

W I L L E T T O N S E N I O R H I G H S C H O O L

Newsletter

ISSUE

2

MARCH 2022

CONTENTS

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 3

BOARD CHAIR REPORT 4

ACADEMIC EXTENSION 7

THE ARTS 10

ENGLISH 11

LANGUAGES 14

MATHS 18

SCIENCE 19

SCHOOL BOARD 22

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

My communications with you have been frequent over the last few weeks. I am aware you are inundated with information, but I encourage you to keep current – in this fast-changing environment, we all need to keep abreast of the latest developments and changes.

As ANZAC Day approaches, we have the opportunity to focus on the values it represents and how they continue to be important in current local, national and world events. To the generally accepted ANZAC qualities of courage, ingenuity, good humour and mateship, I would like to add resilience – important for a positive life in a challenging environment.

Psychologists define resilience as *the process of adapting well in the face of adversity ... or significant sources of stress* – all of which have been exacerbated by the pandemic, fires, floods and wars. Schools have an important role in developing this reservoir of strength and we have in place programs which teach positive mental health strategies.

Many of our programs such as Peer Mentoring, Willo Pride and the student Wellbeing Committee have been suspended or modified due to Covid-19 but we embed a social emotional learning program across Years 7-12 giving space

for students to talk about wellbeing, values and conflict resolution. Our focus this term has been empathy and caring, both important factors in creating healthy communities, relationships and life styles.

We extend congratulations to Year 10 student Qiqi Liu for winning the WA section of the Simpson Prize which is a national essay competition for students focusing on the service of Australians in World War I. The prize is a three-day program in Canberra where students travel to key historical and commemorative sites. Hopefully, with Covid restrictions, the itinerary can be followed.

Congratulations to our swimming team – winners of the B division interschool carnival. Well done to all. Further information in this newsletter.

Trevor Hunter



BOARD CHAIR REPORT



As we settle into 2022 and head towards the end of Term 1, we want to reiterate that Willetton Senior High School is underpinned by the philosophy of respect, excellence and care, where all students can have a safe place to learn and grow. So, during this period of COVID 19 pandemic, please keep a lookout for each as we maintain mental health while exercising social distancing or isolation.

Our School Board nominations and selection process have been completed and our new incoming members were recognised at our 2022 Annual Public Meeting (APM). We welcome new parent member Deepak Sharma and new staff representative Erik Pretorius. Deepak has more than 25 years of experience working in the financial and commercial area while Erik has more than 20 years of teaching and leadership experience. We also welcome back reappointed parent representatives David Harwood, Wayne Nurse and staff member Jordan Newton.

As always, we acknowledge the time and effort our volunteer members contribute to improving

the learning environment of the students at Willetton Senior High School. The Board is made up of representatives from parents across various year groups and staff from different learning areas, who come together to help the Board support the school community. We truly appreciate the contribution all our volunteer members make to the school community.

Finally, as a retiring Chair, I thank all parents and staff for the privilege and their ongoing support during my time as Chair. I confidently hand over the Chairperson's rein to the capable hands of David Harwood and know that the Board under his leadership, will continue to enhance the learning environment of our students. I also thank Helen Wong the Board Executive Officer for her invaluable support to ensure the Board functions seamlessly.

Lastly, on behalf of the School Board, we look forward to a safe and productive year, working together with the school to ensure we provide the best learning environment for our students and continuing this path as one of the best schools in Western Australia.

John Yeo

SWIMMING SUCCESS



Students with Mr Ian McMahon – Life Member of School Sport WA and School Sport Australia

On 17 March, the Willetton Interschool Swimming team travelled to HBF stadium to compete at the 2022 B division carnival. Four other schools were in contention to take out the shield and the competition was tight. The Year 7s were up first and made an amazing start with everyone finishing either first or second in their respective races. As the day progressed, we found ourselves in a battle with Mt Lawley and Melville for top spot with first place fluctuating between the three schools.

The final result was going to come down to the last events of the day as they were worth the most points. At the beginning of the relays there was only 20 points separating first and fourth. The students dug deep with most of the relays being extremely close and only a

few seconds separating each school. Willetton managed to hold on and ended up winning the shield by 41 points over Mt Lawley.

Special mention to Rose Clinch (Year 7) who swam in multiple Year 12 races to make up numbers and was extremely competitive in her races. All students should be commended for their efforts and behaviour throughout the day with a number of personal best times being broken. Next year, Willetton will compete in the A division carnival due to their victory this year and it is expected that all swimmers are looking forward to the challenge. Thanks to Mr Kearsley for his tireless efforts behind the scenes to organise and coordinate all swimming matters as well as Mr Ranford for his assistance on the day.

OVERALL RESULTS

1st Willetton – 1061 points
2nd Mt Lawley – 1020 points
3rd Melville – 1008 points
4th Como – 841 points
5th Ocean Reef – 622 points

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

Year 7 Boys Runner up – Arash Nejad
Year 7 Girls Runner up – Sofija Neric
Year 8 Boys Winner – Eric Iizuka Marinovic
Year 9 Boys Runner up – Ashton Phillips
Year 9 Girls Winner – Daisy Kammermann
Year 11 Boys Runner up – Spencer Phillips
Year 11 Girls Runner up – Bianca Chira

INTERACT CLUB

I am Mehvish, the 2022 President of Interact. Joining this club was one of the first decisions I made as a Year 7. I've always considered it one of my best ones with all the new opportunities and experiences I have had, and all the friends I made along the way. Now, as a Year 11, I am honoured to hold this position and excited to lead the club in all sorts of new ventures.

