



Schools of Isolated and Distance Education

# INSIDE VIEWS



'Sunburned Country' by Taylah

## From the Principal



Jonathan Bromage  
Principal

As the school year comes to a close it is a good time to look back at the achievements of the year. Schools are always busy places; this year, SIDE has been exceptionally so with a number of new initiatives implemented in 2014 or planned for implementation in 2015:

### 1. Year 7 move to secondary schooling

We're looking forward to

welcoming Year 7 students into the secondary years. New learning programs have been prepared and a series of online and face-to-face information sessions have been held. The online SABA session for parents and caregivers on Thursday 13 November was well attended and I enjoyed meeting a large number of parents on Friday 21 November.

It was also great to see a number of students attend the orientation morning on Friday 5 December to experience a range of activities run by learning areas.

### 2. Enrolment policy changes

Like all public schools, SIDE is using the new Department of Education enrolment process. The process is a significant change from the previous system, now with two stages. The Student Services Team is using the new system for 2015 enrolments.

### 3. Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with a Disability

This year, every Australian school was required to identify the number of students enrolled who have a disability as defined in the Disability Discrimination Act (1992). SIDE staff consulted with the parents or partner schools of 219 students and made adjustments to the learning program of each of these students.

### 4. Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA)

2014 was the first year of OLNA testing for Year 10 students. The OLNA is now one of the requirements for students to achieve a WACE at the end of Year 12. Systems were put in place to manage the OLNA testing and the numerous challenges that arise from delivering this form of test in a school like SIDE. The first round of testing had an 83% pass rate. It is essential that all Year 10 students sit the OLNA next year if required as the results can play a significant role in determining their senior secondary programs.

## This Term's Issue

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Over thirty students signed up for the induction session at SIDE on Friday 5 December.

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Secrets to student success revealed for parents.

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Why active living is important.

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Learn a language and open the door to a better world.

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#### 5. WACE 2015 – development of teaching and learning materials

Learning areas have been preparing courses for the new Year 11 WACE courses starting next year. This year the school allocated funds to provide support and resources to teachers to ensure that programs of a high standard are ready for 2015. New Certificate II courses will be on offer next year to enhance opportunities for senior secondary students. Further details are available on the school website.

#### 6. Long service leave

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, all employees have been instructed to clear outstanding long service leave this year. This has resulted in many teachers being away for considerable periods during term time, a situation the school normally actively avoids. The excellent work of heads of learning areas, teachers and relief teachers has ensured that programs have continued with the minimum of disruption.

#### 7. Early Years Learning Framework

This is Australia's first national Early Years Learning Framework for early childhood educators. The aim of the Framework is to extend and enrich children's learning from birth to five years; for SIDE this means kindergarten and pre-primary. Deputy Principal, Tundie Jones, and key ECE teachers have attended professional learning programs in readiness for the mandatory Framework implementation and reporting in 2015.

#### 8. Strategic Plan 2014–17

The SIDE Strategic Plan was developed through a number of school committees and published during Term 2. The Strategic Plan is available on the school website:

<http://www.side.wa.edu.au/about/communication/plans-and-reports.html>

The Strategic Plan 2014–17 now forms the basis for all planning at the school.

#### 9. National School Opinion Surveys

Introduced this year, collection of data for the National School Opinion Surveys is now a federal requirement of

all schools. Three surveys were issued; 58 responses were received from parents, 66 from students and 67 from staff. The results were used during a whole-school planning day recently and will be utilised to inform further decision making. Thank you to those who responded.

#### 10. Student-centred funding model

The new funding model will bring greater flexibilities to SIDE. Key staff have attended training and have been using the new processes for 2015 planning. The impact of this change will become clearer during 2015.

#### 11. Reporting – flexible delivery

For school-based students, a long term goal of SIDE has been the ability to include our reports with those of the partner school for parents to receive all of their child's reports in one place. New functionality in the reporting system SIDE uses enabled a trial to give partner schools the ability to print reports. This involved approximately 170 partner schools. The process was reviewed after two reporting cycles and, based on feedback from a number of parties, will not be continued for 2015.

#### 12. Whole-school literacy strategy

This year SIDE has implemented a whole-school literacy strategy, led by Linley Taylor and the Literacy Committee. A series of professional learning activities has been offered to all staff to raise awareness of how all learning areas have a role to play in literacy development and to ensure a consistent approach across the school. 2015 will be a year of further implementation and consolidation of whole-school literacy strategies. I am looking forward to seeing the results of the hard work and dedication of SIDE staff.

### Awards ceremony – Tuesday 2 December

It was a pleasure to present a number of awards and leavers' certificates to our Year 12 students last week. I enjoyed the opportunity to meet a number of students and their families after the ceremony and hear positive feedback about the school and, more importantly, how their studies have enabled them to meet their personal goals and progress to the next stage of their life, whether it is university, vocational training or work.

## Staffing changes

A number of long term members of staff are leaving SIDE at the end of this year:

- Alice Vaughan, Sheila Lea – Careers Development Team (CDT)
- Glenda Russell – English
- Pam Clarke – Mathematics
- Peter Warden – Health and Physical Education (HPE)
- Trish Chopping – Languages
- Darrel Rowbottom, Leonie Wilson – Science
- Julie Weber – Head of Learning Area (HOLA) Science; has won the HOLA Science position at Byford Secondary College

I wish these teachers all the best and thank them for their commitment to SIDE students over the years.

Several members of staff will be away from SIDE for the 2015 school year:

- Jenny Dobner – CDT; has won the VET Coordinator position at Eastern Goldfield College
- Lindy Precious and Valda Puls – Humanities and Social Science (HASS)
- Richard Charlwood – Languages
- Joan Milne – Technology and Enterprise
- Robert Sturgess – Mathematics
- Valdene Buckley – CDT

SIDE will also be welcoming a number of new staff members:

- Kylie Bradford joins us as Learning Support Program Coordinator. Suri Naidoo will move to become Science Head of Learning Area
- Richelle Trood joins the Primary team as Deputy Principal
- Katarina Popp returns to the position of Arts Head of Learning Area
- Tina Mastrantonio – Learning Support teacher
- Simon Bourke – HASS teacher
- Caroline O’Sullivan – HASS teacher
- Maverick Pagkalinwan – HPE teacher
- Paul St Quintin – Science teacher

I would also like to congratulate Veronika Popp and Susan Taylor for achieving Level 3 Classroom Teacher status

this term. Level 3 Classroom Teacher status ensures exemplary teachers are recognised and rewarded for their exceptional teaching practices after a rigorous assessment process.

