PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

The Minister for Education recently confirmed that in 2007, denim clothing can no longer be worn as part of school uniform in WA public schools. This did not apply in 2006 and students were allowed to wear denim. However, ASHS will follow this instruction by the Minister in 2007. Students have been informed.

In addition, the Minister made it clear that all public school students were expected to wear a school uniform. The reasons given were that a uniform:

- improves the public image of a school;
- has a positive effect upon student self esteem;
- develops pride in one’s school;
- is an important way to identify unwelcome visitors on a school site;
- helps students to realise that when they leave school, certain standards of dress and grooming are expected of them by future employers;
- minimises inequalities of dress that are commonplace in schools.

As current parents of our students are aware, the ASHS School Council and P&C set up a new uniform this year. Many students now come to school each day in full uniform and they look very smart indeed.

But some students refuse to comply and made light of the fact that they have been given numerous dress passes. They set a very bad example to their school mates, while having a disproportionate impact upon the image of their school. This has gone on for years. It is not fair and should not be allowed to continue.

As a consequence, the school will use all the powers provided by the Minister of Education to ensure that school uniform is worn by all students at ASHS.

SHARING THE LOAD

The ASHS Finance Committee was involved in a protracted meeting recently to discuss the 2007 budget. Deep concern was expressed about the dwindling revenue coming to the school from voluntary contributions and charges. The issue has been presented to the School Council as a matter of urgency.

This revenue is used by heads of learning areas to run their programs. The resources needed to do this include very expensive items such as books (commonly around $1000.00 a set), wood, steel, industrial gas, foodstuffs, sporting equipment, chemicals and so on. The total cost of having photocopiers in learning areas amount to about $60,000 a year! In addition, we desperately need this revenue to supplement the annual Learning Technologies grant received by all schools. Information Communication Technology (ICT) is an important school priority and must be funded at an appropriate level. This year’s shortfall for ICT was about $30,000. A repeat in 2007 will have a serious impact upon the quality of our network.

The annual School Grant provided by the Department of Education and Training is currently used to run the school. This embraces big cost items such as maintenance, administration, student services and the Library. All of these areas are managed carefully and cannot be realistically pruned to support learning programs.

We appeal to some parents to reconsider their position on school payments and discuss their circumstances with our Business Manager, Ms Marie McGlashan. A simple plan will enable small payments to be made throughout the year. It is only fair that the burden be shared by everyone.

WELL DESERVED!

Over 30 students are catered for in the ASHS Retention, Intervention and Participation @ Armadale (RIPA) program. These students find it difficult to cope with mainstream schooling and are nurtured in RIPA while they work towards completion of the Certificate of General Education for Adults (CGEA). In addition, the Stairways Program run by Armadale Youth Resources (AYR) in our Stairways Cottage, means that we can now offer real assistance to students with social and emotional needs. Such needs can cause considerable anxiety to students and prevent them from progressing steadily at school.

The Canning Education District office invited schools to nominate initiatives which were considered worthy of prestigious awards. ASHS is very proud of both the RIPA and Stairways programs, so both were nominated. We are delighted to report that the nominations were successful.

Alison Parolo (former Deputy Principal of ASHS and person most responsible for developing the programs), Di Atkinson (RIPA Coordinator), Chris Barrett (AYR Coordinator) and I recently attended the annual Celebrating Canning Breakfast in the Grand Ballroom of the Burswood Convention Centre to receive the Canning District Excellence in Education Award.

The award was presented by District Director Stephen Baxter in the company of hundreds of school representatives, parliamentarians and Minister for Education.
The Kelmscott Agricultural Society continues the tradition of presenting an opportunity for community members to participate in an exhibition of recreational activities including arts, crafts and cookery.

This year students from the department of Home Economics took part in the Kelmscott Show by entering their fabric and cooking projects. Many were highly commended for the skills and talent they displayed.

The following students won awards at the show:

**Craft and Fabric**
- **Year 8**
  - 1st Prize: April Woolhouse
  - 2nd Prize: Heidi Blundy

- **Year 8, 9, 10**
  - 1st Prize: Beau Marzi
  - 2nd Prize: Amanda Smith

- **Cassandra Cornelius**

The students were thrilled with the results and we are very proud of them.

