Entry into Senior School is an exciting event for Year 10 students at ASHSS. Not only do they wear a distinctive dark navy polo shirt which distinguishes them from lower school students, but as the year rolls out, they notice that their relationship with teachers is rather more ‘mature’.

Years 11 and 12 are most memorable years for most of our students. However, they can be very difficult years if they choose courses (subjects) not suited to them.

Our recent and very successful Year 10 Parent Evening was the beginning of a process designed to ensure that our students and their parents were well informed about the opportunities available in Senior School.

Michael White, our new Deputy Principal, began the evening by providing parents and students with a wealth of information. Garry Mayfield, the Head of the Technology and Enterprise Learning Area and Marcus Gianatti, a member of the Design and Technology teaching team, then combined to explain how the innovative, popular and nationally recognised ASHS Industry Training Program operates.

Parents asked questions and various members of our teaching staff responded. The underlying message was: listen to the advice of teachers and then choose your year 11 subjects wisely.

This is a critical message because we often witness Year 11 students who have not chosen wisely and lose interest. There are various reasons for this. For example, they may have poor study skills and equally poor work ethic. The course (s) they chose require much more effort than they are prepared to offer. Some do not have the academic ability to handle a particular course. Frustration sets in very early with these students and they usually seek a change of courses. Their year has started badly.

This is why the school provided the Year 10 Parent Evening and a week of ‘one to one’ counselling recently - to help both parents and their children to make the right choice of subjects.

Counsellors play a critical role in this process. But they must be well prepared if they are to offer the very best advice. This school has taken steps to ensure that this is the case.

The guidance that our experienced teacher/counsellors can offer is very reassuring to families.

We are indebted
Harvey Norman Armadale is supporting ASHS Vocational Education and training (VET) courses, by making a special monthly award available. The school is very proud of its high quality VET initiatives and this generosity by our retail neighbour is deeply appreciated.

Mr Tim Kay of Harvey Norman attended our final assembly for second term to present the inaugural Harvey Norman VET Award to Year 11 VET student Azizan Silten. Azizan was a popular choice and he received his award from Mr Kay amid loud applause. Lindsay Kirby, Azizan’s year 11 schoolmate, was thrilled to hear his name called out during our opening assembly of third term. He was the winner of the second Harvey Norman VET Award.

The school congratulates both VET students. We look forward to announcing the winner of the third award during the final assembly of this term.

Both Azizan (left) and Lindsay are achieving very high standards and in so doing, are setting up their careers. The young men are fine examples to other students in the ASHS Industry Program.

Welcome Michael
Using the merit selection process, ASHS has replaced outgoing Deputy Principal, Alison Parolo, with Michael White. Michael was at John Curtin College of the Arts last term. He was a Head of the Society and Environment Learning Area and also Acting Deputy Principal at Governor Stirling SHS. He has 21 years teaching experience. Michael holds the rank of Captain in the Army Reserve. A well travelled and enthusiastic person, Michael has adjusted quickly to his new role with us. We look forward to working with him through second semester.

Michael brings invaluable secondary school experience to ASHS. He has thoroughly enjoyed settling in and has found staff and students to be most welcoming.
The beginning of an era of outstanding art

Our successful 2005 application to the Department of Education and Training for a Special Program in Art, has meant that talented young artists need not travel long distances to schools which offer such programs. This school can now welcome them. We believe that ASHS is destined to once again become an important centre of Art.

The first promise of this was shown at the recent City of Armadale Art Awards for students in years 8 - 10. Three of our Year 8 Special Art Program students (Tenneike Brown, Angela Amos and Scott Barker) featured in the awards. In addition, Nikki Mckenzie a Year 8 schoolmate, joined them with an award. All of these artists are taught by Tracey Van Zaanen. The details are:

Name: Tenneike Brown
PS: Serpentine PS
Section: Painting
Title: Seascape
Award: First place

Name: Nikki Mckenzie
PS: Ashburton PS
Section: Painting
Title: Nikki’s Landscape
Award: Second place

Name: Scott Barker
PS: Armadale PS
Section: Painting
Title: Boats are Arriving
Award: Outstanding Achievement

Name: Angela Amos
PS: Serpentine PS
Section: Sculpture
Title: Egyptian Urn
Award: Outstanding Achievement

Good standing at this school

Every ASHS student begins the year with Good Standing. Most do not change their status. Why? Because they were not suspended, they did not truant from school, they have submitted assignments, behaved in and out of class and they did not accumulate more than three dress passes.

This is as it should be. Good standing is not difficult to maintain.

But some students do lose good standing. Some lose it repeatedly. In extreme cases, the school seeks the exclusion of such a student. We lose patience. Time is better spent on students who want to do well at school.

Less extreme cases are not invited to non curriculum events. This includes very popular events such as the School Ball, Year 10 Graduation Dinner and river cruises. When a particular event has taken place, the Good Standing of these students is returned to them. We think it is a very fair system.

Not good enough

The standard of school dress at ASHS is only fair when compared to other schools in the district. It is difficult to fully understand why this should be.

