



From the Principal's Desk

I find it hard to believe that another year has flown by with so much happening over the last 12 months! Here are the highlights of the year gone by:

- We increased our student numbers to 50 and opened the Life Skills House.
- We had six students complete work experience placements.
- We have successfully won four grants this year --- Waste Wise, Maker Space/Robots, PACER and one for iPads. These grants help us add to and complement our existing teaching and learning programs.
- We have paid a deposit on our first interstate school trip to Canberra.

Additionally, we completed our school re-registration process, with the site visit/audit taking place this term. We now have several students who have been enrolled in CGEA courses.

On another positive note, one of our students, Taya Norton, has been working this year on a school-based traineeship in hospitality. Taya

has been working three days per week in the kitchen and completing a Certificate II in Hospitality whilst also completing her school work at the College. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Alcoa for their generous funding contribution to our School Based Traineeship program. Next year, we hope to be able to offer another student the same opportunity afforded to Taya this year.

There is plenty to be proud of in 2017 and I am certainly looking forward to what 2018 brings to Fairbridge College. Hopefully we can continue to improve our offerings for students and extend the opportunities they have to engage with the wider community. We will also continue to strive to improve school engagement and the academic levels of the young people who attend the College.

I want to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May you all have a safe holiday season and I look forward to seeing you in January!

Jen



Lisa's World

With the end of the year galloping toward us I find it cathartic to sit back and take stock of what has happened this term and the whole of 2018.

We have had a lot of new students this semester which has changed the dynamic of our school quite a bit. The students have brought with them challenges, new opportunities for growth and an opportunity for me, as Literacy and Art teacher, to explore some new teaching strategies and reinvent some old ones.

We have achieved so much this term alone that, when I start to look back to the beginning of 2017, I realize just how far we have come and how much change and growth has occurred for our school, for our staff as well as for our students.

In Literacy we have been investigating the mode of film and looked in depth at the classic "Stand By Me" by Stephen King. The elements of camaraderie, the consequences of our decisions, the benefit of hindsight as well as the use of character, setting, and suspense were investigated. "Karate Kid" is another movie that we have been studying with the Year 7 and 8 students. Of course the use of violence was discussed as was the moderated approach of martial arts. We even had a touch of role play by some of our more exuberant Yr7 and 8s. The alternatives to physical assertiveness were discussed in both the films and the presence of gangs and bullying were noted and discussed with parallels being drawn to present day.

The students have been getting involved in projects as part of the CGEA. We have such things as upcycling wooden furniture, mosaic work, wood burning, making Fairy gardens and

tie dying, which have all presented great opportunities for procedure writing, working through trial and error, as well as reflection, assessment and adjustment. We are looking forward to showcasing these amazing works at the end of year presentation night.

Fairbridge students have had the opportunity to engage in a number of excursions and experiences, but I will let our Excursion Master Extraordinaire, Ross, tell you about that! Again, these experiences present such a smorgasbord of opportunities for language and literacy, encouraging the students to express themselves appropriately, engage with each other authentically and engage with the wider public in a manner that endears them to our community. We visited places that offer employment opportunities for the future so the excursions presented great learning opportunities around appropriate behaviour in the work place, as well as exposing the students to different career interests.

With the presentation night at the end of the year the students have been collating samples of their work to display on boards, which present a good cross section of the activities that they have been doing. It is encouraging to look back at the students' work and note the improvement that is evident in their samples. It has been surprising and encouraging for the student to realize that, without struggling too much, they have all grown, matured and improved throughout 2017.

Some students will leave us at the end of the year to move onto their next adventure but many will remain with us and I am excited to continue to watch the development and growth that I know will occur throughout 2018 for all of us 😊



Paul's News

STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Reflecting on the past term and the year as a whole, it's great to see the progress many students have made in different areas. Our maths program is in full swing and a few students have completed all of the maths booklets in their Certificate in General Education for Adults, while others have completed some books and all students making some progress.

