

WHSPA High Notes



Issue 2
May 2021

From the Principal's desk

Recently, the school has introduced an O Week Initiative where students in Year 12 were given the opportunity to sit for a series of exams. These exams were structured similarly to how the Trial HSC is to be run. Our aim here was to provide students with the opportunity to sit a 2 and 3 hour examination in preparation in the lead up to the Trials. It is also an opportunity to gain valuable feedback from teachers. Overwhelmingly, students found the experience to be extremely positive with many commenting on the fact that they think they will feel less stressed in the actual Trial Exams. We also had an opportunity to celebrate the success of our Year 12 students by holding a student/staff lunch. I spoke at the lunch and outlined the fact that as a staff we are incredibly proud of our Year 12 students and their wonderful achievements.

Another initiative at our school is the Community of Schools Maths program. Before Covid, WHSPA had embarked on a lesson observation program between our Stage 4 teachers and the Stage 3 teachers at Wollongong West Primary school. The hope here was to create a better understanding of the links between Stage 3 and Stage 4 Maths. We are now moving to the next stage of this initiative where programs of work are being developed across stages 3 and 4, so that targeted support can be provided to the students as they transition to WHSPA.

Paul Ryan
Principal



Coffee Academy

Our Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students along with Ms Tapp, Ms Pike & Mrs Gartrell, recently travelled to Sydney at the crack of dawn to attend a Barista Qualification Course at the Coffee Academy.

Everyone did exceptionally well and passed their in-class assessments. Our Tutors Keeley and Sascha were so impressed by the skills and knowledge demonstrated by the WHSPA group.

Our gifted and talented group will receive their qualifications:

- SITHFAB005 Prepare and serve espresso coffee
- SITXFS001 Use hygienic practices for food safety which are recognised nationally





Coffee Academy
Australia's Leading Coffee Academy

Marie Gartrell-Comino
Teacher TAS



Visual Arts Year 10 Collective Graduating Exhibition 2020

It was with immense pleasure that the Year 10 Visual Arts Collective Class were able to hold their Graduating Exhibition, which was postponed last year, at Project Contemporary Art Space in Wollongong.

The opening of the exhibition was successfully attended, despite the downpour of rain. Parents, friends, relatives and teachers of WHSPA all came to witness and celebrate the achievements of this extremely talented group of young visual artists. The Visual Arts Department would like to congratulate the graduating class of 2020 for completing the Visual Arts Auditioned program with this wonderful event.



Anna Peterson

Curriculum Writing Specialist

Writing in Secondary

Wellbeing



Peer Support

Last term Year 7 students participated in weekly Peer Support lessons with their Year 10 leaders. The students completed the **Anti Bullying Module: Strengthening our Connections** which aimed to encourage positive behaviours in students, such as gratitude, respect and kindness. This module offered an approach to reduce and respond effectively to negative behaviours, including bullying, both face to face and online by:

- encouraging students to discuss behaviours that make themselves and others feel good and help everyone reach their potential
- helping students navigate the challenges that can and do arise in relationships
- identifying and responding appropriately to a range of harmful or hurtful behaviours

Congratulations to all the Year 7 students who completed the program and to all the Year 10 students who have shown exceptional leadership skills.



The Wellbeing Team look forward to upskilling our Year 9 students through the Peer Support Australia program in early term 4.

WHSPA Wellbeing Lunch Programs

The Wellbeing Team continues to encourage students to develop a sense of belonging, new friendships and healthy lifestyle choices through a range of lunch programs.

Wellbeing

Monday Mix-Up in the Main continues to be a big hit as students come together to have a dance, sing-a-long and do some skipping during the hour long lunch break. New volleyball nets have been installed in the main quad and are very popular.

The WHSPA Green Team gets together Monday lunch times to tend to the vegetables and herbs in the greenhouse. Ms DuBois and Miss Forrest lead the team of student volunteers with the aim of making the school more sustainable. They grow organic produce that is used in Food Technology and Hospitality and they currently have a bumper crop of spinach, celery, eggplant and herbs. The Green Team also run recycling and composting initiatives.



Wellbeing

Crafternoon Delights continues to grow in popularity as students gather in The Hub on Wednesday and Friday lunch times to enjoy a Tim Tam or two and do some jewellery making, paper craft and watercolour painting.

