



THE BEACON

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Striving for Excellence





Enjoy reading about another action-packed few weeks at our school.

Thank you to all the parents, staff, and students for their contribution to our school. The sense of community is obvious.

We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Southern Yamatji Peoples who are the Traditional Owners and First People of the land on which we stand. The Nhanhagardi, Wilunyu, Amangu. I would like to pay my respect to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of the Southern Yamatji Peoples.

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P&F News

On Saturday 27 July, the P&F hosted an incredible Trivingo night to a sell-out crowd of 200 attendees, all dressed to impress in a fantastic array of costumes. From nuns and grannies to Pacmen, Olympic teams, and sharks, the night was full of creativity and fun.

The event featured a lively mix of trivia, bingo, games, and auctions, keeping everyone entertained throughout the night. We are thrilled to announce that a total of \$14,000 was raised, which will go directly towards the fit out of the art room redevelopment.

A huge thank you to our generous sponsors for their donations and to everyone who made the night a memorable success!



Thank you to all our generous families for your donations to the raffles and the below businesses



Camps Program

Year 3 Sleepover



On Thursday 5 September, the Year 3 students enjoyed their annual sleepover in Batavia Hall. The afternoon and evening were filled with exciting activities, with a stand out being the fun rotation of games organised by our fantastic Year 12 student leaders in the gym. A special treat for the children was gazing at the moon through our powerful telescopes. While the weather limited visibility, they were captivated by the sight of the International Space Station passing overhead. Thank you to Mr Angelatos for arranging the telescopes and sharing his expertise!



The camp was a significant milestone for many Year 3 students, marking their first time sleeping away from home. We are incredibly proud of their bravery, resilience, and independence in embracing this new experience.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to making the sleepover a success; your support was greatly appreciated!

Year 4 Geraldton Camp



On Monday 2 September, the Year 4 students eagerly met at the Geraldton Camp School to begin their awesome local history/arts camp.

We were excited as we settled into our dorms and prepared for one of the many team problem-solving challenges we were to participate in during camp. These tasks, as well as being lots of fun, helped us to develop our teamwork skills, as we soon realised if we didn't work together, we couldn't complete the tasks. Other highlights included a Just Dance evening with Mrs McGrath, an Indigenous art activity with Aboriginal elder Mr Councillor, a fun Sun City Play Centre trip, mini golf, and a mystery movie night.

After immersing ourselves in the fascinating shipwreck story of George Grey, the explorer, on Wednesday and Thursday, we embarked on a thrilling journey to visit local historical sites. Our exploration of the European exploration and settlement of Geraldton in the early 1900s took us north to the historical Lynton Settlement, where we discovered Governor Sanford's house and the convict-hiring depot. The next day, our adventure continued as we headed south to Greenough to visit the Pioneer Museum, the Hundred-year Cemetery, and the Greenough Historical Settlement. Our area's rich and captivating history truly came to life for us.

The camp was an excellent experience for us all. It helped us step outside our comfort zones and take risks by participating in new and challenging activities. We learnt a lot and had a super time. We are deeply grateful to all the staff and parent helpers who dedicated their time and effort to make our camp experience unforgettable. Your support and guidance were invaluable, and we couldn't have done it without you. Thank you for being a part of our journey.



Year 5 Perth Camp

The Year 5 students had a fantastic, fun-filled camp week, learning many new things about Western Australia's history, Aboriginal culture, electoral system and environment. We visited Yanchep National Park, Parliament House, the Electoral Education Centre, Herdsman Lake Discovery Centre, the Maritime Museum, Fremantle Prison, Perth Mint, Scitech and Optus Stadium. We also enjoyed dinner at Cicerello's and participated in night frisbee golf, ten-pin bowling, escape rooms and a movie night.

Thanks to all the teachers and parents who supported us during our camp!



