

WILLETTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

Bits & Bytes

ISSUE 8 FOR 2023

DECEMBER 2022

SCHOOL OFFICE OPENING

THE SCHOOL OFFICE WILL BE OPEN FROM
WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY (CLOSED THURSDAY
26 JANUARY AUSTRALIA DAY)

STUDENTS DAY 1

Year 7 students will be welcomed at 8.15am on Wednesday 1 February on the front lawn by Mrs Gibson, their Year Coordinator and student Peer Leaders who then accompany the group to The Arts courtyard.

Year 8 – 12 students meet in the central quadrangle by 8.30am with Year 8 students seated at the front through to Year 12 students at the back, near the library.

Year 7s will be introduced and welcomed by the rest of the school as they move from The Arts courtyard to be seated. Once they are seated, the Welcome to Country and Mr Hunter's welcoming address are delivered.

At the end of the assembly students are called to move off in their year groups to meet with their Year Coordinator. Here they are called into their tutor groups and move to their tutor group room. Timetables and diaries are distributed here. The first classes will commence around 9.45am and for most students this will be with their tutor teachers in their tutor room.

If students are unable to attend on the first day of schooling, parents/caregivers must inform the school in writing of the reason for the delay in attending and state the anticipated date on which the student will commence classes. This should be sent by email to Willetton.SHS.Studentdetails@education.wa.edu.au

Transperth Guide to travelling to school
[High School Services \(transperth.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.transperth.wa.gov.au)

Our Student Services team provides support for the social, emotional, and educational wellbeing of all students. The goal of the Student Services team is to help students reach their full potential.

The team consists of a Deputy Principal, Program Coordinators, Year Coordinators, Chaplains, Nurses, First Aid Officer and a Teacher in Charge of Learning and Curriculum Support and Psychologists. The team is supported by School Officers.

There are changes in Student Services in 2023 to add an extra layer of support to our students with the appointment of an extra Program Coordinator to cater for the increasing school population. The Program Coordinator along with the Year Coordinators will follow students through their journey over the six years, allowing parents, students and staff to build stronger relationships to support students.



The key message for 2023 is *if we don't know, we can't help* so we encourage all parents and students to keep lines of communication open.

Brad Spicer Deputy
Principal Student Services

EDITOR:
Jenny LeSouef

TECHNOLOGY:
Nola Regan

DESIGN:
Isometric Group

STUDENT SERVICES TEAM

Program Coordinator Year 9 and 12 – Ms Lana Warner Gillon
Lana.Warner-Gillon@education.wa.edu.au



Year Coordinator Year 12 – Ms Judy Gacui
Judy.Gacui@education.wa.edu.au



Year Coordinator Year 9 – Mr Jayson Bignoux
Jayson.Bignoux@education.wa.edu.au



Program Coordinator Year 8 and 11 – Ms Hope Jobe
Hope.Jobe@education.wa.edu.au



Year coordinator Year 11 – Ms Sandra Frew
Sandra.Frew@education.wa.edu.au



Year Coordinator Year 8 – Mr Tom Coe
thomas.coe@education.wa.edu.au



Program Coordinator Year 7 and 10 – Mr Ben Leech
Ben.Leech@education.wa.edu.au



Year Coordinator Year 10 – Ms Natasha Senasinghe
natasha.senasinghe@education.wa.edu.au



Year Coordinator Year 7 – Ms Kristen Gibson
Kristen.Gibson@education.wa.edu.au



WE WELCOME OUR NEW STUDENT SERVICES STAFF



BEN LEECH – PROGRAM COORDINATOR

My name is Ben Leech and I am the new Program Coordinator (Years 7 and 10) for 2023. I am very excited to be working at Willetton SHS. It's an amazing school

with great students and staff.

A little bit about myself, I am married and have a beautiful two-year old daughter. I like to keep fit and enjoy playing AFL football; swimming and any sport really. I'm about to do the Rottneest Swim for the first time in February next year.

My career in education began after a stint in the army, I reassessed and decided to change careers to become a teacher. I have worked in a variety of roles at Melville SHS over the past 10 years including Program Coordinator of Student Services. Working in Student Service is my passion as I strongly believe that students learn best when they are happy, supported and connected.



