



Top of the Class:

The Class of 2020 sets a new WACE record

Perth Modern School students have achieved the highest ever median ATAR recorded in WA, achieving 97.55 compared to the state average of 81.6. A record number of 72 students achieved an ATAR of 99+ including five students who achieved a perfect ATAR score of 99.95.

The five students who scored a 99.95 ATAR were Jake Cho, Akash Jayaram, Ryan Joseph Anson, Leosha Trushin and Savindi Wimalaratne. The Class of 2020 also achieved another State record, with 21 General Exhibitions achieved. In addition, six Subject Exhibitions were awarded to five students including Jas Choo who topped the State in both English and Literature.

Akash Jayaram said he was confident he had done well in the exams, but felt 'relieved' when he saw he had achieved a 99.95 ATAR.

'I studied with a routine and a timetable and I think it is important not to over study,' Akash said. 'I played cricket in my spare time and I also enjoyed reading a lot of books.'

He paid tribute to his parents and little brother who helped with his stress levels, as well as his teachers at Perth Modern.

'My teachers were really supportive, when I had questions, I could email them and they would email me back sometimes late at night,' Akash said. 'I really appreciated how my teachers helped me this year.'

Savindi Wimalaratne said she was 'shocked and surprised' when she saw her result of 99.95.



Jake Cho, Leosha Trushin, Savindi Wimalaratne, Akash Jayaram and Ryan Joseph Anson achieved perfect ATARs of 99.95.

'It's different for everybody, but to keep on top of my study schedule, I really liked to prioritise and manage my time which helped me keep on top of the workload,' Savindi said.

Leosha Trushin said he was 'kind of expecting [his 99.95 ATAR] but it was a relief to find out and that it was all over.'

He said it is important to find something that motivates you for the ATAR, in his case it was competition in assessments with his friends.

Jake Cho said he found it important to have faith in himself and even when he had a few disappointing test results, he kept working hard and made up for it later on.

'Being resilient is important and you have to just keep going,' Jake said.

Ryan said he was 'super happy' with his result and relieved that his hard work had materialised into something he was proud of. He said being consistent with study was important and to make sure you have some down time. He paid tribute to his family, especially his parents who were very encouraging the whole way through.

Principal of Perth Modern School Lois Joll said she was delighted with these results and that achieving a median ATAR of 97.55 was a tremendous group effort by the entire cohort.

'Together with our dedicated staff and supported by parents, our students inspire and support each other to be their best which is a winning combination,' she said.

Leosha is planning to study physics at university and Jake, Akash, Ryan and Savindi are planning to study medicine.

See the full awards list on pages 4–6.

In this issue



PAGE 10
P&C Christmas
Concert and Picnic



PAGE 32
Chess success
for Mod



PAGE 56
Year 11
Dinner Dance



From the Principal

A modern success story

*The **Class of 2020** have proven themselves to be a 'class above' in achieving the number one school ranking in WA, the fifth year in a row Perth Modern has achieved this honour. I am delighted that our students achieved a State record ATAR of 97.55, and another State record with 72 out of the 243-strong cohort attaining an ATAR of 99+. Well done to the five students who achieved a perfect ATAR of 99.95—**Savindi Wimalarathne, Alexey Trushin, Jake Cho, Ryan Joseph Anson and Akash Jayaram**. Incredibly, the Class of 2020 achieved another state record, with 21 students achieving a General Exhibition—demonstrating the breadth and depth of our students' ability across a range of subjects. It is an extraordinary outcome for Perth Modern students to show continued improvement in the WACE year after year and is testament to the dedication of our staff to support our students' journey to 'be their best.' It is our core belief that by taking care of the whole child, supporting their wellbeing and encouraging resilience, providing opportunities to grow talents and find their passion, as well as encouraging academic excellence, that the ATAR will take care of itself. I also wish to pay special tribute to the Class of 2020 in how they handled the pandemic in 2020, an unexpected event that they handled with positivity and confidence, simply getting on with the hard work, not feeling sorry for themselves and supporting each other as a close-knit group.*

In 2021, we are looking forward to supporting our students by growing and developing our **Modern Innovations Curriculum**, and we are thrilled to have welcomed **Helen Lydon** to the key role of Innovations Manager. Teaching innovation, entrepreneurship and leadership is considered increasingly important in a rapidly changing world. The curriculum will extend the learning experience beyond subjects, content and grades by emphasising analysis, evaluation and synthesis, which are the phases of higher-order thinking. Helen will work closely with **Heather Boyd**, who is implementing the Year 9 **Learning for Life** program as part of the **Future Learning Centre** that will enhance capacity to deliver future focussed educational outcomes for gifted learners and set students up for life after school. The program will provide opportunities for students to further challenge themselves to realise their social, academic and personal potential as responsible members of the global community. We are excited to bring this fully-fledged program to our students this year and look forward to seeing some of the wonderful independent research projects that will be the result.

The **2020 Year 12 Presentation Ceremony** was held in the **Tyler McCusker Sports Centre** (TMSC). This very special event was a wonderful occasion for Year 12 students to have their hard work and many achievements acknowledged in front of their families and peers. It was a very successful and joyous evening. Congratulations to **Dux Ryan Joseph Anson** and **Runner Up Dux Aakash Annadurai**. Many thanks to **Lauryl Wallace** for her organisation of the ceremony and **Thalia Cole** for the catering along with Head of Year 12 **Craig Gannon** and **Steve Jurilj** for their help at the event as well as our student MC's **Aaron Trawinski** and **Fatima Merchant**, Year 11 student helpers, **Heads of Departments** and the many staff and students for their work in organising a very successful event. See pages 7–9 for a full list of Presentation award winners.

Prior to the Year 12 Presentation Ceremony, a **Pin Ceremony** for incoming Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 students in 2021 was held. The ceremony is a wonderful occasion to celebrate our new students and present them with their Sphinx badges in front of their families. A special thank you to **Thalia Cole** and **Brianna Peck** for organising and running the ceremony and managing the catering on the day. Thanks to Year 7 Student Councillors **Mahek Aribenchi** and **Lalkrishna Rajasekharan** who spoke

enthusiastically to welcome the newcomers. Thank you also to **Student Volunteers** and **Student Councillors** for their help at the event and **Val Furphy** for her input.

The **P&C** held a wonderful **Christmas Concert and Picnic** for the school community on Friday, 4 December. Stalls, fun activities and delicious food vans along with Christmas carols created a fabulous atmosphere. The extravaganza followed on from the **Charity Day, Variety Concert and Orientation Day** for incoming students in 2021. **Year 9 Leadership and Entrepreneurship** students organised and ran the stalls for Charity Day which combined with gold coin donations for dressing up raised approximately \$6200 for **Ocean Heroes**. Thanks to the **P&C Executive**, the **Music Department staff** and **Friends of Music** for helping to organise the activities.

A special **Remembrance Day** event was held to plant a poppy plant that had been especially created by the RSL. It was planted outside the Beasley Building near the War Memorial and a special commemorative plaque will be created to showcase its location.

A number of students did exceptionally well in the **International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**, achieving medals for topping the State. Well done to

Celia Hawkins, Jinzhao Xu and **Sonia Yeo** in Year 7 for achieving a medal for spelling; **Max Judd** and **Daniel Kong** in Year 9 for Mathematics; **David Nguyen** in Year 7, **Ronan Naidu** in Year 8, **Rishita Sarkar** and **Angelica Kinney** in Year 9, and **Thomas Stokes** and **Elijah Thompson** in Year 10 for Digital Technologies; **Lauren Schnieder** in Year 8 and **Rishita Sarkar** in Year 9 for English; and **Ran Ji, Kshitij Chandrashekar** and **James Carroll** in Year 7, **Gary Wu** in Year 8, **Max Judd** in Year 9, and **Sai Sitparan, Shen-Kit Hia** and **Ella Fung** in Year 10 for Science.

I congratulate two of our dedicated and hardworking staff members—**Glen McClelland** in Mathematics and **Mya Skirving** who is Second-in-charge of Science for accolades achieved. Glen was named a Transformative 20 Teacher by Mathspace out of 5,000 applicants nationwide and Nelson has published Mya's Biology textbook, the first WA based text in Biology for ATAR courses.

A number of students have received awards and accolades in Term 4. I congratulate:

- **Ayden Johnson, Riley Haswell** and **Stefan Ciutina** in Year 9 won the **ECU PeCan Capture the Flag (CTF)** event.
- **Ethan Xu** was the Australian winner for Year 7 in the **Australian Geography Competition**. **Max Judd** in Year 9 achieved equal first for Western Australia.
- **Khush Shah** in Year 10 came third in the global **Chinese Bridge Speaking Competition**.
- **Micah Sinclair** in Year 11 was selected for the **National School of Excellence** for mathematics.
- The Year 8 team featuring **Ethan Yap, Joel Bariss, Artharva Sathe** and **Pranav Borude** achieved first place in the **WA Junior Maths Olympiad**. Second place was achieved by the Year 9 team of **Kang Qu, Max Judd, Rohan Sarda** and **Aditya Natarajan**.
- **Ruby Paterson** in Year 10 and **James Carroll** in Year 7 were the senior and junior champions respectively of the **UN Youth Voice WA Public Speaking** competition. **Finn Bradfield, Shermaine Chan, Aidan Jang** and **Meena Srinivasan** in Year 7, **Claire den Hollander** and **Yashdeep Banwala** in Year 8 and **Anna Tokarev** and **Nyah Gray** in Year 10 were invited to participate in the finals of the competition.
- Perth Modern School is the **2020 WA School Chess Champion**. Congratulations

in particular to **Jamie Laubbacher** in Year 10, **Ben Hurst** in Year 9 and **Chas Underwood** and **Christopher Manasseh** in Year 11 for winning the board prizes.

- **Ann Cao** in Year 11 scored an incredible 98 per cent in her Semester 2 **Literature** exam, the highest score recorded for the past 12 years in the current format.
- **Cecilia Limargana** in Year 7 and **Sidney Eric** in Year 9 came first in the collaborative duet section of the **West Australian Pianist Competition**. They were also named the overall collaborative pianist winners by the **AMEB**. Cecilia has also won several individual piano prizes.
- **Huda Zaidi** in Year 10 won the **Rotary Four-Way Public Speaking Competition** at the Rotary Club of Subiaco.
- **Santi Chua** in Year 8 achieved first place in the **China Chamber of Commerce in Australia Cup Chinese Recital Contest** in the Chinese background category Years 7 to 10.
- **Natasha Robinson** in Year 10 achieved Gold Award for Italian in the **Education Perfect Regional Championship**.
- **Forrest He** in Year 11 achieved second place in the WA's Native Species Category of the **Chevron Focus Environment Competition**. **Arthur Caspelherr** in Year 10 achieved two second placings in the WA Habitats and Ecosystems and Sustainability in WA categories.
- **Shay Dowley** in Year 11 has been cast in the production of **Beside** which is part of the **Perth International Arts Festival**.
- Three new Year 7 students for 2021, **Avash**

Shakya, Frank Holdom and **Grace Dowley** have been selected for the **Boy from Oz Children's Choir**.

- **Nabila Leunig, Conor O'Neill** and **Tristian Chetty** in Year 11 have been selected for the **Young Creatives** program as part of the Perth Festival.
- **Blake Mathieson** and **Aryan Gupta** from the Class of 2020 have been invited to audition for the **Performing Arts Perspectives** exhibition.
- The **Proteomics Industrial Scholarship** for 2021 has been awarded to **Caleb Zhou** from the Class of 2020.
- **Aditya Bose-Mandal** and **Alexandra van Schie** from the Class of 2020 achieved Gold in the **Duke of Edinburgh's International Award**.
- Class of 2020 graduate **Blake Mathieson** has been awarded the **Ted Maslen Award** as the top student in the WACE living in South Perth.
- **Lucas Ryan** from the Class of 2020 has been awarded an **Excellence Scholarship to Bond University**.
- **Tommaso Puccini** in Year 11 won the Senior Boys Champion race in the **School Sport WA Champion Schools Triathlon**. This is the fourth year in a row that Tommaso has won his division in this competition.
- **Ben Caddy** from the Class of 2020 was named Most Valued Player (MVP) in the **School Sport WA A Division Volleyball grand final**.

Lois Joll, Principal

Cheryl Lindorff retires

Longstanding staff member of 35 years Cheryl Lindorff has been fondly farewelled after she retired at the end of 2020.

Cheryl commenced working at Perth Modern (officially) in 1986 and has held various administrative roles throughout her time here. Serving under four principals and seeing the school morph into several incarnations, she said that it had been a 'huge privilege' to work at Mod.

Cheryl was particularly well-known for her administrative work in the Music Department, helping organise several highly successful European Music Tours. Cheryl also worked in reception, the English Department, helped with props in drama and provided administrative support to Learning Areas.

We thank Cheryl for her dedication to the school over many years and wish her an enjoyable and fulfilling retirement.



Cheryl Lindorff on her last day at Perth Modern School before retiring.

Perth Modern is top school again in the WACE



'Not just academics, mindfulness too': How Perth's top-ranking high school broke state records

LAUREN PILAT, 'WA TODAY'

Year 12 students from WA's only academically selective public school, Perth Modern, have taken out the state's top scholastic achievement for the fifth year in a row.

The co-educational Subiaco school recorded a median ATAR of 97.55, compared to the state's median of 81.65.

The class of 2020 also broke another state record, with 72 of the 243-strong cohort attaining an ATAR of 99 or higher.

Perth Modern Principal Lois Joll said she was incredibly proud of the 'extraordinary' results. With the year being such a challenging one for students the focus was not only on academic achievements but also on keeping students 'sound of mind'.

As a public school without the resources of the most expensive private schools, Ms Joll said her best resource was talented teachers and the school's wellbeing program, which supported the students to be engaged in academic pursuits as well as the school environment.

'I say: 'if we look after the child the ATAR will look after itself'—and we absolutely believe that,' she said.

'We have a mindfulness program, we have a positive psychology program. Our students have a big focus on wellbeing, it's a huge focus for us.'

Ms Joll said the school aspired to give students a 'beyond the classroom' experience with sport, a music program, community service opportunities, drama, and a visual arts program all popular.

'It's a journey about finding your passion, finding your interest and exploring it,' she said. 'We see it as supporting students to be their best academically while growing themselves in their resilience, their skills—the whole person.'

'We then have to support them. To turn that student, and who they are at that point, into a resilient young person who can then really do the best they can and go on, in most cases to universities, and to actually manage and look after themselves.'

'There are always going to be wonderful, gifted students across every school but the advantage students at schools that have [gifted and talented] programs have is that they're in a group together and there's a lot of synergy when they've found their tribe, belonging, fitting in,' she said.

Head Girl Julia and Head Boy Dylan achieve 99+ ATARs

Who says you can't do other things, be a leader or be involved in extracurricular activities if you want to achieve an ATAR of 99+?

Head Girl Julia Aguinot and Head Boy Dylan Crowe both scored ATARs of 99+ and Dylan also achieved a General Exhibition, while taking on added responsibilities throughout what would be a challenging year. They regularly attended School Board meetings, acted as MC's, lead the Student Council to organise events as well as meeting with the Executive to put forward viewpoints from the student body.

Both Julia and Dylan are planning on pursuing medical degrees.

RIGHT: Dylan Crowe and Julia Aguinot.

99.95 CLUB

Congratulations to the following students who obtained a perfect ATAR of 99.95:

Sangwook (Jake) Cho
Akash Jayaram
Ryan Joseph Anson
Alexey (Leosha) Trushin
Nethma (Savindi) Wimalaratne

99 CLUB

Congratulations to the following students who obtained an ATAR of 99+ (this list does not include the students above who scored 99.95).

Nina Adam	Yitong Li
Julia Aguinot	Ke Liao
Aakash Annadurai	Cindy Liu
Mirielle Augustin	Rexton Han Ly
Huxley Berry	Nicholas Mahoney
Kaustav Bhowmick	Daniel Marns
Kah Chun Chan	Blake Mathieson
Yu Chin	Jason McAvoy
Huan Jie (Jay) Choo	Luca Niculae
Swen Tzen (Jas) Choo	Nimani Pallewela
Kai Ting Chong	Cameron Paterson
Jasmine Chua	Virginia Plas
Tessa Cliff	Won Chen Qin
Dylan Crowe	Regina Raharjo
Claire Doan	Hasindi Ranasinghe
Tanisha Dunuville	Alexander Robertson
Yi Xin Gao	Tisha Shah
Eve Gibbon	Yingzi (Amy) Shang
Prisha Goel	Hariharan Shankar
Ezekiel Goh	Jay Sharma
Derek Guo	Aryan Singh
Dylan Guo	Tina Soodi Shoar
Aryan Gupta	Sarthak Srivastava
Su-Jyn Hia	Zachery Thexeira
Manol Ivanov	Ethan Tjoa
Jasper Jackson	Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong
Ishita (Honey) Kanodia	Rickson Wielian
Amulya Kashyap	Owen Winarto
Braedyn Koh	Carl Xu
Thu (Susan) Le	Andreas Yang
Alan Lee	Shin Yi Wong
Jason Feng Li	Mia Yokohata
Jason Zi Ran Li	Caleb Zhou
Raymond Li	



School Curriculum and Standards Authority Award Winners



The Class of 2020 achieved 21 General Exhibitions, a State record.

GENERAL EXHIBITIONS

General Exhibitions are awarded to the 50 eligible students with the highest School Curriculum and Standards Authority WACE award scores based on the average of five scaled scores with at least two from each of the humanities/social science list and the mathematics/science list.

