



From the Principal

Welcome

I would like to welcome back staff, parents and students for the start of Term 1 2014. As always, the College is a hive of activity with a number of projects and initiatives continuing from last year and the start of this term.

Year 7 Building Program

The Year 7 Building Program is continuing with the pad laid down and the walls starting to go up. We can expect the building to be completed around the middle of September.

Classroom Air-conditioning

The College is almost fully air-conditioned with a small amount of work to be completed in the Term 1 holidays. This is a huge bonus for the staff and students and will significantly improve the physical learning environment of each classroom.

Learning Support Team

The Learning Support Team is underway and have already started to focus on improving the learning outcomes for our students across literacy and numeracy.

Murdoch University Internship Program

We currently have eight Teacher Intern Students from Murdoch University with us for four days per week, for the whole year, as they complete the last year of their training. This is a new program being run jointly through the University and the Education Department that allows 4th year trainee teachers to gain hands-on experience throughout the year as they are involved in and trained in all aspects of the teaching profession here at the College.

Year 8 Camp

The Year 8 Camp was a great success and I would like to thank and acknowledge all the hard work of the teaching and support staff. Without this commitment, we would not be able to provide such a wonderful opportunity for our Year 8 students.

Year 8 Pastoral Care Program

We have commenced the new Year 8 Pastoral Care Program and the feedback has been very positive. The program will use two periods a week to focus on all aspects of student resiliency supporting our students to be successful, happy and engaged in the learning program at the College. Students will also be provided with career education information throughout the year.

A lot of work is going into preparing the buildings and grounds for the increase of students in 2015 with more seating, shade and the remodelling of the Café. These will be ongoing works throughout 2014 and will help to ensure that students continue to have excellent facilities here at the College.

Thankyou

Jamie Hayres
Principal



Congrats

Kelly Hulin

English Teacher's Book Release

English teacher, Kelly Hulin, counts Valentine's Day as her official transformation into author on the release of her new book 'Bride Everlasting; 3rd Time Lucky?'. Prior to the launch of her novel, Kelly had been toying with small pieces of writing including a poem that was shown in Sydney's 'In The Night Garden' event hosted by writing community Tabula Rasa; short story 'The Dinner Party' published in online text Tincture Journal; and article 'I Believe in Blogging' for the English Teachers Association of WA's quarterly journal Interpretations.

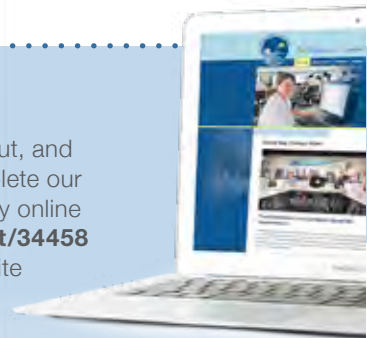
'Bride' originally began as a humble blog after the unexpected and tragic death of her son's father. Approximately 10,000 followers from 27 different countries began to inundate web space with their own tragic, unexpected, and sometimes hopeful stories in response to the blog. With assistance from long time friend and fellow author A.M. Hudson ('The Dark Secrets' series) Kelly turned her blog into hard copy. The book is now distributed by Amazon and can be purchased online from Amazon.com. 'Bride' will become available on Kindle within the month.



Parent Satisfaction Survey

At Comet Bay College, we value your feedback and input, and would be grateful if parents would take the time to complete our "Parent Satisfaction Survey". You can find the survey online through following link: <http://apps.det.wa.edu.au/dest/34458> or alternatively through the homepage of our website www.cometbaycollege.wa.edu.au

We appreciate your support and cooperation.



FOR YOUR DIARY

Comet Bay College Calendar

See what's coming up at Comet Bay College:

2014

Term 1

Wed 19th to 20th Mar
Yr 8 Male & Female Immunisations

Wed 26th Mar
Medieval Fair

Thurs 3rd to Wed 9th Apr
Year 8, 9 & 10 Exams

Fri 4th Apr
Year 12 Ball

Fri 11th Apr
Last Day of Term 1

Sat 12th to Mon 28th Apr
School Holidays

Term 2

Tues 29th Apr
Students commence Term 2

Wed 30th Apr
ANZAC Ceremony - 9.45am



Congratulations **Ryan Smith**

Student represents Australia in National Youth Ice Hockey Team 2014

Congratulations to Ryan Smith Year 12 who has been accepted into the **Australian National Youth Ice Hockey Team (2014)**. Ryan will be competing at the International Ice Hockey Federation's 18 & Under Division 111 Group A World Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria towards the end of March. As part of the team's schedule, Ryan will also be attending a training camp in Ostrava, Czech Republic in mid-March before the championships commence.

