



MARGARET RIVER SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

To May 2021

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2021—Term Two

June 4th

Free Dress Day

June 7th

Public Holiday—WA Day

June 14th—18th

*Yr 11 Work Place Learning
(Country Week students only)*

June 16th

Yr 10 Immunisation

June 21st - July 2nd

Yr 11 WPL (1/2 cohort)

June 28th - July 2nd

Country Week

July 5th - July 18th

School Holidays

July 19th

School Development Day

July 20th

Students commence Term 3

July 22nd

Year 10 Parent Night for Upper School

July 23rd

Year 9 Assembly

July 26th

Year 12 Assembly

July 27th

Year 10 Assembly

It is hard to believe that we are already in Week 6 of Term 2. The 2021 school year is flying past us at a rapid rate. Earlier in the Term, the Cadet Unit and our Student Councillors represented MRSHS at the annual ANZAC Day ceremony to remember those who have served our country and made sacrifices so we can live in a harmonious society. It always fills me with great pride when I see the outstanding way in which our students conduct themselves on such important occasions. We often hear about and see images of youth doing the wrong thing and being portrayed negatively in the media. I genuinely believe we have fantastically well behaved children in Margaret River and our surrounding districts and we do not acknowledge this enough. I am proud of the way our students conduct themselves and it gives me great reassurance that our future is in good hands.



The Student Council are to be congratulated for their leadership role in preparing the ANZAC Ceremony for our school. The program that they developed and delivered on the day, based on women's involvement and Service during war, was outstanding and was befitting such a special occasion.

Today is the start of Reconciliation Week which enables us to celebrate and gain a level of knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions. At Margaret River Senior High School, we all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. 2021 marks twenty years of Reconciliation Australia and almost three decades of Australia's formal reconciliation process.

Our Year 11 and 12 students are about to complete their First Semester exams and most of our Work Place Learning students have completed their work placements. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all businesses that support our students and provided opportunities for our students during this time.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Mrs Mem McCormack, Mrs Hannah James and our upper school Drama students for the outstanding production of *Cosi*. These productions are a result of a massive amount of time and effort from Mem and our students and I would like to congratulate them on presenting such a wonderful set of performances.

At the beginning of 2020 I wrote to parents outlining the drop off and pick up zones for students. Students pick up and drop off for parents is at the South of the school, in our new carpark situated adjacent to the MREC building. This enables parents to enter the carpark through the north entry off Bussell Highway and exit through the South exit onto Bussell Highway. Student parking is also in this carpark area. Parents can drop off their children, in the morning, in the bus bays in front of the school. The carparks adjacent to the Administration Building are for staff only parking. We appreciate parents' cooperation in making pick up and drop off safe for our students.

Andrew Host
Principal





Makuru

Season of fertility

Winter: June-July

Time to move inland, more food available

The lifestyle for the Nyoongar communities during Makuru

Makuru sees the coldest and wettest time of the year come into full swing. Traditionally, this was a good time of the year to move back inland from the coast as the winds turned to the west and south bringing the cold weather, rains and occasionally snow on the peaks of the Stirling and Porongurup Ranges. As the waterways and catchments started to fill, people were able to move about their country with ease and thus their food sources changed from sea, estuarine and lake foods to those of the lands in particular the grazing animals such as the kangaroo. As well as a food source, animals provided people with many other things. For example, 'Yongar' or kangaroos not only provided meat but also 'bookas' (animal skin cloaks that were used as the nights became much cooler). Nothing was left; even the bones and sinews were used in the manufacturing of bookas and for hunting tools such as spears. Makuru is also a time for a lot of animals to be pairing up in preparation for breeding in the coming season. If you look carefully, you might now see pairs of 'Wardongs' (ravens) flying together. You also notice these pairs not making the usual 'ark ark arrrrrk' that these birds are well known for when flying solo. Upon the lakes and rivers of the Southwest, you'll also start to see a large influx of the Black Swan or 'Mali' as they too prepare to nest and breed. Flowers that will start to emerge include the blues and purples of the Blueberry Lilly (*Dianella revoluta*) and the Purple Flags (*Patersonia occidentalis*). As the season comes to a close, you should also start to notice the white flowers of the weeping peppermint (*Agonis flexuosa*) as the blues start to make way for the white and cream flowers of Djilba.

Financial News

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you to those that have already paid in full their Contribution & Charges or have made contact with me to set up a payment plan. If you haven't done so please feel free to contact me via email Cristina.oliveira@education.wa.edu.au to set this up.

Please note that charges that haven't been paid will roll over to the following year. You may direct deposit any fee's and charges to the School Bank Account, details as follows:

BSB: 016-520

Account: 1083 88617

If you are using online banking and paying something specific please use a similar reference eg: CountryW xxx, Fees xxxx.

Did you know that through the P&C your child is covered for 24 hour insurance? The P&C contribution is under the VAR (Voluntary Approved Request)

Cristina Oliveira

Manager Corporate Services



School News — ARTS

COSI

Congratulations cast and crew of the 2021 Upper School Production of Cosi by Louis Nowra who shared with our community their hilarious, heart-warming show. All three performances created a true celebration of our Drama, Events and Photography programs with full capacity audiences keen to applaud and praise the dedication and talent of our amazing Cosi cast!

Thanks to the broad range of staff members who contributed to making the show such a success. I would like to make special thanks to Mem McCormack who took time off leave to direct and produce COSI. Thanks also to Judi Westaway who assisted in costume and production tasks. It was so wonderful to have live theatre in our MRSHS Auditorium once again after a difficult COVID effected Performing Arts schedule last year.

