

Important dates:

Thursday 15 December
Last Day Term 4

Friday 27 January 2023
School Office Opens

Wednesday 01 February 2023
First Day Term 1

Thursday 02 March 2023
Year 7 Camp

Monday 06 March 2023
Labour Day

Friday 10 March 2023
School Development Day
(Students do not attend)

Thursday 06 April
Last Day Term 1

View the

[College Events, Term Dates & Calendar](#)

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Digby Mercer

2022 has been a challenging year in which schools took on a major role in the effort to manage COVID through education, contact tracing and the distribution of masks and tests. The resultant shortage of teachers created a heavy workload throughout the year, but I am proud of the efforts of staff, students and parents in mitigating the impact of the virus. Como fared quite well compared to many other schools and I put this down to the combined effort of the school community.

The agreed moral purpose among the staff at this school - the reason why we do what we do - is to nurture and challenge every student through quality teaching and a connected school experience to become confident, engaged and responsible citizens. This has never been more important. Over the course of my lifetime, I have not seen so many changes and challenges packed into one year. The invasion of Ukraine, a new Federal government, the rise of social media and the many impacts of climate change around the globe are just a few examples. One thing that hasn't changed is the importance of an education that provides the knowledge and analytical skills to make sense of what is going on around us.

A highlight of 2022 was the official opening of our canteen by the Premier, Mark McGowan. He was greeted by a large number of very enthusiastic students who were eager to meet him and listen to his speech. The upgraded canteen has proved to be a great hit with students and has provided the school with a great multi-purpose facility.

A major focus through the year has been the school's participation in the Fogarty Edvance Program. The Department of Education is moving towards a school development paradigm very similar to the Edvance program which means that the school is going to be in a very advanced position when it comes to adopting the Department of Education's preferred approach. Groups of teachers have been hard at work researching, collaborating and putting in place the essential elements of the program.

This year a new Student Services structure has been trialled which involved having two full-time staff addressing the needs of the students. Mrs Nicole Richardson as the Student Services Manager and Mr Michael Foster as Student Services Coordinator have done a fine job delivering a first-class service to students and their families. A highlight was the NAIDOC celebration which involved a smoking ceremony and the creation of a sand mural.

The specialist programs have also provided many highlights with outstanding performances in music, golf, hockey, EMITS and the creative arts. This included a clean sweep in Hockey with our hockey teams securing the Ross Meadows Shield, Bell Cup and Buchanan Cup.

Despite the challenges the year has brought the school, indeed all schools in Western Australia, Como Secondary College has continued to develop. The new staff that have joined the school have energised our improvement agenda and affirmed that Como students are welcoming, friendly and a pleasure to teach. We look forward to another productive year, with hopefully, minimal COVID impact.

The school has been fortunate to have a modest turnover of staff compared to other schools. Most movements of teachers at Como result from permanent teachers on our staff taking parental leave, extended sick leave, secondment to another school or leave without pay for family reasons. These permanent teachers have to be covered by teachers on fixed-term contracts which can only extend for one year. When the permanent teachers return to the school, the teachers on a fixed-term contract usually have to find a position at another school unless an additional position becomes available within the school. Several of the fixed-term teachers leaving this year have been able to secure permanent positions at other schools. The common theme among the teachers who are leaving is how much they have enjoyed working at Como, and in one case, how working here has re-ignited their passion for teaching after a bad experience elsewhere. Congratulations to our Head of Learning Area for Health and Physical Education Renate Paskandy who has a choice of two Deputy Principal positions. A very well deserved promotion. Although the turnover of teachers has been relatively modest, the school has recruited carefully, targeting teachers who are able to work collaboratively in a team and have good knowledge and skills. Teachers who have joined us from other schools involved in the Fogarty Program have been especially valuable because they already have a commitment and knowledge of school change and the ethos of always seeking to improve.

