



# THE WEEKLY PINES

## Manly Selective Campus

Northern Beaches Secondary College



*Academic Excellence ♦ Personal Best ♦ Giving Back to the Community*

Principal : Mr Tony Rudd

Deputy Principals: Ms Cath Whalan  
Ms Deb Rixon (Rel)

4 December 2015 – Newsletter No 39

## From the Principal

### The Value of Parental Support in Student's Success

I recently read an article written by the Principal of a socio-economically disadvantaged school in the United States. In the article, he spoke about the struggle of many of his students but his good fortune in having a very supportive parent community despite many of them having limited resources to support their children. While we are very fortunate not to have many of the problems described in the article, the story still resonated with me through many similarities. I have unashamedly taken this article and portrayed it in my own personal and professional context.

As a beginning teacher, I held the idealistic view that teachers held a powerful place in the influencing of each student's success at school. I haven't wavered from that, but now realise that there is much more that goes in to building that success.

American researcher Ruby Payne identifies eight essential resources that students must have to experience significant success at school, these being: financial resources, emotional resources, acquired abilities and skills, guidance and purpose, physical health, support systems (family, friends etc), role modelling and knowledge of the hidden rules. While we in schools see each of these as vital elements, the further I have progressed through school executive positions, the more I have come to respect the influence of a child's family as being one of the most significant.

Although children without these are not destined to failure, those with parental support do meet with significant advantages. In my time at Manly Selective Campus, the power of parenting has proven to be even more significant.

The wonderful students that we have at Manly Selective Campus, are testament to parents who have taken an active role in their upbringing. Parents have supported their children to be involved in activities

outside of school long before they come to us. Students come to our school having been actively involved in sport, music, drama, service endeavours and a myriad of hobbies and other pursuits. These students bring skills and abilities which enrich our school. This is in addition to the high value placed on academic success by both parents and students.

The more that I work with our parents, the more that I come to realise that we are far more than a school. We are a very special community.

Many of the programs that we run in our community would not take place without parental support. Members of our community run our band programs, giving up their time to voluntarily load trucks, transport students for rehearsals and keep stock of music and instruments etc. There are those who are actively involved in our highly valued school musicals in a variety of roles. Others who freely give of their time for chess club, drama productions, work in the canteen, participate in working bees and other P&C events. Parents who provide their expertise in supporting students in our robotics program and through the environment committee also have a huge impact on our student's learning outside of the classroom.

At this time of year, when much of the media will be focussing on the results of Year 12 students, it is timely to remember that we should measure our student's successes by far more than a number (the ATAR). We are fortunate at Manly that so many of our students will achieve success in that number, but true success is far more than that.

We cannot forget those whose partnership goes to make our school so successful.

So on behalf of our school, thank you to our amazing parents, grandparents, guardians, community supporters and all others who have contributed to our school. Without you we would be very much limited in the manner in which we teach our students. With your partnership, we have

additional resources to assist our students to thrive. Most of all, thank you for the trust that you show in us to work with such incredible young people. In reference to the African proverb: "It takes a village to raise a child", we certainly have a wonderful village that I am proud to be a part of.

### **Welcome Mrs Katherine O'Sullivan**

It gives me great pleasure to announce to our school community the appointment of Mrs Katherine O'Sullivan to the position of Deputy Principal left vacant by Mrs Bannister's promotion to the principalship of a school in the private sector. Mrs O'Sullivan was appointed to our school through the Merit Selection process and is currently the Head Teacher, Administration at North Sydney Girls High School. We are absolutely thrilled to have Mrs O'Sullivan join our staff and she will take up her position at the beginning of the 2016 school year.

The staff and some students have had the privilege of meeting Mrs O'Sullivan at two recent visits to the school, most recently at this week's Orientation Day where she was introduced to our new Year 7 students as their supervising Deputy Principal. Mrs O'Sullivan will also have responsibility for Years 9 and 11 in 2016.

Mrs O'Sullivan brings a wealth of experience in the teaching of gifted and talented students, along with an extensive understanding in whole school leadership and organisation. We are very much looking forward to the positive contributions that Mrs O'Sullivan will make to our school and students.

