

## Important dates:

**Friday 20 November**  
Valedictory

**Thursday 03 December**  
Twilight Music Concert

**Tuesday 08 December**  
Golf Awards Night

**Wednesday 09 December**  
Hockey Awards Night

**Thursday 10 December**  
EMITS Awards Night

**Friday 11 December**  
Shakespeare in the Quad

**Thursday 17 December**  
Students Last Day of Term 4

**Monday 01 February 2021**  
First Day of Term 1

**Monday 08 February 2021**  
P&C Meeting 7.00PM



## ***PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE***

**Digby Mercer**

2020 has been an extraordinary year from which the world will emerge changed in many significant ways. It is good to have the end in sight. In many ways, we at Como and in WA have avoided the worst impact of the pandemic. For example, we had our school ball at Optus Stadium days before restrictions were introduced. The ball was a great success due to the hard work of the staff and students involved. Similarly, our upcoming valedictory ceremony has also escaped the restrictions which some schools suffered who had their ceremony earlier in the term. Winthrop Hall at the University of Western Australia is a magnificent venue and an excellent exchange for our usual venue of the Octagon Theatre. It is wonderful that all Year 12 students and their families will be able to attend, as will all of their teachers. Just two weeks ago some limitations would have applied.

## **Arts and Technologies Showcase**

The Arts and Technologies Showcase held last week was a great credit to the Arts and Technologies Learning Areas. An amazing depth and variety of talent was on display. Thanks to Mrs Monique Laves, Ms Kirsten Romany and their staff for a great night. A highlight of the evening were the dance performances. This year they were held in the gymnasium with lighting kindly donated and set-up by the Gorry family. The extra space and the larger audience made for a special night. It was a fitting finale for dance teacher Emily Davis. Emily has made an enormous contribution to dance at this school both as a student where she had leading roles in a succession of Rock Eisteddfods, and as a teacher.

## **Churchill Fellowship**

Congratulations to Ms Jessica Colleu who has been awarded a Churchill Fellowship on the basis of her work in the Intensive Learning Team. Ms Colleu is currently passing on her expertise and knowledge as a teacher advisor in South Australia. Ms Colleu and I have been invited to attend Government House on November 26 where she will be presented with her award by the WA Governor, Mr Kim Beazley.

## **Education Conferences**

This year Como Secondary College has been involved in the organization of two education conferences. The two conferences, Sharing Best Practice and ResearchEd have been held a couple of times before but in the Eastern States, and are still in their infancy. This was the first time they have been held in WA, but they will become regular events on the WA education calendar. The very successful Sharing Best Practice conference was held on the last Friday of the October holidays and included presentations by myself, Jessica Colleu and Kate Reid. The conference was held in collaboration with Edith Cowan University. The second conference was a collaboration between Como, the Dyslexia-Speld Foundation and Bob Hawke College. Again three Como staff featured with Emma Cattapan, Kate Reid and Jessica Colleu giving well-received presentations.

As a school we have got through a difficult year in good shape and relatively unaffected compared to other WA or interstate schools. It is a credit to the teachers and staff who have looked out for each other and shown patience and resilience. We face an uncertain world in 2021 but through our experience this year we are in a better position to face the challenges ahead.

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# ADMIN & FINANCE NEWS

## Jo May - Corporate Services Manager

### Contributions and Charges

It is government policy that parents should contribute towards the cost of educating their children. Given that all students benefit from the pool of collected fees, it is fair to expect that all parents should pay the balance of contributions and charges. Contributions and charges form a large part of the school's income for learning and teaching programs in the school and supports the school in its focus to provide a quality education for all. The College is currently accepting payments for the 2020 / 2021 school year.

Turn one big payment into easy instalments, you may like to consider starting a payment plan NOW to assist with completing all payments.

Payments are accepted by cash, Visa, Mastercard, Qkr and direct deposit:  
BSB: 066 102 | A/C: 00903523 | Ref: student name

### Booklists

Booklists will be send out via the post prior to the end of term. Your bundle will also include important information such as Secondary Assistance Scheme Form which you may be eligible for up to \$350 towards school expenses if you hold a Centrelink Health Care Card, Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card or Veteran's Affairs Pensioner Concession Card holders. Please ensure you fill out all information required on the form and submit with your Centrelink card with the accounts Department.

PLEASE NOTE MORE THAN ONE STUDENT CAN BE PLACED ON THE FORM.

