

MOOREBANK HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MHS WEBSITE

Issue 6
November 2016

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Principal's Report - Ms Grego

On Tuesday 11 October, 2016 the school inducted its new Prefect Body for 2017. I would like to extend my thanks and well wishes to the outgoing Year 12 Prefect Body and extend a warm welcome to the new 2017 Prefects.

Moorebank High School has an established tradition of student leadership excellence. At our school, student leadership is expected and practiced on a daily basis. The quality of this leadership, especially as demonstrated by the prefect body, is a critical determinant in creating loyalty, pride and ethics within our school.

Our 2016 Prefect Body has excelled at ensuring that high quality student leadership, founded on the school's values of **B**eing Generous, **R**espectful and Responsible, **A**cting Safely, **V**aluing Learning and striving for **E**xcellence that underpins our school's ethos, is being demonstrated everyday. I thank them on behalf of the Moorebank High School community for their outstanding leadership of the student body over the last twelve months.

I am confident too, that the 2017 Prefect Body will rise to the challenge and build on the strong legacy that this year's student leadership team have left.

Every one of our new student leadership team have demonstrated the personal qualities of successful leaders throughout their years of schooling at Moorebank High School.

Vally Grego
Principal



In this issue: Faculty Focus—Industrial Arts / Yr.11 Young Female Leaders Seminar /
Yr. 7 Author Visit/ Sport / Solar Car Team

SCHOOL RESUMES: 30 Jan 2017 Yr. 7 & Peer Support
31 Jan 2017 Yrs. 8-12

2016 Prefect Speech

It's been an amazing experience being part of the prefect body, greatly shaped by the people who we shared this experience with. Thank you to the outgoing prefect body of 2016. Your passion, dedication and commitment to being leaders of Moorebank High School has exceeded expectations and have left big shoes for the incoming prefect body to fill.

In particular, we would like to thank Peta, Thomas, Fatima and Humzeh for your assistance and support as executive members of the prefect body. It's been great closely working with you and we greatly appreciate the time and effort you have put in to make our time as prefects significant.

Mr Robinson, thank you for your guidance as the prefect coordinator this last year. Your commitment is a testament to your values as a teacher and your passion of leadership. Thank you for devoting your time into making us the leaders we are today and for assisting us throughout our leadership journey.

The experiences, discoveries, memories and friendships you will make in this final year of high school will stick with you for many years to come. You are the leaders of today, only limited by our limited by your willingness to achieve. Make the most of every opportunity offered to you, and be the change you want to see within Moorebank High School.

Student leaders empower others by voicing the beliefs of an entire student body; the bridge between words and actions. They encourage others to bring about positive change through meaningful school involvement, and utilize their positions to positively influence others.

Good morning and welcome to the 2016-2017 Induction, Tara and I would firstly like to start off by congratulating the newly elected prefect body. You have been given a great opportunity and put in a position that required a lot of responsibility, but we believe you are all very capable leaders and wish you all the best in the year to come.

We would further like to extend our congratulations to the 2016-2017 executive body, and wish Aleisha, Roland, Jessie, Steven, Mimi and Marko all the best in their new roles. It will be challenging at times, however it is not the challenge that matters but how you respond to it. We know you are all exceptional leaders and will exceed the expectations.

There are many year 12 students who are not being inducted today that are just as worthy leaders as those of who are, contributing to the extensive leadership presence at Moorebank High through other positions. Your presence is greatly valued and we are sure the prefect body will be looking forward to working closely with you throughout the year.

William & Tara Outgoing 2015-2016 Captains

2017 Prefect Speech

My name is Marko, and this is Mimi and we are the elected School Captains for 2017. As captains, both Mimi and I are extremely honored to stand in front of you all today, alongside our fellow year 11 members to be inducted into the prefect body of 2017. We are proud to be a diverse mix of individuals, coming from different backgrounds and social groups. Whether some of us have previously been in leadership groups or whether some of us are taking part in leadership for the first time, each and every one of us are standing here today due to one reason, we are all passionate about being leaders here at Moorebank High.

It is due to this passion for leadership, that we have the opportunity to work together as a prefect body in order to better the school environment and carry the legacy that previous prefect bodies have left us. We would like to speak on behalf of the whole prefect body and thank all of year 11 and the staff for voting for us and having faith in us as leaders of the school. It gives all of us a great sense of honour to represent Moorebank High School, knowing that we were appointed as a result of an accumulation of your votes.