Mr Noel Chamberlain returns to the Principal’s position next year. Having taken on the principal’s role for a number of periods this year, it has been great for me to be able to see the high standards achieved by students at SIDE across the different year groups and to hear about the terrific relationships developed between students, supervisors and teachers.

I wish you all a safe, happy and restful festive season.

**Jonathan Bromage**

Principal

## SIDE Points – Term 4

### Bronze

Charles	Mason	Shaina	Montana
Emily	Imke	Emily	Joe
Ray	Zion	Thomas	Nicole
Tristan	Cody	Flynn	Khendon
Zane	Chloe	Oliver	Kelli
Oska	Luke	Ashlee	Zhara
Shenae	Jacob	Harvey	Keeley
Max	Faiza	Axel	Jasmine
Bobbie-Lee	Nicole	Gianni	Keaton
Elyssa	Flo	Charles	Amelia
Kailey	Asiah	Jack	Chloe
Sophie	Mitchell	Khalad	Jesse
Monique	Zanthi	Charles	Brooke
Kaitlyn	Tyler	Obi	Laura
Chevy	Sehaj		

### Silver

Isaac	Kailey	Gus
Billy	Liam	Laveda
Alana	Denni	Isla

### Gold

Reynald	Christine
Declan	Salmah
Courtney	

### Platinum

Flo
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### From the Deputy Principal



Jacquie Sandhu  
Deputy Principal

Our Year 12 leavers completed their formal secondary schooling in style at SIDE's Awards Ceremony. Highest achievers across the many courses offered here at SIDE were formally acknowledged. All of the key partners in the education of SIDE's Year 12 Class of 2014 – their dedicated teachers and supportive families – joined students in celebrating their personal and

public achievements. For Year 12 students, it represented the culmination of their school days at SIDE and the start of a new and exciting chapter in their lives.

A newsletter that celebrates the achievements of our top students in Years 8–12 will be circulated to families by the end of the school year. I congratulate our award winners for 2014.

We welcomed the Years 6–8 to participate in a transition day on 5 December to ensure that they commence the new school year in 2015 ready and eager to go. Students' smiling faces and eagerness were a strong indication of the success of the day. Parents and carers attended an information afternoon and a Saba classroom online event. By all reports, our transition program has been a success, with Year 6 and Year 7 students looking forward to the new opportunities that will open up for them as they commence their studies at SIDE next year.

In reading the lower secondary reports I note that there is a common trend where good attendance is most often matched by quality achievement. Comprehensive research undertaken using WA data has revealed some alarming facts. For example, we would regard a student who attends 90% of the time as attending regularly and would therefore not tend to target such a student for intervention. But, 90% attendance means that student misses one day a fortnight, which is one week a term. That amounts to four weeks a year, so, if this pattern is established from the beginning of formal schooling, that student will have missed a whole year by the end of Year

9. If the pattern occurs throughout secondary school, the student will have missed a whole semester between Years 8 and 12.

I am sure that you agree that no student could miss this much and still achieve their potential. Of course, absence for genuine illness can't be helped. The issue is that some young people have formed a habit of non-attendance long before they even get to high school and, unfortunately, the amount of learning missed in any one day becomes harder to recover in secondary school. It is important that students view school as their unpaid workplace. At SIDE, this means students adhere to scheduled Saba lessons, engage in Moodle and are fully equipped to learn. If your son or daughter has an unavoidable absence, it is greatly appreciated that you contact the teacher and/or student coordinator just as you would inform an employer.

### Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date.

#### How students can apply for a TFN from 1 January 2015

The Australian Taxation Office in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN. Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office. Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at [ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au) by searching for 'QC27248'. Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form 'Tax file number – application or enquiry for individuals' (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at [ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au) by searching for 'QC22604'.

If you require any further information you can phone 1300 130 282 between 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

I wish to thank the parents/carers and school supervisors of all secondary students for the opportunity of working with and assisting your sons and daughters this year. I do



hope they have thoroughly enjoyed their year, developed their skills and knowledge, and that a definite hunger exists for more challenges next year.

**Jacquie Sandhu**  
Deputy Principal

## Student Services

### Parent Information Session— Online

Student Services have been working very hard at making the Year 7/8 transition to SIDE as seamless as possible. One of the events scheduled was a Parent Information Session on 13 November at 3pm. This was done using a Saba event. A number of parents attended the session, conducted by Angela Melia and Stacey Mylonas. The session's aim was to help parents understand how their children would be working at SIDE and what attending an online school environment looked like. Stacey ran through the physical and IT requirements students need for effective learning. She discussed the SIDE website and what to expect at the beginning of 2015 so the students can get started with their learning from day one. The DoE Portal was explained along with the student email; the importance was stressed of the students using this email as a major means of contacting their teachers. Angela introduced the Saba and Moodle teaching and learning platforms and Stacey concluded with work completion calendars and student timetables, emphasising how many hours students are expected to allocate to each subject and which subjects are compulsory for Year 7/8s. The session was recorded as a Public Event and can be accessed via the SIDE website if other parents are interested in listening in order to gain information relevant to their Year 7/8 child.

### Parent information session @ SIDE

An information session for parents of incoming Year 7 and 8 students was held at SIDE on Friday 21 November. Parents had the opportunity to hear from the Heads of Learning Areas about the education program for Year 7 and 8s in 2015. Other topics discussed included establishing a suitable work area, required ICT resources and the use of Saba and Moodle. Over thirty parents attended this informative session that provided an overview of the Year 7 and 8 program.

### Year 7 student induction @ SIDE

Over thirty students signed up for the induction session at SIDE on Friday 5 December. The program consisted of a variety of hands-on sessions, including Science, Physical Education, Information Technology and Art. The day was a great introduction to SIDE and an opportunity for students to meet each other and their teachers.

### Career Centre is moving

Career Centre is a 'shop front' for people of all ages seeking information and advice relating to career, education and training pathways in WA.

As of Tuesday 13 January the Career Centre will be located on Level 7 of the GPO Building at 3 Forrest Place in Perth.



