To all the members of the Willunga High School community, past and present, welcome to the 2017 new school year, and Happy Lunar New Year to Asian community members.

As a new school year begins we need to congratulate our 2016 Alumni as they make their way into their adult lives having performed very well in their Stage 2 studies. We would like to celebrate the achievement of the following students whose hard work resulted in their gaining the school’s highest Stage 2 scores in 2016 and congratulate their teachers and families for the support they provided throughout the year.

Nicolas Scanlan 94.10
Nicolas Tugwell 92.80
Gabrielle Ind 88.45
Kevin Grant 87.10
Caitlin Mohr 82.30
Angus Laube 81.25
Broke Ferguson 81.25
Jessie Coghill 81.10
Ellie Stenner 81.10
Holly Hogarth 80.95

We are delighted to welcome 223 Year 8 students and the almost 40 new Year 9-12 students, along with their families into our community. A special welcome is extended to Taiyo and Kento who are joining our community for term 1 as students in Year 10. Both Taiyo and Kento are from Japan on a cultural exchange. We would also like to welcome 9 new staff members who we are sure will add value to our already vibrant and progressive staff. The start to the 2017 school year has been a very smooth one with all our students beginning their lessons after recess on the second day of school, setting the tone for the remainder of the year.

The beginning of the school year is also an opportune time to remind the school community of some of the important principles that promote the best learning outcomes for students. Minister Close wrote to all families in 2016 about the need for close working relationships between home and school and the need for students to be present at school so that they can maximise their learning outcomes. The Willunga High School staff value highly the supportive interactions we have with our parents and carer community as we can
see firsthand how that enhances the outcomes for students and maintains their engagement in learning. There is ample research that shows how important this relationship is, as there is for the connection between attendance and student achievement. Ensuring that your child is absent from school as little as possible is a highly supportive way to improve their outcomes throughout their schooling. This is especially critical for Stage 2 students who will require every lesson and tutorial to help them develop and consolidate their understandings throughout the year.

An opportunity for a greater connection with the school is by becoming a volunteer in the school canteen. The Willunga HS canteen provides a fantastic service to our students with ‘home cooked’, healthy foods for the students and staff. Anybody wishing to help out in the canteen should contact the school. The school will support the completion for all the required documentation for working in a school environment.

Over the next term, I would expect that you receive some communication from your child’s home group and class teachers regarding a range of topics, including some administrative matters and information regarding teaching programs or your child’s progress. The most efficient way for this to occur is via email so it is important that all families provide the school with their most current email address along with current phone numbers and residential addresses.

Quality Teaching will be a strong focus for our teachers as we continue to develop educational programs that make the best use of the technologies available to us to enhance students’ learning experiences and outcomes. As we continue to move into the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) era at the school we are faced the decreasing availability of loan computers from the school as many of the currently machines available have reached their end of life and have become a safety risk.

It is not feasible for the school to replace these machines due to the cost involved and so this means that fewer students will have access to the available loan computers. It is important that students have access to their own device as we move forward with the development of modern teaching methodologies that are engaging and enhance student outcomes. In fact the SACE Board has recently announced the first of the Stage 2 exams that will be done completely online requiring students to have access to devices so that they can achieve to their potential in a familiar digital environment. Throughout 2017 parents will also notice that there will be greater ongoing access to their child’s learning, attendance and achievement through the SEQTA Engage Portal as the teachers will further enhancing what they provide to students in the online environment.

Finally on the Willunga High School AGM will be held on the 20th February at 6:30pm in the school library. This is where we will be seeking to appoint our Governing Council for 2017. All families are encouraged to attend this meeting and we would be delighted to have new members join the Governing Council to provide much valued input into the governance and directions of the school.

I look forward to meeting many of the school community members and our old scholars throughout 2017.

Anthony van Ruiten
Principal
Willunga High School
SACE RESULTS 2016

It is important to acknowledge the achievements of all of our Year 12s in 2016. Last year approximately 90% of Willunga High School Year 12 students completed their SACE certificate with the remaining students, participating in a VET Course, leaving school to employment or planning to complete their SACE through a further year of study.

A number of students received awards for their achievements at the Whole School Assembly. The students receiving an ATAR Score of 80 or above were all acknowledged for their achievements.

Nicholas Scanlan - Score 94.1
Nicholas Tugwell - Score 92.8
Gabrielle Ind - Score of 88.45
Kevin Grant - Score 87.1
Caitlyn Mohr - Score 82.3
Angus Laube - Score 81.25
Brooke Ferguson - Score 81.25
Jessie Coghill - Score 81.1
Ellie Stenner - Score 81.1
Holly Hogarth - Score 80.95

All of our high achieving students were offered a University Pathway.

