



# The Marella Muse



**Kellyville High School**

Learning | Excellence | Integrity

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**LEARNING | EXCELLENCE | INTEGRITY**

**VOLUME 17 - EDITION 11**

**6 December 2019**

## Principal's message,

I wanted to start by thanking the parents who have taken the time to provide their feedback to the school. We are always keen to hear from the community as a whole and are always open to listening to any comments.

Based on the feedback from our community, we ran a workshop filled with students, parents and teachers and two themes came out from this. The word from the students is Kellyville High School is indeed awesome! The word from the parents is, why doesn't anyone know! The key lesson for us is we need to change how we interact with everyone involved with the school, both inside the school and outside. I also want to personally thank David Kempe (President of P&C) who gave up a full workday to participate and one of the parents, who facilitated the workshop.

This workshop is a milestone moment for us and we are excited about the various changes that will be coming. Most energising is the students who demonstrated such passion for the school, you can't help but be motivated to do better. The 28 students who were lucky enough to be part of the workshop gave glowing feedback and it looks like a great experience all around.

Over the coming months, we hope to see numerous changes, starting with this newsletter, but certainly not ending there! Expect to see new content, more contributors, more hyperlinks, meme's and 'cooler' looking newsletters. We are also looking at Facebook, Twitter, the 'gram, tiktok and other new terms I learned during the workshop! Luckily the students felt having a printed newsletter is also a good idea, so for those of us that prefer paper, we won't be forgotten!

I know it; the teachers know it - we are committed to ensuring the world knows it. We hope you join us in this journey to promote your local high school and ensure everyone knows that Kellyville High School is awesome.

The next newsletter is a bumper edition for the end of school year, watch out for that one. In the meantime, see if you can spot changes in this letter and let us know what you think, by emailing the Kellyville High School email address ATTN: The Muse Team at:

[Kellyville-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Kellyville-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

I would like to end at the start. I am truly grateful for the feedback received from many of you. Kellyville High School is one of the best schools - the students know it, the teachers know it - we are committed to ensuring the world knows it. We hope you join us in this journey to promote your local high school and ensure everyone knows that Kellyville High School is awesome.

Ms J Barnier

Principal



## 2019 | Term 4

<b>W9A</b>	7 – 12 Dec	Duke of Ed SLVR/GOLD
	11 Dec	Sports Assembly – 11am
	12 Dec	Presentation Day Rehearsal
	13 Dec	Talent Quest
<b>W10B</b>	16 Dec	Presentation Day 10-12.00pm
	17 Dec	HSC Results Released
	18 Dec	ATARS Released
		Last day of Term 4 for Students

## P and C Update

The P and C at KHS has had a busy month with a successful Bunnings BBQ run by the welfare team, and active participation in the Mobile Phone Policy consultation and the new Media Team workshop. A big thank-you to all the volunteer students, teachers, parents and even teacher spouses who helped out. We are most excited about the upcoming changes to the newsletter itself, where the kids can be active participants in the communication strategy for the school.

In important news for all parents, the P and C have worked with the school and established a P and C Contribution, to be added to the school invoice. This will be set at a mere \$50/family/year, and will allow the volunteers to focus less of their efforts on fundraising. The funds raised from this contribution will go towards continuing the good works of the P and C which have included:

- \* Over \$15000 on landscaping improvements
  - \* Curtains and PA system for the hall.
  - \* Sensory garden for all students
  - \* Concreting and shed for musical
  - \* Lights for the musical
  - \* Yearly Scholarships to attract amazing year 6 talent from our feeder schools.
- and many more items and teams around the school.

The P and C welcomes participation in the meetings to decide where to allocate future funds, and work with the school executive and teachers on providing the absolute best education we can. Our next meeting is on February the 4th at 7pm in the library.

Thanks again, and Happy Christmas to all!

David Kempe  
P and C President

## Year 12 Economics

On Friday the 22nd of November, Mr Joyce led the entire year 12 economy class on an exciting excursion to the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA). All the students were required to make their way to Wynyard station at Sydney's Central. Upon arrival, they were led to the corporate world of government banking. We were met and lectured by a leading economist within the bank surrounding Australia's current financial situation and the domestic factors which has led to this.

The students then met a post-graduate in the marketing sector who outlined the necessary guidelines to land a successful job application at the corporation. We were also lectured on the process, materials and security tricks of Australia's bank notes. Talk about a handy bar-trick!

We were then led by Mr Joyce in a grand tour of the RBA's Museum of the history of Australia's coins and notes. To sum up the amazing excursion, probably the first in year 12 history, we ended the session with an enjoyable Macca's run. It was truly



an experience that we would never forget!



## CELEBRATING SUCCESS | Poet Springboards from Kellyville Comp!

Previous Kellyville High School student Naosheyrvaan Nasir has been experiencing success in the wider world with his multilayered and engaging poetry. A previous winner of the annual spring writing competition,

Naosheyrvaan credits the competition along with his mentors as important motivators which inspired him to begin writing and encouraged him to continue pursuing his passion for the poetic form. Recently, two of his poems were published and he was honoured at the opening ceremony of the University journal launch. (Read the full story in this edition.)