In response to a 2005 statement from the Minister for Education regarding compulsory uniforms in public schools, we (the School Council, the P&C and members of staff) introduced clothing which is comfortable to wear, fashionable and well priced.

Why do some families choose to ignore this? Their children arrive at school in a wide assortment of clothing. Each day we see Uggs boots, scuffs, tiny skirts and shorts, variously coloured waistbands, tops with large logos and trade names and so on. Receiving a Dress Pass is regarded as a minor inconvenience by these students. While they may be a minority, they generate a disproportionate amount of concern in the school.

This concern is always with us. There are two reasons for this. These non conforming students:

1. Set a bad example on dress to their school mates. Peer influence is very powerful among teenagers.
2. Send a poor and grossly inaccurate message about ASHS to the wider community.

Disappointed though the school is at this lack of support from some families, our commitment to uniform is a strong as ever. We sincerely thank the many families who see the wisdom of having school uniform and who insist that their child arrives at school in the correct attire.

I hope that this copy of ‘ASHES’ finds both you and your family in good spirits.

Best wishes
Joe Kalajzich
Principal

Powering into a business venture

Purchasing an $800.00 remote controlled four wheel drive T-Max truck may seem an unusual thing for a group of Year 11 students to do. But the purchase is a business venture! The ‘business people’ in this instance are Group 1 members of our Industry Program. Their teachers (Mr Wood – automotives and Ms Welsh – English) have given a green light to the venture. With this teacher support, students will experience the design, maintenance, economics and communication involved in running a small business.

The group has a Chief Executive Officer (James Spark), a Treasurer (Scott Barkey, a Secretary (Lee Wegner), a Maintenance Officer (Azizan Sitten) and a Fund Raising Committee (Glen Robinson, Taitiarna Brown, Jarrod Bygraves, Richard Prince, David Andrews and Ceton Willison.

Group 1 and their T-Max truck.

Using a car provided by Mr Wood, the group plans to commence fund raising by allowing other students to feel the thrill of controlling the vehicle. Unfortunately, battery power loss led to a dramatic collision between the little beast and a flagpole! The flagpole is fine.

Once group 1 has repaired their vehicle, they hope to expand their horizon. However, the cost of a vehicle may prove difficult to overcome. The ASHS Finance Committee has approved an application by the group to conduct three sausage sizzles which will add valuable dollars to the business plan.

As you will understand the educational benefits of this business venture are considerable.
ABBIE’S STORY
Abigail (Abbie) Bartlett is a talented Year 12 Art student who has developed her skills under the expert tuition of ASHS teachers Wayne Reading and Tracey Van Zaanen. The Byford Progress Association (through former ASHS School Council Chairperson, Colleen Rankin) approached Wayne and Tracey and asked them to nominate a student artist for a Special Community art project. Abbie’s name was immediately given.

Anne Bennett, the Fremantle Arts Centre ‘In the Community’ project Coordinator was behind the request for a student artist. Anne’s task is to engage four local areas – (Byford, Dwellingup, Waroona and Harvey) in a Fremantle Arts Centre/Alcoa art project initiatives using aluminium as the medium. Noted artist Gary Atkin has a mentoring role with the four student artists. Abbie’s project involves the design of a bench to be placed around a tree at the front of the Byford Hall. She has worked closely with a group, members of which have provided guidance and support. The final draft stage has been reached and construction will take place shortly.

THE HUMAN BODY EXHIBITION
A group of 46 students, one parent and three teachers were fortunate to see this extraordinary exhibition of human bodies at the Perth Exhibition Centre during July. The bodies on display showed in the most direct and intricate detail, how the human body and its organs look in health and in some diseases. All students were able to marvel at the exhibits and learn from the experience. This was a great way to make learning truly relevant to them.

Understanding the human body and how it functions will be much easier for the students who took up this opportunity.

After the exhibition, we all went to Carousel to enjoy a pleasant lunch before returning to school. It was a great way to enjoy the last day of Term 2!

The teachers who escorted the students were very impressed by those who attended and their behaviour was a credit to the school. Well done everyone.

J Adderley
Science

Congratulations To …..

James Spark of Year 11 for his success in circle track speedway. James is a member of our industrial Program and came to ASHS from Mundijong PS as a Year 8 Robot- ics Scholarship winner. James became interested in speedway because of involvement by his father. It was dad who modified a Toyota Corolla KE10 for James and his racing began. He won his first race at Collie in that car. James and his cousin prepared a Corolla KE55 and it was this car which enabled the young speedway driver to gain two first places and one second place in the Junior Sedan Division. James is looking forward to the new season which commences in October. He will compete in Junior Class A and on some nights, he will have to compete against up to 25 cars. He has developed a love for the sport – so much so that he wants to attend a course on the history of racing, which is to be conducted by Curtin University. He is also keen to join a large pit crew to further his knowledge.

