sector visit us and all agree that we have some of the best workshops in the State.

During the next holidays, one of our food rooms is having some renovation’s done to incorporate industrial catering facilities and a barista set up. This of course will be yet another positive addition to the school for the benefit of our students.

The enthusiasm for the laser cutter has not diminished as can be seen by some examples above.

Finally, fingers crossed, we will have our newest piece of machinery - a computer controlled Plasma Cutter - up and running by the next newsletter. This machine will do the same as our Laser cutter except with ferrous and non-ferrous metals.
A MURAL focusing on unity and diversity was unveiled by internationally acclaimed artist Kyle Hughes-Odgers at Halls Head College last week.

The huge mural was painted over a week on the external wall of one of the College’s new buildings with Mr Hughes-Odgers gaining inspiration from the College’s art students who participated in art classes with the talented West Australian.

Mr Hughes-Odgers said it was a great week.

“I’d never painted at a school before; full credit to the College for getting a project like this done,” he said.

He said there was a lot of interaction with the students at recess and lunch who would call out and ask questions.

“It was fun,” he said.

Head of Arts at the College, David McLeish was successful in gaining an Innovation Grant last year which was put towards the community mural project.

A selection of the students’ artwork which was produced in the art classes throughout the term focusing on diversity and unity will be also be shown in an exhibition in front of the mural when it is officially unveiled.

Courtesy of Mandurah Mail
Open Your Eyes

Open your eyes -
Open them to the world -
Look at everyone, everything.
Tell me what you see.
Our world is amazing,
Yet dying
Of one thing
That one thing is us -
Us.
I thought we were the changing generation,
The one that would stop -
We'd stop cutting down our trees,
Destroying our animals,
Destroying ourselves.

Open your eyes!
Open them to the world.
Look at everyone, everything.
Tell me what you see.
We are a dying world -
A dying day.
It is clear things must change!
We have to make a difference.
We have a chance -
A chance to heal -
A choice to change ourselves,
To change our future.

Open your eyes!
Open them to the world.
Look at everyone, everything.
Tell me what you see.

Written by Shekaila Walker

Foodbank Hampers

Last year students from my Years 8/9/10 classes were encouraged to donate food items for baskets I had under a tree in my classroom. This was done to show support for the local Mandurah Community experiencing tough times. These hampers were delivered to Food Bank where they were greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all students that donated to this cause.

Joel White
HASS Teacher

House News

MIAMI DOLPHINS LATE SURGE, SEES THEM TOP OF THE LADDER

After being bottom of the ladder for most of this term, a late surge has seen them flip the ladder and go to the top. This has mainly been down to Miami students earning a large number of purple house points in the classroom, coupled with strong displays in the Friday indoor soccer competitions.

1st MIAMI DOLPHINS 1524
2nd BLUE BAY RAYS 1508
3rd MELROS WAVES 1480
4th AVALON SHARKS 1429

Congratulations to the following students who have amassed an amazing amount of house points throughout the term:

Nikita Partridge 89 points
Connor Carey 78
Cerys Watts 55
Chante Erasmus 44
Naomi Damstra 43
Levi Mavrodis 42
Tameka Reeves 41
Lily Spencer 40
William Taylor 37
Amir Husain 36

Mark Hunter
HPE Teacher & House Coordinator
Learning for Life

Tayla Pages-Oliver

My name is Tayla Pages-Oliver and I am part of the Big Picture Academy Year 12 Advisory.

Through my work in the Big Picture Academy, I have researched aspects of Nursing and Early Childhood Development. At the beginning of this year, I started a school based traineeship at Dudley Park Child and Parenting Centre. I managed to obtain this traineeship with help from Mr Wrigley, Mrs Roser, my Big Picture Advisory Teacher and SMYL. By the end of this year, I will have completed a Certificate II in Community Services - Child Care.

This is a fantastic opportunity, as I am gaining experience in my area of interest while earning money for the time that I do work. I look forward to the challenges ahead, and hope that other students also seek opportunities to help gain experience in their area of interest too.

Harmony Day

On Friday the 18th of March, we once again held our Harmony Day which also coincided with Bullying no way day. Harmony day celebrates understanding and acceptance of all the different cultures we have here in Australia.

