

# WHSPA High Notes



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Issue 4  
November 2022

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## From the Principal's desk .....

I recently had the absolute pleasure of attending the WHSPA Community of Schools Science Fair. This initiative is an annual event where students from our partner Primary Schools – Gwynneville PS, Keiraville PS, Wollongong West PS and Mount Keira Demonstration PS, meet at WHSPA to present Science Research projects that they have been working on. Covid presented a bit of a hiccup, but in 2022 the event was bigger and better than ever.

Science teachers from WHSPA attend the primary schools and provide practical advice and direction to the students to help them develop their Science skills. Mr Chisholm and Mr May are the Science teachers in question and they have done an incredible job at working with the Year 5 students. Some of the projects that were presented on the day included Music and Plants, Jet Propulsion, Solar Power and one group even made a wind tunnel. As always, I wore my multi-coloured science coat and presented the awards to the students.

A huge thank you to our partner primary school teaching colleagues who have fostered the sense of scientific curiosity in their students. Also, a thank you to our Director, Education Leadership, David Lamb for supporting the day as well.



## From the Principal's desk .....



### NAPLAN

Recently, Years 7 and 9 parents would have received their child's NAPLAN results. Over the last two years, the staff at WHSPA have been involved in professional learning which focussed on embedding Literacy and Numeracy initiatives across all faculties within the school. WHSPA also formed a learning team to focus on analysing past NAPLAN data, looking at school wide practices which impact on NAPLAN and educating the relevant students in regard to why we sit NAPLAN exams and the necessary school-based reporting that is required on these tests. To say that WHSPA's 2022 results were impressive is a vast understatement. Students in Years 7 and 9 overwhelmingly demonstrated that their levels of achievement were trending upwards and were higher than both the Statistically Similar Schools Group and State Average NAPLAN scores in Reading, Writing, Grammar and Punctuation. Results in Spelling and Numeracy were trending upwards from previous years and were well above state average. People have many views of NAPLAN. I remind staff, students and parents that NAPLAN is one of the tools that we have to look at the impact of the incredible learning experiences that are offered to students at WHSPA.



## From the Principal's desk .....

### Outdoor Kitchen

Recently, WHSPA has added a wonderful addition to its facilities. The “alfresco kitchen” as we like to call it, has been added to the TAS Block. Food Technology, Hospitality and Café Operations are hugely popular at WHSPA and this resource is an incredible addition to the outdoor deck area and is extremely popular with both students and staff. The addition of an outdoor pizza oven will be the final icing on the cake.

Thank you so much to the TAS faculty for their efforts in developing this resource for our fabulous WHSPA students.



### Farewell to Year 12 - 2022

Finally, a huge congratulations to our fantastic Year 12 cohort who recently completed their HSC Exams. It was so incredible to farewell them from the school with their graduation, formal and official walkout. What made this year so special was that there were so many parents and family members attending these events to celebrate the end of 13 years of schooling. The HSC Exam period can be extremely complex for a number of reasons, but I was so impressed with the way our Year 12s approached these exams.

I also extend my thanks to the incredible parents of this year 12 cohort. It has been a pleasure to work with you over the past six years and I thank you for your support of the school. After six years at WHSPA, I have many fond memories of this cohort and on behalf of the school I wish them all the best with their future endeavours.

**Paul Ryan**

Principal

## From the Deputy Principal's desk



### Year 12 Picnic Day

The theme this year was Hollywood Stars. The sun came out for a lovely picnic lunch, followed by dancing and them receiving a letter that they wrote to themselves on their first day of Year 7.



### Year 12 Guard of Honour

Sometimes in life it's the little details that can turn moments into cherished memories. Our whole school 'Guard of Honour' is one of those little details that ensured our Year 12's last day of school was one to remember.

**Kylie Wood** - Deputy Principal

**Molly Moyes** - Year 12 Advisor



# ENGLISH Faculty

## Live Theatre Version of HSC Text Brings Story to Life

### 3 November 2022 *Past the Shallows* Excursion

Year 12 (2023) English students attended a performance of Favel Parrett's novel, '*Past the Shallows*' in an adaptation for stage written by Julian Lamach and directed by Ben Winspear at the new Rebel Theatre, Walsh Bay, near the Opera House. Ms Leahy organised the excursion which ran wonderfully.