Five Ways In Which Como Secondary College Leads West Australian And Australian Schools

1. Teaching for Impact

In October this year, the WA Department of Education released its Quality Teaching Strategy. The plan provides a blueprint for the development of all WA schools from 2023 onwards. It will be the focus for every West Australian government school and a major component of school development work over the next decade at least. The initiative is clearly modelled on the Fogarty Edvance Program.

Any forward-thinking school would want to be a part of the Fogarty Program and when we were invited to join based on our Intensive Learning Team initiative, we leapt at the opportunity. As a result of the school's participation in the Fogarty Edvance Program we are at least three years in front of the majority of WA schools with respect to the Department of Education's Quality Teaching Strategy.

Within our local network of schools, the Curtin Education Community, there is a strong interest to be a part of a trial in 2023 which will then lead to full-scale implementation across the WA. Kensington, Como, Collier, Millen and South Perth Primary Schools have expressed an interest in being a part of the trial as a cluster. If successful, they will be building on the leadership provided by this school in organising leadership and instructional coaching workshops, key components of the Quality Teaching Strategy. As a Fogarty school we have already received the training. In fact, the school, through the work of our Operations Coordinator Mileva Tubbs, was just one of several schools awarded a grant by the Principals' Association Research Fund. We have received \$25,000 to research the impact of instructional coaching on teacher skill development. Mrs Tubbs has also been successful in gaining the support of Curtin University to assist with data analysis. This is a project of national significance.

2. Intensive Learning Team

The Intensive Learning Team is an Australia-leading initiative. Educators from all over WA and from interstate have visited Como to look at our exceptional specialist teachers in action. These visitors are always keen to learn about how we identify students at risk, the programs we use, how we plan and how we go about creating classrooms where learning is accelerated.

3. Inclusivity

Como has a very diverse student population. Our aim is to do the best we can to make students feel welcome and included in the fabric of the school. Earlier this year a couple of well-known schools made the news for changing terminology from Head Boy and Head Girl to more gender-neutral terms such as Head Prefect or School Captain. This is something that we did several years ago. We have gone further and issued an inclusivity statement that makes it very clear that we do not discriminate on the basis of race, culture, religion, gender identity or any other classification that may foster division. As a school we will continue to lead the way by quietly going about the business of making Como a place where everybody is accepted and feels safe.

4. Golf Specialist Program

Anyone listening to the sports news will have heard the name Hannah Green. A product of the Como Golf Academy, Hannah is one of the leading golfers in Australia and internationally. She was able to get a good education and pursue her passion at this school in our unique program which takes advantage of our close proximity to Collier Park and Royal Perth Golf Clubs. Hannah is just one of many students who have gone on to further success in amateur and professional ranks, or have made a career in the golf industry.

5. Hockey Specialist Program

More often than not this school sweeps the pool when it comes to winning the junior and senior hockey championships. Like the Golf Program, Hockey takes advantage of the school's proximity to the State Hockey Stadium and the first-class gymnasium facilities at Curtin University. No other school in Australia has such a sustained record of success over such a long time. Our coaches are passionate about the game and have their own stories of achievement. They are often called upon to coach and manage State teams.

I wish the whole school community a safe and happy break and will see you again when Term 1 begins for students on Wednesday 1 February next year.

Meet The Team

RHYARD SAHELY

Hi Como!

My name is Rhyard Sahely, I started teaching Science and Chemistry at Como Secondary College at the start of 2022. I previously worked at Byford Secondary college for three years, and before that worked at L'Oreal Australia in Facilities Management and Occupational Health and Safety.

I grew up in Victoria and moved over here at the start of 2019 - It has been an interesting first few years, but I am loving Perth and I think we will be here for a while. Even though I grew up in a big football family (and only 500m from the MCG) I am not a big football or sporting fan, however I do really enjoy running and cycling - you may see me on the streets around Como in the mornings! I spend a lot of my spare time cooking and baking, both sides of my family (Lebanese and Italian) are very food focussed, so I find that cooking brings me comfort and reminds me of home. If not cooking, I am usually listening to a new record (the collection keeps growing) or watching some Anime (Jujutsu Kaisen is a current favourite of mine).

