

WHS NEWSLETTER



Term 2 | Week 4 | Monday 22 May 2017



FROM THE PRINCIPAL | Anthony van Ruiten

Dear members of the Willunga High School community,

This term started with a Student Free Day that involved all the schools and preschools in the Sea and Vines Partnership. Student free days are an opportunity for all teachers and support staff to engage in professional learning to improve their understanding of the current research and best practices that support better learning experiences and better outcomes for our students. As a partnership we are working toward making sure that the education every child gets is of high quality and is seamless from Birth to year 12. We are establishing strategies that will help us to ensure; there are no gaps in the skills that each child develops, that each student is able to access a quality education in a supportive environment and that there are common approaches across the schools and preschools which make it less daunting for students when they transition from one site to another or one year level to another.

Our student free day was based around the theme of "Struggle, Stretch and Transfer". Led by Professor Martin Westwell from Flinders University, we looked at current educational

research and what this is saying about how we can best provide learning environments and activities that promote learning, resilience and higher order thinking skills. It was certainly a valuable day for the 300 plus participants and I expect that you will see some impact on the learning activities that the students are engaged in as we move forward.

At the end of last term we offered Student/Parent/Teacher conferences for families to come and discuss the progress of their child with the teachers and look at the strategies and supports that we can work on together to make sure each child gets the most from their education. There was a great community feel to the two spaces that were set up for the interviews and while the booked interviews were in progress people also took up the opportunity to have more casual conversations with teachers and each other. The feedback we received from the staff and the families was overwhelmingly positive and proves the value of this type of event. The evening was also an excellent opportunity to get community feedback about the renewal of our purpose statement and school values.

From the PRINCIPAL



Professor Martin Westwell presents “Struggle Stretch and Transfer” to the 300+ educators from the Sea and Vines Partnership

Families were asked to indicate what they see as the most important values we as a school should embrace and to indicate whether they thought the draft Purpose Statement accurately reflected what we as school community think describes what should guide everything we do. We would like to thank those that provided their opinions, the final stage of this process is to ask the student body for their input and by the end of this term we will be able to publish the Willunga High School values and purpose statement that will guide our way forward.

We are certainly looking forward to our next Student/Parent/Teacher conferences which will take place late term 3. The success of the Student/Parent/Teacher conferences showed how important gaining ongoing feedback is in helping students improve on their achievement and we continue to invite parents and caregivers to be an active part of their children’s education. We are also working on enhancing the use of SEQTA to provide ongoing feedback for students and parents to help improve the achievements of all. This term families will receive a written report describing the achievement for each student as a result of their efforts for the semester.

Finally as we are now entering winter and the weather has suddenly become cold we need to remind parents and students of the uniform expectations that have been set out by your Governing Council. Please refer to the web site for the full uniform guidelines. Please remember that it is not appropriate for students to be wearing leisurewear to school and for the safety of all students it is essential that the school uniform code is adhered to. For warmth the students should be wearing the Willunga High School windcheater as purchased from Marino Uniforms and appropriate pants, dresses or skirts that meet the uniform guidelines. We will be working with students and Governing Council to review our school uniform so that it promotes pride amongst our students and presents the image that we want for Willunga High School. If you would like to be part of our uniform committee please contact the school.

Anthony van Ruiten
Principal

MIDDLE SCHOOL

At Willunga High School we believe that recognition of student achievement plays a vital role in the development of an effective learning environment.

At the end of Term One, our Middle School team held a Recognition Event for year 8 and 9 students who were nominated by their teachers for making a positive contribution to school culture by upholding the values of Willunga High School and working hard to achieve their personal best.

This term's recognition event was a 'Bubble Sports' session held on our school oval involving various fun team building activities. There was plenty of fun and food provided on the day and students received a certificate of recognition for their efforts.

The purpose of these events is to not only celebrate the achievements of the students, but also to foster a sense of belonging and continue the development of positive Middle School culture amongst the students.

As a school, we value student success in all its various forms and strive to provide opportunities for students to reach their full potential. To further support educational achievement, the Middle School team offered a 'Tute Group' to year 8 and 9 students in term 1. Staff members volunteered their time to provide extra tuition, clarification of tasks and work completion opportunities. Due to these sessions being highly successful last term, the Middle School tute group will be offered again in term 2. Anyone who would like more information or a copy of the consent form, please contact Caleb Macrow at the school.



Such a brilliant start to Term 2! The Aldinga Flexible Learning Centre has 'swung into action', with young people resuming their studies and reconnecting with peers and case managers after the two week break.

