Book Week 2019!

August is always an exciting time for the Redmond College Learning Centre, as it heralds the arrival of Book Week. And this year’s Book Week was especially significant, as it marked a significant milestone in the College's collective push to institute a thriving reading culture in the Middle and Senior Schools.

All too often, boys from the Junior School and other Primary Schools enter High School with a passion for reading, which falls away as the curricular and co-curricular demands of Secondary Education are increasingly felt. This year, the College has collectively striven to reverse this trend, and the RLC has invested considerable time and effort in helping to bring this to fruition.

In this publication, you'll encounter articles about some of the events and activities that have taken place this year, find a number of book reviews written by staff and students, and have the chance to enter a competition to win a voucher from Crow Books in East Victoria Park.

Singer-Songwriter - NAIDOC Week

We were thrilled to welcome back to the College, Lachy Thomas (class of '18), who donated his time and talent to help students appreciate the significance of NAIDOC Week, and see it as an opportunity for all students to express themselves and their stories in word and song.

A gifted singer-songwriter and proud Indigenous Australian, Lachy conducted workshops with the College's Indigenous students, visited the Year 7 Boarders for Afternoon Tea and a Q&A session, delivered a performance-based presentation to all Year 7 English students, and finally, performed both at the College's NAIDOC Assembly and during Break A.
**BOOK REVIEWS!**

**Anthony Doer - All The Light We Cannot See**

*All the Light we Cannot See* is about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France, as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

This is a book that I really enjoyed, with an ending that I would have never expected.

Marie-Laure lives with her Father in Paris. When she is twelve, the Nazis invade Paris which forces Marie-Laure and her father to flee to Saint-Malo. Werner is a young German orphan, who stumbles across a radio and becomes an expert in creating and fixing them. He is selected to become a member of the Hitler Youth and then is given the responsibility to stamp out the Resistance. Werner travels around France, where his story and Marie-Laure’s paths cross.

This story constantly changes perspective between the two main characters. I felt a connection to these people, which was a pleasant surprise.  *(Mr. Mark Cummins)*

**Yann Martel - The High Mountains of Portugal**

*The High Mountains of Portugal* by Yann Martel is an extraordinary novel on many, many levels, not the least of which is in the fact that there are, actually, no high mountains in Portugal. It is a “magical, mystery tour” that takes the protagonists of three generations and the reader on an adventure to find an amazing object made of the most perfect wood that “shines, shrieks, barks and roars”.

The journey through three separate stories is bizarre and mystifying but is also often laugh out loud funny.

The stories are linked together through a number of motifs, the most intriguing of all being a chimpanzee whose significance is only made clear at the end of the book. It wasn’t until after about a week of finishing the book that the full impact of its deeply metaphysical meaning revealed itself to me.

That meaning will remain the mystery I leave to you to unravel. *(Mrs. Marilyn McKenzie)*

**More Reviews on Page 5.**

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**Why You Should Read Manga!**

I started reading Manga after watching a lot of Anime (such as *One Punch Man*) because even though I really like Anime, I got frustrated waiting for new seasons to arrive to continue or finish storylines. It's anime in book form, and I can read several books just in one night!

Most of my friends have read at least one Manga. When I asked them why, they said it's because it's interesting, there's no waiting time, and the library has a good (and growing) selection!

So, give Manga a go! *(Nate Li, 7TRW)*
This year, a number of competitions were run during Book Week. On this page you'll find information about the various events and the competition winners.

In the competition to create a poster for Book Week, the winning entrant was Cooper Allen (7EDW), for his terrific poster, pictured above.

Poem of the Day!

Each day, a poetry topic was place in the Daily Bulletin, and boys were asked to submit their best limerick or haiku by the end of Break A that day.

A prize was awarded for the best poem of the day, and an overall prize was awarded for the best poem of the week. Here they are!

**Monday: Bad Smells!**

Something brown, sticky, smelt extremely terrible, It was mum's brownie.  
**Will Hussey (8GLE)**

**Tuesday: Graeme 'Polly' Farmer**

There once was a Noongar named Graham Who played in the country's great game. Stolen at birth, He showed his great worth. Now the Terrace has a plaque with his name.  
**Mr. Aaron Powell (11CUW)**

**Wednesday: Vegetables**

There once was a cauliflower, Who wanted to show his power. So, he went to the fruit in a big parachute And made them all turn sour!  
**Daniel Setiawan (7BRE)**

**Overall Winner:**

Don't always shower.  
Am not a bad person. Just a smelly one.  
**Harrison Flaxman (7TRW)**

Thank you to all boys (and staff!) who took the time to enter.

Shelfie-Selfie and Book-in-a Jar!

Once again, the Learning Centre ran a 'shelfie-selfie competition where, over the course of the week, boys - competing in their tutor groups - needed to correctly match pictures of staff members with a picture of their bookshelf. The middle and senior tutor groups who emerged triumphant were Mr Rob Romeo's 12DUW, and Mr Alex Hayman's 8EDE. Congratulations to these boys!