Aakash Annadurai
Dylan Crowe
Tanisha Dunuville
Jason Feng Li
Prisha Goel
Ezekiel Goh
Aryan Gupta
Su-Jyn Hia
Akash Jayaram
Ryan Joseph Anson
Ishita (Honey) Kanodia

Braedyn Koh
Alan Lee
Yitong Li
Jason Zi Ran Li
Daniel Marns
Regina Raharjo
Hariharan Shankar
Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong
Savindi Wimalarathne
Shin Yi Wong

BELOW: The class of 2020 also broke another State record with a total of 72 students achieving an ATAR of 99+.

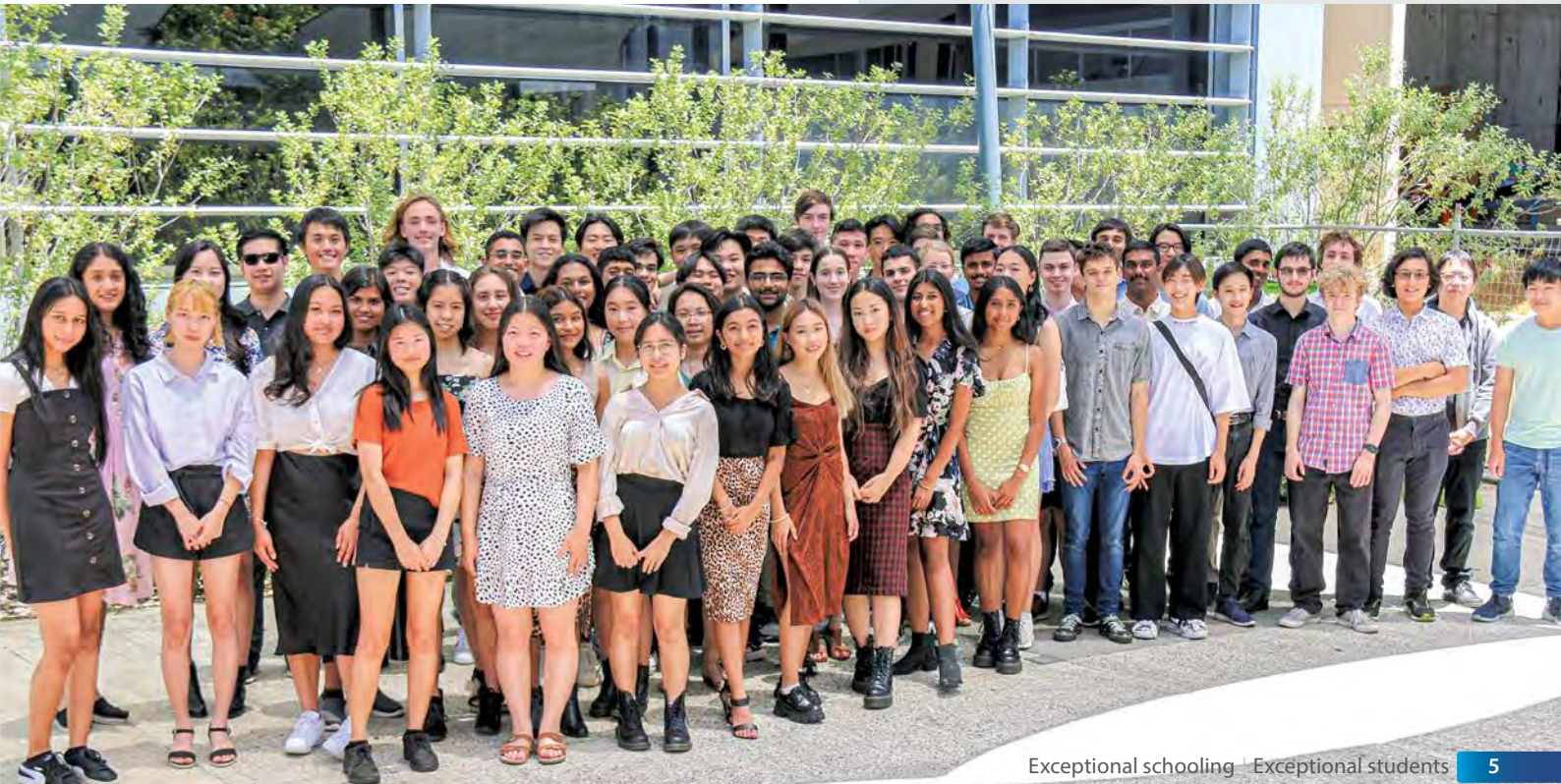
SUBJECT EXHIBITIONS

A Subject Exhibition is awarded to the top eligible student obtaining the highest combined mark in a WACE subject.

Drama	Blake Mathieson
Economics	Savindi Wimalarathne
Engineering Studies	Manol Ivanov
English	Swen Tzen (Jas) Choo
Literature	Swen Tzen (Jas) Choo
Japanese: Second Language	Tatiana Ng



ABOVE: Subject Exhibition Award Winners Manol Ivanov, Tatiana Ng, Blake Mathieson, Jas Choo and Savindi Wimalarathne with Principal Lois Joll.



SUBJECT CERTIFICATES OF EXCELLENCE

A Subject Certificate of Excellence is awarded to an eligible student who is in the top 0.5 percent of candidates in a WACE Subject or the top two candidates (whichever is greater) in a WACE subject.

Ancient History	Su-Jyn Hia
Biology	Akash Jayaram Christie Lim Alexander Robertson
Chemistry	Aakash Annadurai Prisha Goel Akash Jayaram Alan Lee Saad Shah (Year 11)
Computer Science	Aryan Gupta
Design	Calum Stirling
Drama	Blake Mathieson
Economics	Su-Jyn Hia Ryan Joseph Anson Yitong Li Savindi Wimalarathne Owen Winarto
Engineering Studies	Huan Jie (Jay) Choo Manol Ivanov
English	Swen Tzen (Jas) Choo Macy Sharp
Japanese: Second Language	Braedyn Koh Tatiana Ng
Literature	Swen Tzen (Jas) Choo Regina Raharjo
Mathematics Methods	Aakash Annadurai Alexey (Leosha) Trushin
Mathematics Specialist	Akash Jayaram Alexey (Leosha) Trushin
Physics	Akash Jayaram Alan Lee Jason Feng Li Zachery Thexeira Alexey (Leosha) Trushin Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong
Psychology	Tanisha Dunuwille

SPECIAL SUBJECT CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

Chemistry	Sangwook (Jake) Cho
Physics	Sangwook (Jake) Cho

CERTIFICATES OF DISTINCTION

A Certificate of Distinction is awarded to each eligible student who, in their last three years of secondary WACE enrolment, achieves 190–200 points.

Nina Adam	Eva Hill	Won Chen Qin
Julia Aguinot	Euan Hillis	Regina Raharjo
Aakash Annadurai	Gwendolyn Hunt	Niveditha Ramesh
Haarys Aung	Manol Ivanov	Hannah Reynolds
Imraan Aung	Jasper Jackson	Danielle Riha
Isabelle Bannerman	Akash Jayaram	Alexander Robertson
Harshdeep Banwala	Ryan Joseph Anson	Liam Russell
Huxley Berry	Ishita (Honey) Kanodia	Lucas Ryan
Kaustav Bhowmick	Amulya Kashyap	Prasun Sarker
Izabella Bird	Sofia Khokhlenok	Alyssa Scarfone
Dimitrij Blazeski	Braedyn Koh	Alief Scott
Kah Chun Chan	Ivan Kwek	Tisha Shah
Yu Chin	Celina Le	Hariharan Shankar
Kai Ting Chong	Jasmyne Le	Jay Sharma
Huan Jie (Jay) Choo	Thu (Susan) Le	Macy Sharp
Swen Tzen (Jas) Choo	Christopher Leak	Ashish Siby
Jasmine Chua	Alan Lee	Aryan Singh
Victoria Chung	Ruo Xuan Lee	Tina Soodi Shoar
Tessa Cliff	Jason Feng Li	Sarthak Srivastava
India Creed	Jason Zi Ran Li	Conor Stephens
Dylan Crowe	John Li	Calum Stirling
Khang Dang	Raymond Li	Zachary Tan
Parami De Silva	Yitong Li	Zachery Thexeira
Nancy Dickinson	Christie Lim	Ethan Tjoa
Claire Doan	Cindy Liu	Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong
Cait Dowley	Rexton Han Ly	Jayden Vu
Tanisha Dunuwille	Lachlan MacNeill	Arielle Watts
Elia Fatin	Nicholas Mahoney	Sisan Weerasinghe
Yi Xin Gao	Daniel Marns	Rickson Wielan
Eve Gibbon	Blake Mathieson	Rohan Williams
Prisha Goel	Zachary Mattin	Savindi Wimalarathne
Ezekiel Goh	Jason McAvoy	Owen Winarto
Abbey Green	Luca Niculae	Shin Yi Wong
Derek Guo	Nimani Pallewela	Carl Xu
Dylan Guo	Cameron Paterson	Mia Yokohata
Aryan Gupta	Milly Petterson	Harrison Yoo
Kit He	Louise Phillips	Caleb Zhou
Su-Jyn Hia	Virginia Plas	



*It's a journey about finding your passion,
finding your interest and exploring it...*

Lois Joll



Presentation Awards

Presentation Awards are received at the Presentation Ceremony at the end of Year 12.

DUX OF PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Ryan Joseph Anson

RUNNER-UP DUX OF PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Aakash Annadurai

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Aakash Annadurai	Alan Lee
Sangwook (Jake) Cho	Jason Feng Li
Tessa Cliff	Nicholas Mahoney
Dylan Crowe	Blake Mathieson
Prisha Goel	Alexander Robertson
Akash Jayaram	Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong
Ryan Joseph Anson	Savindi Wimalarathne
Ishita (Honey) Kanodia	Shin Yi Wong

RIGHT: Principal Lois Joll with 2020 Runner Up Dux Aakash Annadurai and 2020 Dux Ryan Joseph Anson.



ABOVE: School Board Chair Dr Ken Michael AC with Clare Casey Award winner Eve Gibbon.

BELOW: The President of Subiaco Rotary Club, Dave Mussara, with Owen Winarto, winner of the Subiaco Service Above Self Award.



LEADERSHIP TO SCHOOL AWARDS

Presented to Head Boy and Head Girl Julia Aguinot and Dylan Crowe and presentation to Student Councillors Cait Dowley, Ryan Joseph Anson, Tisha Shah and Owen Winarto

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE LONG TAN LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK AWARD

Shin Yi Wong

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE FUTURE INNOVATORS AWARD

Liam Arbuckle

THE CLARE CASEY SERVICE AWARD

Eve Gibbon

THE CALTEX ALL ROUNDER AWARD

Abbey Green

SUBIACO SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

Owen Winarto

STAN PERRON AWARD (ROTARY AWARD)

Imraan Aung

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AWARD

Ryan Joseph Anson

YEARBOOK AWARD

Lavanya Goel

BETTY SAGAR SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Sarah Gregory

Tina Soodi Shoar

HOUSE AWARDS

Gold Badge

Aakash Annadurai	Blake Mathieson
Imraan Aung	Tisha Shah
Abbey Green	Hariharan Shankar
Su-Jyn Hia	Jay Sharma
Jasper Jackson	Aryan Singh
Christopher Leak	Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong
Ruo Xuan Lee	Savindi Wimalaratne

Gold Badge (previously awarded)

Julia Aguinot	Lachlan MacNeill
Haarys Aung	Nicholas Mahoney
Dylan Crowe	Louise Phillips
Ezekiel Goh	Virginia Plas
Sarah Gregory	Tina Soodi Shoar
Akash Jayaram	Jack Tonkin
Ishita (Honey) Kanodia	Jayden Vu
Alan Lee	Arielle Watts
Yitong Li	Owen Winarto
Raymond Li	Shin Yi Wong

Platinum Award

Ezekiel Goh	Nicholas Mahoney
Ryan Joseph Anson	Arielle Watts
Alan Lee	

Diamond Award

Ruo Xuan Lee

SPHINX SOCIETY AWARDS

Four Semesters

Julia Aguinot	Nimani Pallewela
Huxley Berry	Virginia Plas
Tanisha Dunuwille	Hannah Reynolds
Derek Guo	Lucas Ryan
Aryan Gupta	Jay Sharma
Sofia Khokhlenok	Conor Stephens
Ivan Kwek	Ethan Tjoa
Jasmyne Le	Caleb Zhou
Yitong Li	

Five Semesters

Haarys Aung	Luca Niculae
Yi Xin Gao	Aryan Singh
Jason Zi Ran Li	Zachery Thexeira
Christie Lim	Jayden Vu
Nicholas Mahoney	Savindi Wimalaratne

Six Semesters

Aakash Annadurai	Ryan Joseph Anson
Swen Tzen (Jas) Choo	Alan Lee
Jasmine Chua	Jason Feng Li
India Creed	Blake Mathieson
Dylan Crowe	Regina Raharjo
Claire Doan	Alexander Robertson
Prisha Goel	Tisha Shah
Ezekiel Goh	Hariharan Shankar
Abbey Green	Tina Soodi Shoar
Su-Jyn Hia	Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong
Jasper Jackson	Owen Winarto
Akash Jayaram	Shin Yi Wong

YOUTH AMBASSADOR AWARDS

For those who have achieved 100+ hours of service from three different organisations as well as community-based activities.

Julia Aguinot	Lavanya Goel
Aakash Annadurai	Prisha Goel
Harshdeep Banwala	Regina Raharjo
Aditya Bose-Mandal	Sisan Weerasinghe
Parami De Silva	Savindi Wimalaratne
Cait Dowley	Owen Winarto



SUBJECT AWARDS

Art and Technology Awards

Computer Science	Alexey (Leosha) Trushin
Food Science and Technology	Jaceline Nangoy
Drama	Jenny Guigayoma
	Blake Mathieson
Visual Arts	Conor Stephens
Design	Izabella Bird
	Thea Setiawan

English Awards

Ella Mackay Award for English Literature	Su-Jyn Hia
	Nicholas Mahoney
	Alexander Robertson

Humanities and Social Science Awards

Politics and Law	Alexander Robertson
Law Society of WA Politics and Law Certificate of Excellence Certificate for the top Politics and Law student at Perth Modern School	Alexander Robertson
Philosophy and Ethics	Yingzi (Amy) Shang
Mike McGinley Award for Modern History	Virginia Plas
Barry Jones Award for Ancient History	Alexander Robertson
Economics	Alexander Robertson
	Savindi Wimalaratne
Accounting and Finance	Yitong Li
	Nimani Pallewela

Chartered Accountants
Australia and New Zealand Award:
Most Outstanding Accounting and Finance student at Perth Modern School

Yitong Li
Nimani Pallewela

Languages Awards

Chinese: Background Language	Derek Guo
Chinese: Second Language	Sangwook (Jake) Cho
French	Prisha Goel
Italian: Second Language	Tessa Cliff
Japanese: Second Language	Braedyn Koh

Mathematics Awards

Mathematics Applications	Victoria Chung
Mathematics Methods	Alexey (Leosha) Trushin
Mathematics Specialist	Alexey (Leosha) Trushin



Music Awards

Music
Outstanding Instrumental Music Student
Dettman Music Scholarship
Irene Jolley Memorial Choral Award
Tom Kent Scholarship
John Peter Coles Memorial Award for Voice

Phillip Harvey (Year 11)
Phillip Harvey (Year 11)
Won Chen Qin
Jasper Jackson
Emma John
Michelle Hedge
Jayden Vu

Physical Education Awards

Physical Education Studies

Sportsman of the Year
Sportswoman of the Year
Sports Citizen of the Year

Imraan Aung
Danielle Riha
Ben Caddy
Danielle Riha
Jayden Vu

Science Awards

Psychology

Biology

Human Biology

Chemistry

Physics

The Dr Albert Walkington Prize
for Chemistry and Physics

Engineering Studies

'Engineers Australia' – Certificates for
Excellence in Engineering Studies

'Engineers Australia' Certificates for
Excellence in Science and Mathematics

Kaustav Bhowmick

Kah Chun Chan

Joel Chee

Sangwook (Jake) Cho

Claire Doan

Dylan Guo

Akash Jayaram

Ryan Joseph Anson

Alan Lee

Jason Feng Li

Ke Liao

Rexton Han Ly

Nicholas Mahoney

Jason McAvoy

Luca Niculae

Hariharan Shankar

Jay Sharma

Aryan Singh

Sarthak Srivastava

Zachery Thexeira

Ethan Tjoa

Alexey (Leosha) Trushin

Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong

Rickson Wielian

Savindi Wimalaratne

Shin Yi Wong

Tanisha Dunuwille
Mia Yokohata
Aakash Annadurai
Tanisha Dunuwille
Akash Jayaram
Akash Jayaram

Akash Jayaram
Won Chen Qin

Won Chen Qin



FROM TOP: Head of Arts and Technology Sally Floyd awards the Food Science and Technology Award to Jaceline Nangoy; Head of Humanities and Social Science Louise Secker with winner of the Economics Award Savindi Wimalaratne; and Head of Year 12 Craig Gannon with Yearbook Award winner Lavanya Goel.

BELOW LEFT: Manager Middle Years Matthew Healy with Physical Education Studies winners Danielle Riha and Imraan Aung.

BELOW: Lois Joll with Year 12 Student Councillors Julia Aguinot, Dylan Crowe, Cait Dowley, Ryan Joseph Anson, Tisha Shah and Owen Winarto.



P&C Christmas Concert and Picnic



It was a
beautiful evening for
what was another successful
P&C Christmas Concert and Picnic.

There were many fun activities taking place from a magician and a balloon maker, heritage trail tours, face painting, science quizzes, interactive stalls, delicious food vans, dance concerts and of course the wonderful music performed by our talented student musicians. There really was something for everyone and we estimate it was the largest crowd ever for this event.