End of Term 1 Celebration

On the last day of Term 1, we had the honour of hosting our Awards Ceremony, to recognise the achievements and commitment of a number of our young people. After awards and speeches, morning tea was served and invited guests got to mix and mingle with staff and award winners. Awards were awarded not only for academic achievement, but also for displaying the values of the Willunga High School FLO program and Mission Australia.

Congratulations to the following award recipients:

Willunga High School Awards

Commitment to Study

Tymika Wilson-Fox
Aaron Jacob
Cameron Andrews-Bennier

Return to Study

Kane Sears
Hayden Sayers
Devon Stewart
Kurtis Lowe

Literacy

Elysia Foote
Sophie Ellingham
Leith Capocci
Liam Hilton

Numeracy

Nathan Greene
Sam Thornby

PLP

Jonty Peek
Jakob Elvin
Cody Williams

Integrated Learning

Shakur Lowe

Community Studies

Amber Supple

Attendance

Brandon Weisman

Citizenship

Owen Richards
Dylan South-Faulds

Career Counselling

Reece Benson
Jordan Bowtell

Mission Australia Awards

Compassion

Tamika Shorter
Shani Kitto

Celebration

Cameron Andrews-Bennier
Aaron Jacob
Kurtis Lowe
Sam Thornby

Perseverance

Javier Garcia-White
Caitlin Jessup
Marcus Cody
Alex Gibney
Brianna Horsnell

Integrity

Karla White-Garcia
Tymika Wilson-Fox
Liam Hilton
Teagan Dawes

Respect

Shakur Lowe
Rhys Hammerstein
Kylee Vandalen

FLO 10 Week Bunnings Workshops

On Thursday 4th May, five of our FLO young people attended the first session of a ten-week learning program, which will provide them with the opportunity to complete two small individual building projects or one large individual project and one larger group project. These five young people will be able to get SACE credits as part of an Integrated Learning subject.

In the first session the participants were instructed in the safe use of using a jigsaw, sander, drill and router and worked on making a sealed wooden chopping board to take home. Each young person embraced the activity with great enthusiasm and helped each other by teaching the next person how to use the equipment they had just used.

Teamwork and communication, manual dexterity, measuring and safe operations of power and hand tools were some of the skills they learnt.

FLO 10 Week Bunnings Workshops (Continued)

In the second session they will learn how to patch a hole in a wall and the following sessions will cover paint finishes, garden activities and recycling and repurposing materials.

When asked how they felt about the first session, the typical reply was that they really enjoyed it and 'couldn't wait to go back next week.'

A special mention must go to Mission Australia Case Manager, Dayna Fisher, who has supported the organisation and transport for this brilliant opportunity.

Julianne Bates

FLO Community Studies Teacher



In Week 10 of Term 1 Ms Ring's Stage 1 Child Studies class visited the Willunga Preschool to facilitate fun activities for the little people and connect with the wider community. Students worked in small groups and researched the Intellectual, Social, Physical and Emotional development of preschool children. The groups then devised an age appropriate activity that would help develop at least two of these areas. During our two visits the students had a great time interacting with the children and reflecting on how they could improve their activities each time. After our final visit the students had this to say about their experience:



In our group we did marble painting. Our group enjoyed socialising with the children and seeing the smile on their faces once they finished their marble painting. A few things we could improve on would be our organisation, communicating better with the little people, and having a better set up so it's less messy for the little kids. But we all had such a good time and really enjoyed it.

By Kiara, Ella, Courtney and Mikki

Our original activity that we chose was a colour scavenger hunt. On the Monday it turned out to be quite successful but unfortunately when we returned on Thursday the students weren't as interested in the activity. We then decided to let the kids choose what they wished to do so we played with them in the sandpit.

We enjoyed spending time with children and interacting with their learning and socialising. The next time that we go back to the Preschool, to improve our activity, I think we should try a different type of scavenger hunt that is more interesting for the children.

By Allyshia and Natalie

Our task: We coloured in pictures of animals and wrote the name of the animal and student's names. What we enjoy about going to Preschool: We enjoyed connecting with the children, learning their names and listening to stories they wanted to tell. We also enjoyed watching them improve during colouring and writing, teaching the children how to do things and watching them learn. We loved making some new friends. What we could improve on: We could improve on teaching the students how to properly colour in the lines and to be careful with the textas.

By Sammy, Ella, Marnie and Sophie

Our group's activity was making coloured pasta necklaces. Everyone enjoyed working with the children and helping them learn about patterns, we also enjoyed having the experience of working with children. We could have improved on communicating and understanding the children better. Overall, it turned out great and we are very thankful for the experience.

