



Head Teacher Report

As the term closes in on us, we have a few end of year activities coming up.

1. Graduation will be held on Tuesday 17th December at Romeo and Guilietta's. Our Year 10 students will celebrate their Record of School Achievement (RoSA) and completion of 11 years of schooling. Invitations have gone out and we are looking forward to the night.
2. Christmas lunch will be cooked and served by students on Friday 13th December. The tree and room have already been beautifully decorated and the table will be decorated by students prior to lunch.
3. A reward day will be held Week 9 for those students who have achieved Silver this term. Congratulations to those students. Gold achievers will also be presented with their Awards for outstanding achievement this term.



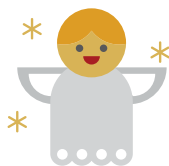
We would like to say a big thank you to all those businesses, agencies and individuals who have supported our school throughout the year. Without your care and support, students would not have had the opportunity to achieve the success they have achieved.

Year 11 and 12

We are now registered to deliver a Stage 6 - Year 11 and 12 curriculum commencing next year! We are extremely excited about this and have commenced planning a most engaging curriculum. Subjects to be studied will be:

- English Studies
- Mathematics Standard
- Work Studies
- Sport Leisure and Recreation
- Marine Studies
- Visual Design

Students have had input into what they would like to learn about and how we will deliver these subjects. This student voice will continue throughout Stage 6 as students ready themselves for their next chapter in life. Our goal is to ensure all students are life and work ready and have the skills required to be successful and happy in whatever they choose to do.



Lastly, I would like to wish our students, staff and extended school community a safe and enjoyable Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all back next year.

Lyn Muntz, Head Teacher



Student Activities

Maths

We have covered a variety of topics in Mathematics during Term 4, including 'Indices', 'Non-Linear Relationships' and consolidating fundamental Numeracy skills.

Many students have enjoyed revisiting algebra and working with equations. They have extended their understanding of these topics and are now able to graph parabolas and other curves.

It has been pleasing to see some of our students really start to enjoy Maths and many are challenging themselves on a daily basis. Congratulations and keep up the fantastic effort as the year comes to an end.

Shannon O'Mara, Maths Teacher

This term has proved quite challenging for some students in our class.

Fractions, decimals and percentages have been our focus, as well as revision in order of operations. Some students have progressed quickly through these topics whilst some are working hard on catching up.

Congratulations to all students on the progress made throughout the term.

**Lyn Muntz and Brenda McKinnon,
Maths Teachers**

Science

Term 4 has been a busy term in Science. We have studied several units of work including the 'Periodic Table', 'Forces and Motion', and we will conclude with 'Chemical Reactions'.

Students have been involved in an array of practical activities and their knowledge and understanding of key concepts is growing every day.

We have also been continuing our gardening experiments and have a selection of pot plants currently on the go. Students have been observing how succulents reproduce and grow new plantlings. We hope to have a flourishing school garden in the near future.

Students have now completed all assessment tasks for Science for the year and are congratulated on the effort they have made towards achieving their personal best results. Well done.

Shannon O'Mara, Science Teacher



Succulent planting.

Geography

In Geography this term we have been looking at human wellbeing. This has involved looking at a range of graphs and data that is used to measure 'Human Wellbeing'.

For their final assessment task students have chosen three creative and independent activities to show their understanding of the "Closing the Gap" initiative which aims to improve the lives of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians by delivering better health, education and employment outcome and to eliminate the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Students have created photo cubes and posters and written poems and short stories.

Sue Tyrrell, Geography Teacher



Closing the Gap photo cubes.



Student Activities *Continued*

English

This term, students have been working on a unit titled, "The Singer and the Songwriter - Protest Poetry", in which they are learning about a range of protest issues and songs. They have completed research tasks based on a range of protest issues, as well as completing in-depth studies based on a protest issue of their own choice. It has been great watching them connect these issues to their own lives and realising the effects of protests around the world.

For their assessment task, students had a choice of either composing their own protest song or analysing an existing protest song. They've really enjoyed learning about a range of issues, and many students have become quite invested in the issues they've explored.

The students have refreshed their knowledge of poetic techniques and are now much more comfortable identifying and discussing a range of techniques, and how they communicate and affect meaning for an audience.

To conclude the unit, we are watching the film 'Selma', based on Martin Luther King, and the Selma to Montgomery march of 1965 in Alabama. The students are really enjoying the film and learning a lot about Civil Rights protests in USA in the 1960s.