### **Staff and Community Appreciation Night**

On Thursday evening, seven members of the Manly Selective Campus community were recognised for their commitment to our school at the Northern Beaches Secondary College Staff and Community Recognition Awards night.

Community members Annie McCubbin and Carol Sherlock were recognised for their commitment to programs across the school including musicals, drama, photography and film productions, and P&C fund raising events. This again is just one more example of what I wrote about earlier in this report.

School Administration Officer, Jenny Bowden was presented with her award for her tremendous support in our office, ensuring its smooth operation through her flexibility in working across all areas of the office, and her friendly, welcoming manner which ensures that parents and community

members coming into the school feel valued and supported.

Teachers Rob Harris, Fiona Brien and Kate Farrow were all recognised for their outstanding contributions to teaching and learning, not only in the classroom, but through programs involving the leadership of others, enhancement of student wellbeing programs and further improvements to technology based education across the school.

Finally, Mrs Christina de Podolinski received her award in recognition for her work as our school's HSC Presiding Officer. In this role, not only has she administered the HSC examinations at our school, but she has played a significant role in ensuring that students enter each examination in the right frame of mind to do their very best.

I pass on my most sincere congratulations to each of these members of our community and thank them for what they have done for our students.



### **Orientation Days**

It was our absolute pleasure to welcome into our school community the students and their families who will begin at our school in 2016. Year 7 students had their Orientation Day on Thursday, while those beginning in Years 8-11 were welcomed on Friday morning.

On both occasions, it was lovely to see the excitement displayed by students upon their acceptance into Manly Selective Campus. Our Year 7 students and families were treated to a wonderful mix of entertainment, predominantly presented by students in Years 7-10. This included Jazz and Chamber orchestras, dancers and vocal ensembles. Once again, a highlight was the presentations by current Year 7 students explaining their experience after one year at Manly, along with the resplendent 'fashion parade' of uniforms.

During both orientations, new students were taken on a tour of the school by their Peer Support Leaders and 'buddies'. This is a wonderful introduction to our school by those who know it best, the students.

We are very much looking forward to our new students beginning with us next year. It is always exciting to see the new skills and abilities that they bring to further enhance our school.

### **Junior Band Tour**

I pass on my most sincere thanks to all students and staff who represented our school with such distinction on this week's Junior Band tour to Central Western NSW. Our students performed at a number of schools during their tour, sometimes two in the day, to very appreciative audiences. In many ways, visits by schools such as ours is a real highlight for some of these small schools not only to have visitors, but to witness the expertise that our ensembles present to them.

One such school this year has a total school enrolment of 22 students. You can imagine the feeling in the school when a coach load of 60 students arrive to perform for them with many of the students not having had such an experience previously. It is a fantastic learning opportunity for students from both schools.

Well done to all involved.



### **Water Polo Success**

I am happy to report that the Northern Sydney team finished as runners-up at the NSW Combined High Schools Water Polo tournament recently with Manly Selective Campus students, Oisin Dermody and Ian Stewart, both of Year 9, playing key roles in the success. As a result of his outstanding performances, Oisin was selected in the NSW CHS Opens seconds team and will represent NSW CHS at the All-Schools carnival, competing for a place in the NSW All-Schools team.

This is a wonderful achievement by both players as most of their competitors are typically Year 10 and 11 students.

Tony Rudd  
Principal

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## **From the Deputy Principals**

This week I have been continually reminded of the outstanding abilities and achievements of our students at Manly Selective Campus. The instrumental, vocal and dance groups who performed at our Orientation Days showcased some of the extra-curricular activities available at our school and demonstrated the amazing talent of our students. Thank you also to the Year 9 Peer Support Leaders, the SRC volunteers and the School Orientation Guides for welcoming our new students and ensuring their transition to high school is an enjoyable experience. Thank you also to Ms Carolan, Ms Brien, Ms Rixon, the Office Staff and the P & C volunteers for coordinating and assisting with these events and answering all the questions from the excited students and their parents.