We had lots of different activities for the students to participate in, face painting by the AIME team, tempoy tattoos by Mr Mcleish’s art students, traditional Maori temporary tattoos given by Jane our Youth Worker and Sasha from Peel Youth. The Mandurah Multicultural association kindly donated their time and performed a traditional Persian dance and Win Chan Kung Fu demonstration for the students and staff at recess.

Mr Greens targeted learning class made a yummy butter chicken and rice which sold out very quickly, Mr Ueda’s students made green tea pancakes and we also had sweet bread, fried bread and a Samoan noodle dish, Mexican quesadillas, Dutch mini pancakes made by some of our wonderful parents to help celebrate culture and diversity. At lunch time we had a past student Maddi Ackerley come and DJ which had lots of students up dancing and busting out their moves.

Once again we had a bullying pledge to sign for a wristband as well as a gold coin donation for wearing orange the harmony day colour. Many thanks to everyone who helped for making the day a success.

Jo Bell
Aboriginal Islander Education Officer

Chas Robinson

My name is Chas Robinson and I am part of the Big Picture Academy Year 12 Advisory.

Through my work in the Big Picture Academy, I have actively pursued internships in the field of Carpentry and Renovations. I spent many days last year working with mentors who run their own business. I was able to undertake a variety of different tasks which helped me develop my skills. I was also given more responsibility as I started to prove my abilities to my mentor. At the beginning of this year I started a school based traineeship in Carpentry through SMYL which was made possible through the work of Mrs Roser, Mr Wrigley and my Big Picture Advisory Teacher. Every Tuesday, I attend the work site and gain practical experience whilst being paid. Every six weeks, I go to TAFE on a Wednesday to complete the theory component. By the end of this year, I will have earned a Certificate II in Building and Construction. This is a great opportunity as it will assist me in my applications for future apprenticeships. I would like to run my own business long term, and this is just one of the steps that I need to take to achieve that goal.
TRAINING PATHWAYS

Resources Connect Program

After 12 months of discussion, planning and program development, Halls Head College in partnership with the Australian Mines and Metals Association, has commenced the delivery of its 2 year Resources Connect Program. AMMA, Australia’s largest national resource industry employer group and integral to the partnership provides important industry backing as the College continues to establish itself as a leader in the development of quality community and business connections to support the career development, learning and employment opportunities for its students. AMMA’s expertise and knowledge of the mining sector, including the variety of learning and employment pathways available is a terrific learning opportunity and resource for students.

This innovative program, the first of its kind provides students with exposure to key skills and development around leadership, employability skills and the opportunity to work towards the Certificate III in Business qualification. This qualification is unique with units of competence being delivered in areas such as work health and safety, working effectively with diversity and effective workplace communications. This also encompasses units of competence from the resources training package, first aid training and the completion of the white card qualification. The first intake has seen 16 year 11 students commence the program with the expected completion date in 2017 when students will graduate from secondary education.

Students recently attended a boardroom meeting with some of AMMA’s key executives before representing Halls Head College as the only school to attend the Australian Oil and Gas Conference hosted in Perth at the Convention Centre. This learning experience was a highly valuable experience for the students as they liaised with industry leaders. Celebrating its 35th year, AOG 2016 featured a theme of “Collaboration” with over 500 exhibiting companies from 25 counties at the Australasian Oil and Gas Exhibition and Conference.

AIME

On Monday the 14th March we had a visit from AIME’s coordinator Kristine O’Ferral who provided morning tea for our students and gave new students some information on the AIME program. (Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience).

AIME presented our College with a framed hoodie for our participation and support of their program for the last 3 years. This program gives Indigenous students the extra support, belief, guidance and skills to succeed in school through their 5 workshops held throughout the year. A big thank you to Newmont Mining and Murdoch University for helping to bring this program to our school as without this funding, it wouldn’t be possible.

Jo Bell
Aboriginal Islander Education Officer

Halls Head College Leads the way in Energy

Halls Head College 2015 graduating student Kiara-Lea Totton is one of only sixteen students selected state-wide who has been appointed to a 4 year Process Operator Apprenticeship as part of the Energy Apprenticeships Group (EAG) program.

There was great interest in the apprenticeship opportunity with 657 applications, 120 students involved in aptitude testing, 65 interviewed, 36 progressing to the assessment centre and 16 WA 2015 graduating students being offered positions.

Halls Head was one of only five schools state-wide selected in this unique program, working in partnership with EAG to offer students a unique insight into this job pathway and opportunities for selection into a growing field of enterprise.