The World Championships are a vital component to a player's ice hockey career and Ice Hockey Australia's world ranking. Many of Australia's ice hockey players have extended their careers overseas, resulting in continuing to build the opportunity for Australia to participate at the highest level of competition.

Currently, the Australian National Youth Team is ranked in Division 111, and the team this year has high expectations of promoting the ranking to Division 11 in 2015.

We wish Ryan all the best as he travels overseas to the Championships!!

Meet and Greet BBQ



The College held its annual 'Meet & Greet' BBQ on Thursday 27th February 2014, which gave parents and carers an opportunity to come and meet the College Staff, have a chat with their child's teachers, and familiarize themselves with the fantastic facilities at the College. The Food Technology students cooked and prepared a delicious sausage sizzle BBQ, along with their usual professional and friendly service. Thanks to all the parents and carers who attended, and to all staff and students involved!

We would like to take this opportunity to give a big THANK YOU to Woolworths Secret Harbour and Port Kennedy Supa IGA who kindly donated food, drinks and supplies for the day!

Thank you for making this event possible for our College.



Year 8 Camp

During week 3, just under 230 of our Yr 8 Students spent 2 and a half days at Forrest Edge Camp site near Waroona.

During the camp, the students built their own raft and kayaked across the lake rafting up and swapping kayaks in the middle! They abseiled down a 20m wall, climbed a 10m pole and stood on a platform no bigger than an A4 piece of paper and leapt onto a trapeze. They slid down the flying fox and made boomerangs. They learnt how to shoot air rifles and every evening faced an engineering challenge.

The first challenge saw them build towers from a newspaper and one role of cello tape. The largest tower was over 3m high!



On the second night the students took part in an auction. They bid for ordinary objects which Mr Pryer who managed to sell a piece of cardboard for over \$300 described creatively. Once the auction was completed, the students were challenged to use all their purchases to construct a protective cage for Eggward the egg who was then launched from the balcony in the hopes that the cage would protect him and stop him coming out of his shell. The students seemed to enjoy it when it failed as much as when it worked!

The students were a source of pride to all the staff for the way they looked out for each other, encouraged each other and faced every challenge.

By David Karcheski
Youth Support Officer



Semester 2 of 2013

Awards Assembly

Congratulations to the Award Winners
from Semester 2 of 2013.

Presented at the recent
Awards Assembly
held on Thursday 27th February 2014.



| English | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1B English | Matthew Brady |
| 1D English | Jayden Vincent |
| 2D English | Jasmine Anglesey |
| 2D English | Jasmine Anglesey |
| 2B English Literature | Courtney James |
| Mathematics | |
| 1C Mathematics | Michael Collins |
| 1E Mathematics | Kyle Hinchcliffe |
| 2B Mathematics | Jasmine Anglesey |
| 2D Mathematics | Courtney James |
| 3B Mathematics | Callum Hamlet |
| 3B Mathematics Specialist | Ryan Anderton |
| Science | |
| 1B Integrated Science | Jayden Vincent |
| 2B Biological Science | Jade Iveson and Shannon Huntingford |
| 2B Chemistry | Charlie Rees |
| 2B Physics | Jewel Payne |
| 2B Human Biological Science | Caitlin Sainty |
| Society and Environment | |
| 2B Geography | Kate Lawrence |
| 2B Modern History | Kirstin Tapper |
| 1B Career and Enterprise | Brooke Couper |
| 2B Psychology | Kirstin Tapper |
| Health and Physical Education | |
| 1B Physical Education Studies | Jack Varley |
| 1D Physical Education Studies | Juene Reynolds |
| Certificate II Sport Career Participation | Jack Varley |
| Certificate II Sport and Recreation | Matthew Sinclair |
| Certificate II Sports Coaching | Matthew Sinclair |
| 1B Health Studies | Anika Van Berkel |
| 1D Health Studies | Juene Reynolds |