By Kaitlin, Natalie, Amy, Courtney and Tamara

CHILD STUDIES

Going to the Willunga Preschool was a good experience. For our activity we got the children to colour in, cut out and glue together an Easter basket. The Preschool was fun because the children were always cooperative and happy and it was fun to be able to teach them different things. It was also good to experience working with children as it we think it is a good skill to have. We over estimated how developed the children were because it was a bit of trouble to get them to cut out the basket without ruining it. Maybe next time we could pre-cut the baskets or possibly get an easier shape to cut out.

By Kiara Whellum, Annie Dench and Lani Fowler



Our activity was making flour filled juggling balls with Preschool children using funnels, balloons and measuring cups. We enjoyed connecting with children productively and positively interacting in an active way to brighten their day and feel included. We could have improved the size of the balloons with wider funnels so the balloons could be filled easier and faster.

By Siam Whittaker, Nacacia Meske and Nstarzia Osman



STAGE 1 FORENSICS

Stage 1 Scientific Studies (Forensic Science)

Earlier in the term, the Stage 1 Forensics students were lucky enough to have Sergeant Colin Carger, Supervisor of the South Coast Crime Scene Investigation Unit, come to the school for a presentation. He spoke to the students about all aspects of crime scene investigation and included first hand experiences. Colin detailed a number of cases such as fire scene investigation, assault and suspicious death. The students were clearly engaged as they were reluctant to leave for lunch when the bell rang. Students had an opportunity to ask questions and Colin commented on their depth of knowledge and exemplary behavior.



Raelene Creed

Stage 1 Scientific Studies Teacher

YEAR 9 WORK STUDIES

Start Smart

On April 11th our Year 9 Work Studies class was fortunate enough to be graced by the presence of Leana from the Commonwealth Bank Start Smart Program. The program aims to “explore financial concepts such as understanding the impact of financial choices, getting your first job and managing your mobile phone as well as basic investment principles, savings goals and budgeting”. Our students were engaged by the relevance of the curriculum to their real lives.

Students had to opportunity to learn about interesting topics such as award rates, the role of the fair work commission and how to plan to start saving. The Work Studies class has continued to study these topics in more depth to ensure that they are fully prepared when they enter the workforce.



Mr. Tim Zammit

Work Studies Teacher

NOTICES

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 student services on 85 570 103 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 services 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>

Student Services

Reminder to please update your students Healthcare plan and Medication Authority form. Willunga High School Staff can not administer medications without this.

Please ensure that all medication has your child's name and in it's original container.

Thank you.

Willunga High School presents their Semester One, Arts Showcase 'Empowerment'

The night will feature Dance, Drama and Music performances, complimented by Media and Visual Arts displays in the foyer.

An uplifting and inspiring evening, showcasing the talents of our students.



CALENDAR DATES

Term 2 Week 4

Monday 22 May

Governing Council 7pm

Wednesday 24 May

Yr 11 SAPOL Talk (Part 2)

Friday 26 May

Arts Showcase

Principal's Tour 9:30am - 10:30am

Careers Expo Yr10's

Term 2 Week 5

Monday 29 May

Yr 9 Work Studies Work Placement

Reconciliation Week

MS Assembly

Tuesday 30 May

Yr 9 Work Studies Work Placement

Reconciliation Week

Wednesday 31 May

Immunisations Yr10 (Men B)

Yr 11 Camp

Yr 9 Work Studies Work Placement

Reconciliation Week

Thursday 1 June

Yr 11 Camp

Yr 9 Work Studies Work Placement

Reconciliation Week

Friday 2 June

Drama Night

Yr 11 Camp

Yr 9 Work Studies Work Placement

Reconciliation Week

Term 2 Week 6

Monday 5 June

Yr 9 Outdoor Ed Class

Tuesday 6 June

Yr 9 Outdoor Ed Class

Wednesday 7 June

Immunisations Yr 11 (Men B)

Thursday 8 June

Yr 9 Outdoor Ed Class

Friday 9 June

Yr 9 Outdoor Ed Class

Term 2 Week 7

Monday 12 June

Queen's Birthday

Wednesday 14 June

Immunisations Yr 12 (Men B)

Yr 11 Camp

Thursday 15 June

Yr 11 Camp

Friday 16 June

Senior Dance Excursion

Yr 11 Camp

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



Special thanks to work experience student, Amber Barry - for assisting with the Term 2 Week 4 Newsletter.