KRISTEN GIBSON – YEAR 7 COORDINATOR

I am very excited to be joining the Student Services Team as the new incoming Year 7 Coordinator for 2023. Before coming to

Willetton Senior High School, I spent 10 years teaching in the country, including a Remote Aboriginal Community School, a North West mining town and a stint in the South West. Since arriving at Willetton SHS, I have had numerous roles with the Technologies Learning Area including teacher, Teacher in Charge of Home Economics and Acting Head of Learning Area for Technologies. Over the years I have participated in many Student Services activities and am thrilled to be a part of this dynamic team. I will be continuing to teach within Technologies, specialising in Home Economics: Foods and am looking forward to getting to know our Year 7 students through these classes as well.



HOPE JOBE – PROGRAM COORDINATOR

I am excited to be returning to Willetton after two years away. I spent one of those years on maternity leave and the other on secondment at

Mt Lawley Senior High School.

I have enjoyed many exciting experiences over the last two years and look forward to once again being a part of the team at Willetton. My background from working both as manager of the Willetton Resource Unit and as Program Coordinator at Mt Lawley has enabled me to develop skills and knowledge which I look forward to applying in my new role.

SUBJECTS AND COURSES 2023

The number of enrolments at Willetton continues to increase and this has been very marked in Term 4 with a large number of students expected in Year 7 2023. There may be some changes to the subjects allocated to Year 7 to 9 students as a result of this continued increase in numbers. Parents may not be advised of this until the commencement of the 2023 school year.

GOOD STANDING

Our vision statement emphasises the importance of achieving excellence and building bright futures for tomorrow. We provide a distinctive, comprehensive education with strong academic and vocational pathways assisted by effective pastoral care programs, where all students are given the opportunity to become confident, innovative, and successful learners supported in the process of defining themselves as they prepare to meet the challenges of the future.

This policy provides a behaviour framework that students are expected to meet in order to maintain Good Standing status. The intention of the policy is to reward students who are actively participating in their learning and encourage positive attitudes towards learning. It is also the intention of the policy that students see Good Standing as something to be valued and maintained. Students who have relinquished the right to hold Good Standing status, should work towards regaining the status.

All students will commence the school year with Good Standing. This entitles them to the freedom, rights and privileges of every student within the school. If a

student loses Good Standing, it can be regained by fulfilling the requirements. If a student has lost Good Standing, they are unable to attend any extra curricula sporting, social events, or reward activities.

Willetton's Student Services team has the responsibility to oversee and implement the required procedures of the Good Standing Policy. The aim of the policy is to focus on the positives and increasing acknowledgment of those students who maintain their Good Standing through rewards and extra-curricular activities.

Maintaining Good Standing focuses the following five key target areas: Attendance, Punctuality, Behaviour, Devices, Uniform.

STUDENT DEVICES

Teachers at Willetton Senior High School often integrate information technologies into their classrooms to provide a wealth of rich educational resources and tools that deliver positive teaching and learning outcomes. The school has adopted a *Bring Your Own Device* model, meaning students are requested to bring

a personally owned tablet to school for the purpose of enhancing their learning experience. If possible, the device should support the use of a stylus/pen which allows students to annotate and highlight work directly on the screen.

Parents are reminded that students are provided with free access to the Microsoft 365 suite of applications including Word, PowerPoint

and OneDrive so there is no need to purchase this. These applications can be installed on five devices. Students should use OneDrive to store their schoolwork as it is automatically backed up without need for a thumb drive or external storage. Further information is available on the school's website under Parent Essentials.

YEAR 6 STUDENTS' TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL

The transition from primary school is a difficult time for both students and parents, communication is the key.

- Be prepared for early ups and downs. Adjusting to change takes time, but if things don't stabilise after the first six weeks, talk to your child's home-room teacher in the first instance.
- Remind your child that it's normal to feel nervous about starting something new – for example, you could share how nervous and excited you feel when starting a new job.
- Talk to other parents to check whether your child's experiences and feelings are similar to those of others. Sporting and school events are a good place to meet other parents.
- Try to make sure your child eats well, gets plenty of physical activity and gets plenty of sleep. The change to secondary school is likely to make your child more tired at first.

SIGNS YOUR CHILD MIGHT BE HAVING DIFFICULTY

- a lack of involvement in the new school
- little or no talk about new friends
- refusal to talk with you about school
- little or no interest in doing homework
- low confidence or self-esteem – your child might say she's dumb or stupid
- no desire to go to school, or refusal to go
- a drop in grades or academic performance.

