

WILLETTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

# Newsletter

## ISSUE 7

NOVEMBER 2023

# VALE



## NATHAN HARVEY 1980 – 2023

Our dear friend and colleague, Nathan Harvey, passed away in September. Nathan was a former student of our school and Head of our Languages Learning Area.

A dedicated professional, one of Nathan's remarkable achievements was his success in creating a global network of professional connections and friendships to advance the teaching of languages.

Nathan was a person of integrity with vision and highly developed executive skills, but importantly, also a warm, kind-hearted soul. He cared deeply about those he worked with and was always willing to go the extra mile to lend a helping hand.

To Nathan, his job was all about students. He was a gifted teacher with a passion for education. Teaching that was not just a profession, but a calling that he embraced with unwavering dedication.

Nathan's compassionate nature reflected the core values we hold dear. He made all of us feel heard and valued.

Nathan, you were taken too soon. Your spirit will remain with us for ever.



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We have received word this week that there is a slight change of plan to the timeline for the uplift of our remaining transportables. The original date for the uplift was the week commencing Monday 20 November, but advice now is that the removal will not occur until the summer holidays. We are looking forward to landscaping that area and providing more tables and sun protection for student use.

Reflecting what is occurring our community, we are experiencing increasing numbers of our students falling ill with Covid. Please keep your child at home until they are free of symptoms to avoid further spread of the virus. We strongly advise recovering students to wear a mask until fully fit when they return to school.

Congratulations to Claire Rushton and The Arts staff and students involved in presenting the 2023 Art Exhibition. The quality of the work was outstanding, including from our younger artists. We wish to continue our tradition of purchasing some of these art works for permanent display here, we are building a gallery of outstanding art – although many of the students understandably do not want to part with their masterpieces. Please see some of the exhibition items further in this newsletter.

Our students have achieved more outstanding results In Primo Lux, with nine students having products accepted for publication. Congratulations to our students for their creative efforts and many thanks to the teachers who encouraged and supported them, particularly Belinda Rowe who ensured entries were submitted before deadlines.

Our examinations have run smoothly again this year – we had hoped to have used our new building as a venue for the ATAR examinations which did not eventuate so utilised mainly A Block rooms. Thanks to Jordan Newton and his team for their organisation and to teachers and students for the many room changes involved as well as their consideration for those doing their exams.

Our Year 12 Graduation ceremony was held on 17 November at HBF stadium. It was again a great occasion. Congratulations to all our Year 12s on their outstanding achievements and thanks to all the staff and parents for their support. We are proud of all our 2023 Graduates who deserve this success, and we wish them all the very best for a long and happy future, inspired and empowered by our school and community. This year, we presented each student with a commemorative leavers' book and pen which we hope they will cherish. A list of award winners is presented in this newsletter.

This will be the last full newsletter for this year which has been another busy and successful one. Warm wishes to all for a happy holiday. May your Christmas during this challenging period be filled with peace and good will. We look forward to 2024 with confidence and optimism.

**Trevor Hunter**



## BOARD CHAIR REPORT

The year is rapidly coming to an end, and this means it's time for exams. Best wishes to all the students and I'm certain that your hard work will pay off! Being the end of the year, it is also time to thank all those who have supported the success of the students and the school this year. Thanks to the Board members and the other volunteers for their time and efforts. Thanks also to the staff and the parents for doing what they can to assist the students. For those students returning next year I hope you have a restful break and return refreshed in 2024.

Finally, congratulations and farewell to our Year 12 students. I'm sure that the trials and tribulations experienced during your years at Willetton will prepare you for the vicissitudes of life. The Board wishes you the very best for your life as adults and is excited to see you forge your own path in the world.

**David Harwood**

# CONGRATULATIONS

## YEAR 12 ACADEMIC AWARDS

### MAJOR AWARDS

<b>Dux ATAR</b>	Ananya Sanivarapu
<b>Dux VET</b>	Sienna Collier
<b>Ampol All Rounder</b>	Liam Ford
<b>Sportswomen female</b>	Anjelique Raison
<b>Sportsman male</b>	Caleb Osborne
<b>Endeavour</b>	Harmoniche Deng
<b>Arts</b>	Robert Floyd
<b>Outspan Award</b>	Ananya Sanivarapu
<b>ADF Long Tan Youth leadership and Teamwork Award</b>	David Phillips
<b>Citizenship Award</b>	Michelle Abraham

*Photos by Bliss Photography*





## SUBJECT AWARDS

<b>Certificate III in Music</b>	Arianna Chia
<b>Dance General</b>	Sienna Collier
<b>Dance ATAR</b>	Lilly Meynert
<b>Drama General</b>	David Phillips
<b>Drama ATAR</b>	Amarni Newton-Lowe
<b>Media Production &amp; Analysis General</b>	Ethan Fok
<b>Music ATAR</b>	Robert Floyd
<b>Visual Arts General</b>	Phoebe Forster
<b>Visual Arts ATAR</b>	Christopher Rodrigo
<b>English General</b>	Sienna Collier
<b>English ATAR</b>	Indiana Malinton
<b>English Foundation</b>	Faris Chang
<b>English Literature ATAR</b>	Teresa So-Yeon An
<b>Certificate II in Sport Coaching</b>	Athena Mendoza
<b>Certificate II in Sport &amp; Recreation</b>	Mischa Hartl
<b>Certificate III in Fitness</b>	Ryan Coutts
<b>Health Studies General</b>	Talia Sandell
<b>Health Studies ATAR</b>	Nathania Lo
<b>Health Studies ATAR</b>	Aishveena Kaur Gill
<b>Outdoor Education General</b>	Tory Appleton
<b>Physical Education Studies General</b>	Jasmine Long
<b>Physical Education Studies ATAR</b>	Matilda Kershaw
<b>Physical Education Studies – Basketball General</b>	Jonah Palelei
<b>Physical Education Studies – Basketball ATAR</b>	Eva Cooke

<b>Accounting and Finance ATAR</b>	Elsa Joseph
<b>Business Management and Enterprise General</b>	Mei Ling Ong
<b>Business Management and Enterprise ATAR</b>	Jerone Mathews
<b>Earth and Environmental Science ATAR</b>	Jade Regel
<b>Economics ATAR</b>	Lachlan Babaeff
<b>Modern History ATAR</b>	Ryan Bringans
<b>Philosophy and Ethics ATAR</b>	Keira Lilley
<b>Politics and Law ATAR</b>	David Phillips
<b>English as an Additional Language General</b>	Boning Cui
<b>English as an Additional Language ATAR</b>	Aiden Chuang
<b>French ATAR</b>	Rachel Cheong
<b>Italian ATAR</b>	Mehvish Mehboob
<b>Japanese ATAR</b>	Teresa So-Yeon An
<b>Mathematics Essential General</b>	Brooke Marshall
<b>Mathematics Applications ATAR</b>	Ee Jay Kho
<b>Mathematics Methods ATAR</b>	Rachel Cheong
<b>Mathematics Specialist ATAR</b>	Daniel Marshall
<b>Biology ATAR</b>	Rachel Cheong
<b>Chemistry ATAR</b>	Rachel Cheong
<b>Chemistry ATAR</b>	Ananya Sanivarapu
<b>Human Biology ATAR</b>	Natahsa Cheetham
<b>Integrated Science General</b>	Yubin Cao
<b>Physics ATAR</b>	Indiana Malinton
<b>Psychology General</b>	Hannah Raphael

<b>Engineering Studeis ATAR</b>	Neil Becker
<b>Psychology ATAR</b>	Mara Hayes-Marche
<b>Certificate II in Visual Arts – Design Graphics</b>	Indiana Malinton
<b>Certificate II in Hospitality</b>	Alexi Mathews
<b>Building and Construction General</b>	Jack Bailey
<b>Computer Science ATAR</b>	Kalvin Devisser
<b>Design: Choice of Context ATAR</b>	Sophie Wilkins
<b>Design: Photography General</b>	Sage Barnett
<b>Engineering Studeis ATAR</b>	Neil Becker
<b>Food Science and Technology General</b>	Zahara Valentine
<b>Food Science and Technology ATAR</b>	Kah Yee Chan
<b>Materials Design and Technology: Wood General</b>	Caleb Lange
<b>Certificate II in Community Services</b>	Georgia Hunt
<b>Certificate II Workplace Skills</b>	Jamie Whatmore
<b>Career and Enterprise General</b>	Katherine Hustwick
<b>Workplace Learning</b>	Sienna Collier
<b>UniReady Elective Units</b>	Tanaya Baker
<b>UniReady Core Units</b>	Sophie Martin

## BLAIR KEARSLEY

Physical Education teacher, Blair Kearsley was recently presented a 10-year service award by School Sport Australia.