### Attendance

- contact the Hub's 24 hour Attendance Hotline 9365 2011 or go to the Connect homepage to advise reason for student absence before 9.00am.
- for early departure provide student with a written note to request permission to leave class.
- write an explanation for absence and send it via your child as soon as they return to the College.
- please respond promptly to Absentee Letters

### Contact Details

Please advise changes via email to [como.sc.admin@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:como.sc.admin@education.wa.edu.au), or Change of Details form available at Administration. Many future communications may be sent by email – please ensure the College has your current email address.

### Student pick up & drop off

Parents are reminded to please use the designated areas for pick up and drop off and not the Staff Car Park near Administration. We realise the temptation particularly when the weather is unfavourable, however it can cause more congestion in an already busy area of the school. Your cooperation is much appreciated.



# Research To Classroom

*Annika Demosthenous & Jessica Colleu Terradas*

## Overview

The purpose of the Research to Classroom Project is to build teachers' capacity to enable their students' success by exploring cognitive science and its implications in the classroom to increase student participation and performance. We would like to acknowledge the funding we have received from Schools Plus and Commonwealth Bank

through their Teaching Award. This year, twelve teachers have participated including a range of experience from graduates to senior teachers. The school is considering expanding this initiative to include more teachers, to expand access to high-quality teaching for all Como students.

## Professional Learning

We approach professional learning using the same research-based principles we want to apply in the classroom; in order for an action to become automatic, it needs to be rehearsed, and in order for knowledge to pass into long-term memory it needs to be retrieved. Each term we have focused on a different instructional principle, including student engagement, checking for understanding, daily review, and questioning techniques in the classroom.

For each principle, teachers attended a Professional Learning seminar with a senior teacher or external provider. Dr Lorraine Hammond (Edith Cowan University) presented two exceptional seminars on cognitive load theory and explicit instruction, which many of the teachers found transformative. Teachers committed to applying the new concepts learned each term. They were supported in this by weekly meetings to continue discussions and deepen understanding of the seminar contents.

Each semester, teachers participated in an observational triad (see photos), in which they were observed by their peers implementing research-based teaching practices. This enabled teachers to reflect on the effectiveness of these practices, and to fine-tune them for their individual classroom environments, ensuring maximum benefit for the students. It also provided an excellent opportunity for teachers to observe others using effective practices. In Term 4, we are planning a school visit to broaden participants' experience of great classroom teaching.

Teachers involved in the project also benefited from individual professional coaching sessions from Jessica Colleu Terradas (Level 3 Classroom teacher), which helped to focus their professional learning on the areas needed to increase student engagement and academic outcomes.

## Impact

Participating teachers have reviewed their practices in designing lessons to account for cognitive load theory and the need to constantly revisit the material previously taught to give students the best opportunity to learn it. Daily Reviews, which are demonstrably effective, have become consistently part of classroom practice, while some teachers have introduced interleaving of content to ensure students continue accessing knowledge after each

unit is finished. Student feedback has on the whole been positive, as they have experienced more success and have enjoyed the novelty of daily reviews. Teachers have reported a higher level of student engagement. They had the opportunity to share their reflections on their growth as well as the learning benefits seen in their students when they presented to the whole school staff last term (see photo below).



The RTC participants presenting at the staff meeting on June 22nd, 2020

Through the project, teachers have built strong relationships based on trust and common understanding. This has opened the door for collegial discussions which

ensure consistent support of student needs across subject areas, and provide opportunities to optimise teaching strategies.

## Feedback from the teachers involved in the RTC project

“The project helps me keep on the path of trying to continually improve. I feel like I am more conscious of adjustments that can be made to lessons in real time. It also helps me narrow the focus of my planning on major instructional goals, phrased in terms of desired student outcomes - the knowledge, skills, attitude, values and dispositions that I want to develop in my students. By designing and sharing specific learning targets explicitly with my students, they can self-monitor their progress.”

“The project has helped to make me focus on a key area of my teaching and work

collaboratively to improve it. I have seen a greater depth of knowledge and engagement from my students.”

“From the professional development from Lorraine and the RTC meetings I had more clarity about the following : what review really meant and how to go about it and clarification of pre-testing. I was under the impression that it had to be questions and then the same questions had to be tested at the end of term in the students final test. And this is not so.”

## Individual feedback from randomly selected students

Do you find the content clear and easy to follow?

yes because the teacher explains it clearly and helps to understand like giving us examples of the topic.

Do you find this to make the learning of the key content easier or more difficult?

easy we go through the work makes it easier and a good explanation of what we are learning.

Have you found this to make the learning of the key content easier or more difficult?

easier, because it helps ~~me~~ & me remember the topic we learnt about, and stays in memory.