If your child is having trouble, **don't wait for things to improve on their own.**

Follow the links for more information on your child's transition to High School.

[School Transitions | Willetton Senior High School \(schooltv.me\)](https://www.schooltv.me)

[What_are_Transitions.pdf \(schooltv.me\)](#)

[Survival tips for high school | Willetton Senior High School \(schooltv.me\)](https://www.schooltv.me)

STUDENT ACCESS TO THE COMPUTER NETWORK

Most students who attended a WA Department of Education school in 2022 will be able to access the school network using their same username and password. However, students will need to ensure their password complies with the stricter secondary school security requirements. This includes a minimum of six characters, and must contain characters from **three** of the following areas:

- uppercase
- lowercase
- digits(0-9) and
- special characters(! # @ etc).

If their current password does not meet these requirements, students are asked to change their password through Connect prior to the first day of school. Those students who forget their password or did not attend a WA Department of Education school in Semester 2 of 2022, will be provided with access to the network on the first days of school. Details of what students need to do to arrange this will be provided by tutorial teachers and the Year Coordinators.

YEAR 11 AND 12 COURSE CHANGE REQUESTS

YEAR 12 STUDENTS in ATAR pathways may continue to submit applications for Private Study up to July 2023.

Requests for course changes can be made at any time until 13 March for Year 11s and 6 March for Year 12s. Many requests are made for changes at the start of the year, please be patient if a request is made during the first three weeks of Term 1. Students are advised against sending emails without the form as it gives important information about the program of study and reasons for the request.

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Our uniform promotes our public image and enhances a sense of belonging and pride in the members of our school community.

Learning appropriate clothing is part of student acquisition of a positive self-image and teaches them community and employer dress expectations as they enter the world of work.

The overwhelming majority of our students wear the uniform every day with pride. Full uniform compliance is also essential for staff and students' safety and welfare as it clearly signals those who are and are not permitted to be on-site.

The uniform has been designed by students, parents and staff so that it is comfortable, affordable and attractive. A continual review of the uniform is undertaken to ensure this remains the case.

The Willetton Senior High School Board has endorsed this School Uniform Policy stipulating that every student will wear all items of school uniform and uniform items are purchased from the School Uniform Shop.

SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

- School, rugby or knitted jumper worn with shirt underneath
- Blue Lower School short sleeve shirt
- White Senior School short sleeve shirt
- Blue Lower School long sleeve shirt
- White Senior School long sleeve shirt
- Summer Skirt
- Navy blue school pants
- Navy blue shorts
- Dress
- School scarf
- leggings are not permitted
- stockings only with skirt or dress – not with shorts
- stockings must be plain black or nude in colour
- minimal ear piercing with stud/sleepers or one small nose stud only permitted
- a school shirt must be worn beneath the school uniform outer garments
- dangling earrings, spikey bracelets and chokers are health and safety hazards and are not permitted
- t-shirts/undershirts are to be short-sleeved and white only, with no motifs and not to protrude beyond the sleeves/hemline
- extreme hair colours and styles are discouraged. Only natural colours and hues are acceptable, such as blonde, brunette, black or auburn
- students are not permitted to wear clothing or other items that will cause offence to a reasonable person
- caps are encouraged for sun protection
- Students wearing clothing associated with religious or cultural identity should keep within school colours.

There are issues which we consider to be important in setting the appropriate tone. They are as follows;

- denim garments and tracksuits are not part of the school dress code
- shoes must be closed

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORMS

LOWER SCHOOL

WSHS PE shorts

WSHS light blue PE top

WSHS dark blue PE top for Lifecare students

SENIOR SCHOOL

WSHS PE shorts

WSHS dark blue PE top

UNIFORMCONCEPTS

NELL GRAY

30 Kembla Way, Willetton, WA 6155

Online Ordering available by visiting website nellgray.com.au

OPENING TIMES

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri: 9am – 5pm

Thurs: 9am – 6pm

Sat: 9am – 1pm

Closed on Sundays, Public Holidays

Closed for the Festive Season from Saturday 17 Dec 2022 until Tuesday 3 Jan 2023

Telephone: 08 9270 4669 Email: willetton@uc.nellgray.com.au Website: nellgray.com.au

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Wednesday 25 January 9.15am-11.15am