Blair's work as a School Sport WA volunteer commenced in 2010 when he was appointed as the League Coordinator for the Canning League in the SSWA Champion Schools' Basketball competition.

His initial involvement as the SSWA Interschool level led him to apply for the Head Coach position for the SSWA 18 & Under Girls' team in the SSA National Championship in 2012. He has been the Coach of the SSWA 18's (and now 16 & Under) Girls' team since then, mentoring some outstanding basketball players along the way.

Blair has also been involved in coaching at the SBL / NBL1 level since 2013 with the Perry Lakes Hawks and Cockburn Associations in Western Australia.



# GENERAL

## NATIONAL SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY

Again in 2023 we invited all members of the school community to participate in the National School opinion Survey (NSOS). 2254 surveys were completed (360 by parents). The data is used to inform planning for improvement.

The survey results continue to indicate that members of the school community are satisfied with the performance of the school. Typically, a mean pf 3.0-3.9 indicates a high level of satisfaction whilst a mean of 4.0 and higher indicates a strong level of satisfaction.

	Student Mean	Parent Mean
Teachers expect my child to do his or her best.	4.2	4.1
Teachers provide useful feedback about students' schoolwork.	3.6	3.7
Teachers treat students fairly.	3.3	3.7
The school is well maintained.	3.3	4.0
My child feels safe at the school.	3.4	3.8
I can talk to teachers about my concerns.	3.0	3.8
Student behaviour is well managed.	2.8	3.5
My child likes being at this school.	3.3	3.9
The school looks for ways to improve.	3.6	3.7
The school takes parents'/students' opinions seriously.	3.0	3.4
Teachers motivate students to learn.	3.5	3.6
The school gives students opportunities to do interesting things.	3.7	
My child's teachers are good teachers.		3.8
Teachers at this school care about my child.		3.8
My child is making good progress at school.		3.8
My child's learning needs are being met.		3.7
The school works with me to support my child's learning.		3.5
The school has a strong relationship with the local community.		3.7
The school is well led.		3.8
I am satisfied with the overall standard of education.		3.9
I would recommend this school to others.		3.8



## DENTAL THERAPY CENTRE

Throughout Western Australia the School Dental Service provides free general and preventive dental care for school age children from Pre-Primary to Year 11 (or before 17 years of age) who have a completed a dental enrolment form.

**Year 7 to 11 students** – Your primary School Dental Therapy Centre continues to offer enrolment and treatment for you. Appointments are usually posted to your home. Please notify your clinic of any changes in your contact details.

**Year 12 students** – People with a Health Care or Pension Concession Card may access dental treatment at a reduced cost from any of the General Dental Clinics. Nearby clinics are situated in Victoria Park 9470 4212, Armadale 9391 2444, Cockburn 9494 2977 and Salter Point 9313 0552.

Alternatively, you can see your local private dentist.

New Enrolments – Please phone the Willetton Dental Therapy Centre (situated in Willetton Primary School) to discuss your continued dental care 9457 4624.

## HELP AVAILABLE

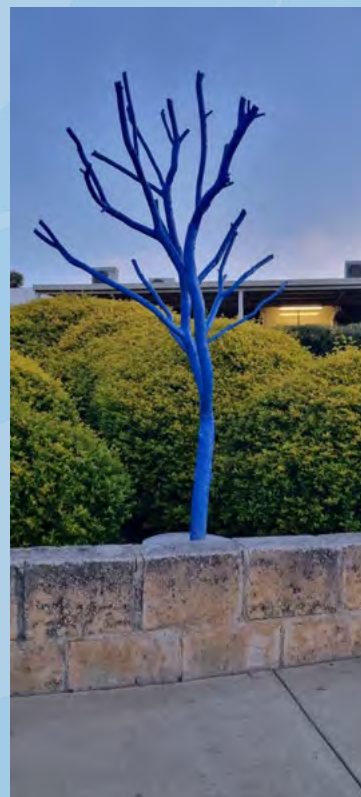
In our current challenging times with rising costs, our Willetton school community is aware and listening. Families are able to make contact with Ruth Barratt on [ruth.barratt@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:ruth.barratt@education.wa.edu.au) or students may visit in the HaSS office to discuss stationery needs, to help with class work. Backpacks may also be available for students through the organisation, Dandelions WA Inc.

## BLUE TREE

Our Blue Tree Project is helping to raise awareness around mental wellbeing for students and adults by encouraging openness about having difficult days and helping to foster open and honest conversations about mental health. We want to spotlight it's perfectly okay to have a blue day. Life can be challenging, and we all face times when we can be helped by sharing and listening. The Blue Tree Project reminds us we are all connected, you are never alone, especially as part of our Willetton community.

Here, you'll find a network of support through friends, dedicated teachers and support staff, the caring team in Student Services, and the compassionate individuals in our Health Centre. But it doesn't stop there – even those you may not know personally are ready and willing to lend an ear, you just need to reach out.

A big thank you to Travis from Trav's Trees who provided our tree, Peter Martyr and Paul Hogg from our Technologies team for then painting and preparing our tree; to Graeme, Jeff and Daniel from our Gardening team for their role in placing our Blue Tree, and to Ruth Barratt who has been behind the initiative.



# GIFTED AND TALENTED

## ZERO2HERO IN YOUR HEAD CONFERENCE

Mental Health is one of the most talked about issues today, but is one of the most confusing topics to understand. Most likely you will have many questions regarding mental health, its effects and how we can improve our own health from day to day. The not-for-profit charity, Zero2Hero, supports young people figure out some of the answers and how we can look after ourselves and support our peers.

In September the Gifted and Talented Lower School Leaders attended the annual youth mental health conference run by Zero2Hero, In Your Head. There were numerous breakout sessions cover a wide variety of topics and activities ranging from letting your emotions go in music fuelled Dance Beats session to sitting down and talking about how you can make a difference in your school regarding these topics, no question was left unanswered!

It was a day of learning and reflection in a positive atmosphere with hundreds of other students from all over the metro area and further afield.

**Aiden Turner**  
Year 9



## EGG FUN

The Annual Eggscellent Egg Drop happened again in our Year 10 Gifted and Talented Science classes. Students use their concepts of force, impulse and momentum to design an egg capsule. They are taught safety in car design in physics and are required to use their understanding of the content to prevent their egg from cracking when the capsule is dropped from a height of 4.80 m.

**Mita Munshi**  
Science Teacher



## HAVE SUM FUN ONLINE COMPETITION - YEAR 10

Seven teams of four Year 10 students have been competing in the Have Sum Fun Online Competition after school on a Wednesday afternoon against teams from other schools. It is our largest group of Year 10s to compete. They have one hour to attempt ten questions, but as they are also judged on how quickly they submit their answers they cannot take the full hour. They have had lots of fun, and much lively discussions, on which answer they should submit before reaching an agreement.

**Karen Gatland**  
**Mathematics Teacher**





## PANEL SESSION – ENERGY CLUB OF WA

Year 10 Gifted and Talented classes gained an insight into different career options in the Energy industry in WA. Four professionals from different disciplines, visited them to answer student queries.

**Mita Munshi**  
Science Teacher

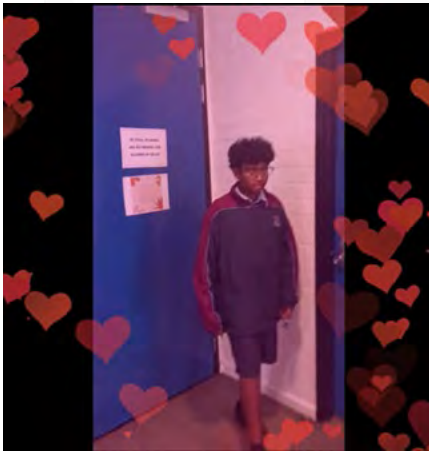


*L-R Rui Fernandes, Rishi Singh, Iain McCourt and Melinda Addison*



## SHAKING UP SHAKESPEARE

Year 9 students got to put away their books and got on stage by performing a scene from Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. Cooper, Marcus, Yutan, Thisal and Leon bravely led the way with their engaging performance of the late-night revels in Act 2. Students will be adapting the play to a modern setting as part of their next assessment, showing that Shakespeare is still relevant 450 years on.