“reviewing previous topics before questioning helped me to remember some of the things that I had forgotten how to do but the questions were a bit too simple”

### Participants in 2020:

Jessica Colleu Terradas (project leader)  
Candice Crasto  
Annika Demosthenous  
Christine Emerson  
Michael Foster  
Renaë Grljusich  
Abdi Hussein

John McKnight  
Oisín O'Connor  
Kate Reid  
Lydia Richardson  
Nicole Richardson  
Ellen Sabatino  
Mileva Tubbs



## CREATE

### *Emma Cattapan - Create at Como Coordinator*

#### Save the Date!

The Year 7 Create at Como Class has started planning for our end of year production of William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

The students went through a rigorous audition process and are now attending weekend rehearsals, learning their lines and staging the movement. We have also recruited some fabulous actors from other Year 7 classes to join us in putting on our very first public performance. I chose a classic play to reflect the enrichment of our Create students in their

study of challenging and timeless texts.

On Friday December 11, join us in the Year 9 Quad for a night of Shakespearean love and tragedy (and a dash of fun also...)!

More details will be released closer to the date, so keep an eye out. For never has there been a story of more woe, than this of Juliet... and her Romeo.



# EMITS

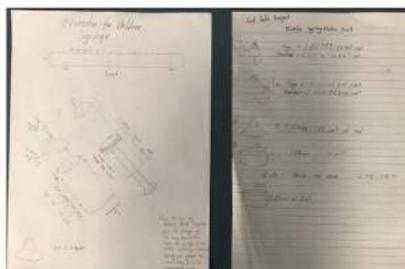
## Helen Hudson - EMITS Coordinator

Three teams of Emits students in Yr 7 & 8 had a fabulous night out at the 'Have Sum Fun' competition at Aranmore Secondary College on Friday night. Three teams competed against many other metropolitan schools to show their prowess at solving problems while having fun. We also had two teams of Yr 9 & 10's, attend All Saints College where they did us proud competing against many other schools. The snacks kept us all going until 10pm and all students represented Como in an exemplary fashion.

The certificates for the many competitions we competed in last term and over the year

are beginning to arrive and I look forward to distributing these in the next week. We had some amazing results and must congratulate Alex Sorenson for achieving the Best in School Award for the 'Australian Maths Competition'.

Yr 10 have enjoyed working on a practical project to allow the safe administration of paediatric medicines and as can be seen have produced a number of innovative syringes. Well done Yr 10's!



# MUSIC

## Helen Turner - Teacher in Charge

### Musicians of the month

Congratulations to the following students for their fantastic committment and effort.

Year 7 Imogen Fourie

Year 8 Arjan Dun

Year 9 Hinako Sata Gongora

Year 10 JJ Chew

Year 11 Raiyah Bagley





COMO WINNER 2020

## SOEREN LOSCHER

ABC Jazz opened up a voting platform for listeners worldwide to vote for their top 10 Jazz Artists of all time. Artists varied across instruments, style and era but all had one thing in common – JAZZ.

Students in Como's Specialist Music Program were encouraged to listen to the artists and vote for their favourite 10. Soeren voted, and all of his top choices made it in to the top 100 choices as voted by listeners. Congratulations Soeren!

Artists Soeren voted for	Where they ranked
Thelonious Monk	14 <sup>th</sup>
Duke Ellington	6 <sup>th</sup>
Nina Simone	10 <sup>th</sup>
Charlie Parker	18 <sup>th</sup>
John Coltrane	4 <sup>th</sup>
Dizzy Gillespie	27 <sup>th</sup>
Miles Davis	1 <sup>st</sup>
Louis Armstrong	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Billie Holidays	8 <sup>th</sup>
Ella Fitzgerald	2 <sup>nd</sup>



ABC Jazz #1 Musician

### Miles Davis (26 May 1926 – 28 September 1991)

USA Trumpet

It's not by chance Miles Davis coined his first session (Birth of the Cool). Miles's artistry was built on the groundings of bebop to more... Cool was the new hot, understated... the new exaggerated. It was a trait that marked his sound right from his debut in 1948 all the way up to his passing in the early '90s.

Miles was also one of music's great collaborators, constantly embracing emerging talent. He knew that in order to push boundaries, you had to surround yourself with like-minded artists. He helped foster many of the other greats to appear in the jazz 100 – John Coltrane, Herbie Hancock, and Wayne Shorter to name but a few. Miles's music exists to provoke us. He was a maverick, challenging his listeners to recalibrate their perceptions of jazz by testing the very definition of the word. He was one of jazz's most outspoken characters, yet he never really said much about his art, preferring to let the music do the talking.