The music ensembles which brought the Christmas magic to life were Wind Band 1, Wind Band 2, Combined Wind Band 3 and 4, Senior Jazz Ensemble and the Year 7 Choir who lead the evening Christmas carols.

A huge thank you to everyone involved; the P&C for their hard work, especially to the organiser extraordinaire Sharon Williams who puts in many hours towards planning and coordinating the event, and to all the students, parents and staff who gave their time and energy to make the event such a roaring success!

Charity Day for Ocean Heroes



The school was abuzz on Friday, 4 December, for the much anticipated event of Charity Day which also coincided with Orientation Day, the Variety Concert and the P&C Picnic and Christmas Concert.

The tropical theme aligned well with the chosen charity for 2020, Ocean Heroes, with students donning their brightest and most colourful outfits. Ocean Heroes help children on the autistic spectrum build confidence through surfing. Since 2016, Ocean Heroes has shared the thrill and wonder of surfing with over three thousand autistic children, enabling them to build self-belief in a supportive and fun environment.

Students were encouraged to bring donations to spend at the many stalls and activities run by Year 9 students and Student Councillors from food stalls, games and the all-time favourite of 'sponge the teacher.'

The day resulted in raising an incredible \$6200 for Ocean Heroes and what a fabulous way for the school community to welcome our new students. We are sure Orientation Day and Charity Day will have our new students looking forward to their own Perth Mod journey.



Student Accolades



Mod's Khush is a global Chinese speaking champion

Perth Modern School student Khush Shah has come third in a global Chinese speaking competition that is shown on China's biggest TV station in a format similar to a gameshow. As his prize, he won a full scholarship to any Chinese university of his choice, and return plane tickets to China.

The Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition for Middle School students is an annual worldwide Chinese speaking, knowledge and performance competition. To get through to the global round, Khush had to perform strongly in preliminary state and national rounds of the competition.

'The moment I found out I came third, I was in complete shock and excitement,' he said.

To reach the end of the competition, Khush had to give four different speeches on select topics, undertake a Chinese general knowledge test, create videos, answer questions by judges, and participate in a listening comprehension test as well as a talent performance.

In various rounds, competitors were reduced from 100 worldwide to 30, then 15 and finally to five who hailed from Australia,



Khush Shah (in headband) with his parents and younger brother.

Canada, Croatia, Indonesia and South Africa. Ultimately, Khush would come third with the representatives from Canada and Croatia placing first and second respectively.

'This competition had tight deadlines and schedules, and required a great deal of effort from myself, my teachers and my family,' Khush said.

Ethan tops Australia in the Australian Geography Competition

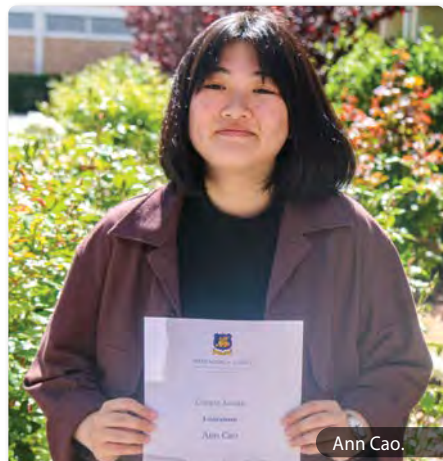
Congratulations to Ethan Xu who has come First in Australia for Year 7 in the Australian Geography Competition.

Ethan said he gave the competition his best shot and it was a 'big surprise' to find out he was top out of all Year 7 students in Australia. Ethan said geography is an important subject as we 'all live on the land' so we should know as much about the landscape and environment as possible.

Congratulations also to Max Judd in Year 9 who came Equal First in Western Australia.



Ethan Xu.



Ann Cao.

Ann's incredible Literature result

In the Semester 2 Year 11 Literature exam, Ann Cao scored an incredible 98 percent.

This is the highest score achieved in a Literature exam during the last 12 years (since results have been recorded in the current format). This is an impressive result for a Humanities subject. Congratulations Ann!



Sidney Eric and Ceicilia Limargana.

Ceicilia and Sidney shine at piano

Congratulations to Ceicilia Limargana in Year 7 and Sidney Eric in Year 9 who have achieved some brilliant results in piano recently. The two students were first in the duet category in the Collaborative section of the West Australian Pianist Competition. They were also the winner of the Overall Collaborative Pianist section from AMEB.

Ceicilia also won the following piano prizes: Recital Solo; First in the Diploma section of the Australian International Piano Competition; First Prize in the 15 years and under section category of WAPC; and First Prize in the Open Solo Championship of the West Australian Pianist Competition.

Well done Ceicilia and Sidney!



Tatiana a published author

Tatiana Ng in Year 12 has had her work published in the book *I am Asian: 50 People. 50 Stories.* which is available for loan from the Joseph Parsons Memorial Library.

Here is an extract of Tatiana's writing in the book:

The lion head in my hands was a familiar weight. Lion dance, my father had always told me, was for scaring off demons and fear. But the fear was far from being scared away. It burrowed itself inside, lodging deeply into my chest as if it intended to stay there and make a lion's den home for itself.

I lifted the lion head. Seven steps forward, turn, pull the string to blink, step back.

I don't know if lion dance was designed to scare away the fear of judgement. All I knew was that right then and there was the fear of judgement weighing me down, heavy and crushing, until I wasn't sure whether or not my arms strained because of the weight of the lion head or the weight of everyone's eyes on me.

I didn't waver. I couldn't. I lifted the head in heisi and did not let my arms drop.



Tatiana Ng



Max Judd awarded Young Historian in the National History Challenge

Max Judd in Year 9 has been awarded Young Historian Gold for his entry in the National History Challenge. Max was the Western Australian winner in the Using Primary Sources category.

The theme for 2020 was 'CONTESTED hiSTORIES'. Max wrote an essay examining whether people interned by the Australian Government in WWII posed a genuine threat to the war effort or whether their internment was driven by the wish to continue the White Australia Policy.

Max Judd received his award from Kellie Abbott, a representative of the National Archives of Australia.

Aryan and Blake invited to audition for Performing Arts Perspectives

Aryan Gupta and Blake Mathieson, from the Class 2020, have been invited to audition for the Performing Arts Perspectives WA showcase—a huge achievement!

Performing Arts Perspectives is an annual educational event held at the Perth Concert Hall showcasing outstanding creativity and diversity of student performance in dance, drama and music, providing benchmarks of excellence for students and teachers.

Aryan's audition piece is a scene from Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, with Aryan playing the character Lady Macbeth. In this scene, Lady Macbeth, wracked with guilt, is hallucinating hell, her husband and the ghost of their dead child.

Drama and acting are Aryan's catharsis: 'Inhabiting the space of characters and processing their emotions, feels almost like a therapeutic way to process my own. I am also interested in directing and play-writing as I enjoy creating pieces that test my abilities as an actor but also to create resistant pieces of media. My dream is to continue developing drama that reinterprets the western canon of high literature and explores marginalised voices, while also seeking bigger stages.

Presenting these at higher levels would not only be incredibly gratifying for me, but I think is an important endeavour.'

Blake was awarded the Subject Exhibition in Drama. He is presenting two audition pieces, his Original Solo Performance and his scripted monologue: a Trumpesque re-interpretation of Bertolt Brecht's *The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui*.

Blake said, 'Studying Drama in Year 12 was one of the best decisions I could have ever made. The ability to go to class and explore ideas in a physical space is something that is unique to Drama. The performances we got to watch and perform, the friends I made along the way, and being pushed to do things I never thought I could do will stick with me for a lifetime.'

Well done to Drama teacher and Head of Arts and Technology Sally Floyd who has mentored these two young, talented thespians.

Blake Mathieson and Aryan Gupta performing their pieces for Perspectives.



Student Accolades



Kiran McLernon, Lucy Ming, Wen Zhu, Dipika Choudhury, Claire Luces, Anna Tokarev and Huda Zaidi.

Rotary Four-Way Test Public Speaking Competition

RICHARD HERRMANN, ROTARY SPEAKING COORDINATOR

Seven of our Year 10 students presented speeches to the Rotary Club of Subiaco as part of the organisation's Four-Way Test Public Speaking Competition on Tuesday, 22 September.

This event gave our students an opportunity to speak to prominent members of the community and receive adjudication from two experienced Toastmasters, who shared their expert feedback with our speakers at the conclusion of the evening.

The students delivered most compelling and professional speeches about a fascinating range of topics such as Indigenous incarceration, homelessness, and arrests of whistle-blowers.

The winner of the evening was Huda Zaidi in Year 10, who spoke about the importance of media diversity.

I commend all of the students for the wonderful way in which they represented their school. I also thank our Master of Ceremonies, Wen Zhu in Year 10 as well as our representative from Rotary Subiaco and former principal of Perth Modern School Dr. Robyn White for her support organising the initiative.

Riley, Ayden and Stefan win ECU top cybersecurity competition

Congratulations to Year 9 students Stefan Ciutina, Ayden Johnson and Riley Haswell who won the Edith Cowan University PeCan Capture the Flag event, which involved hacking challenges developed by university students.

Students from 13 Perth schools participated at ECU's Security Operations Centre in Joondalup while interstate teams joined online via Zoom.

The Perth Modern School students claimed victory in the advanced round of the competition, pipping a team from Christ Church Grammar School for the top prize.

Ayden, Riley and Stefan all have a love for programming and 'white hat' hacking where computer systems are infiltrated by hackers to determine the security of the system.

Riley, 15, said the competition involved breaking into a program or website to extract an inserted 'flag.'

'There are different categories in the CTFs [capture the flags], exploiting programs, web exploitation and cryptography challenges,' Riley said.

'We put in a lot of effort, a lot of concentration and I thought we deserved to win it.'

Ayden said some of the challenges were very easy, others took one to two hours to complete.



Ayden Johnson, Riley Haswell and Stefan Ciutina.

He said he learnt to code from an early age, attending classes his dad enrolled him in after school, and now he enjoys teaching others about computers.

'You have to really put in a lot of your own time learning computing if you want to get to the level of capturing CTF's,' Ayden said.

'Some companies will test their business details online and ask people to test their security, and they will pay you to report what you found,' Stefan said.

He said there were multiple careers available if you have these type of computing skills, including what he calls practical hacking, finding bugs in website and programs which you report to those companies.



Young Creatives Program

Nabila Leunig, Conor O'Neill and Tristian Chetty in Year 11 have been selected to participate in the Young Creatives program.

Young Creatives dives right into the heart of Perth Festival, enabling participants to attend performances, visit galleries and connect with Festival staff; peeking behind the curtains to see what makes a festival tick.

With a focus on Western Australian artists and work, the 2021 Young Creatives program will develop a deep understanding of the artists and companies creating work here, enabling students to build connections that will continue to grow for years to come.

What a fabulous opportunity for this talented trio!

Conor O'Neill and Nabila Leunig and (far right) Tristian Chetty performing in *Grease*.



LEFT: Ruby Paterson and James Carroll.

ABOVE: Anna Tokarev, Aidan Jang, Ruby Paterson, Shermaine Chan, Meena Srinivasan, Claire den Hollander and James Carroll.

UN Youth Voice WA Public Speaking Competition

LOUISE SECKER AND ANISH BADGERI, HASS LEARNING AREA

2020 was another highly successful year for Perth Modern School in the UN Youth Voice Public Speaking Competition.

Of the 10 students that represented Perth Modern School in the State Final, six have been invited to represent Western Australia in next year's Voice National Finals. This includes James Carroll and Ruby Paterson who were Champions of the Junior and Senior divisions respectively. They will be joined by Nyah Gray in Year 10 who was the Senior Runner-Up, as well as Anna Tokarev in Year 10, Finn Bradfield in Year 7 and Claire den Hollander in Year 8, who all received Highly Commended awards.

Well done to all speakers, and best of luck for the 2021 Voice National Finals!

Santi Chua



Santi is a Chinese recital champion

Santi Chua in Year 8 has emerged first in the China Chamber of Commerce in Australia (CCCA) Cup Perth Division's Chinese recital contest in the background Chinese category for Years 7 to 10.

This competition is open to all Western Australian students. Well done Santi!

A Perth Mod Tradition: Year 12 Leavers' Celebrations



In what has become a much anticipated tradition at Perth Mod, Year 12 students are farewelled every year in spectacular fashion. To start their leavers' celebrations, students attend their final Dinner Dance before turning up to school slightly bleary-eyed for a special farewell Breakfast with staff.

This is followed by their final whole school assembly where the Year 12 Student Council gives a usually funny and heart-warming recount of their cohort's time at Mod. Students also participate in two dress-up days—wearing their often no-longer-fitting primary school uniform one day, then the next day dressing up in a representation of what their future might look like, with many choosing a humorous take.

Running of the Bells is another fun event now ensconced in the school's farewell traditions, with students running around the oval in their future dress-up costumes, attempting to become the coveted Running of the Bells Champion Boy or Girl. In 2020, Danielle Riha was clearly the front runner in the girls' division and Remi Young romped ahead in the boys' race. In 2020, a staff versus student Futsal match was also included in the festivities.

The last event is the traditional Ringing of the Bell which signifies the end of their high school journey. Students clamber up the Beasley Building watch tower in groups to ring the school bell which signifies the symbolic end of their high school journey. These final days are always good fun with students in high spirits but also a little sad as they bring to a close their time at Mod.



Dinner Dance



Farewell Breakfast



Dress-up Days





...and goodbye

P&C contributions make Perth Modern a better school

P&C fundraising activities and parent voluntary contributions over the years have made a big difference to the school grounds, added the latest technology for students to utilise, and provided fantastic resources that add to the student experience at Perth Modern School.

The P&C receive voluntary contributions every year from parents, and also engage in fundraising activities to aid a particular project. The money is then allocated by the P&C to various projects around the school, based on school priorities and submissions from teachers and Learning Areas.

The Perth Modern School P&C is an integral part of the success of the school. All parents are welcome to participate and attend the meetings which take place twice per term.

The P&C have supported the school in the following ways over the past three years:

School Support 2020

Casey Theatre Lighting Upgrade	\$7,772.64
New Marimba contribution	\$10,000.00
Projector for Dance Studio	\$3,095.00
Interactive Panel for Design & Technology & Science Engineering	\$4,700.00
Student Project Racking – Science, Design & Technology	\$3,636.36
Table Tennis Tables	\$811.68
Second Gym Floor Refurbishments	\$11,274.00
3 x 3D Printers STEAM areas	\$6,700.00
Staff Recognition contribution	\$500.00
Drones for Engineering & Photography	\$7,423.00
Student Furniture (Ottomans) for Mills	\$8,902.00
Christmas Music Scores	\$399.50
Track/exhibition lighting for Mills (lower)	\$15,105.80
Total School Support 2020	\$80,319.98

School Support 2018

STEAM Initiatives (including Makerspace equipment, VR Viva Pro system etc)	\$35,682.00
Canteen Payment System	\$3,700.00
Gift for Year 12 Students	\$500.00
Fundraising drama production – Raise the Roof	\$1,810.28
Kiss 'n' Ride – Subiaco Road	\$37,000.00
PMS Staff Association	\$700.00
Total School Support 2018	\$79,392.28

School Support 2019

D & T Modifications and equipment	\$10,074.00
Photography equipment purchases including interactive panel	\$18,200.00
Art – Scholar in residence – Pegasus sculpture project	\$10,000.00
Student wellbeing – bean bags	\$948.00
Auditorium kitchen fit-out	\$30,000.00
Biotechnology kits	\$4,549.60
Fundraising Nov/Dec 2018 – Raise the Roof	\$3,054.76
Fundraising Quiz night part proceeds – Raise the Roof	\$2,519.70
'Positive Education' contribution parent session	\$1,500.00
Gazebo for sports event and mufti/charity days etc	\$1,129.00
Old Gym floors refurbishment	\$17,036.80
Pedal Prix	\$7,349.00
Science purchases – water distillation unit, water baths etc	\$3,808.00
Total School Support 2019	\$110,168.86



FROM TOP: In 2018, the P&C contributed \$7349 to the Pedal Prix program, allowing our students to build and compete in their Human Powered Vehicles (HPVs).

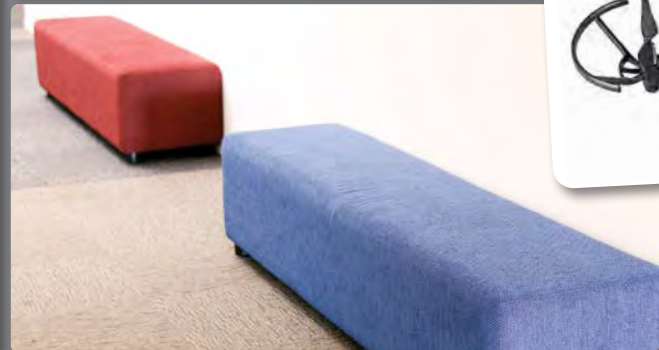
The P&C contributed \$10,000 to a Pegasus art sculpture created by artist Len Zuks in a collaborative effort with students.

The new Marimba.



LEFT: Enrolment officer and marketing assistant Brianna Peck with her bottle of wine compliments of the P&C to acknowledge staff contributions. Every Friday, staff acknowledgements are drawn out in a raffle, with the winners selecting either a box of chocolates or wine provided by the P&C.