Gerard meeting his new student coordinator, Gay Tierney

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### Careers and VET

#### SIDE VET says ‘goodbye’ to CGEA and Work Education

This year sees the last of the courses for Certificates of General Education for Adults (CGEA) and the Work Education VET Certificate being run at SIDE. These have been the most frequently achieved VET certificates out of all those offered at the school since 2006.



As CGEA was an engagement program, hundreds of students who didn't manage to achieve a whole qualification were still able to add to their career portfolios. Statements from both the state curriculum authorities and the relevant TAFEs endorse the program's facilitation of bridging opportunities post-school.

Compared against the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) Quality Indicator relating to Learner Engagement, both programs were a clear success. A high percentage of these remotely-based students would not have attended school if it hadn't been for the dedicated teachers involved. We also had a significant cohort from our Referrals programs. Many students found the programs, along with input from Workplace Learning coordinators, helped them to meet career development milestones, which in turn led them into promising job positions both in government and private enterprise. However, as time progresses so do curriculum policies and new criteria for student success. New measures in student achievement in VET involve revised parameters and, as such, CGEA and Work Education do not meet these new constraints. It is therefore important to recognise the main teachers of the CGEA who not only facilitated their students' tangible



achievements but, perhaps more significantly, helped to instil a love of learning into our most remotely-located and disadvantaged teenagers.



Thank you to Sheila Lea, Jennifer Dobner, Ralph Gerrard, Valdene Buckley, Alice Vaughan and Dylan Reid for their efforts in what many see as the 'last-resort opportunity' to make a real difference to those that needed it the most – and they most certainly did. Also, a big

thank you for this program over the years to our Auspicing Partners: Central Institute of Technology, Polytechnic West and Challenger Institute of Technology.

2015 is a new start in our education system, which also brings exciting opportunities for students to engage in the new Workplace Learning course while being taught new, improved and exciting VET courses in Media, Business, Finance, Information Technology and Languages (French and Japanese). School-based traineeships and Aboriginal school-based training are always on our radar. Over the years we have had over 100 students achieving VET success from nearly every industry imaginable. Our VET Dux for 2014 was a trainee from the sport and recreation industry and we are hoping to enable more budding athletes to 'jump' into something they love while also providing them with opportunities to explore occupations within a changing industry.



If you would like further information on school-based traineeships, school-based apprenticeships and Aboriginal school-based training, please don't hesitate to contact me, Nic Keskinidis, on 9242 6867 or Shane Murray on 9242 6866.

**Nicholas Keskinidis**

**B.Com Dip.Ed**

Program Coordinator: Careers and VET

2014 President: Business Educators of WA

## Secondary Assistance Scheme

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs.



The allowance consists of two components:

- \$115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian or the school.
- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school to reduce the contributions and charges payable by the parent/guardian.

Applications for the scheme need to be completed by the parent or guardian for student/s enrolled in Years 7–12.

To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold one of the following cards:

- Department of Human Services (Centrelink) Health Care Card
- Department of Human Services (Centrelink) Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card (Please note: the only Veterans' Affairs Card that meets the criteria is a blue card that is issued annually and expires in December each year. This card is income means tested.)

The parent/guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid some time during first term. The only exception to this is when a student holds a health care card and has been declared independent by Centrelink (eg living away from home). In this instance, a letter of confirmation from Centrelink needs to accompany the application.

The allowance is paid up to and including the year the student turns 18 years of age, ie students born in 1996 or before are ineligible for 2015.

Application forms are to be completed at the school during Term 1 and close **Thursday 2nd April 2015**.

For more information please contact the cashier on 08 9242 6323 or discuss with the student coordinator at the time of enrolment.

## Learning Support

This has been a very exciting time of year for many of our students.

Apart from the work they are doing in their Moodle and Saba classes we have had students completing work in a new program called ASDAN. This is a curriculum development organisation which offers programs and qualifications that explicitly grow skills for learning, life skills and future employment.

This year was the first year SIDE offered this course to students in Learning Support. We are pleased to say that we had five students who presented portfolios for moderation, and that all portfolios passed and were given some very positive feedback. We would like to congratulate: Flo from Shark Bay School, Courtney from Gingin DHS, and Shoab, Patrick and Tristan from Mount Magnet for their hard work and the effort they put in to produce their portfolios.

The students will be presented with their certificates in 2015. We are looking forward to having more students enrolling in this course and achieving fantastic results. One of our ICT teachers, Miranda Free hosted an [Hour of Code](#) as part of a worldwide event. Harvey, a Year 8 student in the Elite Ballet program at SIDE, completed the Hour of Code and was issued with a certificate.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Education Assistants and SIDE supervisors who have assisted with gathering materials for student portfolios, and for being part of the students' learning journey throughout the year.

### Sue Taylor

Learning Support

Acting Program Coordinator

## English

As 2014 draws to a close the English Department has spent time reflecting on and celebrating the achievements of the Learning Area and those of our students. This has been a demanding year, with the need to prepare many new courses for 2015 and beyond. This has seen the English staff working extremely hard to meet the needs of our current students, and those of the future.

We have been committed to providing students with rich and engaging learning experiences, and in celebrating this it is always a pleasure to share the work and feedback of our students. Read on to enjoy a selection of English feedback and work from 2014.

### Year 8 English

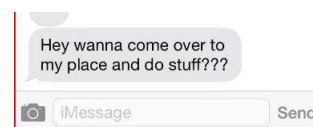
As part of our program in Year 8 English we collect feedback from our students. It's always terrific for us to gather this information as it forms the basis of future planning. Here are some comments from our students about their experiences in English this year:

- I have learnt to be more confident when I speak in front of people because of the public speaking assessment we did.
- I love how resources and information are made easily available on Moodle. The English course is neat and easy to navigate.
- The main thing that stood out for me was using correct words and punctuation while writing stories and blogs.
- The thing that stands out for me is that everyone in Saba class is extremely friendly. I enjoyed doing blogs.
- The thing that stands out for me how good the teachers are, always getting us (students) to answer questions. I'm always able to talk to her about anything school related.
- The one thing that really stands out for me is Assessment 9. Making your own tall tale was a blast! I loved how I was able to write about anything that I wanted to. I had heaps of fun doing this as I was 'fired up' about writing my very own tall tale.
- The whole set up of this course is very helpful and I love doing it this way. It is a well organised course and the information in Moodle is very helpful when completing Assessments. The Saba classroom is also a great reference.