# HEALTH PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Andrew Mellor - Health & Physical Education HoLA

Como has a tradition of students excelling in different sports but in particular Golf and Hockey but also many other sports. The following students have recently been selected in State teams, although due to COVID-19 will not be participating at a National Championship.

Hockey:

- Taneisha Atkins, Maddie Hill & Caelee Power (all Yr 7) and Georgia Hiskins (Yr 8) have been selected in the Hockey WA under 13 girls state development team.

These teams have been selected despite all National Championships being cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Oscar Banyard, Harper Kearnan, Harley Muir & Jonah Pilatti (all Yr 7) and Lachie Gawel & Alexander Passalacqua (both Yr 8) were selected in the WA under 13 boys state development team. These teams have been selected despite all National Championships being cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Interschool Track & Field Results

Over 110 students attended the School Sport WA 'D' Division Track & Field Carnival as part of the School Athletics team. 2020 offered the team hope of earning back a spot in the 'C' division for 2020/1. A fourth place finish may be seen as disappointing yes, but the competition between the top five schools was extremely close with only 139 points separating 1st to 5th. Como was the second smallest school at the carnival and was significantly smaller than some schools.

Across all year groups there were some strong performances, with Toby Gunton & Johan Pilatti and Andy Petzke & Lucy Taylor winning both divisions of the Yr 7 Boys and Yr 8 Girls 800m respectively and Saysha

Pillay who won the Year 10 & Over 800m and 1500m double, with Grace Taylor winning the Div B 1500m and finishing 3rd in the Div B 800m. And to the many other athletes who performed to their best for their school.

Our relays unfortunately only netted us two place performances, and with one disqualification, meant we would need to settle for a second consecutive year in 'D' division. When taking into account school population we can be proud of our efforts with only one schools scoring more points per student than Como, that school winning the Meritorious Shield.

1st Joseph Banks SC	1369 Points per student	0.90
2nd Wanneroo SC	1339	1.14
3rd Ocean Reef SHS	1290	1.05
4th Como SC	1282	1.48
5th Thornlie SHS	1230	1.06
6th Comet Bay College	1210	0.68
7th Baldivis SC	1164	0.70
8th Ashdale SC	1158	0.67
9th Bullsbrook College	983	2.19

## HEALTH PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Standout performers on the day were:

- Toby Gunton (Year 7) was the year 7 boys Champion, winning the 800m & Long Jump, and placed 3rd in the 200m.
- Amos Ndakirutimana (Year 10) was the year 10 boys Champion, winning the Hurdles & Long Jump, was 2nd in Shot Put, Discus and Triple Jump.
- Freya Wilson (Year 8) was runner-up in the year 8 girls, winning the hurdles, and was 3rd in the High Jump and Triple Jump.
- Andy Petzke (Year 8) finished in 3rd place in the year 8 girls, winning the 800m, and was 3rd in the 200m and 400m, and also placed in a host of division B events..

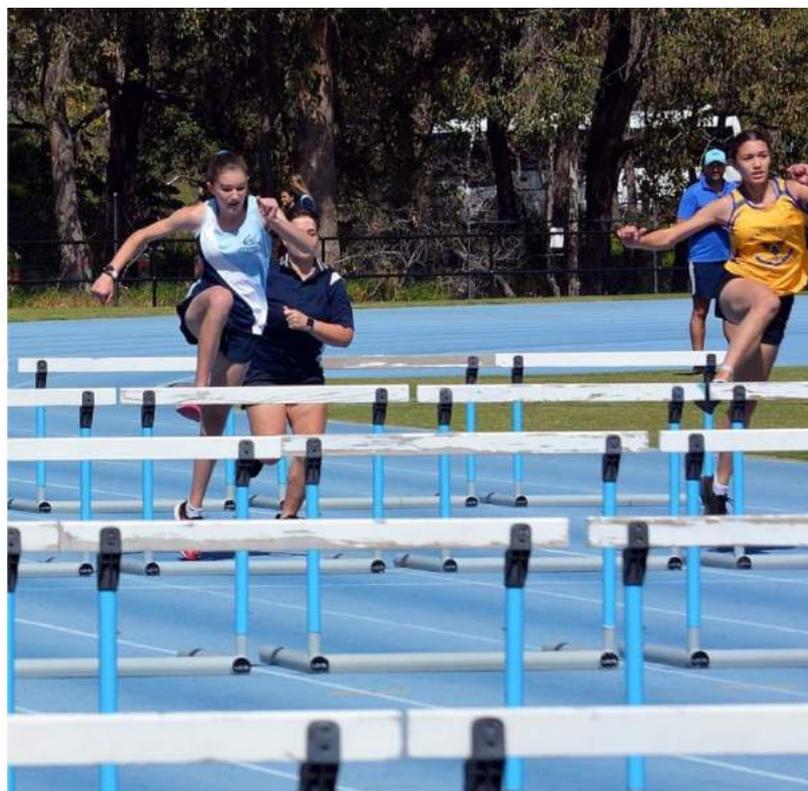
We had 12 new school (Includes Interhouse and Interschool carnivals) records: Toby Gunton (Yr 7 Boys 800m, Long Jump, 200m,

