



WILLETTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

ISSUE 4

JUNE 2024

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As Term 2 is drawing to a close, I want to acknowledge that this has been a very busy time in the life of our school. There have been several exciting events and initiatives that have brought us together as a community.

Our senior students in Years 10, 11, and 12 completed their examinations this term. This was a critical period for them, and I commend their hard work and dedication. We wish them all continuing success as they await their results and prepare for the coming semester.

Before the end of the term, families will receive student reports. These reports provide valuable insights into your child's progress and achievements over the semester. I encourage you to review these reports and discuss them with your child to celebrate their successes and identify areas for further growth.

As we approach the final days of the term, we are looking forward to observing NAIDOC Week. This significant event allows us to honour and recognise the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Our activities and programs during this week will provide valuable learning experiences for our students and foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of Australia's First Nations people.

Success this term has also included the school senior school girls and boys basketball teams being crowned as the winners of the Senior School Championships for another year. The boys won a hard-fought battle against Kingsway Christian to win by 8 points while the girls dominated Woodvale to win by 28 points.

These victories continue the outstanding tradition of success for our specialist basketball program, and I congratulate all the students and staff involved.

Looking ahead, we are scheduled to launch the new Compass administration system in mid-August. This platform will enhance communication and many of our administrative processes. Families will receive more detailed information about this system closer to the launch date and we are confident it will provide a more efficient and user-friendly experience for everyone.

Finally, as Term 2 concludes, I wish everyone a safe and happy term break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back for Term 3.

Trevor Hunter

Principal





HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

Term 2 has been very eventful. Year 12 and 11 students concluded their Semester 1 Exams and ESTs while the Year 10s have finished their first set of exams. Congratulations to everyone for making it through exam season! Remember to keep working hard to the best of your abilities. The holidays aren't far away!

Our biannual councillor forum will be held in Week 10 of Term 2, run by the Year 12 student councillors. We are looking forward to sharing what the executive council has been working on, as well as guiding each council to establish their short-term and long-term goals and playing some fun council-bonding games! Furthermore, we will be presenting about antidiscrimination strategies.

As student leaders, we hope to provide specific insight to help all student councillors achieve as much as possible and provide guidance on ways to communicate effectively with their peers and teachers, plan long-term projects to improve the school as a whole.

Finally, we want to encourage everyone to *GET INVOLVED*. There are so many exciting events coming up and we hope you can enjoy the little things in life, especially as we're realising how soon our high school journey is ending. We don't want anyone to leave with any regrets!

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GENERAL

CREATIVE RESPONSES FROM WILLO'S SHADOW JUDGES

As part of the Shadow Judging project, it is a requirement that a creative response to one or all the Older Reader shortlist titles be submitted to the Children Book Council of Australia. Collectively the Year 9's Shadow Judging group decided to prepare a *Museum or artefacts* style display for the Library and each selected a title or two to respond to.

The display has been photographed and a walk-through demonstration video has been composed. This will soon be submitted from Willetton SHS. Mrs Coten and Mx Fenn were extremely impressed by the work submitted by the group and the pieces of artefacts connected to each story. Included are a couple of the creative responses.

Shortly, the group will meet to discuss the six titles they were required to read and vote for the winner from Willetton SHS. This agreed winner will be submitted to the national group. In August, the official announcement of Book of the Year will be made – and then the Shadow Judges Award will be announced.

HELP AVAILABLE

In our current challenging times with rising costs, our Willetton school community is aware and listening.

Families are able to make contact with Ruth Barratt 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.

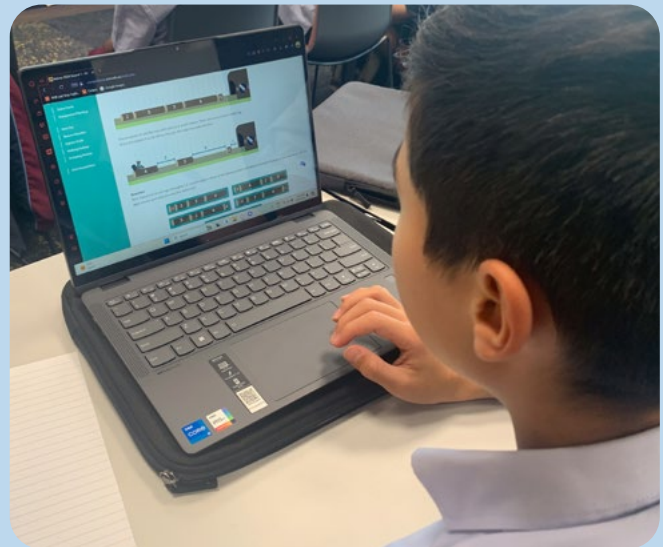
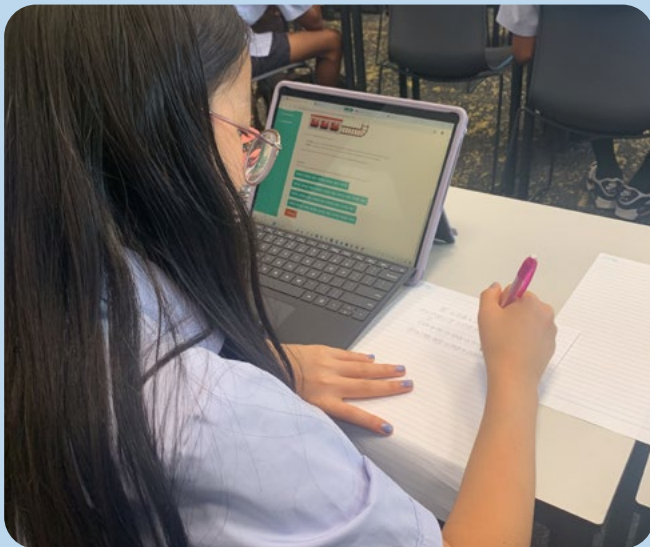