Congratulations to the Music Extension students for their wonderful concert on Monday evening. Ms Boylan was glowing in her recount of the performances from Catherine, Isabela, Muneki, Alex and Luke. Thank you again to Ms Howard for all your guidance, inspiration and hard work.

Congratulations and best wishes to the Robotics team representing our school tomorrow at the Lego League National Championships. Thank you also to Mr Manfredini for all his expertise, encouragement, enthusiasm and time working with our students.

Cath Whalan  
Deputy Principal Years 7, 9, 11



Today we have just received the fabulous news that our Year 8 Debating team has won the Junior State Debating Championship, debating against Sydney Girls. The team members are: Zoe Bakker, Jamie Bell, Alanna Manfredini and Amelia Warde. A very big thank you to Ms Kontrec who has been their coach and mentor. She has given up many hours of her time to coach and mentor this wonderful team.

Year 10 students have had an extremely busy couple of weeks. The Career's Department received glowing reports about our students on Work Experience and Australian Business Week. This week Year 10 students have participated in many activities related to our two Orientation Days: in the bands, choir, guides for new students etc. These students admirably represented our school. Today the Independent Learning Project Showcase was held in the Hall plus many students created static showcases in the School foyer. This provided an opportunity for Year 10 to celebrate and share their success with Year 9 students. The

standard of work was truly amazing. Topics covered included: How might a pyramid look if built with modern technology? How could storytelling shape communities expectations? How does an individual's varying intelligence at different extremes contribute to the state of happiness? Congratulations to all Year 10 teachers and students on the high standards of the ILP's.

Deborah Rixon  
Deputy Principal (Rel), Years 8, 10, 12

## PRESENTATION NIGHT

**Date:** Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
**Venue:** Freshwater Senior Campus  
Gymnasium  
**Time:** 7pm.

*All students and their families  
are welcome.*

Prize winners need to be seated at the venue by 6.45pm in full school uniform, especially footwear.

## P&C

The P&C would like to thank the outgoing executive team for its amazing contribution over the past twelve months and in particular Bill Hawkins who has been President for the past five years.

The P&C would like to welcome the new executive team headed up by

President: Michael Jee  
[Mike.N.Jee@gmail.com](mailto:Mike.N.Jee@gmail.com) 0498 498 798  
Vice President: Sue Lamb  
Secretary: Claire Irwin  
Treasurer: Michelle Robbe

We look forward to supporting the teachers and students over the next twelve months.

We welcome all parents to participate in the P&C, the next meeting will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

## Vocal Ensemble

All members of the Manly Selective Campus community are invited to join us for our farewell concert on 17 December at 5pm at the Freshwater Campus Auditorium.

This will be the ensemble's final public performance prior to the ensemble embarking on their tour of Spain and France in January, 2016.

Come along and join us for a wonderful night of musical entertainment.

## Retirement for Bill Baker and Peter Dawes

Staff (past and present), parents and former students celebrated the retirements of Bill Baker and Peter Dawes at Dee Why last week.

**Bill Baker** (B<sup>2</sup>) has been a Science teacher at Manly High School (which became Manly Selective Campus) for the past 20 years. During that time he has taken on many roles including Sports organiser, Grade sport coach, Year Adviser and relieving Science Head Teacher.



He has a wealth of knowledge and we are in awe of this possession – Science in general, Physics in particular and everything else and he was always so patient when explaining details to others. Always generous in sharing his knowledge, he became an important mentor to many, not just with the Science staff. With all of his giving, he never asked for anything in return and his kindness has been mentioned by many. Bill genuinely cared for the health and well-being of others. He was the consummate professional in all aspects of his teaching.

He was genuinely interested in and cared for his students and was always keen to have them perform at their best to gain whatever they wanted. He was very happy to learn of the successes and progress of past students who are happy to keep in touch.

We thought for a while that he might disappear under all of the paper on his old desk. Only the refurbishment of the Science staff room saved him from a mishap!

Bill is very much a family man and he plans on spending time with his children and grandchildren as well as travelling the world with his wife Glenda. Bill will be greatly missed by all in the Science staff room and many other staff and students at Manly Selective.