I am looking forward to my future at Como Secondary College, since day one the Science team has made me feel at home, and I think that is one of the best things you can hope for in a workplace. If you see me around the college or out for a run around Como please say a big 'hello'!



CLAIRE HORNER

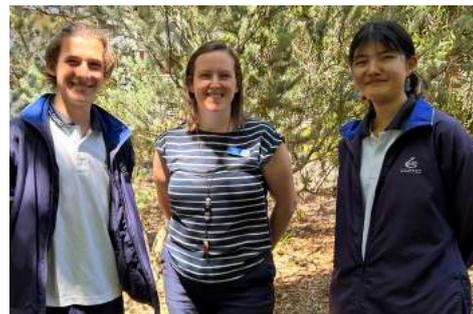
Hi Team!

I'm Claire Horner and I'm a Science Teacher at Como. This is my first year here and our team at Como have been very supportive and so welcoming. We couldn't do what we do without a supportive network. Aesthetically speaking, I like the gardens at Como, I especially enjoy the selection of Australian natives we have at the front of A Block and out of my office/ classroom window. I look forward to taking my classes outside a bit more now that the weather has warmed up.

Before becoming a teacher I worked over the road at Curtin University in Student Services for 15 years, I worked with international students, the "difficult" students and the academic staff (both difficult and delightful!). I really loved working with students but I found myself getting bored and wanting more of a challenge and fulfilment. Teaching is certainly both of those things; I think sometimes it's the challenge that makes it so rewarding, and mostly it doesn't feel like a job.

I'm a Fremantle Dockers supporter and enjoy going to the home games with a small group of friends, we've been going for about 20 years and it is very much about the social aspect (unless Fremantle are having a good season in which case we also watch the games!). I'm a girl guide leader and spend many weekends out bushwalking or camping and teaching the next generation of female leaders important life skills like canoeing and abseiling, but also leadership, accountability and community service. We also have lots of fun!

If you see me around, please say Hi! Especially so if I teach one of your children, I love meeting parents/carers and sharing stories.



SCIENCE

Rhyard Sahely

Year 11 Chemistry:

For the most recent unit of work in year 11 Chemistry the students have been studying reaction rates. We have completed a few experiments to help illustrate how a rate of a reaction can be controlled by chemists. In one experiment students drew an image on a sheet of paper, and then conducted a reaction in a flask on top of the paper. The reaction starts off transparent but then slowly produces a white powder. The students time how long it takes for their drawing to vanish! The students then heat up the reaction to change the reaction rate and measure the reaction rate at different temperatures.

Students then completed two Elephant toothpaste experiments. Elephant toothpaste relies on hydrogen peroxide (the chemical in hair bleach) breaking down. We can speed up the break down of hydrogen peroxide by adding a catalyst. Students investigated different catalysts to see which was most effective at speeding up the reaction.



[Watch here](#)



Year 7 Physics:

Mr Williams and Ms Richardson's Science classes are studying physics at the moment. Today they went out to the oval to play some galactic games! Students threw balls into the air and measured their height, they also got to measure how high they could jump. Now students will go back to class and determine how the gravity of each of the different bodies in our Solar System would change their measurements. You should be able to jump much higher on Pluto!

STUDENT SERVICES

Nicole Richardson and Michael Foster

Headspace Mental Health Golf Afternoon

At the start of this term a group of Year 7 & 8 students were invited along to Collier Golf Course to listen to a presentation by Headspace on being mentally healthy followed by a sausage sizzle and then they played a fun round of mini golf with their friends.

Wellness Wednesday

Every Wednesday activities are run at the school to promote connection and belonging to Como. Coffee Club, Fitness Club, Breakfast Club, Chess Club, Dungeons & Dragons Club, Art Therapy Club, Number Club, Gardening Club and chat with the Chaplain are some of the activities that are run. Many of our Senior students have been involved in helping to run the clubs. We are looking forward to adding many more activities to Wellness Wednesday in 2023.