Awards Assembly 2014



| Arts | |
|---|---------------------|
| School of Instrumental Music | Kirstin Tapper |
| 1B Music | Kirstin Tapper |
| 2B Visual Arts | Kayleigh Smith |
| Design and Technology | |
| 1B Materials, Design and Technology – Metal | Adrian Brown-Fuller |
| 1B Materials, Design and Technology – Wood | Anthony Smit |
| 1B Engineering | Bradlee Rohlandt |
| Home Economics | |
| 1D Food Science and Technology | Abbie Balding |
| 1D Children, Family and the Community | Lauren Walsh |
| ICT | |
| 2B Design: Photography | Elle Martens |
| 1D Design: Photography | Bethany Townsend |
| 1D Design: Graphics | Hinemoa Mehau |
| 2B Computer Science | Jayden Vincent |
| Yr 11 Premier Student | |
| Kirstin Tapper | |
| Yr 11 Best All Rounder | |
| Jewel Payne | |
| Yr 11 Citizenship Award | |
| Aspen Muizarajs | |
| Yr 11 Personal Best Award | |
| Malak Salman | |
| Yr 11 School Community Award | |
| Mason Gittins | |



What is happening in Society & Environment in 2014?

The Society and Environment Learning Area at Comet Bay College actively attempts to “Seek Excellence” with the students at the school. Not only is this reflected through an engaging curriculum, but also through a range of external competitions that will serve to challenge and motivate our future budding Geographers, Historians, Political Scientists & Psychologists:

GEOGRAPHY

- Upper School students in 2A and 3A Geography will be involved in the 2014 Australian Geography Competition. Organised by the Australian Geography Teachers Association and the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland, it will be held between the 24th March – 2nd April.
- Stage 3 Geography students will once again participate in the “Amazing Race” fieldtrip. Held in the Perth CBD as well as surrounding areas, the task will familiarise them with the characteristics of these important components of the metropolitan area in preparation for their mid and end of year exams.

POLITICS AND LAW

In Term Two, Upper School students in Stage 2 Politics and Law will make their way to Perth to observe a Court in session through the Francis Burt Law Education Programme. The excursion will consist of three parts;



Part One: View one of the following matters from the Public Gallery of either the Supreme, District or Magistrates Court:

- A Criminal Trial;
- Pleas;
- Sentencing;
- A Civil Trial; or
- Appeal Hearing.

Part Two: Empty Court Activity where students participate in activities that demonstrate the Rule of law, Natural Justice as well as Civil and Criminal trials

Part Three: Trial Re-Enactment at The Old Court House. Students will take on the role of a judge or lawyer and wear real legal wigs



and gowns and act out court protocol and procedures. The trial re-enactment is based on a real WA murder trial.

HISTORY:

- 20 to 25 students from Year Eight will be involved in the prestigious Australian History Challenge. Held in Term Two, it is anticipated that this years students will achieve the high calibre of results that have been achieved in the past.
- Year Nine Ext/GATE students will be entering a variety of History Competitions including the National History Challenge, Simpson Prize, CBC Honour Wall as well as Rockingham's George and Ernestine Forster Essay Competition
- 2014's Medieval Fayre, a highlight of the new Australian Curriculum for Year Eight, will be held towards the end of Term One.

ANCIENT HISTORY:

300 Students

This year Comet Bay College is proud to be one of a handful of secondary schools to run Stage One Ancient History. This fascinating course will examine the lives, socio-political structures and common misconceptions of the ancient Greek civilization. In a course that spans approximately 1500 years, students will begin by developing an understanding of cultures of the Aegean by looking at Agamemnon and the Trojan War. During Term Two, the students will investigate ancient 'Greek' culture focusing on the Spartans. Amongst a range of other things, they will look into how aspects of Spartan culture have influenced modern societies and how our perceptions of the Spartans have been modified by historians, social media and Hollywood.

In Terms Three and Four, the class will look at power and authority and learn that societies consist of individuals and institutions that have differing types of influence and that these interact with each other. In doing so, they make judgments about modern day Australia while developing critical thinking skills related to history.

