



# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The Calwell High School newsletter - Week 6, Term 3 2020

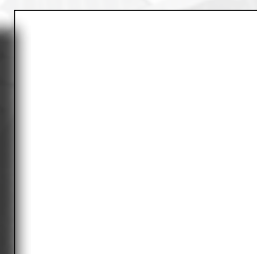
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We would like to acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, learn, and work at calwell High school. We acknowledge that Ngunnawal and Ngambri land has been a place of learning for centuries. We pay our respect to the ancestors who have paved the way for the education which has been received on Ngunnawal and Ngambri land for past, present and future generations. We would also like to acknowledge any aboriginal and torres strait Islander students, staff, family and community members present with us.



proudly an act public school

**ACT**  
Government  
Education



RESPECT

SELF-DISCIPLINE

ACHIEVEMENT

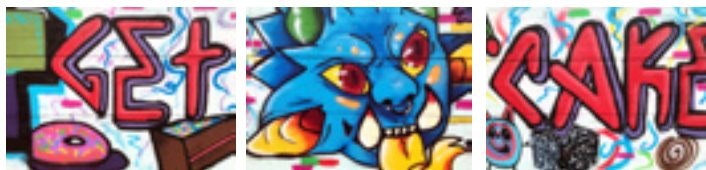
COURAGE

# Principal's Report

## Achievements

**The SAGA** group has won the group award at the 2020 ACT Young Citizen of the year awards, as announced by the Director General Katy Haire. The Group Achievement Award went to the [Calwell High School](#) Sexuality and Gender Alliance group (SAGA), who have inspired positive change in their school community by creating a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for LGBTQIA+ young people. Congratulations to all of these outstanding young people. You can read more about their achievements on our [website](#).

**The Graffiti Art Project** was an outstanding success, and the murals look fantastic in the art courtyard, really brightening up the space – thanks to Nicole Canturk and Deb Walkenhorst for organising the visiting artists Geoff from Graffiti Paint and Byrd a local graffiti artist, paint was donated by Lisa the ACT Graffiti coordinator.



## Work underway

**Inclusion and support** for students: Our Learning Support Class is expanding, and we are getting a Learning Support Unit in 2021 to cater for students in our feeder zone. We are excited about this, and SLC Erin Smith is working very hard to ensure this is a smooth transition. We are best positioned to meet the needs of all our students in an inclusive space with this initiative.

**Staffing:** We are always working in this space to best meet the needs of students, staff and school. We have employed two additional LSAs, Keaton Meads and Adrian Trevilyan, both are on the U20s raiders squad and are proving to be outstanding. Stephannie Dormer our SLC Science/Technology has moved to Melrose High School, we thank her for her contribution especially in her passion for upgrading and ensuring all our IT equipment is in best working order. We are excited

to welcome Jen O'Donoghue as SLC in this area, Jen comes across from Namadgi School as an SLC and we are looking forward to working with her in this capacity. We also are preparing to welcome a new HASS teacher Jhassail Currie who starts with us Monday week 5.

**Resignation Announcement:** Paul Van Campenhout announced his resignation from the education directorate. I note that he was a significant contributor to Calwell High School since 2013 as Deputy and relieving Principal. On behalf of the whole school community I thank him for his dedication and contribution and wish him well.

Paul Van Campenhout



**Building Improvements:** Much work has been done externally with ramps and painting tables. This work all looks great and we can thank our hard working BSO Stephen Pohl for his coordination of this work. I also note we now have a second bubbler/water filter station out the back so students can access this during breaks.

**Staff Professional Development and School Improvement Focus:** The staff are all participating in fortnightly Professional Development, this is being led by DP Drew Allison as he works with the information from the Team Teach Training and personalises this to Calwell High School Staff. We have Trish Marton with us from the directorate to

help better case manage students whose learning benefits from this approach.