One of the most enjoyed activities in Year 8 English this year seemed to be writing a humorous story, with some very funny stories created by our imaginative students. Enjoy this story below, from Zion:

### The English Assessment

I was just lazing around at home playing COD, shoot'n stuff when suddenly my mum walks in the room. "Sweetie shouldn't you be doing your homework? Remember you've got to write a funny story for English this week." "But Muuuuum it's soooooooooooooooooo boring!" Then I get a text from my friend Danny:



I text back:



"Muuuuuum!"  
 "What is it sweetie?"  
 "Can I go over to Danny's house for a bit?"  
 "But what about your English assessment?"  
 "I'll do it at Danny's house."  
 "Well ... OK sweetie!"  
 I pick up my homework and go to Danny's place.  
 I walk up the stairs to Danny's room. His room is a mess, filled with lolly wrappers and dog hair.  
 "What's up?" Danny says.  
 "Nothing much," I say. "I've got this English assessment where I have to write a funny story."  
 "Really? That sounds like fun."  
 "Well it isn't actually. And it's hard because nothing funny ever happens to me."  
 "Really? NOTHING funny has ever happened to you?!"  
 "No."  
 "Well ... How about we change that?"  
 Danny has a mad look on his face.



Before I know it I'm in Danny's backyard and I see him get a huge hose out of his shed.

"OK, point the hose at the ground and I'll turn it on. You'll go flying way up into the air and then when you fall back down, land on the trampoline."

"Are you sure this is safe?"

"Of course!"

"Then turn the tap on."

Danny turns the tap on and water comes gushing out of the hose at incredible speed. I go shooting up in the air, faster than a rocket. I get a great view of the town, but when I expect to stop I just keep going higher and higher, faster and faster until finally the hose gets pulled from the tap. I still don't stop and I feel that my pants are wet, at first I think it's water but then I realise I just peed myself.

Before long I'm in space. I'm about to be lost forever when George Clooney catches me.

"Thanks!" I say.

"No problem," says George Clooney.

He takes me to a satellite he's fixing with some other astronauts.

"Hey ummmm ... can I get your autograph?"

"Sure."

He writes it and just as he's about to hand it to me large bits of Russian satellite come rushing at us at the speed of sound. They start bombarding the satellite and one knocks me off the satellite and into space again. I start floating towards the moon. I see the American flag on the moon. I try to grab it but end up bouncing off the moon's surface and heading back towards the Earth. I enter the atmosphere. I start falling really fast. I start falling so fast that my clothes burn up and now I'm falling through the air completely naked. And to make matters worse a plane flies by and the passengers laugh and point at me and take pictures and put them on Facebook.

I keep falling until I land in the water at a beach in Hawaii. I get out of the water and make a skirt out of palm tree leaves. There's no time to waste, I gotta get back home. I pace around the beach trying to figure out what to do and just when I'm about to give up a shark pops its head from the water and says: "Hey, want a ride back home?"

"Sure," I say.

"Then hop in."

The shark opens his mouth wide.

"I'm not getting in there!"

"Why not?"

"Because you'll eat me!!"

"What? Nonsense. I would never eat a human. Honest."

"Hmm?"

"Oh didn't I tell you? I'm a vegetarian."

"Oh ... OK I guess I can trust you."

I hopped in the shark's mouth and he swam me all the way back to WA and onto a beach.

"Wow! Are we here already? Thanks ... uh I didn't get your name."

"Barry. That's my name."

"Barry? Well uh ... thanks Barry."

"No problem!"

And with that the shark winked and swam off.

So then I caught a bus back home and opened the door.

"MUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUM!"

"Yes sweetie?"

"I know what to write for my English assessment now!"

**By Zion**

## Year 9 English

In Term 4 students completed a challenging unit of work called 'Transformations'. Students examined the ways in which we make meaning from texts, exploring the notions of intertextuality, interpretations and characters by looking at 'the outsider'. Students read the classic text *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley in a lovely digital graphic novel format, and enjoyed working with the film *Edward Scissorhands*.

One task students had was to imagine they were living 1000 years into the future. They were asked to create a text where they reflected on a text or issue from 2014. Here is one example of work in response to this task:

**2014**

It was the year 2014,

The time of caffeine.

Where everyone was keen

Just to be seen.

Lots was happening

Companies were trapping

With their capitalist schemes

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The ISIS were beheading,  
Ebola was spreading.  
Middle East suicide bombers  
Were out of control

Planes were dropping  
You wish you didn't hear that sound  
MH 370 yet to be found.

Polar vortex, melting icecaps  
Danger looming, all too confusing  
Global warming without a warning  
And the ice age impending.

Did the people survive? Or did they dive,  
Into darkness too far to come out alive.  
It was up to them, all up to them.

Greeting Species of the Galaxies. I am Humanoid MLXXVI/DN. Today I would like to discuss the downfall of the human species. I found a poem written by a human. For those of you who don't recall the humans, they were a race that self-destructed 1000 years ago. They believed in fate, in God, in greed, in power and most of all themselves. A huge part of the population was wiped out by a viral disease called Ebola, the other part died due to wars for fuel and land. The remaining few were destroyed by the climate change caused by unprecedented greed for success and power.

An intelligent scientist called Prof. M. E. Duh sent a part of her DNA into a futuristic vault that merged her Human DNA with that of an Android. We all know 'The Merging' as the beginning of life as we the AIs know it. Without religion we will never have to face the tragedy of ISIS, as one galaxy we are together without nationalities, without races and without prejudice. We continue to clone and to control our growth so as not to destroy our environment. Humanoid MLXXVI/DN logging off.

By Sehaj

### Year 10 English

"Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?" Balcony scenes, feuding families, secret lovers and dark tombs have been the subject of classes for Year 10s studying

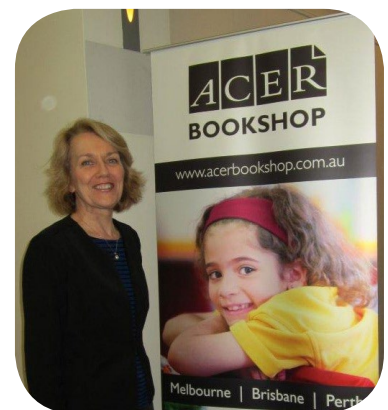
Shakespeare this term. Students have tussled with Shakespearean language, learnt about 'O' shaped theatres and unruly Elizabethan crowds. Then, as if the story of Romeo and Juliet wasn't enough, students have recited from the play and written their own monologues. We have watched performances of scripts about love and hate, obsession and rejection – it's all in a day's work for Year 10. We look forward to more exciting work from Year 10 students. In the meantime, it's back to that balcony and "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

### New Year 11 Courses for 2015

The English Department at SIDE is abuzz with new courses, writing resources and discussion on shifts in curriculum. We have been attending professional development days engaging with teachers from other schools, talking and thinking about films, books and writing programs for next year. We are looking forward to the implementation of our 2015 English courses with new look Moodle pages, rebranded Saba slides and exciting new activities and tasks.