This promises to be an interesting and rewarding course for all involved.



Year 8 Learning Support Program

Comet Bay College is committed to providing a first class educational experience for all of our students and ensuring that we continue to foster innovative approaches in our models of support.

In 2014, we have established a new Year 8 Learning Support Program aimed at providing a high level of support for all Year 8 students with a focus on literacy and numeracy. This initiative also aims to facilitate better utilisation of our Information Learning Centre (Library).

As part of this program all students have undertaken in-class standardised testing in the areas of literacy and numeracy. This data will provide the Learning Support Team and all class teachers with invaluable information for them to adjust teaching and learning programs and cater for differentiation and support as applicable. The same tests will be administered again in Term 4 and allow us to measure the progress of every Year 8 student over the course of the year and the impact of the program.

All Year 8 students have recently begun a Reading Program, being introduced to the RIBIT program (Reading in Bed is Terrific) and PRP (Personal Reading Program). These focus on student's reading practices and provide time for reading as well as exploring the Information Learning Centre.

LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM

- **Jacky Ukich** (Year 8 Reading Program and ILC Support Coordinator)
- **Rebecca Dahlstrom** (Data Literacy Coordinator)
- **Jason D'Argent** (ICT integration Coordinator)
- **Jeanette Windsor** (GATE Support Coordinator)
- **Monique Wood** (Literacy Support Coordinator)
- **Lisa Thomson** (Numeracy Support Coordinator)
- **Theresa Walsh** (ILC Operations Coordinator)
- **Lyndon Haskett** (Dean, English – advisory role)
- **Nancy McNally** (Associate Principal)



The Department of Housing's Golden Bay estate has been developing over the past 18 months, with the aim of creating a safe, enjoyable and pleasant community.

As the number of new houses begins to rise, the newly completed community park - on the corner of Carlindie Parkway - appears a prominent amenity within the estate. Students of Comet Bay College, from July 2012 through to the current months, have played a vital part in the planning of this park. Late last year, Peet Limited, project managers of Golden Bay estate, together with Creating Communities, came to the college seeking the youthful community's input. The idea was to involve a small group of local Year 9 high school students to conjure up ideas to be included in the design of the park. Armed with paper and pens, the students began describing the perfect community park to the Peet project team. Safety, light and open spaces were wanted, along with basketball courts, beach themed recreational equipment and even free WiFi. As the Peet team left with ideas in hand, the students eagerly waited to see what their thoughts and ideas would look like. When they returned with the plans, the students were thrilled to see that what they had spoken about had been included. With no queries or further recommendations from the students, the construction began.

On the sunny spring afternoon of Tuesday, 22nd of October, the park was finally ready and revealed to the students of Comet Bay College and a class of Year

2/3's from Comet Bay Primary School. Filled with amazement, the students ventured across their ideas, which were originally drawn on paper, put into reality. Rick Wood, one of the participants from Year 10, told us, "I'm stoked with all of it, especially the basketball court. That was an idea of mine and seeing it in reality is better than I imagined it to be!" As for the primary students testing out the new beach themed equipment, the joy and satisfaction was clear. Laughing down the slides and on the seesaw, the children played while the students of Comet Bay College and Peet project team saw the true light of their accomplishment. Along with the invitation to see the accomplishments, the students were also invited to take part in planting tree and bush seedlings along one of the areas bordering the park. Taking gardening gloves and tools the students enthusiastically began creating a beautiful garden that will grow alongside the park's success. And with that, the park begins to flourish.

Written by
*Ellie Clark
and Hanneke
Wiersma*





Defence Honour Wall

Last year, Comet Bay College displayed an Honour Wall Slideshow in the Library on the day of our ANZAC Service. It was a collection of photos of parents, extended family, staff and community members who are present or past members of the Australian Defence Force and our allies.

We wish to show our appreciation to all Defence members and their families for their sacrifices they make on behalf of all Australians.... Lest We Forget.

We would like to add to the Honour Wall each year... and we would appreciate your support.

If you are interested in participating, kindly email a photo of your family defence member who is affiliated with a current student at Comet Bay College to claire.hunt@education.wa.edu.au.