We would like to thank the outgoing prefect body for paving the way with their own path as leaders at the school for us to follow. You will be remembered for your hard work ethic and dedication to the school from your daily duties, to your more substantial responsibilities including hosting assemblies, representing Moorebank High School outside of school, assisting in the practice emergency drills and just being strong supports whenever we needed advice. We as a cohort have looked up to you since beginning our schooling here at Moorebank High and we promise that we will make sure to uphold all of the key values that you as a group have displayed as prefects.

As well as your hard work and dedication, the outgoing prefect body also hope to embrace your approachable nature and we wish to integrate our unique personalities into the prefect body, just as you have as a group this year. We would also like to give a special thank you to the prefect executives of Tara, William, Fatima, Humzeh, Peta and Thomas for inspiring both Marko and I, as well as our fellow prefect executives of Jessie, Rolando, Aleisha and Steven to make the most of our opportunities as the prefect executives and for reminding us to be grateful of our roles, something that all of you have gained from your experience during two thousand and sixteen. You all have really set a high standard for us that we will ensure to achieve during two thousand and seventeen.

We can say with confidence that we will make sure to embody all of the fine leadership qualities that are required for us in order to leave the same legacy behind us as the previous prefect bodies have in years past. We will lead with great confidence and we promise to bring our hard work ethic, great integrity, strong communication skills and dedication to our roles. We promise to do our best over the next 12 months to tackle any adversity we face head on – as well as work together as a group alongside Mr Robinson to get tasks done efficiently. We promise to acknowledge our responsibilities as a prefect body in order to make sure that they are being fulfilled to the highest standard and that we utilize our strong relationships and bonds as a group to our advantage.

We would like to conclude our speech by once again thanking our fellow year 11 cohort as well as the staff members of Moorebank High School for voting for us. Congratulations to two thousand and sixteen's prefect body for their hard work and efforts to continue a long-lived legacy here at Moorebank High School. We as a prefect body promise to continue this legacy and subsequently inspire those who wish to later fill our shoes and take on the responsibility of being leaders. Also, a final good luck to those sitting the HSC soon, we're confident that you guys will smash it. Thank you.

Marko & Mimi Incoming 2016-2017 Captains

2016/2017 School Captains & Vice Captains

CAPTAINS



MIMI TRUONG



MARKO JANJETOVIC

VICE CAPTAINS



JESSIE POLLARD



ROLANDO DIAZ GAMARRA

Senior Prefects



ALEISHA THACKRAY



STEVEN OTAKILEVUKA

Prefect Body



SARA CEKLJUN



DARIELLE CORPUZ



SARAH CUBITT



BRENDA KEO



JESSICA LE



TAHLIA MAYES



SWATI PADKI



CINDY TANG



JESSICA VUONG



JUSTIN CAKOVSKI



BRYCE HARVEY



PHILLIP KILAZOGLOU



ETHAN LAM



ARTHUR LIM



RODNEY TAEFU



BRENDON TONG



HENRY VO



ALEXANDER VUKALOVICH

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Susan Griffin Deputy Principal Yrs. 7, 8 & 9

School Diaries

The Community Focus Group has asked that the school evaluate the current use of a paper diary. It seems many of our students are not using it and members of the focus group are wondering if we should continue providing it. If you feel strongly that we should keep the diary in its current paper form, please let me know. I will be asking the SRC to seek student feedback about this issue before the end of the term.