**Covid Update:** Regrettably, we are still at the same COVID-19 restrictions as in Term 2. This has resulted in the cancellation of the Year 7 and 9 camps. We are looking to run a virtual parent teacher night this term. We are ever alert to the changing environment and will email communications out to families as required.

M Altenburg

*Mally*

Principal



# Deputy Principal's Report

2020 continues to throw us curve balls on numerous fronts. As we all watch what is happening in Victoria and NSW with great concern, much of the sentiment that many of us feel is a sense of "it's only a matter of time before it hits us again". Of course, we hope that is not the case but the uncertainty creates high levels of stress and anxiety for many. As such we are often quick to respond to conflict in highly emotional ways that are not always proportionate to the initial concern. This level of emotion is only heightened amongst our teenagers as they also adjust to young adult hood and form their own individuality. As I try to better understand conflict in teenagers, I came across an article that resonated with me which I have included the link for you all here if you're interested.

<https://wheelchairsagainstguns.org/3-effective-conflict-resolution-strategies-for-teenagers/>

I'm delighted to see the wonderful achievements and efforts that our students continue to put in day after day. In particular I am so very proud of our SAGA group who won the 2020 ACT Young Citizen of the Year, Group Achievement Award. It was also fantastic to see some school sport start back again with our 9/10 Boys Football team heading out for a great day representing Calwell HS with pride and enjoyment. I hope that is just the start and we will soon get to see School Sport get back up and running in its entirety as we move into the warmer months.

For many of our Y10 students, it is an exciting and somewhat anxious time. Most are moving onto College next year and have been busy thinking ahead to what they would like to do in their futures. This is a time where many, for the first time, really start to seriously think about their future careers. They have been lucky to have visits from both

Erindale and Lake Tuggeranong Colleges and will shortly be selecting their units of study for next year. This provides a great opportunity for parents and carers to have some great conversations about their child's future. As always we are excited to see what fantastic opportunities await our aspiring future citizens.

Thank you all for your ongoing support for our future generations and please make contact if you have questions or queries.

Kindest regards,  
Steven Deans



Deputy Principal (Acting)



## Important Upcoming Dates

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December      Year 10 Graduation

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December      Year 10 Formal

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December      9-10am – Year 7 End of Semester Assembly  
10-11am – Year 8 End of Semester Assembly  
11.30-12.30 – Year 9 End of Semester Assembly

# Parent Teacher Interviews Term 3

Due to Covid-19 Parent Teacher Interviews will be held virtually this term. You will receive an email invitation to sign up for a time slot with the relevant teacher and, on the day of the interviews, will be asked to click on a link to connect to a video

conference with each teacher. You do not need to create an account or sign in to a program to access this conference. Our Parent Teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday 16th September. More information will be sent out regarding this in the coming weeks.

## Insurance Cover

The ACT Education Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out

personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity within the ACT.

## Uniform Reminder

Dear Calwell families, A reminder that we are a uniform school.

As such please ensure you are in a Calwell logo jumper and/or Jacket each day.

This assists all to see and know that you are a Calwell High School student here and ready to learn.

Many thanks for your assistance in this.



# Mathematics Transition to Lake Tuggeranong College

The first Year 10A Maths into College workshop series has kicked off and has been taken up by 3 students from Calwell High School.

Here is the list of those who went along: Tracey Hoang, Tasman Hudson and Dean Oakman.

Lake Tuggeranong staff were reportedly 'chuffed' by how it went and the Calwell Maths trio also reported it as being enjoyable and useful as they intend to all study Maths Methods in year 11 2021.



Tracey Hoang



Tasman Hudson

## Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition

Year 9 student Grace Leheny submitted an entry to the Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition.

The School is very proud of her with hours of personal time dedicated to completing this, and her essay writing skills improved vastly.

It is a delight seeing students dedicate themselves not only to academic brilliance, but also compassion for the world around us.



# A message from the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development

In the ACT there are 88 public schools, over 49,000 public school students and around 3,800 educators. But of course, I understand that for each of us as parents, the most important school is the school our children go to. That's why I want to make sure that every public school is a great school.