A variety of university courses were offered to these students including Bachelor degrees, Honours, Masters and Diplomas in fields such as International Tourism, Nutrition, Teaching, Arts, Science, Nursing, Electrical Engineering and Medical Science. 39 students from Willunga High School were all offered a university pathway. Many other students were offered TAFE courses with 77% of students in Year 12 receiving a TAFE Score.

We would like to acknowledge the strong character and commitment to learning from the Year 12’s of 2016 and hopefully they will continue to inspire others. We wish them all the success for the future in their chosen pathways.
Willunga High School
SACE RESULTS 2016

DUX OF 2016

This Award was presented to the student who received the highest ATAR score at Willunga High School.

We would like to congratulate Nicholas Scanlan for this outstanding achievement in his final year of schooling.

Left to right: Fiona Adams (Assistant Principal Senior School), Nicholas Tugwell, Nicholas Scanlan, Ellie Stenner, Angus Laube, Jessie Coghill, Holly Hogarth, Anthony van Ruiten (Principal)
Willunga High School

FLEXIBLE LEARNING OPTIONS (FLO)

What an exciting start to the 2017 study year! Our official ‘welcome back’ event took place at the Aldinga Flexible Learning Centre (FLC) on Friday 3rd February, with all staff ‘on deck’, a delicious BBQ and an opportunity for staff and young people and their families to share their holiday stories. We currently have 154 young people enrolled through our FLO program, with the majority being supported through the FLC.

We continue our working relationship with Mission Australia this year. The case management team of Dayna Fisher, Chris White, Nicolle Green and Tam Warner continue on 2016. Georgina D’Arcy and James Mangnson, who bring with them a wealth of experiences and a passion for supporting at risk young to achieve their very best, also join the Mission Australia team.

Kirsty Parker (FLO Coordinator), Jeremy Wood (Learning Space Manager/Teacher) and Creena Baird (Admin Support/Data Management) continue on as part of the amazing Willunga High School team. It gives me great pleasure to welcome Julianne Bates to the team also. Julianne will lead our Young Parent Program and support the young people undertaking SACE Community Studies. Julianne has a long history of delivering excellent educational opportunities and we are excited to have her on board!

We will continue our SACE achievement drive this year. The Stage One compulsories (Essential English and Maths), the Personal Learning Plan (PLP) and Community Studies/Integrated Learning will all be offered. This year, we will also offer the SACE Research Project, along with access to a variety of other accredited learning.

With over 47 young people achieving success in Stage 1 subjects during 2016, our aim is increase this number in 2017. The majority of our FLC attendees so far have ‘jumped’ straight into their learning with great enthusiasm, and we look forward to this continuing throughout 2017.

I am most proud to be leading Willunga High School’s FLO this year, and I look forward to being able to share with you all the successes of our young people.

Shaun Walsh
Head of Campus
Aldinga FLC
Hello, my name is Adam Langley and I have been lucky enough to win a position at Willunga High School as one of the Counsellors. I have come from Reynella East College where I had been for the last 7 years. As part of my role at Willunga I would like to share some “handy hints” to help support our students and their families to improved mental, physical and social well being.

This Newsletter I would like to look at “positivity”. There are many articles and websites that give suggestions on how to develop a more positive state of mind in order to be successful. Here are 5 tips to build and maintain a more positive attitude.

1) Only use positive words when talking.

If you’re constantly telling yourself “I can’t” you may convince yourself that’s the truth. Replace these negative words with positive ones instead. Tell yourself you will do your best or that you will try your hardest instead.

2) Push out all feelings that aren’t positive.

Don’t let negative thoughts and feelings overwhelm you when you’re feeling down. Even if it’s only for a few hours a day, push your negativity aside and only focus on the good things in your life.

3) Use words that evoke strength and success.

Try filling your thoughts with words that make you feel strong, happy and in control of your life. Make a concentrated effort to focus on these words rather than those that make you feel like you are failing or incompetent.

4) Practice positive affirmation.

One of the most popular positive thinking exercises is positive affirmation. This means you repeat a positive phrase to yourself on a regular basis like “I deserve to be happy” or “I am worthy of love”. Believing that these things are true, and reminding yourself of it can help give you a more positive outlook on life.

5) Give yourself credit.