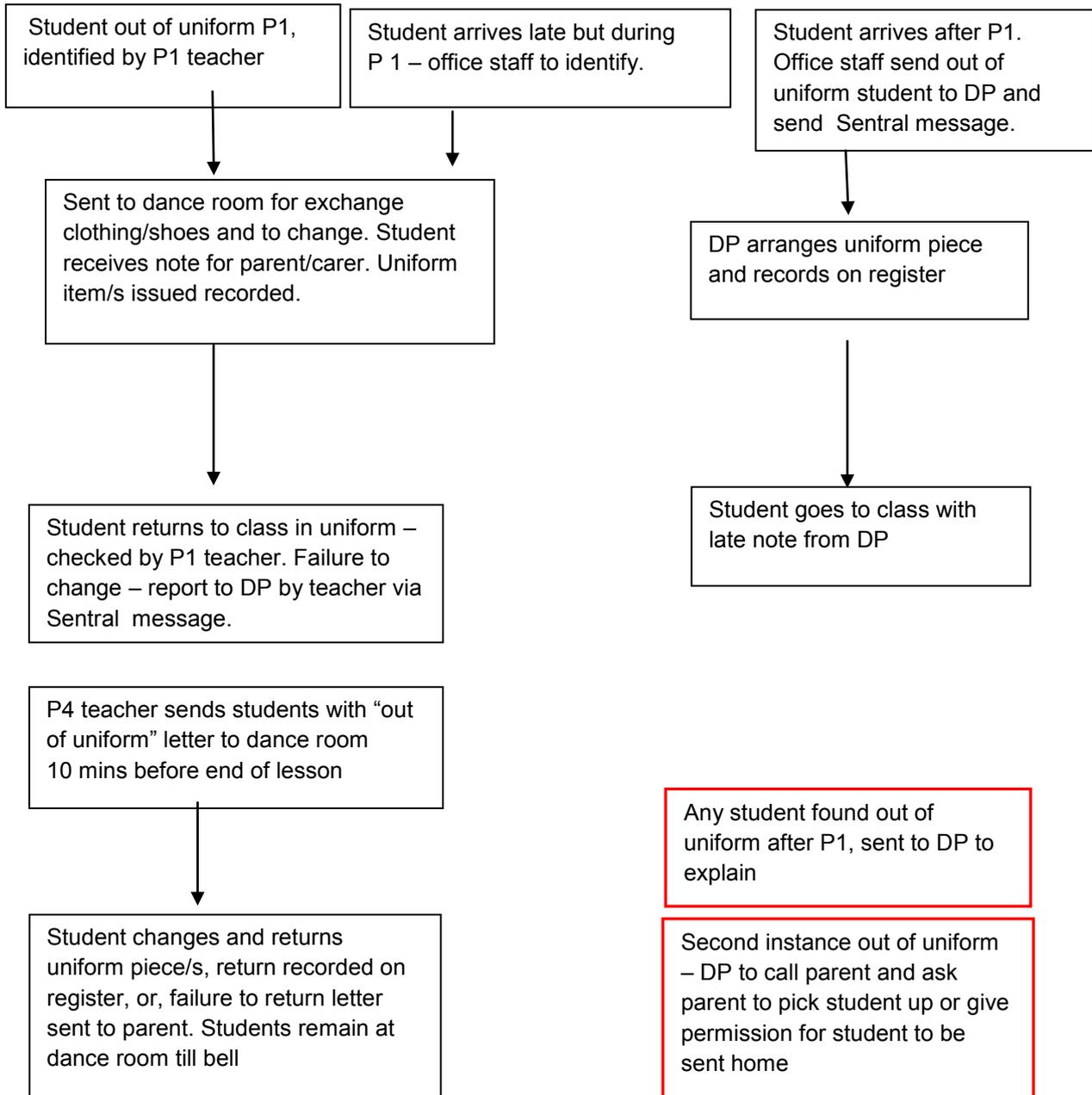
Uniform Policy Proposed changes for 2017 – your feedback is welcome.

The Department of Education and Communities supports the wearing of school uniforms by students and the upholding of high standards of dress by students and staff. The department recognises that NSW has a long history of school uniforms or dress codes being decided by the local school community.

Each school's uniform policy must be the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, including the Community Focus Group for our school. The consultation will be conducted in a manner appropriate to each school and be based on participatory decision-making principles. The school's uniform policy and uniform requirements should be formally endorsed by the school community before implementation.

Moorebank's uniform policy has been developed according to these recommendations. The School wishes to propose changes to the way the wearing of school uniform is supported and managed. The flow chart below shows the proposed procedures in general terms. Please feel free to email me at susan.d.griffin@det.nsw.edu.au to provide feedback about the proposed changes. I would like to receive this feedback by 25 November if possible.

Uniform Checking Procedures



FACULTY FOCUS—INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Some brief news about staffing in 2016. Mr G Callaghan who is our principal Computing teacher has taken a year of leave to travel around Australia. Many students would recognise his 4WD and I know he has put it to great use visiting a lot of places less travelled. I wonder, just wonder how Mr Callaghan will feel about the rigours of our job upon his return next year? If he is seen daydreaming and looking out his classroom window we will probably know why! Replacing Mr Callaghan and doing an excellent job is Mr M Boyd who has established a wonderful rapport with his classes and is much liked and respected by his students.

