

WILLETTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

ISSUE 2

MARCH 2024



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the end of a short yet incredibly eventful first term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the numerous activities and achievements that have taken place within our school thus far in 2024. From interschool sport competitions, where we won the SSWA Division 2 Swimming Carnival, to enriching excursions across our many learning areas, and even venturing beyond our shores with our student trip to France, it's been quite a term.

One significant milestone worth celebrating is the completion of our new building, which is now fully operational. This state-of-the-art facility further enhances our ability to provide the best possible learning environment for our students, equipped with modern amenities to facilitate their educational journey.

In addition to these accomplishments, next week we will be graced with a Dinner Theatre, performed by our talented Year 12 Drama students. The Visit is a theatrical masterpiece that showcases our students' creativity and passion for the arts. It has been truly inspiring to witness their hard work and dedication in the lead up to the production, supported by our amazing VET students within our Hospitality program. This event will be the total theatre experience, our students' performances will captivate audiences whilst providing all in attendance with a social experience to remember.

Furthermore, I'm excited to announce an opportunity for our school community to participate in the upcoming Rotary Student Exchange Program. After a hiatus due to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the resumption of this program marks a pivotal step forward as we strive to return our school to a sense of normalcy. Being a host family for a student not only enriches their experience but also fosters cultural understanding and opportunities for our students for possible future exchanges of their own.

I encourage you to take a moment to read the information provided in this newsletter regarding the Rotary Student Exchange Program. Your expression of interest to participate in this program can be made to our school through our Student Services staff.

As we approach the conclusion of this term, I want to express my gratitude to you, our valued parents and carers, for your ongoing support of our students. Together, we look forward to the continued success and achievements that lie ahead.

Trevor Hunter
Principal

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HEAD BOY & HEAD GIRL

This term has been a fantastic start to our final school year. We kicked off the year with our annual Year 12 Dress Up Day, followed by our Year 12 School Ball the same evening. Our Dress Up Day was filled with many laughs, and whether costumes had been thrown together last minute or worked on meticulously over the school holidays, it was remarkable to see the creativity of all the Year 12 students.

We began our procession through the local community and visited the primary school students at Burrendah Primary and Castlereagh School. It was extremely rewarding to be able to spread joy and brighten people's day through our parade as well as connect with members of our local community.

After the parade, we ditched our costumes for suits and gowns as we prepared for arguably the most exciting event of high school. Students spent the day getting 'glammed' up, catching up with friends and taking plenty of photos before making our way to the Crown Grand Ballroom for an incredible night. In the capable hands of the Crown staff, we had a wonderful night filled with delicious food, dancing and dazzling and we all made excellent use of the photoboos to capture our unforgettable memories. The dance floor was buzzing, complemented by the fantastic music from the DJ.

Our favourite aspect of the evening was being able to spend a wonderful night with all our peers. Everyone looked fabulous and honestly, the reality hit that this *really* is the final year we will all be together. Overall, it was a night that our cohort will remember for the rest of our lives! Thank you to all teachers that assisted in the coordination and supervision of the event.

Additionally, the Year 12 Student Council organised a successful Club Open Day. This event was created to showcase the diverse range of school clubs that are available at Willetton Senior High School. The Club Open Day took place during recess and lunch, with each club setting up stalls to attract students to join based on their interests. The Year 12 Student Council are looking forward to future events including a Food Drive to support those in need across Western Australia, particularly those affected by rising food insecurity.

We hope that all students and staff have had an excellent first term and wish you all the best for the remainder of the school year. Enjoy your Easter School Holidays!

Tyris Brough and Yasmin Cheung





RUBY SEDDON

Congratulations to Ruby Seddon (Year 12) on being nominated by her SBT Training Manager for the 2024 WA Training Awards in the School-Based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year Category! Winner of individual categories received a \$3000 cash prize and go forward to compete at the National Australian Training Awards. Finalists are announced in August.

Keep up the fantastic work Ruby!



Pictured: Elia Chua with other contestants at the Lions Youth of the Year Competition

ELIA CHUA & MICAH KOTTALEWALA

This term, Year 10 students Elia Chua and Micah Kottalewala represented Willetton Senior High School in the 2024 Lions Youth of the Year Program. The program has a rich history of empowering high school students to make meaningful contributions to the community by honing essential skills such as leadership, public service, academics, and beyond.

Over the past five weeks, Elia and Micah have submitted their applications, written and performed five-minute speeches on a topic of their choosing, and participated in a panel discussion on current affairs. This is a significant achievement, as most participants in the Lions Youth of the Year Program are in Year 12.

Both Elia and Micah were awarded certificates for their fantastic efforts, well done!

Congratulations

THE VISIT

by Friedrich Durrenmatt



DATE: Tuesday 26th March, Wednesday 27th March – 6:30pm

Yr12 Drama ATAR and General Dinner Theatre

**3 Course Meal provided by Certificate III Hospitality Students
(included in ticket price)**

Willetton Senior High School Theatre

TICKETS OUT NOW ON trybooking.com

YEAR 12 DINNER THEATRE

Directed, acted and designed by our talented Drama students, The Visit tells the story of the moral dilemmas faced by the town of Gullen when billionaire, Claire Zakanassian, offers them a billion marks to exact justice on her former lover.