Year 6 Orientation Day

On Wednesday 30 November 2022 our Year 6 students came to Como for their Orientation Day. It was a fun with lots of team building activities day aimed at building positive connections. We are very proud of our Year 10 students who assisted to run the day and were there helping our Year 6 students become familiar with their new school.

Student Council

A group of our Year 10-11 Student Councillors were invited to participate in a tour of Curtin University with Newman Senior High School Students. This was an opportunity to speak to other student leaders and to participate in some fund activities at Curtin, including the

'Amazing Race' challenge.

Our Student Council were also involved in running a number of other whole school activities including R U OK Day, Mentally Healthy Expo and the Colour Run.

Year 12 2022

A final farewell to our class of 2022 who celebrated the end of school with a Graduation Dinner, Breakfast and Assembly at the end of Term 3 and then had their official Graduation Ceremony, their Valedictory on 18 November 2022 at the Octagon Theatre. A heartfelt thankyou to Mr Joshua Findlater who has been the Year Coordinator of this group of students since Year 7 2017.





Senior School Ball

In 2023 our Senior School Ball will be a Year 12 event only. The ball is being held 10 March 2023 and is a special event that will be shared within their own year group.

Our Year 11 group will have a separate event for their own year group, a formal river cruise on the Crystal Swan. The date of this event will be advised in 2023.



Basketball Leadership Program

Twenty-eight of our year 7-10 students were invited to take part in the inaugural Basketball Leadership Program in conjunction with Perth Basketball Association and with the support of the Como Secondary College P&C.

Over the ten-week program, students developed their on-court and teamwork skills through hour long sessions before school with expert coaches. They have also completed their level 0 coaching course and "green shirt" refereeing course, allowing them to coach teams and



referee matches Australia wide.

They look forward to showcasing their newly developed skills with upcoming matches against other school sides and strengthening relationships with local primary schools through the delivery of a "Summer Slam" tournament early in 2023.

All students conducted themselves in an exemplary manner throughout the program and should be immensely proud of their development and achievements.

Student Council 2023

Voting for leadership positions is complete and we are pleased to introduce the 2023 Student Council. Student Councillors give students a voice within the school offering a bridge to staff. They provide connectedness and a feeling of belonging which for young people is essential.

Student Council members took part in two day leadership workshop to strengthen and develop leadership skills. They learned about communication, examined different leadership techniques and explored their own strengths and weaknesses. They even made and ate lunch together as a team.

Congratulations to all students. We wish you well in your positions.

Year 12



Georgia N
College Captain



Sam H
College Captain



Jaeda R



Vivien T



Sylvester A



Chika N

Year 11



Lucy T



Ruby W



Ella D



Alex P



Blake D



Nate B



Jay-Lah M

Year 10



Jessica L



Maddie H



Kate M



Andrew H



Oliver B



Alecia R



Emmanuel S





Year 12s

Josh Findlater - Year 12 Coordinator

When I first met this group in 2017 as young Year 7s, I would have never imagined just how connected I could become to a group of people. They walked in bright eyed, filled with enthusiasm.

The class of 2022 has given me plenty of laughs, tears, headaches, and heartache over the years. Despite this, I would not have had it any other way! It has been a both a pleasure and privilege to be their Year Coordinator.

I have had the honour of watching them grow into fantastic human beings and have every confidence that this group is ready to make a positive impact on the world. Leavers 2022 – SQUAD OUT!

Renae Grijusich (Acting) HOLA Humanities and Social Sciences

This term Year 10 students have participated in activities to do with experiences of people who are touched by poverty in some way shape or form. Case studies varied and included for example, a single homeless male and a grandmother who looked after her grandchildren. Poverty Week gave students a chance to show their empathy, in line with our school values of ICARE.

Remembrance Day 2022 was marked by each student making a poppy to install in our poppy field outside of the canteen. Students learnt about the importance of Remembrance Day. Being a day of

commemoration students observed a 1 min silence in their class. The poppy field looked wonderful and we look forward to creating a bigger and better field next year. But wait, there's more....before the year is out HASS students will also attend a financial capability incursion provided by the Ecstra Foundation called 'Talk Money', this will align with their Term 4 Economics course and the focus will be on saving money.