Students are welcome to work-out in the **WHSPA Fitness Centre** before school on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (8-8:45am), and every lunch time. It costs \$1 per session or \$15 per term and this money is used for the maintenance or purchase of equipment. The Fitness Centre contains cardio equipment such as treadmills and rowers and a large variety of resistance training options such as Olympic weights and dumbbells. PDHPE classes have also been using the space to run high intensity interval sessions.

The **new basketball courts** on the back oval have been completed and have been open to students during lunch time from the beginning of term 2. We look forward to running some round-robin competitions and some staff versus student games.

Coming soon – **WHSPA Lego Masters!!** Students should register their interest with Ms Whelan in The Hub. Donations of Lego would be greatly appreciated. Drop it off at the front office.

Heidi Whelan
Head Teacher Wellbeing

Year 10 Study Skills

Week 2 of this Term Dr Prue Salter from Enhanced Learning Educational Services (www.enhanced-learning.net) ran an online study skills session with Year 10 students and parents. The main area covered for Year 10 was the importance of using this year as a training period to prepare for senior studies. The session focused on helping students identify changes and improvements they could make to their approach to their studies in order to maximise their results in their final years of school. The main areas covered with Year 10 were working effectively in the evenings and dealing with distractions, managing time efficiently, planning for assessments, making brain-friendly study notes on a regular basis and using a wide variety of active study techniques to suit individual learning styles. Parents are encouraged to review the handout from the session with students and discuss the main areas identified where changes need to be made. Parents can also find extra study skills tips and resources on the following website: <https://enhanced-learning.net/eles/indexparents.html>

Emily Ireland
HT Secondary Studies





Plain English Speaking Award 2021

Congratulations to Lucy Beale and Lili Yewen who represented WHSPA at the Illawarra and South East Local Final of the Plain English Speaking Award at Smith's Hill High School on Monday 3 May. The competition involved students delivering an eight minute prepared speech followed by a three minute impromptu speech. Lucy delivered a passionate address on the issue of gender equality, whilst Lili produced an original and honest speech on the beauty that exists within people.

A special congratulations to Lucy Beale who was selected to attend the regional final at The Arts Unit in Lewisham on Friday 28 May.



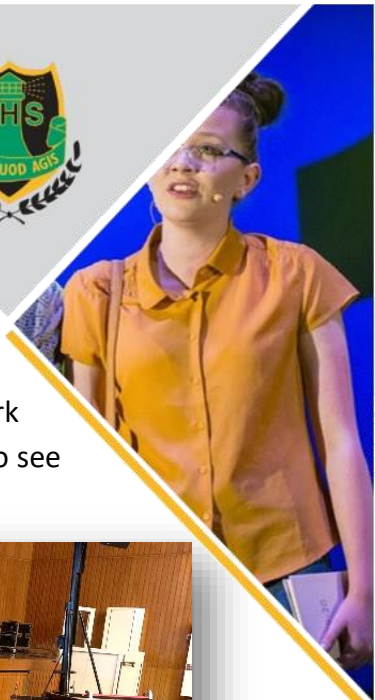
Renay Grant
Teacher English

Performing Arts Faculty



Year 12 Drama Group Performance Intensive Workshop

Year 12 drama students are working hard on the development of their HSC group performances and enjoyed working with industry professional tutors Alex Chalwell and Bradley Ward at the Wollongong Town Hall. The HSC group performance is an entirely student devised performance in groups which students have just weeks to put together. The intensive workshop day was a chance to improvise, work together and try new things which students enthusiastically embraced. We can't wait to see their devised works come together!



OUR SCHOOL IS TAKING PART IN THE...

2021
SHAKESPEARE
Carnival
AN ARTS COMPETITION FOR NSW & ACT

We'll see you there!

Year 9 Shakespeare Carnival

Year 9 Extension Drama have developed, rehearsed and filmed submissions for the State Shakespeare Carnival regional heats. The students submitted works in the categories of scene, duologue, short film, group devised and physical theatre. We look forward to being showcased with other schools from across the state and wish the extension Drama students the best of luck with their endeavours to make it to the state carnival!

Lucy Armstrong
Teacher Performing Arts

Library News.....

Premier's Reading Challenge

All Year 7 and Year 9 students are taking part in this year's Premier's Reading Challenge. All students are encouraged to read 20 books by 20 August. 15 of the books must be from the Premier's Reading Challenge Book List, and 5 of the 20 books can be of the student's own choice.