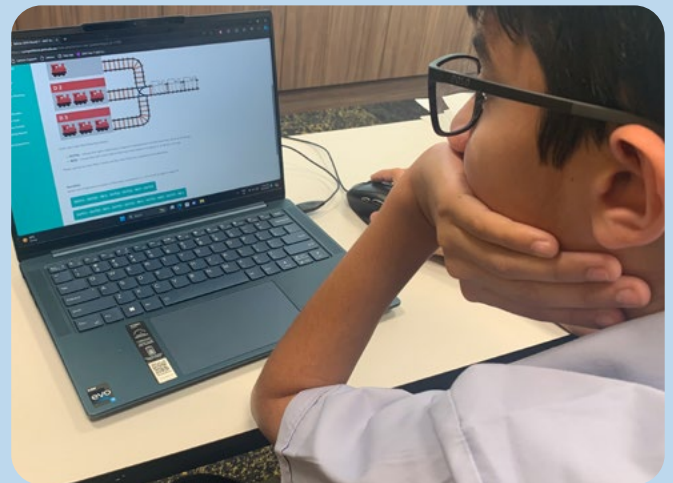
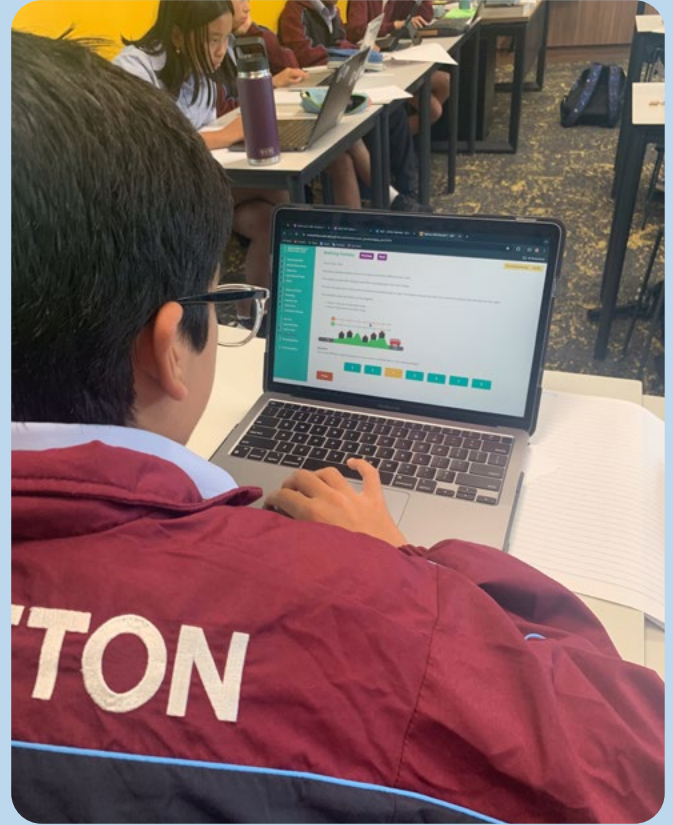
GIFTED & TALENTED

BEBRAS CHALLENGE

The Gifted and Talented Maths classes all participated in the Bebras Challenge. This is a new competition to the Willetton competition program and is based on Computational Thinking skills. It is an international challenge that involves over 2.9 million students from 60 countries.

Some of our classes competed in groups and other individually. The Year 7s all competed individually with one student receiving a perfect score! Well done to Tim Overkov.





ACADEMIC EXTENSION

YEAR 8 AND 9 AEP MOVIE NIGHT

On Monday 10 June, 97 Academic Extension students from Year 8 and 9 attended a movie night in the Lecture Theatre to celebrate the end of Semester 1. They watched *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse*, enjoyed eating movie snacks and spending time with their AEP peers. Three students won door prizes, including a \$30 Hoyts voucher and two canteen vouchers. The AEP students and leaders would also like to extend a thank you to Mr Hong and Ms Gallinaro for helping to supervise the evening.

Ashleigh Colquhoun

Academic Extension Program Leader



FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING AUSTRALIA

This year, twelve Year 9 Academic Extension students are competing in teams of four in the Future Problem-Solving Australia competition. These students have shown a keen interest in problem solving and were nominated to participate. This term, they have been working on a Future Global Problem, on the topic of Urbanisation. These students have shown incredible commitment and determination, giving up their recess and time after school to complete the six-stage process.

Future Problem Solving is a challenging yet exciting experience. In groups of 4, we will have 3 future scenes to analyse over the remaining year. The first future scene we have been given is in regard to Urbanisation. Our task is to analyse the scene by finding problems, solutions, and an action plan to solve one of the solutions. Throughout the few weeks, we have developed our communication, innovative/creative thinking, writing and collaboration skills. As the submission deadline draws closer, we have learnt to better manage our time with school homework/tests and Future Problem Solving.

Nethuli Sirikumara and Jhanani Rajasekaran

Year 9 AEP Students



THE ARTS

DANCE CLUB

Rehearsals are well underway for our energetic and enthusiastic Dance Club members for the Youth of Health Festival held in late August.

Congratulations to our two Dance Club captains, Kadyne Newman and Nuri Jung, who are planning and choreographing the structure of the 8-minute dance work!

With our dance captains' guidance, the technical ability and strength of each member is improving on a weekly basis. Students from Year 7 to 10 are always welcome to join Dance Club.

Dance Club is held in the Dance Studio in the Performing Arts Centre every Tuesday between 3-4pm.

For more information on Dance Club, please speak to Mrs Venter in The Arts Learning Area office.

For more information about the [Youth on Health Festival](#).

Cheryl Venter

HoLA The Arts



INTRODUCING ARTS TECHNICIAN – KATE FERGUSON

I joined Willetton SHS at the beginning of this Term 2 and even though I haven't been here long, the warm welcome from students and staff has made me feel right at home. I am originally from Southeast London in the United Kingdom, where I completed art college and my BA(Hons) degree.

I then went on to have a successful, albeit unrelated, career in pharmaceuticals until I had the amazing opportunity to emigrate to Australia in 2008, this being the catalyst to pursue a full-time art career. Upon arrival in Australia, I travelled for several months exploring the distance from Sydney to Perth via the Northern Territory. On this journey I travelled through the Kimberley region, and I knew we would be back. One of my first jobs was at Mangkaja Arts Centre in Fitzroy Crossing, a remote Aboriginal community in the Kimberley region. I lived and worked there for four years, and it was an incredible learning experience both creatively and culturally.

