

MARGARET RIVER SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

5th September 2016

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 29th August - Fri 16th

September - OLNA Testing

Fri 2nd September - Year 10

Science E & E Excursion

Wed 7th September—Upper-school

performance Drama & Music 6pm

Thurs 8th September—Yr 9 Outdoor

Ed High Ropes Excursion

Mon 12th September—HASS

Reward Excursion

Tues 13th September—Yr 9, 10, 11

Drama Incursion

Thurs 22nd September—Year 7 & *

South West Lightning Carnival

Friday 23rd September—Year 8

Asian Murdock Studies

Fri 23rd September— Last day

WSA Yr 12

Principals Address

While the days don't seem to be getting any warmer or drier, the term is racing past and the finals season for our winter sports has begun and sadly the Dockers are already looking toward 2017.

The school has received the overall NAPLAN results for our Year 7 and 9 students, and we are very pleased with both the achievement and progress of our students. Individual statements of student



NAPLAN results are being sent home shortly with your child and you will receive an email and text message to let you know they are on the way. The students at MRSHS have performed above the expected level of performance when compared to "like schools" in every aspect of the NAPLAN assessment in both Year 7 and 9. In 5 of the 10 areas of testing students have performed above the expected level by more than one standard deviation which indicates a very high level of achievement. Further, the progress measured since the last NAPLAN test indicates that the overall improvement is also very positive. I would like to thank all of the MRSHS staff who have had an impact on the literacy and numeracy development of our students and congratulate our Year 7 and 9 students on a very strong performance. The MRSHS community should be very proud of these results.

Our Year 12 students are now very close to finishing school. ATAR students are preparing for the Mock Exams that start on 16 September and many of our VET students will be on Work Placement for the final two weeks of this term. The final weeks of school are very important for all Year 12's and it is essential that they finish the term strongly. Best wishes to all our Year 12's.

Planning for the timetable in 2017 is well underway and decisions about courses and programs are being finalised. We are very confident that we will continue to offer a wide range of courses and programs that suit the future aspirations of our students and prepare them for further study and employment. I want to offer my personal thanks to our staff who have been working hard to meet with students and parents to finalise course selections for 2017.

Over the last few weeks we have focussed on maintaining our uniform standards, especially the issue of non-school jumpers and coloured undershirts. I am really pleased with the strong support from parents and staff that we have received, and I am happy to report that non-compliance with our uniform code has greatly reduced.

Finally parents should have received email invitations to complete a National School Opinion Survey on Margaret River SHS. These surveys are used to inform our decision making for future planning and the results are shared with the school community. I know that completing surveys can be a tedious process, but the information we are able to gather will help us ensure MRSHS continues to serve the community effectively and your contribution is appreciated.

Rob Nail

Principal

158 Bussell Highway Margaret River WA 6285, Ph.: 9757 0700 Fax: 9757 2253 Absences: 9757 0795

Email: MargaretRiver.SHS@education.wa.edu.au

Website: www.margaretrivershs.wa.edu.au

VET and Careers News

Our Year 11 Vocational students have recently completed their first two week placement and our Year 12's are just about to finish their last work experience. Several students have secured apprenticeships or part time work from this experience, so again we thank all employers involved in the program and the valuable time and effort they put into mentoring our students. Good luck to the Year 12's!!

The MRSHS Year 10 students have begun the process of selecting upper school subjects and participating in career counselling. We would like to thank the students and parents proactive approach to this process as we had a fantastic turn out to both parent nights and lots of students visiting the Career Centre so they can make informed decisions. Students hoping to attend TAFE next year will have to complete their online application in the Career Centre this term and we hope all applicants are successful in getting into their desired courses. Students will need to see Mrs Beecham in the Careers Centre. All Year 10 and 11 Parents received an email explaining the parameters around TAFE enrolments. Please call the Career Centre if you have any other queries.