In addition to this, there were several jars on the Learning Centre's main counter, and in each of them was a selection of silver-cut lines taken from a particular novel. The objective was to carefully examine the jar and its contents (from outside the jar!) and work out which book was in each one.

The two boys who answered correctly were Leo Paolicello (9GLW) and Marcus Taylor (9EDW). Congratulations boys!
Reading Gives You the Advantage

17 - 23 AUGUST
BOOK WEEK
Robert Jordan's *Wheel of Time*

Robert Jordan's *Wheel of Time* series is perhaps the best fantasy book series ever written, and certainly within the top three most famous of all time (alongside *The Lord of the Rings* series and *A Song of Ice and Fire*). It’s impact upon the fantasy genre is so immense, that there isn’t a single fantasy book now written that isn’t at least a bit influenced by *A Wheel of Time*.

It is an epic 14 book saga, of over 4.4 million words and took 23 years for the series to be finished, with the last three novels in the series co-authored by Brandon Sanderson, using the notes of Robert Jordan, the original author, who died before the series could be finished.

The *Wheel of Time* series is an incredible series. What makes it so good primarily is the characters. They are complex beings; first you despise them, then come to love them. You feel the ecstasy of their triumphs and the despair of their crushing defeats and hopeless situations. There is a huge cast of complex and brilliant characters, mesmerising plot, well placed and exciting, and enormous and complex world, a fully developed cultures and societies that shape the identities of the characters, affecting everything from how they dress, to how they act.

What makes the *Wheel of Time* series is the level of quality in all aspects of its content and construction. You may be able to find a series with better characters, plot, writing or worldbuilding, but you certainly won’t be able to find a series that does everything as well as the *Wheel of Time*, and when you mix it all together, you get a story like no other.

For any fantasy reader, the *Wheel of Time* series is a must read, and if you don’t read much fantasy but are a reader, I highly recommend it. Whilst its size might be daunting, it is very accessible, and, due to its length, actually eases you into all of the concepts, without overwhelming you.  

*Buz Brady (9BRE)*

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**The Goldfinch (2014) by Donna Tartt**

*The Goldfinch* (2014) by Donna Tartt is a long novel—784 pages long. How do you review a book that long in one paragraph? I’ve pulled up short on long books before—slammed them shut with forty pages left. The pride associated with finishing them never outweighs the irritation of being dragged along. *The Goldfinch* came through for me. It’s about grief and friendship and things not working out perfectly for anyone. All the usual stuff. But like so many works of art, its central message is that art is important because it celebrates ‘the middle space’—the intangible. I never get sick of being reminded that, even if it takes 784 pages. *(Mr. Alex Hayman)*

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**Lee Child - The Jack Reacher Novels**

I have read most of Lee Child's Jack Reacher series. They follow a common theme...lots of mystery, action and a fair amount of hand to hand violence. Jack Reacher is a big military man who was a Major in the Military Police when he resigned from the US Army. He travels the length and breadth of America with no fixed abode and no possessions except a toothbrush and the clothes on his back which he replaces regularly with new ones and bins the old ones.....an unusual way to live.

He is sometimes called upon by associates in the Military to solve complicated problems and he also teams up with random people he meets along the way who are in some way, in need of his assistance.

His mind works with military precision and his sheer physical size and strength makes him a character you know you can rely on.

He also has various romantic interests along the way and the twists and turns of each plot keep you guessing until the very end. You won't be disappointed whichever title you choose!! *(Ms. Robin Smith.)*
CROSSWORD COMPETITION!

Be the first to correctly complete this crossword and you will win a book voucher from Crow Books in East Victoria Park! (Paper entries only - submitted to Library staff.)

Across
2  His Man was Friday (two words)
7  One of Play School’s windows
10  His Pudding was Magic (two words)
13  Charles Dickens had them, and they were really, really good.
17  Heart of...
18  Author of The Hunger Games (two words)
20  Around the World in … Days
22  He sold a cow. For beans.
23  Lemony’s events
24  Watership direction
26  The Lambs and the Pickles live here.
27  Marsupial who opens and closes his eyes a lot
28  The Original Lion King
29  Also known as Mithrandir
30  He shot Tim Johnson (two words)

Down
1  When did the war begin?
3  Holden’s surname
4  A poet and instrument
5  He's the happiest of them (two words)
6  Lennie’s best friend
8  Samuel Clemens (two words)
9  The Wind was in there
11  Enjoying cranial mischief (two words)
12  Piggy’s broke
14  Creator of James Bond (two words)
15  Big Brother’s Father (two words)
16  Charlie’s was glass
19  A novel by David Walliams
21  Not a wizard
25  Call me Ishmael.