



Deputy Principal's Perspective

It's hard to believe it is the end of the year already. When getting ready to write this report I began thinking about all we had achieved this year and realised why we are all feeling exhausted! This term has been no less busy than the three previous terms.

At the start of the term, we said a sad goodbye to Ben Knight. Whilst, he had only been with us for two terms it felt like he had been around much longer. We wish him all the best at his new school, Indi School in Wadonga, the school will find him a valuable addition. With Ben's departure we saw Lauren Forner re-joining us casually this term before she begins her new position in the new year. Staff and students were both happy to be able to work with her again and have enjoyed seeing Pickles (her dog) and meeting Wanda (her new puppy)!

All students have been busy completing craft activities to sell at the WRCS Christmas Markets. Stage 5 students did this as part of their Friday Program learning with Kirsty, whilst Stage 6 were busy in Work Studies with Ema producing their products to sell. I am most impressed with the quality and quantity of products that will be for sale.

Stage 5 students once again got to enjoy working with George during Sport, honing their Hip Hop dance skills. He certainly pushes them for the hour as they come out of class happy, hot, and exhausted!

Plans are well under way for next year. Students will return to school on Monday 31 January for a half day (Stage 5 in the morning, stage 6 following on). We then head off on Tuesday 1 February for four days to Cooma (this excursion was meant to run this term but was unable to due to COVID-19 restrictions). Term 1 will also see Stage 6 travel to Sydney, and Stage 5 complete our Road Safety program.

We will welcome two new teachers at the beginning of next year Michelle Litchfield, who will be with us five days a week and Brett Ireland four days. They both will bring a new set of skills to our school which will greatly enhance the experiences of our students.

It is with sadness that we will farewell Ema Munro. Ema joined us at the beginning of the year two days a week. In her short time with us she has been instrumental in inspiring us to recycle! Introducing with the help of Stage 5 students a new multi-bin system so we can Return and Earn. In addition, she arranged for Susan Ley to come and speak with us in her role as Federal Environment Minister. We wish her all the best her new role which is in another area she is passionate about - careers.

With excitement and sadness, we are farewelling our first group of Year 12 students. Congratulations to Zach, Olivia, and Shaylee for completing Year 12 and earning their Western Riverina Community School Leaving Certificate. We wish them all the best for the future.

I would like to thank the WRCS students, families, and staff for making 2021 a great year. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