*Senura as the Lovey Dovey Malvolio  
in 12th Night*



*Twelfth Night Slumber Party Aisha*



*Twelfth Night Slumber Party Aisha*



*Arrow, Izzy, Kore, Felix and Lucas in Twelfth Night Lessons in  
Studying and Sobriety*



## DOCOS ON DOMINANT FIGURES

Students have also been engaging with historical figures and they created insightful documentaries on significant people involved in literary history. Please enjoy these stills from their documentary about Freud. Learning this contextual knowledge about the people who have been influential to the direction of English Literature is vital for our students to engage with increasingly complex texts, especially if they will be seeking to enter Literature in Year 11.

Students who are entering Year 9 Extension next year can look forward to these engaging and thought-provoking activities.

**Myra Ryan**  
**Year 9 English Teacher**



*Freud's BFF Wilhelm Fliess acted by Kore*



*Izzy as Freud's Mother Amalia*

## ARMADALE WRITERS' FESTIVAL

During the Armadale Writer's Festival, the city runs the Armadale Young Writer's Awards. This competition is open to students from Year 3-12 who reside or attend school in the City of Armadale.

Year 8 Gifted and talented student Ethna Jimmy is such person. She wrote a beautiful story of the trials of war and how it affects all people. Her maturity and excellent prose clearly impressed the judges and on the awards night her teacher Mr Perkins proudly watched as Ethna was presented with the second prize for students in Year 7 and 8 category.

Congratulations Ethna.

Please enjoy this extract from her short story:

*Dmitri Ivan stared down at the Ukranian province of Luhansk Oblast. Building lights glimmered before his eyes, reflecting the early dawn sky that still gleamed with constellations. His breath came out in wisps of fog as the cold licked up his arms – chilling him to the bone. Rubbing his hands together, he turned away from the mesmerizing lights to face the array of tanks that were organised behind him.*



Mayor Cr Ruth Butterfield, Ethna Jimmy, Mr Kevin Perkins

# ACADEMIC EXTENSION

## FREMANTLE PRISON TORCHLIGHT TOUR

In September, 54 students and five teachers attended the torchlight tour on a rainy night at Fremantle prison.

When we commenced the tour, starting in the room where prisoners were checked in, I had already regretted my decision, but deep down inside, I knew I was going to love the thrill and adrenaline that was sure to happen. I enjoyed listening to the factual events and stories told by our tour guide, as it made me feel engrossed into the torchlight tour experience. One story that shocked and scared me the most was that of Martha Rendell, the only woman who was executed in Fremantle Prison.

Despite it being a chilly and spooky night, I enjoyed my experience and was truly terrified! I am also grateful for all my friends who provided moral support when needed. Thank you to the staff who attended the excursion, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

**Chloe Pang**  
**Year 10 AEP leader**



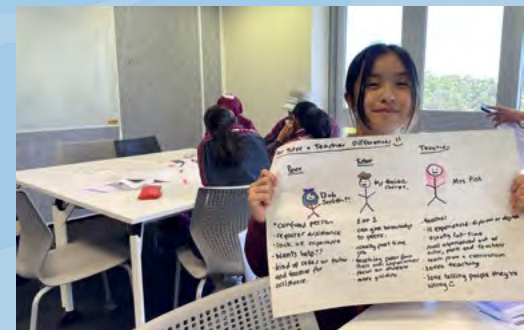


## YEAR 10 STUDY SKILLS SESSION

In October, the Year 10 AEP students engaged in a study skills session with Dr Jane Genovese. During the session, students learnt about how to build a study habit, engage in active recall and foster motivation, in preparation for their upcoming exams. Two students were also lucky enough to win study packs for attending.

Students found the session both informative and engaging and we look forward to having Dr Genovese back next year.

**Ashleigh Colquhoun**  
AEP Leader



## TUTOR SQUAD TRAINING WITH UNIPASS AT CURTIN UNIVERSITY

In October, current and aspiring AEP Tutor Squad tutors attended Curtin University for a training session with UniPASS peer tutoring, where they learnt strategies on how to be the best peer tutors. They learnt about questioning techniques and how to support students academically and outside of the classroom. The students also went on a tour of the university campus and enjoyed lunch at the numerous campus cafes.

**Ashleigh Colquhoun**  
AEP Leader

# THE ARTS

## SENIOR SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION

Tuesday October 17 saw the opening of the Senior School Art Exhibition. The upstairs area of A block was transformed into a gallery space, filled with the work of Year 12 ATAR and General Visual Art students, Year 11 ATAR students and Year 10 Visual Art Extension students. The exhibit showcased a range of paintings, sculptures and animation from our talented senior school cohort. It was wonderful to see the families, friends and teachers of these students come to support the wonderful work of these young artists. We thank everyone who attended on the night or came to the exhibition in the following days. We would also like to thank the School Board for their ongoing support of the Visual Art program at Willo.



*Year 12 Visual Art students with their teachers*





Year 12 student Sophie Wilkins and School Board member Chris Phillips



Year 12 student Indiana Malinton with School Board member Chris Phillips



Painting by Rusul Haroosh (Year 12 ATAR Visual Art)



Coloured pencil drawing by Keeley Dunsire (Year 12 ATAR Visual Art)



Painting by Keeley Dunsire (Year 12 ATAR Visual Art)



*Paintings by Jenny Ma (Year 12 ATAR Visual Art)*



*Year 12 ATAR Visual Art student Gabbi De Castro's animation in the Visual Art gallery space*





Painting by Clair Im (Year 12 ATAR Visual Art)



Painting by Alysha Picknoll (Year 12 ATAR Visual Art)



Painting by Alysha Picknoll (Year 12 ATAR Visual Art)



Self-Portrait by Penny Ensor (Year 10 Visual Art Extension)



Self-Portrait by Diya Balasubramanian (Year 10 Visual Art Extension)



Self-Portrait by Zoe Bird (Year 10 Visual Art Extension)

## THE WEST AUSTRALIAN PULSE 2024

Each year, the Art Gallery of Western Australia mounts an exhibition of the best Year 12 student work. This exhibition (now named The West Australian Pulse) has run at AGWA for over 30 years and has featured the work of some of WA's most prominent artists. To be selected for this exhibition is a great honour, and we have enjoyed a long association with this event. We are very pleased to announce the selection of two of our Year 12 ATAR Visual Art students, Christopher Rodrigo and Hannah Raphael. Their selection is well deserved after their year of hard work and dedication to the ATAR Visual Art course.

Hannah's selection follows the selection of her sister Sarah Raphael (Class of 2020). Hannah's oldest sister Rachel Raphael is a Visual Art teacher with us at Willetton and was selected to exhibit in 2017. What a wonderful achievement for this talented family!

Unfortunately, we are unable to publish images of their art works at the behest of AGWA.

## THE LESTER PRIZE AND DESIREE CROSSING WORKSHOP

Earlier in 2023, the Visual Art department experienced great success at this year's Lester Prize. Year 12 student Hannah Raphael was awarded Highly Commended for her self-portrait titled Sanctuary and Willetton Senior High School was awarded the Schools' Prize.

Our prize was a \$500 artist workshop, which was enjoyed by our Year 12 ATAR Visual Art class on Wednesday October 11. Desiree Crossing, a WA contemporary realist artist specialising in portraiture, led the workshop with students. It was a relaxed and enjoyable session for the class, where they worked on perfecting their portrait painting skills. We thank The Lester Prize for this fantastic opportunity, and Desiree Crossing for her time and skills and look forward to our continued association with The Lester Prize in 2024.