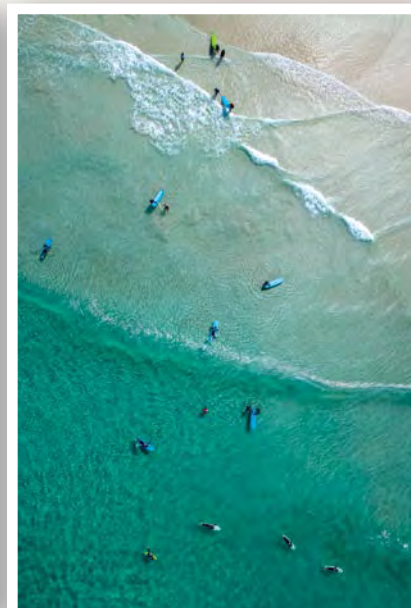
BELOW: The P&C donated \$30,000 to allow the creation of a safe Kiss 'n' Ride on Subiaco Road to help with drop off/pick up congestion.



ABOVE: The DJI Tello EDU is being used in STEAM classes.



RIGHT: The DJI Mavic 2 Pro drone is being used in Design and Photography. BELOW: Examples of the photography being undertaken by students on the South West Design Camp using the drone supplied by the P&C.



FROM TOP: The new 3D printers. Interactive panel for Design and Technology and Engineering. Ottomans for students to sit on in the Mills building. The P&C have purchased several table tennis tables for student use. Students enjoy using the tables before school and at recess and lunch.

National Economic Forum

SOPHIE GAUNT, HASS TEACHER

In HASS class during Term 4, the Year 9 students explored the impact of drought, bushfires and COVID-19 on the Australian economy.

Students worked in groups to become experts in the economy of a particular State or Territory. They analysed current economic conditions and proposed economic policies to reboot the economy for future prosperity.

The project culminated in a class National Economic Forum, where the States and Territories met to negotiate national objectives. A range of national policies were agreed upon in the different classes, including economic stimulus packages delivering high speed rail, social housing, and investment in education to increase participation in the workforce. It was great to see so many students participating passionately in the class debates.



Year 9 students participating in the National Economics Forum.

State Schools Debating Competition

More than 50 of our Year 7 debating students competed in the inaugural State Schools Debating Competition against teams from Bob Hawke College, Shenton College and Mt Lawley SHS.

After five preliminary rounds, two of our teams were runners-up in their division with two other teams being undefeated and crowned Division Champions! Congratulations to all the students who participated in this exciting opportunity.

This innovative competition was an initiative convened by Perth Modern School and organised by Humanities Teacher Anish Badgeri.



Year 7 debating students.

Learning Politics and Law through Model UN

ANISH BADGERI, HASS TEACHER

Students in Year 9 Humanities and Year 10 Politics and Law had the opportunity to participate in a series of incursions run by UN Youth Australia in Term 4 to develop their public speaking, problem solving, and negotiation skills.

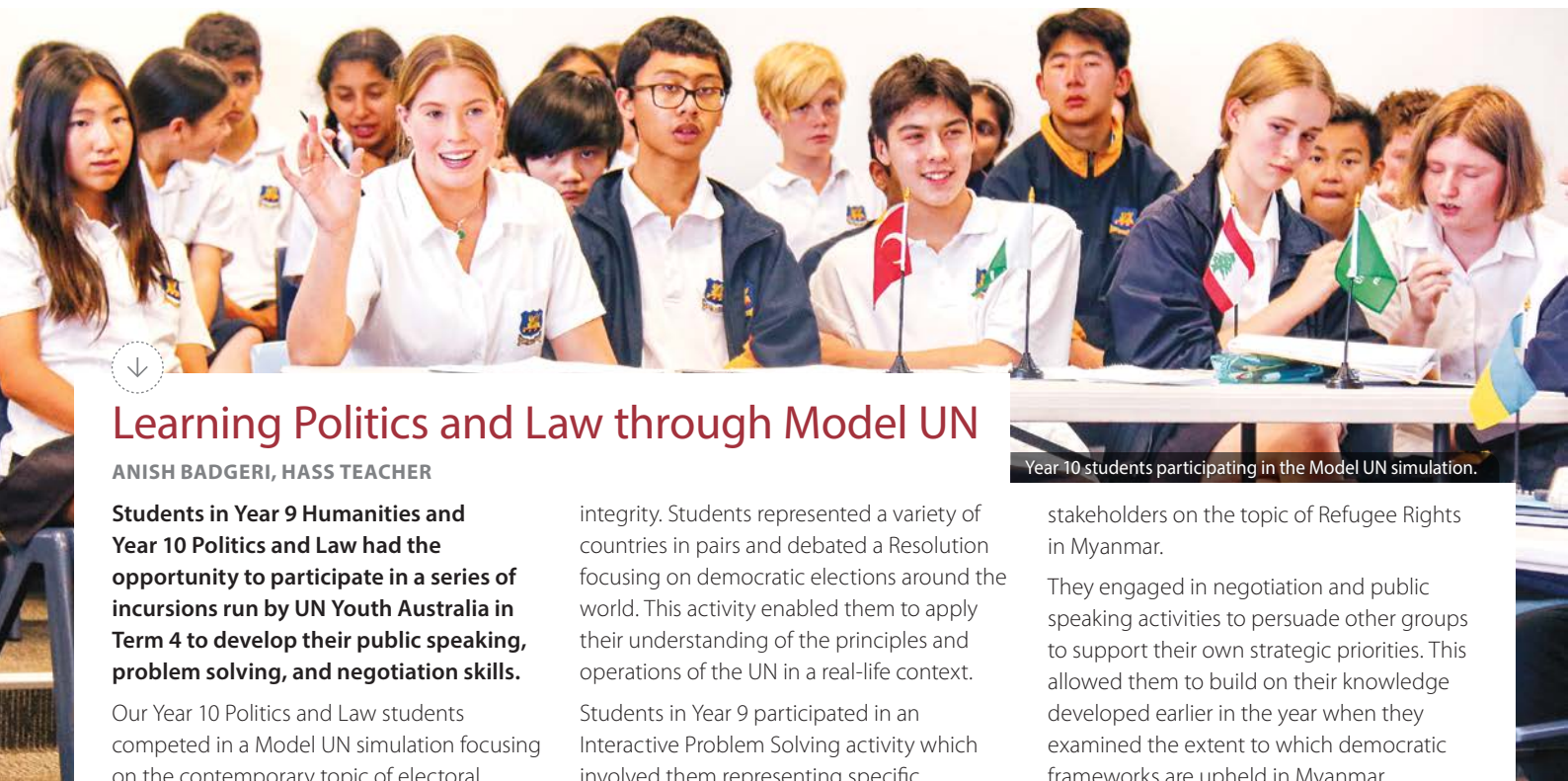
Our Year 10 Politics and Law students competed in a Model UN simulation focusing on the contemporary topic of electoral

integrity. Students represented a variety of countries in pairs and debated a Resolution focusing on democratic elections around the world. This activity enabled them to apply their understanding of the principles and operations of the UN in a real-life context.

Students in Year 9 participated in an Interactive Problem Solving activity which involved them representing specific

stakeholders on the topic of Refugee Rights in Myanmar.

They engaged in negotiation and public speaking activities to persuade other groups to support their own strategic priorities. This allowed them to build on their knowledge developed earlier in the year when they examined the extent to which democratic frameworks are upheld in Myanmar.



Year 10 students participating in the Model UN simulation.



Year 9 students use Leadership skills for Charity Day

ELLA MAGILL, NIRMANEE MALLAWA THANTHRIGE, CAITLYN NICHOLAS, MATILDA O'CALLAGHAN AND SHIYI ZHANG, YEAR 9

As part of our Leadership program, Year 9 students were given the fantastic opportunity to set up stalls as part of Charity Day. The task involved managing all aspects of the stall and was an edifying experience in entrepreneurship and marketing for everyone involved.

The day started off in the morning, with the setup of many amazing stalls and activities. The theme for this Charity Day was tropical, and teachers and students alike could be seen wandering around sporting colourful Hawaiian shirts!

All proceeds made went to Ocean Heroes, an organisation which teaches children with autism about the wonders and thrills of surfing. Both students and teachers had an amazing day wandering around the many stalls of all shapes and sizes and hanging out with their friends. There were ocean-themed cake pops, fairy floss, nachos, Sumo wrestling, animal petting and even escape rooms!

Being able to create and run our own stall with friends was an awesome opportunity to have fun and be creative. Our stall was sea spiders—customers got to choose between

Year 9 students set up Charity Day stalls as part of their Leadership program run through the HASS Department.

raspberry, cola or lemonade soft drink with a scoop of blue vanilla ice cream. Our group had a really smooth experience with planning our stall in our leadership classes, and when the day came, we felt well-prepared.

Experiencing another side of Charity Day was a cool experience—getting to show our own ideas and make a contribution to this year's charity, Ocean Heroes. The day was hot, fitting the tropical theme well, and our spiders sold well, and when we weren't working, we had the opportunity to check out our peers' stalls. Overall, Charity Day was a fun event.



Year 9 exploration of Fremantle

JONA WU, YEAR 9

Year 9 students enjoyed a day in Fremantle exploring the economic, geographical, and historical importance of the city.

We were lucky enough to sit in on a lecture on human rights regarding the Syrian conflict by a university professor and former foreign correspondent. In the lecture we learned about the Syrian conflict and explored the significance of human rights, especially in the context of a war-torn nation.

Students were then able to explore Fremantle, with a race to find and document various statues and memorials including those of John Curtin and Bon Scott. We were tasked with studying the significance of these statues scattered throughout the city.

After lunch in the Esplanade park, which mainly consisted of fish and chips, we made our way over to the West Australian Maritime Museum, where we further explored the historical and economic significance of Fremantle as WA's trade centre.

To further understand the economics of the city, we also partook in a final activity to explore the impacts of COVID-19 on the economy. Students walked along Market Street, studying and surveying which businesses had been forced to close or to reduce business hours.

The Fremantle HASS excursion was an insightful experience for all who attended and we would like to thank the HASS Department for organising such an enjoyable and educational experience.

Student Council Camp 2020

AVICKNASH DAYANANDAN, YEAR 9



The Student Council Camp was a rollercoaster of feelings. I was filled with all types of emotions from overwhelming happiness in our warm fuzzies to great sadness when I contemplated the Year 12s would be leaving us.

My favourite part of camp was getting to know the younger Student Councillors better while saying our final farewells to our leaders.

Although the departure of the Year 12 students marks the end of one era, I am confident that the Student Council of 2021 will live up to the successes achieved by previous years and will work well together to keep our school great!



New Senior School Uniform

From March 2021, new Senior Years uniform items will be available for purchase from Lowes.

These items include a male and female polo shirt, a plaid skirt, Music uniform and navy blazer. These items are for students in Years 10–12 only, to help recognise their move to Senior School.

There will be a transition period to allow for the purchase of these items.

Visual representation of the new Senior School uniform items.



TOP: The whole crew.

ABOVE LEFT: Incoming Head Boy Aaron Trawinski, 2020 Head Boy Dylan Crowe and 2019 Head Boy Lachlan McDonald.

ABOVE: Inbam Selvaganapathy and Khushal Shah.

LEFT: Year 7 Student Councillors Lalkrishna Rajasekharan, Shermaine Chan, Aidan Jang and Mahek Aribenchi.

BELOW LEFT: Annika Leunig, Inbam Selvaganapathy, Fatima Merchant, Aaron Trawinski and Dylan Harvey.

BELOW: The Trust Game.



Year 11 South West Design Camp

ISABELLA RUTTER, YEAR 11



The South West Design Camp was the most fun I've had this year! It was the perfect end to our Year 11 journey, and what a way to unwind after finishing our Semester 2 exams.

In the five days I spent with my class down south, we've all established long-lasting and amazing friendships. Every location we travelled to was a unique and charming adventure, from meeting photographer Christian Fletcher, exploring the inner workings of Cape Mentelle winery, learning of the ghosts that haunt the Cape Naturaliste lighthouse, winding through the rocks at Honeycombs and clambering to every vantage point, just to get the perfect picture.

Perhaps the most impressive shooting location we travelled to was Sugarloaf Rock, though coupled with a gruelling 3.00am wakeup, it was definitely worth the 'jetlag' to see the sunrise over the grassy hills behind us. For some of us, it was the beginning of our careers in landscape/outdoor photography, and for others, the experience just added to an arsenal of possibilities for our future in design. From experimenting with long exposure shots, to carrying our tripods at the best angle so we didn't break the expensive equipment or ourselves, we covered every aspect of photography that Mr Temov could throw at us.

Along with the experience of shooting all day, we also had the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful food the region had to offer. I absolutely recommend this camp to any student who is interested in doing Design and Photography at Perth Modern School, to not only advance their skills but spend quality time with friends and teachers. It was, wholeheartedly, an amazing opportunity which we are all very grateful we experienced. Thanks so much to Mr Temov and Mrs Wilcock for giving up their time to provide this opportunity for us.



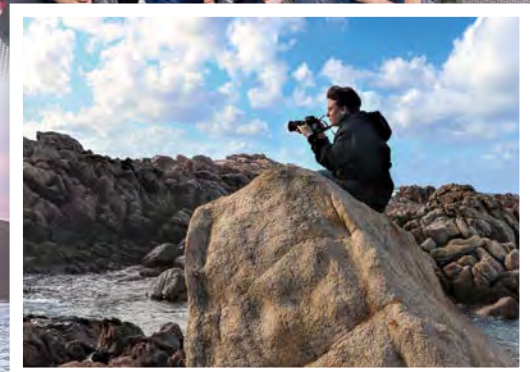
Students on tour at the Naturaliste Lighthouse.



LEFT: Scenery image taken by Georgia Knights.

RIGHT: Max Slater in action at Canal Rocks.

BELOW: Preparing for the sunset at Wyadup Rocks.



Year 8 Swan Valley Adventure Camp

LEILANI WOODARD, YEAR 8



Year 8 Camp. It was certainly an experience. From staying up way too late (sorry to all the teachers who had to deal with our noise and laughter), to early mornings and complaining about getting no sleep even though it was our own fault.

Overall, it was a great experience. As my first Perth Modern camp, I wouldn't change a thing. As we went to Swan Valley Adventure Camp, the environment was a sight to see and the fresh air was good for our lungs. Many kids enjoyed the Flying Fox, the Raft Building and Canoeing, and even though it was hot, the more athletic students enjoyed the Commando Course. Even though I'm not sporty in the slightest, these activities were fun, as I was able to enjoy the experience with friends. I'm truly grateful that I was able to go. I had some of the best times of my life.

All I can say is thank you to our Head of Year Mr John O'Loughlin, the teachers who took care of us and gave us so many opportunities; to the staff at camp, for feeding us a variety of interesting foods and dealing with our messy eating; and finally, to the other students—without you guys camp would have not been as much fun. By the time I got home, I knew that going to camp had been very worthwhile.



Forever lasting memories made on Year 9 camp

SCOTT MARSHALL, HEAD OF YEAR



Everyone who attended the Year 9 Adventure Works Camp had something new to learn, or a skill they could hone or improve.

For many students attending, this was their first attempt at sleeping in a tent, cooking their own meals at camp and navigating their way through bushland.

For the more experienced campers, it gave them a chance to improve their leadership skills, as they helped others learn these new skills, so that each camp group could be a harmonious one, where fun activities were aplenty, as well as students learning new things about themselves and others in their groups.

Students tackled both physical and mental challenges on the camp, whether it was balancing 10 metres in the air on the ropes course or asking yourself what you think your greatest character strengths are.

Throughout all of these challenges, the Perth Modern School Year 9 students thrived, helping each other to meet and ultimately overcome these.

They also got to know each other much better and I have no doubt that there were many new friendships made over the course of the camp.

It was an amazing few days, which was only possible because of the buy-in and effort of the Year 9 students. I am sure they would all agree, that they made memories to last a lifetime and all got something different out of the experience.

Well done Year 9 students!



Sustainability Workshop: Council of All Beings

GERARD MAZZA, SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR



Years 7–9 Sustainability students participated in an all-day Deep Ecology workshop in Mueller Park. Students explored the nature of complex systems and developed their own relationships with the natural world through discussion, games, poetry and time in nature.

The day's main activity was a 'Council of All Beings', where each student adopted the perspective of a plant or an animal. Students made masks and then spoke as their beings, sharing about their lives, habits and fears, and offering advice to the listening humans.

Afterwards, students worked in groups to plan their next steps in learning about or caring for the ecosystems around them.

As part of the day's activities, students worked collaboratively to create a poem about one of the trees in Mueller Park. All students contributed key words or phrases, based on their observations of the tree. Year 8 students Sophie Harris and Dao Anh Le Ha then crafted the poem its final shape.

Here it is:

The Tree Poem

*It stands tall and majestic, confident in its unconventional beauty.
Towering over the fallen bark, elegance radiates from its proud posture.
Isolated from surrounding life, at first glance it would seem lonely,
But the light reflecting off glistening leaves uncovers hidden magic.*

*The dark blanket of bark shrouds the tree in its dead layer,
Until it is reborn from the ashes, like a snake sheds its skin.
Old, ancient and silent, it holds wisdom beyond understanding,
Drooping, weeping and twisted, it has endured many long years.*

*Its awakened spirit stems from the excitement of its visitors,
Spreading calmness and serenity to all those in its presence.*

TOP LEFT AND BELOW RIGHT: Students in their creative 'beings' masks. TOP RIGHT: Students shared with each other what it is like as their 'being.'
BELOW LEFT: Students discuss with each other their lives as their 'being.'



Innovations Term 4 2020

MYRA GRACE, INNOVATIONS COORDINATOR



In Innovations, Years 7 and 8 students completed their inquiry projects into a topic of choice related to their themes of Oceans and Play.