Ann Pretty, Deputy Principal





Student Activities

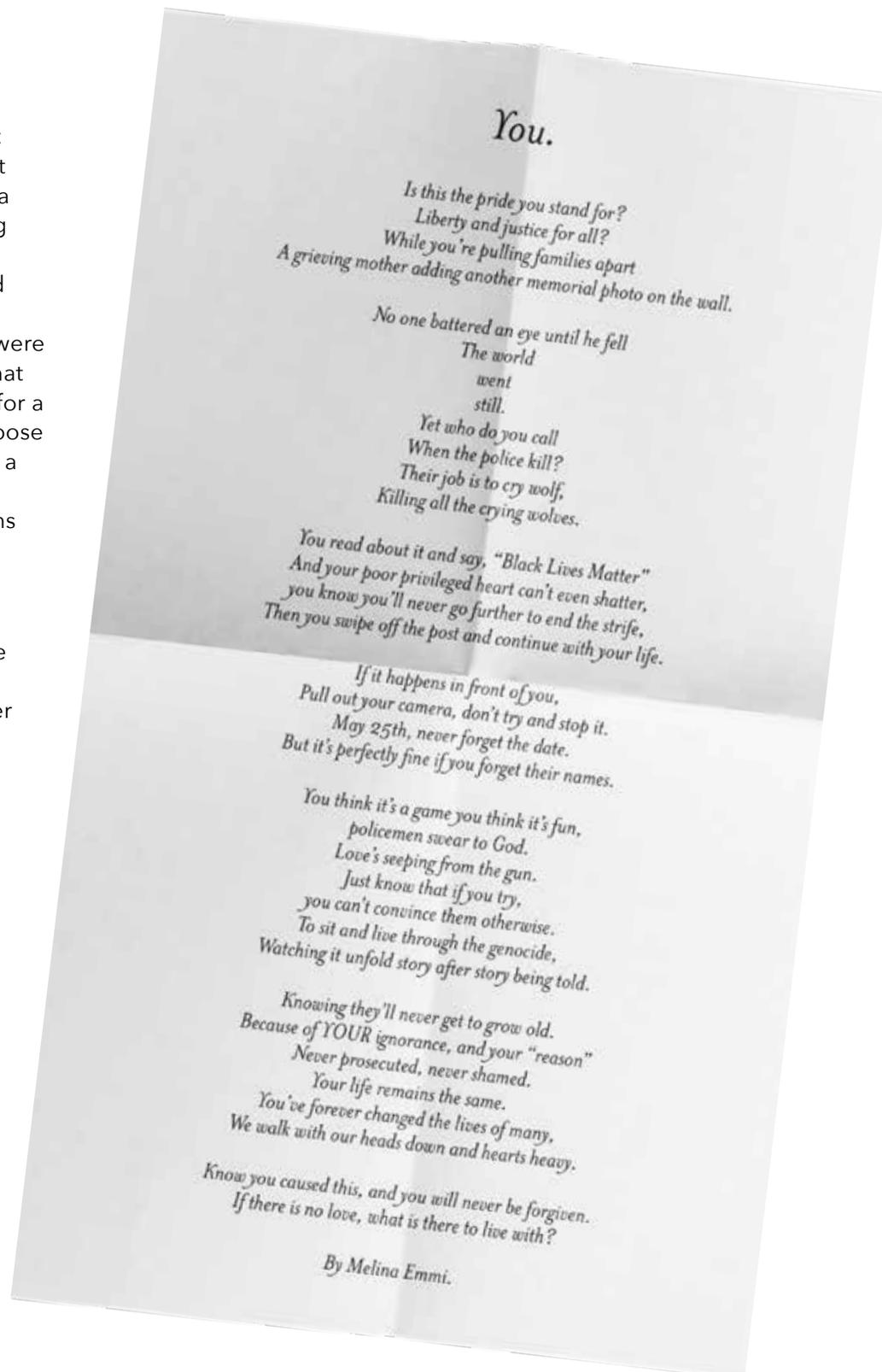
English

Stage 5 English

This term students completed the unit The Singer and The Songwriter Protest Poems and Songs. Students analysed a range of poems and songs, identifying the issues being protested and the literary devices that have been utilised to strengthen meaning around those issues. For their assessment students were required to analyse a song or poem that protests an issue of their choosing or for a further challenge, were asked to compose their own. Students were interested in a wide range of issues including racism, police brutality, The Stolen Generations and violence against women.

Students should be proud of their achievements this term. A special mention to Melina Emmi, author of the included poem, who has also been privileged enough to have some of her other pieces published in the local Mona Magazine blog!

**Kirsty Wood and Jasmine Dossetor,
Stage 5 English Teachers**





Student Activities *Continued*

Year 11 English

This term our Year 11 students completed a study of the unit *On the Road: English and the Experience of Travel*. They engaged with a range of texts including: itineraries, blogs and travel stories before planning a trip to an overseas destination of their choice. As part of this unit, students composed a number of social media posts about their chosen destination, incorporating the typical features of that media. Students explored the use of hashtags and captions to engage an audience and deconstructed their posts, giving reasons for the decisions they made during the composition of the posts.

Kirsty Wood, Year 11 English Teacher

Year 12 English

This term our Year 12 students have explored the different perspectives offered in historical texts and their impact on the historical accuracy. For their assessment of the unit: *The Way We Were*, students were challenged to present a six slide PechaKucha to the class based on a text that told the story of a specific historical event, person or era. Students were required to identify the film techniques used in specific scenes and assess the accuracy based on their own research of the event, person or era. We had an interesting range of films chosen: Titanic, Hamburger Hill and Cleopatra!