*Desiree Crossing working with Year 12 ATAR  
Visual Art students*



*Year 12 ATAR students at work in the Desiree  
Crossing workshop*



## CLAYMAKE STUDIO EXCURSION

Year 10 Visual Art Extension students enjoyed a day at ClayMake Studio. ClayMake Studio is an open access ceramic studio run by the mother-daughter team of Andrea and Emma Vinkovic. Andrea led students in a day of wheelwork pottery. Students enjoyed a relaxing and fun day, making a range of wheel thrown bowls, cups, and other vessels. They enjoyed the creative freedom of this excursion, with many wanting to stay and continue working. We thank Andrea for providing this engaging opportunity for our students.



*Year 10 student Zoe Bird working at the wheel*



*Students working on the pottery wheels at ClayMake Studio*



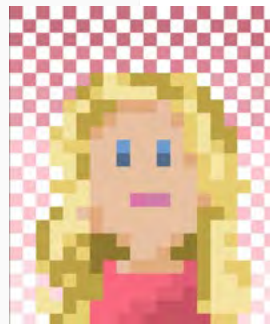
*Students at the wheels*



## MURDOCH UNIVERSITY CREATIVE ARTS EXCURSION

In Term 3, the Year 8 Visual Art Extension class went to Murdoch University to participate in two Creative Arts workshops. Students were introduced to character animation and pixel art, and enjoyed a tour of Murdoch University's impressive facilities, including their new building Boola Katitjin.

Students were particularly impressed by the wide array of food and drink options, especially the wall of microwaves for student use. The workshop and tour was provided free of charge by the university. We thank Murdoch staff for their time and skills on the day. Back at school, students are continuing to work with pixel art in their painting project for Term 4.



*Pixel art portraits by Year 8 Visual Art Extension students*

# ENGLISH

## YEAR 12 INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATIONS

The Year 12s engaged in Instructional Presentations as a part of their English course. Year 12 Tanaya Baker, taught our Year 12 General English class how to edit photos.

Other students chose to teach each other enjoyable skills like folding ninja stars. Tanaya Baker, Sunny Parihar, and Evelyn Sebastian, learnt to fold a ninja star while Ryan Hunt was perplexed at the difficulty of making one. Akira Nukumizu, Charlie Morris, and Joshua Khew show off their successful attempts at folding a ninja star.



## TRIUMPH AT FREMANTLE INTERSCHOOL DEBATING FINAL

Renowned for our academic prowess, we are revelling in our exceptional achievements at the Fremantle Interschool Debating Final held in October.

The students exhibited remarkable talent, with victories across all year groups, from Year 7 through 10. A standout performance came from the Year 9 team, who clinched victory against Rossmoyne.

Following five intense rounds of debating, Willetton emerged as the season's frontrunners, securing first place. Rossmoyne claimed second, with Melville landing in third.

The Year 9 team's stellar performance earned them top honours in their year division, bringing home a gleaming trophy.

The following are from Year 10 student, Elakkiaa Sukumar, and Year 9 student, Srinivasa Nallan, reflecting on their experiences during the season.

*Numerous eager students from various year groups represented Willetton in the Fremantle Debating Competition this year. We competed with different schools in Perth, debating various fascinating topics such as Chat GPT threatens our future, and We are all living in a simulation. Not only did venturing into these debates allow us to expand our knowledge and views of the world, but it also meant we had the opportunity to collaborate, share and interact with different students who shared the same common interests as us. As a team, we all grew connected, as we helped and cheered each other on, no matter what happened at the end of the day. The teachers, Ms Leal, Ms Manzi and Mr Harrison, were incredibly supportive throughout the journey, and we thank them for providing us with such a wonderful opportunity. I'm happy to say we all achieved excellent results in the end, yet more than that the most valuable thing we gained was the unforgettable experience.*

**Elakkiaa Sukumar**  
**Year 10**

*I joined the Debating Club in Year 8 and have enjoyed it from the very beginning. Each week, we had fun meetings, having intriguing debates, brainstorming ideas and then preparing our speeches for the debates every couple of weeks. It was very fun and was a great opportunity to meet many people and make new friends. Debating was also very helpful in improving our public speaking. Furthermore, our teams were amazing, and this helped us to a great result, with the Year 9 Willetton team winning the whole tournament! All in all, I really enjoyed debating and hope to sign up next year.*

**Srinivasa Nallan**  
**Year 9**







Priyasha accepting her award from Premier  
Mr Roger Cook

## WHERE CAN READING TAKE YOU?

Congratulations to Year 9 student Priyasha Kshetri for winning the Premier's Reading Challenge. Over four months, more than 23,000 students from 800 schools across WA took part, and Priyasha won the award for most books read in the Years 8 to 10 category.

The reading challenge was officially established in 2022 to raise the profile of reading and literacy in schools. This year, it was promoted enthusiastically by Mrs Kylie Coten in the library to students in Years 7 to 10 during their fortnightly reading session in English. The library set up a beautiful display at the commencement of the challenge and encouraged students to read and discover more books, widely, and for enjoyment.

Priyasha believes reading is an extremely valuable experience because it lets her creativity flow. Her favourite genre is science fiction.

Our students who reached the milestone of reading 12 texts (including graphic novels and audio books) were acknowledged through student services commendations. As for Priyasha, she was officially rewarded with a personalised trophy, and \$2000 RedBalloon experience gift card for her impressive achievement!

Thank you especially to Mrs Coten, library staff, and English teachers for promoting reading and literacy in our school, and well done to Priyasha.

**Jacqueline Quek**  
English teacher



## WILLY WONKA COMES TO LIFE

Miss Jenkinson's Year 7 English students began studying the film Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory. Students were provided with their very own golden tickets and had fun learning about the creative process of film studies.



## YEAR 7 ENGLISH CLASSES GET GRAPHIC

Last term Year 7 English students finished off the term by transforming a conflict from their studied class novel into a double page graphic novel spread. These graphic creations provided an excellent demonstration of the students' skills to not only transform the narrative, but also illustrate the chosen conflicts.

Please enjoy a selection of graphic work from:

- [Evelyn Hon](#)
- [Gayatri Khatri, Leo Arevalo and Lilia Shah](#)
- [Gabrielle Martin, Amy \(Jinyu\) Wang and Sophie Zheng](#)

**Year 7 English Teachers**

# HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## YEAR 10 HEALTH EXPO

The Year 10 Health Studies students at have taken a step toward fostering a healthier student body and community with the annual Health Expo held in October. This initiative promotes health and wellbeing and strengthens community relationships.

The event was a success, drawing in a diverse crowd. Students and teachers were treated to a variety of activities. They ranged from smoothie sensations to physical feats endorsing many branches of health, with experts from various fields such as Headspace to educate and create awareness regarding mental health.

Thankyou to all the staff who helped out, as well as the students who ran their events. Huge thankyou to Headspace for coming along and supporting and endorsing health throughout the school and to the school health nurses with their expert opinion and education on the harms of vaping.

### Health Studies class 2023





## YEAR 8/9 GIRLS' FOOTBALL CARNIVAL

In October, 23 Year 8 and 9 girls from Willetton participated in an AFL carnival hosted by All Saint's College. There were nine teams from across six schools. The players from Willetton put on a dominating display of skill and intensity and were unbeaten on the day. The energy and enthusiasm from our girls was outstanding.

Well done to all involved and special mention to our MVP's Jessica Green and Avuya Nomlatyu and to Bonnie Donnelly who took away the coach's award.

**Clare Jennings**  
Physical and Health Education Teacher



# HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## AUSTRALASIAN PHILOSOTHON

Over the school holidays, our Philosothon team competed in the Australasian Philosothon competition. Schools with winning teams from regional competitions across Australia and New Zealand were invited to participate. This competition allows participants to engage with their peers, academics and professional philosophers across Australasia. Guest speakers this year included Francis Nona, a proud Torres Strait Islander poet, philosopher and nurse, who is currently lecturing in Public Health at QUT, and Brett Fulkerson-Smith, Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Guam.