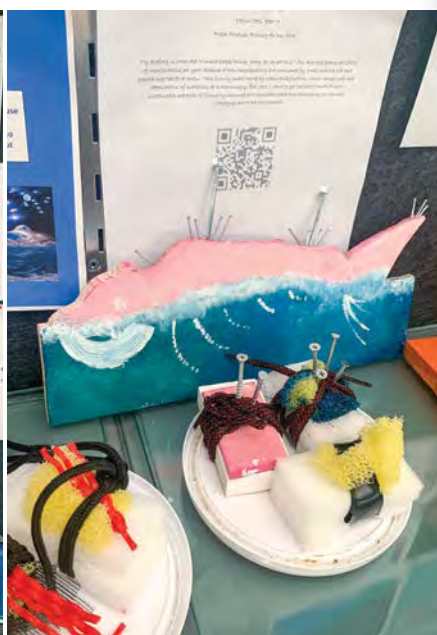
Students developed their inquiry skills by designing and planning then undertaking a process that was appropriate to their own research. For some students this was a survey, others conducted scientific experiments, and many hit the books. Year 7 Innovations award winner, Beatrice Chong, even contacted a number of local councils and received sponsorship to display signs promoting conservation and conduct a large-scale survey of public responses to these signs.

Students then practiced their communication skills by creating a digital multi-modal display that would educate an audience on their own topic. These displays included websites, movies, computer games, infographics and sways. In order to share these displays students attached them to QR codes that can be scanned by a camera app to link to the presentation.

In Week 9 of Term 4 the students then got the chance to spend two days off timetable, planning and designing or building a solution to an issue that they discovered during their research. Solutions ranged from machines to remove mercury from sea water, education campaigns, gender neutral toys, games to assist students with disabilities, sustainable nature playgrounds, computer games to train participants in ethical decision-making, power harnessing devices and much, much more! Many of these are on display outside the Library.

Year 7 students also heard from an archaeologist from the Museum of Western Australia, about how he utilises sonar and 3D mapping and printing software to discover secrets hidden beneath the oceans.

During these activities, the students impressed with their creativity and innovative ideas as well as practicing the rigour of a clear inquiry and design process.



Term 4 Maths Highlights

MARK WHITE, HEAD OF MATHEMATICS



Perth Modern entered 110 students in the ICAS Mathematics for Years 7 to 10. We won two medals for a perfect score, Max Judd in Year 9 and Daniel Kong Year 9 together with 32 High Distinctions, 56 Distinctions and 27 Credits.

The West Australian Junior Maths Olympiad (WAJO) was held late October over two days involving 550 students in 133 teams competing in groups of four from all school sectors for Years 7 to 9.

Perth Modern won first and second place! First place was achieved by the team featuring Ethan Yap, Joel Bariss, Atharva Sathe and Pranav Borude. Second place was achieved by the team featuring Zuokang Qu, Max Judd, Rohan Sarda and Aditya Natarajan.

We also had a team that came fourth receiving a merit award for outstanding performance. This award was achieved by Daniel Kong, Archana Saravanaperumal, Grace Sinclair and Rishita Sarkar.



ABOVE: Perth Modern award winners in the West Australian Junior Olympiad.

Two special WA Maths Olympiad awards were presented to Micah Sinclair in Year 11 and Christopher Leak in Year 12 for obtaining gold awards in Maths Olympiads earlier in the year. Micah Sinclair has been invited to the Australian Maths Olympiad School of Excellence as a senior. This is used to determine applicants to represent Australia in next year's International Maths Olympiad. Well done Micah.

Maths Week challenges students

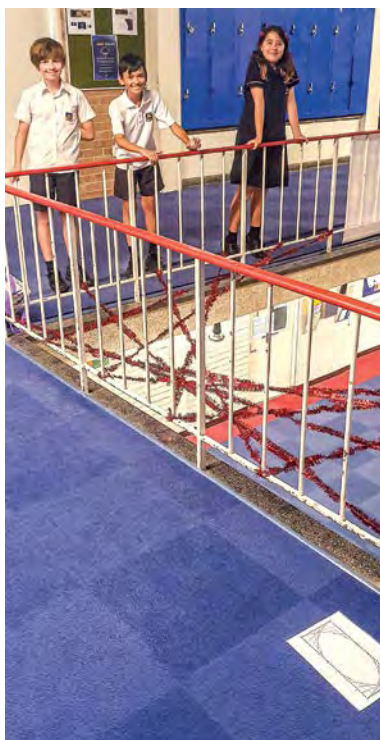
MICHAEL DEAN, MATHEMATICS TEACHER

Maths Week was a little late this year, but we managed to pull together a few activities in the second last week of Term 4. One activity involved decorating the floor voids in Andrews, using the railings to plot 'Bezier Curves', or linear approximations to an ellipse and a circle. Students from Year 7 took part in constructing the Bezier Curves.

We also did another brilliant modular origami session organised by Year 7 students Levi van Bruchem and James Lazuardi.

Another lunchtime, we conducted a navigation challenge prepared by Year 8 students. Participants had to solve a series of maths problems to find bearings and distances to navigate around the school and determine the winning code. Our winners were Year 8 students Joel Bariss, John Peiris and Atharva Sathe.

Special thanks to Year 8 students Ethan Yap, Venuja Silva, Rainier Wu, Kai Jun Kan, Santi Chua and Harper Benson, as well as Year 7 students Levi van Bruchem, James Lazuardi, Finn Bradfield, Laura Simmonds and Alex Crosbie for their fantastic help with activities.



Finn Bradfield, Alex Crosbie and Laura Simmonds in Year 7 'plotting' Bezier Curves in Andrews for Maths Week 2020.



Glen McClelland named Transformative 20 Teacher

**Perth Modern Maths teacher
Glen McClelland has been named a
Transformative 20 Teacher for 2020
by Mathspace!**

From a pool of more than 5,000 teachers nationally, Glen was one of 20 teachers selected for the award based on a range of criteria which included purpose, impact, and selflessness demonstrated in his commitment to helping others.

Congratulations and well done Glen!

Scientific knowledge expanded



Petroleum Club of WA Expo Day at ECU Joondalup

CHRIS RAPLEY AND JAMIE MORRIS, SCIENCE LEARNING AREA

Students from our Year 9 Science classes have been interacting with mentors from the Energy Industry in a series of school visits that highlighted the project life cycle of an oil and gas venture as well as showcasing the diverse range of careers required to complete the project.

Industry mentors in diverse careers have interacted with our students to describe the varying disciplines needed to successfully complete major projects within the energy industry. Students were challenged to consider the impact on society of renewable energy developments, the future mix of energy, how all the different energy sources work and the benefits of each energy source.

Students also had the opportunity to converse and interact with experts from the industry in a Q&A panel session to learn how they had progressed their learning and subsequent career journey within the oil and gas industry. The mentors provided great insight into the diverse range of careers available, as well as the various paths taken to achieve them.

Representatives of our classes attended the Expo Day and ECU Joondalup where they experienced interactive displays, simulations and demonstrations that highlighted the application of their school learning in the everyday work-life of an employee in the Energy Industry.

The School is extremely appreciative of the enthusiasm and efforts of the PCWA, their sponsors, and the mentors for providing this enriching experience to our students.



TOP LEFT: Year 9 students who represented Perth Modern at the Petroleum Club of WA Expo Day.

TOP RIGHT: Nicholas Burns-Richardson in action using an ultrasonic detection device looking to find the next big oil reserve.

LEFT: Mila Arthur, Archana Saravanaperumal, Elizabeth Khor, Chau Tran, Esther Santoso and Lillie Sartori exploring the interesting remotely operated vehicles used to inspect pipelines.

RIGHT: Chau Tran in a Virtual Reality world keeping oil rigs safe.



Biology teacher Mya Skirving publishes WACE Textbook

Congratulations to Biology Teacher and Second-in-Charge of Science Mya Skirving who has had her textbook *Biology WA* published by Nelson.

This is the first WACE Biology text book published specifically for Western Australian secondary schools. Mya has spent considerable time over the past few years pulling the material together, along with managing a busy teaching load and caring for her family. What a fantastic achievement!

Michael Hobday, Isabella Setterfield, Mya Skirving, Sophie Kirk and Adam Giraudo with Mya's textbook *Biology WA*.



Annual Modernian Oration



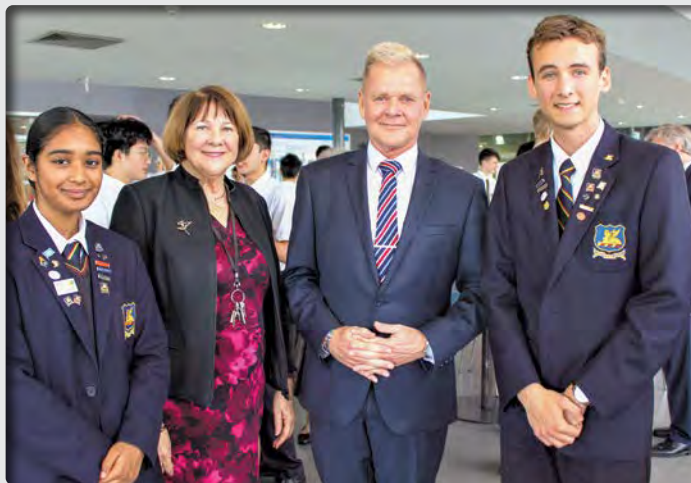
The 2020 Modernian Oration guest speaker was Professor Gary Martin who commenced in the role of Chief Executive and Executive Director of the Australian Institute of Management in 2012.

He has overall responsibility for leading all aspects of the Institute's business, which is focused on building leadership, management and workplace capability both in Australia and internationally.

Professor Martin presented on the topic of 'What employers are really looking for'—a valuable insight for students who attended.

We were also joined by Modernians who had the opportunity to speak with our current Sphinx Society students over refreshments after the presentation.

RIGHT: Professor Gary Martin presenting the Annual Modernian Oration.



ABOVE LEFT: Head Girl for 2021 Fatima Merchant, Principal Lois Joll, Professor Gary Martin and Head Boy for 2021 Aaron Trawinski.

ABOVE RIGHT: Modernian Ruth Barrett chats to James Trevor and Esther Santoso at the Breakfast.

LEFT: Keith Wong, Chas Underwood, Elle Chentang and Tori Chai.

BELOW LEFT: Nisani Gunawardhana, Loan Ho, Hana Trinh and Anuththara Kuruppu.

BELOW RIGHT: Kailai Dong, Joel Peiris and Minjae Kim.



Sphinx Society Membership



The following students obtained Sphinx Society membership in Semester 2, 2020

YEAR 12

Aakash Annadurai
Haarys Aung
Kaustav Bhowmick
Dimitrij Blazeski
Kah Chun Chan
Yu Chin
Kai Chong
Swen Tzen Choo
Jasmine Chua
India Creed
Dylan Crowe
Nancy Dickinson
Claire Doan

Tanisha Dunuwille
Elia Fatin
Yi Xin Gao
Prisha Goel
Ezekiel Goh
Abbey Green
Derek Guo
Aryan Gupta
Su-Jyn Hia
Jasper Jackson
Akash Jayaram
Ryan Joseph Anson
Ishita Kanodia

Amulya Kashyap
Alan Lee
Jason Feng Li
Jason Zi Ran Li
Yitong Li
Christie Lim
Nicholas Mahoney
Blake Mathieson
Luca Niculae
Nimani Pallewela
Cameron Paterson
Regina Raharjo
Hannah Reynolds

Danielle Riha
Alexander Robertson
Liam Russell
Lucas Ryan
Alyssa Scarfone
Alief Scott
Tisha Shah
Hariharan Shankar
Jay Sharma
Aryan Singh
Tina Soodi Shoar
Sarathak Srivastava
Calum Stirling

Ethan Tjoa
Caroline Tsang Kwong Hong
Jayden Vu
Rickson Wielian
Rohan Williams
Nethma Wimalaratne
Owen Winarto
Shin Yi Wong
Mia Yokohata
Caleb Zhou

YEAR 11

Caleb Adams
Robert Beashel
Conor Bennett
Luke Bianchi
Sophie Boyland
Ann Cao
Victoria Chai
Orson Chen
Emily Cheng
Qinzhe Chentang
Megan Chin
Pui Chee Chong
Jason Dean

Bridie Dempster
Kailai Dong
Lily Edgar
Jordan Fiskar
Allen Fu
Nisani Gunawardhana
Phillip Harvey
Dylan Harvey
Chathumi Hettiarachchi
Annabelle Heyworth
Loan Ho
Matthew Holmes
Jeongwoon Jeong

Stanley Jolly
Utsav Kamal
Sophie Kirk
Geneve Kong
Anuththara Kuruppu
Imogen Lamb
Talisha Lee-Karuthiru
Erin Putri Leonardi
Emily-Rose Lochore
Zachary Loong
Christopher Manasseh
Joseph Newman
Lawrence Nheu

Darcy Oliver
Conor O'Neill
Joshua Ong
Joel Peiris
Hannah Pemberton
Matthew Pflieger
Tomasso Puccini
Carolyn Sam
Isabella Setterfield
Khushal Shah
Sara Shular
Micah Sinclair
Sithum Somarathna

Arlyne Sony
Christopher Stuart
Aaron Trawinski
Hana Trinh
Charles Underwood
Zavier Wileman
Keith Wong
E Jen Wong
Alliana Yang
Olivia Zhao

YEAR 10

Christopher Agung
Tiesha Arfah
Fiara Augustin
Alana Bannerman
Zhai Bassett
Felicity Bayne
Samuel Boey
Monty Bolton
Danny Cao
Ethan Chai
Jasmine Chang
Kristy Chau
Susanna Che
Kalp Chhangani
Dipika Choudhury
Fletcher Chriscoli
Haoqian Cui
Keira Cullen
Janna Delos Reyes
Andrew Dembo
Jessica Doan

Riley Dowd
Michael Flint
Alisha Fok Lok
Ella Fung
Raghav Ganapathy
Anushree Gogulakrishnan
Amalina Gosper
Gaius Gould
Madhav Gupta
Matthew Han
Claire Harris
Marc Hauck
Shen-Kit Hia
Adam Holton
Natalie Hubbard
Sophie Hunt
Akaash Jarmale Arun Kumar
Sarah Jiow
Lana Jordan
Sandalu Kanapeddala Gamage
Paramkumar Kanpariya

Harriet Keenan
Tharun Khokulan
Reuben Kopec
Nikeeta Ladouce
Alice Law
Rheannon Lazar
Isaac Lee
Shan Yu Lim
Claire Lucus
Zoe Luu
Kiran McLernon
Lucy Ming
Jonathan Moh
Stella Morgan
Sunwoo Nam
Ciara Norman
Arya Nugrahanto
Muditha Pallewela
Jeans Pang
Ruby Paterson
Vyom Patoliya

Anna Pedersen
Evelina Pereira
Helena Phillips
Alexander Philogene
Germaine Phoon
Ren Phui
Morgan Porter
Gabriel Raharjo
Krosby Readhead
Iris Reed
Juliet Roux
Shreya Salunkhay
Yuika Sato
Aaditya Shah
Khush Shah
William Shaw
Michael Shum
Joshua Soon
Asher Tan
Brooke Taylor
Kevin Tirta

Anna Tokarev
Heer Umaretiya
Carmea Visser
Hannah Waldron
Xiaofu Wang
Zouruhong Wang
Noah West
Abby Wilson
Dean Winarto
Ruixian Wu
Renee Yooh
En Ning Yu
Huda Zaidi
Yixuan Zhang
Zhi Wei Zhou
Lirong Zhu
Wen Zhu

Chess success for Mod

LEANNE ENSLY, CHESS COORDINATOR



2020 has been an exciting one for Perth Modern School chess players. The students have been involved in two chess associations. Students achieved incredible success in the Chess Association of Western Australia (CAWA) tournaments with first placings in each of the four zone championships.

The Chess Association Schools' League competition held at Perth Modern was fiercely competitive with our students ultimately winning the state competition in both the Open mixed division and the Girls' division. These teams have progressed to the national competition.

In a positive twist with online competitions being necessary, our students were able to compete against others across Australia in the national Kids' Unlimited section tournaments. The more competitions the students won, the more they qualified. Initially we won the state competition, and then they went on to successfully dominate the national finals, achieving victory in both the Middle and Open divisions! This has not been achieved by a school since 2017. In the Middle division, our team was a clear winner, however in the Open section, a Victorian school was initially declared the winner but following a protest it was discovered that there had been a software malfunction. This led to a recalculation all the way to our sixth top player, resulting in our victory!

Jamie Laubbacher was an outstanding player—the only player to achieve a perfect score. He was closely monitored by the arbitrators as they could not initially believe his success due to the sophisticated moves he was playing. Ben Hurst showed himself to be unselfish and strategic by accepting a draw instead of playing for the win, knowing this was enough to secure the top spot in the middle division for his team.

Tori Chai was awarded 'Best Performing Female' due to her consistent excellence throughout the tournament.

In the 2020 Australian School Teams Championships, Perth Mod players were able to adapt quickly to the unusual conditions, and proved that they are capable of competing at the same level as some of Australia's best young players. The Perth Modern Secondary Open team featuring Jamie Laubbacher, Ben Hurst, Chas Underwood, Christopher Manasseh and Alexey Pimenov scored 13/24, which was good enough to secure outright third place.

Perth Mod's Secondary Girls team, featuring Anoushka Gupta, Heidi Gstaettner, Victoria Chai, Candace Cheng and Elle Chentang representing WA, finished in fifth place. All of the girls proved that they have the ability to find the best moves against strong opposition, but the losses that were suffered were all due to avoidable errors. With practice and continued tournament play, our players will develop the experience and resilience needed to win consistently.



ABOVE: Chess Coordinator Leanne Ensly with Perth Modern School chess team players.

RIGHT: Jamie Laubbacher was the only player to achieve a perfect score in the Kids' Unlimited tournament.



BELOW: Online interschool chess competition.



BELOW AND RIGHT: Students enjoying participating in the State Championships.