Friday 27 January 9.15am-11.15am

Week 1 Term 1 2023

Monday 30 January 9.15am-11.15am

Wednesday 1 February 9.15am-11.15am

For further information, please contact [Helen Wong at helen.s.wong@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:helen.s.wong@education.wa.edu.au) or 9334 7217 (Mondays and Wednesdays from 25 January)

SECOND-HAND BOOKSHOP

Wednesday 25 January 9.00am-11.30am

Friday 27 January 9.00am-11.30am

Week 1 Term 1 2023

Monday 30 January 9.00am-11.30am

Wednesday 1 February 9.00am-11.30am

For further information, please contact the bookshop on 9334 7282 during opening hours or [Helen Wong at helen.s.wong@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:helen.s.wong@education.wa.edu.au) or 9334 7217 (Mondays and Wednesdays from 25 January)

STOP PRESS

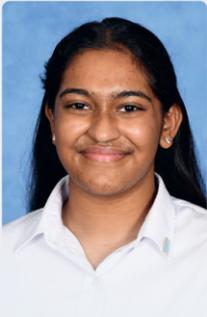


WILLETTON ROTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2022

Congratulations to Lana Warner-Gillon, Program Coordinator in Student Services who won this prestigious award for her outstanding contribution to the students.

YEAR 12 LEADERSHIP TEAM

The following students have Executive Leadership roles in 2023:



Mehvish Mehboob
Head Girl



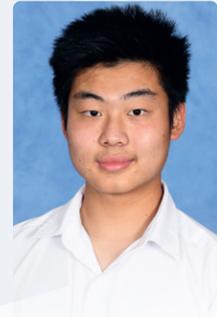
Michelle Abraham
Vice Head Girl and Representative for Regional Youth Advisory Committee, Department of Education



Byan Yemane
Head Boy



David Phillips
Vice Head Boy



Harmonic Deng
Representative, Department of Education's Executive Youth Council

NATIONAL SCHOOLS' CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Next year, 120 students from across the nation (15 from Western Australia) will attend a schools' convention in Canberra to explore the topic of Constitutional Reform.

Anton Brown, Sophie Wilkins and David Phillips have been chosen from Willetton Senior High School as part of the WA contingent.

We wish them well on their three-day trip to the National capital.

Margaret Hale HaSS Teacher



YEAR 11 SPECIAL AWARDS

The Year 11 cohort had a final assembly during week 7. Forty-seven students were presented a Special Achievement Award based on improvement and commitment to studies throughout 2022. Congratulations to everyone who received an Award and thank you for the teachers who took the time out of the schedule to consider and select a student from their Year 11 class. It was fantastic seeing so many students Awarded for their effort.

Judy Gauci Year 11 Coordinator



YEAR 10 GIFTED AND TALENTED HaSS CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURS

Ms Hale and Ms Stevenson's Year 10 Gifted and Talented classes went on an excursion to the WA Museum Boola Bardip for the Creative Entrepreneurs program, a program focusing on discovering past innovations by famous West Australians, as well as encouraging entrepreneurship in the students.

Students were treated to a guided tour of the museum's Innovations gallery. The gallery highlighted many key Western Australian innovations, such as the Coolgardie Safe (the origin of the refrigerator), spray-on skin, and the Peacock fashion label. The guides were knowledgeable about the topic and were able to answer all our questions. The students were then given a short while to explore the gallery and look for themselves at the rich entrepreneurial of culture Western Australia.

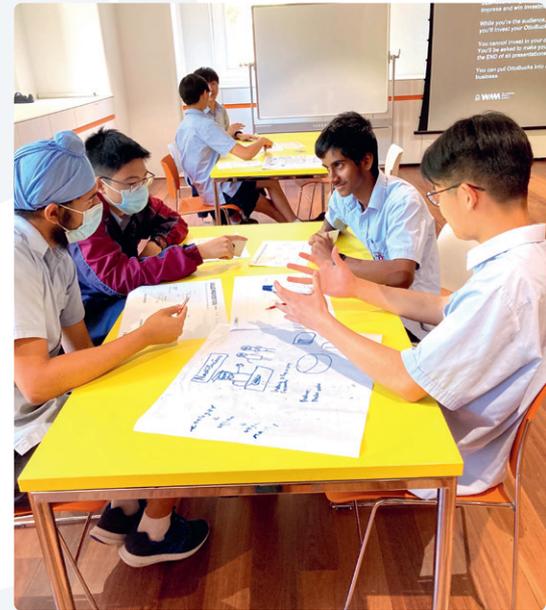
Following this, the students split into small groups and took part in the entrepreneurship part of the Creative Entrepreneurs course. It began with an

Apples to Apples-esque game, where students had the opportunity to match a target audience with a problem to be solved. We then had only five minutes to plan an elevator pitch to deliver to a very realistic cardboard cut-out of Elon Musk.