The team was represented at this competition by:

- Mara Hayes Marche (Year 12)
- Qi Qi Liu (Year 11)
- Ione Villarias (Year 10)
- Daisy Gaunt (Year 8)
- Marcela Clennell (Year 8)

Students from Willetton won two prizes at this event:

- Ione Villarias won **First Place in Year 10**
- Qi Qi Liu won the **Most Promising Philosopher Award**

The year group prizes are based on students' numerical scores across three domains (critical thinking, creative thinking and collaboration), and the Most Promising Philosopher award is based on Judges' nominations and may be awarded to a student of any age level. Ione and Qi Qi achievements are also a credit to all the people who contribute to helping these students develop their critical and creative thinking and collaboration skills across their time at Willetton.

The Head Judge of the event, Professor Rob Wilson (UWA) wrote personally to congratulate us, noting that Willetton was *the highest placed state school in the country, conveying that numerous judges and facilitators commented on the high quality of ... discussions in each of the four sessions, and concluding that To have such a wealth of creative, critical, and collaborating thinkers at the school is both a credit to the school and a bright sign for society!*

**Isobel Stevenson**  
**Philosophy and Ethics Teacher**



## PERTH PHILOSOTHON

In Term, 3 the Philosothon team competed at UWA and **won Perth Philosothon Second Place WA School**, which is the third consecutive year we have won second place, and our fourth consecutive year placing overall.

Additionally, Marcela Clennell won Second Place in Year 8, and Qi Qi Liu won Second Place in Year 11.

The team were represented on the night by:

- Qi Qi Liu (Year 11)
- Ione Villarias (Year 10)
- Daisy Gaunt (Year 8)
- Marcela Clennell (Year 8)
- Aarya Kadu (Year 7)

A Philosothon is an interschool competition where students take part in group discussions, and they receive marks from the judges on three areas: critical thinking, creative thinking, and their ability to collaborate with the other competitors.

The competition takes place over four rounds, with each discussion covering a different topic. This year's discussion topics were:

- Is Australia still the King's country?
- Should Chat GPT be banned in schools?
- Is it all just a game?
- Do colours exist outside of the brain?

**Isobel Stevenson**  
**Philosophy and Ethics Teacher**

# LANGUAGES

## YEAR 11 JAPANESE BREAKFAST

Bright and early on a Monday morning at 7:30 am, the Year 11 Japanese students arrived to start prepping for a delicious, Japanese-style breakfast. As Japanese breakfasts typically have many small separate dishes rather than one whole dish, our breakfast consisted of freshly cut vegetables, apples, たまごやき (tamagoyaki - Japanese rolled omelette), ham, Japanese potato salad (mashed potato mixed with cut cucumber and corn), たくあん (takuan - pickled daikon radish), のり (nori - seaweed), rice and miso soup with seaweed.

Of course, before we ate, we said “いただきます!” (which means let's eat and is said before every meal in Japan) and dug in with our chopsticks. It was really interesting to try the different foods and experience a true Japanese breakfast.

We had so much fun cutting up the food and serving it (in a not-so-artistic plate arrangement) to our peers. The experience of preparing the meal and eating together in solidarity was a truly memorable experience. We hope the connections we made with our peers, as well as teachers, will carry on past our schooling years.

Thank you to ハリソン先生 (Ms Harrison), ケント先生 (Mrs Kent), ひろみ先生 (Hiromi Sensei) and はるか先生 (Haruka Sensei) for cooking and helping organise this special event.

**Yasmin Cheung and Aleena Mathew**  
**Year 11**







## TEA CEREMONY

At the end of Term 3, the Year 10 Japanese classes participated in a sadō for our cultural activity.

Sado is a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. We were given the chance to act as both the host and guest and learned about the precise way and order things were to be done as well as the exact arrangements. As guests, we were first given dorayaki, a type of Japanese sweets. Then we were given green tea in a *chawan*, a tea bowl. We were also given the opportunity to wear a kimono and make the green tea while acting as hosts. Overall, it was a wonderful experience given to us as we were allowed to learn about and experience a part of Japanese culture.

**Angela Li & Luna Xie**  
**Year 10**





## THE FRENCH EXCHANGE STUDY TOUR

From the 16 to 30 October my family and I took part in the French exchange program, and hosted a French exchange student from Angoulême, a small city in the south-west of France, and it was such an amazing experience.

All the host families met at the arrivals area at the airport, where after a short wait, we met our exchange students. When I first met Margot, it was a bit awkward. We had been texting online for a few months prior, but actually meeting each other in person was slightly surreal. Luckily, she settled in at home very quickly and we got along really well. Margot and I have very similar personalities and we found that we had a lot in common.

Since the French students visiting were a part of an English speciality course in their school back home, we discovered they spoke English quite well, or at least much better than the majority of the host students' French.

Overall being a tour guide for Margot over the two weeks was so much fun and gave me an excuse to explore parts of Perth that previously I hadn't even visited. On the first weekend we spent a day on Rottnest Island, cycling around, lying on the beach and taking selfies with quokkas, then on the Sunday showed Margot around Fremantle markets, eating food and buying souvenirs. Other activities we did throughout the stay included visiting Aqwa, King's Park, the city, Cottesloe, and on the final day we had a full classic Australian barbecue down at Coogee beach.

Attending school with Margot was a really enlightening experience. Just talking with her and other exchange students and hearing about how different their school system is compared to the Australian system was so interesting (In France nobody uses computers at school, there aren't any uniforms, and can you believe that they finish school at 6pm!). So many students also really liked the idea of a school uniform, some even buying a uniform for themselves on the last day as a souvenir. Margot specifically loved the fact that school finished so early at 2:45pm, giving us so much time to do activities after school, whereas in France most days it's after 7pm when she gets home from school.

To any students thinking of taking part in exchanges in years to come, I cannot recommend it enough. The things you learn about someone else's culture whilst simultaneously giving them a chance to completely immerse themselves in your culture and way of life, even the most mundane things can be so interesting to someone from the other side of the world, it really is so rewarding.

I feel so lucky to have been paired so well in this exchange and I cannot wait to go and stay with Margot and her family at the end of March and beginning of April next year.

**Stefanie Crossley**  
**Year 11**





## YEAR 8 FRENCH EXCURSION

In October, some of the Year 8 French students were lucky enough to spend a day at the Naval Store in Fremantle and watch the stage production *Les Crapauds Fous*, (or Crazy Frogs) written by Melody Mourey.

The play, acted in French along with English subtitles, is inspired by the true story of two Polish doctors during WW2 who saved thousands of lives thanks to great trickery. As we scrambled around trying to find the best seat in the best spot, we were all in awe of the towering set. Giant, two-story cardboard buildings, curtains hanging from lit windows, details even down to single bricks.

The lights dimmed, smoke filled the room, and so it began. The play, set in the midst of WW2, followed the true story of the Polish doctors. The play was a funny yet dramatic piece, an uplifting tale of friendship, and the importance of standing up for what you believe in. Afterwards, we all got to meet the cast and explore the set up close and behind the scenes. We all had a great time! Très bien!

**Daisy Gaunt and Charlotte Ho**  
**Year 8**







## GRAZIE E ARRIVEDERCI FRANCESCA, EUGENIO E GIORGIA

It is a sad moment when bidding farewell to our Italian Assistenti.

These Assistenti brought not just linguistic support but cultural insight and enriching experiences to our Year 11 students of Italian. Their dedication and expertise often went beyond instruction; they brought life and authenticity to the learning process, sharing their personal experiences, anecdotes, and nuances of their language and culture.

Having to say goodbye was made easier with an Italian afternoon tea and a game of 'Gioco dell'oca' (the goose game).

Grazie infinite Francesca, Eugenio e Giorgia. In bocca al lupo!! (Thanks a million, good luck)







## CHE BELLA GIORNATA!

Che bella giornata! What a wonderful day!

After a year of diligent study and stress from assessments, going to the St Ali's Italian film festival in late October at Palace Raine Square cinema was the perfect way for our Year 12 ATAR Italian class to give ourselves a bit of a break and relax ourselves before the upcoming WACE oral exam whilst immersing ourselves in *la vita italiana*.

We all met at Cuccini gelato, where we were treated to *un gelato* before going to Palace Cinemas to watch *Il Sol dell'Avvenire* – A Brighter Tomorrow.

It was an interesting comedic drama that allowed us to peek into the life of an everyday Italian and incorporated some intriguing historical fiction that left us compelled and satisfied to understand the intricacies of the dialogue and story (with English subtitles of course!)