The ACT Government is upgrading and expanding public schools to make sure that learning environments are accessible and sustainable.

The government is committed to ensuring that every public school has the infrastructure to support high-quality education and that's why the government has been investing more than \$115 million to upgrade public schools right across the Territory.

Here at Calwell High School the government has provided:

- greater thermal comfort across various learning spaces and the sickbay through new cooling systems and ceiling fans, including solar-reflective window tinting and new blinds co-funded with the school;
- a new building management control system to help to efficiently operate the heating, cooling and ventilation systems;
- LED lighting upgrades across school spaces, co-funded with the school;
- a new shed;
- A shade structure for the outdoor gym to encourage fitness and exercise;
- additional flagpoles to display the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, to recognise and respect Australia's first people, and demonstrate our commitment to reconciliation and an inclusive and welcoming community;
- new trees under the tree planting program as well as a landscape masterplan for future works;
- a refurbishment of the school library;



ABOVE: Yvette Berry MLA

- a refurbishment of the large dance room, co-funded with the school;
- a new concrete ramp and remediation works; and
- the supply and installation of a new storage shed and water tank.

The school is also currently having a complete roof replacement including the installation of insulation, the replacement of gutters, downpipe and sumps, and removing and replacing old plant equipment on the roof.

Painting in a science room, the installation of a door from a science room to an external area, the installation of a double sided digital sign at the side of the school, the addition of a teacher's bench and improvements to internal doors were also completed at the school. These are additional works completed as part of the ACT Government's \$35 million fast track stimulus program to support local businesses and keep Canberrans employed.

Every child and family has a place in ACT public schools regardless of their background or

life circumstances. That's why this investment into public school infrastructure goes beyond just the basic things that allow learning and teaching to take place. The ACT Government invests in public schools to make sure that every student has what they need to be included, and to learn and develop their interests, passions and life skills.

The ACT Government has upgraded heating and cooling systems, reducing polluting emissions and making temperatures comfortable and conducive to learning in over 40 older public schools across Canberra.

The government also provided 4,000 Chromebooks to schools at the beginning of this

school year and a further 3,000 Chromebooks and 500 iPads were purchased for use during the COVID-19 pandemic to assist with remote learning.

Schools have seen upgraded classrooms, toilets, libraries, canteens and bike shelters, as well as gardens, landscaping and playground areas in schools to make sure that these spaces are positive and accommodating.

As Canberra grows, the government is making sure that schools grow with it. Every child has the right to access education and the ACT Government is making sure that this right is equally ensured for every young person.

Yvette Berry MLA

## Science Week

To launch Science Week, year 10 students in Dr. Pardo's Physics classes created trebuchets (weighted catapults) to test gravitational force. The challenge involved using one or more counterweights to fling objects of various sizes and shapes across the room. Christian A. and Emily B.

were the winners, with the best trebuchet designs flinging ping pong balls, corks, and styrofoam balls at opponents. The trebuchet is one of the most complicated of all Medieval weaponry ever designed and is a fun way to learn the mathematical principles of classic Newtonian physics.



# Science Week Continued

The Web Design class has assembled a device to communicate with the Sentinel-1 satellite via a web interface. The interface allows the class to view the school from the satellite, which scans the geological

formations on the landscape and gathers data for use in the agricultural and mining industries. Taj, Anthony and Brooklyn were leaders on the assembly project, and Connor and Michael also created models of the satellite and dish.



## Social Distancing and the AEU

The AEU in the ACT met following social distancing guidelines to discuss the recommendations for responses to the pandemic. One representative with firmly fitted facemask was in attendance from each school in the ACT. Calwell High representative Dr. Nadira Pardo attended the meeting and will report to teachers and staff on updates this week at Calwell High Sub Branch meeting.





## Nextwave regional youth film competition open for entries

The Coffs Coast's Screenwave International Film Festival is again hosting the NEXTWAVE short film competition for young regional Australians this year – and would like some short film entries from our school!