For those of you who may not know, the Interact Club is a group of students and staff passionate about making a positive change on both a local and global scale through regular fundraising and volunteering in the community. Of course, behind every successful event is the team that worked hard to make it happen. The Executive team for 2022 is as follows:

- President: Mehvish Mehboob
- Vice Presidents: Angela Thompkinson and Josias Ng

- Co-Secretaries: Angela Thompkinson, Harmoniche Deng and Sowmya Sri Nallan
- Co-Treasurers: Samendra de Silva and Tanush Embari
- Publicity Officers: Annabelle Turner, Byan Yemane, Ruixue Wu and Yash Berry
- Horizons Coordinator: Angelina Thompkinson

We are also aided by our wonderful facilitators: Mrs Kulasekera, Mrs Munshi, Mrs Peake, Mrs Wong, Mrs Venter and Mrs Thorp.

The Interact Club had a fantastic 2021, with some of the highlights including donating \$5056 to various charities, planting 3000 trees, and sending 40 shoeboxes full of gifts to disadvantaged children in developing countries. It is hard to tell what this year will bring, but with an amazing executive team and many new initiatives planned, we will have an incredible year, fulfilling our purpose of making a positive change in the community.

We welcome new members.



CROCHET AND CRAFT CLUB

Crochet and Craft Club hooked into action in Week 3 this term and in just a few short weeks our wonderful members have started to master the skills of crafting. We have been delighted to see the students' indefatigable attitudes as they tackled tricky tension issues and unpicked 'curious' stitches, as they worked towards finishing their first, sometimes second and even a third project.

The club wouldn't be possible without the wonderful donations from our school community. If you have any quality wool, crochet hooks and cross-stitch patterns which you would like to donate, please drop them off at the school administration and we will turn them into 'turtally' awesome projects. I mention turtles in honour of Marcela's first big project – a wonderfully squishable turtle. We can't wait to see what they make next!

Daisy McCauley and
Cris Leal English Teachers



Government of Western Australia
Department of Communities



Foster care

It's not just the child's life that changes

There are a range of reasons children and young people come into care, but whatever the reason, what they all need is a stable and nurturing environment in which to live.

We don't just want our children and young people to survive their childhood, we want them to thrive into their adult lives – and our foster carers play a key role in achieving this.

The Department of Communities is always looking for people who can open their homes and open their hearts to children in need.

Academic Extension

AEP STUDENT LEADERS UPDATE

The leaders have been busy finding out what academic extension students want and need from the program. They wrote a survey and we had over 200 responses which is awesome.

The information has been really helpful, and we will use it to plan activities and support asked for. In each newsletter, we will publish the responses to one of our questions and explain what we are doing to address them. Today's question is lucky number 13.

As a result of this feedback, there will be ongoing study skills sessions including a Memory Kickstart one for Year 9s on 29 March and an exam prep one for Year 10s in Term 2. There is also time management sessions in the works.

Next newsletter we will look at what you want to be rewarded or acknowledged for.

The link for the survey is on each year group's AEP Connect page if you have not had a chance to have your say. There is a question on what social activities you want, so make sure to vote.



AEP Student Leaders also took possession of their brand-new badges. Now you can see who they are each day, and you can let them know what you would like to see happen in your program.

Academic Extension

AN AMAZING PROJECT

Hey there, we are Tashan and Alan, and we are finalists for the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair. So, you may be wondering how we got here. It's a long story.

Last year, as Year 10's, we submitted our science project about *which genre of music creates the most amount of energy* in the STAWA competition, a science competition held in WA. We decided on this due to our passion for music. Suggested in the title, our project revolves around the research of songs in each genre (rock, classical, pop, jazz, hip-hop, electronic), to see which genre of music created the greatest amount of energy, thus having electrical potential.

Planning and conceptualising our project took us a long time, and we were worried that our project may have been unrealistic. However, we persevered and pushed through to complete it. Although our project felt rushed and could have been further

refined, we were hopeful and optimistic about receiving a positive outcome for our work. It was a pleasant surprise for us to find that our project won second place in the whole of WA, and even more exciting to be selected as one of the few projects from WA to be put forward as an entry for the BHP Foundation awards, which is an Australia-wide competition. We were so stoked with our efforts and didn't expect ourselves to make it this far.

After a range of virtual tours, lessons, interviews and ceremonies, we were announced as finalists in the BHP Foundation awards, amongst other science projects from all around Australia. After receiving this news, we were over the moon and determined to further develop our project, although more good news was yet to come.

Our project, along with only five other projects from around Australia, was picked to represent our country in the 2022 Regeneron International Science

and Engineering Fair, which will be held in Atlanta, USA this year. This prestigious competition is open by invitation only to the most promising science projects from across the globe. Due to COVID-19, our trip to USA will not be possible, however this did not stop us from celebrating our achievements.

We are continuing to update and refine our project to test its real-world application. We believe that through music, we would be able to create energy and voltage, providing a sustainable alternative to battery power for portable devices. Looking back at Year 10 from our perspective as Year 11 students, we would have never thought we would have made it this far, and it is all thanks to the support of our science teachers as well as our parents, who helped us overcome various obstacles and pushed us in achieving success.

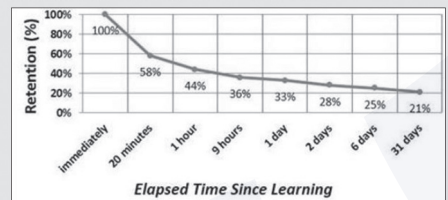
**Tashan Kirubakaran
and Alan Jojo Year 11**

REVISION HACK

Prevent against information leaking out of your brain by doing something with the information in the hours, days and weeks after initially recording it.