100m), Andy Petzke (Yr 8 girls 800m); Saysha Pillay (Yr 11 girls 800m, 1500m); Amos Ndakirutimana (Yr 10 Boys Triple Jump, Hurdles, Long Jump); and two relay teams (Yr 8 boys and Yr10 boys).

A special thank you needs to go to Year 12 students Luke Anderson, Hunter & Jazmyn Banyard, Dwayne & James Collard, Grace Hall, Emily Leng & Zoe Saull, who turned up to lead and support the team, setting a fantastic example to their peers.

Thanks needs to go to our outstanding helpers, in particular Lilly Mann, Ava Thompson, Bella Gooding, Georgie Gwinnut, Taylah King & Jaeda Ritchie for their efforts as student officials and to Lilly Mann for her role as equipment manager.

Finally, a big thank you to the staff, Mr. Josh Findlater, Mrs. Anne Stingemore, and Ms. Robyn Lewis for their time and effort on the day and in particular to Mr. Findlater for his dedication to training prior to the event.



# HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION



## Upcoming Sporting Events

- Thursday 12th November - Golf Family Day
- Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th November - Golf Academy Championships
- Wednesday 18th November - Ross Meadows Shield Final
- Tuesday 8th December - Golf Awards Night
- Wednesday 9th December - Hockey Awards Night

# HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Year 11 Seatrek

The Year 11 outdoor education class enjoyed some great conditions for their Seatrek expedition, from Wednesday 28th to Friday 30th October. As part of completing their Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation across Year 11 and 12, students complete units of competency from the Marine Education Boatshed.

Students spent much of term 2 and 3 preparing themselves for their expedition, learning skills in powerboating and sailing as well as expedition planning and preparation.

With near perfect conditions the expedition presented students with a great opportunity

to develop important life skills such as resilience, self-management skills, interpersonal skills, group development, group dynamics and leadership styles and strategies.

Students spent time sailing the Indian Ocean in Cockburn Sound and all the way up the Swan River to Matagarup Bridge.

Many Thanks to Mr Bruce Emslie and Miss Shanara Patman and Marine Education Boatshed for their successful running of the expedition.