Often when we feel frustrated or upset we only concentrate on the bad things or the mistakes we’ve made instead of giving ourselves credit for what we do right. Allow yourself to feel confident about the things you have accomplished, even if you’ve messed up in other areas.

I hope these help and I will bring you 5 more “Handy hints” in our next Newsletter.
At Willunga High School we are committed to providing our students with the best possible learning conditions that enable students to perform to their highest potential. A critical part of this, is providing a supportive educational environment that also offers access to services that improve students’ physical and mental wellbeing.

To improve the wellbeing of our students we are developing approaches to learning and behaviour management that are centred around a positive psychology model (such as Mind Matters) and we are also providing access to services that support student wellbeing.

As part of this wellbeing strategy Willunga High School is pleased to announce a Doc on Campus (DOC) initiative that will provide an early intervention model for mental health and wellbeing.

What is Doctor on Campus?

DOC is a simple and proven intervention based on a partnership between health and education.

DOC is a confidential school service that is supported by local GPs, psychology and social work services where students whose success at school is challenged by mental health and wellbeing issues are seen at school by a doctor. Our doctor will consult with students, prepare a Primary Health Care Plan and manage referrals to a Psychologist or Social Work therapist. The services provided by a Clinical Psychologist and Social Work Therapist will also occur on the Willunga High School campus. All consultations are bulk billed to Medicare which means that, in most cases, the services provided are at no cost to families.

Who is it for?

DOC has a mental health and wellbeing focus, targeting adolescent students with issues such as depression, anxiety, self harming and suicidal ideations, personal trauma, eating disorders and related drug and alcohol concerns.

Why Doctor on Campus?

To ensure the success of all Willunga High School students, we need to put in place quality educational experiences and effective health and wellbeing strategies. The DOC initiative will empower students, who may require assistance to access a health service, to gain support for their mental health and general wellbeing. We strongly believe that this program and the associated processes will help to reduce the stigma associated with mental health challenges.

Adolescence can be a challenging, stressful and confusing time for many young people and for some, more serious mental health concerns can arise. Mental health concerns can impact on attendance, classroom engagement, academic success and social and emotional stability in both school and post-school years.

Australian statistics reveal that “one in four young people are living with a mental disorder and 9% of young people (16-24 years old) experience high to very high levels of psychological distress. Young people need the skills to cope with stress when it arises and schools are the universal platform for mental health awareness and encouraging help-seeking”

[Mission Australia 2015 Young people’s mental health over the years Youth Survey 2012-14]

(Continued on next page)
Willunga High School
NOTICES

Doctor on Campus
Is Coming to Willunga High School

How can my child access Doctor on Campus?

• Wellbeing teams and counsellors use their knowledge of the students under their care and combine this with their skills and understandings of adolescence to identify and refer, to the DOC, students whose wellbeing is impacting on their ability to be successful at school

• Wherever possible, parent/caregiver consent will be sought prior to students accessing DOC services. Referrals, parent/caregiver contact and consent forms will be coordinated by a School Counsellor

• High need students can be referred to the DOC program by a parent/caregiver, teachers, peers or the students themselves, by contacting to Year Level Coordinators or Counsellors

Willunga High School Attendance

At Willunga High School, student attendance is a high priority. We believe that students who attend regularly are more likely to be successful at school.

Please Remember:

• If you know that your child is going to be absent from school please contact the student reception on 85 570103 by 9am

• A doctors certificate is requested for absences of 3 or more consecutive days of illness

• If going on a family holiday collect an exemption form from student reception and return completed before you leave

For more information please visit Willunga High School Attendance Policy at: http://www.whs.sa.edu.au/school-information/attendance-policy

Year 12 Physics & Specialist Maths
Small Group Tuition

Early Bird Special $40 per 60 minute session. Special ends 14th March. Conditions Apply.

Tuition by experienced, registered teacher. Winner of AIP Excellence in Physics Teaching Award 2015

Author of Curriculum Comics Study posters.

Comprehensive study notes provided.

Commencing 20th February 2017

Two Locations to choose from:
Monday: Flagstaff Community Hall from 5:00pm
Thursday: Kangarilla Community Hall from 5:00pm


Learn More About Asian Culture

Do you love Asian culture? Can't get enough of anime? Obsessed with Kpop?

This semester, Willunga High School students have the chance to come and learn more about Asian culture and share their knowledge. Grow your knowledge of popular and traditional Asian cultures and get to know a range of students who share your interests.