This term we also had a group of 45 Year 10 students attend another Skills Expo at the Perth Convention Centre which allowed them to explore Career pathways and training options beyond school. Feedback from the students indicated it was a worthwhile day and very eye opening to the opportunities available to them.

Our Year 11 Mock Interviews have taken place over the last two weeks with our students participating in a 30 minute interview as part of their Career and Enterprise Course. After the nerves subsided it was a pleasure to see these students blossom and grow from this experience. We would like to thank Rotary Margaret River and several other community members who took the time and effort to be part of this process.

Kara Beecham – VET and Careers Co-ordinator 9757 0777 – Kara.Beecham@education.wa.edu.au



Stephen—Xanadu Winery



Kobi, Jasmine P, Jasmine S



Mikki-Margaret River Primary School



Liam—Harmans Estate Winery

Semester 2 Reward Activities

Planning has already started for the end of Semester 2 reward activities for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Students have been informed about the criteria that will be used to determine who will be eligible for the reward activities. The criteria have been selected to ensure that only very high levels of engagement and attendance will be rewarded as a strategy to encourage the best behaviour from our students.

The criteria that will be used to determine eligibility for the reward activities are:

- ✓ An overall attendance rate of 95% or higher
- ✓ Zero unexplained absences
- ✓ Semester 2 report attribute ratings for "works to the best of his/her ability" and "shows courtesy and respect for the rights of others" at the highest level in all subjects

In addition, students who have lost good standing during Semester Two may be excluded from the reward excursion at the discretion of the Deputy Principal. The Good Standing Policy is available on the Margaret River Senior High School website.

At Margaret River Senior High School we have been focussing on the three areas of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience with the goal of improving our already high level of student performance, behaviour and engagement.

Your ongoing support, as parents, in setting high aspirations for our students and our strategy of encouraging and rewarding the very best behaviour is appreciated.

Rob Nail – on behalf of the MRSHS student services team

MRSHS Social Justice Group

SAVE THE DATE...Thursday 13th October, 6.30pm

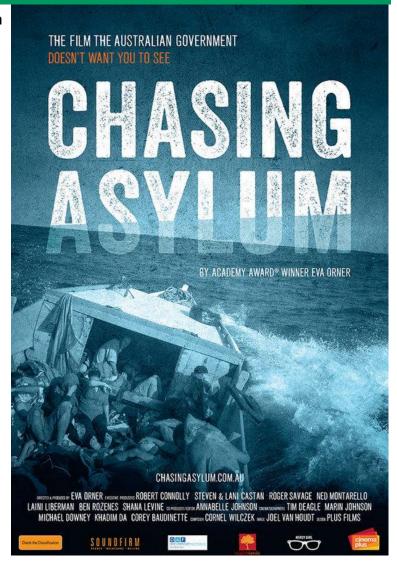
The MRSHS Social Justice group will be presenting the film "Chasing Asylum" in Week 1 of Term 4, and are pleased to invite parents, teachers and students over 15 years old. The screening of this documentary on the treatment of asylum seekers on Manus Island and Nauru will be preceded by a talk from one of the film's executive producers, Steven Castan.

"CHASING ASYLUM exposes the real impact of Australia's offshore detention policies and explores how 'The Lucky Country' became a country where leaders choose detention over compassion and governments deprive the desperate of their basic human rights.

The film features never before seen footage from inside Australia's offshore detention camps, revealing the personal impact of sending those in search of a safe home to languish in limbo."

Keep your eye out for more details in the next newsletter.

Emma Campbell



2016 Farm News

Pruning

Pruning is still under way, huge job with only one lower school class competent enough to prune so the poor Year 9's have been pruning, pruning and more pruning this term. Hopefully next year we will have bigger numbers in farm so can spread the load amongst more classes of Year 9's and 10's.

We are about halfway through and the current group of Year 9's are still keen and enjoying pruning. We hope to be finished by the end of the term.