Ebbinghaus Forgetting Curve

Information leaks out of your brain over time.



To immunise yourself against forgetting, use effective study strategies such as active recall, spaced practice and dual coding.

Credit: Mrigank S. Shail, 2019

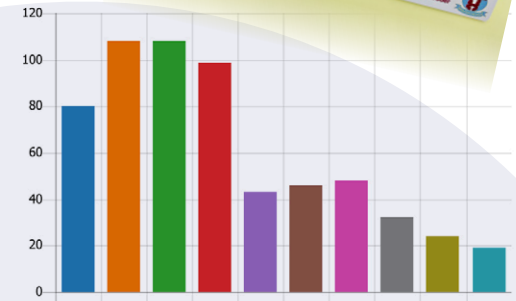
AEP STUDENTS EMBRACING WELLBEING

Finally, there was day that wasn't 300 degrees, so one of the Year 10 AEP English classes spent their tute time doing some colouring in out in the fresh air. Thanks to Student Services for the whole school wellbeing focus.

13. What areas do you feel you need extra help with

[More Details](#)

Writing	80
Study/revision skills	108
Time management	108
Stress management	99
Social skills	43
Oral communication	46
Problem solving	48
Resilience	32
Out of hours subject specific s...	24



STUDY SMARTER, NOT HARDER!

After the huge success of last year's study skills sessions for students going into Year 10 AE and Year 9 AE and a session supporting parents, we are continuing this initiative with a for other year groups.

"I enjoyed Dr Genovese's animated and direct approach"

AEP Parent

In Week 7 we ran a special session for Year 8 Academic Extension students. It was so popular we ran three sessions in which Dr Jane Genovese from Learning Fundamentals taught our students how to take better notes, how to use those notes and why it's important to use pen and paper rather than electronic devices.

One lucky prize winner from each session took home a study pack including highlighters, post it notes, a weekly organiser, a notebook, sticky flags and more. Other students won canteen vouchers. It pays to come to revision sessions.

A summary of notes from this session is on the Year 8 AEP Connect page.



Parents of AEP students at 2021 session



One of three sessions of socially distancing Year 8 students at Study Hacks



Year 8 Study Pack winners



Year 11 AEP Leader Emerlyn Kaur organising the study pack prizes

The Arts

INTRODUCING OUR DRAMA CAPTAINS



Year 12 Senior Drama Captains:

Jazlyn Skinner, Isabel O'Connell, Kelsie Dowley, Blake Davies

Year 11 Drama Captains: Mischa Hartl, Hannah Cooke, Tyler Hewitt

Year 10 Drama Captains: Ava Smith, Cassidy May, Emily Garton, Lara Given, Stephanie Irons

Blake Davies: I have been a Drama Captain for over two years and have been grateful to be able to work with such amazing and talented people. This year hope to help ensure that all the school's upcoming plays in Semester 2 go ahead.



Isabel O'Connell: I've continued my drama journey through being a Drama Captain from 2020 until the present day where I represent as a senior Drama Captain. I love the community within this department and all the amazing skills and techniques I've learnt from this position. I hope you can have the reward of being a part of the arts too someday.

Mischa Hart: I became a Drama Captain because I have a passion for the arts and I've always found drama a great subject, so I wanted to help spread the same love I have for drama to others.



Jazlyn Skinner: This will be my second year of being a Drama Captain and I am so excited. I am looking forward to helping new and old drama students alike, in creating their spectacular performances scheduled for Semester 2.

Lara Given: I'm one of the year 10 Drama Captains for 2022. I enjoy drama because I like being involved in productions at school and helping others prepare for performances. I am looking forward to upcoming shows this year.

Kelsie Dowley: I am a Year 12 Drama Captain because I am passionate about the Arts, and love being in a position where I can help others develop their own passion. Being a Drama Captain also helps me make friends across different year groups, which is a benefit I wasn't expecting from this position.

Tyler Hewitt: I am a Year 11 Drama Captain. I love performing in shows, and I can't wait to help shape the younger years plays.

Emily Garton: I am one of the Year 10 Drama Captains. I've been performing since the age of four and became a Drama Captain as I have a passion for the performing arts and wanted to share this with others. Drama is a great way to boost your confidence and have some fun, and I'm looking forward to learning more about how-to put-on productions and helping others prepare for their performances.

Ava Smith: I am a new Year 10 Drama Captain. I became a Drama Captain because I adore acting and am very passionate about drama. I'm very excited to see where this opportunity will take me.

English

YEAR 7 CREATIVE WRITING

Stephanie Irons: I am one of the Year 10 Drama Captains this year. I love drama because the community is so accepting and encouraging, and I can be as loud, energetic and weird as I want and no one will bat an eyelash – I can let out my inner drama queen. I signed up to be a Drama Captain because I want to help others experience this freedom and be a part of such a safe space.

Cassidy May: I am a Year 10 Drama Captain for 2022. Ever since I started drama in Year 7, I've fallen in love with it, which is why I'm so glad I've come full circle and now I'm here to help everything drama. I am looking forward to an exciting year.

In English, our Year 7s got their creative teeth stuck into the prompt It's competition day! for their creative writing task. Please enjoy Alvina's heartwarming interpretation of the task.

It's Competition Day!

Chop! Mash! Mr Saucer sliced his cakes and mashed his potatoes as noisily as a tiger having its supper.