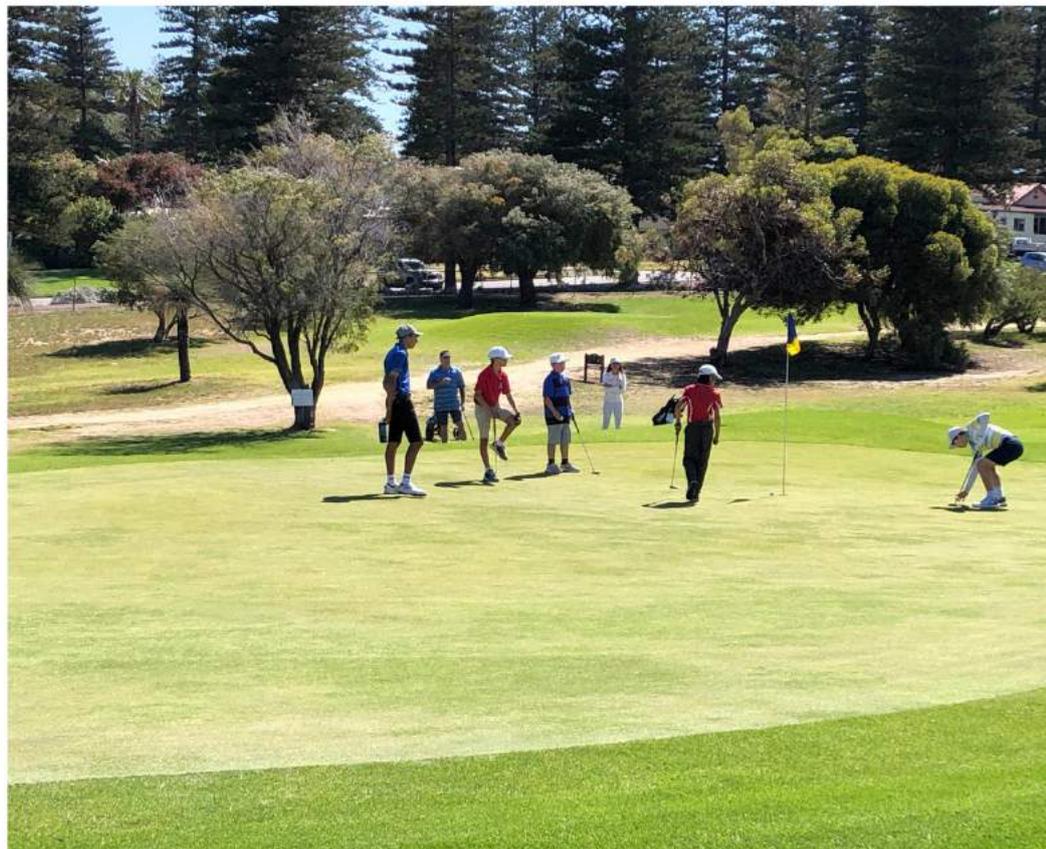


# GOLF ACADEMY

*Adam Smith - Teacher In Charge*

## Como Students are a 'Prime' Example to the Younger Golfers

Great work by our Year 9 students who chaperoned at the School Sport Western Australia and Golf WA Primary School Golf Championships at Sea View Golf Club. Well done to all students who demonstrated the art of caddying, marshalling, course management skills and positive attitudes in the eyes of their younger peers.



# GOLF ACADEMY

## Como Away Series treated to a Royal experience!

No amount of rain could stop our students from playing in the second event of our 2020 Como Away Series at Royal Perth Golf Club on 1st November. A great effort by all and well played Talia Negara (Year 9) who

scored an excellent 43 points. Brodie Ridley (Year 9) continued his good form with an impressive 39 points. Thanks to Royal Perth for their warm welcome, hospitality and continued support of our Golf Academy.



## South West is Best

Our South West Tour at the end of October proved to be a fantastic weekend away for our golf academy students. A great first day at Capel Golf Club saw Tommy McSkimming shoot a fantastic round of 39 points with playing partner Kynan Smythe on 36. Thank you to Capel for their warm welcome and awesome hospitality.

An impressive round 2 at Dunsborough Lakes Golf Club was business as usual for Kynan Smythe, who scored a fantastic 42 points, and Tommy McSkimming who beat his counterpart by 1 shot. Oliver Kerr also shot an impressive round of 39 points to set him for an exciting Sunday! Thanks to Dunsborough Lakes for their warm welcome and for accommodating us on a very busy Saturday.

A fantastic final day on Sunday at the beautiful Bunbury Golf Club saw Sean Yang shoot an impressive 40 points to take first place over Jared Delamere who scored a solid 38 points. Sufiyah Muhamed Ashaari claimed her second best gross of the week with a score of 78.

Congratulations to Kynan Smythe who claimed the South West Tour Championship with scores of 36, 42 and 37 points.

Oliver Kerr's consistency over the weekend earned him second place. Lachlan Venables won overall best gross for the 3 rounds.

Well done to all students who were awesome throughout a very enjoyable weekend.



# HOCKEY ACADEMY

## *Tate Napier - Teacher In Charge*

### Ross Meadows Shield Hockey

Our Year 7 – 9 Hockey students competed in the SSWA Junior Interschool Hockey Competition on Thursday 29th October at the Perth Hockey Stadium. Eight southern school's teams were broken into two pools, with Como fielding three teams.

The Como Ducks had a fantastic day, improving with each match throughout the tournament. A tough start saw them lose 6-0 to the Como A team before re-grouping and addressing some key areas of the teams play. Improved defensive efforts and better linking play throughout the field enabled the team to win and draw the next 2 group matches against John Curtin B and Frederick Irwin ACS respectively (the draw coming from a conceded goal, disappointingly, in the last 30 seconds) to finish 2nd in Pool A.

The crossover match was played against CBC Fremantle. The Ducks dominated most of the play and were rewarded with a Brandon Kift goal to go 1-0 up. Tired legs and a lapse in concentration in the last minute again saw the team concede to finish 1-1. Running penalties resulted in a 1-2 deficit and playing for places 5-8. Although the team were very disappointed after such positive improvement in their performances, there were a lot of lessons learned which is great for the students.