Charlotte Barker and Asha Altmann



Bridget Manners and Tristan White

Transplanting a fig tree









The chooks had worked out an escape plan!!! They would perch up in the fig tree (mistakenly located close to an outer fence about 10 years ago) and make their escape into the Alpaca paddock. The fig tree had to go. The Year 8's worked very hard to dig it out and move to its new place in the middle of our third chook run over a period of 3 weeks. It's now in its new home getting lots of tender loving care so we wait with anticipation for some new growth in a few weeks.

Wet Weather

The rain has been relentless this term, great for farming but bad for planning farm lessons in the outdoors. We have managed to



beat the rain on most occasions with some clever classroom planning. The raincoats and gumboots have had their best workout ever this year. Local farmers are saying this winter is like the winters in Margaret River 30 years ago so that's got to be a good thing.

Aquaponics

Our aquaponics system has now settled down, the fish water has stabilised and the plants are growing in a



happy symbiotic relationship with the trout. It has been a 6 week learning curve getting the nitrates and nitrites balanced and we are now there. We hope to have an ongoing lettuce supply system going so we can have a permanent supply of lettuce to provide to the school canteen in the future....once we iron out the wrinkles.

Art News - August

Arts students enjoyed many opportunities supported by MRSHS Engagement and Enrichment funding.



All of our Year 10 students attended the **Black Swan Theatre Company Performance of Shadowboxing** held in our school auditorium. This comical yet sensitive two person play explored the "shadow land" of social media and the issues arising from the masked identities people can create online. After the performance 30 students from Years 9 – 12 were selected to participate in challenging Drama workshop exploring movement, intuition and characterisation.



Saturday the 13th of August

Our Dance specialist, Amanda Gradisen, organised an excursion to the Bunbury Entertainment Centre to see the Sydney Dance Company present two amazing dance items in a show called **Countermove**. Twenty six students were exposed to exceptional quality and artistic brilliance demonstrated in the contemporary genre of dance. This kind of excursion opens our eyes to amazing possibilities in Dance – thanks to Mrs Gradisen for making this entertaining learning experience possible.







Friday the 19th of August

Our classical guitar teacher, Bruce Godden and our Music specialist Isabelle Lemon left school early with 13 of our senior, classical guitarists – destination Perth. This overnight camp in the city included a trip to the Perth Concert Hall to see the West Australian Symphony perform and a chance for our students to perform in the International Guitar Festival held at Carine Senior High School. Our students were adjudicated by the Grigorian Brothers (considered the world's best classical guitarists). Friday night they saw the symphony performance and then received a full tour of the Concert Hall before performing at the Festival the next day. Thanks goes to our dedicated Music staff for providing this enrichment activity for our Senior Guitar Ensemble.

Arts News—Next Month



Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th August

Director/Actor Andy King will spend two days in our school working with our Upper School Drama students in preparation for their practical examinations. Andy has over 30 years of experience in the theatre industry and he spent seven years teaching at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts.



Wednesday 7th September

An Upper School Music and Drama Performance Evening will take place in our school auditorium at 6pm. This hour long show will give family and friends a chance to support our senior performing arts students as they prepare for challenging performance exams. Year 12 Drama students will present their original productions and Year 11/12 musicians will all perform solo.



Tuesday 13th September

Shakespeare: As you Write It. Once again the New Zealand Playhouse will perform at MRSHS during period 1 on Tuesday the 13th September. Selected Year 9s and Drama students will enjoy a comical, engaging piece of theatre designed to teach students about Shakespeare's key theatrical conventions



Tuesday 13th September

Youth on Health Festival. Approximately 50 dancers from years 7- 10 are busy polishing their dance items for entry in the Youth on Health Festival which will be held on the main stage at the Bunbury Entertainment Centre on Tuesday the 13th of September. Good luck to Dance Specialist Amanda Gradisen and her creative students who have accessed "Student Health and Well Being" funds to help support this initiative. The Festival theme "Resilience" is a priority area for MRSHS and exploring this theme has involved a highly symbolic approach to group choreography. This is our "first ever" entry in this exciting festival and a wonderful chance for students to perform along-side other schools in our District.