Thank you so much for your participation.

By Claire Hunt

Defence Transition Mentor

Nautilus Club Showcase

To conclude another highly successful and rewarding year, the students from the Nautilus Club planned, organised and delivered an amazing evening of exciting activities for their parents and other family members in the form of a Showcase. Activities included underwater fireworks, ultra violet radiation, tessellations, catapults, poem in my pocket, memory training, Nautilus Club book tree, paper rockets, acids and bases and many, many more!

An audience of about 70 witnessed how these bright young students have been given opportunities to develop their individual abilities and skills beyond the regular classroom. They have been focusing on increasing their higher level thinking and boosting their brain power, using creativity while developing networks with like minded students.

The Nautilus club has adopted the attitude of Walt Disney: Keep Moving Forward. "Around here we don't look backwards for very long. We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things, because we are curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."

Jody Lewin

Nautilus Coordinator and Teacher

Jenny Barton

Dean of Academic Excellence

Student Support News

STUDENT PARKING / PERMITS

Students should continue to park in the designated areas and display their permits. If a student needs a parking permit, please see us in Student Support.

PARENTS PARKING

Please do not park on driveways, always use the designated on street parking. The car parks are only to be used by visitors, staff and students with parking permits.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Please ensure that all items borrowed from the library are returned or renewed.

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM & BOOKSHOP

The second-hand uniform & bookshop is open on Wednesdays from 3pm to 5pm.

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is open on Tuesdays from 8am to 11.30am, and Thursdays from 1pm to 4pm.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please, please, please ensure your contact details and any Emergency contact details are up to date.

PRESENT OR ABSENT?

The school uses an electronic system to record attendance in lessons. When a teacher enters an absence, the system identifies this and an automated service sends a text message home.

BORROWED UNIFORM

If you have borrowed any school uniform, please return this as soon as possible to avoid a bill!

NOTES

Please write a note for your child if they have an appointment. This allows them to leave their class and sign out promptly.



Spotlight Student Support Staff

David Karcheski
Youth Development Officer



Each newsletter, we will take the time to interview a member of the Student Support team, so you can get to know more about the friendly and professional staff here at Comet Bay College.

How long have you worked at Comet Bay College? Just over 2 years.

Where were you born? Plaistow, London

Tell us about your past experiences?

I started my working career in the UK. I worked as a youth worker for two years for the National Youth Council. This allowed me to travel throughout the UK working in schools, prisons and working with young people on the streets.

I followed this with a job with the London Borough of Newham as a Residential Social Worker in a Remand home.

I then worked as a Road Safety Officer for the London Borough of Havering where I created educational resources and implemented Road Safety education and training in 52 Primary Schools.

I came to Australia in 1998 and have worked as a Youth Pastor and chaplain for 14 years. I have worked at Warnbro CHS, Aquinas College, Armadale SHS and finally I came to Comet Bay College.

What do you like about your job?

I love the opportunity to help people realise their potential.

What are some of your hobbies/interests?

I enjoy classic cars, music and I am very involved with the Scouts

Comet Bay College has an official Facebook Page!



Like us on Facebook to keep up to date with current news and events through the following link: www.facebook.com/CometBayCollege

Murdoch Internship Program

The Department of Education, schools and Murdoch University have recognised the importance of internships for high calibre preservice teachers.

An audience of about 70 witnessed how these bright young students have been given opportunities to develop their individual Comet Bay College has been chosen as one of only four schools in WA to participate in the new and innovative secondary internship model and has been asked to take on the largest number of interns – eight. This is testament to the strong partnership that the College has fostered with the university and the support and acknowledgement that the College places on the importance of the development of preservice teachers through mentoring, coaching and quality support from our high performing teachers.

Comet Bay College is proudly facilitating this opportunity for final year interns to undertake a year-long practicum placement within a supportive, professional environment where they are able to observe and practise the skills required to be an effective teacher. There is enormous potential for interns to influence student outcomes via their contributions to the teaching and learning programs and the fact that they are an extra teaching resource in the classroom. Interns are considered as co-teachers in the school for the entire year and will assist teachers in all aspects of the profession.