Here are some of our reflections:

The presenter at Yanchep was really funny. He told us the Aboriginal people had thin shields to protect themselves. - Lexi

My highlight was winning the game of bowling and getting the highest score. I also liked the nature walk at Herdsman Lake because I liked to see all the birds in the water. - Hamish

The talk about the submarine was the best. One of the motors can make 1800 horsepower! - Freddie

Scitech was my highlight because the jet-pack simulator was really cool. - Sanveer

My camp highlight was going to the Maritime Museum, Parliament and the escape room. It was interesting to learn about how Parliament works. The Escape Room was fun because it challenged our minds. - Samara





On day two, we went to Parliament. It was really fun, and we learned about voting. At night we also went bowling and ate burgers. It was amazing. At Scitech, we had a blast learning fun science facts, and then we went into the Planetarium, where we learned how the earth and space began. – Freya

I liked Fremantle Prison and seeing Moondyne Joe's cell. I also liked the Escape Room and Optus Stadium. – Zoe D

I liked the escape room and the way everything was hidden, and we got to spend time with people we wouldn't normally. - Bella

My highlights from camp were the bowling, HMAS Ovens, the Escape Room and Yanchep National Park. - Mason



Year 6 Canberra Camp



From dinosaurs to Prime Ministers, with snow, elite athletes and democracy immersion, we were privileged to travel so far to see and experience our amazing 'bush capital'!

Although snow and laser tag were initially mentioned as what students were looking forward to, we were impressed that the educational aspects trumped all!

Thanks, Mr Matthews, Mrs Valenti, and Mrs Place. A special mention goes to Mrs Mundy, who not only attends but spends 12 months completing most of the preparation. Bravo also to our parent, Mr Fong, who assisted, too.



Parliament House was such a cool experience. We got to do a role-play in the House of Representatives! - Isabella

I enjoyed learning about Parliament House and how their meetings work. And we got to see Prime Minister Anthony Albanese! - Amelia

At Old Parliament House, they told us it was built for 300 people, but when they closed, they had over 3000 people! - Alex

Being able to act as the Prime Minister was fun. I had to do a Party vote to choose the Bill that we would vote on and we all had to vote. - Mark (future PM!)

Quest-a-con was the best because we went into the Earthquake room and felt what an Earthquake would feel like. - James



The AIS was really cool watching athletes train and experiencing what it is like to train to be a professional athlete. - Tayte

My highlights of camp were learning a lot about dinosaurs at the dinosaur museum, and it was lots of fun making snowmen and having a snowball fight at the Corin forest. It was also very fun when we went to the Arboretum and went night orienteering. - Lennox

I really enjoyed going to the dinosaur museum. We learnt a lot about the Jurassic, Triassic, and Cretaceous. We also went to the AIS and we saw the gym and volleyball, we learnt a lot of facts about the sport. We also went to Questacon and we enjoyed it there a lot. There were eight rooms and we explored each one of them, there was also a drop slide and nearly everyone did it. Year 6 camp was very fun! - Zainab

This camp was a great one to remember. The Year 6s got to go to Canberra. We got to see the arboretum, which was a lot of fun. We saw trees that are more than 30 years old. I truly loved camp and it was so sad when we had to leave. - Gurleen

Parliamentary Question Time was fantastic to watch when the politicians kept arguing and yelling. Thank you, Mrs Angelatos, for taking us on runs every morning as it gave us a good start to the day. - Charlie and Kai



Year 7 Nukarra Camp



Nukara is not at all what I was expecting. When I think of camp, I imagine nothing but trees, burnt food from the fire and cold, rainy nights. Let's just say I was utterly wrong. Nukara was beautiful, with playground facilities and even a tiny football field. Of course, that was hogged up by the boys.

Straight away, we were shown the oranges, chickens, ponds, and farms surrounding the place, making it quite alive and well. Still, a large fireplace was also quite a landmark, always being kept alive by the one and only Mr Stevens. The only thing I think was missing was s'mores, but we still had some decent food. I say decent because I am Italian, and my standard is pretty high. And not only that, but Ms VB had the fantastic idea of making it an Italian cuisine. I can say I have some notes on the pizza. Still, though, thanks to Ms VB, we were satisfied. Mostly.