"Burgers, chips, noodles, rice, soup—" he read his list out merrily as he looked at all the confectionery and scrumptious food, he had prepared for the hungry youngsters that were going to sprint through the door in the next 10 minutes. He busied himself in the confines of his new stall while his special watercress soup bubbled in a pot next to a porcelain bowl that was filled with air fried chicken nuggets.

Mr Sauce smiled at his old neighbor that has a dirty grey beard and a potbelly. "Ha! it seems like you are having fun old chap!" Mr Beef vociferated.

"Can't say the same thing to you!" Mr Saucer laughed.

"Remember, it's competition day!!" both of them shouted together like two loud lions.

But Mr Saucer knew that he was going to win. Everyone loved his food and he just knew that the children would vote for him as the new canteen vendor. After all, who would want a chubby man make their lunches? He thought as he smirked at Mr Beef who had just dropped his spatula into a plate as cracked as burnt toast. But just then, a big clash jolted him out of his stupor.

"I am going to see who made tastier noodles!" a redhead boy squealed. "Who do you think has the tastier pizza?" a brunette girl yelled.

Mr Sauce and Mr Beef quickly stood in their positions.

"Whatever happens here tonight, I'm going to be the school's vendor," Mr Beef mischievously whispered to his competitors.

But before Mr Saucer could angrily retort, the famished children got in to two lines which made the competitions rush even more. "Give me that drumstick, can I taste the rice? How much is one burger?" the questions spat into the men's faces as they get even more engrossed in to handing out the food.

But slowly, the children noticed that Mr Beef's food didn't taste very good. "Yuck, this toast is as hard as rock!" the children complained and complained about Mr. Beef's food.

Seizing the chance to a berate his neighbor, M. Sauce stuttered.

"HA! I thought you were a retired chef and here you are handing out rock hard toast!" Mr Beef's cherubic cheeks and rotund nose turned as red as tomatoes as his new rival continued to taunt him. "You are becoming old!"

The children laughed. Mr Beef lost his temper.

"Hey! I will not be admonished by a cold-hearted man with grey teeth and a fat neck!" His eyes that were once friendly were now pits full of rage.

"Hold your tongue!" Mr Saucer rebutted in mocked chivalry as his voice slowly turned in to an evil chime.

However, before the fight could get any worse, two 8 year old boys screamed.

"Aaah! There are rat droppings in this sushi!" Flabbergasted, Mr Saucer ran to investigate, Sure enough, there were three piles of rat droppings resting in the sticky rice. He couldn't believe it.

"Ha! Ha! Your food is gross, do you still think your disgusting snacks are better than mine?" he tormented.

The children put their hands over their mouths. They knew that the competitions had gone too far. But before they could do anything, Mr Saucer's cars puffed out smoke.

He got up and sprinted to the stall. Agitated, he picked up his heaviest rolling pin and aimed it at his enemy. Dumbstruck and straightened at the same time, Mr. Beef got his metal pot and used it for self-defense. But before the kids thought that someone was going to get hurt, the School Principal, Ms Tape, came.

"Gentlemen" please put down your weapons, could we please calm down and talk this over in my office?" Both of the men stood abashed as they realised what they had just done suddenly, "It's competition Day!" meant nothing anymore. Hanging their heads, Mr Beef and Mr Saucer followed Ms Tape to her office. But before they could

open the door, the same two 8 year olds from before come dashing to the shocked vendors.

"Wait!" it was us!" their voices vibrated in petrification against everyone. "We put the droppings in the sushi as a prank!" they sobbed.

Everybody in the canteen was amazed, especially Mr Beef.

"But why would you –" Mr Saucer was beginning to question the two troublemakers when Ms Tape interrupted the drama.

"Boys, you will go to your homeroom teacher for the rest of lunch break and I will make sure you too will get two pages of extra homework," her voice couldn't have been sterner.

The boys dully followed and started walking to their teacher with still very tearful eyes. Ms Tape sighted and starred at the two fully grown men in pity. Mr. Saucer and Mr. Beef were meanwhile looking at each other, with embarrassment and shame flowing from their eyes.

"Sorry old pal" I was being rude and I shouldn't have yelled at you and threatened you." Mr. Saucer apologized, feeling a great relief from the experience. Mr Beef laughed.

"It's my fault buddy, I shouldn't have envied you." But that's when Mr Saucer had a brain wave. "Hey! Why don't we work together?"

Mr Beef looked up, baffled.

"I could teach you my secret recipes!" The children clapped.

"But who won the competition?" a 5 year old from the back shouted. Mr Beef and Mr Saucer looked at each other and grinned.

"The rat won the competition!" they laughed.

Coral Bay

The nice calm water,
Scorching hot days,
Swim out a bit to see lots of coral,
Fish swimming around,
Lots of sea animals around,
Sea turtles swimming around your feet,
Only caravan park, shots, and a few houses,
Only a few boats go in and out of the bay,
The water is clear as windows,
The sand is as white as paper.