### Professional Development

This term English teachers at SIDE have undertaken extensive Professional Development relating to Australian Curriculum, new WACE courses and using data effectively. Narelle Carlon and Angela Quinn attended a PAT Professional Learning Seminar from the Australian Council for Educational Research about using the data collected from our Entry Task each year to inform planning of curriculum. In this session they learnt about interpreting data and gained valuable ideas about the fine-grained use of the data to plan for activities which specifically target the particular needs of students.



Angela Quinn at the Acer PD

### Relief teachers

The smooth operation of the English Department is made possible by our relief teachers who step into the breach and support teachers who are absent. Esperanza Stein,



Esperanza Stein at work in the English Department

Lorraine Backhouse and Darne Willows have provided support and help throughout the year and we heartily thank them.

### A farewell

At the end of this year the English Department will farewell one of our staff members.

Glynda Russell has been a teacher at SIDE

for 24 years. Glynda's dedication to her students, her professionalism and her expertise in English have been a feature of the English Department that all of us have appreciated, valued and learnt from. Glynda will be on a period of Long Service Leave in 2015 and will then retire. We all wish Glynda an enjoyable retirement and thank her for her dedication to SIDE and to education over the years.



Glynda Russell

### Where to for 2015

2015 will bring many new experiences to the English Department as we continue to roll out Australian Curriculum and commence new Year 11 WACE courses, and of course we will welcome Year 7s to secondary English for the first time. It is sure to be a productive and rewarding year for all.

**Narelle Carlon & Sue Cullen**  
English Department

## Technology and Enterprise

### Design and Technology

The end of 2014 is fast approaching and I am pleased to say that I have had a lot of great work come in this year.

As Year 7 students will begin high school next year with SIDE, we have developed a new Design & Technology course for them.

This involves students designing a money box project which has to incorporate an engineering concept into it. This will be in the form of a mechanical coin deposit system. They will also be taught how to use CAD software to design an acrylic front panel for their boxes, which will be cut out with the SIDE laser cutter. Students load their CAD designs to Moodle 2 and choose their acrylic colour. The laser cut design is then posted back to them for inclusion in their projects.



Photo by Taylah

I continue to be very impressed with the amazing photos that are being taken by our Photography students.

They are really thinking about creative composition and effective lighting for their images.

Please return all tool kits to SIDE. Have a fantastic holiday!

**Phil Garnett**  
Design & Technology

## Online Teaching and Learning



### Secrets to Student Success Revealed – for Parents

As parents we know that this job does not come with any instruction manual. We don't need to pass any test to prove ourselves worthy of being parents nor do we need to submit any application. We receive the most intense 'on-the-job' training out there, with a little help from interested family and friends, from the latest bestseller, from the hottest parenting blog all with a big dose of good luck!! So when the SIDE Principal shared this website with me I was interested, if a little sceptical about its huge claims.



'Secrets to Student Success Revealed – for Parents' is an online course for parents created by SIDE's American counterpart, the Florida Virtual School. Their professional learning team has devised this self-paced, online course to help with your child's academic success whether they be at an online school like SIDE or even in a face-to-face school. The information provided here is relevant to learners from Years 2 to 12.

The course has 5 sections and provides tips on the following topics:

1. How to motivate your student and give praise that works.
2. Understand your student's brain to take advantage of its plasticity.
3. Improve your student's academics through sleep, nutrition and exercise.
4. How to talk with your student about grades in an effective manner.
5. Learn how to advocate for your child, and give your student the tools necessary to advocate for themselves.

You need to create an account to access this course but it

is free of charge and it is a safe and secure website. You just need an email account.

<https://www.udemy.com/secrets-to-student-success-revealed-for-parents/?dtcode=zaUrG5c1VGHy>

### Online learning at school 'prepares students for university'

Parents of children studying online may sometimes wonder if their child is getting the same opportunities as their peers in face-to-face schools. As online educators we know that learning online is no barrier to achievement. Researchers from the University of London have now confirmed this. Take a look at this interesting article which states that learning online 'helps students become confident, capable independent learners, and teaches them online research and communication tools ... essential requirements for university study'.

<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/news/online-learning-at-school-prepares-students-for-university/2016720.article>

**Angela Melia**

Head of Online Teaching and Learning Term 4

## Science

When you study Science through SIDE you can be sure you are getting the best possible education from very experienced teachers of Science. The science teachers at SIDE have been teaching for a total of 312 years (mean = 26 years). The most experienced teachers have been teaching for 39 years and the minimum any of our teachers have taught is for 11 years. This experience is also recognised outside of SIDE with many science teachers being involved in reference groups and committees that support science education.

- Alex Berentzen has been accepted to attend the National Science Teachers' Summer School to be held in Canberra in January 2015. He is currently enrolled in a Master of Science (Science and Mathematics Education) at Curtin University and was on the organising committee for the



state conference of the WA Science Teachers' Association.

- Julie Clark is a member of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority Curriculum and Assessment Committee for Human Biology.
- Natalie Cooper was an Independent Reviewer for the Stage 3 Biological Sciences WACE Exam, a team leader for the marking of Stage 3 Biological Sciences WACE Exam, and is on the School Curriculum and Standards Authority Standards Setting Panel for Biology Stage 3. Natalie is also a member of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority Curriculum and Assessment Committee for Biology.
- Diana Tomazos was on the organising committee for the state conference of the WA Science Teachers' Association.
- Julie Weber is a member of the WA Science Teachers' Association (STAWA) Council and Chair of the Science Talent Search. She is also a member of the Science ASSIST Online Teacher Expert Group and a member of the ABC Science Reference Group. Julie is currently editing the STAWA Year 11 Human Biology Laboratory Manual.