As we walked out of the cinema into the hues of the fading daylight, we were welcomed by the warm atmosphere of Simple Italian, where we chatted throughout the evening and enjoyed a pleasant Italian meal before concluding the night by exchanging good lucks and goodbyes in the ambient, dim-lit CBD.

It was truly an unforgettable day with the Italian class family that will undoubtedly be etched in our minds forever.

*Che bella giornata!*



## HOMESTAY REFLECTIONS

In August, I had the opportunity to host a Japanese homestay. It was a memorable experience and my family and I really enjoyed having our homestay student, Mano, stay with us. We didn't have enough rooms in our house, but I really wanted to be able to have a homestay, so we borrowed a caravan, and I slept in there while Mano slept in my room.

During the two weeks that Mano stayed with us, we tried to introduce her to as much Aussie food as we could and took her sightseeing around Perth. One of my favourites was when we went on a short bushwalk to a waterfall. She was mesmerised by the wildflowers; so different from anything she'd experienced in Japan. At the top, Mano and I played in the crystal-clear waters of the creek, our fingers dancing across the rippling surface. After the walk, we played soccer with a honkey nut. We weren't speaking, but body language and laughter says everything. It was then that I realised that you could make special memories with people without having to speak at a hundred miles per hour.

Another outing was when we went to Fremantle Markets. Mano loved everything Australian, and bought some keyrings and a WA bag from a souvenir shop. We also bought her a kangaroo pencil case as a gift. Then we bought some ice-cream since the flavours in Australia are so different to those in Japan. This was followed by fish'n'chips at the beach, bathed in the golden light of the sunset, or 'hinoiri', the Japanese word for sunset that Mano taught us.

Another unforgettable experience for Mano was when we visited the Pinnacles, rock formations which are so unlike anything in Japan. She was intrigued. On the way home, we stopped at a beach and introduced Mano to kangaroo for dinner. She

commented that kangaroos are both cute, and nice to eat, to the agreement and amusement of the rest of us. The stars on the beach were spectacular, and Mano, my sister and I ran around giggling as we threw sand balls at each other.

Being a sporty person, Mano joined in with my hockey training after school one day. It was raining, but that didn't dampen her spirits or her enjoyment. Despite having never played hockey before, she wasn't bad and joined in with every single drill.

One night, Mano made us an authentic Japanese dish – okonomiyaki followed by miso soup. It was different, but delicious at the same time. To embrace the Japanese culture, we all used chopsticks to eat. This proved nearly impossible to me. I kept dropping the food, and the chopsticks kept slipping from my grasp. Mano tried to teach me, but I'm hopeless, much to her amusement.

During Mano's stay, we got to try Japanese snacks that she'd brought from Japan, and she also gave us some Japanese souvenirs. My favourite was the kororo, some gummies shaped like grapes. I also loved a 'Japan' magnet with different Japanese locations featured on it. Mano also told us about the sport that she plays back in Japan – kendo, and her lifestyle. It is very different to Australia, as she gets up very early to go to school, has kendo after school, and gets home very late.

The short two weeks that Mano stayed with us are memories I will hold close to my heart forever and ever.

**Rebekah Gauntlett**  
**Year 8**







## BILINGUAL STORY COMPETITION

In Term 3, Year 8 EALD students entered a MLTWA competition called Let Me Tell You a Story, Let Me Tell You in My Language. Students had to create a bilingual e-book including audio in their first language, which reflected some aspect of their lives in Australia integrating their home culture.

We are proud to announce that Yanxi (Eric) Li received second prize for his e-book about Chinese New Year in Australia.





## MLTAWA SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPETITION

### ***Congratulations to our Year 8 and Year 9 First Place Winners***

- Srinivasa Nallan, Navshan Santha Kumar Year 8, Grace Bennet and Joanne Chong Year 9



In Term 2, in Year 8 Italian we learnt about our School life, *La mia vita a scuola*. After hearing about the MLTAWA Side-by-Side Competition, my friend Navshan Santha Kumar and I decided to compete in it.

With our script, we filmed a video depicting a conversation between an Australian student and an exchange student from Italy about their school and their subjects. We were so excited when our video was selected as the winning entry, receiving First Prize in the Year 8 category for the whole state of WA!

It was an amazing experience, that allowed us to explore the Italian language in an engaging and educational way. We would like to thank the MLTAWA for providing this opportunity and Prof Palermo for her support.

**Srinivasa Nallan**  
**Year 8**



*Year 9 students Grace and Joanne*

This year, we entered the MLTAWA Side by Side Competition, winning a successful first place. We filmed a short video, in which we held a two-minute conversation in Italian.

The basis of our video was a role play where we acted as two students who were in the school canteen line discussing topics such as food preference, activities we do after school, health as well as the purchasing of our lunch.

We are very grateful to our Italian teacher, Prof Maio, for giving us this opportunity to enhance our Italian, including our vocabulary, grammar and fluency as well as learning to apply this knowledge in real time. We would encourage other language students to also embrace opportunities like these to better their own personal language skills.

**Joanne Chong**  
**Year 9**

# MATHS

## MATHS TALENT QUEST

The Maths Talent Quest (MTQ) is an annual activity organised by the Student Activities Convenors of the Mathematical Association of Western Australia (MAWA), with the focus on the process of mathematical investigations and models. Students will have a choice to choose a novel topic/concept to investigate, either individually or as a group of four students maximum. The project is submitted in the form of an investigative report, creative essay, media or poster.

Each project is judged at a state level, according to their year level and category (group or individual), with the top High Distinction entries advancing to the National MTQ.

We are one of the 18 schools from WA that participated in MTQ this year and registered two teams, coached by Mrs Nichola Steer and Mr Peter Lee. Amongst the 78 projects submitted throughout WA, both teams earned High Distinctions and \$100 in recognition of their exceptional work. Congratulations to our talented young mathematicians for such an incredible achievement.

- *Trees for Change* by our talented Year 8 team consisting of Amrut Deshpande, Raina Gupta, Olivia Ye and Chuqi Zhang.
- *Space on Earth* by our brilliant Year 9 team made up of Sandra Soe, Declan Walsh and Renee Zhou.

The journey doesn't end there as both teams have also been nominated to represent WA at the National MTQ along with nine other entries. Although victory eluded us this year with no prize awarded to any WA projects, a medal was presented to acknowledge these outstanding mathematicians.

A special thank you to Nichola Stear for organising this competition and spending countless hours nurturing these young minds.



Amrut Deshpande, Chuqi Zhang, Raina Gupta and Olivia Ye



Declan Walsh, Sandra Soe and Renee Zhou



# SCIENCE

## EINSTEINIAN PHYSICS

Year 7 Science classes had the opportunity to explore Einsteinian physics this term with the aim of presenting students with our modern understanding of gravity.

Students were engaged in activities such as using the spacetime simulator to model the curvature of spacetime. Students investigated the geometry of curved space, how time is measured and black holes and their effect on both space and time.

**Kathy Davies**  
Science Teacher





## OUR SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH WINNERS 2023

### THIRD PLACE IN RESEARCH INVESTIGATION

Our project was about measuring the lifting force of three electromagnets – two of them made by us and the third one was supplied by the laboratory. We had to use an electronic balance in order to find the lifting force of each electromagnet for 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 volts.

Being a part of this amazing project was a great privilege and opportunity for us to learn about the relationship between how the number of copper wire turns for an electromagnet and its lifting force. As a group of three, we took videos, collected data, photos and created graphs to represent the data. The most memorable part of measuring the lifting force of the electromagnets was when we made electromagnet with 600 copper wire turns had a lifting force of 99.9g- so close to 100g.



*L-R: Mr Reg Rowe, Rastin Karambaksh, Ravleen Kaur, Jhanani Rajasekaran, Year 8 Science Extension*



*L-R: Mr Reg Rowe, Abigail Lee, Sheandra Perera, Asma Mudassar, Year 8 Science Extension*

### ENGINEERING SECOND PLACE

#### ENGINEERING ROWE SCIENTIFIC EMERGING TALENT

Our project was a scaled down corflute shelter, aimed to help people by giving temporary refuge for homeless people surviving natural disasters. The shelter is easy to build, move, store and transport.