By Ava

Greens Pool

Amazing
Beautiful clear water,
Great rocks for climbing,
The best get away possible
Unforgettable
Great for suntanning and swimming
No distractions

By Jai

YEAR 10 EXTENSION

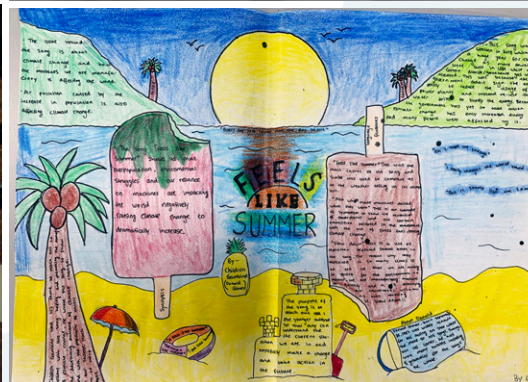
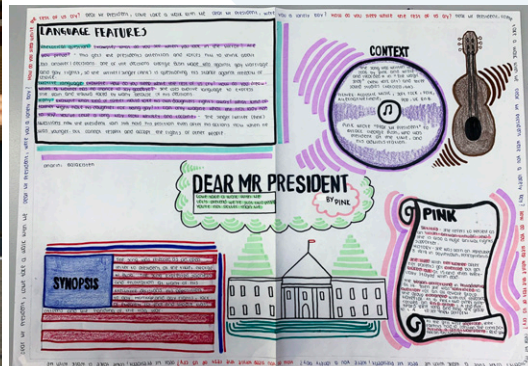
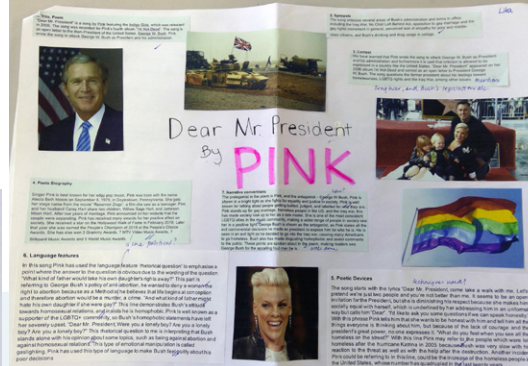
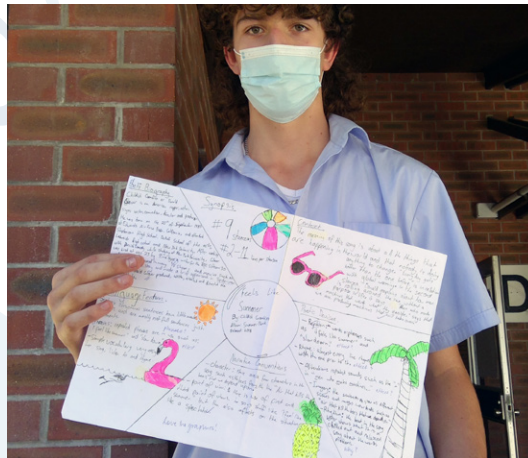
The Year 10 Extension classes have been studying Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* and are immersing themselves in one of the novel's key themes, the duality of humankind. Their task in this project is to express an idea about duality such as good-evil, truth-secrets, appearance-reality, science-religion and rich-poor through a piece of visual art. In a written rationale the students will explain how the duality they explore manifests itself in the novel. We plan to exhibit their work in a few weeks and students will use this project to help prepare themselves for their essay task in Term 2. The work so far has been amazing.

Suzi Franken
and **Emily Glanville**
English Teachers



CREATIVITY IN YEAR 10

Our Year 10 English classes tried something creative and new this year in their unit on Protest Poetry and Song. Using the science of dual coding - using words and pictures to stimulate memory and cognitive processing - they chose a song or poem that has been used to protest against a social injustice and created visual analytical summaries called One-Pagers. This technique is really useful for creating revision notes for all subjects so if you see your children drawing pictures at home when they're supposed to be studying, they may well be applying this newfound skill!



Languages

LANGUAGES WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING PROGRAM - UWA

Willetton SHS has been selected as the pilot school for the UWA/ Department of Education (DoE) to be a mentor school in the *Languages Work Integrated Learning Program*.

As part of a broader strategy to support schools to implement language programs, the Department of Education WA is partnering with the University of Western Australia with the aim to increase the number of language teachers in the workforce.

In this project, high achieving third year university language students apply to enrol in a semester-long *Work Integrated Learning unit*. The successful students are then placed in public primary or secondary schools to work as

language assistants to support language teachers. It is hoped that they may be enticed into the world of language teaching.

The selected university students work under the direction of the mentor language teacher and assist with classroom activities and the preparation of resources. In total, they must complete 80 hours of work in the school.

So far, Annie in Japanese, Kiara in Italian and Max in French have been working in classes supporting students with their language learning and helping the teaching team create engaging learning resources.

MEET OUR *INTERNS*

Hi! My name is Annie and I'm a student at the University of Western Australia. My major is Japanese Studies and I'm currently in my fourth year. I'll be helping out as an assistant Japanese language teacher at Willetton on Tuesdays and Fridays for the remainder of this term and until around Week 5 next term as part of a work integrated learning unit I'm doing with UWA.

I am super passionate about learning foreign languages and have studied a number of languages aside from Japanese, including Mandarin, Spanish, and Korean. I also love dancing and reading. I dance urban style dance and have just finished reading *The Great Gatsby*.

In 2018 (my gap year), after completing ATAR Chinese, I lived in Northern China for a year to study Mandarin and experience Chinese culture. My dream all throughout my university studies has been to go to Japan on a similar student exchange program, however I wasn't able to due to the pandemic. Now, I'm hoping I can land a job in Japan and move there after I graduate!

Annie Jarman



Annie with Year 7s





Je m'appelle Maximilien. J'étudie le français et l'italien à l'Université d'Australie Occidentale. My name is Max. I study French and Italian at UWA. As part of my degree, I'm doing some work experience as a French language assistant at Willetton SHS. I will be working at Willetton during Term 1 and Term 2 helping students with all aspects of French, including speaking, grammar, and pronunciation. I work as an English language teacher, so it is interesting to get some experience teaching another language. I hope I can share my love of French with the students at Willetton.