Now, I live in the Perth Hills, where my studio is my creative hub. As well as my role at Willetton Senior High School, I am an abstract artist, muralist, and artist mentor. I run workshops for people of all abilities, both in-person across WA and online. I love helping others discover their artistic potential.

I also work with professional artists by providing business development sessions through art centres. For seven years, I owned a gallery space in Guildford, which I closed in January 2024 to focus on my personal art practice. I spend time in my studio creating for galleries and clients, working on art residencies, and designing/creating large scale public art murals.

I am passionate about championing the importance of art and creativity in everyday lives which is why I enjoy working in educational settings like WSHS.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

WA INTERSCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY SCHOOL SPORT

On Thursday 16 May, 35 Willetton SHS students between Years 7-10 competed in the School Sport WA Cross Country at the University of Western Australia Sports Park. The conditions were superb for competing and boosted student morale. It was pleasing to witness the support students had for one another and the strong presence waiting at the finish line to congratulate teammates.

A special mention to Rhys Cameron (Year 10), who finished 16th in his age group and 29th overall in the



Boys Open 6KM event. Rhys, alongside Eric Kingston (Year 10) have represented Willetton SHS every year since Year 7 and should be commended for their commitment.

Well done, to all those who represented the school! You all behaved beautifully and competed with grit and determination. I hope to see you all back again next year.

A big thank you to Mrs Tuxford for assisting on the day and to Ms Brades for her encouragement at Running Club every Tuesday morning.

Clare Jennings

Health and Physical Education Teacher







1

JUNIOR BOYS AND GIRLS TOUCH FOOTBALL (MINOR)

In week 7, 52 students between Years 7 - 9 competed in a touch football carnival against 20 other schools from around Perth. It was an excellent day as both our boys' and girls' teams reached the semi-finals. Although the boys didn't advance further, our girls' team made it to the grand final, narrowly losing 2-1 to a school with multiple state touch football players. Congratulations to everyone involved—your behaviour was exemplary, and the level of competition was outstanding!

Mac Gorringe

Health and Physical Education Teacher



2



3

1. Junior Boys A Team
2. Junior Girls A Team
3. Junior Boys B Team
4. Junior Girls B Team
5. Junior Girls Year 7 Team



WSHS EXCELS AT INTERSCHOOL TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Students from Willetton Senior High School recently participated in the highly anticipated Interschool Table Tennis Tournament held on Wednesday 1 May 2024 at Willetton Stadium. Our students secured an impressive 3rd place amongst 11 competing teams. The Willetton Senior High School contingent featured players ranging from Year 7 to Year 11. Despite the variance in age and experience, these young athletes showcased exceptional abilities, working together to secure a podium position for the school. Well done!

Ryan Toor
Year 10



HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

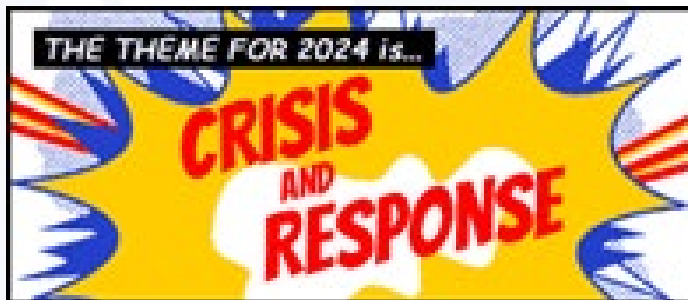


NATIONAL HISTORY CHALLENGE PRESENTATION NIGHT

31 JULY, 5.30 TO 7PM, LIBRARY

The National History Challenge is a **free** research-based competition for Australian students. It gives students a chance to be historians, researching world history, examining Australia's past, investigating their community, or exploring their own roots. It emphasises and rewards quality research, the use of community resources and effective presentation.

Students in some classes in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 in Humanities and Social Sciences have started the National History Challenge as a Class Assessment. This year's theme is *crisis and response*.



The competition involves students producing a piece of work that responded to the theme of *crisis and response*. Those students selected as finalists will have demonstrated research and referencing skills. They will through their research prove the significance of the topic chosen, be historically correct and have addressed the theme.

Students in the participating classes compete for a place in the National History Challenge. Only 6 entries can be selected from each cohort to enter the competition. We have received a wide range of entries covering many subjects and are looking forward to awesome entries being submitted for judging.

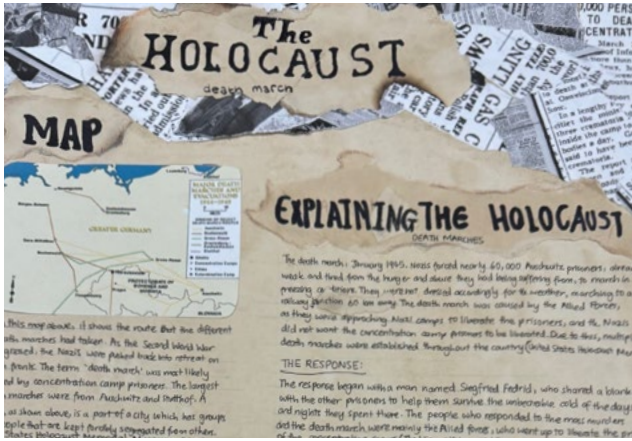
We will have the **National History Challenge Presentation evening on July 31** to showcase the entries. We invite parents/carers and students to attend on the evening to view the work. On the evening, the school entries for each cohort will be announced.

Please save the date and come along on the evening to celebrate the work of the students.

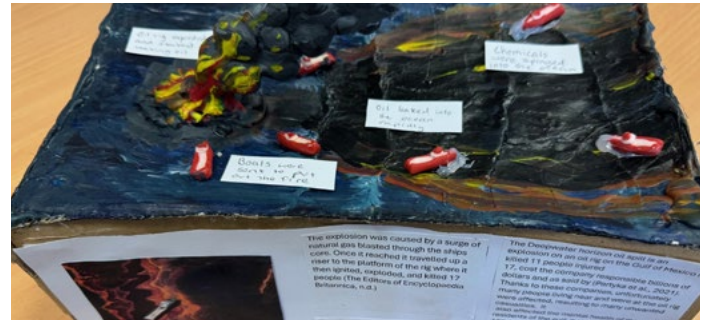
Enjoy the photos opposite of entries submitted by students from some of the classes participating.