The audience will be treated to a delectable three-course meal, served by our Certificate II Hospitality students throughout this tragic comedy.

[Tickets available now](#)

GENERAL REPORTS

K BLOCK OFFICIAL OPENING

On Monday 26 February, Premier Roger Cook and WA Minister of Education Tony Buti visited Willetton Senior High School to officially open our new K Block. The building is an exciting addition to our exemplary facilities and will assist in providing our 2,700 students with premier educational experiences.

In attendance of our official opening ceremony was Principal Trevor Hunter, Riverton MLA Dr Jags Krishnan, Head Boy Tyris Brough and Head Girl Yasmin Cheung, our student councillors as well as local media outlets 7 News, 10 News, 9 News and 6PR.

Our Year 8 students, Jeremiah Darby and Hamish Ellis, gave an Acknowledgment of Country before our Head Boy and Girl assisted in the plaque unveiling.

Premier Roger Cook observed a Health and Physical Education lesson underway in K Block and spoke briefly to students about the new classroom facilities as well as their studies.

The state-of-the-art three-storey K Block features 23 classrooms, functional break-out areas, toilets and change room facilities – a \$15.6 million investment of the Cook Labor Government. The new building is currently utilised for a range of subjects including Health and Physical Education, Mathematics and English.



2024

EXECUTIVE STUDENT COUNCIL

A little over a year ago, Willetton Senior High School formed an Executive Student Council. Consisting of two student councillors from each year group, the Executive Student Council is designed to provide a cohesive space where all year groups can discuss ideas and work collectively. Together, the group has been able to amplify student voice within our school.

Under the guidance of Ms Gauci and Ms Goldsmith, the Executive Student Council meet twice a term to discuss student leadership, school spirit, and other issues that require a level of multi-council cooperation.

Our Executive Student Council members for 2024 are:

Year 12: Tyris Brough, Yasmin Cheung, Jacinta Ellis, Matthew Langford & Sowmya Sri Nallan

Year 11: Ashleigh Blackwood, Alicia Blizard & Sebastian Puchalski

Year 10: Joanne Chong & Adam Jaid

Year 9: Daisy Gaunt & Alexandros Tsitiridis

Year 8: Laura Chapman & Angelena Piratheepan



Some of the Executive Student Councillors have written about their experiences on the council.

I was very interested to become a part of the Executive Student Council as I feel it provides an opportunity to both advance my leadership skills and promote student voice within our school. Throughout my time on the Council, I feel I have been able to inform the school on issues that are affecting the student body at large, as well as learning about the experiences of other year cohorts and what issues they are tackling. It has been a great experience learning alongside other councillors and having the opportunity to make decisions and recommendations as a group that represents the school. Moving forward, I hope to continue to provide valuable ideas to the Student Executive Council.

Matthew Langford
Year 12 Councillor

2024 marks my second year as a member of the Executive Student Council. I have been a Student Councillor since starting at Willetton Senior High School and have volunteered at various extracurricular events, including those hosted by the Department of Communities. I feel proud to be a student on the Executive Student Council as I feel the discussions that are had are valuable and are ultimately beneficial for the entire Willetton community. The Council represents a diverse range of opinions and being a part of such a group has made me better understand how different people think, work and put ideas into action. I hope to continue contributing fresh ideas that positively impact the school and maintain the core values and spirit of Willetton SHS.

Joanne Chong
Year 10 Councillor

Being a member of the Executive Student Council feels like standing on the brink of so many amazing possibilities for the future of Willetton SHS. As a collective, we have made it our goal to leap over that threshold together and make positive change this school year. It may be a significant leap that impacts the entire school, or it might be a small contribution as part of something bigger – we will have to wait and see! This year is already bursting with potential, and I am excited to see what we will achieve.

Daisy Gaunt
Year 9 Councillor

GENERAL REPORTS

INTERACT CLUB

I'm Angelina Thompkinson, Interact Club's President for 2024. I have been involved with the Club since Year 7 and have grown to love serving the community.

For those who are not aware, Interact is the high school wing of Rotary Club, Willetton. We give back to the community and help those in need by raising funds and supporting numerous charities. Throughout the years, we have supported local, national and international charities including the Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders, FoodBank, and Fred Hollows Foundation.

Behind the scenes of Interact Club are our Executives and Facilitators, who contribute significantly to making the club a success. I am pleased to announce the members of our Executive Team for 2024.

PRESIDENT	Angelica Thompkinson
VICE PRESIDENT	Srinivasa Nallan & Samaira Madgeri
SECRETARIES	Tanmayee Sreehar Gaekwad, Olivia Lee & Srinivasa Nallan
PUBLICITY	Aarya Kadu, Jackson Welch, Olivia Lee & Anika Arulsingham
HORIZON'S COORDINATORS	Anika Arulsingham & Samaira Madgeri
ADVISOR	Sowmya Sri Nallan

Congratulations to the team for this year!

Annually, the Rotary Club acknowledges the achievements of those holding Office Bearer positions in Interact Club as well as the Head Boy and Head Girl. This ceremony was held on Monday 11 March, where certificates were awarded to those in their respective positions.