## ROWE SCIENTIFIC ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD YEAR 7-8 SCIENCE INVESTIGATION

The project focused on Prior Notice on Student Performance and Stress Levels The investigation focused on whether students do better in exams/ tests with prior notice compared to on-the-spot testing. We achieved this by performing an investigation on two batches of students and recording our findings.



*L - R: Mr Reg Rowe, Yana Liu Bhatt, Mackenzie Swarbrick,  
Year 8 Science Extension*



*L-R: Ione Villarias, Mr Reg Rowe, Emily Yap, Year 10 Gifted  
and Talented*

## THIRD PLACE YEAR 9-10 SCIENCE INVESTIGATION

### How Much is Too Much? Citric acid vs Teeth enamel

Our investigation consisted of the synthesis of artificial teeth enamel and using this to test the degradation of teeth enamel in varying concentrations of citric acid. After an exciting and stressful month of hard work, research, and assistance from our benevolent Year 10 Science teacher, Dr Harris, we successfully completed our investigation project and write-up.

## FIRST IN RESEARCH INVESTIGATION YEARS 7-8

### Fruit Juice vs Sports Drink Electrolyte

We conducted an investigation to test whether fruit juice contained more electrolytes than sports drinks in order to determine which substance would replenish the ions and electrolytes lost in the body. A total of eight different substances were tested, our results indicated that orange juice contained the greater number of electrolytes.



*L-R: Advaitaa Koteswaran, Mr Reg Rowe, Sameeha Zaman,  
Year 8 Science Extension*



*L-R: Matthew Miller, Mr Reg Rowe, Gunata Geong , Year 10 Gifted and Talented*

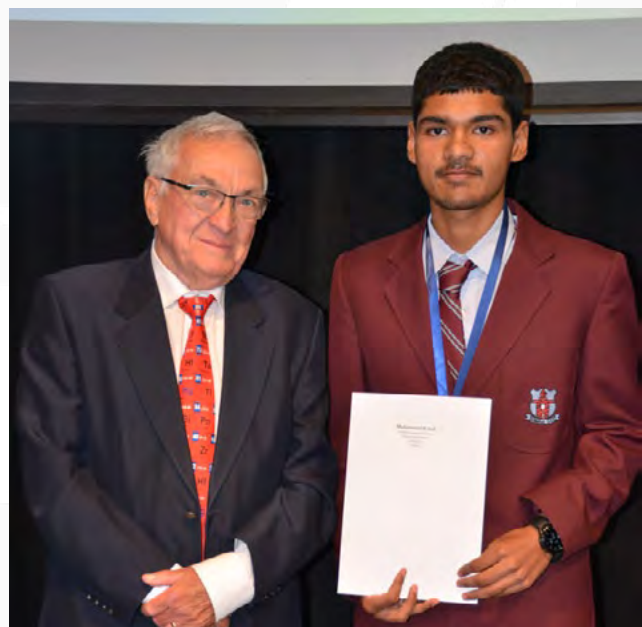
## **ROWE SCIENTIFIC ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD YEAR 9-10 SCIENCE INVESTIGATION**

Our project was to collect speech samples from various people in the Perth region to compare how they pronounce their vowels with the General Australian English accent. We analysed the frequencies of their vowels to statistically compare them. The project was fun to complete because it is a topic that piques our interest.

## **FIRST PRIZE YEAR 9-10 SCIENCE INVESTIGATION**

Phosphate scarcity threatens both agriculture and the environment, as it is essential for life and ecosystem balance. For our project, we synthesized magnetic iron nanoparticles to develop a cost-effective and eco-friendly method for extracting and recovering phosphate from water.

***Thank-you to Brett Boughton, Leon Harris and Thomas Coe for guiding our winners.***



*L-R: Mr Reg Rowe, Muhammad Al-Rafi former student, Year 10 Gifted and Talented*



# VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

## WORKING OVERTIME IN TERM 4

Students of Year 11 and 12 have the opportunity to test drive possible careers with Work Experience after their exams. The Education Department provides these opportunities until Thursday 14 December this year.

One such student, who has taken up the challenge and explored a possible career is Yash Berry, who completed work experience at the Leeming Medical Centre. Respecting and understanding the confidentiality needed, Yash has now some idea of the admin work of a practice, and he was also able to speak to medical professionals about their work - including a dietician and a nurse. Additionally, by agreement, he was able to sit in on a Telehealth consultation, the procedure for an iron infusion, insertion of a saline drip and also the removal of a skin cancer.

This work placement has been extremely useful in clarifying Yash's vision for a future career in the health industry.

Another student Sacha Poulet, has pushed the envelope, being successful in being accepted by the Defence Force Work Experience Program to participate in a day at the Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta for Army work experience later in November.

We congratulate both students on their endeavours and wish them every success into the future.

**Ruth Barratt**  
**Work Experience Coordinator**



*Yash at the Leeming Medical Centre*

# STUDENT SERVICES

## SIGNING OUT – YEAR 12S

The first thing we said to the 2023 graduating class of back at Orientation Day in 2017, was “make the most of your time at school – it will be over before you know it”! And now here we are, at the end of six years of high school. The highs and lows of school and being a teen suddenly a fading memory as we prepare ourselves for work, TAFE, university, apprenticeships, and exchange programs.

I am so proud of this cohort. They entered Willetton with a great rap from their primary school teachers and have lived up to their potential. I am always impressed by the academic achievement amongst our graduating cohorts, but in this group, we have seen a lot of other success of equal measure from students starting with our Year 7 committees, Peer Leading teams and Council, all doing a great job and giving back to their school and cohort. They even racked up a record number achievement with Duke of Ed Awards, 119 certificates being awarded.

It is with mixed emotions that I say farewell to this group and my time in Student Services, ending an eleven-year stint as Year Coordinator. All I can say that my life has certainly been richer with the daily interactions and reward of seeing so many young people transition from youngsters to adults. Also, working with parents and guardians, Student Services, teachers, support and admin staff. It hasn't always been easy, but the rewards and high points have made it all worthwhile.

Thanks to the 255 students who attended our final rewards social for a wonderful evening and to all Year 12 students for attending our final event - the Year 12 breakfast and traditional shirt signing session. Both excellent events and opportunities to catch up one final time before we all go our own ways.

**Judy Gauci**  
**Year Coordinator 2018 – 2023**











# YEAR 12 STUDENTS SIGNING OUT - LAST DAY









## YEAR 8

It is a busy time of year and the Year 8 cohort are doing a great job working their way through all of their assessments. With so many tests and due dates, you can help your children by encouraging them to balance their time between study, rest and play. Also, if your child still hasn't found the study method that works for them, I'd encourage you all to revisit their copy of Study Hacks which was on their Year 7 book list. Study Hacks is full of excellent advice around building effective studying habits.

We are starting to look ahead to 2024, and I was extremely pleased to see such an impressive quantity and quality of students applying for leadership positions next year. Sixty Year 8s have been selected as Peer Leaders to help with incoming student orientations and other events throughout 2024. They have already spent a training day honing their communication and leadership skills, and I can't wait to see them all in action next year. The applications have been so competitive that next year's Student Council is still under deliberation and will be announced later.

**Thomas Coe**  
**Year 8 Coordinator**





## YEAR 7 GLOW IN THE DARK DISCO

In October, the Year 7 students had their first high school social event at our Glow in the Dark Disco held in the theatre. The Year 7 students danced the night away thanks to the DJ from Retriever Sound DJ Service whilst making new friends, many wonderful memories and capturing these many happy moments with much appreciation to the services of Mighty Booth and their Photobooth.

Mr Curran's Year 11 Certificate II Hospitality students kept our tastebuds happy with delicious Sliders and yummy donuts.

It was marvellous to see so many happy faces.

**Kristen Gibson**  
Year 7 Coordinator



WSHS

*Year 7 Disco 2023*

# SCHOOL BOARD

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The next School Board meeting will be held on Wednesday 29 November 2023. A list of Board meetings for this year can be found on the school website, under the School Board information.

## SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS AND ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING (APM)

Information and nominations for parent and staff representatives to the School Board will open from early February 2024, and the Board's APM will be held in March 2024. Dates will be advised. All members of the school community are welcome.