Rosinda Seara PSM

*Head of Learning Area
Humanities and Social Sciences*



Holocaust



Mt Tamboro



Battle of Acre



Witch trials

Miss World



Rome



Ozone hole



CERTIFICATE IV BUSINESS CAMPUS VISIT TO NOTRE DAME

On Monday 10 June, the Year 12 students in Certificate IV Business had a campus visit to the University of Notre Dame in Fremantle where they learned about the courses they can apply for after completing a Cert IV qualification. They also took part in a critical thinking activity to complement their current unit of competency in critical thinking and problem solving before enjoying a campus tour.

YEAR 10 ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION EXCURSION TO MURDOCH UNIVERSITY

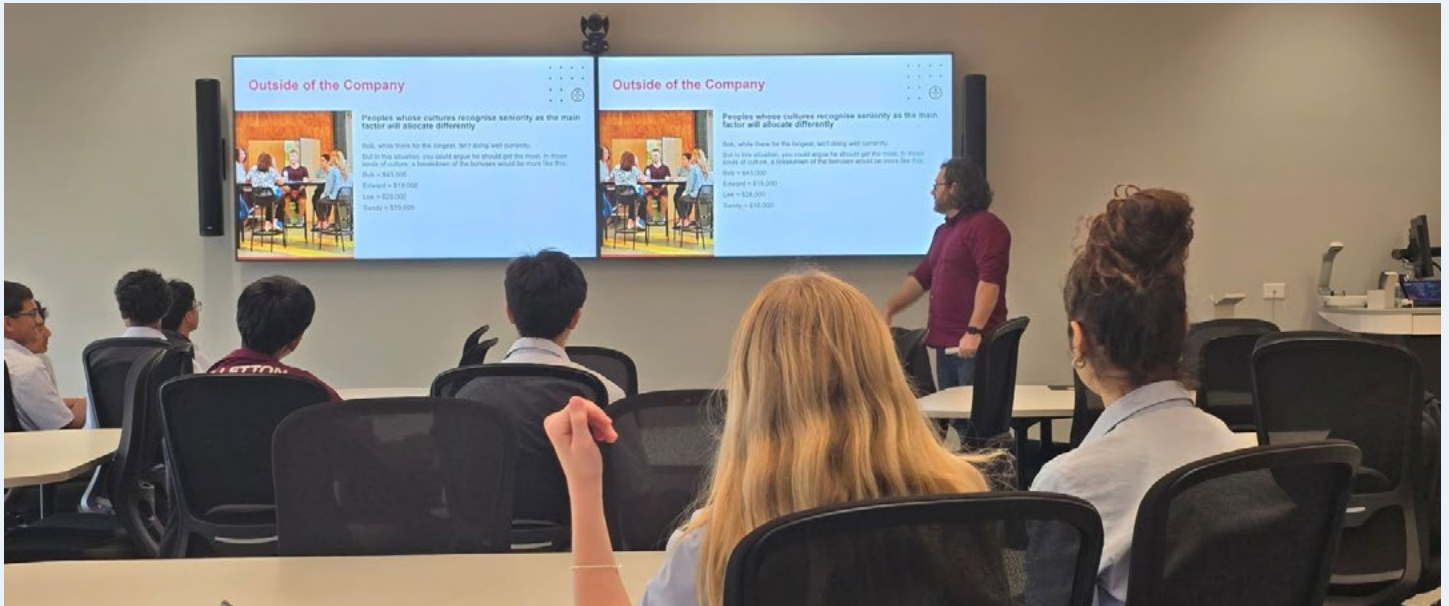
On Friday 3 May, two classes of Year 10 Entrepreneurship and Innovation students attended Murdoch University to take part in workshops on innovation, leadership and game theory. Students also had an opportunity to explore parts of the university campus and learned about university pathways and courses on offer.

Following the excursion students reflect, in their own words, on what they learned and the value of the experience.

Juan Poyatos
HaSS Teacher

The excursion was beneficial to students because it gave a little insight to the courses that Murdoch University offered, and the different pathway Murdoch offered to get into different courses. Also in our little break, we got to explore some places of the campus like the food halls and IGA. The helpers of Murdoch staff were friendly and helpful.

Rhys Brinklow



I learnt about the Game Theory and enjoyed the workshops that were provided on leadership. The information they gave us on the university was also valuable, and it was fun mixing with the other class.

Zainab Salman



I found the leadership presentation was the most valuable as we learnt the importance of leadership. I also enjoyed the scenarios on the different workers and the discussion on how much pay they would get as we got a small feel of what being a business owner or entrepreneurship is like.

Isabella Ng

LANGUAGES

INTRODUCING OUR NEW LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS

Every term, Willetton Senior High School welcomes native Italian *assistenti* through the WAATI Assistenti Program, in partnership with La Cattolica University (Milano) and Ca' Foscari University (Venezia). The *assistenti* enrich our students' learning experiences by providing authentic language practice and unique insights into Italian culture.

These young adults are hosted by families whose children attend Willetton SHS. This term we would like to extend our gratitude to the YOST and GUMPY/GILMAN families for their generous hospitality in welcoming Teresa and Lorenzo into their homes. Teresa and Lorenzo have been with us since the beginning of Term 2 and have proven invaluable in contributing their expertise and enthusiasm to our Italian language program.



TERESA TADROS

My name is Teresa Tadros, I am 23 years old, and I'm from Milan, Italy. I came to Australia through the WAATI Assistenti Program, in conjunction with the Catholic University of Milan where I graduated from languages.

My role within the school is to help the teachers in the classroom in any way indicated by the classroom teachers, such as engaging in oral work (one-on-one, pair, or group work), correcting and providing feedback on students' work, or finding online resources.

By working at Willetton Senior High School, I instantly realised that the education system here in Australia operates differently than the one in Italy.

Here in Perth, I am being hosted by a family that I want to thank for having me, for being so nice and generous with me, and for making me feel part of the family. Being with an Australian family has helped me live the experience to the fullest, see and do what locals really do in their everyday lives, and has also helped improve my English.