***Ms Leahy and students***

excellent actors playing multiple parts. Films of relevant scene elements were projected onto screens so the simple sets could become many different locations including wild storms at sea. Everyone who attended enjoyed the day.

### *Inside the Rebel Theatre before the play.*



**Lori Lebow**  
ESL EAL/D Teacher



Besides enjoying the scenery of Sydney Harbour, the venue provided an intimate and comfortable auditorium and an attractive space for socialising before and after the performance. Students from other schools also attended. One student asked if WHSPA was a private school because everyone was wearing the attractive uniform. WHSPA students conducted themselves with maturity and attention.

The stage adaptation transformed Parrett's dark story into an entertaining and even, in places, amusing re-telling, with

# LANGUAGES Faculty

## The Little Snail Restaurant

This term, thirty-eight students in elective French classes from years 8, 9 and 10 visited The Little Snail restaurant in Darling Harbour for a three-course lunch.

Students were able to enjoy traditional French dishes such as Les Escargots, Coq au Vin and Crème Caramel! It was, of course très délicieux!



**Sally Johnston**  
Teacher Languages



# VISUAL ARTS Faculty



## Year 10 Visual Arts Collective Graduating Exhibition

The Visual Arts Collective Graduating Class of 2022 had an extremely successful opening night at Project Contemporary Artspace on Friday, 4 November. The community came to celebrate the achievements of this talented group of students from varying walks of life, including local artists. The exhibition provides the opportunity for students to curate the gallery space, make important links with the local community, whilst providing the chance to explain their artistic practice. The exhibition was open until Sunday 13 November.



**Anna Peterson**  
Visual Arts Teacher

# VISUAL ARTS Faculty .....

## Year 9 Visual Arts Collective

The Year 9 Visual Arts Collective produced three large cuttlefish lanterns as part of the "Sea of Light" Lantern Parade in Shellcove on 29 October. A huge thank you to everyone who came down to celebrate the evening and share the wonderful experience of lighting up the night with the student's creative work.



**Rachael Dunstan**  
Visual Arts Teacher



# VISUAL ARTS Faculty .....

## Year 7 Visual Arts

Year 7 are currently printing their lino tiles to create their own editioned prints of a comic strip of their own design. The results are fantastic!



**Anna Peterson**  
Visual Arts Teacher

# PDHPE Faculty



## Sports Committee Breakfast Club at the Café

On 15 September 2022 the sports committee, provided hot chocolates, juice and toasted sandwiches at the Café in D Block. The excellent food and beverages were accompanied by entertaining and gracious hostesses who warmed the clients with hot drinks and amusing conversations. Students at WHSPA are very fortunate to have access to such healthy and comforting foods on a cool early Spring morning.



**Trevor Burnett**  
PDHPE Teacher



## PDHPE Faculty .....

### WHSPA Champions

A massive congratulations to William Willis for his success at the State Athletics Carnival! In a competitive field, William threw a PB of 54.24m to place second in 15b discus!



**William Willis**



**Lily Tonge**  
(4<sup>th</sup> from right)

Huge congratulations to Lily Tonge on her selection in the South Coast Tennis team that took gold at the CHS championships recently.

Examples of the well-rounded students we have here at WHSPA.

### David Arthur

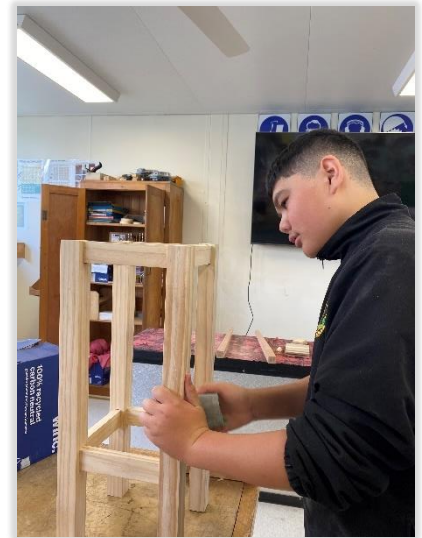
Head Teacher PDHPE

# TAS Faculty



## Year 9 Industrial Technology Timber

The Year 9 Industrial Technology Timber course focuses on the application of specialist joinery and cabinet making skills to produce items of furniture. Students develop traditional skills and techniques to construct their projects using a range of tools and equipment to produce a kitchen stool and a hallway Table.