Maximilien Wickham



Ciao! Mi chiamo Kiara. I'm a third-year student at the University of Western Australia, studying Italian and Physiology. I am a language assistant for Italian at Willetton SHS during Term 1 and Term 2. My role is to assist the students with any questions they have, bring cultural elements to the class, and encourage the students to practise what they have learnt in Italian. I have been enjoying my time at Willetton getting to know the students and teachers.

I travelled northern Italy solo for three months when I was 16 and that is where my love for Italian culture and people began to grow. Since then, I have visited a few more times - every time I visit, my love for Italy grows even stronger. I hope my passion for the Italian language and culture can be passed onto the students at Willetton.

Kiara Wells

EDUCATION PERFECT LANGUAGES WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

We achieved some fabulous results in the recent Education Perfect Languages World Championships. These include:

- 120,029 points earned
- 7th place in WA
- 35th place in Australia

We had five Emerald Award winners, who scored more than 5000 points, and five Gold Award winners, who scored more than 3000 points. The recipients of these awards are:

Emerald Award

Kim Pham, Year 7
Angela Li, Year 9
Joshua Lee, Year 9
Ryu Ichihashi, Year 9
Joanne Chong, Year 8

Gold Award

Elyssa Cole, Year 9
Priyanka Manikandan, Year 9
Karthiga Vijayakumares, Year 9
Mika Burford, Year 7
Isaac Ting, Year 9

We also had a number of students who achieved Silver, Bronze and Credit Awards. These students will all be receiving a certificate in recognition of their efforts.

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the championships, and particularly to our prize winners. We are very proud of you.

Prof Carroll Languages Teacher

YEAR 7 PERFORMANCES



In Year 7 students are learning how to have a simple conversation in French which they perform in front of the class in pairs for their first speaking assessment. To everyone's surprise Rhys McCarthy and Thomas Green took their performance up a notch by dressing in matching hats and moustaches. What a way to get into the French spirit! Bravo Rhys and Thomas!

YEAR 9 JAPANESE ONLINE INCURSION

The Year 9 Japanese classes are learning about [アニメとまんが] anime and manga this term.

The language we are learning is how to describe people, places, characters and personalities. Our assessment task is to introduce to our peers an original character who could appear in a manga or anime.

Normally, around this time the Year 9 Japanese classes would visit the Hyogo Prefectural Government Cultural Centre (HPGCC) in Tuart Hill for a full-day workshop. Unfortunately, this couldn't happen due to Covid-19 restrictions. However, during Week 6, the five Year 9 Japanese classes had a virtual call with Kousuke Iwamoto, Hyogo Centre Intern, to learn more about his life. Kousuke lives in the seventh largest city in Japan, Kobe, and through videos and talking to him in Japanese we got to learn more about his university, city and interests. We did pop quizzes, saw an amazing shopping hall, and even got an anime recommendation - Jujutsu Kaisen. It was an enriching experience, helping us learn to be more comfortable speaking a different language in a fun and engaging way.

We would like to thank Melissa Luyke, Deputy Director of HPGCC, for her preparation and organisation of this event for us.

Nika Harwood Year 9



YEAR 10 FRENCH AND ITALIAN UWA EXCURSION

On 23 March, the Year 10 French and Italian students went to UWA to learn more about languages courses at university and how they can benefit many career pathways. It was also a fun out-of-school Language's experience. Once there, we were greeted by Marinella Caruso (Italian professor and Sabine Kuuse (French professor), who organised the day's activities.

Firstly, we were treated to a talk by Marinella. Her fun, interactive speech was about the benefits of learning a language and what language education is like at university. We were also treated to a few of the university's current students (including former Willetton student Jack Killoh) who talked about their experiences of studying Italian and French at a university level, and who encouraged us to continue with our own language studies. After the talk, we were treated to a tour of the campus. The UWA student guides were very helpful and informative and gave us a lot of historical information and fun facts about the campus, such as the history behind UWA's famous Winthrop Hall and its clock tower, and the reason why there is a Roman statue in the Physics department (apparently the senders got Physics and Physiology confused).

After our tour, we split into our language groups for a mini scavenger hunt. We had questions about famous Italians (Galileo Galilei, Michelangelo etc.), about how to say peacocks (*pavoni* / *paon* - and there were many beautiful real ones on campus!); we even played Celebrity Heads with questions in Italian. The French students also did in a scavenger hunt with similar questions about French music, famous French people (Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, Manu Fidel,) and the history of Paris, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame etc. Some students were treated with delicious Baci chocolates as a reward for good work during an end-of-session quiz.

We concluded the day with a lovely lunch on the oval.

Overall, it was an excellent experience, and a great way for us to gain an understanding of the pathways that a tertiary language education can offer. We thank the Languages Department for providing us with this opportunity and look forward to furthering our language education in Years 11 and 12 and beyond.