Tuesday 13th September

Free UWA Guitar Ensemble Master Class and Performance. UWA guitar students (led by Dr Jonathon Fitzgerald) will make Margaret River Senior High School the final stop of their "Down South" tour. At 1.45pm they will run a free master class for our Upper School Musicians – interested members of the public are welcome to attend. Then at 6pm the university trained ensemble will present a free concert in the auditorium. It is highly recommended that Music students from all years at our school aim to attend. The guitarists will perform a varied repertoire of both solo and ensemble pieces ranging from Baroque favourites, Bach and Scarletti, to the modern works of Hindemith and Terry Riley. Please contact the organiser of this event, Isabelle Lemon, if you have any queries: Isabelle.Lemon@education.wa.edu.au

We wish all students preparing for performance events and practical examinations the very best.

2016 Year 11 Certificate II Outdoor Recreation Caving Excursions

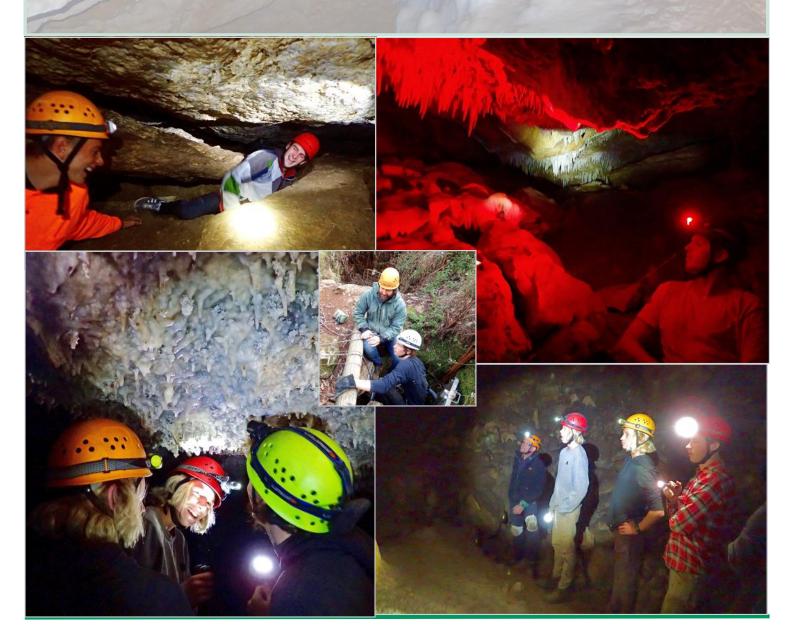
The Year 11 Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation students recently spent time in the Boranup Forest scrambling through a series of restricted access caves. Prior to spending the day 'spelunking', the students spent time in classes learning about; how the LN Ridge was formed, the mechanisms through which caves are formed, different speleothems (cave formations) and how they are formed, flora and fauna specific to caves in this region and how to minimise their impact whilst visiting the caves.

The Year 11 students were given the opportunity to explore Nannup Cave, well known for its high level of cave decoration, and Dingo Cave, regarded as the most adventurous restricted cave in the area incorporating an abseil entry down a solution pipe and plenty of squeezes through tight spaces.

Many thanks again to Mick Dempsey of the Margaret River Climbing Co. and Sue Buckland, whose presence allowed two caving and three roping instructors on site, maximising the experience for all students involved.