So far three Year 7 students and eight Year 9 students have already completed the Challenge – Congratulations!

Don't forget there are rewards for reading goals along the way:

Goal 1: Read 5 books - receive 1 quick merit

Goal 2: Read 10 books - receive 1 quick merit and \$2.50 canteen voucher

Goal 3: Read 15 books - receive 1 quick merit and \$5.00 canteen voucher

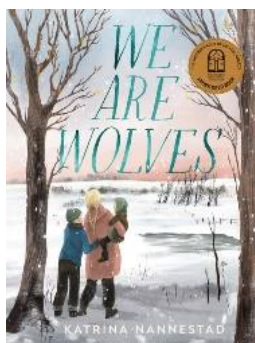
Goal 4: Write a review on one of the books and receive a \$2.50 canteen voucher

Goal 5: Completing PRC (reading 20 books) - attend Pizza Party, PRC Certificate, and WHSPA quick merit.

Students can access the Premier's Reading Challenge using their DoE portal userid and password. Or go to: online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc. Any problems, pop into the Library and see Mrs Pfister for help.

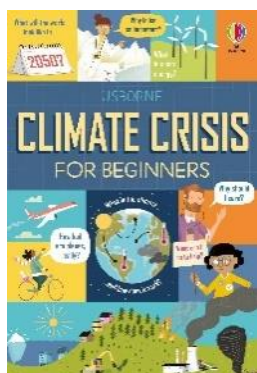
New Books

We have so many wonderful new books, come on up and check them out. Here is just a hint....



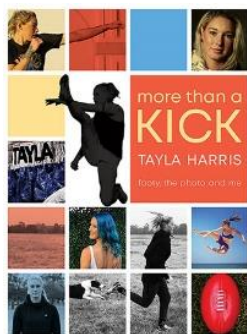
***We are Wolves* by Katrina Nannestad**

A moving story inspired by the little-known group of German child refugees, the Wolfskider. *We are Wolves* is this story told through the eyes of Liesl, our 12 year-old narrator, who travels with her 8 year-old brother and 1 year-old sister, learning to survive under extremely difficult circumstances. (description and image credit: Harper Collins Publisher)



***Climate Crisis for Beginners* by Andy Prentice and Eddy Reynolds (2021)**

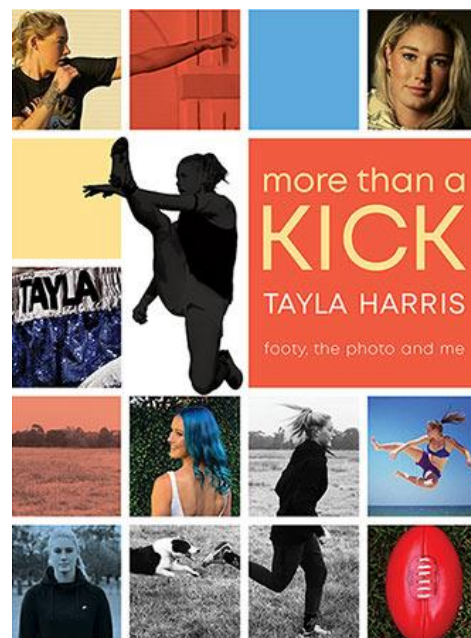
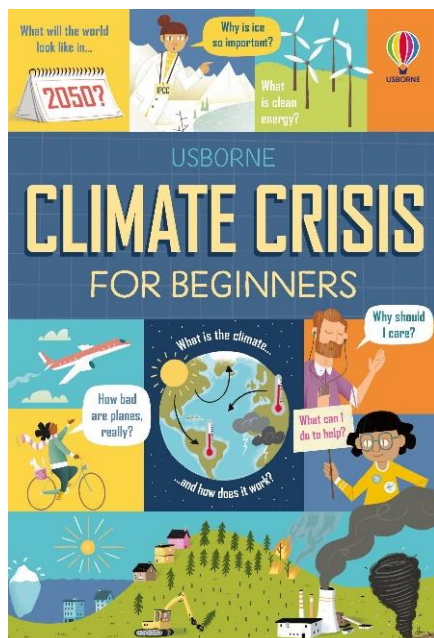
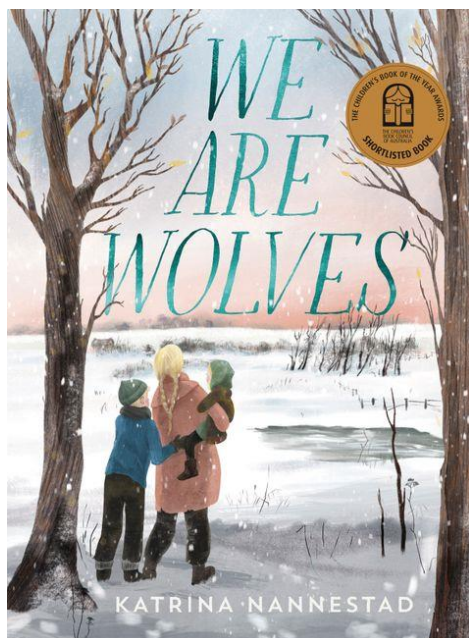
This book explains, in simple language and with clear illustrations, what the climate is, and how it is changing very rapidly at the moment, and the effects this is having on our planet. It tackles suggestions about what needs to change in the way people live, from power stations to farming, and explains why it's so difficult to do. Along the way, it also talks about what individuals can do, including tips on how to keep a clear head and not get overwhelmed by bad news. (description and image credit: Osbourne Publishing Ltd)