Mr Boyd stepped into a difficult situation at the start of this year and his commitment to providing quality instruction to his classes is highly commendable and very much appreciated. Parents who have attended information evenings in 2016 will have seen Mr Boyd presenting some very impressive student work they having developed including a range of games and useful programming solutions.

The Industrial Arts faculty in 2016 continues to provide a diverse range of learning experiences for the students of Moorebank High School.

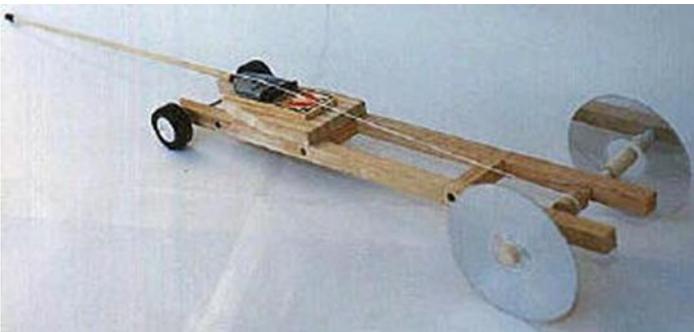
In 2016 it was decided by the DEC that teenagers need more exercise and an additional hour needed to be found in the curriculum. Unfortunately, as a consequence, the third elective available to **year 10** had to give way. This has seen one of the most popular subjects, Design and Engineering, have to cease as a 100hr course. It has however, been offered to **year 9 in 2017** as a full 200hr course and the first class will commence next year. As usual the current year 10 students in Design and Engineering had been having a great time puzzling through the challenges of the projects they have worked on. The classes very much enjoyed the challenge of balsa wood bridge building. The students were absolutely amazed at just how strong their bridges were. Unfortunately, to do this we had to break their bridges.

A range of construction materials has been employed through a number of projects each with its own unique properties. Tower construction using plastic drinking straws enabled students to analyse this material as a component similar to tubular structures common in many civil constructions.



FACULTY FOCUS—INDUSTRIAL ARTS

At present students are working on the construction of a mouse trap powered car. This has introduced a whole new area of knowledge in mechanisms to be considered and applied. The classes will soon be racing their vehicles in the school hall to see whose car can travel the greatest distance.



Year 10 students in Industrial Technology in both Timber and Metal have taken on the challenge of designing and manufacturing a project of their choosing. It is a big ask at that age to develop what is effectively a prototype but to finish it to a high standard.

Some very impressive work has come from the IT Metal class with Mitchell Money completing a terrific drift trike which has proved to be the envy of many of the students.



FACULTY FOCUS

Industrial Arts

The IT Timber students have completed, or as of now, nearly completed, some lovely furniture pieces. Something to keep for years to come even after leaving home. We know so many of our students finish their projects with such pride and with the rare opportunity to say "I made that."



Construction remains a very popular course for **year 11 and 12 students**. The faculty endeavours to provide as realistic as possible practical experiences for students. Year 12 students prepared some concrete slabs onto which outdoor picnic tables have been placed. The picnic tables will be covered with a roof by the year 11 Construction students between now and the end of the year. Then it will be their turn to construct a similar set of covered outdoor tables for student use at recess and lunch. They are arranged so as to also provide an outdoor classroom facility for the PDHPE faculty when the weather permits. They have proved to be very popular with students.



FACULTY FOCUS

Industrial Arts

We are now at that time of year when our year 12 Industrial Technology students have finished their Major Independent Projects and the next group have already begun theirs. Mr Anand led the year 12 class through the process of project completion extremely well. Calm and organised at all times, Mr Anand kept the students on track and was been very reassuring to them all. I know how much they appreciate the many extra hours spent by Mr Anand, and eventually the whole faculty, helping them with their work. It now falls to Mr Akkoumi to expertly guide the next group through. In 2017 we will have two year 12 Industrial Technology classes completing their course: Timber and Graphics. Ms Patel is already working extremely enthusiastically with the Graphics students and some of their Major Project ideas look very promising. Less liked by the students is the necessary accompanying portfolio of evidence that must be compiled and completed for submission. It forms part of the year 12 students first assessment task and we hope they will embrace this part of their work from the start. Not quite as satisfying as building the project itself but just as valuable in terms of marks.



FACULTY FOCUS

Industrial Arts



The challenge for our **2017 students** is to produce at least equally good work.

We are confident, it will be another successful year.



