



Term 3 Week 10 Newsletter 2023

## Principal's Report



Dear UCHSK Community,

It is with great pleasure I write this Principal's message to you as the Acting Principal while Daniel Mowbray is taking some leave. He will resume his Principal duties on the 18th September so staff and students don't have to put up with me for too much longer.

Term 3 so far has been jam packed with many major events taking place including our Semester 1 Awards Ceremony, and an abundance of excursions including the Outdoor Recreation students enjoying a 3 day Snowsports trip.

It was great to celebrate the student achievement in Semester 1 at our Awards Ceremony. I would like to pass on my sincere congratulations to all of our award winners from last semester. Being able to celebrate success is a significant factor in motivating us to achieve even bigger things in the future. It was wonderful to celebrate with all of these students and their families at our week 1 ceremony. In fact, Mr Mowbray was absent for that ceremony too – I am starting to see a pattern!

Every year the School Board play an important role in the school improvement process. One of the key roles of the Board is to review school policy and update those where required. We are currently developing a policy to cover the rise of Artificial Intelligence software and its use and misuse in education. Critical in all policy development is consultation with all stakeholders. Parents and carers have had, and will continue to have, this opportunity through dedicated discussions during P&C

meetings. If you would like to be involved in the community consultation you are encouraged to make contact with the P&C.

Term 3 is always a very busy time in schools. Teachers and students are all working to ensure that high levels of learning are happening in every class room. As we progress towards the end of the school year, I encourage you to have a conversation with your young people about how they feel they are tracking in each of their classes. If there is any degree of uncertainty or concern, please contact their Year Coordinator to discuss what more can be done to ensure success at the year's end. Progress reports will be sent home on Thursday 26th October and we will also have our final Parent Teacher Interviews in Wk 4. This round of interviews will be online and, in an effort to support families, will be offered in morning and afternoon timeslots from Monday 30th October through to Thursday 2nd November. It is also a really good time to remind all students of how best to set themselves up for success in each and every lesson. This includes:

- Arriving at all classes on time, line up and be ready to learn with appropriate equipment and a charged Chromebook.
- Avoiding unnecessary distractions in classes, in particular using their Chromebook appropriately and adhering to our mobile phone policy ***“Learning time, in the bag.”***

Your support in reinforcing these messages is greatly appreciated.

We are also very excited to have begun the process of transitioning our new students coming into Yr 7 in 2024 and our Yr 10 students moving on and into Yr 11. Staff have been very busy organising events and contacting colleagues at other schools to ensure that all students transition as smoothly as possible. We have two Yr 6 transition days planned - October 31st and November 1st where we will welcome our incoming students and give them a taste of high school by engaging them in an English, Maths and Agriculture class. Our school will also conduct ongoing transition visits for those students with additional need that will benefit from having extra time in our building prior to 2024. Yr 10 students going to UC Lake Ginninderra College have already had a visit from College staff and have selected classes for next year. Both schools are currently working on a plan to support the transition of our students with additional needs and these details will be shared soon. At this stage we have 141 students coming into Yr 7 next year with 117 Yr 10 students moving on to college.

2024 will see some changes here at UC High School, one of the biggest will be the implementation of a new timetable structure. Whenever we consider change the question we ask is “Will it improve student learning?” Our current timetable consists of 3 x 90minute lessons each day with teachers seeing their classes twice a week. Although we are still in the process of determining exactly what the new timetable structure will be – it will be a combination of shorter and longer lessons and will also ensure that teachers are engaging with each class on at least 3 occasions throughout the week. A big thankyou to staff, school captains, SLG member and parents through our School Board and P & C that have contributed their thoughts and ideas during the process.

I look forward to finishing the year strong.

Greg Stirling

Deputy Principal.

## What's happening at UC High School

### PBL Update



This term UCHSK students have continued to display positive behaviours for learning; with over 1600 KARE cards awarded so far.

The focus until the end of this term is:

***'We follow fair/reasonable requests and directions from UCHSK staff'***

Keep working hard, and let's reach the KARE card target of 2250!

### Book Week

On Thursday of Week 7, UCHSK participated in their annual Book Week costume competition. Students and staff were encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character, and there were prizes for each year level as well as a group prize. All of our UCHSK community were invited to contribute a gold coin donation to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. The Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) is a national charity working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander remote Communities across Australia. They are Community-led, responding to requests from remote Communities for culturally relevant books, including early learning board books, resources, and programs to support Communities to create and publish their stories in languages of their choice. UCHSK is really proud to be able to contribute.