**Ms Alberts & Ms Tagore**

**Home Economics Department**

**Well Done Chloe**

The Harvey Norman Armadale Vocational Education and Training (VET) monthly Award is now well established at ASHS. The award recognises VET students who have made outstanding progress in their courses and who set an example to their class mates.

On this occasion, teachers were unanimous in their selection of Year 11 student Chloe Smith. Don Randall MHR attended a full school assembly and presented the award to Chloe.

The school remains indebted to Harvey Norman Armadale and in particular, to manager Tim Kay.

**Maintaining Our Community Relationships**

Armadale SHS cherishes the relationship it has with the community it serves. This relationship has evolved over many years and remains intact today.

One reason for this is the ASHS Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) program. In 2006, about 130 senior students were placed in workplaces throughout the district under the watchful and critical eyes of employers. Their job was to assess our students in accordance with a strict assessment regime. So often, their reports were highly complimentary.

Given this long and rich history of community involvement, you will understand that our annual Rotary Dinner is important to us. It is symbolic of the value we place upon the links we have with the Armadale community. The dinner is an opportunity to welcome community leaders and provide a meal that would grace the tables of any distinguished establishment. Congratulations are extended to Home Economics teacher Ms Tagore and her Food Production students.

Our very best wishes to you and your family

Mr J. Kalajzich
Principal

Ashlea’s charming painting is entitled ‘Forecast’. It will now grace the main foyer of the Department of Education and Training along with other beautiful examples of work completed by Year 12 public school artists over the years.

A RARE TALENT

You may remember that Year 12 student Ashlea Young featured in the last copy of ‘ASHES’. Ashlea is a gifted artist. Her work was selected in the Quest for Excellence ‘Young Originals’ exhibition, along with 61 other pieces by WA Year 12 students. The exhibition rewards excellence, creativity, innovation and originality.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) purchases original pieces of Year 12 student art each year. Ashlea and her school were delighted to hear that the painting submitted by her to the Young Originals Exhibition, was chosen as one of seven purchased by DET. What a fine achievement!

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**Chloe joins Year 11 school mates Azizan Silten and Lindsay Kirby as 2006 recipients of the award.**

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Armadale SHS has continued to show leadership in the field of technology by introducing the ‘Message You School Absentee SMS Messaging system’. The system is now successfully used in private and public schools around Australia.

The school is very pleased to have a system which enables prompt contact with parents who have mobile phones. Since the introduction of the system this term, we have received over 200 messages from parents explaining the absence of their children.

Upon receiving notification of the absence of their child a number of parents have rung the school to ask if a check could be made to confirm the information. We would like to assist, however we do not have staff available to do this.

The main reason for incorrect information being relayed to parents is when students arrive late to school and do not come to the Student Desk in the administration area and sign the ‘Late Arrivals Register’. This is a serious breach of a simple school rule. Detention is now given to these students, because their oversight (or refusal) can lead to considerable concern and inconvenience.

When parents are notified of an unexplained absence, the child in question should be asked about the absence and whether the Late Arrivals Register was signed. If an inconsistency remains between school records and the absence of students, parents are asked to provide a brief explanatory (signed and dated) note. The matter will be looked into.

In summary
- If your child is going to be late, remind them to sign the Late Arrivals Register at the Student Desk in the administration area and notify the school by phone (9497 6437). Contact the school if your child is leaving early and remind them to sign out.
- Ring 9497 6437 to update our records concerning your current phone number(s).
- If we believe your child is absent, an SMS message will be relayed to you automatically.
- If we advise you that your child is absent, confirm this with them before seeking confirmation from the school. Many students have mobile phones and can be contacted by parents during recess time (11.02am – 11.25am) or lunch time (1.25pm – 2.00pm).
- If you are unable to contact the school by telephone, send a brief (signed) note.

The school wishes to thank the many parents who have expressed support for this initiative. Nothing is more important to us than the safety of our students and this monitoring system is an important addition to the strategies we use to ensure this.

Spicing up science was the flavour of the day for Saskia Law, Chandra Gunalan and Rachel Richards, who visited the University of Western Australia on Monday 16 October. They joined a group of 90 science teachers from the 6 SPICE schools in Western Australia.

SPICE is a secondary teachers’ enrichment program; a collaboration between The University of Western Australia and The Department of Education and Training.