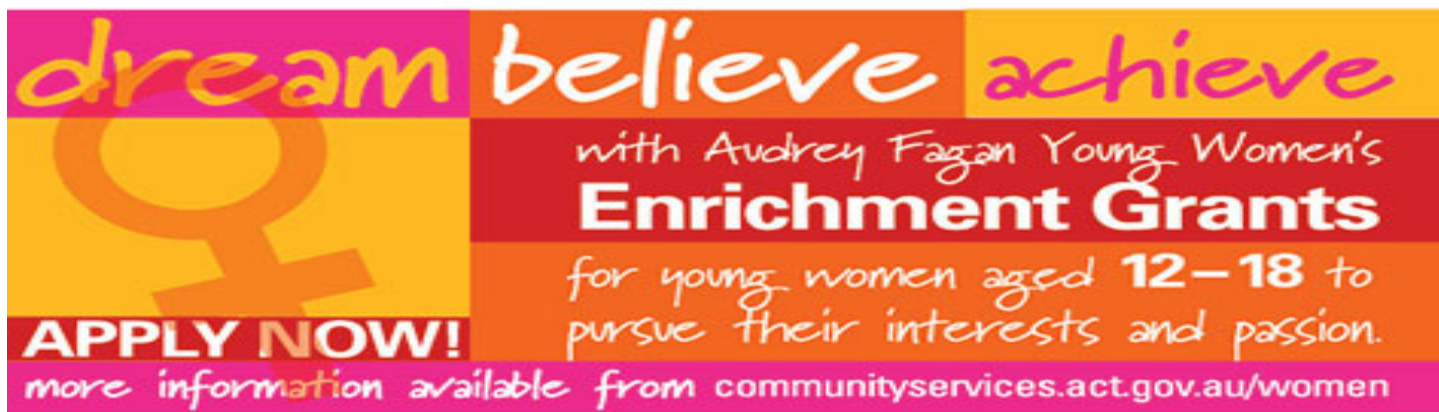
All films need to be under five minutes and include the phrase "What's Next". Creativity is highly encouraged. The best films will screen at SWIFF next January during the Nextwave Youth Film Awards, and tens of thousands of dollars in prizes are up for grabs to students (and our school!).

Competition closes September 21. All

competition details are available at [www.nextwavefilmfest.com.au](http://www.nextwavefilmfest.com.au).

## Register for free Nextwave Online filmmaking course

If your child isn't sure how to make their short film, the Screenwave International Film Festival has made a step-by-step 10 episode video guide on beginner filmmaking, with episodes starting to roll out next week on the new Nextwave Online learning portal. To secure your child's FREE access (thanks to Southern Cross University), register here before July 21: <https://nextwavefilmfest.com.au/workshop/>



**dream believe achieve**

with Audrey Fagan Young Women's  
**Enrichment Grants**  
 for young women aged **12–18** to  
 pursue their interests and passion.

**APPLY NOW!**  
 more information available from [communityservices.act.gov.au/women](http://communityservices.act.gov.au/women)

## Grants to enable young women to Dream, Believe, Achieve...

### Now open!

The **Enrichment Grants** provide young women with an opportunity to realise their dreams in a collaborative relationship with a mentor.

Young women aged between 12 and 18, residents of the ACT or undertaking education in the ACT are eligible to apply. The program provides one off grants of up to **\$2,000** to support young women to **achieve a project in their area of interest.**

The **Enrichment Grants** are a component of the **Audrey Fagan Program** established in 2007 to honour former ACT Chief Police Officer Audrey Fagan's contribution as an inspirational leader and mentor for young women. **For more information on the grants program visit:**

[http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/women/grants\\_and\\_awards](http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/women/grants_and_awards)

Or phone **ACT Office for Women** on **6205 1075**

**Applications close on 28 August 2020**




**SAXAPHONE & CLARINET LESSONS**

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