**John Croft**  
Teacher TAS



# PERFORMING ARTS Faculty



## Year 12 Drama On Stage Nominations

A huge congratulations to the seventeen Year 12 Drama students who were nominated for On Stage - the showcase for outstanding work for HSC Drama.

All students worked with rigour and creativity throughout the year and their Individual and Group performances were of a high standard. We are so proud of you all.



**Chris Richards**  
Head Teacher Performing Arts

# PERFORMING ARTS Faculty .....

## State Dance Festival



Congratulations to our Dance companies on incredible performances at the State Dance Festival.



## Congratulations to the Pre-Professional Drama Company!

Last week, our senior drama students from the Pre-Professional Company entertained audiences over three wonderful nights. The performances were fabulous, and it was great to see this Company up and running again after a few quiet years.

Director extraordinaire, Duncan Ragg and drama teacher, Natasha Davey were instrumental in the success of the show and are extremely proud of the professionalism this talented cast displayed.



**Chris Richards**  
Head Teacher Performing Arts



## PERFORMING ARTS Faculty .....

### Dance/Drama Tickets on sale!

Our dance and drama students have been working hard to present the following performances for your enjoyment. Everyone is invited to view the work of our talented Performing Arts students.

#### Improvisation Show

**16 Nov** - all tix \$10.

Book here >> [Improv tix](#)



#### Showcase of Year 8 to 10 Improvisation Company students.

6:30 pm start - (no intermission)

#### Drama Company Showcase

**17 & 18 Nov** - all tix \$20.

Book here >> [Drama showcase tix](#)



#### Year 7 to 9 Drama Companies showcasing their Company work.

1st half: Year 9 Drama Extension Company will perform Animal Farm. **1<sup>st</sup> half recommended for high school aged students +**

2nd half: Year 7 & 8 Drama Companies will perform pieces inspired by Animal Farm.

6:30 pm start with intermission. (same show both nights).

#### Dance Class/Company Showcase

**28 & 29 Nov** - all tix \$20.

Book here >> [Dance showcase tix](#)



#### Year 7 to 12 Dance students showcasing their class and company work over two nights.

It promises to be a wonderful celebration of class and company work from throughout the year. It contains dance of all styles and age groups.

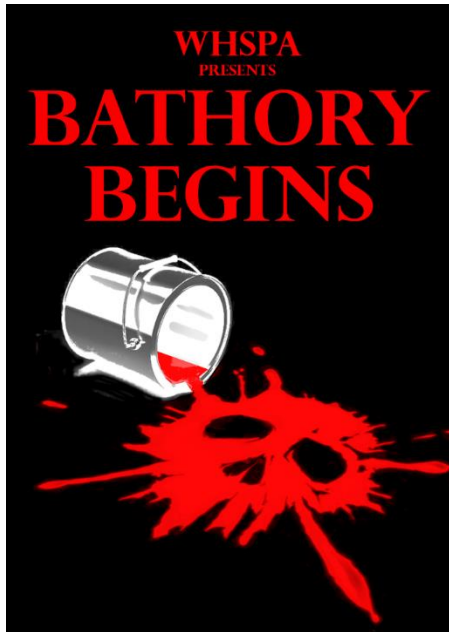
6:30 pm start with intermission.

## PERFORMING ARTS Faculty .....

### **Bathory Begins**

**8 & 9 Dec** - Adult \$25, student \$15

Book here >> [Bathory Begins tix](#)



### **Play by Year 10 Drama Extension**

I knew visiting a public school was going to be atrocious, I just didn't think the murders would start so early in the day.

Year 10 Art and Design teacher Mrs Bathory is a sixteenth-century Hungarian woman. The sadistic, undead serial-killer countess, Erzsébet Báthory. It's pretty obvious to her class of seven girls — yes, seven — the last remaining survivors of what the school is calling an outbreak of 'headlice' but what the students of 10F know is really another murderous rampage in Bathory's quest for eternal youth.