The Kellyville High School Spring Writing Competition is run every year through the English Department and encourages short story writers, poets, graphic artist and movie makers to tell their stories. See Mrs. Oakley for more details.

She will soon announce the winners!!!!

### Former Student and previous winner Naosheyrvaan Nasir On Writing Poetry

Poetry, let alone reading, is not trending in my generation.

But it does give you the avenue to experiment with words in any written language; essays are logical and smack you with their argument and narratives have a structure worth adhering to if you want readability. Poetry is the laboratory of literature; just like physical labs with fancy apparatus test scientific theories, the writer's ambition and the elasticity of the language is the limit in a poetry lab.

Poetry is something you don't need any experience. Writing poetry and bending your mind against linguistics laws is like a sport where no experience is necessary for a rookie. My tip to anti-poetry poets is to start with something trivial like a fresh mint – make a big deal out of it. This creates voids which can be filled through your experimentation with words and language techniques. Try this a few times, and then start experimenting with prescribed stanza structures.

On the eve of an Easter-weekend-sports-rally organised by my youth group in 2017, I injured myself after only 5 mins into playing basketball. On the second day, I had an uplift-

Afterwards, I went down to the benches where I contemplated the conversation felt like “a fresh mint in your mouth”. Immediately I wrote down the title in my notebook. It was the competition that gave me the impetus I needed to bring this idea to life.

My dream of being an established writer exacerbated by an excellent English faculty threw me into writing. When I saw the poster for the Kellyville Spring Writing competition in year 12 (think term 4, 2017), I knew that I would regret not entering. Entering this competition would be the litmus test of my confidence and self-esteem levels on my writing being judged.

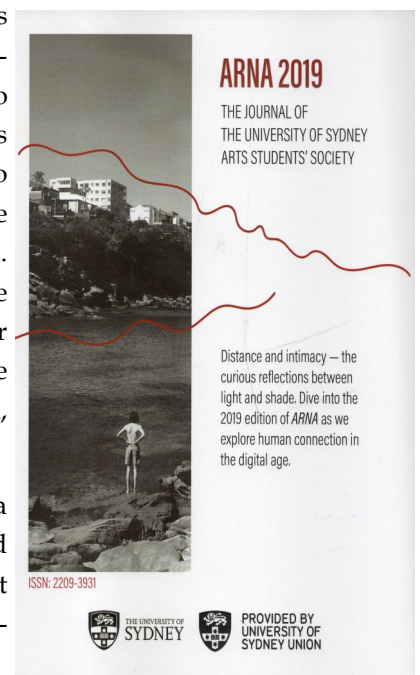
I won the poetry section.

Here's some whistle-blower stuff: during my extension English 1 class a week before judgement day, Ms Ruys, was away so a few other teachers filled in. I overheard Ms Oakley talk about judging and Ms Joyner claimed the poetry judge's title. I then thought how my entry might fare given that she knows my writing style pretty well (since she was my advanced English teacher for my HSC). Still, she remarked afterwards that she did not expect that poem to come from me.

Moral? Poetry is like an anonymous identity independent of any pseudonym. Your voice can hide, and distortion is the truth through your experimentation with words.

After winning at KHS, I wrote poetry whenever I had an impetus hence my submission to a literary journal run by my university's arts and social sciences society. They accepted two of my poems and I was asked to read one out to an audience at the launch of the journal. What's more is there were only three other authors apart from me reading out our work, which felt special.

So, go ahead, pick up a pen or a stylus or find your keyboard, and let the words write themselves.





### Top 30 things to do in the holidays:

As the end of the school year is quickly approaching and Christmas is right around the corner, the young adolescents of our generation do not know what to do in the holidays. We collectively came up with a list of thirty things to do.

1. Baking Christmas themed food
2. Movie marathon
3. Beach
4. Sleepovers with friends
5. Have lunch together with friends
6. Make a Christmas list on non-materialistic things
7. Christmas crafts such as themed Christmas wrapping, homemade cards, decorate your ornaments
8. Ride your bike with your friends
9. Create a Christmas themed fictional country
10. Playing a sport with your friends
11. Charity work
12. Do chores for pocket money
13. Fair
14. Go shopping
15. Go to tree tops
16. Go to the new Sydney zoo
17. Help clean up the environment
18. Start Gardening
19. Re-do your room and clean your room
20. Paint a Christmas themed painting
21. Make music using Christmas Carols
22. Secret Santa
23. Do an escape room
24. Start your YouTube Channel
25. Download a program to design the house of your dreams
26. DIY Mani-Pedi
27. Ghost hunting
28. Go ice skating
29. Make a recipe that is on the back of a cereal box
30. Style your own phone case

### Student Problems and answers

"I'm worried to come back to school after the holidays because someone is giving me a tough time like saying things behind my back and excluding me which makes me feel unwelcome."