## WORLD TEACHERS' DAY - STAFF APPRECIATION MORNING TEA

The School Board showed their appreciation of the work of teachers and support staff by hosting a special morning tea on 27 October. This was run in conjunction with World Teachers' Day. Thank you to the students and the Interact Club who made cards to show their appreciation.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP - YEAR 8 2024

The School Board offers the WA Secondary School of the Year Scholarship to one student entering Year 8 in 2024. This scholarship is given each year, to celebrate the school's position as the inaugural WA Secondary School of the Year. It recognises a student who shows strong leadership skills.

It was pleasing to receive a number of applications this year, and we are delighted to announce the successful and well-deserved recipient of this scholarship goes to Gayatri Khatri.

## FROM THE SELECTION PANEL

*Gayatri Khatri was successful because her interview complemented her application beautifully. While the competition was incredibly tight, Gayatri demonstrated a great capacity to listen to every question and answer with exceptional thoughtfulness. Her selfless approach and mutually beneficial ideals of leadership really spoke to the panel and are just what we want to see from our students. Gayatri maintains a growth mindset, articulating very clearly what skills she hopes to develop and how she foresees using these skills to build our school community.*

*Congratulations to Anika Arulsingham, Angelena Piratheepan and Alyssa Dermody who were shortlisted for an interview. We encourage you to continue developing your leadership potential over the next five years at Willetton.*



## SECOND HAND BOOKSHOP

Due to textbooks being available on-line and the subsequent decline of sales, the School Board intends to close the second-hand bookshop. We invite parent comment and feedback regarding this closure. Please email these to [willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au).

The second-hand bookshop will have a sale in Weeks 9 and 10 of Term 4 (6 and 13 December). Current booklist items will be reduced by 20% – 50% and study guides and textbooks with subsequent revised editions will be priced from \$10 – \$20.

### Second Hand Bookshop Trading Times 2023/2024

2023		
Wednesday	22/11/23	9:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday	29/11/23	9:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday	06/12/23	9:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday	13/12/23	9:00am – 11:30am
2024		
Thursday	25/01/24	9:00am – 11:30am
Week 1 Term 1 2024		
Wednesday	31/01/24	9:00am – 11:30am
Rest of Term 1 2024		
Wednesdays		9:00am – 11:30am
Located in room B23, near the canteen undercover area.		

For further information, please contact the bookshop on 9334 7282 during opening hours or Kathryn Young on 9334 7236.

## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop will accept your Willetton uniforms once you no longer require them. These are accepted on a donation basis, and not on consignment. It would be greatly appreciated if uniforms are washed and of reasonable quality before donating them. Proceeds from the sale of these uniforms go towards funding projects around the school, so your kind donation continues to benefit our students.

### Second Hand Uniform Shop Trading Times 2023/2024

2023		
Wednesday	22/11/23	9:15am – 11:15am
Wednesday	29/11/23	9:15am – 11:15am
Wednesday	06/12/23	9:15am – 11:15am
Wednesday	13/12/23	9:15am – 11:15am
2024		
Thursday	25/01/24	9:15am – 1:15pm (note extended hours)
Monday	29/01/24	9:15am – 1:15pm (note extended hours)
Week 1 Term 1 2024		
Wednesday	31/01/24	9:15am – 11:15am
Rest of Term 1 2024		
Wednesdays		9:15 am – 11:15am
Located in the PAC		

## ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP FUNDRAISER

### FUNDRAISING WITH *entertainment.*

Entertainment 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!

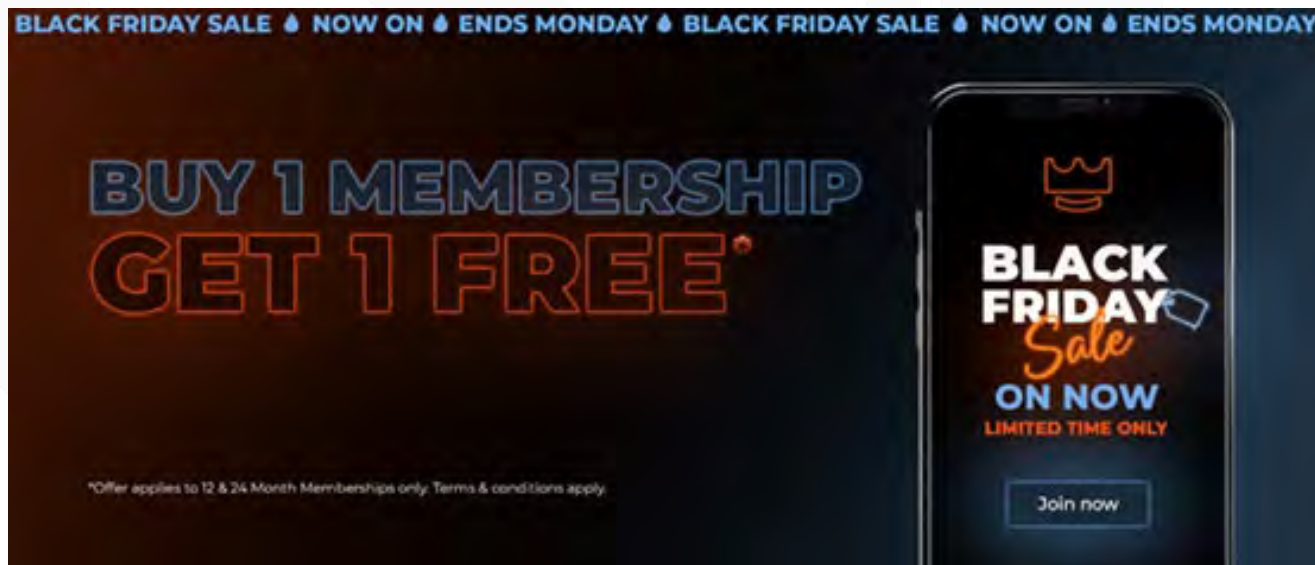
More importantly, 20% of every Entertainment Membership purchased through us goes directly towards our Student Leadership Development Program. Memberships can be ordered at [www.entbook.com.au/904a46](http://www.entbook.com.au/904a46) Thank you very much for your support.

Enjoy their Black-Friday promotion which gives you two memberships for the price of one!

For a strictly limited time, when you purchase any 12 or 24 month membership to the Entertainment App, you will receive a complimentary membership of equal value!

As an added bonus, every membership purchased goes into the draw to win an epic cruise holiday on the azure waters of Fiji, valued at over \$4,470. This offer ends on 27 November.


Get your membership now: <https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/904a46>



BLACK FRIDAY SALE 🔥 NOW ON 🔥 ENDS MONDAY 🔥 BLACK FRIDAY SALE 🔥 NOW ON 🔥 ENDS MONDAY

**BUY 1 MEMBERSHIP  
GET 1 FREE\***

\*Offer applies to 12 & 24 Month Memberships only. Terms & conditions apply.

  
**BLACK FRIDAY**  
*Sale*  
**ON NOW**  
LIMITED TIME ONLY

[Join now](#)

## 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, nearly \$3,000 has been raised, with these funds being put towards student scholarships



**Support Our Schools - SOS Program**

Gilbert's Fresh Market will donate 1% of the money spent by you to your nominated school every time you shop with us.

**Don't delay! Join our SOS Program today!**

- Sign up in store
- Present your SOS Card for scanning at the checkout each time you shop
- Start to earn the benefits for your school straightaway

**Get your entire school community involved and earn more funds for your school.**



**Gilbert's Fresh Market**

Open 7 Days

[www.gilbertsfresh.com.au](http://www.gilbertsfresh.com.au)

## SCHOOL BOARD THANK YOU

We would like to acknowledge and thank the wonderful parents and community members who have volunteered their time to help the school this year – much could not have been achieved without your wonderful support. Special thanks go to the bookshop and the second hand uniform shop volunteers who work tirelessly but cheerfully throughout the year. Your faithful contribution to the school is recognised and very much valued by the Board and the school community.

## HOW TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

To find out more about the School Board or how you might get involved, please contact Kathryn Young, School Board Executive Officer on 9334 7236 during term, or email [willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au).

As this is the last school newsletter for the year, the School Board would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of our school community a very special Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. We look forward to working together with you again in 2024.