## Important staff changes for 2015

2015 will bring many challenges and changes. Science student numbers should increase next year as a result of Year 7 students moving to secondary school and the last of the half-cohort completing Year 12 this year. With these changes, we can expect to see new faces in Science in 2015.

Our Head of Science, Julie Weber, will leave us to take up a position as Manager of Science at Byford Secondary College. Julie has been with SIDE since 2008 where she has held the roles of Head of Science, Head of Languages



(Semester Two, 2013) and Deputy Principal (Semester Two, 2012 and Semester One, 2013).

Julie will be replaced as Science HOLA by Suri Naidoo, who joined SIDE in 2014 as Program Coordinator of Learning Support. Prior to this she was Head of Learning Area (Science) at Ellenbrook Secondary College for the past 7 years. Suri is looking forward to working as part of the Science team and with the SIDE community.



I would like to thank all students, supervisors and parents for all their hard work this year. Being organised and maintaining regular contact with teachers helps students succeed in this challenging mode of study. Improvements in technology are also enabling some of the hurdles of distance learning to be overcome.

For those students finishing with SIDE this year, we wish you all the best for the future. To returning students have a great break and we will see you back ready to work hard in 2015.

**Paul Tournay**  
Science teacher

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## The Arts

In the last issue, we showcased a number of our students' achievements, including entries in Metamorphosis, The Young Originals and Perspectives exhibitions. In our final communication for the year, we thought we'd shift the focus onto some exciting new opportunities to engage in The Arts at SIDE next year.

### Year 7 Arts program

Next year, we welcome Year 7s on board with a visiting artist initiative, where students can share what they learn about drawing with professional illustrators through SIDE's author online program.



Year 7 students will have the opportunity to explore their creativity through both Visual Arts and Media, where



they will be exploring ways to use digital technology to create their own animations. This year-long course is designed to encourage creativity and confidence in communicating through the Arts. We hope to see many future prize winners emerge from this new program.

### Media Production and Analysis

2015 sees the introduction of two new Senior Secondary Courses in this exciting area at SIDE: Stage 3 Media Production and Analysis and the Certificate II in

Creative Industries (Media). Building on the skills and understandings developed through our Stage 1 and 2 courses, Stage 3 students will be exploring contemporary and traditional media forms through analysis and production. We will start the year investigating the concept of media art, culminating in a production task where the focus will be on creating an innovative media product that shows a distinct sense of personal style. The Certificate II in Creative Industries is project-based, with the aim of developing career skills in digital media production. Students will develop a strong understanding of the Creative Arts industry in terms of future career pathways, employment opportunities, emerging technologies and general workplace practice.

Students involved in these new Media courses will have access to a fully functioning television studio and professional equipment at SIDE. There will be opportunities also to be involved in workshops run by practising media specialists, including assisting in a live television production.

The Arts Learning Area is all about encouraging our students to be imaginative, creative and expressive in exploring their ideas.

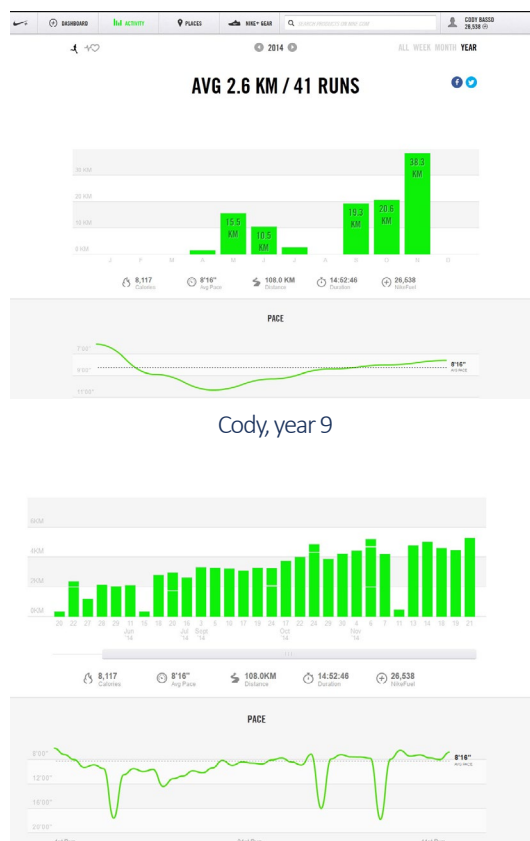
## Health and Physical Education

### Promotion — why active living is important

During this year students in Years 8–10 participated in Physical Education. Students in Year 8 were sent a pedometer and a hacky sack, students in Year 9 an iPod nano and students in Year 10 were sent juggling balls and a polar watch.

All of these items were used as motivators to encourage students to get active. Students also had to create their own movement videos and many showed great creativity depending on their location in WA or overseas.

Here is an example of a Year 9 student's results using the iPod nano:



Physical inactivity costs Australia \$13.8 billion per year. There are many reasons why being active helps your health and wellbeing. Movement, physical activity and exercise are also key ingredients in preparing the brain for learning and in boosting brain function.

– Heart Foundation

## The Health Curriculum

During this year the Health Education curriculum in the lower school has focused on building knowledge, skills, understanding and positive attitudes about health. It has looked at physical, mental, emotional and social health and helped students to make healthy choices and decisions. A variety of focus areas have included alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, nutrition, assertiveness, resilience, cyber bullying, goal setting, communication, peer pressure and self esteem, along with many more.

In 2015 Year 7 students will be part of the student cohort and participate in health and physical education lessons.

The implementation of the Australian Curriculum and the reporting date for HPE is 2017.

## Senior school Health Studies

2014 will be the final year for Stages 1 and 2.

In 2015 Year 11 students will be able to choose from the ATAR or General syllabus and Year 12 students will be able to choose from Stage 3 Health Studies (final year for this course) or Health Studies 1CD (final year for this course).

## Highlights of 2014

1. Using visible learning technologies and CMIS.
2. Ongoing updating of the Saba classroom and Moodle courses.
3. The use of ongoing strategies in health promotion to improve the health and wellbeing of the students and staff at SIDE.
4. Improved instructional delivery.
5. Ongoing use of strategies to improve the literacy levels of our students in both health and physical education.
6. Addressing the needs of students through individual education plans.
7. Improved teaching and assessment practices.