Our younger students in Years 7 and 8 have been studying graphing, money and finance, and geometric shapes. Some of the older students are doing some maths remediation by also doing these programs. Most of the students have also been engaged in *MangaHigh*, a computer based revision and extension tool for mathematics. Students are able to log in to complete set assignments, make attempts, revise incorrect answers with assistance from the program and achieve medals that demonstrate increasing levels of competency. Parents looking to set home-based maths work can use the student logins at home and practice classwork or set their own tasks of student interest.

We had an exciting mid-term development with the arrival of four Lego EV3 Mindstorm robots via the federal government Maker Space funding. They come with electric motors and a wide array of different sensors and parts. They are programmed on the computer and their appearance and function are only limited by a student's imagination and developing robotics skills. I have really enjoyed watching students get excited at developing new skills and have been genuinely impressed by some of the creative uses of the sensors and robot programming.

Waste Wise

Students have worked across a wider range of sustainability issues this term. The use and operation of the indoor recycling bins has improved and we shifted our attention to using the

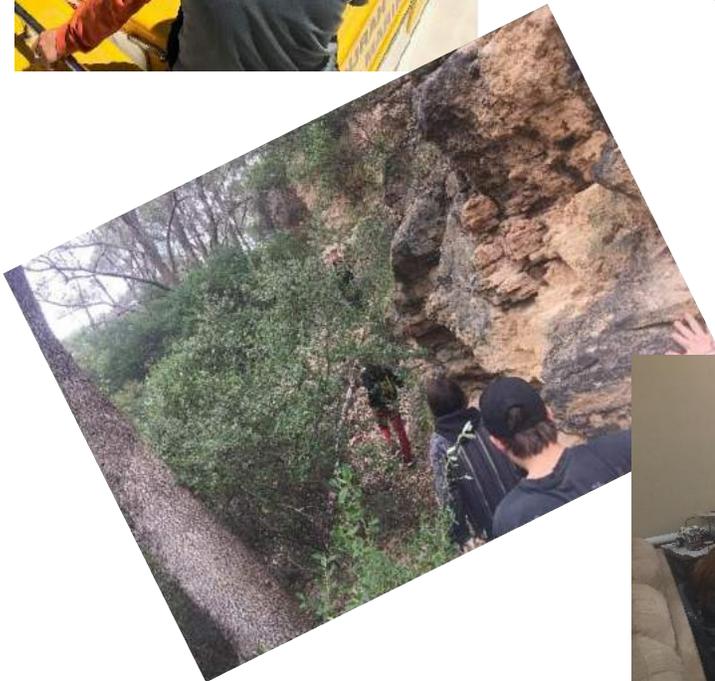
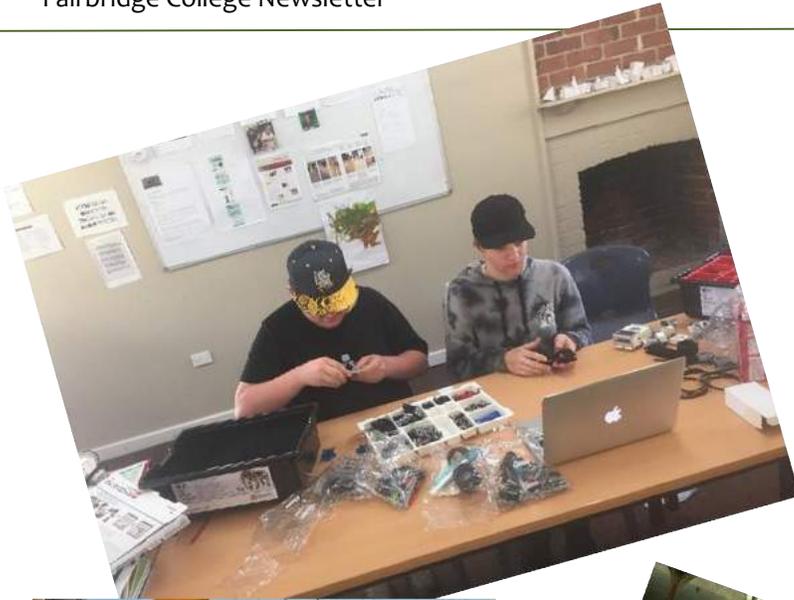
outdoor recycling, organic and waste bins. Students have also engaged with the topics of turning waste into resources, transportation issues and solutions, food miles, packaging, and renewable energy. The intention is to expand the program into other areas of sustainability. We also have a large food garden and seedling raising area as well as about 20 broken bikes just waiting for students to show interest in them. Science activities were incorporated into Waste Wise activities this term.