***More than a Kick: footy, the photo and me* by Tayla Harris and Jennifer Castles (2020)**

Summary: AFLW player Tayla Harris was at work on the footy field when she kicked a goal. A photo of the kick, taken by Michael Willson, showcased her incredible athletic ability and was posted online. What happened next was an extraordinary turning point in Tayla's life. The photo quickly became iconic as Tayla stood strong against the online trolls. This is the inspiring story of Tayla's stellar sporting career so far, and her hard-earned advice to young people navigating the ups and downs of social media. (description and image by Allen & Unwin Publisher)

Liane Pfister
Teacher-Librarian



TERM 2 – WEEK 1



Have you checked out the Library lately? Just before COVID-19 we completely changed the Library. It is now a more flexible learning space with a variety of reading and study areas. Books are displayed in sections that are easy for student to find. At the moment Year 7 and 9 are participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge, with many already receiving Canteen Vouchers for their wonderful reading achievements. Mrs Pfister is also available to help students find the right book or to help with many things like research or even just writing a bibliography. Come and check it out!

We send many of our old Library books to "Aussie Books for Zim". This is an Australian organisation, based in Wollongong that builds Libraries in Zimbabwe. They rely solely on donations of books and money and are the key to lifting literacy rates, improving the quality of children's lives, and educating entire communities out of poverty in Zimbabwe. If you want to help, go to: library-with-no-books.raisely.com

Wollongong
high

WEEKLY MOMENT



Wollongong high



TERM 2 – WEEK 3



This week's moment is our Biannual Music Camp. At camp our music students engaged in focussed ensemble rehearsals, building performance repertoire and were exposed to a range of industry professionals who ran workshops, sharing skills and knowledge required for the music industry.

Students were rewarded for their hard work with a surprise performance from the band 19-Twenty, whose lead singer was a former WHSPA Music Student who is now making it in the industry. A great time was had by all.



WEEKLY MOMENT



SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

Wollongong high

TERM 2 – WEEK 4



This week's moment is our Biannual Music Camp. At camp our music students engaged in focussed ensemble rehearsals, building performance repertoire and were exposed to a range of industry professionals who ran workshops, sharing skills and knowledge required for the music industry.

Students were rewarded for their hard work with a surprise performance from the band 19-Twenty, whose lead singer was a former WHSPA Music Student who is now making it in the industry. A great time was had by all.



WEEKLY MOMENT






SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS













Parent Information



WHSPA SENIOR EXECUTIVE STAFF

	Paul Ryan	Principal
	Bryce O'Connor	Deputy Principal – Years 7, 9 & 11
	Kylie Wood	Deputy Principal – Years 8, 10 & 12

WHSPA EXECUTIVE STAFF

	Apple Phasavath	Head Teacher <i>English</i>		Ruth Ellevsen	Head Teacher <i>Music</i>
	Lorien Mackreill	Head Teacher <i>Mathematics</i>		Chris Richards	Head Teacher <i>PA</i>
	Marc Kates	Head Teacher <i>Science (rel)</i>		Emily Ireland	Head Teacher Secondary Studies & <i>Visual Arts</i>
	Vicki Strudwick	Head Teacher <i>HSIE</i>		David Boscuro	Head Teacher Administration Procedures & <i>Languages</i>
	David Arthur	Head Teacher <i>PDHPE</i>		Heidi Whelan	Head Teacher Wellbeing – Girls
	Rachel Jospe	Head Teacher <i>TAS</i>		Braiden Gilbert	Head Teacher Wellbeing – Boys

Parent Information



YEAR ADVISORS – 2021

First point of contact for ANY issues concerning students within their year group.