Please enjoy the selection of photos from our dress up day.

The winners are:

Year 7 Comet from Howls Moving Castle

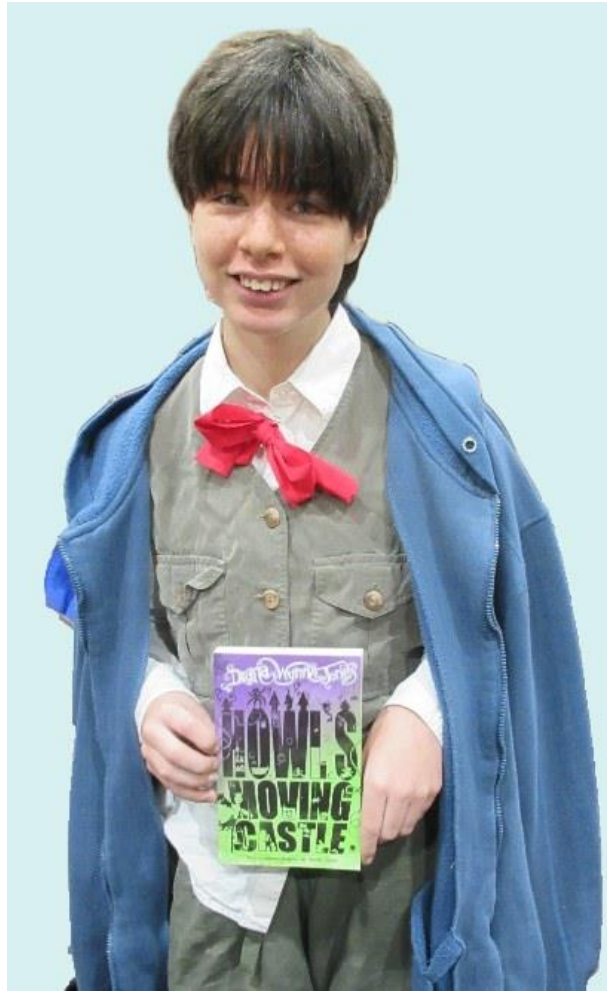
Year 8 Dustin as Halo

Year 9 Hannah as Hu Tao from Genshin Impact

Year 10 Hamish as the scare crow from Wizard of OZ

Group Shaylee and Lucy as Mary and Jesus from The Bible





*1 - Year 7 Comet from Howls Moving Castle*



*2 - Year 8 Dustin as Halo*



*3 - Year 9 Hannah as Hu Tao from Genshim Impact*



4 - Year 10 Hamish as the scare crow from Wizard of OZ



5 - Group Shaylee and Lucy as Mary and Jesus from The Bible









## Book Club

During Terms 2 and 3 the UCHSK Book Club participated in the *CBCA Book of the Year Shadow Judging Project*. For this we read, discussed and judged the six books shortlisted for the *Older Readers Book of the Year Award*. At the end of the project we voted for the book that was our favourite. This vote was counted, along with the other shadow judging groups' across Australia, towards the *Shadow Judging Book of the Year Award*.

Our Book Club voted for *Completely Normal (and other lies)* by Biffy James as the best book in the older readers category. We were excited to discover that this book was also the overall 2023 Shadow Judges winner for older readers!



We loved this project - Book Club members said they liked reading books they wouldn't have usually tried, and they enjoyed spending the time reading and chatting about books together.

You can find a copy of all the books we read for this project in our school library, as well as in your English classroom.

Are you interested in joining us? UCHSK Book Club meets every Tuesday Recess to read, discuss and critique books.

## Fearless Future year 7 & 8 Girls



The Fearless Women organisation visited us and spent some time with our Year 7 & 8 girls in August, talking about friendship, supporting others, and other social ideas important for them. It was a very positive session with most students reporting that it was valuable and relevant.

## Interschool Sports

### Year 7/8 Soccer day



Thursday week 5 the Year 7 & 8 girls and boys attended the Northside Gala Day at Dickson Playing Fields. All the students displayed incredible effort and sportsmanship. It was a fantastic day out and the kids did UCHSK proud!