Bushwalking 101

We brought some formality to our regular bush walks around the village and developed a Bushwalking 101 unit for students this year. Several students completed the course and received a bushwalking survival kit for their efforts. The course covered being prepared with food, clothes, pack and equipment, and locations and fire lighting. It went over basic First Aid including managing shock, bleeds, bites, hypothermia, and dehydration. It also involved basic navigation with map and compass, GPS, and staying safe. The course culminated in a whole day walk in December in the Lane-Poole Reserve in the Dwellingup area. Jarrod, Riley, Josh and Daniel helped in the preparation and risk management procedures, carried and rationed their own food and water, and walked about 9kms on the Xanthorrhoea trail before finishing with a swim at Baden Powell. A really great day was had by all. Next year I would like to build on the start we have made, hike more regularly, and develop our skills towards overnight trips so that we can range further afield.

Paul





Life Skills House

Jenner Cottage, which we know as the Life Skills House, provides Fairbridge College with a unique space in which to implement programs which respond to the ever changing needs of our student cohort. We are very lucky that the Village allow us the use of the house.

In its first iteration, the house was a place where we could work with nine students who, after some time at school, had still not bought in with their behaviour and had demonstrated a lack of academic progress. The aim was to work on the Certificate I in Leadership Development and CGEA Certificates in a more one-on-one way with less moving around and distraction.

Robbie worked with the boys until lunch time and then they were able to join the other students for sports and special projects. The afternoon program was dependent on whether or not students had stayed on task, remained in the school boundaries and focused on their studies. There were also house chores to do such as washing up, mopping, watering the plants and washing and drying the towels and tea towels for the school.

On Mondays, most worked with Jane from our Fairbridge RTO to complete the AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management (CLM) unit AHCMOM203 Operate basic machinery. Many thanks also to Iggy for allowing our boys to join her team each week. Jane helped the boys with the paperwork and then they would go out to mow, whipper snip or chain saw as required by the different content areas of the unit. The Fairbridge Grounds Crew including Bec and Dave provided on-site training in machinery operation and the boundless hectares of the Village site has been a great training area!

After this semester, several students have made significant academic progress and had such a huge turn around in behaviour. This has really blown everyone away!! These boys now work independently on their workbooks and have consolidated and built their reading, writing, handwriting and mathematical skills.

Next year we will be running a similar program as well delivering a more formalised Life Skills Program to all of the students. So watch this space for lots of interesting action in 2018!

Robbie, Jess, Jane, Tammy and Thor



Adventures with Ross

HASS and Leadership

The year 7/8 students have been learning about the concept of community. Specifically, they have looked at different communities within Australia and how they vary or how they are similar to their own community. They looked at the different features of their own community and how the community is dependent on the environment. The students also had a brief study of communities in overseas countries such as New Zealand. They also studied other neighbours of Australia such as Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and the Islands off Australia's east coast.

The Leadership students have surprised me, having completed quite a few booklets in the last semester. Most students have completed 'Apply Basic Communication Skills', which covers the development of communication skills in the workplace. Others have also completed 'Explore Fundamentals of Leadership', which provides students with an insight into the attributes of effective leaders and how leaders may impact others. Quite a few students have completed 'Follow Workplace Safety Procedures', which covers the competency to follow occupational health and safety procedures in order to ensure a safe workplace.