Matthew Langford and
Sowmya Sri Nallan Year 10

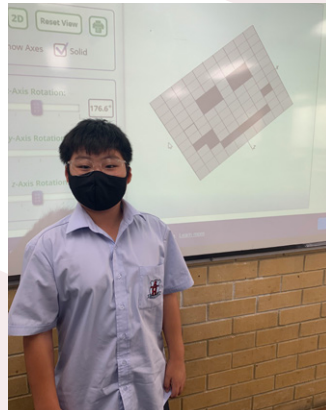
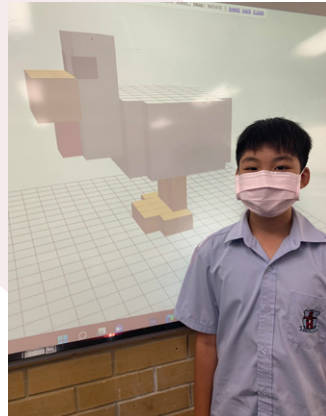
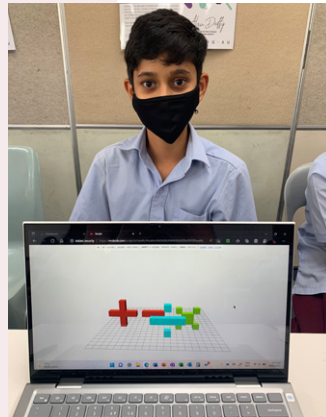


Languages

Maths

YEAR 7 SHAPES

The Year 7 students have been honing their drawing skills with three-dimensional shapes. They have been drawing these shapes isometrically, obliquely and as orthogonal views. Some students enjoyed using different three-dimensional drawing software to make their own shapes.



HIGHLY CLASSIFIED – YEAR 11 BIOLOGY ZOO EXCURSION

On Friday 4 March, as part of the Year 11 Biology curriculum, the Year 11 Biology students attended an excursion at the Perth Zoo. Once there, we heard a lecture on classification, explored the zoo and its wonderful animals, to put to practice and observe what we had learnt in the classroom about physical structure of organisms, and their evolutionary relationships, and how this relates to the classification of organisms.

At the start of the day, we were given a booklet titled *Highly Classified!* and tasked with finding all the necessary information to complete our mission, which took us around the entire zoo. We had to find and record the scientific names of specific animals, describe characteristics of organisms in order to construct a dichotomous key, and discover the differentiating features between various groups, for example, the features that separate the subclasses of mammals (placentals, marsupials and monotremes).

The first part of the lecture consisted of covering the information we had already learnt in class, which was useful in reinforcing our biology knowledge.

In second part, we were given a scenario. We were biologists on a newly discovered island, harbouring many unidentified organisms, the possibility of discovering a new endemic species. We were then assigned the task of using skeletons and skulls of animals, and a handy dichotomous key, to determine the species of animals located on the island.

The zookeeper giving the lecture had also brought along two lizards of different species – Jake and Nutmeg – for us to identify, using another dichotomous key, and observe.

We were privileged to learn a lot about the Perth Zoo conservation programs, including the breed-and-release programs focusing on the protection of White-bellied and Orange-bellied frogs. This program is run by Perth Zoo and has been hugely successful in ensuring the continued survival of these critically endangered species.

Our exploration of the Zoo and its various exhibits also enabled us to further develop our knowledge on biodiversity and biological classification concepts in a practical environment, prior to our test the following

Tuesday. We analysed the primate enclosure and were prompted to develop our own dichotomous keys – an excellent activity that hugely reinforced our understanding of the relationships between the appearance of animals, and their classification into different taxa and species.

Working in a practical environment allowed us to view the concepts taught in class in the context of their real-life applications. The excursion opened our eyes to the importance of conservation of endemic Australian species and inspired many of us to consider the value of a future career in biological sciences.

Keeley Dunsire, Annabelle Turner and Alysha Picknoll Year 11

Collection of skulls to be classified by students.



Classifying a skull using a dichotomous key

NATIONAL SCIENCE YOUTH FORUM 2022

At the beginning of the year, I was fortunate to be chosen as one of two students to represent Willetton Senior High School and take part in the NYSF 2022 program.

NYSF is a holiday program where over 600 like-minded STEM students across Australia participate in digital workshops, lectures, and virtual-tours combined with several amazing in-person STEM visits for those in Perth. The program ran for twelve days, with seven days online and five days in-person.

As students, we were given the opportunity to go to a variety of organisations and companies and broaden our understanding of careers in STEM. My digital session favourites included the Science@Home in which I extracted DNA from kiwi fruits and the Dr Karl House Party where I learnt about the world of science in a fun and engaging way.

In the second week, I was able to visit Curtin University, Telethon Kids Institute, CSIRO space and astronomy, CSIRO oceans and atmosphere, Murdoch University and even the Perth Zoo. I absolutely loved the tour of the Telethon Kids Institute in Perth where I got to see the equipment used to conduct

research and create vaccines, attend the *meet and greet* where I was able to speak to a range of STEM professionals and learn about careers that I didn't even know existed.

The NYSF program opened my eyes to different careers in the STEM field and gave me the opportunity to form friendships with people with similar career goals like me, both in Perth and around the country. I would highly recommend this program to Year 11 students interested in a career in STEM. I am thankful to the Willetton Science Department for advising me to attend the program and the Willetton Rotary Club that was able to promote my application.

Fiona Abraham Year 12

At the Telethon Kids Institute where research – child health research techniques are being discussed



CSIRO scientist where a procedure is being demonstrated



Face to face interactions with the STEM professionals





YEAR 12 BIOLOGY ATAR INCURSION

Biotechnology is not just imagining a scientist in a white lab coat researching some lifesaving drug or using an expensive medical equipment. Instead, it offers a plethora of exciting discoveries to make, and new problems to solve. More importantly, biotechnology professionals can make a difference in the lives of ordinary people by studying the genetic and physical characteristics of cells and organisms.