The first meeting will be on Monday of week 4 in MS11 where we will discuss our interests, build an itinerary for the term and experience a range of music from around Asia.
Willunga High School
NOTICES

Willunga Charter Service for Willunga High School Students

As a school we rely on Willunga Charter to transport students, who cannot access public transport, between their home and school daily. This is a service provided for the families by the Department of Education and Child Development for our school.

As a school and for Willunga Charter who provide this service—we all have a duty of care to ensure the students are returned to the residence that is the primary place of residence, selected upon enrolment. The bus route that returns a student to their primary residence is indicated on the photo I.D cards and is the students ‘ticket’ onto that service.

As was the case last year we have again had concerns raised by Willunga Charter regarding students using other bus passes so they could be dropped off at different locations such as: friends’ places, work or sports practices. Unfortunately this cannot be supported as the contract that Willunga Charter has with DECD and the school’s duty of care to its students, require us to ensure that each student is returned to their primary place of residence when using this service.

There is also an increasing concern with students not having their I.D cards to access the buses. The student ID is one of the very few photo IDs that students can legally use and would not be able to access student fares on public buses without it. To support the students to take greater responsibility we have begun to challenge the students who do not have their ID cards with them, only providing passes for the bus they are entitled to and ringing home to inform parents that they are without their student ID.

It is essential that ALL students have an I.D card with them at all times as we will only be issuing bus passes to students with genuine reasons for not having their ID.

Willunga High School will begin over the next few weeks to phase out daily/temporary bus passes as this will ensure that students will be on their allocated buses and meeting our duty of care. There may be some impact on parents as a parent will be asked to collect students from school who do not have their student ID.

If your student needs a dual destination sticker on the back of their I.D cards due to separate living arrangements they must go to student services with a parent/guardian note to get this provided, a phone call home will also be made to verify the information.

New ID cards are provided to students at the beginning of each year please ensure your child/children carry their up to date student photo I.D. If your student has not as yet received their 2017 ID card they please ensure they go to student services to arrange to have a photo taken and an ID card issued before Friday the 3rd March.

We appreciate the cooperation of all families.
Willunga High School
NOTICES

Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study

Participation of Year 10, 11 and 12 students in The B Part of It Study

The licensed meningococcal B vaccine (Bexsero®) is being offered to all year 10, 11 and 12 students in 2017 at our school by City of Onkaparinga Immunisation Service, as part of The South Australian B Part of it Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study.

During 2017 - 2018 each participant will:

• Receive 2 doses of Meningococcal B (Bexsero®) vaccine

• Complete 2 single page questionnaires (1 if student is in year 12)

• Have 2 throat swabs taken (1 if student is in year 12)

• Receive a $20 iTunes card after having each throat swab

> Immunisation consent packs will be sent home to all eligible students.

> It is important that you read the information contained in the pack before you provide consent for your child to take part in the study.

> The student is also required to provide their consent to participate in the study by signing and dating the consent form.

The vaccine is licensed in Australia and recommended for use in adolescents and toddlers.

> The Meningococcal B vaccine is also licensed in Europe, Canada and the USA where it is being used to protect children against meningococcal B disease.

> Up to 25% of adolescents carry the meningococcal bacteria in their throat. While this may not cause illness to themselves, the adolescent has the potential to spread the bacteria which may cause disease in others.

> The study aims to determine whether the Meningococcal B vaccine has the additional benefit of preventing the spread of the meningococcus bacteria from person to person.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact City of Onkaparinga Immunisation Service or the Immunisation Section, SA Health, Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 5pm on 1300 232 272.

All parents / legal guardians are requested to complete, sign, date and return the Consent Form, even if you do not consent for the student to be part of the study. If you do not receive a Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study pack from your child, and you think your child may be eligible, please ask at the school office.
2016-Year Book Sale

The 2016 Year Book is now on sale. Check out our display on the Library counter.

There are a limited number of copies, so it will be ‘first in first served’.

For those interested, they are selling for: **$15:00 per copy** to be paid through the finance office during the usual operating hours.

“A very reasonable price, for a load of priceless memories”
INTERNET BANKING

Families wishing to pay via Internet Banking, the a/c details are:

**Bank:** Bank SA  
**BSB:** 105 108  
**A/c:** 394002140  
**A/c Name:** Willunga High School  
**Ref:** Student ID **Must** be supplied

239 Main Road  
WILLUNGA, SA, 5172

**P:** (08) 8557 0100  
**F:** (08) 8556 2243

info@whs.sa.edu.au  
www.whs.sa.edu.au

**ABSENTEE LINE:** 8557 0153