Stuart Kupfer-Hollis

Year 11/12 Certificate II Outdoor Recreation, MRSHS



2016 Year 12 Certificate II Outdoor Recreation Caving Excursions



WA Schools Cross Country MTB Championships

In huge news for Junior Mountain Biking in WA, for the first time in over 10 years the West Australian Mountain Bike Association held the WA Schools Cross Country Mountain Bike Championships in Perth. This fantastic and exciting event for schools students of all ages was held on Thursday 4th and Friday 5th August

Margaret River Senior High School was represented by our very own Year 10 student **Sophie Johnson**. Sophie competed as a solo rider in the Middle School division against students from all over WA to take out 3rd place. This is an outstanding effort particularly as Sophie is relatively new to Cross Country, participating predominantly in Downhill and Gravity Enduro events.



Paul Johnson

YouthCARE Chaplain's Corner

Celebrating Fathers!

Being a better Dad is about being present and involved in every stage of your child's life. Fathers have a significant impact on the social, cognitive, emotional and physical well-being of children from infancy to adolescence and with lasting influences into their adult life.



Dad's - keep yourself healthy!!!



Bringing up children is hard work. It can be physically demanding, requiring at times lack of sleep, skipped or unhealthy meals, and exposure to illness. It can also be mentally draining, particularly if your partner or your child struggles to cope with life in some way, and/or you have a busy or stressful job.

Make fathering as easy for yourself as possible by making sure you keep as fit and healthy as you can. Exercise regularly, eat properly, and get adequate sleep. Share problems and issues with other people, and get support when you need it – don't imagine you have to cope with everything yourself.

- Be active with your kids go bike riding together, kick the footy around at the park, or shoot some hoops
- Learn to cook healthy meals with the kids
- Take all your holidays, and use at least some of them to take family vacations away from home
- If you feel you are not coping, get help. Talk to your partner, a counsellor, or your local health service
- Resource: thefatheringproject.org

Science News

Bridge Building competition 2016

To celebrate National Science Week, the Science faculty let each lower school class become bridge engineers for a day. Armed with strict instructions as to their allotted allowance and cost of materials, each team proceeded to make a bridge out of paper, straws, paperclips and sticky tape. This involved collaborating as a team to plan their bridge construction, deciding which materials and in what quantities to spend their allowance on. Many bridges held over 3.0kg in weight suspended in a container beneath the bridge, with the winner supporting 9.3 kg! The bridges had to span two desks 40cm apart exactly. As you can see from the photos the students had many varied designs and really enjoyed the challenge.



Chicks in Science

Last week 14 little chicks hatched out from their eggs in the incubator that has been sitting in Science for the last 3 weeks. During the week before, many students were shown how we "candle" eggs to see if the embryo inside is alive and therefore has a chance of hatching. The chicks are now housed in a heated aquarium in the Science foyer and the students are really enjoying interacting with them.

Community News—Margaret River Karate Club

Margaret River Karate Club—2016 National Karate Championships

Twelve boys from the Margaret River Karate Club returned home Monday with 30 medals, following a successful three-day tournament in Adelaide. The boys, comprising both junior and senior students took part in the 2016 USKU National Championships, competing in kata, sparring and kumite. The annual event, which is held in different cities – and Japan on alternate years, drew fighters from New Zealand, Japan, Malaysia, Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia.

The Margaret River Karate Club contingent who took part in last weekends' 2016 National Karate Championships in Adelaide.



[L-R] Senior Instructor Martin Keen, Zac Bedggood, Brodey Deighton, Taj Thomas, Archie Dowden, Nic Payet, Charley Peyet, Cuba Goodall, Jaxon Deighton, Zebediah Barnett, Thom Payet, Angus Dowden and Griffin Keen.

Club Sensei Ken Rouw said he was pleased with the way the boys competed, and hoped they would continue to strive towards bigger and better things. "The results this tournament were impressive," he said, "and for the most part our boys competed very well".