The girls were unable to get a win on the day, losing to Daramalan, Lyneham and St. Francis Xavier. However, 9 of the 16 girls were playing competitive football for the first time ever. Leaders such as Olivia C stood up to encourage others and Ingrid L and Selena T displayed incredible skill to lead our team on the field.



The boys team fared better, coming away with 3 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. They narrowly missed the finals, finishing just behind Daramalan and St. Francis Xavier. Lucas V and Lucas L had standout performances but the entire team performed at a very high level.

Well done to all involved!

### **Girls netball Gala Day**

During week 6 the girls netball teams had their gala day. The Year 9 team only had 2 players that had played netball before the rest were all new and only had 4 training sessions before the big day. The girls played really well despite some skill differences they still managed to win a game.

The year 7/8 team had lots of experienced players and a couple of new players. They managed to win 2 games throughout the day and only missed out on finals due to points. There was some great refereeing from the girls who had to rotate through. Overall an awesome day and some great fun good work girls.

Big thanks to Miss Bracken and Miss Whymark for making it happen.





## Year 9/10 Football Gala day



This year 9/10 Boys Football squad has been one of the strongest in recent years. We held trials last term and the boys trained really well in the lead up, and the quality of the boys was very high and I could have easily taken 22 boys who all would have come into the team and played very well.

We were placed in Group A, which panned out to be the strongest of the 3 Groups, which meant that we played:

- Daramalan
- Brindabella
- St. Francis Xavier
- Canberra



Usually Daramalan and SFX are two of the teams who make the Final, and we had them both in our Group. We had Daramalan up first. We scored first through a great goal from Ollie. We were certainly the better team, but Daramalan equalised late in the match (only 12-minute halves!) and we drew the match. Our second game, we lost concentration early and conceded a goal. To the boys' credit, they rallied and equalised which meant that we drew that match also, despite being the stronger team and playing the more attractive football. We actually have lots of other teachers and students from other schools saying how well our team was playing and that they were impressed by our boys. We unfortunately lost against the run of play to SFX, again despite being the stronger team. Our match against Canberra was a tight one at 1-1, before Canberra showed their class and ran out eventual winners of that match 3-1.



To make it through to semi-finals, there were 3 groups and only the 1st placed team in each group made it through, with the best 2nd place across the 3 groups being the 4th team into the semis. Had we beaten Canberra, we were still in with a chance, but this year it was not meant to be.

I'd like to acknowledge the positive school spirit of the boys, the way they took on feedback and played to our team tactics, and the amazing representatives of UCHSK that they were on the day. I was proud to take this great group of young men out to show how they can play and be great ambassadors of our school. This was also done through the leadership of our captain, Haiden, and his deputy, Teale. The parents who came along to support the team were also really impressed with the way the boys played and behaved. It was a great day out – well done to all involved!

## Mountain Biking Championship

The 2023 MTB championships took place on Friday of week 7. UCHSK entered two year 7/8 teams into the competition, the competition consisted of 595 riders which made it the biggest ACT school sport event ever! The race was a gruelling four-hour long relay race around Mt Stromlo battling up the mountain, down the mountain and the other 595 riders on a beautiful sunny day. It was an amazing day, and we are already looking forward to next year's event hoping he can enter even more teams.



## Representative sports

### Thinley Dorji - Football

Congratulations to Thinley on making the U14 Talent Support Program with Capital football. Thinley will head off to Melbourne in week 10 to play against some teams under the watchful eyes of A-league scouts, we wish you the best of luck Thinley.

### Bayden Wells - Swimming

Bayden recently represented ACT at the Australian school sport swimming championships. Bayden came away with PB's from all his three events (50m Backstroke, 50 Breaststroke and part of the 4x50m freestyle relay) and an impressive 11th place finish in the 50m Backstroke. Congratulations Bayden.

### Paige Galbraith - Gymnastics

Paige Galbraith will be competing at the 2023 Bigham Cup competing against SA, TAS, NT and WA's best Women's Artistic gymnasts held 31 August - 2 September in South Australia. Paige will also be competing at the Club Nationals on the Gold Coast in September. Good luck for both competitions.