Thank you for a great term.



INTERACT CLUB

Kirsten Hocking and Lydia Richardson - Interact Team

This term, the Como SC Rotary Interact Club has focussed on raising awareness within the school community about the charity Foodbank. We organised a food donation campaign and made posters, promoting it around the school. In Week 7, we set up a collection point in the Year 9 Quad for students to bring their donations. Students could also drop their donations at the library and the Science department office.

Ms Wakeman, the Rotary representative for Interact, promoted the event at her local Rotary Club and collected the generous donations of many Rotary members. Altogether, we raised over 11 boxes of food, all of which will help Foodbank provide food for people in need in our community.

We thank everyone who participated in this campaign and all those who gave generously.



SECONDARY TRACK AND FIELD CARNIVAL

Josh Findlater - Physical Education

Earlier in the term students competed at the Secondary School Track & Field Carnival (Division D). Winning the Meritorious Shield and placing 2nd overall was a great achievement for the college and clearly highlights the effort and integrity displayed by students.

Individual Events Placings

75 from 150 events

1st - 25
2nd - 21
3rd - 29

Relay Placings

6 from 10 events

1st - 2
2nd - 1
3rd - 3

Individual Achievements

Kailee S - Year 8 Individual Champion
Alistair K - Year 8 Runner Up Champion
Andy P - Year 10 Individual Champion
Joshua T - Year 10 Individual Champion

Final Placing

1.	Harrisdale	5.	Ocean Reef
2.	Como	6.	Canning Vale
3.	Ashdale	7.	Joseph Banks
4.	Atwell	8.	Wanneroo

Highlights

- The Year 11 and over boys winning the relay in a photo finish (Shaun S, Amos N, Sam H and Alex H)
- Year 9 girls placing 2nd in the relay (Tallinn C, Alex B, Ginger A and Halle H)
- Year 8 boys winning their relay for the second consecutive year (Alastair K, Alvaro R, Archie T and Zay L)
- Anna J and Mackenzie F both securing 2nd in their respected 100m event.
- Clean sweep in the Year 8 boys 100m (Kyle L, Alvaro R, Alastair K)
- Winning their 1500m (Mia C, Kane D, Tony T and Elliot L)
- Placing 3rd in their 1500m (Josephine G, Jonah P, and Lucy T)
- Maddy H winning her Shot Put
- Grace T winning her Triple Jump

Special Mentions

- To the three Year 12's that competed on the day (Amos N, Grace T and Shaun S).
- Alex H's leg in the Year 11 and over relay.
- Ginger A for soldiering on despite a knee complaint.
- Anna J and Mackenzie F for their can-do attitude.
- Josephine G placing third completing against Year 8 and 9 students.
- The student helpers for assisting with duties (Ines L, Wesley R, Anju R, Nene U and Cameron B)



THE ARTS

Monique Laves - HoLA

A huge thankyou to all of the Arts team for 2022, an amazing group of teachers that come together with experience and expertise to collaborate in exciting and innovative ways.

I thank them all for their professionalism, creativity and commitment to the Arts at Como.

Ms Wild and Mr Boserini elevate the specialist music program, providing the students with enrichment outside of school attending festivals, competitions. This year they had their first incursion providing an amazing array of artists and workshops.

Miss S, Mx Phan and Miss V lead the way in performance, providing our students with amazing opportunities to perform at a professional level. They are team players that are always on hand to collaborate with their professional knowledge of the industry inside and out of school.

Mrs Hocking and Mr Hart in the Visual Arts are always there to nurture and support our students, Mrs Hocking skill and expertise has raised our standard, many of our Year 12 students have performed at an outstanding level because of her dedication to the Arts.

They all deserve a great Holiday!



CREATE@COMO 22 review.....