The four of us sat together to create a solution for this problem and we came up with the following:

The advice column team suggest that you try and find yourself new group friends or even a friend to hang out with. No one deserves to feel unwelcome in their own group! It is best to avoid them or this individual, however, if they continue to give you a tough time, it often helps to find the source of their annoyance. Their actions are usually based of their own insecurities or jealousy. If the situation worsens and you face these symptoms: Lack of sleep, unwillingness to go to school, shakiness, cautiousness, self-degradation or a tense body, it is extremely important to seek advice from the counsellor or help from an adult. This could include a teacher, year advisor, parent, or older sibling.

Lastly, you should take time for some self-reflection or give yourself some personal feedback by simply asking yourself some questions like; am I really annoying? Am I offending people by what I say? And if you are not doing any of the above it is time to get help with counsellors, head teachers, parents or even the Principal, Ms Barnier can assist you.



## Summer Confidence

With the summer holidays quickly approaching, this is the time where the sun rays are hotter and the days feel a little bit longer. Christmas is around the corner and so is the celebration of the New Year. This is the time where beach picnics, shopping with friends and going to the pool sounds like the ideal way to spend those sunny days. With teen girls and boys approaching the peak of their adolescent years, teens are feeling the pressure of having the 'perfect' summer. But in reality, this isn't usually the case for most teens, summer, in reality is the most stressful time for them not only physically but mentally as well.

One of teenagers biggest insecurities is their body image, however this summer it is important to stop your worries about your body and instead focus on your own self-confidence and happiness! Some ways to stop worrying about your body this summer is to talk to your family and friends, be healthy, stay away from negativity such as social media and start spending more time with yourself! Be your own best friend. Finally, finding a motivation to be happy will let you have a blast this summer!

We've talked about the fact summer confidence isn't about how you look but it should be about how you feel on the inside. Now it's time to face the dilemma we all face as growing teens, who on earth are we? Finding yourself can seem hard as our minds change daily, and that's okay. We need to start doing things for ourselves and what makes us feel good rather than what looks good on social media.

Identity is often seen as black or white. To be your true self you need to let go of these restricted views, allow yourself to be your own blend of personalities and interests. To find yourself, you need to disregard others opinions on your identity and perceive the world the way you want to.

When finding yourself for who you truly are it will take time and there is no perfect time then the upcoming six week summer holidays. These holidays you want to be able to discover yourself and you'll be able to explore new-found interest and experiment with your hair, clothing choice and style.

There are several influences in your life that can impact your style, personality traits and interests, however, one of the major influences in society today for young adolescents is social media. Social Media is now considered an "essential" part of life; a platform where all the perfect kids can boast about their perfect holidays with their perfect appearances, but no one stops to think about the negative effects of it.

A month, week or even a day away from Instagram or snapchat shows extremely positive changes in people's daily life and emotions! The holidays may seem like a boring time for those who don't do any activities, meaning the hours teenagers spend on their mobile devices increase rapidly, however, deleting your social media apps and walking the dogs or playing a game of soccer, baking, reading or walking the dog is guaranteed to refresh your mind. Distance yourself from the unrealistic lives social media influencers or your fellow peers that may be 'living' their 'best' lives on their socials, and live your own!

Starting to live your own life to gain your,

SUMMER CONFIDENCE.



COMMUNITY NEWS |

... .. [JMC Academy January 2020 Short Courses](#)

... .. [Busways Changes – Cashless Travel](#)

Settle a home or car loan with me before the end of the school year, and mention this ad, and I'll donate to the Parents and Citizens' fund of Kellyville High School. #Get Financial

**Should you really be panicking? The New Age of Student Activism by Suhaasini J**

We have often been encouraged to stand up for what is considered 'right' by adults. Repeatedly, we have been told to stand up to cases of bullying - and rightfully so. The only way we can combat the prejudice that lingers in our lives is if we stand up, right?

For years we have been preached to stand-up for what we believe in, but the moment what we stand up for stretches beyond the gates of the school, we have been told to sit quietly and 'let the adults handle it.'

Apparently, the place of student activism only belongs in the education system and should be barred from the outer world.

Apparently, the many adults that told us to 'make a difference' had a set of terms and conditions that were never shown to us.

We've seen this more now than ever.

Greta Thunberg was criticised by politicians globally for taking up the mantle of climate activism. Yes, she was mocked for her age. There has never been a time when being called a child was of greater insult. She was shunned repeatedly by many when she called for change so great on global environmental politics that it was considered radical.

And maybe this is why student activism has been criticised. Because regardless of what your own opinion of Thunberg is, this child made a protest starting with just herself into a global phenomenon. As a teenager she created so much power for herself, inspiring millions of youth internationally to strike alongside her.

Youth activism is seen as pointless; we are deemed to be taking part in a social media 'trend' and incapable of knowing enough about the political sphere to fight for our beliefs.

But youth activism is important. It empowers us and future generations no matter what the activism is actually about.

Why won't we stay silent beyond the gates of school? Because unfortunately social injustice isn't limited in its scope; it plagues every aspect of our lives.

Whether you like it or not, this is the new age of student activism.