ABOVE: The students who competed in the 2020 Australian School Team Open Championship with their trophies.
RIGHT: Chas Underwood, Ben Hurst, Christopher Manasseh and Jamie Laubbacher won third board, second board, fourth board and first board prizes respectively in the State School Chess Championships.

PHOTO COURTESY JOHN PIMENOV.



School Chess League Finals.



Visual Art goes from strength to strength



2020 Year 12 Art Acquisition

KATIE CHIN, ART COLLECTION MANAGER

A stunningly realistic and richly painted image of a Traditional Chinese bride by Year 12 Visual Art student Jiamu Li was this year's Year 12 Art Acquisition. One Year 12 artwork is chosen every year, adding to the Perth Modern School Art Collection for the school community to enjoy for many years to come.

'The Bride'

'In this painting I wanted to explore the history and different types of marriages in China, and in extension, the treatment of women throughout history in traditional Asian societies. In the past women were often seen as objects and vessels for children, lacking autonomy or even dignity as humans. They were often put into arranged marriages by their parents, sometimes soon after they were born, married off to men much older than them.

The only way we can move forward is to learn from the past. The aim of this painting is not to demonise or disparage Asian culture and history, but to instead show the progress we have made since those times. Though there are still many issues still prevalent nowadays, to be able to look back and recognise the wrongdoings of the past—is that not an accomplishment in and of itself?'

Jiamu Li

Principal Lois Joll and Jiamu Li.



The Bride by Jiamu Li.

Indigenous Weaving Art Day

SARAH EVE, VISUAL ART TEACHER

Students enjoyed participating in a whole day art incursion working with Indigenous Wadandi/Minang/Koreng Bibbulmun artist Lea Taylor.

Students had a wonderful time learning more about indigenous culture and contemporary Bibbulmun weaving techniques making their own weaving creations using raffia, string and natural fibres. Student works have been joined together to create a school community artwork to be hung on display in the school.

RIGHT: Artist Lea Taylor shows weaving techniques to Nishi Patel.

BELOW: Bess McWaters-Smith, Amber Marsh and Meena Srinivasan.

BELOW RIGHT: Bailey Paton and Eric Yun.





Year 11 Art Focus Day

SARAH EVE, VISUAL ART TEACHER

Students from Year 11 ATAR Visual Art had a focus day, visiting galleries and participating in master classes in both theory and practical parts of the course. After enjoying a caffeine fix at Hylin, students visited Gallery 360, viewing the variety of beautiful artworks on display.

Students then engaged in a masterclass workshop diving into art theory and analysis, reflecting on important topics in the world and how we perceive them. After enjoying lunch, students walked to Kings Park where Fremantle-based artist Jacinda Bayne taught them 'en plein air' watercolour painting techniques.

It was great for students to have a day where they engaged in theory and practical aspects of the course to help support their studies in Year 12.

Students enjoyed a beautiful day out and about in Perth engaging in Visual Art theory and practice.



Nieve and Alistair make the news

Well done to Nieve Foley and Alistair Keenan in Year 9 who were the winners of the Dress Up competition using only newspaper as part of House Day.

House Day is a fun, interactive day at the end of Term 4 that allows students to demonstrate their creativity and skills in a variety of activities to earn points for their House.

Food for thought, and Christmas

'POST' NEWSPAPER



Students from Perth Modern School partnered with St Vincent de Paul, Subiaco branch, to collect food items to donate to people in the local area for Christmas.

Perth Modern School students put thought and heart into [2020] seasonal activities.

Years 7, 8 and 9 students boxed up basic items—and some traditional treats—they had recently collected and donated so that others who might otherwise go without could at least enjoy a good meal for Christmas.

Natalie Fergusson, a chaplain at the Subiaco school, said she was always looking for ways for the students to get involved in the community. When she found out about the work done by the St Vincent de Paul (SVP) branch at St Joseph's in Subiaco she got in touch and asked if they could help.

SVP volunteer Danny Cloghan said it was the first time they had worked with the school in this way.

'As a Catholic organisation we have a good working relationship with local Catholic schools, but this is the first time we have done this with a state school,' Mr Cloghan said. 'It's great for the kids, it's great for the local community and believe it or not, there is still a need for it out there unfortunately.'

'We'll give to the local community and then areas of need.'

Australian Space Design Competition

ANT MECZES, HEAD OF SCIENCE

Can settlements really be set up on Mars? That was the challenge facing students in Years 9–12, who participated in the Australian Space Design Competition finals over the weekend of January 15–17.

Five students from Perth Modern formed part of a team from four other schools to compete for the Right For Tender for setting up a research base on Mars for 400 inhabitants. This challenging competition, based at Queensland University, pitched six teams drawn from three or four different schools against each other virtually.

The students had to use 21st Century skills in a virtual environment to tender for the right to build their settlement on Mars. This high calibre competition, judged by people from the Australian Space Agency amongst others, offered great opportunities for problem solving, collaboration, presentation, innovation and real-world skills. Whilst the students were not in the winning team, they enjoyed the experience and are keen to enter the competition again this year.



Year 8 River cruise

DINATH DIAS ABEYSINGHE, YEAR 8



In
2020, the Year 8
students had a whole cruise to
ourselves and the boat was able to
cater really well for our entire grade,
so kudos to the cruise!

This year, Mr O'Loughlin pulled some strings and managed to get the entire boat just to ourselves and was able to feed 230 of the hungriest students perhaps ever seen in history! Our cohort singlehandedly ate more pizza than the entirety of America, gifting most of our students a stomach about to explode from Hawaiian, Meatlovers and Vegetarian pizza!

We danced until our feet and legs were about to shatter into a million fragments, but we danced till what felt like dawn. We also drank enough soda to force the school to buy enough to inject a few billion dollars into the economy.



Year 10 Focus Days

JESSICA LHOTA, STUDENT LEADERSHIP COORDINATOR



This year's Skills Week was changed to three Focus Days.

On day one, the Year 10 students focussed on Wellbeing. Students listened to presenters about resilience from the organisation *Game Plan* in preparation for their transition into Years 11 and 12. Additionally, they learned how to use brain-breaks and engage in mindful activities whilst exploring different active hobbies to improve their overall wellbeing. Some of those activities included Kokedama, yoga, mindful meditation, self-defence and creative writing.

Advocacy teachers spent the whole day with the year group supporting their students' personal growth and spending valuable pastoral care time together.

Over the next two days students attended Curtin University and The University of Western Australia to explore their options for the future. They visited faculties across the two campuses and were able to spend time with current university student ambassadors and ask questions about university life, applications, and requirements for university.

Students participated enthusiastically and are now more prepared for their journey to tertiary study.



Year 10 Social at AQWA

MONICA FRANZ, HEAD OF YEAR 10



On the last day of the Year 10 exams, the Year 10 students descended on AQWA.

Looking mighty fine and ready to party the Year 10 students took a photo on the stairs into AQWA and then swooped through the foyer, grabbing a mocktail on the way and checking out the marine life. Once we made it into the function space, the students were wowed by the fancy centrepieces, sea themed of course, and then devoured their dinner.

The dancefloor was the place to be for the rest of the night with a pitstop by the donut wall (actually a wall of donuts!). This year group sure has the moves!

It was the perfect finish to mark the end of exams!



Creative writing sparkles at Mod



*Creative writing at Perth Mod produced some incredible examples of storytelling in 2020.
Here are some examples.*

The asphalt is different

when I was a younger girl
I remember living
in a red bricked apartment
with a backyard the size
of a tennis court
no, even bigger
it was the size of the oval
at my primary school
and the grass was greener
on my side than it was on the other
it was exactly like they'd said
and the road was only one lane
with a step leading down
like we'd carved it in the face of the earth

I drove back there the other day
waiting to see a stroke of red bricks
among all the granite grey
not an iron fence, black gate
a building placed on a plan
on a grid
and yet cramped
there was not grass
just the bugs that come from garbage bins
a stench I would like to forget

we drove back down
on a two lane road

Zannatul Fairuz, Year 11

The Praying Mantis

The praying mantis is known for its prominent front legs, held together in a mimicry of prayer from which it gained its name.

Typically green or brown for camouflage in leafy foliage except in a rare few cases, these insects stalk or lie in wait for unsuspecting prey. Yet not all these meals were lured to their death in a false sense of security unaware of the danger they were in.

When mating, the smaller male presents a food offering to the female and after the deed is done becomes the sustenance for the soon-to-be mother.

To me this made sense and that is why I have no regrets over what I had done.

After all, who would suspect someone with their hands clasped together and eyes turned heavenward in the guise of prayer?

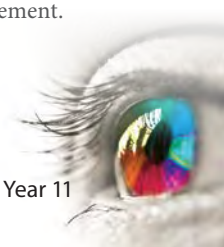
Geneve Kong, Year 11

Alcyone

Out the larynx
and past the mouth, shapeless words,
cutting, cleaving the coarse stones in her eyes.
Forming macabre rivers of severity
much to the chagrin of those stones.
Blue eyes, green eyes, brown eyes,
eyes that face my other way
forever.

Out of my basement
and into her attic
a memento of hurt leading both of us astray.
Stones
that crumble into ash from that foul beast in the basement.
stones
that shall never
skip on water
again.

Patrick Morgan, Year 11



Au Naturel (extract)

It was that curious time of day where the sun hung too high to be deemed evening but too low to be afternoon. The time of day where the sun touched the land like Midas. The creek's light babble shared its tranquil ambience up to the property. A fair breeze ran through the scrub making gumnuts rain from the trees. Their pattering on the tin roof a drum solo for the roaring crowd of leaves. Whitegums and jarrah trees watched over the little house like sentinels that hummed the tune of the bush. A long bricked driveway rolled down from the property, bounded over the creek and ran along to the road. The neighbour's bougainvillea was in full bloom, dressing the driveway with its pretty pink petals as if it were a wedding aisle. A wooden, latticed picket fence stood along the rear of the house with its green and golden shoes of sourgrass.

With a wicker washing basket in hand, she headed out the back door. All her cloths were bundled in the basket like a colourful tangle of yarn, and her arms were the needles responsible for sorting it out. The pea gravel pathway glowed like a river of light, rolling underneath the lemon tree and stopping at the vegetable patch. Just beyond the tomatoes and thyme stood the old turnstile washing line. An exquisite abstract piece of greys and browns that mimicked the surrounding trunks.

Her white curls of hair bobbed playfully as she meandered along the path. Her bare feet moulded to the ground as she walked. The bumps of gumnuts and the shifting sea of gravel underfoot no longer bothered her, if anything, she had grown fond of it. The sky gently exhaled another breeze, reviving the tune of the bush. The sweet scent of honeysuckles surfed the warm air, embracing the woman.

She loved these moments.

Jack Tonkin, Year 12

Labels

Runner-Up Year 7/8, What Matters competition, Whitlam Institute

"A describing word!"

The teacher exclaims,

As her class descends deep into boredom.

An adjective paints intricate strokes on a piece,

Tiny flowers around an evergreen tree.

An adjective is a decorative touch,

Cartoon stickers on a vacant locker.

An adjective alone is a brightly coloured pencil,

With no paper to draw on or cardboard for scribbles.

An adjective alone is a sweet little candy,

Lying helpless in the pantry of an abandoned house.

What if someone picked up the pencil,

And waved it around like a magical wand?

What if someone picked up the pencil,

And stuck it to something with a small piece of tape?

What if the pencil stayed stuck on that?

Stuck on that thing for a very long time.

Then when the day comes and the tape starts the wear,

When it begins to crease, rip and tear,

Upon the surface on which it was stuck on,

A sticky residue remains,

And a little red mark,

Because the thing it was stuck on,

Was a forehead.

It started as a pencil,

And became,

Its own drawing,

Name,

Label.

Ever since I wobbled into school,

People knew I was different.

Home others went with one or two books,

At one point I came with twelve.

Sitting down on the floor,

Towering bookshelves and stacks of toys around,

I'd flick through the pages,

Stare in awe all the pictures,

And read all the words.

"Write about your amazing weekend,"

Said the teacher to the thrilled children.

Sketched on the page was a green crocodile,

And my family intently observing from a bridge.

Below the masterpiece was only one sentence,

Because as a child full stops were pointless.

"I went to the zoo..."

Two ticks for my work,

A sentence,

A lie.

The trip to the zoo happened another time.

As a child I was very aware,

Of impressions and trends.

I was five.

My brain worked in fantastical ways,

Supposedly I was a talented child.

A smart child.

In Kindy the name popped up,

'Gloria the smart one.'

Smart is an adjective,

But back for me it was a label.

For almost eight years this continued and stuck.

Until high school began.

The pencil and tape,

The label,

Came off.

At that moment something inside lightened.

The name I possessed,

Slowly floated away.

Why is being smart a problem?

It's not being smart,

It's the expectations.

The expectations from my teachers,

To achieve a decent score,

Though they never reinforced it.

The expectations from my friends.

"You failed and I didn't!"

But worst of all,

The expectations from myself.

Once upon a time,

A little assessment was ready for the class,

A weekly recap, nothing much.

With the centimetre cubes I measured the area,

A process I considered precise.

In the end I was on the verge of crying,

Because I messed up one irrelevant test.

Couple years passed and the tale re-surfaced,

As a friend told the story,

Of me making a mistake.

One mistake.

And how did I react?

A minimal "yeah."

I shrugged off the hate and moved on,

Even though inside something lingered.

It wasn't only the expectations however,

It was also the name itself.

Being introduced as intelligent occurred often.

But I knew I was more.

It was almost like I was the iceberg,

And the tip was 'smart.'

The rest of the iceberg submerged underwater,

Engulfed by the frigid deep sea.

I was more.

And I am more.

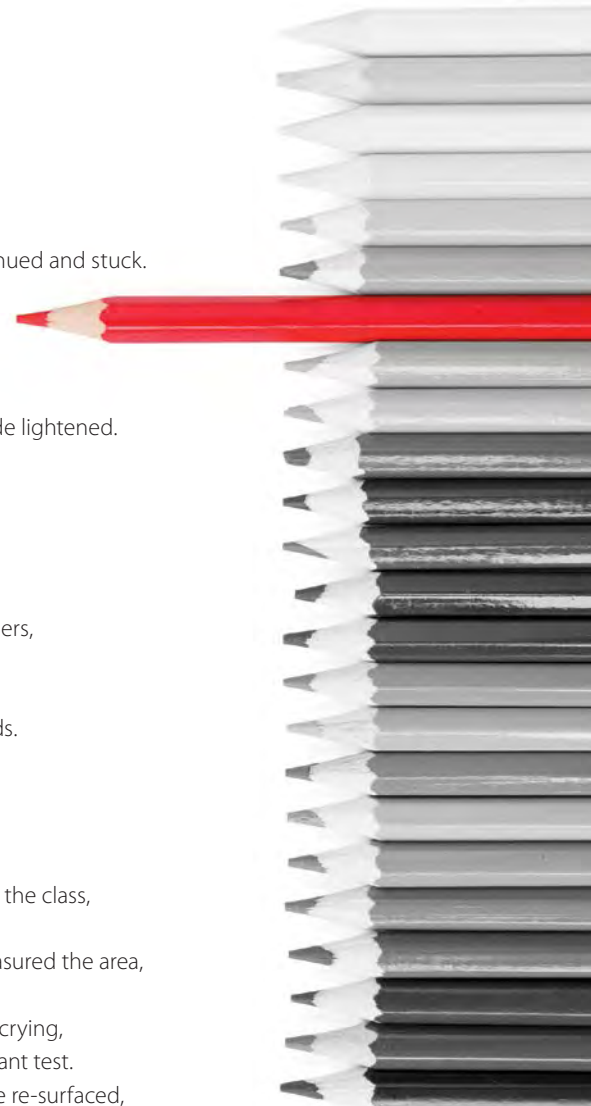
An adjective describes,

Smart is an adjective,

Not a label.

People are more than labels.

Proper representation matters.



Gloria Limas, Year 7

Sampson takes out the House Drama Cup

THOMAS HUNT, YEAR 11



Over the course of Term 4, each House went through the process of auditioning, casting and rehearsing a play of their own to perform for a chance to win the 'House Drama Cup'.

In Week 1 and 2, Directors were chosen, and soon after we all were 'off to the races', so to speak. Sampson, my House, quickly established a rehearsal routine involving after school rehearsals and a lunchtime rehearsal, where cast members learnt their lines and how to perform the script in the performance space effectively.

As both director and performer, it was a unique opportunity to show my knowledge and skill in most areas of drama, along with creating an enjoyable performance for the year 7–10s we showed our work to on the final performance date.

My House's play, *Oh My God, It's Another Play*, focused on the fun and rather absurd nature of putting on a show with a large group of actors, which lined up quite well with how the actual process for the production went down. From baguette-loving actors to very opinionated dramaturges, there was a little bit of everyone in our performance.

Having done House Drama every year since Year 7, I can firmly say that every year the plays improve, and they become more and even more enjoyable as time passes. There are so many talented actors at Perth Mod, and it is such a great opportunity to show your peers (and sometimes teachers) your skills, while having a good time.