Ash L

Going into a program I knew I was going to love. If you're a maths person I know this is going to be a waste of time and I'm sorry but if you're an English nerd like me listen up. This school has a program called 'Create@Como' and it offers extended learning on English and the Arts.

We go to a writing festival called 'Scribblers' every year and get writers to come into the school and help us improve on our writing. This year David Wishwilson visited from Curtin University, the workshop was great, we were inspired by his novels and got to workshop different ways of writing. We also have artists such as Kash (from Curtin University) and Andy Quilty (Artist and Lecturer from UWA) they come in and teach us different styles of art as well as tell us about their profession. It's really hands on and you come out really excited and motivated.

Create students have gone to YohFest and we are finalist each and every time. This year we worked on Dance routines, polished up our act with new dance costumes as well as managed to get a new acro matt that was donated by our local politician Geoff Baker.

Create has helped me improve my skills so much and I've gained more confidence than I ever thought I would have. I never would've thought I be here and Create has helped me do that, I'm getting 100% in English, and It's guaranteed you'll make plenty of friends and have a great time.

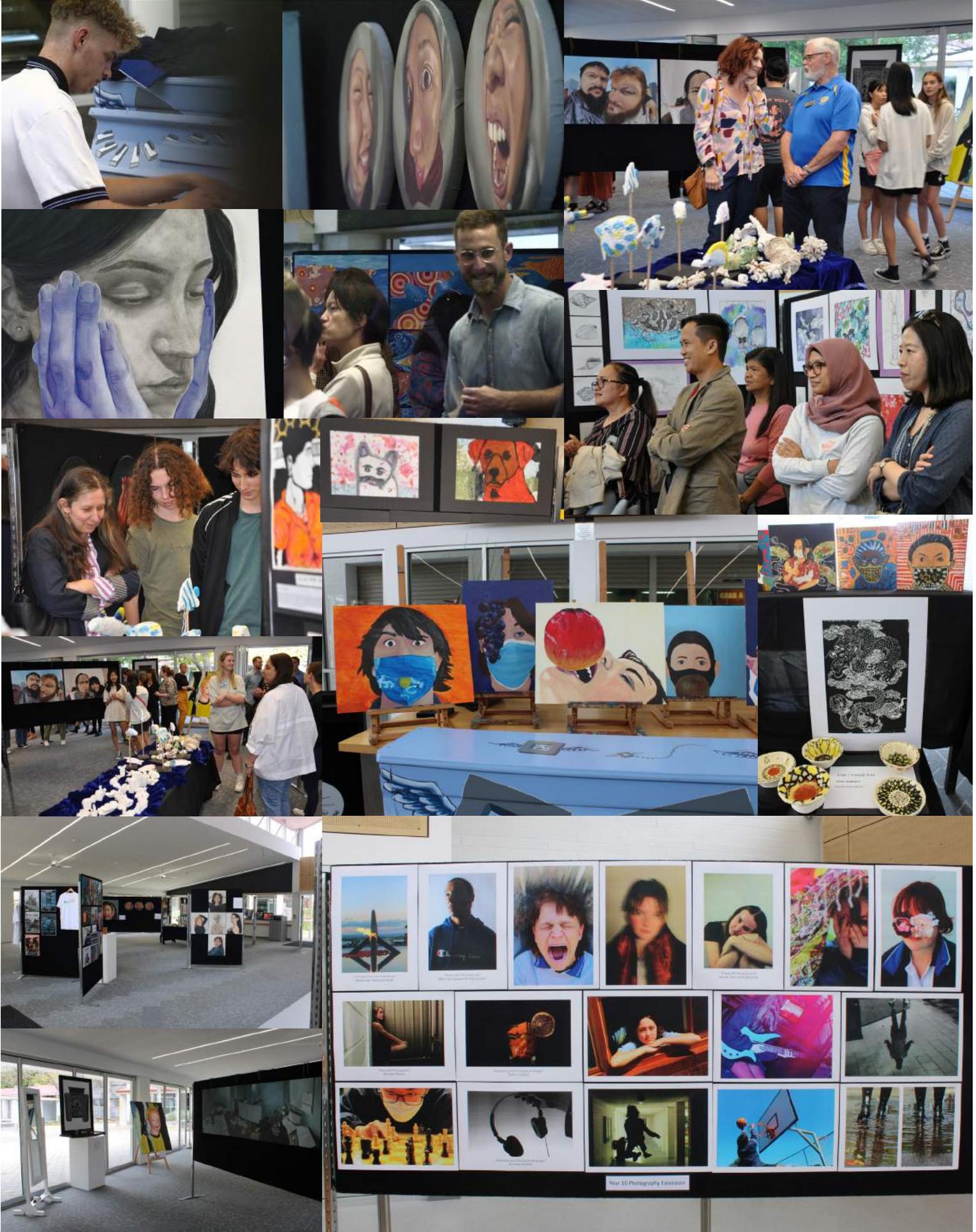
Create is still a relatively new program and Ms Laves and the team is working to improve and develop the program even further. We've done so much in such a short time and I'm so thankful to have been a part of it.