We welcome the following interns to Comet Bay College for 2014:

Hayder Atti (Science, mentored by Frank Slee)
Noeline Perara (Science, mentored by David Cox)
Kendle Reid (Science, mentored by Laura Ellam)
Susie Nash (Society & Environment, mentored by Colleen Joyce)
Claire Gibbard (English, mentored by Rebecca Dahlstrom)
Anne Naylor (English, mentored by Jason D'Argent)
Joel Sammels (English, mentored by Ron Barton)
Melissa Webb (English, mentored by Kelly Hulin)

By Nancy McNally
**Associate Principal,
Internship Coordinator**



Health Update

CBC Community Youth Nurse

Community Health Nurses are skilled in assessing adolescent health needs. We engage in health counselling with young people to identify issues, risks and protective factors, provide advice and brief intervention, assist with access and referral to other services, and provide follow up care. Young people can drop in to the health centre at recess or lunchtime or make appointments to discuss health and wellbeing issues.

The services provided are free and confidential. If you have a concern about your child's health or wellbeing please contact us on (9553 8111).

Celia Brown and Robyn Rogers

Comet Bay College's Community Health Nurses



Year 8

Vaccination Program

In 2014 the Department of Health is offering a free vaccination program for Year 8 students. The program offers booster doses of childhood vaccinations, as well as an additional vaccine for human papillomavirus (HPV).

Students in Year 8 will receive an information pack, which contains details of the program and a consent form for parents to sign. Parents are asked to sign and return the consent form to enable their children to participate in this free program. For more information, including a video about the vaccination program, visit www.healthywa.wa.gov.au.

ADOLESCENT SUPPORT SERVICES - WHERE TO GO FOR HELP?

Kids Helpline is a free, private and confidential telephone and online counselling service specifically for young people aged between 5 and 25 years. You can phone the helpline anytime on 1800 55 1800, or visit the website at www.kidshelp.com.au.

'Somazone' is a safe space for young people to ask questions, share stories and get help for mental health issues, sexual health, relationships, abuse, body image, and drug use. Visit the website at www.somazone.com.au.

If you need help or information relating specifically to mental health difficulties, you could also try www.reachout.com.au, www.youthbeyondblue.com.au, or www.headspace.org.au.

You can also talk through any problems you may be having with your local Community Health Nurse, (Celia Brown, Robyn Rogers). Remember, no matter how big or small your problem is, there is help available and it is important to seek help as soon as possible.

PARENTING SUPPORT

As parents, you are the most important person in your child's life.

Many parents find life with a child a joyful but challenging experience. Children's needs change as they grow and each stage brings new challenges.

Parenting WA offers an information, support and referral service to parents, carers, grandparents and families with children up to 18 years of age. Parenting WA services are free and no referral is needed.

Parenting WA's trained staff are available to work with parents;

- On specific parenting needs. They will help develop strategies for home life;
- To manage the different parenting challenges from infancy and childhood through to teenage years;
- To understand the different stages of child development, and
- To find information about local community support services.

Parenting coordinators, located throughout WA, can provide individual parenting discussions, group sessions and workshops.

Parenting WA also provides the Parenting WA Line, a 24/7 telephone information service, a library rich with useful resources, parenting guide sheets and an on-line guide to parenting courses in WA. For more information contact Parenting WA (08) 6279 1200 or 1800 654 432 or at: <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/parents>

Parenting WA

Department for
Communities

Parenting WA

Engaging Adolescents

A three session parenting workshop

(GREAT FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN 11-18 YEARS)

- Your role as observer, advisor, negotiator and director.
- Understanding adolescent development.
- What's worth reacting to?
- How to hold the difficult conversations.

Facilitated by: Parenting WA Rockingham

Where: Westerley Family Centre
27 Westerly Way , COOLOONGUP

Dates: Session 1: Thursday 27th March 2014
Session 2: Thursday 3rd April 2014
Session 3: Thursday 10th April 2014

Time: 9:30am – 12noon

Cost: Free

Creche: Free- Limited places and bookings essential

Bookings essential – participants must attend all three sessions.
Please phone Parenting WA – Sue Johnson 9593 0656 to register.



Government of Western Australia
Department for Communities
Parenting WA