Photography and Design creativity shines

MARK TEMOV, DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY TEACHER

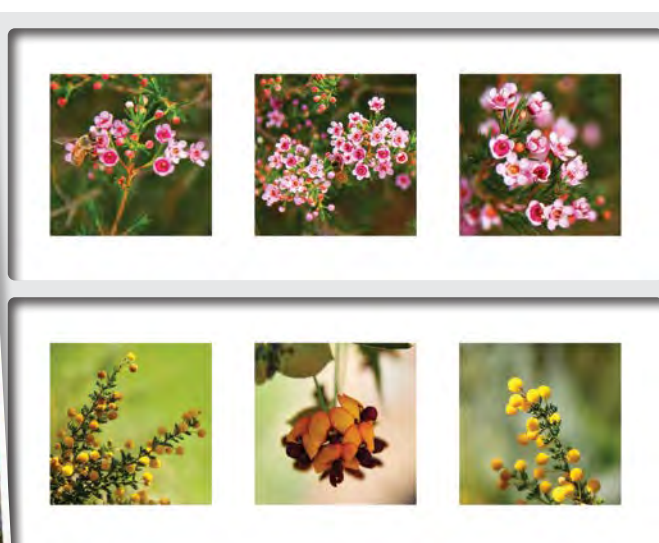
The Photography and Design students have had a busy semester, completing shoots in Harold Boas Gardens, Kings Park, Rottneest and Dunsborough.

The Year 8 Photography students have submitted their nature images to be printed onto four drink coasters, as well as completing a photo shoot in the studio to create some wonderful pop art inspired images. These were then framed to be shown off around their homes.

Year 9 Photography students spent a day photographing the wildflowers at Kings Park and then collaborated on a task, producing print and social media advertising campaigns.

These campaigns were designed to raise awareness of a charity or public health campaign, introducing students to the world of advertising.

A 7.30am ferry departure to Rottneest wasn't appreciated by many, however, once on the island, the Year 10 Design students spent the day filling their memory cards with beautiful landscape images. Another element of their task was to promote Rottneest to interstate, intrastate and overseas visitors, despite the borders being closed! Students were busy capturing the perfect quokka selfie, as well as images of the food, activities, flora and fauna and anything else they thought would be useful in their advertising campaigns.



LEFT: Advertising posters by Clarise Yu (far left) and Sarah Jiow.

ABOVE: Compilations by Andrea Jancik (top) and Nirmanee Mallawa Thanthrige.



ABOVE LEFT: Magazine covers by Mahi Taher (far left) and Sarah Jiow.

ABOVE RIGHT: Pop art by Megha Aleyas.

FROM LEFT: Pop art by Adam Hooper, Loren Wilde and Matilde Musetti.

2020 Visual Art Exhibition

SARAH EVE AND KATIE CHIN, VISUAL ART TEACHERS



This year's end of year Visual Art Exhibition was a fantastic way to celebrate the hard work of our art students. The opening night was attended by record crowds, the Mills Gallery was filled with staff, parents, students, Modernians and the wider community, who came to admire the extremely creative and varied artworks from our talented Year 7's through to Year 12 ATAR Visual Art students. Intricate ceramic sculptures, delicate paintings, bold drawings and immersive video works were on display.

Local portrait Artist Rachelle Dusting opened the event with an insight into her career as an artist and how art can be utilised by individuals to express and communicate in a way that words cannot.

Linton and Kay Gallery Manager Miranda Brown and each Head of Learning Area staff member had the difficult position of judging for an array of awards for each year group. There was a relaxed ambiance in the air as the talented Year 11 music student Jason Dean played on the cello.

A big congratulation to all students who exhibited their work.

Student Award Winners

Year 12 Acquisition Prize	Jiamu Li
Year 12 Overall Portrait Prize	Cait Dowley
Year 11 Packers' Prize	Bridie Dempster
Year 12 Outstanding	Charlotte Ryall
Year 12 Highly Commended	Cait Dowley
Year 11 Outstanding	Hannah Pemberton
Year 11 Highly Commended	Bridie Dempster
Year 10 Storyteller Award	Ella Fung
Year 10 Visual Poetry Award	Ciara Norman
Year 9 One World Award	En-Mei Miao
Year 9 Nature. Be In It Award	Chau Tran
Year 8 da Vinci Convinci Award	Mahathi Poreddy
Year 8 Fibonacci Award	Leah Augustine
Year 7 Dynamic Award	Sonia Yeo
Year 7 Globetrotter Award	Enru Chu



Cait Dowley (left) was the Overall Year 12 Portrait Prize Winner.



Modernians Rosemary Pratt and Barrie Baker with Principal Lois Joll at the exhibition.



Virginia Plas, Cait Dowley, Conor Stephens, Sarah Eve, Charlotte Ryall, Jiamu Li and Hannah Pemberton.



Principal Lois Joll with Bridie Dempster.



Jason Dean performed at the exhibition.



Examples of student artwork displayed at the Visual Art Exhibition.



Music ends the year with a flourish

PHILIPPA ROY, HEAD OF MUSIC



Term 4 started with new members of the Wind Bands and Orchestras, after a busy finish to Term 3 with auditions and exams. Year 11 and 10 students participated in their Semester 2 Performance exams, with this being the first formal performance exam experience for Year 10 students.

Senior Wind Band, Year 11 String Quartet and Schola Cantori then joined together to perform at the Pin Ceremony for the 2021 new students, and Graduation for the exiting Year 12 students, with a final performance on the 5 octave marimba by the Year 12 percussionists.

The Year 7 students were able to finally come together and perform as a cohort in their first Year 7 concert for 2020. This featured all the students in Year 7, and many smaller combinations of instruments.

We concluded 2020 in Music with the P&C Christmas Concert. Featuring the Senior Wind Orchestra, Wind Band 2, Wind Band 3 and 4, Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia, Senior Contemporary Ensemble and Senior Jazz Band with the Year 8 Choir helping to lead the carols, this was a wonderful way to finish the year.

Congratulations to all the students involved in these performances, and thank you to the music staff and Friends of Music for their support in preparing the students for these performances and across the year.



ABOVE: Year 7 students were given the opportunity to showcase their music skills in a special end-of-year concert.

LEFT: Students performed at the Pin and Presentation Ceremonies on Saturday, 21 November.

BELOW: Students enjoyed performing at the P&C Christmas Concert held on Friday, 4 December.



Where are they now?



MARK CHIA

Perth Modern School student 2008–2010.

What is most memorable about your time at Perth Mod?

Being a student at Perth Mod gave me lots of special opportunities—some of the most memorable ones were attending the International Mathematics Competition in Thailand and the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra.

I was also very lucky to have a close group of friends at Perth Mod who continue to be a source of support and inspiration. Maintaining friendships can be tricky after high school, but I'm very grateful to still have these people in my life!

What did you study at university?

After leaving Perth Mod I studied undergraduate medicine at UWA. During med school I was involved with a youth health education program 'Dr YES' (Youth Education Sessions), one of the most rewarding aspects of my time at uni. This program trains medical student volunteers to deliver health sessions for high school students. Through 'Dr YES' I met some of my closest mentors and had the opportunity to travel all over WA.

In my fifth year of medical school, I studied in Carnarvon (nine hours north of Perth) as part of UWA's Rural Clinical School. This was the first time I was exposed to the challenges of rural medicine.

I've since also completed a part-time Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology) through the University of Sydney.

What did you do beyond university?

After med school I worked for two years as a junior doctor based at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. During this time, I was seconded to hospitals around WA, including rotations in Geraldton and Karratha. I was then very fortunate to be offered my dream job—travelling rural WA delivering outreach eye care on the Lions Outback Vision Van.

I've since returned to Perth as an ophthalmology (eye) registrar. My job is to help deliver eye care as part of a multi-disciplinary team of nurses, optometrists and eye doctors. My work day involves injecting eyeballs, playing with lasers, and looking at lots of pretty eyes!

What advice would you give to your high school self?

One of the biggest things which has changed about my attitude since high school is not feeling the need to rush towards a particular goal—whether it be finishing medical school or completing a speciality training program. Many of the amazing opportunities I've had so far have come up through the course of taking the road less travelled.



The journey of medical training can be a long slog, especially if you view the end of your training as the only endpoint. I've learned to find more satisfaction in my work by taking a step back, pursuing diverse and interesting opportunities (including non-medical ones), and enjoying the journey.

What are your future plans?

This year I've been incredibly fortunate to be awarded a 2021 General Sir John Monash Scholarship. With the support of this generous scholarship, I'll be heading to London to start a PhD in Ophthalmology at University College London, working in collaboration with Moorfields Eye Hospital and the Lions Eye Institute. My project aims to apply artificial intelligence to advanced eye scans to improve eye care for rural and Indigenous communities.

The General Sir John Monash Foundation runs a wonderful scholarship program which supports students to pursue overseas postgraduate study at any university in the world. I'd highly recommend learning more about the scholarship and to consider applying in the future—I'd be happy to help in any way I can!

Mark Chia (far right) undertaking medical training in the outback.



AMY FORTNUM

Perth Modern School student 2007–2011.

What profession/area of work/study are you currently pursuing and what does it involve?

First and foremost, I'm an actress, musical theatre artist and writer. However, as the pandemic has hit the industry pretty hard, I'm keeping myself busy completing my Master of Teaching (Primary) online—and I'm loving it.

What did you study after leaving Perth Mod?

I went straight to the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) to study classical voice. The course taught me a lot about classical music, vocal technique and music theory, but it wasn't inspiring me creatively. I was then lucky enough to be accepted into the Music Theatre bachelor degree, and tallied up seven years of intense performance training at WAAPA. It was there that also I found my love for writing and put my first original work on the stage, *Golden Age Girls*, which went on to win the 2018 WA Fringe World Cabaret Award. Come along for a laugh at the 2021 Perth Fringe Festival!

What led you to choose your current career path/area of study?

Ever since I gatecrashed my sister's toddler dance lessons, I knew I had to perform. There's something about standing in the spotlight, becoming someone else, understanding different perspectives and telling important stories. It's the study of humans and what makes us individual that gets me addicted to every character I take on. Through theatre, you can also confront an audience with important messages, challenge their thinking and provide a platform to start the difficult conversations that often avoided. Alternatively, there's nothing like making a whole room of people laugh through escapism, especially in a time the world is confronted by some pretty overwhelming issues that can often consume our thoughts.

What are your future academic/career goals?

I'm currently completing my Master of Teaching, so the first step is to graduate in 2021. Alongside relief teaching to support my acting career, I would love to continue to combine both of my passions—education and performance—to continue to expand my own business, interACT Education. InterACT is an online teaching resource for educators to use in the classroom, which employs professional actors in an interactive video format to teach children to express themselves and study the human mind through drama. It's currently being used in schools around Australia and the United States, but there's always room to grow!

Teaching young people self-expression and empathy through a drama education helps to develop understanding, analytical and accepting young minds. It can also contribute to a meaningful literary education, enhancing communication skills, perspective taking and multimodal textual analysis, which is crucial in the online social environment.



Describe a typical day where you currently work/study.

The joy of the theatre industry is that there is no such thing as a typical day! I'm currently being commissioned to write an educational children's musical, so the research and writing often takes up my mornings. When I'm in a contracted performance, six days a week are taken up by rehearsals, learning scripts and tracks. During performance weeks I have time to write/film interACT material, write my own cabaret work, catch up with my studies, and work on my craft, before a show in the evening! The theatrical life is full of different, exciting, creative opportunities—it's up to the artist to find them.

What are your favourite memories of your time at Mod?

I have so many, but I absolutely loved the music program at Mod. The respect that everyone had for the music itself and the pure joy that it brought us all to create collaboratively is something that is rare to find. Miss Christmass was one of my biggest inspirations and having her lead our choral performances on music tour, alongside such brilliant young musicians, has to be the highlight of my high school years.

How did Mod help you grow as an individual and as a scholar?

I don't think I've found anyone from another school who enjoyed their education as much as a Perth Mod graduate. I was in the first year of the gifted and talented program, and although the challenge was a shock from my regular primary school, it changed me like no other school could. The genuine celebration of academic success and the acceptance of different types of intelligence is something that I am truly grateful for. Additionally, the respect from the teachers and their desire to get the best out of their students has inspired me to become one of those educators for the next generation.

What are you most looking forward to in the future?

As the theatre industry is rebuilding itself, there is a strong push to include more diverse perspectives and normalise inclusivity to eliminate discrimination. I'm proud to be a part of such an important movement, and I can't wait to see how it changes the world, little by little. When I'm offstage, I'm incredibly excited to become an inspirational educator for the next generation.

DR BRUCE S. MIDDLETON

Perth Modern School Student 1953–1957.

I started at Mod in 1953, and early in my five years there I learned how to study—if not yet to think deeply. The academic atmosphere was competitive, and I thrived in it. These were mainly happy years filled with study, friends, sports and character-building. They were also the start of my lifelong fascination with science, stimulated by good teachers, lectures from visiting distinguished scientists, and excursions to science-based industries.

During my last three years at the school, I participated in army cadets. Later, I joined the WA University Regiment (in the Army Reserve) while at UWA in 1958–65, and rose to commissioned rank. Leadership experience in the army stood me in good stead in later life.

I studied chemistry at UWA through to a PhD (1966), and married my lifelong partner Maxine Nalder in 1963. Between 1965 and 1967 I held a postdoctoral fellowship with the National Research Council of Canada, in Ottawa.

Returning to Melbourne in 1967, I took up a research position in wood pulping and bleaching with Australian Paper Manufacturers. In 1972, I switched career direction from research to management with appointment as Chief Investigations Officer with Victoria's newly-established Environment Protection Authority. I established, equipped and managed the EPA's enforcement service during five challenging and rewarding years.

In 1978 I changed direction again, from managing field operations to advising on science and technology policy. I was appointed to the staff of the Australian Science and Technology Council (ASTEC) in Canberra, which advised the Prime Minister on science, technology and research issues. Here the task was more intellectual and less management. I was promoted to head of the ASTEC staff in 1982.

Then in 1987 I was asked to establish and manage the Australian Space Office, predecessor (by 30 years) to the current Australian Space Agency. This appointment had both intellectual and management challenges, with a strong international focus.

I left government in 1994 to establish a private satellite consulting business, Asia Pacific Aerospace Consultants, which became successful and was recognised in the global space industry. That business was sold in 2002, and I retired in 2003.



In retrospect I consider myself fortunate to have worked in such challenging and interesting positions. Each of them caused me to look forward to the working day.

Perhaps the one that gave me the most satisfaction was the last, in consulting. I enjoyed the intellectual challenge of identifying the client's needs, devising a work program to generate the information and advice needed, and delivering a product that met my standards and satisfied the need. It was very rewarding, especially as the people around the world with whom I dealt were overwhelmingly engaging and intelligent.

Now that I am older, I recognise that it is not the achievements of my working life that give me most satisfaction. It is my children and grandchildren that will be my enduring legacy, making the world I leave different from the world into which I was born.

If I could have my time at Mod again, what would I do differently?

I would try to develop a different style of studying, with more emphasis on understanding and reason and less on short-term retention in order to pass examinations.

What advice would I give the Mod students of today?

You are fortunate to be studying at a school with such an enviable academic record and list of high-achieving alumni. Work hard while you are there, absorb the information and advice given you, and set your sights high for life after school. Your career options are far wider than you might now imagine.

“

Your career options are far wider than you might now imagine.

Dr Bruce S. Middleton

”



A Modernian: A life well lived



The following obituary was featured in *The West Australian* newspaper.

Helping hand along the road

Ron Jones

Roads Builder

Born: Subiaco, 1935

Died: Perth, aged 84

Five days after his marriage, Ron Jones received an incredible reminder of the importance of decent roads. Driving through a flooded river in Moora, he and his new bride watched aghast as water half-filled the car.

Margaret's suitcase full of new clothes was ruined.

Carnarvon, where the couple had been posted for two years, offered another messy surprise. Arriving in town amid a dust storm, as she put it, 'completed my thorough initiation into the red dirt of the North West.'

Ron went on to enjoy a long career making sure that other drivers had more comfortable journeys as they ventured north of Perth. He became an expert on soil and bitumen, proud of his role in smoothing the way, literally from Port Hedland to Shark Bay turn-off, for example. In the 1960s and 70s, the establishment of all-weather roads helped tourists, residents of the Gascoyne, Pilbara and Kimberley, mining workers and drivers of trucks taking supplies to places formerly reached mainly by the State Shipping Service.

There was another valuable pathway to progress that Ron set from his position as Main Roads Department Supervisor.

Believing in equality of opportunity long before it became accepted and legislated norm, he gave jobs to Aboriginal people and migrants from non-English speaking backgrounds.

Timothy Jones, the eldest of Margaret and Ron's five sons, recalls him telling the family he found the Aboriginal men to be fast learners who often remembered him years later because he has trusted them enough to employ them.

'A number of the chaps he employed eventually became foremen and successful road builders in their own right. Many Italian and Yugoslav men in Carnarvon, for instance, had skills in stonework and building. Dad



Ron Jones.

would employ them for construction of stone culverts and other jobs connected with bridges. In his opinion, they were the best for those tasks.'

Fairness was among the virtues expounded by the Church of Christ, which was always Ron's own thoroughfare, in the spiritual sense. He eventually became an elder, but from the very first adhered to its principles. Faith underpinned his sense of community. Giving reassurance to those around him was a major part of how he had been brought up.

Ronald Leslie Jones was born in Subiaco on October 28, 1935, one of five children of Aubrey (née Hill) and Roy Jones. The boy's time at Inglewood Primary School included digging trenches in the playground, an extra physical activity occasioned by the threat from Japanese attack that many in WA felt in 1941, the year he turned six. After the family moved to Maylands, he completed his primary education there.

Ron went to Perth Modern School on a scholarship but left at 15, largely so he could start earning and contribute to the family finances. An apprenticeship as fitter and turner led him to attend classes at Perth Technical College. In 1955, he joined the MRD as a soil tester.

His first posting, to Esperance, would underline the enormous distances associated with life outside the metropolitan area. Over the 18 months there, he became used to many hours on the road to visit his family. He had, however, another strong incentive

to head regularly to Perth—getting to know Margaret Barrington, whom he had met at Maylands Primary. Their marriage in 1958 started a 62-year partnership that survived challenges but few to equal the drowning of Mrs Jones' luggage in mud.