Excursions and Community Access

Over the last term the students have visited Alcoa Huntly Mine site, Mandurah Volunteer Sea Rescue Group, Cahunu Koala Park and the Fremantle Prison. We also had a visit from Akwabba African Drumming.

The older students toured Alcoa's Huntly Mine to get an insight into the Bauxite mining and employment opportunities within Alcoa. The students saw dump trucks and giant shovels in operation as well as the rehabilitated land, the ore crusher and the conveyor belt transporting the ore.

A group of students had a wonderful day visiting the Mandurah Sea Rescue Group to see how volunteers make a difference to the community. The students were given a tour of the groups facilities by volunteers, looking at their headquarters which houses their rescue boats and equipment as well as seeing the other volunteers at work manning the radios to keeping an eye on fishing boats and recreational boats at sea. They were also lucky enough to board a rescue boat and cruise the Mandurah Estuary and canals.

Cahunu Koala Park gave the students the opportunity to interact with native and domestic animals. Although most students have been to a zoo or wildlife park it was a great opportunity for student-staff and student-student bonding. A picnic in the park at Byford was enjoyed by the students and staff before the journey home.

Fremantle Prison gave the students an insight into the daily life for the convicts at the prison, who were strictly controlled and defined by routine. They also learnt about how the prisoners were punished through hard labour in leg irons, solitary confinement, floggings and diets of bread and water. The students really enjoyed the tour, especially looking at the ghost in the chapel window and seeing the gallows.

Paul and Colin from Akwaaba African Drumming visited the school during the term which was a fantastic experience for the students and staff. Drumming is an excellent way for students to learn self-awareness and a valuable channel for intense emotions and teaches containment of strong feelings and impulses that would otherwise become disruptive or destructive. It was an extraordinary learning activity!!

Attendance Stars

The following students had the **at least** 80% attendance this term:

Joel Hersey
Brodey Goodyear
Daniel Clark-Partington
Jarrod Mallett
Luis Gaebler

Josh Lupton
Manning Fahey
Myles Gaebler
Taya Norton



THANK YOU!

We would like to formally thank the **Watershed Wines in Yallingup, Mitre 10 Northam, Pinjarra Pharmacy, Oakford Equestrian Centre and Australia Post** for their generous donations towards our fundraising. We would also like to thank everyone who has sold or purchased chocolates as part of our Canberra fundraising. We will be selling them throughout Semester 1 2018, so be on the lookout for ways to support the students! Without community support, projects such as our trip to Canberra would not be possible!



Exhibition and Awards Ceremony

On Tuesday 12 December 2017, the Fairbridge College Community gathered together for the 2nd Annual Exhibition and Awards Ceremony. We were blown away by the turnout for the event. Students should be proud of their presentations as they were a true representation of all of the hard work that was done this year!

The following students were presented with awards that day:

Hannah Hopwood
Damien Johnson
Jake Baker
Harmony Dunstan
Josh Lupton
Jarrod Mallett
Taya Norton
Jarrod Mallett
Myles Gaebler
Daniel Clark-Partington

Literacy Award
Numeracy Award
Leadership Award
Art Award
Sustainability Award
Engagement Award
Attendance
Attendance
Attendance
Attendance





31 st January	First Day Term 1
17 th February	Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser – Mandurah Bunnings
5 th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
7 th March	<i>Tentative</i> Quiz Night – Pinjarra RSL
30 th March – 3 rd April	Easter Holidays
13 th April	Last Day Term 1
23 rd -27 th April	Canberra Trip

Secondary Assistance Scheme

If you hold a Health Care Card, then you will be eligible to participate in the Secondary Assistance Scheme. The forms will be mailed out early in Term 1 and if you have any questions, please ring the office and speak to Bev so that you can enrol in the program.

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

YEARS 7 TO 12
YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO:

\$350
towards school expenses

DO YOU HOLD A: ● CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD
(OR) ● CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD
(OR) ● VETERANS' AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

Applications Close
Friday 13 April 2018

ASK SCHOOL RECEPTION FOR MORE INFORMATION

SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep up to date with things at Fairbridge College!