As the year draws to an end work still continues in all our subjects. Mr Boyd has posed a challenge to the year 10 IST (Computing) classes to work on aspects of our school website. We are hoping to provide an interactive guide for prospective year 7 students to access help with a smooth transition from primary school. It will involve having both still and video images available to students with audio to help provide guidance. A lot of work but very exciting; let's see how far we get with the challenge. Thanks to Mr Boyd for his efforts.

Students continue to excel in all years. A terrific presentation was made by our year 7 students at the Celebration of Learning evening. I am sure it brought back fond memories of Technology classes for many parents. Many year 8 students have already taken home, or are soon to take home, very well made serving trays. It has been explained to all **year 8** students that a proving test must be conducted on their trays at home. This means they should put to use the Food Technology skills they have learned and must serve their parents either breakfast in bed or morning tea. If they have not done so, perhaps parents should insist their children complete their homework. Year 9 IT Timber students have had a lot of satisfaction learning wood turning this year and taking home some good work such as the napkin holder pictured. Additional investment was made in 2016 to facilitate more widespread use of the timber turning lathes.



Graphics students, and indeed all students, are experiencing the fun of 3D printing. We have trialled the first X Box printer in 2016 and made the investment in a second so both rooms used by our Graphics and year 7 and 8 students will have access. We haven't reached the full potential of these machines but will expand their use in 2017.

A reminder about the need for all students to attend school in full uniform. Within the practical classrooms the need to wear fully enclosed leather shoes as part of the whole uniform is very important for the safety of all. This includes Tuesday, Sport day when some students forget.

During 2016 the Head Teacher for Home Economics Ms Nicole Tan announced she would not return to work at MHS. It was decided that all parts of the Technological and Applied Studies(TAS) Key Learning Area would amalgamate into one faculty. Mr Cleaton will take on the responsibility for Industrial Arts, Home Economics and Computing across all years. A separate Home Economics staffroom will still remain so for specific subject advice still attend this staff room. Mr Callaghan will reside either in the IA staffroom or in his own office as Head Teacher Administration.

The faculty looks forward to all our students working productively in the acquisition of new skills and knowledge and continuing to succeed as Technology students. As always we are looking to enhance our Technology base with new or improved equipment and as a Faculty we are very thankful for the support of Ms Grego who understand the challenges of providing a relevant 21 C education to our students.

Year 11 students attend the Young Female Leaders Parliamentary Education Seminar



On Wednesday the 19th of December Aleisha Thackray, Sarah Cubitt and myself were honoured with the privilege of attending a female leadership empowerment day at NSW state university with a number of other selected high school students from around Sydney.

The day began with keynote speaker Bianca Nogrady, a freelance scientific journalist breaking barriers in the science community. She taught us to be ready to work hard for what we love, and to not be afraid of falling.

We were then privileged to sit in on both the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council, observing and learning about State petitions and laws being discussed. The most memorable was the petition against organ harvesting in China, brought up by David Shoebridge. Over the course of the past 12 months, over 100 000 Australians have signed a petition to have amendments made to the current legislation regarding illegally harvested organs in China. I myself signed the petition last August and was thoroughly impressed to see the parliament dealing with the proposed plan efficiently, ending with an agreement to the changing of current legislation.

The day finished with an open discussion panel, where we discussed current events, national issues and individual achievements of the speakers. Many girls asked about prejudice in parliament based on gender, Sarah Mitchells ended the panel by addressing this issue as such, saying “There’s no hierarchy in the parliament house, you all go in and do what you came to do. Don’t feel unworthy of your position, you’ve been elected by the people regardless of your age and gender.”

Overall, the day was intriguing and interesting, empowering today’s generation to be the leaders of tomorrow. Julia Finn left us with a positive, take-away message, saying “Hold your own and be confident in yourself”.

Jessie Pollard,
Vice-Captain



LIBRARY

Catherine Jinks Author Visit

On the 3rd of November, Catherine Jinks, an Australian author of many fictional books, gave an author talk at Moorebank High School to Year 7. Students from Nuwarra Public School also joined us. She talked about her personal life as an author. Ms. Jinks shared many tips on writing fantastic novels, such as listening to music to gain ideas, getting a good publisher, and many more. We did an activity where we listened to music and used imagery senses to create a landscape, with which we combined all our thoughts to create a funny, but good story. After the talk, some people bought books which were signed by Catherine Jinks herself. All in all, this author talk was interesting. We also had a lot of fun.