I also want to thank the school and all the teachers I have worked with for always being so nice and welcoming.



LORENZO SETTE

My name is Lorenzo Sette. I am 22 years old, and I'm from L'Aquila, Italy, but I'm studying in Milan. I came to Australia through the WAATI Assistenti Program, in conjunction with the Catholic University of Milan, where I'm pursuing a Master's degree in Marketing and Communication.

My role within the school is to help the teachers in the classroom in any way indicated by them, such as engaging in oral work (one-on-one, pair, or group work), correcting and providing feedback on students' work, or finding online resources.

Working at Willetton Senior High School made me realize how much you can learn from an international context, both as a student and a teacher, with completely different backgrounds and stories.

Here in Perth, I am hosted by the family of a Year 12 student who immediately made me feel part of the family. I have had a lot of fun with them from day one, always having experiences together. They help me to improve my English and let me experience the real "Australian life."

I also want to thank WSHS and all the teachers I have worked with for always being so nice and welcoming.



ITALIAN STUDY TOUR

With excited smiles and nervous laughs, we set off from Perth Airport on 11 December 2023, ready for our three-week Study Tour around beautiful Italy. Prof. Pia Palermo and Prof. Melissa Ilett accompanied us on the unforgettable experience.



After a stopover in Doha, Qatar, we arrived at the capital of Italy, Rome.

We were bright-eyed and bushy-tailed despite the long-haul flight to the other side of the world. We didn't miss a beat, and on the very next day, our tour guide taught us the history of both the legendary Colosseum and the marvelous Roman Forum. We also saw the remains of Circus Maximus (a large ancient chariot-racing stadium).

The next day was even busier, as we navigated Rome on foot to see the Vatican Museum, Saint Peter's Basilica, the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, Piazza Navona and the Spanish Steps.



Then, we flew to Sicily (an island south of Italy). First, we had lunch at Mt. Etna and enjoyed the breathtaking views and some of us enjoyed snow for the very first time.



By nightfall, we arrived at Taormina, a beautiful tranquil town in Sicily. There, we walked along quaint streets and received tasters of artisan chocolate and biscuits, visited the Greek Amphitheatre, and had a cooking class where we handmade pasta and decorated cannoli.



We also visited the nearby cities of Ortygia and Noto, and were grateful to Graziano, our kind bus driver who would amaze us with his singing as well. In these nearby cities, we bought scarves and souvenirs from *bancarelle* (stalls) and explored *chiese* (churches). We then boarded a ferry to return to mainland Italy, and then caught a train to go to Naples.



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From Naples, we travelled to Pompeii to see the Vesuvius Volcano and the ruins. Our tour guide taught us about how life could have been before the major eruption that swallowed the city.



It was finally time for us to head to Casoli, in the region of Abruzzo. There, many of us had host families, however, all of us still got the chance to experience Italian high school life, at the *Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore Statale Algeri Marino* (Algiers Marine State Higher Education Institute). The Italian teachers also took us on field trips, we were amazed by the many similarities and differences evident between Australia and Italy.



For those of us who were being hosted by an Italian family, we learnt so many Italian traditions and customs! Many of us were amazed by the humongous lunches and dinners that happen every day, but especially on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The days in Casoli flew by so quickly, and it was so sad to leave our host Italian families!



In our final week, we went back up North to visit some of the most renowned cities in Italy: Florence, Pisa, Venice and Milan! We visited the *Galleria degli Uffizi* (the Uffizi Gallery) in Florence, taking a leap through time to appreciate Italy's artistic heritage. We saw Botticelli's Renaissance paintings, *La Nascita di Venere* (The Birth of Venus), and *La Primavera* (Spring) in the flesh.

Since we were in the area, we had to visit the Leaning Tower of Pisa. We climbed 296 steps through the narrow, windy tower till we reached the top! All that work was worth it once we saw the breathtaking view from the top, overseeing the entire city.



Even though our holiday was filled with travelling, we were continuously learning; we were enrolled to learn Italian at an actual language school.

Venice was quite busy late December, but we were lucky to score a ride in the gondolas! A kind gondolier offered to take our group for a spin around Venice even after his usual working hours. We saw the Casino di Venezia, the first ever casino built which was featured in the Bond movies!



Another iconic site we visited was the Doge's Palace! Here, we got a crash course on its history and its infamous inhabitants. In particular, Giacomo Casanova, a renowned author, spy and priest. We visited his cell and learned about his daring escape from prison by walking out the front gate!

For the final time, we enjoyed pizza on New Year's Eve in Milan. We spent New Year's Eve continents away from family but with each other and pizza for company, we had a blast!

Throughout the entire trip, we enjoyed the Italian cuisine and were delighted to taste the famous tiramisu. Many of us also bought gelatos and chocolates from the Italian choco-gelateria Venchi in the various fashion boutiques, we stopped at.



Our return was bittersweet, we were both excited to see our families, yet aware that we would no longer wake up to majestic architecture or breathtaking views of natural landscapes. However, we came back and recharged. We now study Italian with even more gusto, as we reminisce our memories from Italy.



We are ever so grateful to Prof. Palermo and Prof. Ilett for organising and accompanying us on this magical trip - one we will cherish for life!

QiQi Liu and Sowmya Sri Nallan
Year 12

MATHS

FIND SOMEONE WHO ACTIVITY

Year 12 Mathematics Applications students completing a *Find Someone Who* activity on the topic of sequences. The activity provided a list of concepts and terms, the students then had to get answers for from ten different classmates. The students developed greater understanding of the concepts by having to explain them to each other.



SCIENCE

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

Most teachers have just spent the last fortnight marking a large number of exam papers. On average, each upper school science teacher has spent 35hrs marking their students' Semester 1 exams. In parallel with this busy period, teachers continue to deliver high quality lessons.

The Year 8s were shown the properties of dry ice. Mr Boughton's class was particularly impressed with the effectiveness of Mr Boughton's Banana Hammer – at 80 degrees celcius, it was very cool!

Dr Fisher and Mr Boughton teamed up to demonstrate the physics of transforming electricity from 240V to lower voltages to Dr Fisher's Year 12 Physics Class.