Usually busy science teachers, like current SPICE teacher Bob Fitzpatrick from Armadale SHS, are given the opportunity to take time out of their hectic working lives to interact with UWA research scientists and students.

SPICE teachers also have the opportunity to update their skills and access the latest scientific equipment and techniques.

Students at SPICE schools will have access to exciting contemporary science through the enthusiasm of their teachers and supporting curriculum materials. New materials are currently being produced by SPICE in conjunction with science teachers and UWA staff.

Visiting teachers attended seminars across a range of sciences during their day at UWA; from Forensic Chemistry to Quantum Computing and Radioastronomy.

Mr Roger Dickinson, Director of the SPICE project said, “this is the first of many such programs being offered to SPICE schools and the program is expanding rapidly giving access to science teachers to UWA science to many more schools in 2007.”

Welcome Yuki

Our Japanese language program has been enriched with the arrival of Yuki Imaizumi. Yuki is a former securities company employee, whose home is in Kuwana City in the Mie Prefecture near Osaka.

Yuki has settled in quickly and is enjoying being at ASHS – and our lovely spring weather.

Yuki majored in French while at university, but has developed a love of the English language. She plans to make a career change upon returning to Japan in October of 2007. Because of the excellent tuition she received by an Australian teacher in a conversational language school in Japan, Yuki has been inspired to become a teacher of English.

However she prefers the teaching style used in conversational language schools to that used in Japanese primary and secondary schools. For this reason, she plans to teach in the former. She has come to Australia to strengthen her grasp of English, while providing our students with invaluable assistance during lessons with Mr Regan, our teacher of Japanese Language.
On Monday, October 23 a squad of very excited students travelled to Perry Lakes Stadium to participate in the SSWA Divisional Carnival. Congratulations to our team members for a tremendous effort in gaining 4th place. All athletes showed a determination to do their best. Well done! Behaviour and sportsmanship were of a high standard.

Our student officials were exemplary in their conduct and performance. Thank you for a job well done.

Several tremendous performances by Aaron Oliver resulted in him being awarded Champion Boy 15 yrs. Congratulations Aaron. Also, Jessie Whittaker Year 8, was runner up Champion Boy 13yrs. Well done Jessie!

Placings as follows:
1. Lakeland SHS 1375 Points
2. Hampton SHS 1081 "
3. Rockingham SHS 959 "
4. Armadale SHS 907 "
5. Kent St SHS 872 "
6. Balcatta SHS 724 "
7. Mirrabooka SHS 661 "

Many team members celebrated the end of the athletic season with an activities and film night in Fremantle. This was a fitting end for our Year 12 students who have given great service to Armadale SHS. For some, this involved 5 years of Interschool competition.

Gary Seers
HOLA
Health and Physical Education
The final day of school is one many of us will remember with mixed feelings; relief that long hours in classrooms had come to an end, excitement at the life prospects that lay ahead and regret that we were parting company with people who had become very important in our lives.

No less for our Year 12 students on their final day recently. We commenced with a scrumptious and happy breakfast prepared by members of our teaching staff. Students then gave ‘awards’ to various teachers. For example, Mr Rizzo received the ‘worst jokes’ award and Ms Law won the ‘most fashionable’ award.

This very special event was followed by a school assembly at which the ‘Class of 2006’ presented a fine banner which can now be used in the many events at which ASHS will participate in the years ahead. Following a humorous and very well received address by Year 12 student Meaghan Perkins, they left school in great spirits to the applause of the whole school for a fun filled day at the Oasis Resort in the Swan Valley.

The responsibility for managing our student leaders for 2006 lay in the hands of Year 12 Coordinator Ken Cook. Ken is a very experienced secondary teacher and this experience was evident throughout the year. The school thanks him sincerely for a job well done.

A fine personal quality!

The ASHS 100 Club was established in 2002 to acknowledge students who give 100% effort in a particular subject. In addition, the Armadale Education Support Centre and our Student Services division acknowledge students who also give 100%. The nominated students are inducted into the club at a formal morning tea, to which parents and a guest speaker are invited. Guest speakers are chosen from a wide spectrum of the community. Induction for club members nominated for third term took place at school on Friday 3 November. Over 20 parents and relatives attended, as did Mr Richard Hunter, our guest speaker and Principal of Cecil Andrews SHS. Mr Hunter had a similar message to many other guest speakers over the years. Giving 100% effort is a fine human quality and one which we should all aspire to. It is also a quality which is highly valued by employer groups in our society.