Kirsty Wood, Year 12 English Teacher

Mathematics

Stage 5 Mathematics

This term our Stage Five students consolidated their understanding of Algebraic Techniques, which they had acquired during the COVID-19 lockdown. During our study of the unit *Equations*, students worked diligently to solve a variety of equations including two-step, three-step and multi-step equations. We practised constructing our own equations before students produced clocks with 12 equations that had the solutions one through to 12.

Kirsty Wood and Brenda McKinnon, Stage 5 Mathematics Teachers

Year 11 Mathematics

In term 4 students studied the topic of Algebra. Students learned that the study of Algebra has important implications for everyday life. Students have developed a solid foundation in algebraic techniques, including writing and solving word equations, and using linear modelling to graph a variety of relationships. The assessment task for the term was a basketball analysis, with all students successfully completing the task.

Brenda McKinnon, Year 11 Mathematics Teacher



Student Activities *Continued*

Year 12 Mathematics

Term 4 began the last term for our Year 12's schooling, Students studied the area of Financial Mathematics, with knowledge applied to practical situations, particularly in the area of managing money in terms of credit and borrowing. Students studied interest, loans, depreciation, and credit cards, demonstrating a sound knowledge of understanding of each of these areas.

Brenda McKinnon, Year 12 Mathematics Teacher

HSIE

Stage 5 HSIE

This term we studied Environmental Change and Management. We completed a virtual site study of West Head. It's a very picturesque location in Kuringai-Chase National Park, north of the Sydney CBD. We identified and read measurements on fieldwork tools and used an identification chart to name trees, shrubs and herbs. This would be a great place to visit..... or we could go to Fraser Island, David ???

Sue Tyrrell, Geography Teacher

PDHPE

Term 4 saw students developing a series of modified games to improve their teamwork skills. Students worked in groups to adapt a variety of regular games such as basketball and touch football to focus on improving movement skills. Students also worked on motivation techniques. Students researched different cultures and the ways in which they inspire teams and players in the field of sports. Students designed a speech, song or an activity to be used to enhance their group's motivation when they competed in a series of group challenges.

Brenda McKinnon, PDHPE Teacher

Society and Culture

This term, students have learnt about intercultural communication. Their assessment task involved interviewing a person of a culture other than their own. It was pleasing to see how well the students applied themselves to the interview process. The findings were interesting for all of us.

**Emma Munro,
Society and Culture Teacher**





Student Activities *Continued*

Science

Stage 5 Science

Term 4 has been busy for our Stage 5 Science students. During the first part of the term students learned about Motion and Energy. Students learnt about Newton's three laws of motion and carried out experiments modelling these laws. Students then used ticker timers to explore the concepts of speed and acceleration. Time was spent talking about energy use and climate change, which was timely considering COP 26 was happening at the same time.

During the second part of the term students studied Chemical Reactions. Students began by researching the history of chemistry. They then revisited atomic structure and the periodic table. Recently they have been carrying out chemical experiments they can eat! Some of the experiments included making honeycomb, edible slime, and ice cream and chocolate topping!

Ann Pretty, Stage 5 Science Teacher



Veronica working with Cameron on Motion prac.



Lillie-Anne and Melina completing Motion prac.



Emanuel and Damien completing Motion prac.



Matalena, Brody and Rebecca in Science.





Student Activities *Continued*

Friday Program

This term Stage Five students have been working on a variety of craft projects to produce products to sell at our end of year Christmas Market. Students used polymer clay to make beads and jewellery pieces before some of our Stage Five girls worked incredibly hard to produce a wide range of earrings.

Students also made keychains and bag tags with the beads and 3D printed fidgets which were kindly donated to the school. Other projects completed by the students include hot chocolate kits, tie dye tote bags, canvases, Christmas stockings and Christmas ornaments.

We had lots of fun creating our products and hosting the market. Overall, it was a fantastic term!

**Kirsty Wood and Lauren Forner,
Friday Program Teachers**



Elie Hughes and Cathy Cottom



Lacey Ingram



Jake Harrison



Earrings to be sold at our market day



Keychains to be sold at our market day



Student Activities *Continued*

Work Studies

Stage 5 Work Studies

This term students have been undertaking a Team Enterprise Project which has focused on creating items for sale at the Christmas market stalls on Thursday 9th December. Aspects of running a business have been discussed and put into practice. These include planning and budgeting, advertising, and pricing, setting up and packing down. A reflection on how the stalls ran, and whether profits were generated, will be completed in Week 10.