We were then taught about many key business ideas, such as problem-solution compatibility, market testing, and scalability. We also learnt about useful business planning strategies, such as the Pixar Canvas (named after the plan creators for Pixar set themselves after breaking off from Disney). The students ended the session by providing a full pitch for their product, and having the opportunity to invest play money in each other's business

Overall, this was a great opportunity, especially for those who wish to become entrepreneurs. It was also a good, combined excursion and a great chance for Gifted and Talented, us to catch up with one another after the stress of exams.

Matthew Langford and
Monique Williams Year 10





DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Proud to support

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
INTERNATIONAL AWARD
AUSTRALIA

Congratulations to the following students in Years 9 to 12 who have been signed off for an Award this year.

Year 9

Bronze Award

Chloe Pang
Tres Wong
Yin Joe Tan
Priyanka Manikandan
Benjamin An
Hyeonseo Cho
Eliza Rizvi
Chhavi Singh
Tiffany Lin
Isaac Ting

Year 10

Bronze Award

Aleena Mathew
Yi Yong
Stephanie Irons
Nicole Tan
Riyan George
Nguyen Hoang
Yasmin Cheung
Menara Mapa
Agneta Sabu
Manvir Kaur
Keisha Chiang
Riyan George
Menin Kachappilly
Emma Davies
Serene Lim

Year 11

Bronze Award

Medha Bhushan
Javendesh Dhamy
Clarence Ang
Taryn Hugo
Kavija Ranaweera
Venukesh Thayatharan
Huma Fathima
Annabelle Frank
Emily Sebastian
Erica Francis
Olivia Gibson

Year 12

Bronze Award

Dionne Sebastian
Shreyas Lamba
Liam Spozetta
Tanush Embari
Evan Dong

ALUMNI

Dhanviben Domadia
Class of 2021
Gold Award

Samantha Douglass-Whisson
Class of 2021
Gold Award

Grace Yong
Class of 2017
Gold Award

Kirra Gauci
Class of 2015
Gold Award

Mohammed Rayn
Class of 2021
Bronze Award

Silver Award

Jacinta Ellis
Iris Chen
Leon Tan
Sowmya Sri Nallan
Jessica Gauntlett
Merlene Koh
Ngyuen Huang
Taylor Law
Daniel Marshall

Silver Award

Jazlin Wooden
Arianna Chia
Teon Tong
Letitia Kosonen
Eunice Chai
Lara Colleran
Tiana Mathias
Yash Berry
Jade Regel
Mridula Gokulakrishnan
Bianca Chira
Hannah Cooke
Annabelle Turner
Tashan Kirubakaran
Surbhi Sharma

Silver Award

Thomas Stearne
Kelsey Dowley
Kartikya Dashora
Bryan Liyanage

Gold Award

Mehvish Mehboob

Gold Award

Fiona Abraham
Robert Lewis
Samendra De Silva
Kartikeya Dashora
Olivia Anderson
Jacqueline Niwarlangga
Anton Andrew
Pravan Ananthan
Elilmathi Pradeep Kumar

ROTTNEST RESIDENTIAL PROJECT

This trip presented many challenges both physically and mentally, from cycling gruelling distances in the heat and sea breeze, to creating our authentic vision in the production and aesthetic of a tourism brochure. Luckily, a cooperative and disciplined approach along with effective communication, helped us get the job finalised within our time frame. We spent hours out taking photographs of scenery, flora and fauna. From our nightly team meetings to our casual, but

productive discussions, many of our conversations lead to something instrumental to the project. We documented 28 iconic Rotto items on the brochure, which will be given to Rottnest Rangers and volunteers, to distribute amongst visitors to the Island. Many friendships were formed and consolidated throughout our week at Rotto. We managed to create some magic memories from our experiences in the water, biking, creative meal preparation and of course, Quokka interactions.

Harmoniche Deng Year 11 Gold Award participant



We wish all our families a very happy Christmas
and a healthy and restful holiday break .



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