We wish Bill health and happiness in his retirement.

**Peter Dawes**, TAS Head Teacher, whose career spanned 35 years, has led the TAS faculty at Manly for past 8 years.

His holistic outlook and ability to be creative and innovate are the trademarks of his tenure. As an educator he has always had a keen sense of what was really important from the students perspective, *How can we inspire and equip students best to interact in the contemporary world?*

Talking with students about *Dawsey's* pending departure, "absolute legend" was common description offered. He set the tone and the pace/rhythm as the anchor bass of the staff band playing every Pinestock. Pete has been heavily involved in the music program at MSC playing with the Strings Ensemble and regularly travelled with students on camps around NSW and overseas. He has been actively involved in the World Challenge, recently taking a group of students to India. His impact in the classroom on students has been enormous, with generations of designers and engineers in careers today solving problems thanks to their high school experience of being taught by *Dawsey*.

As a colleague and head of our department he has run the show with a laid back manner underpinned with a vision of where we needed to go. He has mentored us to develop our knowledge and skills whilst protecting us from administrivia, so that we were free to focus on what was important. Similarly he has guided the development of technology at Manly Selective Campus into one of best functioning school networks in the state while

providing opportunity for past students develop their skills and give back to the community.

Pete is always across the latest educational and technological research, which he drip-feeds his staff, challenging us to challenge our approach and thinking. His leadership, humour and calm approach will be missed by staff and students.

Thanks *Dawsey* and good luck with your next project.

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## Schools Spectacular



Our dancers at Schools Spectacular

This year, students from Manly Selective Campus were chosen, through a gruelling audition process, to take part in the Schools Spectacular at Qantas Credit Union Arena. We were represented by a wide range of different talents including dance, orchestra, stage band, and acting, from grades spanning Year 7 to Year 12.

The rehearsal process presented us with great opportunities to bond with other schools, learn new skills and participate in a fantastic learning environment all while enjoying the time immensely. This all paled in comparison to the exhilarating time we had at the four performances from 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of November. Watching the other dances, the amazing young talent and seeing the incredible results of all our hard work was an unforgettable and rewarding experience that will stay with us forever.

The students would like to thank Chloe Woodward and the other teachers involved for the immense effort they put in to supporting us on this journey (and for the chocolate coated strawberries), we couldn't have done it without you xx

Schools Spectacular will be airing on Channel 9 this Saturday, 5 December at 7:00, so tune in!

Report by Marnie Separovich and the Schools Spectacular team!!



## Spectacular Science

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of November, 50 lucky students from Year 9 had the opportunity to travel to the University of Sydney for the Spectacular Science workshop. We started off with an exciting demonstration, witnessing such amazing sights as elephant's toothpaste, exploding hydrogen bubbles and Daniel Brocklebank with paper in his ears (which received applause from all).

After a quick recess, half of us took the Chemistry & Biology workshop with Ms Johnston, and the rest went off with Mr Crooks to do the Physics and Forensic Psychology workshop. In Chemistry, we were given the opportunity to experience the wonders of liquid nitrogen firsthand, freezing various plants and balloons. We also made slime, but we froze that as well, so it was of no consequence.

In the Biology component of our workshop, we learnt about the shark fin business, and saw some shark fins in the flesh. We used mechanical pipettes to compare different DNA samples, which we examined under UV light to see similarities and differences. We also extracted DNA from cauliflowers while we were at it.

We ate lunch, then we went back to the same lecture hall we saw the demonstrations in. After lunch, we had an informative and entertaining presentation from Adam Spencer, no less, (comedian and mathematician) who told us many new and exciting things about prime numbers, chance/probability and this chess app on his phone which can beat anyone at chess (which doesn't really make for a fun game).

The entire experience was amazing and it inspired many people to continue work in the field of science as there is so much more to learn and discover. The experience of being at Sydney University was amazing in itself, and learning about subjects that we are passionate just made it that much better. This was an awe inspiring experience and I would whole heartedly recommend it to anyone who is even mildly interested in a career in science.

Thanks to Ms Johnston and Mr Crooks for accompanying us on this great day.