1st Row: President Simon Cubitt

2nd Row: Yasmin Cheung, Sowmya Sri Nallan, Tanmayee Sreedhar Garkwad, Angelina Thompkinson, Srinivasa Nalan, Jackson Welch & Tyris Brough

3rd Row: Anika Arulsingham, Olivia Lee, Samaira Madgeri & Aarya Kadu

To kickstart the year, Interact Club selected a charity to support for the semester; Clean Up Australia. Clean Up Australia aims to eliminate the buildup of litter in our environment and prevent further pollution. They give tips on how to act more sustainably and provide equipment for groups to host their own clean-up days.

Recently, we promoted the Interact Club at school by setting up stalls during recess and lunch. Students were encouraged to write positive messages on sticky notes which was effective in increasing awareness of the club.

We thank both staff and the community for their continuous support. I hope we can work together to make this another successful year at Interact Club!

If you are interested in joining the club or want to know more, feel free to come to attend one of our meetings. We meet every Wednesday Recess in E02 and look forward to seeing you there!

Angelina Thompkinson
President of Interact Club 2024



GENERAL REPORTS

29th NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (NSCC)

Between Tuesday 19 March and Thursday 21 March 2024 Matthew Rollin from Willetton Senior High School was among 95 Year 11 and 12 students from around Australia to attend the 29th National Schools Constitutional Convention (NSCC). The function was held at the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House, Canberra.

The topic for the 2024 Convention is 'Section 96 of the Constitution allows the Commonwealth to grant funds to areas that fall outside those prescribed in Section 51. Should Section 96 be amended to decentralise the power of the Commonwealth?'. A range of stimulus speakers discussed the issues with students which was then debated with all delegates. Outcomes from the Convention will be incorporated into a Communiqué that will be forwarded to the President of the Senate, Senator Sue Lines, for tabling in Parliament and recorded in Hansard.

As a national delegate, Matthew travelled with 14 other students from their state or territory.

Other elements of the program included the Prime Minister's Reception at Parliament House, a meeting with the Governor-General, The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) at Government House, and an official dinner at the National Press Club.



"Between Monday – Thursday of last week, I visited Canberra after being selected to attend the National Schools Constitutional Convention. I maximised my experience by listening to many inspiring people, including university professors, the Governor General, the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and our own Member of Parliament, Sam Lim. I was most excited to debate the Constitutional Convention, expand my knowledge of Australian politics and meet other students who share a common interest in Politics and Law."

Matthew Rollin
Year 12

ePLATFORM FOR STUDENTS & STAFF AT WSHS

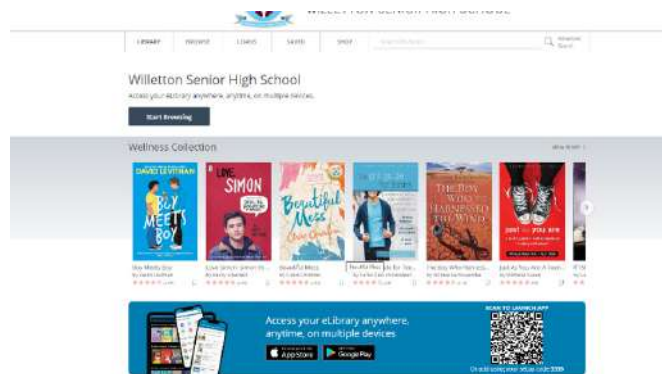
WSHS is committed to providing students with unique learning opportunities, which is why we subscribe to ePlatform, a digital library for students that provides free access to eBooks and audiobooks, 24/7.

This is a wonderful extension of our physical school library and allows two titles to be checked out at home, over the weekend or during school breaks without worrying about losing items. The item is automatically returned at the end of the loan period. Students of all ages can benefit from ePlatforms' reading and comprehension tools.

A service like this can benefit struggling or reluctant readers, learning-challenged students, second-language learners as well as gifted readers alike.

- Unique reader customisation with Setting wizard, across all devices
- Introduce students to books above their reading level
- Help busy students find time to read
- Professional curated collection with age restriction set by school staff
- Increase vocabulary and improve pronunciation and comprehension
- User friendly for all types of readers and listeners (e.g. reluctant, dyslexic)

In addition to these features, the ePlatform's Wellness Collection is an excellent resource hub in promoting the overall mental health and well-being of students and staff.



Ensure your reader/device has the ePlatform app which can be downloaded for free from the Apple Store or Google Play Store. Students have their own unique login to access the platform.

Year 7 students will have the resource demonstrated to them and taught to login during the last two weeks of Term 1. Any students from other year groups that have forgotten their login or new students that would like to have access to ePlatform, please contact the Library.

HELP AVAILABLE

In our current challenging times with rising costs, our Willetton school community is aware and listening. Families can contact Ruth Barratt at ruth.barratt@education.wa.edu.au or students may visit 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.

ACADEMIC EXTENSION



We are pleased to announce our AEP Leaders for 2024.

We have selected 15 leaders from Year 8 to 11, to assist in the running and planning of events for our Academic Extension students. Thank you to those students who applied for the position and congratulations to our selected leaders.

AEP Leaders (left to right):

Tiffany Lin, Misha Mathanan, Nur Aliyah Mohammed Taufiq, Lorraine Dias, Anika Arulsingham, Reeva Suresh Kumar, Nanziba Anjum, May Wong, Arnav Bansal & Aaryan Shastri.