Student Zebediah Barnett said he really pleased with his efforts in being able to beat a far more season fighter than himself. "I beat a Japanese black belt in kumite – it was such a good feeling," he said. Cuba Goodall, who took out gold in Kata [Boys over 14] was over the moon to finally beat one of his arch rivals from his own dojo. "It was such a good feeling to beat Angus - finally! Nobody beats Angus easily, because he always puts on a good fight," he said beaming with joy.



Zebediah Barnet, Cuba Goodall and Brodey Deighton on their way to a bronze win in Team Kata [boys 14 years and under].

Community News—Margaret River Karate Club cont...

Black Belts

It's taken some of them almost a decade, but finally after a lot of blood, sweat and toil, four Margaret River High School Students and school teacher - from the Margaret River Karate Club, received their black belts at the culmination of the 2016 USKU National Karate Championships, held in Adelaide last weekend. Brodey Deighton, Angus Dowden, Griffin Keen and Taj Thomas, along with teacher Martin Keen, were presented with their certificates by USKU 8th Dan Chief Director Shihan Kenichi Fukamizu, who had travelled to Adelaide for the occasion.

Margaret River Karate Club Sensei Ken Rouw was presented with his 6th Dan – for all his efforts and work with Shotokan Karate for more than a quarter of a century. Holding up his certificate, he told the audience – "this is for my students and I thank you very much."



As for the current recipients of their black belts, Rouw said he was enormously proud of this years crop. "In all my years training, I have never put through so many black belts at one time – it's usually just one or two. But these guys have earned their belts and I'm proud of them," he said.

While super proud dad Leif Thomas, also on hand for the momentous occasion said he had nothing but praise for the black belt reward - not only for his son Taj, but for all the others too. "These guys have put in such a massive effort over nine years to achieve their goals – well done boys," he said. Asked what it meant to finally earn the black belt, Angus Dowden said it was "an awesome achievement". "My journey has taken me through nine years of good times. I have learned so much, been to so many places and met so many people. The black belt itself is just the cherry on top. "Now that I have gotten my black belt the true learning finally begins. "I would like to achieve as much as sensei Ken, who just got his 6th Dan black belt as a surprise from the other instructors." Asked the same question, Taj Thomas too was happy with his personal achievement. "It has shown me that I have the ability to persist and endure difficult tasks over long periods of time. "Receiving the black belt means that I have just completed the foundation work, and now I shall start learning about karate and the culture that surrounds it," he said with a relieved grin. And just for the record, Taj Thomas almost didn't receive his certificate. He thought he hadn't passed. For some reason, his certificate had found its way into a pile of papers during the presentations, and was only discovered after Ken Rouw told the hierarchy he thought there had been a mistake. A very relieved young Taj was then presented with his reward.

30 medal haul for the karate boys from Margies!

- Boys Team Kata [over 14 years] Angus Dowden, Griffin Keen and Taj Thomas silver. Japan scoops first.
- Boys Team Kata [14 years and under]. Zebediah Barnett, Brodey Deighton and Cuba Goodall bronze medal.
- Boys Demonstration Kata Griffin Keen, Angus Dowden, Zebediah Barnett, Brodey Deighton, Taj Thomas and Nic Payet win silver.
- Boys Mixed Kata [under nine years] Charley Peyet wins an impressive silver.
- Boys Kata [10-12 years] Zac Bedggood silver and Tom Peyet bronze.
- Boys Kata [over 14 years] Cuba Goodall and Angus Dowden win gold and silver respectively.
- Boys 5-Step sparring [under nine years] Charley Payet wins bronze.
- Mixed State Team Kumite [under nine years] silver to Charley Peyet (Western Australia) who played a pivotal role against team South Australia.
- Mixed Team Kumite [10-13 years] silver for Zebediah Barnett, Zac Bedggood, Tom Peyet, Jaxon Deighton and George from Avon Valley dojo representing Western Australia versus South Australia.
- Senior Boys Kumite [14-16] Taj Thomas gold, Angus Dowden silver and Nic Peyet bronze.
- Boys Kumite [11-12 years] Tom Payet wins silver, Zac Bedggood a bronze and fourth place to Archie Dowden.
- Boys Kumite [13 years] Zebediah Barnett wins silver.
- Boys Kumite [under nine years] Charley Peyet wins silver.