### **Rory Buttner- Basketball**

Rory has made the ACT Scorers Academy U15 Basketball team, which will be competing at the Asia Pacific Cup in Singapore in late October. Congratulations and good luck Rory

### **Lavinia Music - Mounted Games and Polocrosse**

Lavinia competed at the Mounted Games NSW state championships at Cobargo on the 15th and 16th of July. She will also be competing at the NSW state championships for polocrosse on the 9th and 10th of September. For those that don't know what these two are - Mounted Games - relay racing completing different tasks on a horse, and Polocrosse is lacrosse on a horse. Congratulations Lavinia

## **Teaching and Learning**

### **Beyond Enrichment**



This term we have continued to grow our Beyond program, with students being provided with a range of enrichment opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. Additionally, we have welcomed all of our Year 7 Beyond cohort into the program, and they have been enjoying their first taste of ethics classes.

At the end of Week 5 we got all of our Beyond students together for an ethics challenge, with students working across year levels on a variety of ethical dilemmas. Since this whole group challenge we have had a couple of weeks off from our ethics classes. When we return to these classes in our year level groups, the focus will shift to the psychology of human behaviour - what drives us to make the decisions we make and how can we recognise when we may be influenced to make decisions that are not necessarily ethical?





On Friday of Week 7, ten of our Years 7 & 8 Beyond students spent the day at the ACT Legislative Assembly, where they met some of Canberra's MLA's, learnt about the parliamentary committee process, and engaged in an extended committee role play, where they had to research and present a submission to an Energy Committee about Canberra's energy future. All of these students did themselves and our school proud, and they were a credit to our school community.

Next term our school will enter 2 teams into the Ethics Olympiad, which gets students from schools across the ACT to consider and present on a range of ethical dilemmas. Hopefully our ethics seminars will pay off! Currently 8 students have put their hands up to participate in this, and we have 2 places remaining, so if your child is interested in participating in this event, please contact Mr Laenen to express their interest, or get them to visit him in the English / SOSE staffroom.

Earlier this year we were awarded a Board Grant to offer students in Years 9 and 10 an opportunity to receive some basic flight training and use a flight simulator. Thank you to Ms Comans who put the hard work into getting this organised, as well as Mr Montgomery for his support in getting this enrichment opportunity 'off the ground'. This activity will be open to students in Years 9 and 10 who are interested in the maths and science behind air travel. Students who are interested will be asked to complete a short application form, so if your child wishes to participate, please make sure they keep an ear out for announcements about this activity.



Finally, all 4 of the core subjects currently involved in Beyond - English, Maths, Science and SOSE - have been working hard to integrate extension activities within their lessons and assessment. English and SOSE have added extension questions to their assignments, which provide students with prompts that require a deeper level of content knowledge and skills. These extension questions will be clearly marked as such on assessment tasks sheets. Maths has ensured that their test questions are written in ascending order of difficulty, with the final question being one that will push students to extend themselves Beyond what is required in the curriculum. Maths students can also access classroom and digital resources that can provide further extension. In Science, Beyond students are being provided with opportunities to design their own experiments when possible, and will also be given extension questions on tests, as well as open-ended questions that require deep answers. Please note that the extension tasks offered through Beyond are open to all of our students and we encourage any student who would like to challenge themselves to attempt the extension tasks that interest them.

### **Japanese News**

In Week 10 of this term some of our Japanese students will be accompanied by the Languages faculty - Ms Emerson, Ms Melvin and Mr Laenen - on an overnight excursion to Sydney. This excursion has been planned as a language and cultural experience, and will see students visiting the Nihongo Tanken Centre and Japan Foundation Centre, as well as a night of Japanese dining and karaoke. We are all looking forward to this excursion and hope that the students attending will get a lot out of their trip to Sydney. Many thanks to Ms Emerson and Ms Melvin who both put in countless hours to organise this excursion.

Earlier this year the Japanese faculty was awarded a Board Grant to update our collection of language learning resources. Through this Grant we have been able to purchase a range of Japanese readers and other resources, so that all students in Japanese will be able to access Japanese reading

material suitable for them. This will be a great resource for now and into the future, and we thank the Board very much for their contribution to our faculty.

Next term, Ms Emerson will be leaving us for 7 weeks, as she has won a grant through the Japan Foundation to complete an education and language training course in Japan. Congratulations Ms Emerson!!! This is an amazing opportunity for both Ms Emerson and UC Kaleen, as we know that she will bring back with her some great new ideas for languages at our school. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a very big thank you to Mr Mowbray for supporting Ms Emerson with this opportunity. With Ms Emerson studying in Japan, we will be joined next term by Ms Karyn Ang, who will take over Ms Emerson's classes in her absence. We look forward to welcoming Ms Ang as part of our faculty and school community.

