Dear Willunga High School Community,

Once again I find myself writing this article with mixed emotions. The start of Term 4, a traditionally hectic term, has begun with a sad farewell and a milestone celebration.

During the school holidays Willunga High School’s former Principal, Janelle Reimann sadly passed away after a long battle with cancer. Janelle needs to be remembered for her focus on providing the students with the best learning environment possible so the students are proud of the school they attend and so they are encouraged to perform at their best. There have been many anecdotes shared with me that have enlightened me to who Janelle was and the passion with which she approached her life and the pride she had in Willunga High School and its students. She will be sadly missed by many. It is important now that we, as a school, build on that legacy by ensuring that we continue to provide the best learning and wellbeing outcomes possible for all students at our school.

Term 4 is when we say a final goodbye to our Stage 2 students and when we have celebrations that recognise the achievements and efforts of the students. The first of these celebrations was the Year 12 Graduation. The evening was highly enjoyable and went off without a hitch. The excellent organisation of Phil Boyle and a dedicated team of people ensured that the evening appropriately celebrated the students who are completing their studies at Willunga in 2016. We are now looking forward to the Awards Ceremony in Week 6 which will provide us with another opportunity to recognise the efforts of the students, their application to their study and their citizenship of the school. I would like to congratulate the Class of 2016 on their outstanding efforts and exemplary conduct throughout the final few weeks of their secondary schooling. We wish them all the successes they deserve as they embark on their ‘new’ adult lives.
Term 4 is also the term of transitions, students come in from primary school for their final transition visits of the year, others are transitioning out of the middle school into the senior school and the Year 12’s transition out into the ‘real world’. All of these transitions come with their stresses and it is the Senior and Middle School Wellbeing teams that provide a great deal of support and organisation to ensure that these transitions occur in the most supportive environment possible. Transition events that are occurring throughout Term 4 include Yr. 7 Parent Evening and lunch, Non Feeder School Transition Days, Yr. 7-8 Transition day and the Years 10 to 11 and 11 to 12 Transition Weeks in the Senior School.

The STEM Works project is progressing well and is approaching the completion of the concept phase and is to be submitted the Learning Improvement Team for approval. Once the concept plans have been assessed as meeting the requirements of the project then we will be able to share what we see as an exciting new phase in the development of Willunga High School with our school community. The project is happening at a rapid rate with short timelines on each phase of the project. The group that have been involved in framing the concept plan has included students, Bella, Catriona, Delilah, Lewis, Joshua and Callum who have provided excellent feedback on the initial concept designs. These students have also been involved in the STEM Engagement project that has been supported by Flinders University and is being led by Phil and Jude Boyle. These students have been supported to work with primary school students and deliver STEM based activities that aim to enthuse and encourage these primary school students in STEM pathways through their secondary schooling and beyond.

Governing Council this week approved the Material and Services charges for 2017. This means a polling letter will arrive in the mail soon. We would appreciate as many returns of these as possible to enable us to get a representative view of the school community regarding the fees and charges we ask of families to support their child’s education.

I look forward to seeing everybody at the upcoming celebration events.

Anthony van Ruiten  
Principal
Year 8 Bushwalk

[Images of students on a bushwalk in a forested area]
In late June, Willunga High School was invited to take part in a Federal Government/Flinders University project on STEM Engagement.

Since then a small group of students from Willunga High have been working with 60 students from Willunga Primary School and McLaren Vale Primary, exploring Student Based Learning and Learning By Design. This has meant a time commitment from the High School students, as they have given up holiday times for training, and many lunch breaks in order to structure a program, suitable for students between the Years 4 – 7. The program has been delivered Tuesday afternoons, and some Fridays. All who have worked with the high school students have been impressed by their desire to learn, their ability to work under harsh deadlines and their flexibility. They have met with Entrepreneurs, ‘pitched’ their own ideas to an audience, been critics at a STEM Expo, drafted teaching timelines, planned open ended learning experiences, and even met with architects to look at the redevelopment of some teaching spaces here at Willunga High.