Absent: Alexis Cameron, Arwa Hammah, Areeb Islan, Niki Chen & Chloe Pang

AEP LEADERS

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

On Thursday 7 March, AEP parents were invited to an information session regarding the Academic Extension Program here at Willetton Senior High School. Parents were informed of the opportunities available to extension students, including Tutor Squad, AEP Rewards, Study Skills sessions, social events, excursions and leadership roles. Dr Jane Genovese of Learning Fundamentals later presented on study hacks parents can utilise to assist their children. Feedback from the session was exceptionally positive, with attending parents highly endorsing future events to others.

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



TUTOR SQUAD

Tutor Squad is back in 2024! On Wednesday afternoons, Academic Extension students in Year 8 to 10 can receive assistance from a senior student in Year 10 to 12. Students can receive help with their homework or study in any subject. Students also receive a snack after school and listen to a short presentation from a staff member, before beginning tutoring in the Library. We have had outstanding attendance for the first three sessions, with over 50 tutors and tutees, although we still have more tutors ready to help! If students would like to register as a tutor or to be tutored, they must complete the Form on their year group Connect, then they can attend the following Wednesday. If you have any questions, please get in touch.

Ashleigh Coloquhoun
Academic Extension Leader

YEAR 8 & 9 STUDY SKILLS SESSION

On Monday, the Year 8 and 9 Academic Extension Program students assembled in the Lecture Theatre to listen to Dr Jane Genovese talk about various study hacks they could utilise to ace the school year. The session began with a game of head and tails, where all students competed for the chance to win a study guide, valued at over \$20. It was a high stakes battle with Joyce Dong crowned the winner of the prize. Dr Genovese delivered her presentation on the topic of "motivation follows action". She discussed the idea that instead of waiting to feel motivated to begin an activity, it is more effective to begin the activity and wait for motivation to kick in! Dr Genovese recommended several study hacks including dual coding which involves using pictures to learn as our brains typically learn better visually. Students were also taught how to create study habits and use strategies such as active recall.

Areeb Islam
Year 8 AEP student & AEP Leader



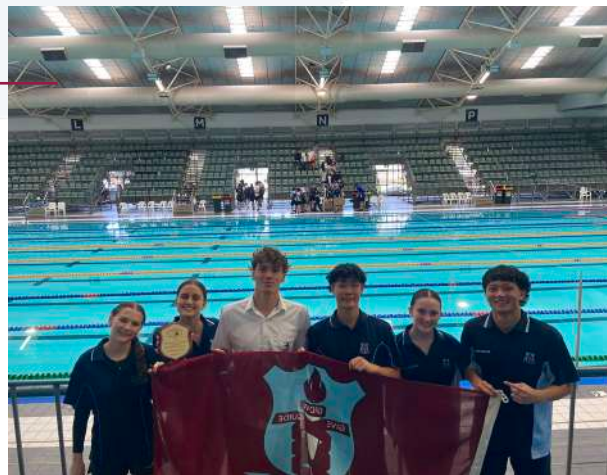
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

SSWA DIV 2 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

In a spectacular showcase of talent and determination, the SSWA swimming team triumphed at the Div 2 Swimming Carnival, capturing victory with an impressive display of skill and commitment. With each stroke, the students demonstrated their unwavering dedication, leaving nothing on the table as they propelled themselves to success. It was a day of celebration for the team and a testament to their hard work and perseverance.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

- Year 7 Girls Champion** – Aiyka Field Maltais
- Year 7 Boys Runner up** – Mykhailo Gorodetskyi
- Year 9 Girls Champion** – Mia Dunbar
- Year 10 Boys Runner up** – Eric Iizuka Marinovic
- Year 11 Girls Runner up** – Daisy Kammermann
- Year 12 Boys Runner up** – Brandon Ho





SWIMMING CARNIVAL

In Week 5 of Term One, Year 7, 8, and 9 students took part in their annual year group swimming carnival. Each student had a great time displaying their swimming abilities in different styles, both individually and in relay races.

A big thank you to all the staff and students who contributed to the success of each swimming carnival.

Year 7 and 8 Swimming Carnival's record house points for their cohorts.

The results are:

Year 7	RUBY	307	Year 8	RUBY	585
	DIAMOND	194		DIAMOND	532
	SAPPHIRE	150		SAPPHIRE	414
	EMERALD	142		EMERALD	209



THE ARTS

2024 DANCE CAMP

On Sunday 18 March Willetton SHS hosted the 2024 Dance Camp. Students from Rossmoyne SHS and Willetton SHS came together to explore a range of dance styles and learn the 2024 Set Solo that is performed in senior school exams. Thank you to; Courtney Hahipene from In-School Yoga, Rossmoyne Alumni Rhea Sha for her Bollywood workshop, local contemporary dancer/choreographer Dior Maddelena for working with the students on the Set Solo, Professional dancer and choreographer Kristopher Long and the amazing Una Genuino from The Society who rounded out the day with a Hiphop workshop.

EXCURSIONS

As part of the 2024 Perth Festival program, the Willetton Dance and Drama students had the opportunity to see UK based Akram Kham Company in their production of Jungle Book Reimagined. Students were amazed by the heartfelt reinterpretation and the stunning visual effects created through projection, puppetry and sound. Our senior school students attended Wayfinder by DanceNorth complimented by a talk with Artistic Directors Kyle Page and Amber Haines. The intense physicality and playful power pop design concepts expanded and challenged the students' ideas of contemporary dance.



HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

YEAR 7 HASS STUDENTS EXPLORE LIVEABILITY OF WILLETTON

In Mr. Mabey's HASS classes, Year 7 students went on an excursion to Agincourt Park and the surrounding area of Willetton. The aim of the trip was to recognise the elements in Willetton's urban environment that enhance the liveability of the area and to explore ways to enhance their local community.

As they ventured further into the surrounding area of Willetton, students were tasked with identifying different community facilities such as playgrounds, sports fields, and local businesses that added value to the neighborhood. They were excited to discover how these spaces brought people together, to foster a sense of belonging and connection among residents.

YEAR 10 ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION WORKSHOP

Our Year 10 Entrepreneurship and Innovation students attended a workshop featuring esteemed Willetton SHS Alumni member, Jeremy Chetty. Jeremy is the founder and CEO of Student Edge – a student advocacy website that provides students with valuable information relating to career pathways, budgeting, employability skills and more. Jeremy shared his entrepreneurship secrets, successes and failures during his engaging workshop, before a Q&A session to share his experiences and knowledge.

Juan Poyatos
HaSS Teacher





LANGUAGES

2024 LANGUAGE CLUBS

On Club Promotion Day, we had the opportunity to meet many students, giving them a brief glimpse into our language clubs. Currently, there is still availability in both the Italian and French clubs to welcome new students. Come join us!

Club Venn for supporting Y8 and Y10 Japanese learning, run by current Y11 and Y12 Japanese students. It is held in LANG7 every Tuesday and Friday from 2:45 to 3:45PM.

Japanese after-school support class for supporting Y7 Japanese learning, run by Japanese assistants Suzu Ushinohama and Rimi Kubo. It is held in LANG7 every Wednesday from 2:45 to 3:45PM.

Club Vespa

This club's purpose is for our students to experience Italian activities with native speaker, run by Italian assistant Sara Massaron. It is held in LANG5 every Wednesday from 2:45 to 3:45PM.

Club Velo

This club's purpose is for our students to experience French activities with native speaker, run by French assistant Othilie Michaud. It is held in LANG9 every Wednesday from 2:45 to 3:45PM.

CLUB VENN

I've made a lot of friends going to Club Venn. Being part of a club is the most enjoyable way to learn Japanese (in my humble opinion). If you are having difficulties, there are many people who can help you!

Calvin Dixan
Year 10

Club Venn has been a very educational, helpful and engaging club. I would recommend Club Venn for anyone taking Japanese regardless of your skill level as we have the opportunity to learn further than the class curriculum. Learning from senior school students who have experienced all the opportunities and challenges we experience has been very beneficial.

Lakshmi Venkatesan
Year 10

Club Venn has been an amazing adventure that has combined my love of learning languages and my appreciation of Japanese culture. The club's welcoming atmosphere has created a space where everyone feels encouraged to learn and succeed.

Sanjay Suresh
Year 10

CLUB VELO

Club Velo, our French club, is a place filled with fun and excitement. Each week, we play games and watch French-inspired films, and on the 1st Wednesday of each month, we eat delicious French food!

Being a member of the French club, I get to meet new friends who share an interest in French culture. We have a bit of friendly competition when playing games and learn many different words and phrases when we watch French films. I find the activities very enjoyable, however my favourite thing about French club is getting to eat delightful French foods such as crepes, croissants, baguettes and more!

Aiyka Field-Maltais
Year 7

CLUB VESPA

Club Vespa is a space where we get to play games while improving our Italian speaking skills. At Club Vespa, we get to try lots of Italian food. Our favourite is Nutella – an Italian staple! We have lots of fun while learning, if this sounds like something you'd be interested in, you can join too!

Benjamin Walker, Edward Li and Andrew Liddle
Year 7

JAPANESE COOKING

In our final week of Term 4 2023, our Year 10 Japanese class participated in an Okonomiyaki (savoury pancake) party, where each student created and served their Okonomiyaki. Ingredients consisted of a batter, spring onions, strips of pork and various toppings such as Okonomiyaki sauce and bonito flakes. Our class enjoyed this delicious treat of Japanese cuisine and culture! As a class, we would like to collectively thank our teachers, particularly Harrison Sensei for organising this cooking session as a wonderful goodbye to Japanese for the 2023 year.