All of the students should be really proud of the work that they have completed throughout the year - they've all improved significantly in both their knowledge and skills in English.

Jasmine Dossetor, English Teacher

Personal Development Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

The topic of 'Risk-Taking by Adolescents' has been interesting and informative for our students. We have looked at the development of the teenage brain and how this affects decision making and consequently risk-taking behaviour. It has helped them to understand why they are so impulsive, requiring instant gratification and constant excitement in their lives. They have also learnt to develop strategies to ensure they are safe by minimising risks taken.

It has been very rewarding to see most students become involved and quite competitive in activities throughout the term. In PDHPE they have had the choice of doing cardio/weights at the gym or play indoor soccer or League Tag. Individual and team performance have shown a vast improvement and I can see fitness improving by the week.

During Wednesday Sport, students have had the choice of Yoga/Pilates/Dance, or walking, or League Tag/Soccer at Jubilee Oval. Brenda, Peter and Veronica have inspired all participants into a very enthusiastic and competitive sports afternoon. Congratulations to all students.

Lyn Muntz, PDHPE Teacher

Important Dates

Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service closes from 12pm, 24 December and re-opens on Monday 6 January. For more information call 6962 0000.

Free Christmas Lunch at the Baptist Church on 25th December. For more information, call 6962 2233.



Wellbeing Report

After joining the team at WRCS at the beginning of the term and getting to know our students, it was lovely to be able to meet most parents and carers over the last couple of weeks to review learning plans. These plans are integral in making sure students and their carers have an opportunity to have input into their study, goals and extra-curricular activities offered at WRCS. Thank you to family members who were a part of this process. Typed copies of the plans have been sent out to help keep students on track at home as well.

It has been great to see students set goals for the remainder of 2019 and forward planning for 2020. These goals have been around academic achievement, vocational training, health, culture, our school values (respect, responsibility and positivity), awards and attendance. Students are already tracking towards achieving these goals, with many of our Year 10 students graduating with their RoSA soon, students achieving bronze and silver awards and participating in school committees to organise Graduation and designing an outdoor space.

We have also been integrating the development of skills essential to wellbeing into our English lessons through completing a dedicated wellbeing journal. These activities centre on skills and strategies to develop resilience, positive mindset and self-talk, healthy communication and build relationships. This will be something we continue next year.

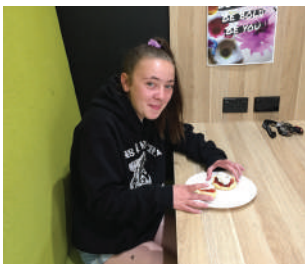
Students have also participated in a number of wellbeing initiatives, including:

- attending the Sconversations held by local community groups to support youth mental health;
- visiting AMS and Your Health for annual health checks;
- attending Services NSW and completing practice tests to support students to get their L-plates;
- participating in weekly Friday cooking tutorials, which encompasses budgeting, grocery shopping and cooking skills;
- attending the Balaangangirbang Women's Group to learn cultural craft skills.

We have also made and gifted gingerbread packs to organisations that have helped us throughout the year by providing work experience opportunities to our students or offering their services.

Lauren Forner, Wellbeing Officer

Sharna at Sconversations



Olivia Christmas cooking



All hands on deck for Christmas cooking



Jamberoo Water Park



Kiama Excursion

On the 6th of November, nine bright-eyed students and four staff headed off to the beach at Kiama for three days and two nights of summer fun.

The first afternoon was warm enough for a swim in the ocean (and more than one student getting pummeled by waves!) and capturing some beautiful sunset photos. After a BBQ cooked by our budding chef Katesha, Olivia and Tanieka revealed themselves as property moguls in a high stakes game of Monopoly.

On Thursday, our dedicated photographers were up early to capture the sun rising over the beach, before we departed for the Illawarra Fly Walk through the treetops on the mountain. Lots of students overcame their fear of heights and managed to get to the very top of the tower. The view of the coast and rainforest was amazing.

Our next stop was Jamberoo Water Park, and everyone enjoyed an afternoon of water rides and interesting interactions with local wildlife, with Alex braving a python encounter. To celebrate Haylie and Peter's birthdays, we were all treated to a dinner and cake, before one last walk on the beach.

The bus ride home was much quieter, though thankfully Hayden kept us entertained with his jokes and Brenda supplied us with sing-a-long tunes.