Create@Como 2022



A NIGHT OF LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION





Arts Awards - Congratulations

Yr 12 student Afreena M M has been chosen as a finalist for the YouthCARE art competition for students 7 -12,

The winner will be featured on the cover of the YouthCARE report and receive an apple ipad, Afreena's painting reflected the theme of the competition – Thankfulness

We wish Afreena all the best with her painting 'Nurture' a reflection of the importance of her family.





Twilight Concert

We've wrapped up the year with an absolute bang here in the music department! Our annual Twilight Concert was a great event and the weather held out beautifully for us to enjoy a night of music.

All of our talented ensembles played charts throughout the night under direction by our hard working music staff. The sausages were sizzled to perfection by our volunteers, old books found new homes, raffle prizes went home with half of the audience, adults enjoyed a moment of peace in the PIMMS tent, the silent auction bids went right up until the last moment, our sound guru's made sure we were all heard and our tummies were full of bake sale treats.

A massive thank you to all parents and staff who volunteered time on the night or in the lead up to help.

Goodbye and Farewell. Welcome and Hello.

The end of 2022 is sadly when we say goodbye, thank you and best wishes to Mr Borserini. Mr B joined us at the beginning of this year and has made a long-lasting impact on students and staff with his upbeat and fun classes. We wish you the very best in your travels through 2023!

In 2023 we welcome Mr Steve Williams to the Music Department who will add some of his jazz expertise to the classrooms and ensembles!

Year 7 Band Performance

Our year 7 specialist music class had the opportunity to perform for the year 6 students on their orientation day. Declan and Skye performed awesome solos on their instruments and the whole band produced a big sound together! Congrats year 7's on an awesome performance!

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Alyson McIntyre and Tiffany Gordon - VET Team

South Metropolitan TAFE Thornlie - 3 day Try-A-Trade excursion
In November, 16 Como Secondary College Year 9 students attended a 3 day Try-A-Trade at South Metropolitan TAFE in Thornlie. The students learnt practical and theoretical skills in Painting and Interior Decorating. Design elements, use of paint colour and application techniques on how to prepare surfaces for painting were explored during the course. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experienced.



Games are an integral part of human behaviour. It is normal and healthy for young people to engage in play as a part of their daily lives, including playing games online. And like most activities, online gaming can have both positive and negative outcomes. It can be intimidating and confusing for carers trying to understand a young person's online experiences with many considering that staring at a screen is an unhealthy habit. However, the World Health Organisation does believe that as well as the risks, there are also many positive benefits associated with online gaming and these could be key in nurturing bonds with others.

During the pandemic, there was an explosive growth of gaming as people sought much needed connection during isolation. In the media, gaming often gets bad publicity because most coverage tends to concentrate on the minority of gamers who play to such an extent that it compromises all other areas of their life. However, online gaming can teach young people many skills including teamwork, concentration, communication and problem-solving. It requires a level of interaction and skill from the player; unlike watching television, which is more passive.