Community News—Margaret River Karate Club cont...

Margaret River Katate Club

Griffin Keen, Taj Thomas and Angus Dowden perfectly synchronised on their journey towards silver in Team Kata [boys over 14 years].



Taj Thomas, Angus Dowden and Griffin Keen in full flight - earning them a worthy silver medal ahead of Japan in Team Kata [boys over 14 years].

Zebediah Barnett on his way to winning silver in Kumite I hoys 12

Zebediah Barnett on his way to winning silver in Kumite [boys 13 years and under]. The win was the first time Zebe had beaten a Japanese black belt competitor - which made it even sweeter.

2016 National Karate Championships



Training on the beach at Adelaide Shores—Margaret Rivers' boys left row.

Community Noticeboard





Father's Day Fishing Competition at Willy Bay Resort

Come along for a special family afternoon to celebrate Father's Day with a catch and release fishing competition at our lake filled with rainbow trout.

Open bar and sausage sizzle available during the event.

DATE: Saturday September 3rd 2016

TIME: 3 - 5 pm

FEE: \$ 10 per person cash only BYO: fishing rod and gear

Prizes for the heaviest fish are:

1ST PRIZE: 2 nights stay at Willy Bay Resort 2ND PRIZE: one case of mixed local wine

3RD PRIZE: six pack of local beer

Bookings are essential please phone or email our friendly reception staff!



MARGARET RIVER TENNIS CLUB

JUNIOR SEASON SOCIAL TENNIS

JUNIOR PLAYERS AGED 9 - 16

PLAY SINGLES & DOUBLES
IMPROVE YOUR GAME
A basic level of tennis skills
are required to play, keep
score and to enjoy a
competitive game of tennis!

CONTACT

JUNIOR COORDINATOR
Lisa Chandler
lillypillylane123@gmail.com

STARTS

8th OCTOBER

SATURDAYS 9:00am - 11:30am

\$60 includes

MARGARET RIVER TENNIS CLUB JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

morning tea, equipment & game fees

Term 4, 2106 / Term 1, 2017

DETAILS ON THE WEBSITE mrtc.org.au



Coaching

ANZ Tennis Hot Shots coaching sessions are run by qualified Tennis Australia coaches across the country. They're run in small groups where kids are introduced to a sport that they can play for life.

Contact: Simon or Emily Cockburn



Tennis Coaching Margaret River

7 weeks: Start 18 OCTOBER 2016

Where: Margaret River Tennis Club

When: Tuesdays or Thursdays Time: 4pm: 5-7 years (\$120)

4.40pm: 8+ (\$130)

Adult Cardio Tennis: Saturday 9.10am Contact: Simon or Emily Cockburn 0404 806 583



ANZ POTS PERNIS

streamlinetennis@gmail.com

Community Noticeboard Continued



As part of the national and state strategy to address methamphetamine and other drug use behaviour, the Department of Education and School Drug Education and Road Aware (SDERA) are hosting a free 'Talking Drugs' information session for parents.

This 1.5 hour session will focus on patterns and prevalence of methamphetamine use, how School Drug Education works and how parents can talk to young people about drugs and drug use.

The workshop is being offered in partnership with Choose Respect Busselton.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOOK WEBSITE WWW.SDERA.wa.edu.au







Parents have an important role to play in preventing and reducing their children's risk of harm from drug use.

Date: Monday 12th September **Time:** Please arrive at 5.45pm

for a 6.00pm start. Ends at 7.30 pm.

Where: Busselton Football Club, Sir Stewart Bovell Park

Sporting Complex

Bussell Highway, Busselton

RSVP: www.eventbrite.com.au