When the girl's attempt to 'melt' her with a bucket of water accidentally, actually, kills Mrs. Bathory before her Tuesday morning art lesson, her seven girls have a body to hide and a classroom full of visiting private school boys to convince of the righteousness of their cause.

Girls vs. boys. Public vs. private... And an undead woman of the night. Things were never going to end well.

6:30 pm start – no intermission.

**Recommended for high school aged students +**

**Canteen and EFTPOS facilities available at performances with intermission.**

**All performances begin at 6:30 pm.**

**You can also find the links to purchase tickets to ALL our events, on the school app and school website, under the heading "WHSPAC Box Office".**



# Parent Information .....



## WHSPA SENIOR EXECUTIVE STAFF



**Paul Ryan**      **Principal**



**Bryce O'Connor**    **Deputy Principal – Years 8, 10 & 12**



**Kylie Wood**      **Deputy Principal – Years 7, 9 & 11**

## WHSPA EXECUTIVE STAFF



**Apple Phasavath**      **Head Teacher  
*English***



**Lorien Mackreill**      **Head Teacher  
*Mathematics***



**Marc Kates**      **Head Teacher  
*Science***



**Vicki Strudwick**      **Head Teacher  
*HSIE***



**David Arthur**      **Head Teacher  
*PDHPE***



**Rachel Jospe**      **Head Teacher  
*TAS***



**Ruth Ellevsen**      **Head Teacher  
*Music***



**Chris Richards**      **Head Teacher  
*PA***



**Emily Ireland**      **Head Teacher  
*Secondary Studies  
& Visual Arts***



**Fleur Williams (rel)**      **Head Teacher  
*Administration  
Procedures &  
Languages***



**Heidi Whelan**      **Head Teacher  
*Wellbeing – Girls***



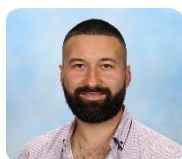
**Braiden Gilbert**      **Head Teacher  
*Wellbeing – Boys***

# Parent Information .....



## YEAR ADVISORS – 2022

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



**Nicholas Stanojevic**

[nicholas.stanojevic4@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:nicholas.stanojevic4@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Year 7  
Year Advisor**



**Armi Wilson**

[armi.wilson1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:armi.wilson1@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Year 8  
Year Advisors**



**Kirsty Anderson**

[kirsty.andersen@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kirsty.andersen@det.nsw.edu.au)



**George Broadfoot**

[george.broadfoot4@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:george.broadfoot4@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Year 9  
Year Advisor**



**Melissa Meafou**

[melissa.meafou1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:melissa.meafou1@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Year 10  
Year Advisor**



**Kylie Burnard**

[kylie.burnard@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kylie.burnard@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Year 11  
Year Advisors**



**Molly Moyes**

[molly.moyes1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:molly.moyes1@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Year 12  
Year Advisor**



# Parent Information .....



## WELL-BEING & LEARNING SUPPORT - 2022



**Leanne King**  
*Learning and Support Teacher*  
[leanne.king1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto: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](mailto: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.



**Emma Davidson**  
*Wellbeing HUB SLSO*  
[emma.davidson1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:emma.davidson1@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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

# Parent Information ....



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### 2022

NOVEMBER	21 – 25	Year 10 Work Experience
	29	Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day
	29	WHSPA Sports Presentation
	30 – 2 DEC	Yar 9 PASS Surf Camp

DECEMBER	5	Year 7 Spelling Bee: Semi and Final
	12	P&C Meeting
	12	Academic Awards Years 7 & 9
	13	Academic Awards Years 8 & 10
	14	Jamberoo Reward Day
	15	Academic Awards Year 11
	16	Years 7 – 11 Last school day

### 2023

JANUARY	31	Years 7, 11 & 12 Return to school
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FEBRUARY	1	Years 8, 9 & 11 Return to school
	6 – 7	Year 11 Life Ready
	10	School Photos
	13	P&C Meeting
	14	School Swimming Carnival
	17	School Photos

MARCH	2	IMMUNISATIONS Year 7
	4	Year 8 VALID Science Ends