I feel really fortunate to be a part of Willetton Senior High School where the BioBarcode program has been running successfully. It makes the students aware about the various techniques and equipments used in biotechnology and allows them to perform all this under the supervision of highly skilled people from BioBarcode. This fun learning way is super exciting and keenly interests students in studying biology.

The task we performed, was based on using PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) and gel electrophoresis. We had to identify which of the two unknown DNA samples (A and B) belong to a koala and

a quokka. After producing enough of the DNA samples by PCR, we then loaded them on agarose gel in order to visualise them through gel electrophoresis.

In general, the results of a PCR are usually visualized using gel electrophoresis. Gel electrophoresis is a technique in which fragments of DNA are pulled through a gel matrix by an electric current, and it separates DNA fragments according to the size.

PCR is more recognisable these days as it helps in detecting whether a person has COVID or not by reading the DNA sequence. Hence, this highlights the importance of biotechnology in our daily lives also.

Lastly, I extend special thanks to my Biology teacher, Mrs Kimberley Atkinson for providing me such an opportunity to be a part of the Biotech

incursion. I also thank Ms Pauline Charman and her BioBarcode team members Anna, Amanda, Paige, and Jeremy who carried out this wonderful program with enthusiasm and arranged all the cool and advanced biotech stuff for us along with their interesting life journeys. They did a fantastic job in teaching us the working of the PCR, electrophoresis and equipments such as micropipettes, along with many others involved. Furthermore, they supervised, helped, and guided us at each step.

From this experience, I have discovered a better version of myself which makes me feel proud and happy. I came from a totally different country where I had never ever used a microscope on my own. It has been one of the biggest achievements of my high school journey. I really enjoyed it and hope to perform more in future!

Aastha Verma Year 12

Science

School Board

Thank you to the parents and staff who nominated to be representatives on the School Board. It is with pleasure that we announce the 2022 Willetton Senior High School Board.

Principal

Mr Trevor Hunter

Parent Representatives

Mr David Harwood (Chair)
Mr Jon Langford
Mr Wayne Nurse (Treasurer)
Mr Chris Phillips
Mr Deepak Sharma
Mr John Yeo

Community Representatives

Ms Shezah Arif
Mrs Keryn McKinnon
Ms Simran Vijayakumar

Staff Representatives

Ms Tania Elliott
Mr Jordan Newton (Secretary)
Mr Erik Pretorius
Ms Andrea Wheeler

Ex-Officio Members

Ms Sacha Bradley, Associate Principal
Mrs Helen Wong, Board Executive Officer

We thank our retiring Board members Mrs Jo Collier (parent representative) and Ms Jude Fapani (staff representative) for their time and valued contribution to the School Board. A special recognition and thanks to Jo, who has served on the Board for the past six years, two years as Vice Chair and two years as Board Secretary. We wish them all the very best as they move on to new chapters in their lives.

Thank you also to Mr John Yeo, who has diligently served as the Board Chair over the past two years and now passes the baton on. Your drive to promote greater

student input and emphasis on staff and student health and mental well-being is well appreciated and the Board is pleased to have your continued insight and contribution.

SCHOOL BOARD ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING (APM)

The School Board APM was held on Wednesday 23 March 2022. The Chair's Annual Report and the Annual Financial Report were presented at this meeting. A list of Board meetings for this year can be found on the school website, under the School Board information. Under current COVID restrictions, Board meetings are held remotely.

[2021 Annual Report](#)

SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN

Members of the local community may be appointed by the School Board in June each year. Terms of appointment are for 12 months. Expressions of interest from the local community are now open and should be forwarded to willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au

[Community Representative 2022 - Information and Expression of Interest form](#)

ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP FUNDRAISER

Entertainments memberships continue to be available for purchase through the School Board.

Your Entertainment Membership gives access to thousands of deals, with 20% of your membership purchase going towards a Student Leadership Development Program initiated by the Board. Your support is much appreciated.

Your savings from dining out a couple of times will quickly pay for the cost of your membership.

Purchases may be made at <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/904a46>

For enquiries, please contact Helen Wong on helen.s.wong@education.wa.edu.au or 9334 7217 (Mon, Wed and Thurs).





SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS PROGRAM

We have registered with Gilbert's Fresh Market, Southlands to be part of the Support Our Schools Program. Please sign up with them and for every purchase you make in store, 1% of your purchase spend will be donated to the school. It does not cost to sign up, and it's an easy way for you to support the school. To date, over \$2500 has been raised, with these funds being put towards student scholarships.

HOW TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

To find out more about the School Board or how you might get involved, please contact Helen Wong, School Board Executive Officer on 9334 7217 (Mon and Wed) or email willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP - SALE!!!

For a limited time, the secondhand uniform shop has a sale – purchase any two blue (junior) school shirts or junior sports tops for \$10 (usually \$10 each). This is also a great time to check out the rest of our secondhand uniforms – everything is \$10, except for the school dress (\$15) and the school jacket (\$20). We also have ballet and tap shoes for just \$10 per pair.

	Trading Hours During school term	Location
Second Hand Bookshop	Wednesdays 9am-11.30am For enquiries phone 9334 7282 during trading hours	Room B23 in the undercover area, next to the canteen Eftpos facilities now available
Second Hand Uniform Shop	Wednesdays 9.15am-11.15am For enquiries phone 9334 7217 during trading hours	In the PAC building

ALUMNI NEWS

CLASS REUNION

Plans are underway for the 30 year reunion for the Class of 1992. Please keep an eye on the WSHS Alumni facebook page for further details as they become available.

MAILING LIST

If you would like to be included in a mailing list for Willo News and upcoming events, please contact the Board Office at Willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au