Some Year 12s accompanied our first hike. We walked 5km to a museum. It was quite an interesting place, filled with memories. To everyone's surprise, they even handed out lemons—quite tasty ones, too.

Our nights varied from people literally hyperventilating, AKA me, to waking up to rain the next morning. On our first night, we were all fairly jumpy, probably due to playing hide-and-seek in the dark. I don't know about you, but lying down face down in the ground with spiders surrounding you is not my idea of chill. However, this was not the only fun game we played.

Later, we were all introduced to Everyone's Talent, some of which were not really talents. I don't think asking math questions is a talent. Talents ranged from some quite impressive animal impressions to the boys singing 'Party in the USA.' That truly made some people laugh.

Of course, we couldn't have had fun without the legendary Mr Stevens. With a small amount of help from us, we made some good camp songs. Of course, the best was the fantastic goat song.

Overall, I'm sure everybody had a great time. I sure did, and I know I would give up a week of school for three fun days.

Of course, thank you to all the teachers who helped make it possible, especially Ms Hope. We know we are hard to put up with.

by Giuliana and Elle

Year 8 Port Gregory Camp

For this year's Year 8 Camp, we went to Port Gregory, a small beachside town located along the way to Kalbarri. On the day of departing Geraldton, we stopped at Horrocks for a snack break and then made our way to our campsite at Port Gregory Caravan Park. We assembled our tents and hopped back on the bus to go to Lynton Station to have lunch and learn about the history of Lynton and the surrounding area (Yallaburtha). After a very interesting experience and a short hike to the old jail and other sights, we returned to our campsite, where we went down to the beach for some sport and fishing. After this, we had dinner with some delicious burgers and hotdogs and settled in our tents, ready for sleep.



We were woken early by pelting rain the next day, and a few of us got wet. When the rain stopped, we had a delicious brekkie of yoghurt, cereal and toast and headed out for our day trip to the Kalbarri coastal cliffs, Kalbarri National Park and Kalbarri's town. We first stopped at the coastal cliffs and saw some incredible whales and the Natural Bridge. After this, we took the bus to the Kalbarri National Park, where we split into two groups to go on the Z-bend and Nature's Window walks. Both were spectacular as it only just rained and with the Murchison running at its fullest, the area was green and beautiful. Afterwards, we regrouped at the Kalbarri Skywalk to eat lunch and view the gorge. After this, we made our way to Kalbarri's town, where half of us did some canoeing in the Murchison and played sports on the foreshore. We also got fish and chips for our second dinner, which we all enjoyed heartily. After our adventure in the Kalbarri area, we returned to Port Gregory for our last night. When we returned from Kalbarri, we enjoyed chocolate brownies, and Milo watched some Olympic highlights before getting ready for bed. The next day, we packed our tents and bags and prepared for two last activities before leaving camp. The first was friendship bracelets with Miss Clarkson, and the other was a tour of the Pink Lake with Mr Greenaway. We were privileged with a guest speaker, Sam, who shared some interesting facts about why it's pink, we also saw some really cool little sea monkeys used to feed baby seahorses in Tasmania. After this we loaded back on the bus and made our way to Geraldton, tired out after an amazing camp.

As students, we don't often understand the time and preparation that goes into organising these school camps. We'd like to acknowledge all those teachers, especially Ms Price and Mr Greenaway, for leading the camp together. Thanks also to everyone who helped out and all the students, for making the camp so enjoyable to be a part of.

by William Glass and Miriam Beckett

Year 9 Greenough Camp



Due to the high rainfall in the weeks and days leading up to the camp, which caused access issues to our traditional Galena campsite, an alternative location needed to be sought. After careful consideration, the Greenough region was chosen, but it still allowed students to hone their personal preparation skills in readiness for Outward Bound in Term 4.

After enjoying a bird-watching activity and information session run by the volunteers of Birdlife WA, the hiking groups set off along the scenic Greenough River Walk Trail and, by mid-afternoon, were setting up their bivvies at Greenough Nature Stay campsite, located near Bootenal Spring. We enjoyed a nice first dinner over our little tuna can cookers. After a great dinner, we sat around the campfire with snacks and played interesting team-building games.