Everyone picked themselves up and the team went on to win the last 2 games without conceding a goal. A great way to bounce back and finish the tournament. Brandon Kift had a great day being the teams prolific goal scorer, closely followed by Archer Davy who developed a 'nose for the goal' in the last 2 games of the day. Emily Ross, Alex Frehner, Travis Blok and Brandon Kift led by example throughout the day and was a great way for the year 9's to finish their last Ross Meadows campaign. The rest of the Ducks have at least another year at this age group, so

with lessons learned, we all look forward to even better performances to come as we look towards next year's competition.

The Como Swans had a fantastic learning experience playing against some quality opposition. Some strong performances from Taylah King, Lachlan McCuish in defence, Oscar Banyard, Arah Hebbard in midfield and Mackenzie Fossilo up front saw the team finish second in their pool, with a great 2-0 win against John Curtin A, a 0-0 draw against CBC and a 0-2 loss to eventual runners-up Narrogin SHS. In the knockout matches the team strung together some impressive passages of play, with strong performances from Tommy McNamara, Maddison Hill & Taneisha Atkins, but for all their build up play and short corner opportunities could only find the back of the net once in their final three games, losing their quarterfinal 0-1 to Frederick Irwin. They had a good 1-0 win against John Curtin B before a closely fought 0-2 to Como Ducks, in the playoff for 5th place.

The key focus for the day was to build on strong basics, communication, passing, receiving, marking, channelling and tackling. This led to developing a game plan focusing on outletting the ball from defence, midfield transfers, attacking circle penetration, and press roles and responsibilities.

The Como A Team led Pool A from the very start of the day, securing their first win against the Como Ducks 6-0. The goal scoring capacity of this team became clear in match two and three, defeating Fredrick Irwin 9-0 and John Curtin B 5-0. Although the goal fest was shared, Harper Kearnan and Jackson Harmsen lead the stakes all day for the title of highest goal scorer. Success on the scoreboard continued in the rankings matches, with 4-0 victories against John Curtin A and CBC Fremantle. This set up a final playoff against Narrogin

## HOCKEY ACADEMY

SHS, to which the A-Team won 2-0, and in doing so secured the title of Champion School - South Division.

Developing and improving our understanding of key structures was a focal learning area for this team, and was essential in this final match. Lachie Gawel lead outlet structures in defence, with Alex Passalacqua, Oliver Watkins, Georgia Hiskins, Austin Colthart and Isaac Hahn forming the other key roles in our defensive unit. Jaeda Ritchie provided outstanding leadership and composure in the midfield. Her excellent on ball control, awareness and passing ability kept fellow midfielders Zed Kearnan,

Jonah Pilatti and Hannah Hudston busy as they presented for the ball to create attacking opportunities. With 30 goals accumulated at the end of the day's competition, strikers Jackson Harmsen, Harper Kearnan, Harley Muir, Ben Harrison and Sarah Van De Klashort have much to be proud of in their contribution up front.

Congratulations to all participants, including the Year 10 students represents the Academy proudly as umpiring officiators, and Jaeda Ritchie, who was awarded the Trent Mitton Honorary Medal at the conclusion of the day.



## ENGLISH

### Linda Armstrong - Head of Learning Area

The end of Term 3 and the start of Term 4 have been incredibly busy for the English LA. We would like to wish the class of 2020 every good fortune in their future endeavours – there were definitely a few eyes tearing up in the English office at the end of the term! We did, however, have an extremely exciting piece of good news, Fred J-H (Year 12) was placed third in the 2020 Tim Winton Young Writers' Award with his short story entitled, Content, Happy, Productive, a chilling dystopian tale which you can read in the library. It is great to have another published author from Como's talented student body. Massive congratulations, Fred!

2020 Book Week took place during Week 2 of this term and the English teachers thoroughly enjoyed hosting a range of activities. The English staff all attended the opening dinner of Western Australia' branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia, hosted at Wembley Golf Club on Friday 16th, to celebrate the official opening of Book Week. Ms McEwen is a member of the WA branch Executive and the "Curious Creatures and Wild Minds" were certainly out in force! We met some of WA's top authors for young people and celebrated the 2020 winning novels in style.