The HPE team would like to acknowledge their many students for their hard work over the last twelve months and call for continued commitment and dedication to the learning area into the future.

**Bronwyn Rakimov**

HOLA HPE

## Languages

Learn a language and open the door to a better world.

**Bonjour! Selamat Datang! Buongiorno! Konnichiwa!**

As the 2014 academic year comes to an end, we extend a sincere thank you to all our supervisors for their dedicated work in assisting with the languages programs in schools and to our students, from Kindergarten to Year 12, for their enthusiasm and commitment to classes this year. The language teachers at SIDE have enjoyed teaching and sharing their knowledge with you all.

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Students have been busy preparing for and completing their final exams and assessments this term. We would particularly like to acknowledge those students who have continued their language studies through to Year 12. Learning a language to this level equips students with valuable linguistic and intercultural skills and understandings that will be of vast benefit in their future lives. We wish all our leaving students success in their future endeavours.

Congratulations to all of our award-winning students for their dedicated approach to language learning through distance education. As we look to the summer holidays ahead, we are excited to hear that many of our students will be travelling overseas and will have the opportunity to apply the language they have learnt this year in authentic situations. We know of students visiting France, Indonesia, Italy and Japan and we hope you have a fabulous time using your language and deepening your understanding of the culture.

### Cadoux Primary School visit (Italian)



This term Mary and Denise, two of our Italian teachers, visited the welcoming school of Cadoux to participate in language activities with the students. The events of the day were based around the current topics being studied, and students engaged in language practice role plays for going to the doctor followed by cultural activities of making a model of the famous Ferrari car and playing the

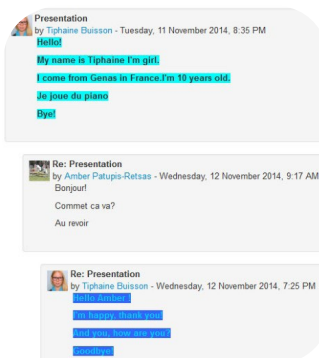


Students from Cadoux Primary School enjoying their day of Italian activities.

popular bowling game of bocce.

The classes enjoyed an Italian cooking lesson making pasta and tiramisu. Visiting the school provided a valuable opportunity to interact with the students whilst consolidating their Italian studies and a memorable cultural experience.

### France-Australia connection



In the newsletter in Term 2 we informed you of SIDE French teacher Veronika Popp's participation in a two week work shadow and methodology exchange in France in April. In an update on the project we are delighted to inform you that there has been ongoing sharing of personal stories, and students in both

countries are now exchanging cultural information about Christmas celebrations. Veronika says that this activity has been challenging and engaging for students as they are able to use their language for purposeful communication.

### Farewell to Andi

Andi Syurganda, through the Department of Education Indonesian Language Assistant Program, has been working at SIDE during Semester Two. Andi comes from Sulawesi Selatan (South Sulawesi), a large island in Indonesia which you may know of due to its very distinctive shape consisting of four large peninsulas.



Many students have been fortunate to have Pak Andi attending their online lessons to provide valuable conversation practice in Indonesian and discuss cultural aspects of his life growing up in Sulawesi. Pak Andi also has experience of farming practices in his country and can readily relate to the life of our rural and remote students. The language and information exchange opportunities



between both countries has been extremely beneficial and most enjoyable.

Andi leaves SIDE at the end of this term and we wish him all the best for his future endeavours.

### Lancelin Primary School Indonesian visit

Teachers of Indonesian, Sandra and Richard, went with Pak Andi to visit Lancelin Primary School where students learnt more about rice farming. They enjoyed making a windmill model similar to that used in the sawah (rice fields). Another highlight of the visit was preparing delicious nasi goreng (fried rice)! The teachers would like to thank Lancelin Primary School for their warm hospitality as usual.

### Jerdacuttup Primary School Japanese visit

Japanese teacher Aya visited Jerdacuttup Primary School, travelling to Ravensthorpe from where she was picked up by one of the staff members and driven the 60 km to the school.

Aya prepared a range of exciting activities for the students including craft and cooking. All of the students from Pre-primary to Year 7 had the opportunity to have a go at shibori (Japanese-style tie-dyeing). Students created fantastic designs using this ancient Japanese technique on cotton T-shirts or calico.



For morning tea, the students tasted some Japanese snack foods including wasabi beans and mochi (rice cakes). Students from Year 3 to 7 enjoyed preparing lunch, consisting of tamagoyaki (egg rolls), onigiri (rice balls wrapped in seaweed) and Japanese-style potato salad. All students were served up their lunch in genuine obentou boxes just like in a Japanese restaurant!

In the afternoon, students engaged in shuuji (calligraphy practice) and they all wrote their own names and the names of some animals in Japanese script.



Joyeux Noël!

Selamat Natal!



Buon Natale!

メリークリスマス!



SIDE Languages Department wishes you all a safe and happy break and we look forward to meeting new students and welcoming back continuing students in 2015!

## Humanities & Social Sciences

The Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) team is busy preparing for the introduction of Year 7 students to secondary school next year. Over the past few weeks we have been meeting with parents and new students and looking forward with anticipation to 2015.

The course for Year 7 HASS will begin with Australian Curriculum Ancient History and then move on to a combination of an Australian Curriculum Geography coupled with Civics and Citizenship. These courses are all brand new and we are excited to be preparing them.

A big thank you has to be extended to Janet O'Brien and the WestOne team of curriculum writers who prepared the interactive Ancient History course for us.

### New to HASS

Through this year the HASS Department have been ably assisted by Andrew Teo and Carolyn Vinton. Many students would already know Andrew as a Language teacher but he has many teaching capabilities and he has enjoyed teaching our Year 10 History students this year. Carolyn Vinton joined our department to teach Year 9 and Year 10 HASS students. Students may have also had the pleasure of being taught English by Carolyn. Carolyn has also been working alongside HASS teachers in their writing of new courses for the New WACE which is being rolled out to Year 11 students next year.

