

Comment from the Principal - 18th September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have just had the privilege and pleasure of attending a variety of events associated with the ASC Schools Week in Perth. One of these was the biennial ASC Schools Concert in the Perth Concert Hall in which our Concert Band participated.

THE ASC CONCERT

Our Concert Band enjoyed their four-day camp in Perth which preceded the ASC Schools Concert, and which involved many hours of rehearsal. That these rehearsals were worthwhile was seen and heard on the evening. The Band played Queen's *Bohemian Rhapsody* with skill, sensitivity and emotion, and drew much favourable praise: they certainly held their own against the more established school bands and ensembles. It was also good that members of the band played in the composite band - which comprised all ASC schools - and which played with real verve. Particular praise must also be directed to Keeley Parnell and Max Bosworth who introduced our contribution with distinction and style. Mrs Gail Saunders deserves thanks and praise for her meticulous preparation of the Band; thanks, too, for Ms Patricia Gardner and Mr Joel Olsder for their contributions both on the night and beforehand. A wonderful evening of music which showed the merits of our music programme in a highly favourable manner.

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

I enjoyed presenting certificates for this Award to the following students:

Year 7 - Grace Hawkey
Year 8 - Gemma Neilson
Year 9 - Mechaela Budrey
Year 10 - Kassidy Topping
Year 11&12 - Bianca Kennedy

It was also encouraging to present a wide range and significant number of Fish Certificates. Both these awards recognise the wider aspects of our education and recognise the achievement of our students in these equally important areas.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Week 10 - Wood House on duty

Monday 19th - Mallee schools in boarding house all week
Year 12 Revision Seminars all week (except Tuesday)
Year 12 have permission to wear 'themed dress' each day this week
Tuesday 20th - Athletics Carnival - all day - all students are expected to attend in Sports Uniform with House shirts
Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st - Year 10 Mentoring Camp
Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd - Normal school in school uniform
Friday 22nd Chapel as usual
Final day of School for Term 3; start of vacation

TERM 4

Please note that Term 4 starts for students on Tuesday 11th October at the usual time; Friday 14th October is a holiday because of the Esperance Show. Summer uniform should be worn (with School hats please) although we will have our customary three-week changeover period.

YEAR 12 ATAR REVISION CLASSES and MOCK EXAMINATIONS

We are repeating the success of last year's revision seminars whereby students and their teachers will have two dedicated morning, or afternoon, sessions per subject during this week (apart from Tuesday). When not in the revision sessions, or not in normal class, students will be expected to do private study in School. General and vocational classes will continue as normal. All those

involved have been given timetables, as well as mock-exam and ATAR-exam timetables. As intimated earlier all ATAR mock and final examinations will be held in St Andrew's Parish Centre; students have been told they must attend in uniform - winter or summer, as preferred. I hope that these initiatives will help our students achieve of their best.

YEAR 10 MENTORING CAMP

As you will have noted, our Year 10 students will spend two days this week at 'The Duke' being trained in the process of mentoring so that they may then work with Year 9 students in Term 4 to have ready a group of trained mentors to work with our new students in Term 1 of next year. I am very grateful to Mrs Julie Hall and Ms Laura Salomone for taking the lead on this and look forward to a successful programme.

STAFFING

I have now been successful in finding a suitable replacement for Mr Newton in the shape of Dr Damien Igoe: he has had wide experience in a variety of schools in Australia and has also taught at universities. He is very well-qualified and comes to us with warm and very positive references.

I hope that the final week will be a positive one.

With warm wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Kerr

P. Kerr Fulton-Peebles
Principal