## Cultural Integrity

### Birrigai

The Year 7 Cultural Integrity classes have been learning about the First Nations peoples and their cultures. Students enjoyed a day at Birrigai where they participated in a program simulating life in pre-colonial Australia. The students were tasked with making fire, building shelter, grinding seeds to make flour and 'hunting'. Each group of students, led by two Elders, had to negotiate with other Nations to get the goods they needed to complete their tasks. After lunch, the students experienced a first hand simulation of being removed from their land that they had worked hard to make their own. Students then came inside and explored the history of Australia, showing great empathy and understanding as they navigated through confronting stories. At the end of the day, the students were asked to reflect on their experiences by writing a single word. The words the students chose demonstrated understanding of the hardships and trauma the First Nations people faced as well as how we can move forward with reconciliation.



*6 - Seed grinding to make flour*





*7 - Spear Making*



*8 - Making Bush Medicine*





*9 - Using fire to cook damper*

### **Ryka Ali**

On August 2nd the Cultural Integrity classes were treated to a performance from Ryka Ali. Ryka's heritage stems from the Yidinji clans of Cairns, the Kuku Yalinji clans of Mossman & the Torres Strait Islands. Students participated in dances and learned about various instruments, artifacts and costumes specific to the Islands. Ryka then introduced the significance of 'painting up' with ochre, explaining its importance and the meaning of the designs. Ryka gave us all a demonstration of the Didgeridoo and a few lucky students even got to try the Didgeridoo as well.



10 - Xander trying the Didgeridoo



11 - 'Painting up' with Ochre





*12 - Students learning through song*



*13 - Students participating in dances*

## ***Need to Know***

### **Family Contributions**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Each year UC High School Kaleen requests voluntary contributions from families to help support and enrich learning throughout our school.



**Contributions for Subject contributions and General contribution are now due.**

These contributions support learning opportunities through the purchase of:

- Subject consumables across all faculties.
- Essential materials for core classes

**The requested contributions for 2023 are:**

*General Contribution*

\$170 for the first child

\$110 for subsequent children

*Subject Contribution*

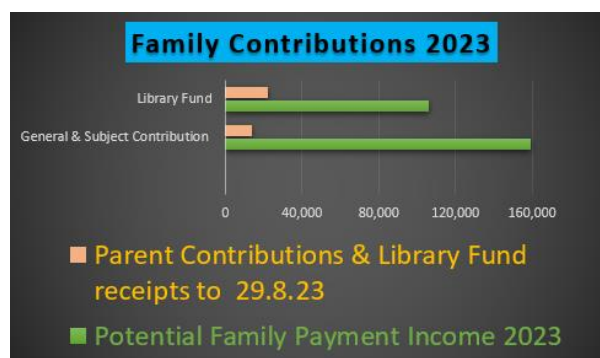
\$130 for the first child

\$100 for subsequent children

The **green bar** on the graph below shows the financial benefit to the school if every parent/carer paid the full amount for:

- Library Fund – Tax deductible
- Subject Contribution
- General Contribution

The **orange bar** on the graph below indicates the amount the school has received so far in 2023 from Parent / Carer contributions.



Cumulative Library Fund & Voluntary Contributions		Completed 2023 Learning Program Investment	
\$70 000	Subject & General Contributions	Playground enhancements (fitness equipment, student playground furniture, additional bubblers)	Proposed Future Investment
\$60 000			
\$50 000			
\$40 000		Necessary resourcing upgrades for new and existing elective classes (Music, Robotics & Mechatronics, Sculpture)	
\$30 000			
\$25 000			
\$20 000	Library Trust Fund Contributions	Online subscriptions to support student learning (Mathspace, Stile & Education Perfect)	Investment to date
\$15 000			
\$10 000			
\$5000			

### Payment Details:

Our preferred payment method is QuickWeb, the Westpac secure online payment system.

QuickWeb can be accessed on our [website](#).

Fee code / payment description: For what is being paid, Eg Library fund, General Contribution, Subject Contribution

Alternatively, payment can be made to the front office.

General & Subject contributions (\$300) will be due in week 2 of term 3.