Report by Armaan Keast, Kiara Butera, Daniel Gleeson and Mitchell Wood

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## Premiers Sporting Challenge

From netball to gym fun, rugby to golf, there was something for everyone of all interests at this year's Premier's Sporting Challenge. Premier's Sporting Challenge gave those interested in sports and leadership, the opportunity to reveal their talents in a variety of sports through both a challenging but rewarding experience. For many, they had participated in the primary school version, but now we were on the other end... coaching. Whilst the idea of coaching a group of primary school students was not something on everyone's bucket list, the program was so rewarding that many of us now want to become coaches ourselves. The whole process was made a lot easier when we were taught by first hand experts in their sporting field about the qualities required for a coach and were given valuable tips and hints for how to calmly control a group of eager Year 5 and 6s. These inspirational people also shared many examples of fun and engaging warm up exercises and drills. We were also explained how to plan a training session and what it would involve. This experience was very helpful for not only the primary school students wanting to learn a bit more about sport, but for us,

the coaches, as it provided us with interesting lessons that we wouldn't be able to learn anywhere else. On behalf of all the Manly Selective participants, I would like to thank the entire PE faculty, especially Mr Blanch, Ashley Matheson from the college and all the professional sports men and women who assisted us throughout this course. This opportunity is one that does not come around very often, so for anyone who might be considering taking leadership of a local sports team, or just wants to learn more about sport or coaching, this is something you should all do because it teaches you much more than a handbook ever could.

Report by Rhiannon Marshall-Witte

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## Robotics Club

On Monday, members of the Robotics Club competed in the *First Lego League* Regional tournament at Narrabeen Sports High, and both teams did a great job in all 4 sections of the tournament from a field of 35 teams overall. Manly fielded 2 teams and one of the teams made it through to the National Championships this Saturday at Macquarie University.

The FLL tournament has 20,000 teams worldwide and involves building and programming robots as well as developing innovative solutions to world problems. Congratulations to the team members (including some who helped prepare but had to go on Band Camp): Evan Foo, Gaby Van Dyk, Alanna Manfredini, Emma Cook, Kane Jackson, Riley Dean, Ryan Van Dyk, Kashi Saunders, Alex O'Neill, Luke Nelson, Alex Glanville, Elden Loomes, Ripley Voeten and Lachlan Vu. Thanks also to Mr Manfredini for training the teams and Mr Edmund for supervising them on the day.

Carlo Manfredini  
MSC Robotics Club Parent Co-ordinator



Robotics club members at the *First Lego League* tournament

## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Located under the TAS Block

**Next open Tuesday 8 December  
Lunchtime (1.30-2.20pm)**

**First open 2016  
Wednesday 27 January  
9.30-11.00am  
(Pupil free day before Term 1  
commences)**

**Attention Year 10 Parents and  
Students!!!**

**Senior boys polos and senior girls shirts  
NOW AVAILABLE**

Co-ordinators: Marg Martin and Chris Schaller  
Please contact us if you would like to place an  
order.

[margaret.martin@optusnet.com.au](mailto:margaret.martin@optusnet.com.au)

or 0404 865 765

[christins@ozemail.com.au](mailto:christins@ozemail.com.au) or 0419 488 130

**More stock urgently needed!  
All donations most welcome!**

Donations can be left at the school office any time.  
All proceeds go to the P&C for projects  
around the school.

For second hand band blazers (buy & sell) and new  
& pre-loved band polo shirts contact Fiona Cantwell  
on [fionamb@inet.net.au](mailto:fionamb@inet.net.au)

## Dance Showcase 2015

Featuring performances from the  
contemporary, musical theatre  
and jazz ensembles, plus  
additional solos and duets from  
some of our most talented  
dancers

Performance Space  
(in the TAS block)  
Tuesday 8 December @ 6.30pm  
Everyone is welcome.  
Admission is free

## Sport

Romy Saunders, Year 10, who has achieved state level in sailing came to sport this week and stepped in as a coach for the Manly Selective students participating in the new sport- "sailing" which is run down at Manly Cove through Manly Yacht Club. Gusty winds resulted in impressive speed on the water. Thanks Romy!