The students were impressed by Mr Boughton's improvised *rail gun* – an aluminum ring which was launched from bench to ceiling. With so many renewable energy projects being built around the world, Willetton's physics students have a bright future.



BIODIVERSITY AND NOONGAR CULTURE EXCURSION

The Year 9 Gifted and Talented students went on a *Biodiversity and Noongar Culture* excursion to Murdoch University as part of their Ecology unit. The students planted some plants to revegetate the Chelodonia Wetlands, did a plant id scavenger hunt, a survey, and learnt about the importance of our local West Australian plants in Noongar culture, and the importance of preserving the bush to provide habitat for native animals.

Tracey Fisher

Science Teacher



VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

CAREER PLANNING IN A VERY REAL WAY

The time is nearing for Year 12's to complete their final weeks at school and their final assessments, to receive their reports and then be on their way into their first career's training or education or to a full-time job.



The challenge of confirming a possible career pathway can be eased by completing work experience in a possible area of interest. Jay Mendes completed time with Metrowest, an electrical contractor, working on the Hammersley Golf Project. Jay's supervisors took him through pulling cables, fitting off and terminating as well as supporting and helping in any other way. A very real understanding of what it was to work in a team was learned. Jay has extra information of what the inside of the job looks like to help in determining if an electrical apprenticeship is the direction for him in 2025.



Pulitha Samarakoon completed work experience at McDonalds Willetton where he learned what it was like to work in a fast-paced environment and to cook fries, nuggets, and chicken patties. Qualities also demonstrated by Pulitha, to use in future employment, included, asking questions when unsure, taking the initiative to help others and putting into action any feedback provided.

We wish Jay and Pulitha well in their transition from Willetton.

BUSY, BUSY, BUSY AT THE MELVILLE BOWLING CLUB

Our Willetton Certificate II Hospitality students were practising their skills and learning new skills preparing food for the Social Club of the Melville Bowling Club on Saturday 25 May.

Students, Kaylee Monaco, Yujin Kim, Chloe Zhu, Johana Luckose and Ashviny Shrikrishnan gave up their Saturday morning sleep in to prepare some delicious food for the 60 guests.

They prepared a menu of:

- Classic Prawn cocktail
- Mango and Chilli Prawns
- Cheese stuffed arancini
- Cured beef canapes
- Caramelised Onion beef sausage rolls
- Pulled Pork Sliders
- Curried egg finger sandwiches
- Lemon and lime meringue tarts served with a cheese board



For the team, there were several benefits in learning skills, including being able to convert measurements in a simple and efficient way to make sure all the food was measured correctly and converted to the correct amount needed for all the people attending the event. Students also commented it was a battle against time in the few minutes before serving the social club, but they did their best and were very successful.

The best thing they discovered was that commercial dishwashers are the best, because it would have been quite a horror to do all the dishes by hand at the end of the night! It would have taken so much time and resulted in prune hands!

Students commented that it was a great feeling when guests stopped by the kitchen to say hello. They also commented on the experience of working in a different kitchen and working with different members in the team. This is a skill in every working environment - getting along with fellow workers and being productive.

It seemed to be agreed by the team of Hospitality students that the best lesson learned is that patience is needed while preparing food or doing anything in general at the function.

We wish them well on their journey in Hospitality.

Ruth Barratt

Work Experience Year 12 Teacher

LEARNING & CURRICULUM SUPPORT

AUTISM WEEK CELEBRATIONS

At Willetton SHS, Autism Week took centre stage during Week 4 of Term 2. Throughout the week, our community came together to honour the diverse spectrum of neurodevelopmental experiences. This was symbolised by the proud display of Autism Awareness bands, the sea of blue clothing, and the playful odd socks worn by both staff and students.

While these gestures serve as visible reminders of our commitment to neurodiversity, our Learning and Curriculum Support Department recognises that many students navigate these differences every day. Each student is a unique blend of colours, some vibrant and bold, others more understated or patterned.

By embracing these differences, we pave the way for personalised pathways to success. We urge everyone to celebrate their uniqueness not just during Autism Week but every single day of the year.

We extend our gratitude to all who participated in Autism Week, regardless of the size of their contribution. Together, we're fostering a culture of acceptance and inclusion at Willetton SHS.

LCS Team





YEAR 7 SCIENCE FOUNDATION PERTH ZOO EXCURSION

On Thursday 9 May, the Year 7 Science Foundation class explored Perth Zoo. Throughout the excursion, students explored the topic of 'taxonomic classification' and the importance of other systems of classification such as diet and conservation status in caring for animals. During this interactive educational experience, students were able to deepen their understanding of the topics they have been studying in Science this Semester.

Quotes below from students highlight that the skills learnt in such an environment are often wider than curriculum based, classroom learning.

Carly McClure

Learning and Curriculum Support Teacher

Going out with new people was good.

Jaycee Lim

I enjoyed being the tour guide.

Declan Kerslake

I enjoyed seeing the animals, especially the nocturnal house. Clara Ascoli

It was fun when everyone was trying to bounce me on the trampoline. Damon Leach

I liked going to the nocturnal house. Alexander Murray

I liked the monkeys and kangaroos. Angani Satheesan

It was amazing and the nocturnal area was fun. Archer Smith



HARMONY WEEK

We celebrated Harmony Week in Term 1. There were dress-up days, art and craft activities, food festivals in the Foundation and Learning Curriculum Support Department.

The goal of this was to promote inclusiveness and raise awareness about the benefits of diversity, tolerance, and respect.



STUDENT SERVICES

YEAR 12 COORDINATOR REPORT

Time is passing very quickly for our cohort with just over One Term left of classes at school. This term our Year 12 students sat their ATAR exams and Externally Set Tasks in weeks 6 and 7. Prior to exams, we offered students a free Exam information and study skills online webinar, and some students attended after school Study Masterclasses.

University applications have opened, and we have had presentations at school from various universities including Australian National University, Monash University, UWA, Curtin and Murdoch. In addition, UWA, Curtin and Murdoch will be returning in Term 3 to offer advisory sessions for students.

We get provided with information for local businesses who are hiring staff, local businesses offering apprenticeship opportunities, and other careers information from the Defence Force and WA Police. All students need to keep accessing Connect so they do not miss out on these notices.