Emma Munro, Stage 5 Work Studies Teacher

Exploring Early Childhood

Stage 6 Exploring Early Childhood

Throughout Term 4 Stage 6 students studied the development of children aged 18 months to 3 years. This included creating a book suitable for children of this age group as well as a toy. They watched TV shows created especially for this age group observing scripting and camera techniques used.

In addition, Year 11 students completed their Food Handling and First Aid and CPR Certificates as part of their course work (Year 12 students completed theirs last year).

Ann Pretty, Stage 6 Exploring Early Childhood Teacher



Olivia with her toy she created from recycled materials.



Students who completed Food Handling course with Cathy Z.



Student Activities *Continued*

Visual Design

Stage 6 Visual Design

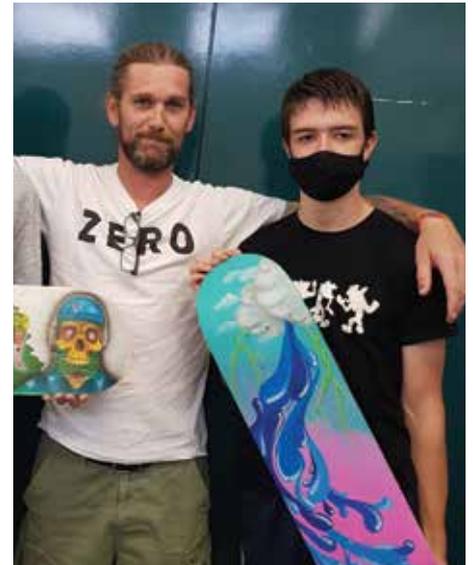
This term Stage 6 have faced their sewing demons and made an item of clothing. While many were reluctant, and many unpicked..... a lot, and some of battled with rethreading the overlocker, all managed to complete our items.

Look out for us wearing them!

Sue Tyrrell,
Stage 6 Visual Design Teacher



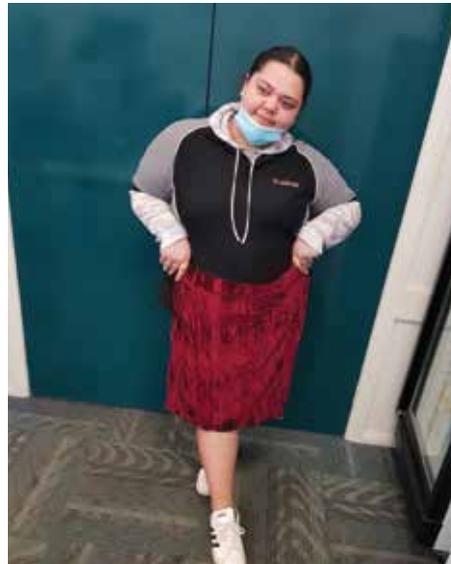
Nick's shorts



The Boyz



Little pants!



Olivia



Shaylee and Shakira





Wellbeing Report

This semester during Wellbeing lessons, students engaged with the Open Parachute program. This program helps students to understand their own mental health, as well as build skills to assist them to navigate challenges that they may face as they move towards adulthood. Students should be very proud of their efforts throughout this program.

During Week 10, student and staff were visited by Luke Kennedy, a motivational speaker, who discussed a range of things surrounding wellbeing and self-motivation. We are very lucky to be visited by guest speakers such as Luke.

This term we say goodbye to our three Year 12 students, Olivia, Shaylee, and Zach. These are our first cohort of Year 12 students to graduate, and we are very proud of their efforts while they have been at WRCS. Good luck in the future!!

I hope that all our students have a fun and safe holiday period and look forward to seeing them all next year.

Jasmine Dossetor, Wellbeing Teacher



Jasmine Dossetor and our guest motivational speaker Luke Kennedy