CERTIFICATE III IN EVENTS

The Events students have had a busy time completing practical tasks as part of their course work. During last week's production of COSI they took on Front of House roles as they attended to registration tasks with our Try Booking platform set up by Jane Litynski. They also organised the light supper and refreshments for interval.

The Margaret River Pro is one of our highlights as Surfing WA once again support us as we enjoyed site visits which highlighted the complexities and systems required to stage such a mega event.

The "Healthy Habitz Youth Festival" has been running everyday afterschool this week at the skate park and the Events students have been a dynamic group helping with the running of the event and shadowing key personnel.

Developing confidence and strength in transferable skills has been important to the Events students as they engaged with the community at the Margaret River Pro, the Healthy Habitz Youth Festival and also at the Big Band Picnic as they coordinated the COVID safe procedures.

BIG BAND PICNIC

The Big Band Picnic drew massive crowds as the very talented Music students performed an outstanding and diverse array of music presentations. The Music program was on show highlighting the contributions from our many Instrumental teachers and ensemble leaders. Coordinated by Miss Lemon we were treated to a beautiful evening where our school community gathered together to celebrate the dedication of our students. The class bands and ensembles are now starting to rehearse their songs for the Arts Festival in term 3.

WAYJO

Recently, Music students had an amazing experience with an interactive workshop provided by the rhythm section of WAYJO. This consisted of vocals, trumpet, piano, guitar, drums and double bass. Students watched the band perform a song that focused heavily on improvisation, then asked and answered questions about the performance. The members of the band gave a short talk about their instruments and what role they played when performing together. Students learned about jazz performance conventions, as well as some jazz theory concepts. The rhythm section was then joined by a large horn section for a concert in the Auditorium at recess.

It was great to continue this long running relationship with WAYJO and WAAPA as we have several MRSHS students who have gone on to study Music at WAAPA. The most recent of these graduates being Wilbur Grantham, who began his performance degree this year. Bryn Larkin, another ex-student, actually played in WAYJO for several years but has now moved up into the senior band. He is now completing his final year at WAAPA.

WAYJO is Australia's leading youth jazz orchestra and one of the country's cultural gems. It provides a unique experience for jazz musicians aged 14 to 25 who are the absolute cream of young jazz players from Western Australia and beyond. Competition for places is fierce. Those who make it are amongst the nation's best young players and are rewarded with career-defining experiences including touring, training, recording and performing with world-class guest artists.

DANCE

The MRSHS biennial Arts Fest held at the HEART theatre is the focus of the Dance program this semester. Hip Hop has been the dance genre in Term 1 and we invited guest choreographer Miss Katt to create a dance piece to the music of the Black Eyed Peas and Shakyla. It looks fantastic, well done Year 9 dancers! We are also currently working on a collaborative student choreography project creating a contemporary acro piece which reflects images of the Amazon rainforest.

Keep September at the HEART on your radar, more information coming soon!

School News—Languages



Margaret River SHS Year 8 Asian Languages students received postcards and a culture box from their Taiwanese sister school buddies, RuiFang JHS. The students were very excited with the exchange postcards and looking forward to meet their buddies through tele-conference with them again.



Outdoor Education

What a massive term it has been and what amazing weather we have received for all Outdoor Education activities.

Year 9 Outdoor Education

This term we took two separate class groups to the High Ropes Course in Karridale this was led by Outdoor Education Group. The course provided students with the opportunity to transfer skills learnt at school into practical activities. We then went to Augusta for lunch then went to Brides Cave on our return to school to enlighten the group on abseil sites that we utilise in the upper school course. Both groups displayed high levels of maturity, respect and understanding of safety.



Year 10 Outdoor Education

Our year 10 Class have been gaining on water experience into the world of Canoe Craft. Learning the basic fundamental paddling skills, safety procedures and rescue techniques. On land the class have been showing their creativity in nutritious camp cooking on a Trangia.



Year 11/12 General Outdoor Education

Our incredible hikers. With our shortened term, this class had time pressures like no other. In order to investigate and plan for their three-day expedition along the Cape to Cape in week 8. We started off at Surfers Point and made our way along our beautiful coastline on the Cape to Cape staying a night at Contos and Hamelin Bay to finish up day three at Cosey Corner. This group should be commended for their amazing level of comradery, resilience and self-management skills.



MRSHS Facebook Page

Our Facebook page will replace much of the content we place in our Newsletter articles.

This will provide a way to communicate and engage with you, our school community instantly to keep everyone up to date with the happenings of the school. We want to make sure MRSHS stands out, showing what makes our school special and build a strong and positive online identity for MRSHS.

Please come take a look and “Like” and “Follow” our page!



Department of
Local Government,
Sport and Cultural
Industries

KIDSPORT



UP TO **\$150** TOWARDS CLUB
FEES FOR KIDS!

Eligible kids aged 5-18 years can access financial assistance to contribute towards club membership.



DETAILS

MARGARET RIVER JUNIOR HOCKEY
JOIN US FOR THE 2021 SEASON

Year 3-5 mixed boys and girls team
Year 6-8 girls team, Year 6-8 boys team
Year 9-12 girls team, Year 9-12 boys team
Want more info?

juniorcoordinator@margaretriverhockey.org.au
admin@margaretriverhockey.org.au

You can apply for KidSport online at
dlgsc.wa.gov.au/kidsport