In the early years, Ron's work accommodation was ex-army tents, but three months national service had toughened him up to be flexible and accepting of whatever came his way.

Air-conditioned dongas (transportable buildings) would later make life more comfortable for him and his staff.

Other regional postings included Port Hedland and a second long stint at Carnarvon, before he was given a senior role at the MRD depot in Perth suburb of Carlisle. Wherever he lived, he was known as a kind and dependable neighbour in the widest sense of the word.

The first Carnarvon stay had included a cyclone that hit soon after Ron, acting decisively on weather forecasts, organised teams to sandbag buildings.

Diabetes, and a stroke suffered in 1991, were blows, but he recovered to work for two more years before retirement in 1993.

The couple later moved to Quinns Rocks and enjoyed overseas trips to Singapore and Europe.

A friend from Carnarvon days, Darren Law-Davis, says Ron always maintained his level of donating practical assistance.

'In the last 10 years, he met a lot of refugees, including those from Africa, and, through his church, attended to their needs whenever possible.'

Ron Jones died on October 10, survived by Margaret, their sons Timothy, Mark, Scott, Glen and Craig, 11 grandchildren, and by Ron's sisters, Anne Rogers and Margaret Morris, and brothers, Keith and Bruce.

One of the last people Ron saw, at Aegis residential home in Mindarie, was an aged care worker who held his hand. A migrant, she remembered Ron's delivery of food parcels to her family on behalf of his church. Now it was his turn to take a little help from his friends.

PATRICK CORNISH

Languages highlights



Italian basics plus much more

FRANCESCA CANDATEN, ITALIAN TEACHER

What a fantastic term of Italian it was! Year 7 students enjoyed learning about the basics of Italian geography—the students researched the different Italian regions and created their very own map of Italy.

In Year 10, students learned everything about Italian festivals and celebrations. What a better way to finish the year with a nice slice of *panettone*, the traditional Christmas cake?

We also had some amazing achievements by our students—brava Natasha Robinson for achieving a Gold Award for Italian in the Education Perfect Regional Championship. We are looking forward to more exciting experiences in 2021!



ABOVE: Year 7 students enjoying their Italian language class.



ABOVE RIGHT: Harriet Keenan, Darcey Weber and Germaine Phoon enjoying some delicious panettone.
RIGHT: Natasha Robinson achieved a Gold Award in the Education Perfect Regional Championship.

'Lights, Camera, Action!'

RISHITA SARKAR, YEAR 10

'Watashi ha chi-zu desu'—even those uninitiated in Japanese came away from this day knowing a little bit more about the language. We bought bubble tea, went shopping on Boxing Day, and went to a chocolate shop, all in the space of a single day.

With the help of a green screen, that is.

Over two days—one after school and the other during the Term 3 holidays—a small group of Perth Modern students gathered to create learning resources for students learning Japanese at the School for Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE). It was a chance not only to improve our Japanese, but also our acting skills—we re-took shot after shot until we perfected our gestures, facial expressions and lines.

Being in a leading role for the various tracks we made throughout the day offered me a unique opportunity to practice my Japanese and gave me an insight into how demanding it must be for actors and actresses to get into character and be on set all day. I'll admit that I also developed a new-found acceptance of

the audio files our Languages teachers love to use for listening tasks.

None of it would have been possible without Matsuo Sensei putting in so much effort to make it an enjoyable day and one that ran so smoothly. Working in the recording studio at SIDE was an engaging experience and it was exciting to see everything come together. With a bit of visual-audio magic and the amazing effort of everyone there (including my dedicated group of French-learning friends who helped out), we managed to create something that I'm sure will be remembered by students for years to come.

RIGHT FROM TOP: Eric Townshend and Rishita Sarkar; Jake Wilson, E Jen Wong and Rishita Sarkar; Grace Sinclair and Charlotte Raston.

BELOW: SIDE Project team.



Japanese Scavenger Hunt

MISCHA WONG, YEAR 10

Year 11 Japanese students took the CAT bus to the city and had a fun day doing various Japanese themed activities. We started off with a scavenger hunt, reading clues in Japanese and taking photos of items and places around Forrest Chase. Afterwards, we went to a noodle shop called Hifumiya, and while we were there, we ordered various kinds of udon and side dishes. Before returning to school, we stopped by some bubble tea shops for some delicious bubble tea.

Overall, it was a fun and relaxing day after exams to finish off a year of learning Japanese. It was nice to be able to eat with friends and classmates, and the excursion enabled us to practice our Japanese. Much thanks to Todd-sensei for organising this excursion and to Matsuo-sensei for accompanying us.



ABOVE: Mischa Wong, Jessica Doan, Zachary Loong, Johnson Che, Anthony Lam, E Jen Wong, Oneli Weerasinghe and Susanna Che.



RIGHT: Scott Kang, Ryan Jeong, Ryan Toh and Keith Wong.

Year 10 Chinese Culture Excursion

MONTY BOLTON, YEAR 10

The Year 10 Chinese excursion to Northbridge was a culturally enriching experience. We had the opportunity to eat authentic Chinese food such as Gongbao chicken and steamed pork buns. All of the food was extremely tasty and it allowed us to step out of our culinary comfort zones.

We also got to indulge in some bubble tea which we all enjoyed greatly. Overall, it was an exciting experience and we all had a fantastic time.



Chinese cultural excursion in Term 4

The Year 9 second-language Chinese class enjoyed a visit to Northbridge for an interactive learning experience.

Here is one student's recollection of the day:

'After we first arrived, we got to explore the area a little with a Chinese character hunt. We searched for the meanings and examples of different Chinese phrases, overall a very enjoyable little competition. We then went to get bubble tea, where we were put to the challenge of ordering in Chinese (some were more successful than others at this part). Finally, we all went and got a delicious lunch at the nearby restaurant "Authentic Bites". This excursion was a wonderful experience, and I personally am looking forward to the next one.'

Sophie Jain, Year 9



Food and Technology students cook up a storm



Halloumi Workshop

KASIA CASTLE, FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEACHER

Years 9 and 10 students learnt the art of cheese making, making their very own halloumi cheese.

The production of cheese, like many other food preservation processes, allows the nutritional and economic value of a food material, in this case milk, to be preserved in concentrated form. Cheese making allows the production of the cheese with diverse flavours and consistencies. Food Science teachers Miss Castle and Miss Corica ran the after-school workshop with students making their own block of halloumi cheese to take home and enjoy.

RIGHT AND BELOW: Students enjoyed making halloumi cheese.



ATAR Food Science and Technology

After completing their Year 11 exams, the Food Science and Technology students made a delicious start to their Year 12 course by learning about the properties of fats and their functions in mixtures with sugar.

What better way to learn this than by using the creaming method to make cupcakes and butter icing? Science never tasted so good.

FROM LEFT: Nisani Gunawardhana; the cupcakes made in ATAR Food and Technology.



Brendan Pang masterclass

KASIA CASTLE, FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEACHER

We were lucky enough to have *MasterChef* contestant Brendan Pang come back to run another workshop with our students. Since we last had Brendan here in 2018, he has been on another series of *MasterChef*, opened his dumplings restaurant 'Bumplings' and published a cookbook.

This time Brendan taught us how to make his famous Chinese Beef Pies which he made on this season of *MasterChef*—it was great to see the students master the art of making dumpling dough.



ABOVE: Brendan Pang leads the masterclass.

LEFT: Students enjoying the Brendan Pang masterclass.



Halloween donut decorating

RACHELLE CORICA, FOOD TECHNOLOGY TEACHER

For Halloween in 2020, we continued our annual tradition in Food Technology of creating some spooky and delectable treats.

This year students of all year groups joined Miss Corica and Miss Castle in the Food Technology kitchens and were able to create some scary sweets. Using doughnuts and an assortment of goodies, students let their creativity flow and came up with some amazing designs.





Making delicious gingerbread cookies on House Day.

House Day Gingerbread Cookies

For House Day students from Years 7 to 10 had the opportunity to create and decorate delicious festive gingerbread cookies for the holiday season in the Food Technology kitchens with Miss Corica and Miss Castle.



Year 10 Food Science and Technology students made cupcakes to sell to aid the RSPCA.



RSPCA Cupcake Stall

RACHELLE CORICA, FOOD TECHNOLOGY TEACHER

Year 10 Food Science and Technology students, along with Miss Corica and Miss Castle, had an in-class bake-off before voting and deciding on which of their cupcake creations they would like to produce and sell to fundraise for our annual RSPCA cupcake stall.

Students selected four delicious cupcake creations to produce and sell at recess, successfully raising much-needed funds for the RSPCA.



Volunteer Morning Tea

A Morning Tea for our volunteers was a lovely way to thank them for everything they do for Perth Modern School. The volunteers enjoyed some delicious food, cooked by Food and Technology students and passed around by our Student Councillors.

Our volunteers work in a variety of ways to improve the school—including in the Museum and archives, as part of the Perth Modern Society and Sphinx Foundation, in the Second Hand Uniform Shop, or as part of the P&C and Friends of Music. The School wouldn't be the incredible place it is without our volunteers and we salute them for all that they do for Mod and its students.

The Volunteer Morning Tea is a great way for the school to recognise our volunteers who give so much to Perth Modern and our students.



Staff Morning Tea

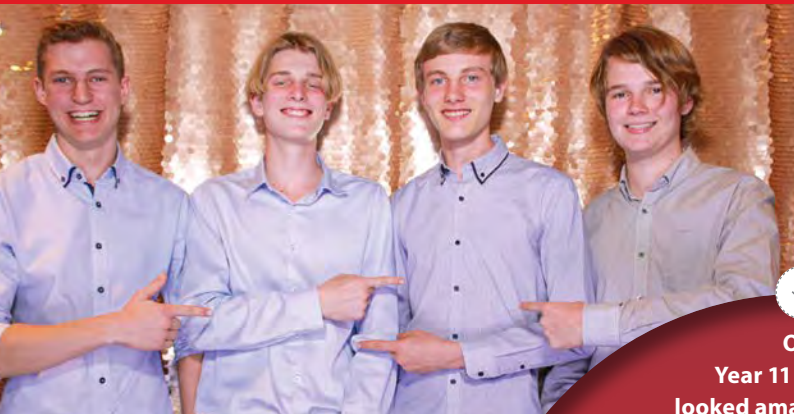
Every week a different Learning Area creates a beautiful spread of food for the Friday morning staff briefing. Most weeks, the food array will be based on a different theme and will be something topical.

Last year we had morning teas based on the themes of Halloween, WA Day, *Grease*, Easter, Thanksgiving and Plate of Origin, amongst others. It's a great way for staff to show off their favourite recipes and creativity as well as creating a collegial, giving atmosphere.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: Morning tea themes of *Grease*, Easter, WA Day, Thanksgiving, and Plate of Origin.

Year 11 Dinner Dance



Our
Year 11 students
looked amazing at their
Dinner Dance held at the end of Term 4
at the South Fremantle Yacht Club.

Students enjoyed a delicious sit-down meal and afterwards danced the night away to current hits and some older well-known tunes played by our very own DJ Nas. This was the last official social event on the calendar for Year 11 students and they definitely let their hair down and made the most of the occasion!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOOTHGEEKS.



Dance

MELANIE WILCOCK, DANCE COORDINATOR



The Dance Choreographic Night took place on Friday, 4 December as part of the P&C Christmas Concert and it was wonderful for students to be able to perform in front of an audience again.

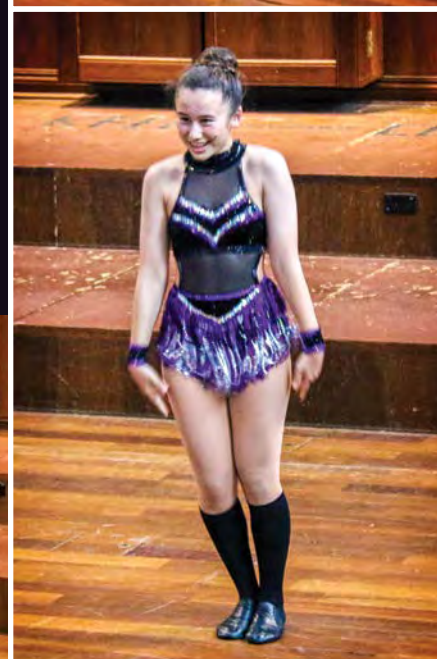
Eighty students from the Dance elective program, Mod Time Dance Club and the afterschool Dance Club, as well as a few special guest performers, were able to show off their creativity and incredible talents.

The program consisted of 18 dance items from various genres, including Contemporary, Jazz, Hip Hop, Classical Ballet, Jazz and Breaking.

Students are to be congratulated on their hard work, commitment, energy and enthusiasm.

'Dance Mod-time this year was a thrilling and exciting experience, with students participating in a virtual House Dance performance in Semester 1 and our Choreographic Dance Concert at the end of Semester 2. Jacinta and I worked behind the scenes and had the opportunity to take on leadership roles as stage directors, helping students with costumes, music and more! We thoroughly enjoyed seeing the students' efforts come together in their final performances.'

Jacinta Fyfe and Faith Hoe, Year 9



Health and Physical Education highlights



Track and Field Squad Excellence

MARK MUIR, HEAD OF HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

It was an outstanding result for the Perth Modern athletics squad to finish third in the B Division School Sport WA Track and Field Carnival, seven points behind the second-placed school.

Congratulations to all squad members who, after a year of less interschool sport than is usually the case, very much enjoyed the team camaraderie and atmosphere.

The following individuals were acknowledged for their excellent results:

Megan McCaffrey (Year 9 Girl Champion)

James Chansbury (Year 9 Boy Runner Up)

Kirsten Petterson (Year 8 Girl Third Place)

ABOVE RIGHT: The Year 7 Boys Relay Team.

RIGHT: Megan McCaffrey was the Year 9 Girl Champion at the meet.

FAR RIGHT: Alana Bannerman in full flight.



The Perth Modern athletes received lots of enthusiastic support from the crowd.

Racquets clash at Badminton WA

JAN SANDER-SORENSEN, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER

Perth Modern's bravest badminton players rose to the challenge and went all out at Badminton WA.

The School's 10 teams battled it out on court alongside many other schools across Western Australia. In the end, they smashed the competition in a multitude of matches and left them with ruffled feathers as Nibesh Khatri and David Esdale took out the Junior Boys title, while Shardul Inamdar and Vinura Elvadura were placed runners-up to our champion Junior Boys.

Susan Pius and Mahek Aribenchi finished runners-up in the Junior Girls competition, with the final coming down to just a few points in a very high-quality game.

Junior Boys Champions and Runners-Up: David Esdale, Nibesh Khatri, Shardul Inamdar and Vinura Elvadura.

Junior Girls Runners-Up Susan Pius and Mahek Aribenchi.





Tommaso wins the School Sport Triathlon for the fourth year

Year 11 student Tommaso Puccini has won the gold medal in the senior division of the School Sport WA Triathlon Championships, held at Champion Lakes Regatta Centre on November 5. This is the fourth year in a row that Tommaso has won his division at the event and his outstanding result came at the end of his Year 11 exams. Well done Tommaso!

FROM TOP LEFT: Tommaso in the cycling section. Triathlon champion: Tommaso Puccini (right). Running for the gold.

2020 Volleyball Competitions

MIKE BRUTTY, VOLLEYBALL COORDINATOR

2020 provided Perth Mod students and teachers with some great life lessons. One of these being patience. For all the keen volleyball squad members, this meant that they have had to endure a later start to the volleyball season.

The VWA competition was held first and our teams placed very well in their pools and all made the finals. Unfortunately, none made it to the grand final, but they competed really well against some very good opposition.

The SSWA followed a week later with our Year 10 and Year 12 students taking part. The Year 12 Boys A Division team came out victorious taking home the trophy in their last ever school volleyball competition. This same team has been playing together since Year 8 and have led the way for the year groups below them. It's good to see how they have inspired the other volleyball members to extend their skills and enjoy the experience made available to them.

Lastly, the Years 7, 8 and 9 students participated in the SSWA competition held in term 4. The Junior squad boasted huge numbers with thanks to the new cohort of talented Year 7 students.

'The interschool volleyball competition held in Term 3 was a very exciting extra-curricular activity. We had the opportunity to play multiple games with other kids from our year. Whether we were brand new to the sport, or already had some experience, we all improved our skills and understanding of the game. It was a really fun and enjoyable experience and we will definitely love to do it again next year.'

Mackenzie Strahan, Year 7

Thanks again to all the coaches, who are former students, who helped out this year—Dylan Wood, Kim Sorensen, Alex Majri, Milan Raovic and Robert Scriba. In addition, thanks to the senior school students who put up their hand to help coach the junior teams and thanks also to the teachers who came along to help at the competitions.



FROM TOP: The Year 7 squad; Ben Caddy who was named 'Most Valued Player'; the Year 10 Girls A Division team; and the Year 12 Boys A Division champions.

Perth Modern's Bush Tucker Garden

KASIA CASTLE, FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TEACHER



Sustainability and Food Technology students, along with the help of the Tucker Bush Schools Program with Mark and Marissa, have started to plant a number of different native plants to create our own Bush Tucker garden.

Bush food has sustained generations of Aboriginal peoples for many thousands of years, and today represents a rich and vibrant history in the culture of this land.

Our Bush Tucker garden aims to introduce a truly local flavour to our cooking, and we hope to continue to cook with the foods we have on offer in the garden.



ABOVE: Marissa Vermi from Bindi Bindi Dreaming helping students learn about bush tucker.



Students are keen to be directly involved in the Bush Tucker Garden.



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Exceptional schooling. Exceptional students.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

Perth Modern School

Roberts Road, Subiaco, WA 6008

Tel: +618 9380 0555

www.perthmodernschool.wa.edu.au