Sivendra Anbananthan
Year 11



Club Venn



Club Velo



Club Vespa

MATHS

YEAR 12 BIVARIATE DATA

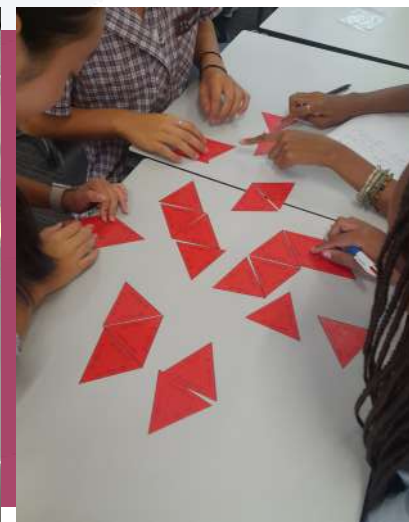
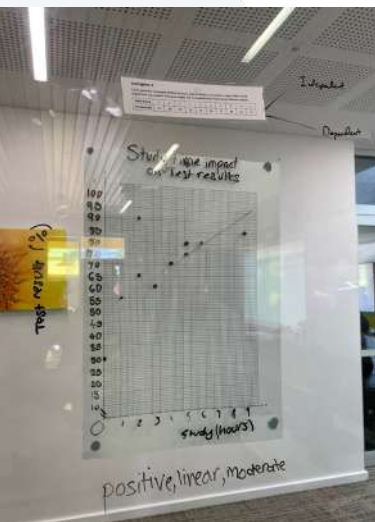
The Year 12 Essentials cohort began the year learning about Bivariate Data. Students were given five different scenarios, where they had to construct different aspects of their Bivariate Graphs before rotating around the room and contributing to another graph. The students worked exceptionally well, applying their understanding of scatterplots, dependent and independent variables, lines of best fit and discussing causation and association. The students also thoroughly enjoyed working on the windows.

Ashleigh Colquhoun
Mathematics Teacher

YEAR 10 TRINOMIAL FACTORISATION

The Year 10 students put their Trinomial Factorisation skills into practice by completing a Tarsia puzzle. In this hands-on activity, students joined puzzle pieces together to match trinomial expressions, enhancing their problem-solving skills while fostering teamwork. The students were fully engaged and enjoyed the collaborative setting. The activity allowed the students to showcase their trinomial factorisation skills in a fun and interactive way.

Peter Lee
Mathematics Teacher



SCIENCE

A SCIENCE CLUB INVESTIGATION WITH DR HARRIS

Today, our exploration focused on how bees acquire an electrical charge in the air through a model experiment. We created a detector using a balloon with aluminium foil strips. Despite our attempts to charge it through hair rubbing, we did not generate enough charge to light up a neon globe.

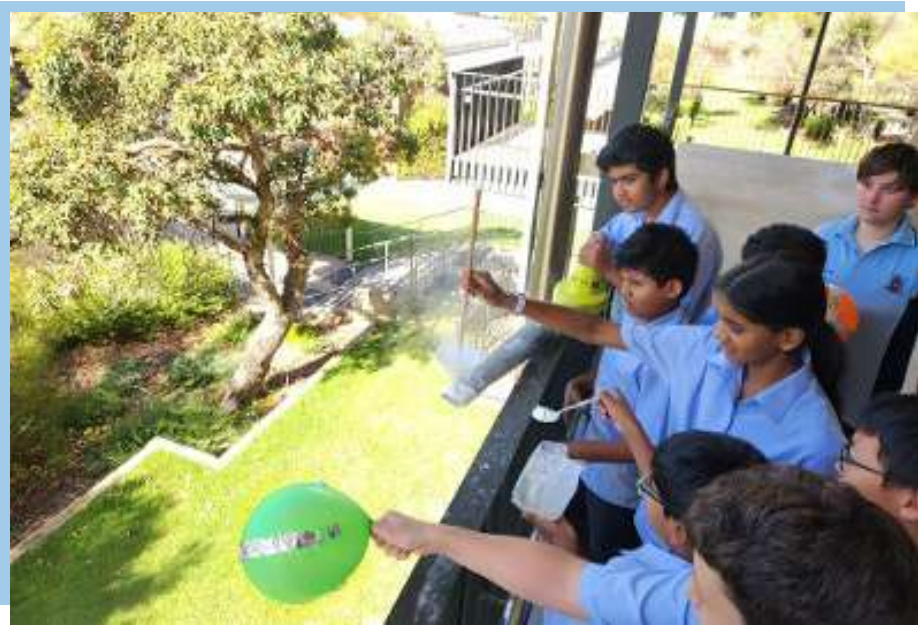
After revisiting our approach, we conducted a control experiment. By using a portable Van Der Graaf generator to charge the balloon/foil, we demonstrated that the balloon could retain adequate charge to illuminate the neon bulb.

Next, we positioned our detector in front of a unique particle accelerator constructed by Dr Harris. This contraption, a modified leaf blower blowing insulating cornflower onto the balloon, was designed to strip electrons off the balloon and generate high-voltage electrons. By bringing the neon bulbs close to the balloon, we confirmed that this process indeed occurred, resulting in bright flashes.

Through this activity, the students gained valuable insights into the scientific method. They formulated and tested a hypothesis, and when initial attempts failed, they conducted a control experiment that reaffirmed their direction. The subsequent main experiment illustrated how dusty air could electrically charge an object, just like a bee or a balloon.

An interesting question remains: the students observed that the flour actually stuck to the balloon after running the blower. Did the cornflower charge itself from the air stream or by rubbing against the balloon? How much dust is necessary for air currents to electrically charge a balloon, and can moving air alone achieve this effect?

Science is all about asking questions, conducting fair tests and evaluating results with respect to real world observations. New information often demands that we refine or extend our questions which leads to more testing and evaluation. This iterative process is central to science and, therefore, it must be modelled in school.



TECHNOLOGIES

UPPER SCHOOL HOSPITALITY

Home Economics, Food Science ATAR, General, and Hospitality Cert II students in Year 11 and 12 have dived into their course content and skill development.