## Fencing



### Fencing Classes – 2016

The Fencing class is suitable for girls & boys of all ages.

Fencing teaches agility, coordination, speed and develops team work and self-confidence, which are skills that can be transferred to any sport. Fencing is the "physical games of chess".

Fencing Classes at MSC will introduce the weapon Sabre through games, drills, footwork and fighting.

Classes: minimum 6 and maximum 14.

### Term 1 2016 dates:

**11 February to 24 March, from 7.30 – 8.30am**

**Cost:** \$145 – 7 weeks 1 session per week

All equipment that is needed will be provided. Students should wear t-shirts, tracksuit pants & trainers

Please bring a drink to class.







## Bands of Manly Selective Campus

### Big Band Bash 2

All MSC families are invited to the end of year Big Band Bash 2 on Friday 11 December at 7pm in the Freshwater gym. Come along and enjoy all your favourite Christmas carols and some fabulous musical treats performed by the talented musicians of the MSC bands and vocal ensemble.

### Second Hand Blazers - Sell and Buy

Contact Fiona Cantwell if you would like to register to sell or buy a second hand band blazer.

Email: [fionamb@inet.net.au](mailto:fionamb@inet.net.au)

### Band Diary Dates

- Presentation night- Thursday 10 December, 7pm - FWC gym: SWO
- Big Band Bash # 2- Friday 11 December, 7pm- FWC gym: All ensembles

### Band web site

For current information go to the band website at <http://manlypandc.org.au/?page id=34>

### Band Names

#### Wind Stream:

SWO~Symphonic Wind Orchestra; WE~Wind Ensemble; CB~Concert Band; SE~String Ensemble; CO~Chamber Orchestra

#### Jazz Stream:

JO~Jazz Orchestra; BB~Big Band; SB~Stage Band; SwB- Swing Band

#### Jazz Improvisation:

Impro ~Impro Workshop  
JC ~ Jazz Combo

## Calendar Term 4

Please check all dates and times closer to the event

### WEEK 10

- 7/12/2015 Ext 1 Mathematics HSC Assessment 1
- 7/12/2015 Year 7 Project Dystopia tbc
- 7/12/2015 Visual Arts exhibition - set up
- 8/12/2015 Chrismanly
- 8/12/2015 Year 7 Project Dystopia tbc
- 8/12/2015 Visual Arts exhibition - Years 7-11. Set up - all day - open 3.30-8pm
- 8/12/2015 Dance Showcase, Performance space
- 9/12/2015 History Faculty Planning Day
- 9/12/2015 VA exhibition - Years 7-11. Open 9-4pm
- 10/12/2015 Rehearsal for Presentation Day
- 10/12/2015 Ext 2 Mathematics HSC Assessment
- 10/12/2015 Year Assemblies
- 10/12/2015 Presentation Night
- 11/12/2015 Big Band Bash

### WEEK 11

- 14/12/2015 Year 7 EAM Line Period 1
- 14/12/2015 Year 10 Luna Park excursion
- 15/12/2015 Year 8 Activity Day All Day Wet'n'Wild
- 15/12/2015 Year 7 Activity Cinema
- 15/12/2015 Year 12 Well Being Event GP's in schools Pds 1-2 Lunch
- 16/12/2015 **Years 7-11 last day of school**
- 16/12/2015 HSC Results released online
- 17/12/2015 Staff Development Day
- 17/12/2015 ATAR Morning Tea in library
- 17/12/2015 Vocal Tour Concert - Freshwater
- 18/12/2015 Staff Development Day



**BIG**

*Band*

**BASH**

**2015**

## **INVITATION**

All MSC families are invited to the end of year Big Band Bash. Come along and enjoy all your favourite Christmas carols and some fabulous musical treats performed by the talented musicians of the MSC band and string ensembles.

**Date: Friday 11th Dec 2015**

**Venue: Freshwater Senior Campus Gym**

**Time: 7pm – 9pm**

**Entry by gold coin donation**

**All funds raised go to the whole Manly Selective Campus Band Program**