Maisha Yr. 7

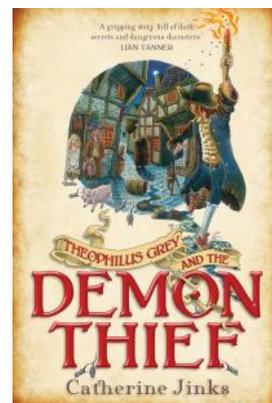
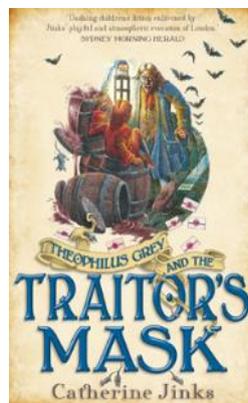
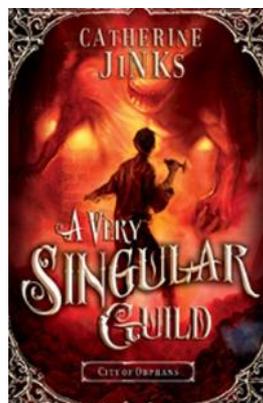
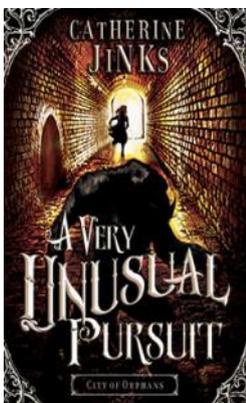
Catherine Jinks looked almost exactly as any of her readers would imagine her to - pale, blonde, of average height and even wearing rectangular glasses!

As the students chattered away uncaringly and the teachers continued to settle us down, she stood waiting patiently at the front of the room. It wasn't until she began speaking did she quickly immerse us all in what she had to say.

Unlike other authors who had a passion for boring students with their never-ending, drone-like speeches on the importance of literacy, she actually spoke as though she truly meant what she had to say. She explained her enjoyment for writing and encouraged us to participate in activities which aided us in expressing and understanding ourselves. Even with our endless (and often pointless) stream of questions we had to ask, she kept answering.

The most surprising aspect of the visit though was how she integrated two of her favourite activities into one. She explained to us how she visualized a story or plot-line through the use of music. Then she played music and we helped create a story.

Nusaibah Yr. 7



SPORT

Mitchell Heaslip

Mitchell Heaslip in year 11 has had the opportunity to represent Moorebank High in the State Athletics Carnival on 8th September. Although Mitchell didn't place a win in his events he took part in both the 3000m walk and 300m hurdles. We are very proud of Mitchell for his efforts and his representation of the school.



Jasmine Tran

A few weeks ago, Jasmine Tran (Year 8) went to Darwin to compete in the National Swimming Competition. Jasmine won a medal in all three of her events: gold in the 100m breaststroke and the 200m medley relay, and a bronze in the 50m breaststroke. Jasmine's goal is to represent Australia at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. She trains for a minimum of two hours every weekday in attempts to reach her goal. We are all very proud of her outstanding achievements so far and we look forward to seeing her win many gold medals for Australia someday soon.

SOLAR CAR



On the 3rd of September our Year 12 Solar Car Team competed in the Sunsprint event at the UNSW and achieved 2nd place for their efforts. The team consisted of Laurena Makhoulouf, Anne Marie Vuong, Justine Salazar and Zaheda Nizamuddin. Unfortunately, the AIMSC national event was held whilst the girls were completing their HSC and a replacement team was formed utilising Science assessment grades. Year 9 students Angela Salazar, Jocelyn Pobert and Amy Wong travelled to Melbourne with Ms Grego and Miss O'Connor, along with our exceptional parent mentor, Mr Lee Edgecomb. The event was held at the Science-works facility, with teams competing from around Australia and Taiwan. Our students and their car 'Car-Dash-lan' achieved a top 16 place in the event and should be Extremely proud of their achievement, with so little time to train.

Chloe Gonano in year 7 held a Camp Quality 'Dine at Mine' fundraiser in September to raise money for children with cancer.

Chloe's fundraiser raised \$3005.00. It was a fantastic community night with a wonderful mix of family, friends and community members who were genuinely interested in raising funds for the cause. She will definitely be repeating the event in 2017!

The girls were in the local paper for their fundraising. The link is here: <http://www.liverpoolchampion.com.au/story/4173871/film-night-with-a-difference/>

A big thank you to everyone that supported her efforts.