Year 12 students have the privilege of participating in the Senior Status program which allows them to go to Southlands Shopping Centre at recess and lunch. Students have been reminded that this program is a privilege and must continue to uphold the high standards of behaviour and respect that we expect and behave responsibly when off-site.



Expectations are as follows:

Students are expected to be punctual to all classes and adhere to school policy re: dress, behaviour, attendance, and assessment.

Students must not use cars/motorcycles unless their school commitments have concluded for the day.

For ease of identification, each student who has Good Standing is issued with a Senior Status badge designed in collaboration with the Student Council. Senior Status badges must be worn at all times when leaving the school grounds during the day and at Southlands Shopping Centre.

Behaviour and dress standards at Southlands Shopping Centre must always be exemplary.

As the holidays are only a week away, I wish all Year 12 students and their families a safe and restful break and I look forward seeing everyone at the start of Term 3.

Best Wishes,

Sandra Frew

Year 12 Coordinator



TERM 2 WEEK 10

17TH - 21ST JUNE



WHAT IS FOODBANK?

In the last 12 months, 3.7 million households went hungry at some point. Foodbank Australia is a not-for-profit, non-denominational, federated organisation operating in every state and territory in Australia. Help provide food and grocery relief to help feed people in need by donating any non-perishable goods today!

ITEMS NEEDED

- ▶ canned meals
- ▶ pasta, rice or cereals
- ▶ canned vegetables
- ▶ canned fruit
- ▶ any non-perishable items

For More Information : <https://www.foodbank.org.au/>

YEAR 12 COUNCILLOR REPORT

The Year 12 Councillors are holding the biggest fundraiser of the 2024 during week 10 of Term 2.

A food drive to collect non-perishable foods for FOODBANK WA.

Please support this cause by sending in a donation and dropping it into one of the purple bins you will find around school. This is a worthy cause to help families who are struggling in this economic climate.

Your support is much appreciated.

Sandra Frew

Year 12 Coordinator

YEAR 10 RIVER CRUISE

The Year 10 River Cruise was a fun night filled with lots of laughter, smiling, and of course, dancing. The boat took off from Elizabeth Quay at evening just as the sun began to set, and slowly drifted off into the Swan River, providing an amazing view of the city skyline illuminated by lights. Inside, the atmosphere was unmatched, with people dancing the night away as the DJ put on a selection of bangers, while others chose a humbler approach, hanging out with their mates with some even hosting different gaming tournaments amongst themselves. The photo booth was another feature where dozens lined up to take their memorable pictures with friends, doing silly poses and wearing bizarre props. Finally, as the clock hit eight, it was the moment we were all waiting for...food. The boat docked near Fremantle where the most important guests boarded; some fresh, scrumptious pizza from Crust, as well as delicious donuts from Krispy Kreme. As night quickly approached, the cruise made its way back toward the city with everyone enjoying their last moments on this unforgettable night, however, the fun shortly ended there as we all remembered we had school tomorrow.

Shabaz Mehboob and Marcus Chai



YEAR 9 CAREER TASTERS

Our Year 9 cohort have had several opportunities to explore various careers this year, including a trip to the Automotive Workshops at Carlisle TAFE and a visit to the school from their lecturer to share educational and vocational options for students beyond school. There will be more of these opportunities throughout the year. Read on for the experience of one of our students who visited the TAFE campus.

THE CAREER CURIOUS AUTOMOTIVE TASTER

My peers and I were thrilled to be accepted into The Career Curious Automotive Taster. It was an honour. We weren't told what would happen, but the thought of mystery activities piqued everyone's interest. The sound of massive drills and engines welcomed us, along with a charming woman, named Natalie, who served as our host and guide.

Our host greeted us at the session and reviewed the first things she would cover. The first item we covered was selecting a career. She disclosed to us that, despite having held multiple professions and a different college degree, she continued to perform her duties as a Career Taster Lecturer. She said that she enjoyed giving speeches in front of an audience and advised us to pick a profession that would allow us to be adaptable and engaging.

She assigned us a variety of enjoyable activities to do during the day after her talk. During our tour of the Carlisle TAFE campus, Natalie showed us the many sections and grounds dedicated to automotive studies. She also highlighted to us the various

professions and responsibilities that are associated with each field in the automotive business. A few of the things we tried were attaching wires and circuitry to lemons and testing their voltage. We also tried joining all the lemons together to count the total voltage and to see if we could start a car, but we were unable to do so. To start a car, 66 million lemons are required. Natalie also showed us how to use a virtual reality headset to explore careers we might select in the future in a game style, including chef, artist, astronaut, heart surgeon, and demolition worker. To put it mildly, it was quite hilarious despite being really confusing. We were told to remain seated to prevent any mishaps.



We were encouraged to modify the activities to suit our comfort level if we didn't fit them, and we experienced a variety of motivating experiences that helped us figure out what we wanted to accomplish in the future while we were on campus. All my peers went in with open minds and came out with theirs completely blown away; our trip there was amazing, and it was a pleasure to be invited to this experience.



YEAR 9 ARMED FOR LIFE ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

Throughout the eight-week program, we had a session one session a week learning boxing skills, and another working with a youth mentor.

On Thursdays, we were helped by a music artist named Mark Lloyd. Mark and the class have shared several personal experiences that has helped us relate and form a safe environment. The program was so different from a normal classroom environment, from how we are taught to, the difference of people in the class. This was the first all-boys class I have been to, and I feel that we could all relate similarly because of this. This then allowed us to share stories and personal experiences and work through them with Mark that we normally wouldn't share. In one of the sessions, we were showed a website which helped us find similar personalities to ours and what benefits and challenges us. For me, this was very helpful because in life I find many things very challenging, and this has helped me through many problems I have faced. I believe mentally we have been positively affected by Marks great

personality, his stories and I know, that his impact will be seen through all the boys for ever.

Our boxing coach, World Champion Erin McGowan, has challenged us and shown us new sides that we didn't know. Most people believe that boxing or playing a sport in general can only help you physically, but it helps both mentally and physically. So, I believe that Erin's program has not only provided a way for us to exert and express many of the emotions we feel by boxing, but it has also provided a space for us to connect with each other and learn new skills. Erin has taught and informed us ways to protect ourselves to make sure we stay safe.