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### Semester 1: ANCIENT HISTORY

TASK Due	AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM History Year 7 	%
Week 3	History of Ancient Societies	10
Week 6	Proposal for conserving a shell midden	20
Week 10	Historical Inquiry: Mediterranean World	25
Week 12	Test: Ancient Australia and Rome	30
Week 15	Digital History of an Ancient Asian City	15

### Semester 2 : GEOGRAPHY

TASK due		%
Week 3	Water Study	10%
Week 6	Weather Investigation	30%
Week 10	Map Skills Quiz	25%
Week 13	Paragraph Writing	20%
Week 16	Lifestyle Survey	15%

The new look Moodle Course for 7HASS

## The new WACE

Year 11 students can now select from three General courses in HASS and five ATAR courses. General courses are being offered in Business Management and Enterprise, Geography and Modern History. ATAR courses are being offered in Accounting and Finance, Economics, Geography, Modern History and Politics and Law.

## Leaving us for 2015

We are bidding a fond au revoir to Valda Puls and Lindy Precious as they head off on their various travels next year. Valda is heading south to Albany while Lindy is heading off to travel the world.

## Politics and Law 2015

Lindy Precious will be globetrotting in 2015 and occasionally dipping back into Perth for a catch up. We will look forward to her stories upon her return in 2016. Meanwhile Simon Bourke, who is currently teaching at Canning Vale College, will be joining the HASS team for 2015.

Ros Keron will also be winging her way to Canada in the next holidays for a well-earned break from her History teaching and will be returning fresh for the new year.

## Economics 2015

Valda has been teaching Economics for the past six years at SIDE and will be testing the waters of Princess Royal Harbour in the forthcoming year. In 2015, Economics will be taught by Caroline O'Sullivan who is coming to us from Kinross College.



Valda Puls



Lindy Precious

## Winding up the year

We have been delighted by the level of engagement of our students in HASS this year. They have been a delight to teach and the HASS staff would like to commend them on their various successes.

Well done to all those who have been working so hard throughout the year. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. In particular I would like to thank the HASS team for all of their work in supporting their students throughout the year.

**Julia Freeman**

Head of HaSS Learning Area

## Mathematics

Another busy year is drawing to a close and what a hectic year it has been!

This year saw Australian Curriculum extend to the Year 9 classes. In 2015 Year 10 classes will use Australian Curriculum and of course we welcome the Year 7 students to SIDE.

We have also been busy preparing courses for the new WACE commencing in 2015.

Mathematics Moodle courses now have a standard design for Years 7 to 10 so that when you progress to the next year they will have a same 'look' and 'operation'.

We are applying the same idea of a standard design to the new WACE courses in Year 11.

Holiday time is a good opportunity to apply your 'incidental Maths'. Every time you go shopping, handle money and do some cooking, you are applying Mathematics. If you assist with household projects such as building, renovating and gardening, you are applying Mathematics. Think about how you apply Mathematics in your hobbies.

Here are some activities that you could try to keep those neurons firing.

Answers are provided at the end of the newsletter.

**Carolyn Bone**  
HOLA Mathematics

## Three's a crowd



Write down any number below 30.

eg 27

- Multiply the units digit by 4 and then add on the tens digit.

$$7 \times 4 = 28; 28 + 2 = 30.$$

- Repeat the process using a new number. For example: 15.

$$5 \times 4 = 20; 20 + 1 = 21.$$

What do you notice?

- Try starting with different numbers below 30.

## That's odd



Add the first two odd numbers.

$$\text{ie } 1 + 3 = 4.$$

Notice that:

$$4 = 2 \times 2 \text{ or } 2^2.$$

- Add the first three odd numbers.

$$1 + 3 + 5 = 9.$$

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What do you notice about the result?

- Try adding the first four odd numbers.
- Try to explain a quick way to add the first ten odd numbers.

## *Back to the start*

Write down any three-digit number, where all of the digits are the same.

eg 555

Add the three digits together to get the sum.

eg  $5 + 5 + 5 = 15$

- Multiply by 37, eg  $15 \times 37 =$
- Try for all other three digit numbers where all of the digits are the same.

What do you notice?

## Answers

Three's a crowd

You always end up with a multiple of 3.

That's odd

When you have an odd number of 'odd numbers': to add, simply locate the middle number in the sequence of numbers and square it, eg  $1 + 3 + 5 = 9$ ;  $3^2 = 9$ .

If you have an even number of consecutive odd numbers: to add, locate the two numbers in the middle, divide by two and square the result.

eg  $1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 + 11 + 13 + 15 + 17 + 19$

$9 + 11 = 20$ ;  $20 \div 2 = 10$ ;  $10^2 = 100$

Back to the start

Always ends up at the starting number.

## Library

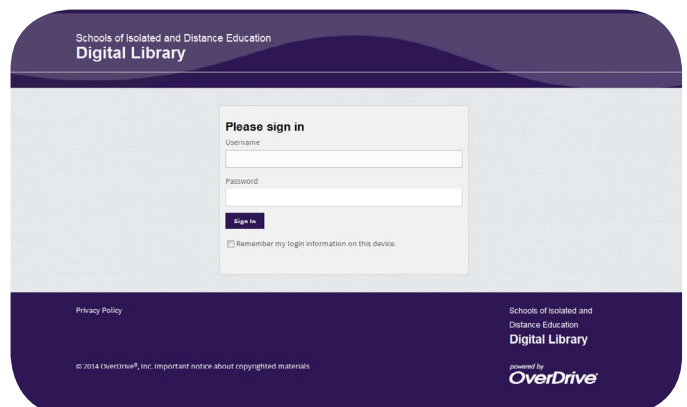
### Prizes for returning Library resources

Well done to all those students who returned their loans ON TIME. Your names have been put in a raffle and the winners will be notified shortly of their prizes.

If you want to be in next year's draw – I know it is a long way away – you need to remember to return your loans on time!

### Holiday loans

While you are on holidays, if you feel the need to read, and if you are returning to SIDE in 2015, you are welcome to borrow resources over the holidays. You can also access **SIDE Digital Library** through the link on the Welcome Page of the [Online Catalogue](#), or directly by [clicking here](#). This is what the page looks like.



To access the Digital Library you use your **Moodle username and password**.

Here is a [Help Sheet](#) to help you access the hundreds of e-books and e-audio books we have available. **Hint:** when you have made your book selection and clicked on Borrow, click on Read (in your browser) for easy access.

Please contact us if you need any help or have any questions. You can email us at [res.side@det.wa.edu.au](mailto:res.side@det.wa.edu.au), call us on 08 9242 6303 or use the [easy contact form](#) on the SIDE website.

**Liz Allen, Cathy Scott and Helen Willison**