100 Club members for third term, 2006 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Somerville</td>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>The Arts (Drama)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Hill</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>The Arts (Drama)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophie Myers</td>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Boyd</td>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikki McKenzie</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>AESC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Chapman-Rigby</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>AESC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Daly</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molly Browne</td>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beau Bull</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Health and P&amp;E</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Roose</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Health and P&amp;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte Mellor</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Society and Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wooki Kim</td>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>Technology and Enterprise (D&amp;T)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ceton Willison</td>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Technology and Enterprise (D&amp;T)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Navarre Top</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>LOTE (Japanese)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannoo Morgan</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>LOTE (Japanese)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacinta Thomas</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Student Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Sutton</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Student Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared O’Callaghan</td>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veronica Fancote</td>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Beyond the Beaker – Discovering Careers in Science

On Wednesday, 25th October selected students in Yr 8 and Yr 9 took the opportunity to participate in this touring program presented by Scitech and designed to inspire young people to pursue career opportunities in science, mathematics, engineering and technology.

The program included a multimedia participative presentation followed by a hands-on workshop. The response by the students was very enthusiastic and they found it a fun and valuable experience.

Many thanks to the year 9 coordinator, Claire Krawzow for her help with organisation.

Joan Adderley
(Science)

IN BRIEF

Three of our Year 12 students have set their sights on a career with The Australian Defence Forces. Bryce Lightbody plans to enter the Royal Military College at Duntroon in 2007. Student Council President Chris Capao will enter the Army reserve, study Mechanical Engineering and then enter the army. Daniel Iyer has set his sights on training at Kapooka before entering a regiment such as the 10th Lighthorse. The ADF have reason to be very grateful to ASHS. These are fine young men.

Jimmy Melhuish and Dylan Bassarelli (Year 8) were keen competitors in the food section of the 2006 Kelmscott Show. They are shown proudly displaying their Anzac biscuits. Delicious though the biscuits looked, they did not get a nod from the judges. Maybe next year!

Reconstruction of a major retaining wall at ASHS will take place over the Christmas holidays. The work is estimated to cost about $43,000. Expensive but very necessary.

ASHS teachers will begin preparing reports at the commencement of week 4 of this term. This is much earlier than normal, however because of the technical difficulties experienced at the conclusion of first semester, it was thought prudent to add in a little more time.

State School Teachers Union of WA bans still apply. The bans relate to workload and professional education issues.
As a 'Choose Respect' school, every member of the Armadale Senior High School school community is encouraged to make a conscious effort to **resist your natural desire to pay back or take revenge**.

When someone hurts us (physical or emotional) or does not treat us with Respect, it is natural for us to want to pay back and take revenge. However, there are always consequences to our behaviour. If we choose to pay back and take revenge it will always lead to: CONFLICT, HATE, INJURY, PAIN and HURT.

Is there another way? Yes... To resist our natural desire to pay back and take revenge and treat others with respect and choose to forgive. Treating others with respect and choosing to forgive will always lead to: PEACE, LOVE, HEALING, JOY and WELL-BEING. How we choose to respond will always decide our consequences: CONFLICT or PEACE, HATE or LOVE, INJURY or HEALING, PAIN or JOY, HURT or WELL-BEING.

What consequences will you choose? Will you 'Choose Respect'...?
Year 12 automotive and furniture students (pictured right) have only just finished school and are off to their picnic. However they are fully equipped for the future after successfully achieving nationally accredited industry training competencies to a cert I Level.

Congratulations Wooki (pictured left) on producing an excellent piece of furniture. Wooki Kim is an exchange student from Japan, where woodwork and furniture production is not part of the curriculum. Given communication difficulties and the fact that Wooki has never studied woodwork before she should be highly commended for achieving outstanding success.

Yr 11 industry program students (pictured right) are nearing completion of their first year of the program. They will receive nationally recognised competencies in four industry specific areas including furniture, Automotive, Engineering and Building & Construction. The program focuses on the retention of senior students. The success of the program has seen the numbers rise from 3 students last year to 27 students today.