Throughout the program, we have formed many relationships between the people we didn't know forming a sort of comradery, helping each other box, and helping each other's challenges. Personally, I have loved the program whether the philosophy, friendships, or the skills we learnt along the way, but in general I can say that this program has affected us majorly.

YEAR 9 RIVER CRUISE

The river cruise on Thursday 13 June was an extremely enjoyable experience. It was a great opportunity to embark on a new, yet laid-back journey with fellow friends and peers. We were provided with fabulous food like pizza (yum!), and some highly delectable donuts.

This river cruise allowed me to catch up with friends and even make some new ones! Although it was a chilly night, we kept moving on the dance floor and having a grand time. It was a night full of enjoyable experiences, desirable dishes, and most importantly, revered recollections. I'm sure that it was as much of a blast for everyone else as it was for me.

Year 9 Councillors



SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

It is with great pleasure that the School Board has appointed four Community Representatives to the Board for the next 12 months. We are so pleased to have members of the community keen to contribute to our school and are fortunate to benefit from their range of skills and expertise to maximise learning opportunities and outcomes for our students.

We welcome back re-appointed members Mr Michael Lee, Mr Divakar Subramaniam and Mr Arun Thavasi who have been a great asset to the Board, and we look forward to working with our newly appointed member Ms Shen Sekhon. Watch this space for more information on Shen in our next issue.

We thank retiring Community Representative Mr Andrew Tan for his time and valued contribution to the School Board, especially for his work with the Alumni. We wish him all the very best as he moves on to a new chapter in his life.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The next School Board meeting will be held on Wednesday 31 July 2024.

A list of Board meetings for this year can be found on the school website, under the School Board information.

SCHOOL BOARD PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

We are pleased to introduce our recently appointed new Parent Representatives for a two-year term: Mr Tucker Christou, Dr Yu Dong and Mr George Thornton.



MR TUCKER CHRISTOU

It is an honour to serve as a Parent Representative on the Board of Willetton Senior High School. My appointment to this role reflects my deep dedication to enhancing our educational system and promoting the well-being of our students, parents,

and educators. Bringing a wealth of experience from my involvement in community services spanning both state and national initiatives, coupled with my professional background as a qualified member of the Australian Counselling Association, I aim to make a meaningful contribution to the Board.

My primary focus is on supporting individuals and families to thrive, and I am committed to ensuring that our school delivers the highest standard of education and support services to every student and their families. With three children currently enrolled in Years 7, 8 and 10, I also bring a personal commitment to representing the perspectives and interests of all parents and carers within the school community.

I am excited about the opportunity to collaborate with fellow Board members, administrators and stakeholders to support Willetton Senior High School towards continued excellence and success. Together, we can ensure that every student receives the resources and support they need to excel academically and personally.



DR YU DONG

I am very humbled to be elected as a Board member of Willetton Senior High School, one of the largest and most elite independent public schools in Western Australia with the commitment to intellectual, creative, physical, and social growth of students.

I am currently an Associate Professor at Curtin University with a great passion for secondary education. I am among Stanford University's list of Top 2% Scientists worldwide for citation impact in Polymer Materials, and also received the 2020 Finalist Award for "Waste Innovation of the Year" by the Western Australian Waste Authority. I am one of a current and aspiring culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) leaders with the scholarship award for the 2024 Auspire Multicultural Leadership Program, Australia Day Council WA.

I have a long-term close bond with this excellent school where my daughter is currently learning from fabulous teachers here as a Year 9 student. I can contribute to STEM teaching technologies and pedagogies, school development plan, extracurricular, multicultural community and environment, school performance and ranking improvements, as well as students' wellbeing for the bright future of the school.



MR GEORGE THORNTON

With a 30-year tenure as a software developer, I offer a blend of technical expertise and a deep commitment to education. My dedication is demonstrated through three years of volunteering at the school's second-hand bookshop, where

I have nurtured a passion for learning among students and supported the school community. My technological knowledge and problem-solving skills equip me to address the challenges of contemporary education, ensuring that our school stays at the cutting edge of educational innovation and efficiency.

Eager to contribute more, I am committed to using my skills and experience to help the school achieve the best educational outcomes, championing initiatives that prepare our students for a rapidly evolving world. I am excited about the potential for technology and education to merge, creating exceptional opportunities for our students.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

From time to time, the school requires volunteers to assist in various parts of the school such as the Secondhand Uniform Shop.

If you would like to put your name on a Volunteers' List or have a special skill you would like to offer to the school, please email your details to the School Board office willetton.shs.schoolboard@education.wa.edu.au

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP

Our Secondhand Uniform Shop continues to operate every Wednesday during term:

Trading hours during school term	Location
Wednesday 9:15am - 11:15am	PAC building

For enquiries phone 9334 7236 during trading hours

ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP FUNDRAISER

We're fundraising with Entertainment

The savvy way to give back
Buy today and 20% of the purchase price goes directly to our fundraising cause.

Bonus Upgrade to Multi City Membership*

12 months	24 months
Pay \$70 Save \$50	Pay \$120 Save \$110
We receive \$14	We receive \$24

Support us now

*\$103 888%

The graphic also features a smartphone displaying the Entertainment app interface with various food items and offers.

Entertainments 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!

Purchase any Single City Membership before Thursday 27 June and **receive a bonus upgrade** to Multi-City, unlocking over 15,000 offers in 20 cities across Australia and New Zealand.

And the best part? 20% of every Membership purchased is donated to supporting our fundraising efforts.

Join today and help us make a difference.

Order here: subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/904a46

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL'S PROGRAM

We have registered with Gilbert's Fresh Market, Southlands to be part of the Support Our School's Program. Please sign up with them and for every purchase you make in store, 1% of your purchase spent will be donated to the school. It does not cost to sign up, and it's an easy way for you to support the school. To date, nearly \$3,000 has been raised, with these funds being put towards student scholarships.

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS PROGRAM

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

The graphic features a central logo with a green leaf, a red apple, a laptop, and a pencil, all arranged around a yellow circle. The background is a dark red color.

HOW TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

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