At this point in time the students are working in teams with the Primary Schools in order to Empathise, Define, Ideate, Prototype and Test ideas relating to ‘solving a real world problem’. This will ultimately lead to the students building a model to best demonstrate the idea, these will be tested in a celebration at the end of the term.

The enthusiasm and effervescence of the students inspires all who interact with them, and my recommendation at the end of the project will be for similar projects to continue.
Remembrance Day

On 11th November our school celebrated the 98th anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914–18). Each year on this day Australians observe one minute’s silence at 11.00am, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts. This year we had the honour of three of our Cadets being involved. It was inspiring to see such respect and precision from these young people. This Assembly, every year, is one of my favourites. It is a time when the students of Willunga High School demonstrate their ability to be respectful, dignified and present; they show deep reflection which is inspiring.

Kirri Minnican
Deputy Principal

Willunga High School is proud to have been asked to be a part of the RSL’s commemoration of Remembrance Day for 2016, and participate in a program that will help keep the memory of South Australia’s fallen Service Men and Women alive in the hearts and minds of future generations.

As a part of this program, the RSL, the Defense Forces and a handful of local schools were asked to participate in helping set up a ‘Field of Remembrance’ near North Terrace before the Remembrance Day Commemoration Service. These crosses represent the thousands of South Australian Service men and women who have died in the Service of their country.

On Friday 11th November this year, a group of twelve students from various year levels and Mr Gradisar attended the Remembrance Day Commemoration Service at the South Australian National War Memorial on North Terrace. After the service the students made their way to the Field of Remembrance and collected a series of crosses to be returned to the school for maintenance. Willunga High School will be in charge of collecting and maintaining a group of 267 crosses which represent South Australian soldiers from World War I and World War II, who were members of interstate battalions, and who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. These crosses will remain at the school where they will be maintained and used for research on the lives of these service men and women, and will be returned to the Field of Remembrance for the Remembrance Day Commemoration Service for 2017.

Thomas Gradisar
SOSE Teacher
Term 4 is a very busy time for all Year 10, 11 and 12 students.

We are currently involved in finalising the year for the current Year 12 students. Phil Boyle and his team organised a very successful Year 12 Graduation. All students were presented with a Certificate of Completion of 12 Years of Education. The Academic Awards for each subject in Year 12 was announced, with many students reaching their potential in their subjects. The Valedictorians Liana Lovison and Judd Partridge presented very different speeches describing the 5 years of secondary schooling representing, the Year 12 cohort.

Year 12 students are finalising their subjects, with many subjects completed and moderation occurring. Exams are in their second week with students completing two or three hour exams in their subjects. Students have been exemplary in their conduct for these exams with a studious approach and a willingness to do their best. We wish them well for their final week of exams. Student work will be able to be collected by Year 12 students once it has been returned to the school from moderation. This will occur in the week commencing Monday 12th December.

We wish all year 12 students success in their future endeavours and hope they achieve the pathways they have planned for themselves.
Year 11

Year 11 students are now involved in finalising their achievements for the year. Students in Year 11 are in their second semester of subjects, which will be resulted to the SACE Board on 5th December. Students will be required at scheduled lessons until 25th November.

In Week 7 commencing 28th November Year 11 students will be involved in a Transition Program. The aim of this program is for students to complete their Research Project and any other Compulsory Subjects at Stage 1 Level. They will also be involved in orientation lessons for their Year 12 subjects for 2017. Workshops and Assemblies will occur to prepare students for their final year of schooling. This program is very valuable for Year 11 students, with the final day of schooling for them to be on Friday 2nd December. More information will be available shortly outlining the Transition Week for Year 11’s.

Year 10

Year 10 Students will have their last scheduled lessons on Friday 2nd December. They will then participate in a Year 10 Transition Week commencing Monday 5th December. The Transition Program for Year 10 has been organised to prepare students for the expectations and requirements of the SACE (South Australian Certificate of Education). All students in Year 10 have had the opportunity of participating in the first SACE Subject in Year 10 (the PLP). This subject is compulsory. Nearly all students have passed this subject this year. A bridging course during Transition Week will be organised to ensure all students have opportunity to gain the Personal Learning Plan subject by the end of the year.