Your contribution is greatly valued and enables our school to deliver high quality educational programs for all

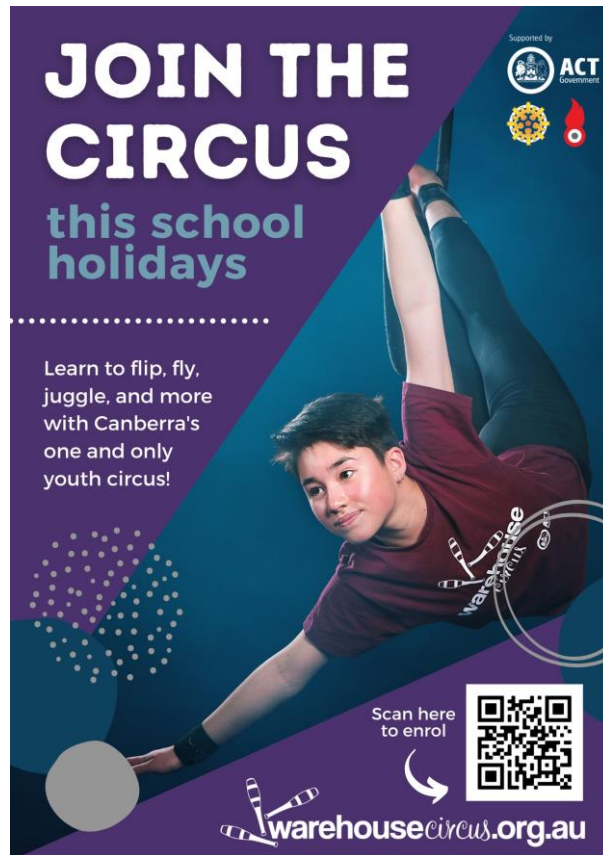
students. Thank you for your ongoing support.

*Please note: The payment of all contributions is voluntary. The Education Act 2004 states that your child will not be refused*

*benefits or services if you choose not to contribute. Individual records of contributions are confidential.*

# Advertising

## Warehouse Circus




# JOIN THE CIRCUS

## this school holidays

Learn to flip, fly, juggle, and more with Canberra's one and only youth circus!

Supported by ACT Government

Scan here to enrol



[warehousecircus.org.au](http://warehousecircus.org.au)



# Spring Circus Holiday Program

Supported by ACT Government

Juggling, Tumbling, Aerials, Games and more!

**Week Long Sessions**  
25 Sept-6 Oct, 2023

**Locations**  
Chifley Health and Wellbeing Hub  
UC High School Kaleen  
Phone (02) 6260 3626 | [www.warehousecircus.org.au](http://www.warehousecircus.org.au)

Scan here to enrol!



## Curious Minds 2023-24 program - EOI's now open



Expressions of interest for the upcoming cycle of [Curious Minds program](#) are officially open!

[Expression of interest forms](#) are now open and will close Friday September 28, 2023. If you have any students, you believe would be interested and suited to participate in the upcoming cycle please get them to do so. Successful applicants will be contacted with information on how to formally apply for the program.

Please reach out and let me know if you have any questions or if I can help in any way.

I can be contacted on [curiousminds@amt.edu.au](mailto:curiousminds@amt.edu.au) or (02) 6201 5263



## Art Competition



**YOUNG ARTISTS  
COMPETITION/  
EXHIBITION**

OPEN TO ALL ARTISTS  
8 TO 17 YEARS

2PM SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2023

Queanbeyan Art Society  
6 Trinculo Place Queanbeyan

**Entry in by Saturday 30th September 2023**

**Any Medium - Any Subject**

Overall winners			
	1st \$500	2nd \$200	3rd \$100
Section 1 - 8 to 11 Yrs	1st	\$80	
	2nd	\$60	
	3rd	\$20	
	4th	\$10	
Section 2 - 12 to 15 Yrs	1st	\$80	
	2nd	\$60	
	3rd	\$20	
	4th	\$10	
Section 3 - 16 to 17 Yrs	1st	\$80	
	2nd	\$60	
	3rd	\$20	
	4th	\$10	

Your School can win \$200 art materials from a draw

Every Young Artist Gets Year Free QAS Membership

Screening Presentation of Awards  
Music/Refreshments and Afternoon Tea

At QAS Gallery  
All Welcome

## Contact Us

**UC High School Kaleen**

104 Baldwin Drive

Kaleen 2617

61420490

[www.kaleenhs.act.edu.au](http://www.kaleenhs.act.edu.au)

[UCHSKaleen.infomation@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:UCHSKaleen.infomation@ed.act.edu.au)