Meanwhile, students in Year 7 - 10 have had a fantastic start to 2024 in their classes. They have been focusing on hygiene, safety, and honing their food preparation skills in the kitchen.

YEAR 7 FOOD AWARENESS

In Year 7 Food Awareness, students have been exploring kitchen equipment to create various food items like healthy fruit salads and tasty banana splits. Their progress has been impressive, and they look fantastic in their aprons and hats!

YEAR 7 TEXTILES

In Year 7 Textiles, students are learning to sew seams using a sewing machine and are experimenting with the effects of dyes on fabrics for their upcoming individual projects.





STUDENT SERVICES

At Willetton Senior High School, we believe in the importance of acknowledging positive behaviour and celebrating the achievements of students. This practice has proven to encourage the school community to strive to achieve their personal best.

The following students have been recognised at their year assemblies since the beginning of the year.

YEAR 7

Saanvi Embari
Rhett Stone
Aikya Field-Maltias
Akosua Badu-Kaachire
Alice Gascoigne
Cassidy Smith
Hamza Elysayed
Sophie Bennetts

YEAR 8

Connie Zhou
Lucas Lau
Aliha Qaisar
Nicole Tawananyasha
Alissa Seah
Nessa Risen
Nicole Ziwewe

YEAR 9

Guomu Tian
Everett Pavic
Ravleen Kaur
William Leggett
Erwin Rodrigues

YEAR 10

Eunchong Park
Jai Nolan
Alexis Cameron

YEAR 11

Sohar Joby
Anais Adnams

YEAR 12

Oliver Merks
Kaylee Monaco
Yi Yong
Joshain Ayson
Nicholas Budijanto
Eric Wang
Sophia Ody
Asa Mukelabai
Eva Asare-Philips
Mahsa Tawosli

YEAR 9

This week, our Year 9 students participated in a special presentation called MARKED. The presentation used different colours to symbolise positive and negative emotions, prompting students to contemplate the impact of their interactions on others when expressing their best and worst emotions. Additionally, students received strategies for responding constructively to negativity, whether from themselves or others, and were urged to reflect on their character strengths to foster positive impacts. Parents are encouraged to engage their children in discussions about the presentation and its concepts, encouraging further reflection, sharing of insights, and continued efforts to make positive impressions on others.

Our Year 9 cohort have had an excellent start to the year and adjusted well to the demands of Year 9, demonstrating a high level of maturity. Our most recent addition to our school clubs is eSports Club – currently being trialled amongst our Year 9 students, thanks to Mr Spicer. We experienced our most exciting assembly to date as students versed Year Coordinator, Mr Coe, in a game of Mario Kart. For the record, Mr Coe was crowned champion. This led to an enthusiastic response from our Year 9 cohort and approximately 100 students signed up for the eSports Club within half an hour of its announcement! The hardware is now completed and ready to be utilised, so we anticipate ending the school term with a flurry of eSports activity.

Thomas Coe
Year 9 Coordinator





YEAR 10

YEAR 10 TRANSITION DAYS

At Willetton SHS, we recognise the difficulties that come with transitioning between lower school to senior school. Students not only face increased workloads but also the pressure of choosing courses that will shape their future career path after high school. To alleviate some of the stresses associated with course selection, we organised a Transition Day for our Year 10 students. This event offered course selection guidance along with engaging activities such as cultural experiences, a career expo, yoga sessions, workshops and more.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of Week 6, the Year 10 students had our Transition Days' where they were given information about Year 11 and 12.

During these two days, we participated in a range of activities. These included Tomorrow Woman and Tomorrow Man to get us to speak freely about our feelings and break gender norms, a yoga session to relax our mind and body, a fun cultural activity and some study hacks on how to successfully manage schoolwork. We also gained information on the courses that are available once we complete high school as well as their prerequisites, VET training courses, and alternate pathways we can take. We even had some university representatives deliver a Career Expo and were presented with eye-opening information to help us familiarise ourselves with what our last two years will be like!

Thank you to all those involved in our Transition Days.

Angela Dong
Year 10 Councillor





YEAR 12

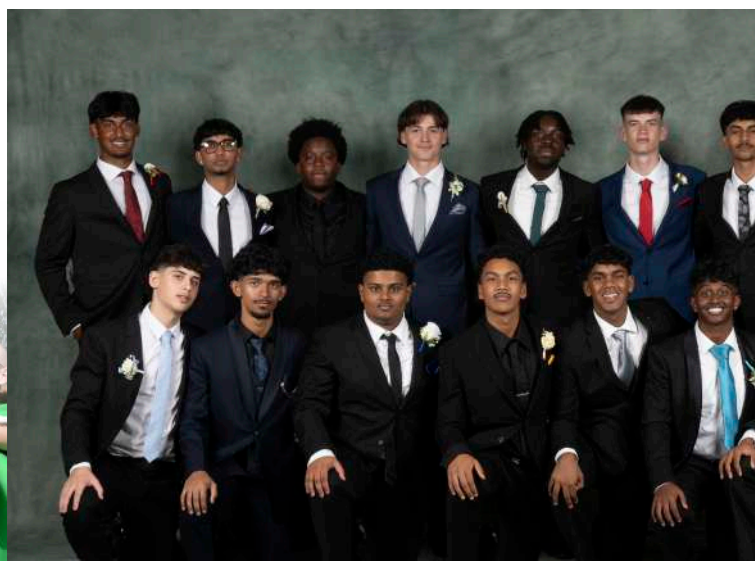
YEAR 12 SCHOOL BALL

The Year 12 School Ball was held on Friday 23 February at the Crown Grand Ballroom and was a huge success. All students who attended had a fantastic night of eating, socialising, and dancing in one of the most luxurious venues in Perth. I would like to extend an enormous thank you to all the staff who attended the event, both in a supervisory capacity and as guests to enjoy the company of our Year 12 students.

