

MELANOMA WORKSHOP

On Monday 14th November all students attended a workshop developed by the Melanoma Institute about sun safety and how to detect melanoma. As young people's number one cancer, melanoma detection and sun safety are paramount to reducing occurrences in the future. Danielle Ochoa, a young mother of three daughters in her 30's, presented the workshops.

A melanoma survivor, she spoke to the girls with first hand knowledge and experience of melanoma. Her frank and honest discussion about her experience struck a nerve with all. Students have been encouraged to get to know their skin and follow the sun safe guidelines.

- Melanoma is Australia's national cancer.
- Australia and New Zealand have the highest melanoma rates in the world.
- One person every six hours will die from melanoma in Australia.
- Melanoma rates doubled in the 20 years from 1986–2006 and are still on the rise.
- Melanoma is the most common cancer in young Australians (15–39 year olds) making up 20% of all their cancer cases.
- Melanoma kills more young Australians (20- 39 year olds) than any other single cancer.

Please be aware of the dangers of sun exposure and take care of your skin.

Mrs Suzanne Reid