Not surprisingly, James has progressed very well in the Industry Program.
Strengthening our bonds.
The 2006 two week visit to ASHS by 19 students from Minato Sohgoh High School in Japan was very successful. Led by Rebecca Serls, the Australian Institute for International Understanding (AIIU) Coordinator, our visitors packed a wide range of activities into their short stay. These included:

+ Home stay with host families
+ Working in our Year 8 Japanese classes with Kurt Regan, our teacher of Japanese Language.
+ Having lessons in English with Rebecca Serls and their accompanying teacher of English, Mr Takayuka Yokata.
+ Going on excursions to Tumbledum Farm, the Caversham Wildlife Park, Fremantle and the city.

A group of Year 11 students volunteered to 'buddy' the Japanese students when they were at school. As is common in these cases, a close bond developed very quickly. This is the fourth successive year that Minato Sohgoh High School has visited ASHS.

We were sorry to see our guests leave and look forward to their return next year. Mr Yokata will again accompany the group.

The happy group is photographed ( R ) wearing senior school polo tops. The tops were a gift from the ASHS community.
Congratulations to members of the Girls Soccer Team and Boys Senior Basketball Team in making the finals of their respective sports. Although both teams were subsequently defeated, their spirited play and great sportsmanship brought honour to their school.

ENTERTAINMENT VALUE BOOK
Are you interested in joining your friends and family with discount prices at your favourite restaurants and other venues? If so this book is for you! The price is $60 and has a gold card for the top restaurants in Perth. Please see Coral in our Administration office as the books are on site. It is valid from June 2006 until June 2007.

Physical Education—Lifeskills
As in the world of work, there are requirements for being prepared and wearing appropriate clothing. We are trying to teach students lifeskills by following rules and preparing themselves for school each day.

Students are required to wear suitable sports’ clothing for all physical education classes.

They must change out of their school clothing for these sessions.

Students should be wearing shorts, t-shirt/polo shirts and in colder weather they may wear tracksuit style clothing. For safety reasons, correct footwear such as sport shoes should be worn.

The wearing of jeans/cords is unacceptable for physical education lessons.

We are asking parents/guardians to assist us by:

1. Purchasing suitable sports clothing.
2. Discussing with their son/daughter the requirements of Physical Education and the reasons why we need to wear particular clothing.
3. Organising their son/daughter to read their timetable the evening before so as they are prepared for all classes the next day. This is an ideal opportunity for students to pack their bag with everything they need such as files, pencil case, paper and PE clothing if required.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Mr G Seers
Health & Physical Education—HOLA

During Term 1 students in Year 8-10 were involved in Phase 1 testing of specific fitness and anthropometric measurements. These results have now been analysed and selected students have been invited to the second phase of testing. Phase 2 testing will take place during August/September.

It must be noted that results were for specific sports—Kayaking, Rowing and Cycling. Some students who possess exceptional physical attributes may have been overlooked for the second phase of testing. They may achieve success in these or other sports. Success and enjoyment in sport may be achieved even when physical characteristics are not perfectly matched.

Congratulations to the following students on being invited to the second phase of testing:

**Canoeing:**
- Conrad Cornelius
- Matthew Spark
- Jared Ferris
- Callum Jones
- Natalie Doust
- Karen Thompson

**Rowing:**
- Sara McCormick
- Lorrena Kocsis
- Jacueline Butchart

**Cycling:**
- Shani Grant
- Tamara Van Aiste
- Samantha Higgon
- Jacinta Thomas
- Demi Hill
- Teneikke Brown
- Kevin Throddenston
- Dylan Schokker

Mr G Seers
Health & Physical Education—HOLA

Congratulations to a number of our students who participated in the SE Zone Lightning Carnival on Tuesday August 8. Behaviour and sportsmanship was of a high standard. Students participated with a determined effort.

Participating schools included:
- Armadale SHS, Cecill Andrews SHS, Kelmscott SHS, Canningvale College, Southern River College, Yule Brook College, Thornlie SHS and Roleystone DHS.

Results are as follows:
- Netball—2nd, Boys Basketball—5th, Volleyball—4th & 9th

Thank you to our senior school students for assisting with umpiring and coaching duties. As a note of interest—more teams would have participated if students brought in their permission slips. Only two slips for football and five for soccer were received by Staff members. This is after numerous meetings and morning notices. Initially, we had plenty of interest and teams were nominated. Students need to show greater responsibility.

Gary Seers
HOLA
Health & Physical Education

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The Arts Department staged a very enjoyable cabaret night at the end of term two. The event was held to give students a chance to perform in front of their parents and friends, and involved students from the Dance, Drama and Music courses. The event drew a larger crowd than anticipated. Standing room only! Many thanks to all those parents who braved a chilly night to attend - especially those who accepted the shortage of seating with such good grace.

The Year 10 dancers were one of the many highlights

One of the Yr 9 groups performing an original piece.

Swan Lake it isn’t, but the year 12’s kept everyone entertained.

Yr 12 Drama performing an original satire on teachers

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Armadale SHS invites applications from Year 7 students with an interest in Visual Art or Music, to join our Specialist Art program or the Instrumental Music course. Auditions and interviews will be held early Term 4. Please contact Mr Colin Nicholson, the Head of The Arts Learning Area for application details.

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Special Art Program & Music; 2007

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If not claimed please return to
Box S1400, G.P.O. PERTH 6001

SENDER: Armadale Senior High School

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O.H.M.S.