All students will be completing workshops and participating in assemblies to develop knowledge and skills to support them in the SACE. Students will participate in sessions related to their Year 11 subjects they have selected.

This transition program is very valuable for Year 10 students with the final day of schooling for them to be on Friday 9th December. More information will be available shortly outlining the Transition Week for all Year 10’s.

Fiona Adams
Assistant Principal Senior School
In our class we have been doing Agricultural Studies with Mr Howard and Mr Smith. This has been a great opportunity to learn outside of the classroom and do something very different. I love animals so I really enjoyed what we got to do. We have been feeding the calves using a trough with attached man made teats. We feed them milk, which we make by mixing water and milk powder. We had to make sure we measured out the right amount of each so that it tasted right. Some of us have been walking the calves on the leads too. They were quite stubborn at first but have improved every week. We have fed the big cows hay, which they think is really yummy! The calves also like to eat grass so some of us have hand fed them and they would like to lick us. One challenge we had to complete regularly was also was to herd the calves between paddocks so they were ready to feed or walk. Some of the other things our class has done are: herding, feeding and weighing the sheep. We also got to watch Mr Howard shear the sheep. We got to walk through the grape vines and learnt about wine making, I found out that the school has made it’s own wine and that student’s helped make it. The parts of AG that I have most enjoyed this year are walking and feeding the calves.

Marie-Ann (Year 10 Special Options Class)
Term 4 has seen the ATSI Team focussing on assisting our students to be successful as the year draws to an end. Our APAS Tutor, Emma Venning, has been working tirelessly to help Year 11 and 12 students complete their work by the SACE cut-off dates.

We have also been supporting our Middle School students complete tasks and finish the year positively. On Wednesday 23rd November Years 8,9 and 10 ATSI students are heading to Flinders University for ‘Life in the Uni Lane’. This will be a day full of workshops to give students a taste of University and hopefully inspire them for further study.

To celebrate 2015, the ATSI Team will also be having a gathering on Thursday, Week 6 together and share some food, reflect on the year and explore all the possibilities for 2017.

Megan Ring
Aboriginal Education Teacher

Congratulations to Ida Moore! Ida has been chosen as a finalist in the Consesrvation Council Environment Awards. The Conservation Council of South Australia Inc. presents the 2016 SA Environment Awards in recognition of those who dedicate themselves to improving and protecting South Australia’s natural environment. The ceremony is Thursday 24th November.

Well done Ida.
Year 12 Graduation

Disclaimer: Please note that the Year 12 Graduation photos in this newsletter were randomly picked. Not all our Year 12 photos were used. Thank You
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<td>Women’s Studies</td>
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<td>Work Place Practices</td>
<td>Bronwyn Collins, Taylah Evans</td>
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WHS School Notices

LIBRARY NOTICE

Willunga High School has a ‘Right Bite Healthy Eating Policy’
We cannot sell fundraising chocolates in Student Services. However, we can sell other ‘non food’ items, such as badges, wrist bands but these must be monitored by the seller concerned as we cannot take responsibility for any monies or goods exchanged. We thank you with your support on this.

Reminder
Time to start returning library resources.

Thank you

Student Attendance

For phone messages to our Student Services Absentee Line, please make sure you leave details of:
- name of student
- reason for absence
- estimated time of arrival when late
Thank you for your cooperation to monitor student attendance

TERM DATES

November
23 Year 7 Parent Info Evening (TTC 6.30pm)
23 ATSI Flinders Uni Visit
24 Year 9 Outdoor Ed Camp
24 Awards Ceremony 1.00pm
25 Year 9 Outdoor Ed Camp
25 Year 7 Parent Lunch 12.30
28 Year 11 Transition Week
29

December
1 Middle School Graduation
1 1 SACE Stage 1 results due
2 Last day for Year 11’s
5 Governing Council Meeting
5 Volleyball Trip to Melbourne
5 Year 10 Transition Week
7 Whole School Transition Day
9 Last Day Year 10’s
16 End of Term
(Early closure 2.00pm)

WILLUNGA HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 7 - 2016
Success-Fairness-Safety-Respect-Responsibility