Students began their day by participating in the Annual Year 12 Dress Up morning. We all assembled in the main quad before commencing our parade along Pinetree Gully Road and through both Castlereagh School and Burrendah Primary School. The junior students were so excited and the looks on their faces were priceless. Our Year 12 students went to a lot of effort this year and their costumes were amazing! I would like to thank all of them for getting into the spirit of the day as well as their effort and creativity.

Now that the Ball has come and gone, we are concentrating on studies. Many students have completed their first few assessments for the year and are focused on achieving their best in their chosen courses. It can be a stressful time and it is important for students to have a good balance between study and home life. I wish everyone all the best and encourage students to reach out for assistance if needed.

Sandra Frew
Year 12 Coordinator





SCHOOL BOARD

2024 SCHOOL BOARD

Thank you to the parents and staff who nominated to be representatives on the School Board. It is with pleasure that we announce the 2024 Willetton Senior High School Board.

We thank our retiring Board members Mr Wayne Nurse and Mr Deepak Sharma (Parent Representatives) and Mr Jordan Newton (Staff Representative) for their time and valued contribution to the School Board. We wish each of them all the very best as they move on to new chapters in their lives.

We welcome our new Board members Mr Tucker Christou, Dr Yu Don and Mr George Thornton (Parent Representatives) and Mr Brad Curran (Staff Representative) who join the Board for a two-year term. We look forward to their contribution to the Board.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN

Members of the local community may be appointed by the School Board in June each year, as a Community Representative. This is a voluntary role and terms of appointment are for 12 months. Expressions of interest from the local community are now open and should be forwarded to willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au by 12 noon on 15 April 2024.

PRINCIPAL

Trevor Hunter

STAFF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr Brad Curran
Ms Louise Eksteen
Mr Erik Pretorius – Secretary

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

Ms Rasha Abdelmonem
Mr Tucker Christou
Dr Yu Dong
Mr David Harwood
Mr Chris Phillips – Chair
Mr George Thornton

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Mr Michael Lee
Mr Divakar Subramaniam – Treasurer
Mr Andrew Tan
Mr Arun Thavasi

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Ms Sacha Bradley, Associate Principal
Ms Karina Surmon, Manager Corporate Services
Mr Andrew Tan
Mrs Kathryn Young, Board Executive Officer

ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP FUNDRAISER

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! For enquiries, please contact Kathryn Young on kathryn.young@education.wa.edu.au or 9334 7236.

Right now you can bag a FREE Membership upgrade saving you up to \$110 when you purchase a Membership in support of our cause! For a limited time, receive a FREE upgrade to Multi City when you purchase a Single City Membership to The Entertainment App.

Experience unbeatable value across Australia and New Zealand with this epic offer! A Multi City Membership gives you thousands of exclusive offers in 20 cities and right now you can unlock access for as little as \$69.99. Want to know the best part? Your purchase directly supports us as 20% of the proceeds will be donated directly to our cause to help us reach our fundraising goal.

We're fundraising with


Get a **FREE MEMBERSHIP UPGRADE** and enjoy unbeatable value across 20 cities and regions.

Membership Type	12 Months	24 Months
BUY SINGLE CITY MEMBERSHIP	\$69.99	\$119.99
GET UPGRADED TO MULTI CITY	\$119.99	\$229.99

SAVE UP TO \$110*

WE GET A 20% DONATION



Support us now

*TMS's offer

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 is free to sign up, and it's an easy way for you to support the school. To date, over \$3000 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

Gilbert's Fresh Market
www.gilbertsfresh.com.au

SCHOOL BOARD

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP

Trading Hours During School Term	Location
Wednesday 9:15 - 11:15AM For enquiries T: 9334 7236	Performing Arts Centre

HOW TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

To find out more about the School Board or how you might get involved, please contact the School Board office on email
willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au

CANTEEN STAFF & VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The school canteen is currently looking to fill a paid position and recruit volunteers to continue to provide recess and lunch for our students and staff.

Paid Position (1): 2 days per week between 10AM - 2PM

Volunteer Positions: Flexible to your availability

For more information, please contact Christine on 0420 944 719.

Please forward your resumé to:
ckurbankafe@gmail.com



JOIN OUR HOST FAMILY!

Willetton families have been educating today's youth by exchanging students overseas through the Rotary Youth Exchange programme for more than 20 years and we would like to invite you to join our growing family of host parents. The benefits are immeasurable and often build life-long, worldwide friendships.

We are urgently looking for families who can welcome an overseas student into their home for three months while they attend Willetton Senior High School.

Mentoring support is available.



Starting in late July this year, we need host families between: July to October 2024, November to January 2025, May to July 2024.

For more information, Visit the Rotary Youth Exchange website at: ryea.org.au or call Kieran English on 0418 427 046