In school during Book Week, Kal K's prodigious talents as an announcer were put to great use over the PA during form time, informing students of the day's quizzes, prize-winners and an overall update of the day's literature-related fun and games. Every day the English teachers wore, or brought with them, something representative of a novel and we were pretty impressed by how quickly students guessed the titles. The earliest correct guess was at 8.27 am – and we thought that Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* would be a challenge, but apparently not for our well-read (or well-viewed?) students! "Kal's Quotes" ranged from *Dracula*, *The Tale of Two Cities*, *Jane Eyre*, and *The Book Thief* and again our literary-minded students were quick to guess them correctly. Ms Fenn's "Blind Date With A Book" enjoyed a massive success and Mrs Henderson was able to reward her best borrowers from the Library. Friday 23rd saw many teachers from all Learning Areas dress up as their favourite book-related character and we were joined by Year 11 students who thoroughly enjoyed celebrating their inner book nerds for the day. We are already looking forward to the August 21 -27 2021 Book Week when the theme will be, "Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds".



## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

These times can be stressful for many families. If you require help during this period, the following information may be of assistance.

### Emergency services and help lines:

Call 000 in an emergency if you feel someone is at risk of harm OR for mental health emergency assessment, support and referral contact:

- Urgent Mental Health Telephone Support Line supports children and young people under 18 years (family who have concerns can call 24 hours a day/7 days a week incl. public holidays) - 1800 048 636

- Mental Health Emergency Response Line (MHERL) is 24/7 – 1300 552 002 (metro) Peel callers – 1800 676 822 (free call).

- RuralLink for Rural and remote areas from 4:30 pm to 8:30 am (Mon to Fri) and 24 hrs (Sat, Sun and public holidays) - 1800 552 002

- Find your GP after-hours clinic. Call after hours GP Helpline on 1800 022 222

### If you need someone to talk to:

<b>Womens Domestic Violence Helpline</b>	<b>1800 007 339</b>
<b>Beyondblue</b>	<b>1300 224 636</b>
<b>Crisis Care Helpline Or Country Toll Free</b>	<b>9223 1111 1800 199 008</b>
<b>Headspace</b>	<b>1800 650 890</b>
<b>Kids Helpline</b>	<b>1800 551 800</b>
<b>Lifeline</b>	<b>13 11 14</b>
<b>Men's Line Australia</b>	<b>1300 789 978</b>
<b>Suicide Call Back Service</b>	<b>1300 659 467</b>
<b>The Samaritans</b>	<b>135 247 (7AM to 7PM)</b>

Online support can be accessed through the [WA Mental Health Commission](#)

# **PARENTS & CITIZENS**

## **Meetings**

The P&C meet once a month during term time on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7.30pm at the College in the Elicos Room. Attendance at these meetings is a great way to find out more about what is happening in the College, its future plans and how these will affect your child and your family. It is also a venue for parents to voice concerns, raise issues and discuss ideas both with the Principal and with other parents. The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.

## **Second-hand uniforms**

There is a second hand uniform shop located at the school. It is run by the P&C and all funds raised go towards projects to benefit all students. Non-students need to sign in at the front office and staff can assist as to where to find the shop.

The shop is run on donations only. Please consider donating any school uniforms that you no longer need, including any specialist program uniforms, e.g. black pants, white collared long sleeve shirts for music performances.

Donations: can be placed in the marked boxes in the Canteen or the front office during school hours or given to the shop when open.

**Open every Friday 8.15am – 9am**

**Location: B Block**

**Enquiries: [comoseconds@outlook.com](mailto:comoseconds@outlook.com)**

**Payments: Cash only**



## COMO NOTICES

Please Remember the School Zone Speed Limit of

### College Access

All visitors to the College MUST sign in at Administration.



### Contact Details

Please advise changes via email to [Como.SC.AdminSupport@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Como.SC.AdminSupport@education.wa.edu.au), or Change of Details form available at Administration. Please ensure the College has your current email address.

### Contact During School Hours

Please DO NOT call the College to ask for a message to be given to your child. Please understand that with a College community of over 800 it is not possible to get messages to individual students. To avoid this issue, please ensure that after school arrangements are pre-arranged. This is part of helping students to become independent.

### Drop-off

There is considerable vehicle traffic around our College site before and after school. It is expected that all vehicles use the Bruce Street car park or the marked drop-off bays to drop students off. Staff and Student car parks are NOT to be used for this purpose because it causes a great deal of congestion and potential danger to students.

### Health

The Health Centre is open when the School Nurse is on site. When the Centre is open, students may access it at recess and lunch time without needing permission. If a student wishes to go during class time, permission with a note written in the College diary by their supervising teacher is required. If the Nurse is not available, students should see another member of the Student Services team or a Deputy Principal. Under no circumstances are students to contact parents/guardians directly and leave the College grounds without parents contacting the College and the student being properly signed out. In the case of injury, either a parent will be contacted or the student will be sent by ambulance to hospital, at the parent's expense.

NOTE: Please consider the health and wellbeing of others before allowing unwell students to attend school.