Kiara-Lea will be sponsored by Shell Australia and will spend the first two years of the program based at the Australian Centre for Energy Process Training (ACEPT) facility, which will also include 4 secondments visits to Perth based companies for hands on work experience. For the next two years of the apprenticeship Kiara-Lea will work on Shell’s Prelude facility for extended periods of time whilst also spending time at ACEPT.

At the completion of the 4 year apprenticeship there is an opportunity for Kiara-Lea to be offered a position by Shell Australia where she will work on Prelude as a fully trained and accredited Process Technician.

Halls Head College looks forward to continuing this program into 2016, with EAG opening up new areas that will broaden the training opportunities in this field, supporting more students with future pathways, training and employment options.
On Thursday the 25th of February 2016, Scitech visited Halls Head College to present their 'Beyond the Beaker' show. The show was designed to highlight different career paths that are available in Science and the opportunities that a career in Science can give students.

The show discussed how people use the scientific process in their everyday lives and the majority of decisions that are made are based on observations and reasoning. From the food you eat, to the hair dye you may purchase when strapped for cash. The presenters also shared their career pathway that led to the job they love whilst travelling around the state.

Some of the activities included a game of Joust and daring a sacrificial Mr Rye to eat meal worms. Supposedly they are full of protein and low in fat, but not too pleasant on the palate.

All students came away with an appreciation for science and hopefully will pursue a career that they are passionate about.

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**Attendance Requirements**

Regular attendance is vital for success at school. For this to occur, Halls Head College and the Department of Education have set the priority of having all students with an attendance rate of more than 90%.

The School Education Act 1999 requires a student of compulsory school age, from the beginning of the year in which the child reaches the age of 5 years and 6 months, and until the end of the year in which the child reaches 17 years and 6 months or the child reaches the age of 18, to be enrolled in and attend a school or an approved educational programme.

The parents/caregiver must:

- Ensure that a child in their care who is of compulsory school age attends a school or approved educational programme or complies with an alternative attendance arrangement.

- Notify the Principal as to the cause of the absence as soon as is practicable and within three school days from which the non-attendance commenced.

- On request from the Principal, provide a medical certificate in the case of student illness.

We would like your assistance to help us achieve this goal by making sure your child attends school everyday with the only exception being an illness. If your child is absent from school please reply to the SMS, contact the school office by phone or send a note in with your child explaining your child’s absence.

Halls Head College is here to support you with your child’s attendance. Please contact us if you require further assistance in helping your child to improve their attendance so they can optimize their learning opportunities.

Sharyn Wren  
Deputy Principal

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**Scitech Incursion**

**Halls Head College**

FACEBOOK PAGE

The College has two Facebook sites for you to receive important information.

One to buy and sell second hand uniforms (new college uniform) and one for general information.

Like and share our pages!

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**CODE OF CONDUCT**

Creating a positive environment based on the five school values.

**1 CARE**

Being considerate to others and of yourself.  

- Care for the school environment  
- Caring about achieving to the best of our ability  
- Caring about our personal presentation

**2 COURTESY**

Being considerate by respecting all members of the school community.  

- Using good manners when interacting with people inside and outside the school community  
- Being punctual and prepared for class

**3 CO-OPERATION**

Working together in harmony for the good of the group.

- Supporting the school rules and value system

**4 COURAGE**

Having the strength to stand up when you need to, to aim for success in the face of obstacles and to back down when it is called for.

- Making good choices
- Showing initiative at school and in the wider community
- Striving to succeed and achieving our best regardless of others

**5 COMMITMENT**

Investing the effort and actions required to be fully dedicated to your goals, tasks, learning and school.

- Applying our full attention, energy and effort into achieving our goals

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Sharyn Wren  
Deputy Principal
Tips to help you support your young person:

1. **Recognise** their distress or worrying behaviour
2. **Ask** them about it
3. **Acknowledge** their feelings
4. **Get Support**
5. **Check in** a short time later
Are your personal details up to date?

It is very important that we have your current details up to date for our college records. If you change address, change your email address or have acquired one, please let our Administration Office staff know, so that we can ensure that you are receiving the relevant information that you require.

College Website

Our college Website www.hallsheadcc.wa.edu.au is a great way of receiving up to date information weekly. Our front page (Recent News) has information that is relevant to you. Important dates are recorded and you can access our School Reports, Newsletters and Uniform Information etc.