Online communities provide opportunities for young people to feel socially connected and have a sense of belonging. At healthy levels, gaming can increase their self-esteem and social acceptance. However, any behaviour, when taken to extreme, can also have a negative impact on a young person's everyday life. Understanding what your young person experiences online and knowing the warning signs if they are at risk, will help nurture a more positive relationship with online gaming and help your family find the right balance.

If you are concerned about your young person's online gaming habits, it's important to consider a number of factors. This edition



will provide strategies in how to deal with any issues you may be experiencing. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this month's edition, and we always welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to this month's edition <https://como.wa.schooltv.me/newsletter/online-gaming>

Schooltv is a valuable resource provided by our Parents and Citizens Association. It can be accessed via our [website](#) using the TV icon on the right side button menu. Other topics covered include;

[Managing Screen Time](#)
[School Transition](#)
[Surviving Year 12](#)
[Mindfulness](#)
[Safe Partying](#)

The site covers many different topics to help raise happy and resilient young people and is well worth a look.



**MAKE A LIFE-LONG IMPACT
ON A YOUNG PERSON'S LIFE**



WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for MENTORS and VOLUNTEERS to contribute at least ONE hour a week to help local students and school communities. Become a mentor or classroom support volunteer in a flexible role at a school near you.

Contact us today - students need you now more than ever.



EdConnectAustralia.org.au

P 1800 668 550

E edconnect@edconnect.org.au

Facebook [@EdConnectAustralia](#)

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 2022 and 2023 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 cheque, cash, Visa, Mastercard, direct deposit and Qkr:

BSB: 066 102 | A/C: 00903523 | Ref: student name

Attendance

- Contact the Hub's 24 hour Attendance Hotline **9365 2011** or email Como.SC.HUB@education.wa.edu.au to advise the 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
- Respond promptly to SMS and Absentee Letters

Contact Details

Please advise changes via Consent2Go, email to Como.SC.AdminSupport@education.wa.edu.au or Change of Details Form available at Administration.

COMMUNICATIONS ARE USUALLY SENT BY EMAIL – PLEASE ENSURE THE COLLEGE HAS YOUR CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS.

STUDENT PICK UP & DROP OFF

Parents are welcome to drive down to Admin to collect students who are unwell or visit the office. Please use the intercom situated at the cable gate to gain entry.

SEQTA

The onboarding process of students onto SEQTA Learn and parents onto SEQTA Engage is proving positive on many fronts.

If you are experiencing any problems or have not received a parent login please contact the college on 9365 2000.

Please remember to check SEQTA Notices to keep up to date

Consent2Go

Consent2Go will be used for incursions and excursions.

Please complete your Consent2Go profile to ensure we have your correct details and you receive details of student opportunities

<https://www.mcbschools.com/como/studentupdate>



Meetings

The P&C meet once a month during term time on the 3rd 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.

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, the front office during school hours or given to the shop when open.

OPEN EVERY FRIDAY 8.30AM – 9.15AM

LOCATION: B BLOCK

ENQUIRIES: COMOSECONDS@OUTLOOK.COM PAYMENTS: CASH ONLY



COMO NOTICES

Please remember school zone speed limit



College Access

All visitors to the College MUST sign in at Administration.

Contact Details

Please advise changes via Consent2Go, email to 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.

GETTING HELP DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Although school holidays are a nice break for staff and students; 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:

- CAMHS Crisis Connect supports children and young people under 18 years (family who have concerns can call 24 hrs/7 days a week incl. public holidays for a tele-mental health assessment or advice) call 1800 048 636
- Mental Health Emergency Response Line (MHERL) is 24/7 for adults – 1300 555 788 (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:

Women's Domestic Violence Helpline 1800 007 339

Beyondblue 1300 22 4636

Crisis Care Helpline 9223 1111

Or Country Toll Free
1800 199 008

Headspace 1800 650 890

Kids Helpline 1800 551 800

Lifeline 13 11 14

Men's Line Australia 1300 78 99 78

Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467

The Samaritans Crisis Line 135 247(7 am to 7 pm)