Armi Wilson

armi.wilson1@det.nsw.edu.au

**Year 7
Year Advisor**



George Broadfoot

george.broadfoot4@det.nsw.edu.au

**Year 8
Year Advisor**



Melissa Meafou

melissa.meafou1@det.nsw.edu.au

**Year 9
Year Advisor**



Nicholas Stanojevic

nicholas.stanojevic4@det.nsw.edu.au

**Year 10
Year Advisors**



Malak Dubois

malak.dubois@det.nsw.edu.au



Molly Moyes

molly.moyes1@det.nsw.edu.au

**Year 11
Year Advisor**



Telesia Sakaio

telesia.sakaio2@det.nsw.edu.au

**Year 12
Year Advisor**

Parent Information



WELL-BEING & LEARNING SUPPORT - 2021



Leanne King
Learning and Support Teacher
leanne.king1@det.nsw.edu.au

Provide learning and support for students who are having difficulty with their general learning or have diagnosed learning conditions.



Kate Mitchell
Learning and Support Teacher
kate.mitchell52@det.nsw.edu.au

Provide learning and support for students who are having difficulty with their general learning or have diagnosed learning conditions.



Sally Johnston
Homework Club Co-Ordinator
sally.johnston@det.nsw.edu.au

Co-ordinates the homework club and provides some 'one to one contact' with students needing assistance with their homework or assessment tasks.



Fleur Williams
Wellbeing HUB Teacher
fleur.williams@det.nsw.edu.au

Provide support to students within a safe and quiet environment in order to be able to re-engage with classroom learning as quickly as possible.



Heidi Whelan
Head Teacher Wellbeing – Girls
heidi.whelan@det.nsw.edu.au

Girls mentor. Oversees the team and provides assistance to students, staff and parents when required. Point of contact for multicultural students.



Braiden Gilbert
Head Teacher Wellbeing – Boys
braiden.gilbert1@det.nsw.edu.au

Boys mentor. Oversees the team and provides assistance to students, staff and parents when required. Point of contact for medical conditions of students.



Liane Pfister
Teacher-Librarian & School Media Liaison
liane.pfister1@det.nsw.edu.au

Oversees the Library and provides assistance to students, staff and parents with all library related support. Co-ordinates media and publicity.

Parent Information



DATES TO REMEMBER

JUNE	3	Immunisations Year 10
	9 – 11	Music Showcase Performances
	15 – 17	Year 8 Camp
	16	Ruby Moon Performance
	21	Year 7 & Year 8 Parent Teacher Zoom Interviews

JULY	12	P&C Meeting
	12	Year 9 & Year 10 Parent Teacher Zoom Interviews
	12 – 23	Year 12 Trial Examinations
	20	Year 10 Subject Selection Evening
	26 – 27	HSC Dance Showcase
	28 – 30	Company Drama Showcase

AUGUST	3	Year 8 Subject Selection Evening
	3	Ski Trip
	9	P&C Meeting
	9 – 11	Year 7 Camp
	16 – 21	Southern Stars



IDO Expo 2021

*NDIS Information Session
10.30am to 11.30am*

2021 Illawarra Disability Options Expo
Thursday | 17th June | 11am to 4pm
The Fraternity Club
11 Bourke Street | Fairy Meadow

Come along & explore the supports available in the Illawarra.

Please note dates subject to change in reflection of covid19 restrictions.



Education





UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA

UOW Information Evening

**TUESDAY 8 JUNE, 6PM, UOW
WOLLONGONG CAMPUS**

Join us at our Year 12 Information Evening, designed for students and parents to learn more about studying at UOW

We'll talk about:

- UOW Early Admission
- Degrees & opportunities available to you
- Your ATAR and selection rank (and what it means)
- Options if you don't get the ATAR you need
- Scholarships
- Global sports programs

REGISTER HERE:

uow.edu.au/study/events