Wednesday morning, we woke up to a downpour and scrambled to keep our belongings dry. We visited the Central Greenough Historic Settlement for a geo-cache activity before having lunch at Ellendale Pool. Upon returning, many of us found ants swarming in our bivvies, bags, and sleeping bags. That night, after we all cooked butter chicken, we played more games and completed a reflective art activity.

Thursday morning, amongst the light showers, we packed up, did a campsite cleanup, did some weeding, and replenished the firewood pile. In our hiking groups, we made our lunch and, after an exciting river crossing at Bootenal Spring, hiked along the remaining section of the Greenough River Walk Trail. Once at the river mouth, with our boots off and pants rolled up, we forded across to the awaiting bus. It was a fun experience that ensured we were all prepared for the upcoming Outward Bound.

Thank you, especially to Mr Jones and all the fantastic staff who made this camp possible despite the challenging weather conditions.

by Levi Beckett and Isaac Gamble



Year 10 Perth Gateway Camp



Students in Year 10 travelled to Perth to attend the Gateway Camp. The camp is part of the subject selection process at Geraldton Grammar School. Students visited South Metro TAFE, Notre Dame, ECU, UWA, Murdoch and Curtin. They were provided information about university and TAFE pathways, courses, entry requirements, tertiary studies and opportunities and living on campus. Students toured St Thomas Moore, St George Colleges on College Road and St Catherine's College at Curtin.

Students had some downtime and enjoyed playing mini golf, late-night shopping, and participating in the city escape treasure hunt. The camp was a fantastic success, with students enjoying themselves and getting the most out of it. Thanks to Miss Amber Gerrard and Mr Clayton Waters for their assistance.



Year 12 Biological Sciences Camp

The Year 12 Biological Sciences camp ran during camp week in August. Twelve students from Biology and Human Biology headed to Perth for learning experiences that could not be achieved in school. After settling into the accommodation at the Broadwater Resort in Como, the students took part in tutorials to prepare for the activities over the next two days.

The following morning, campers arrived at the Harry Perkins Institute, where their competitive spirits were called into play with an interactive polymerase chain reaction activity, followed by gel electrophoresis using real human DNA in a PC2-rated laboratory. A tour of the facilities got the students thinking about real-world applications of the biotechniques they had been learning about. A trip to Kings Park to scale the DNA tower, followed by shopping at Westfield Booragoon, rounded out the day.



The following day of the camp began at the Perth Zoo, where the campers took part in educational workshops about homoeostasis and evolutionary trends of the Great Apes. This was followed by a meet and greet with a python and a very friendly kangaroo and then free time observing animals out in the Zoo. That night brought the students together for bowling, dinner and a walk in nearby Fremantle. A big thank you to the Biology and Human Biology students for their keen enthusiasm, respect, humour and wonder, as well as the unflappable Mrs Jefferies, who not only drove the bus all over the narrow streets of Perth but also maintained boundless enthusiasm across the entire camp.

Senior Concert Band Camp



On Thursday 1 August, students in the Senior Concert Band, Mr Stevens and Ms McGrath, departed for Perth for the 2024 Senior Concert Band Camp.

The students first had a workshop with the incredible Dale Pointon, who provided some excellent last-minute tips for their performance at the WA School's Senior Concert Band Festival at Churchlands Senior High School. The Band performed three challenging pieces for the festival: Counterbalance, Ghost Walk, and Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest. With Mrs Flint and a number of parents and grandparents in the audience, the students played strongly and were awarded a merit. They were then privileged to receive direct feedback from the acclaimed American composer and conductor Randall Standridge.

Having completed their performance, the following day, the students spent the morning doing archery and geo-caching at Woodman Point Recreation Camp. Then they practised their minigolf skills at Wembley Golf Course. After a visit to Karrinyup Shopping Centre for some retail therapy and dinner, the group then made their way to the Perth Concert Hall to watch the West Australian Symphony Orchestra perform Dvorak's Symphony No. 8, Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto No. 5, and the world premiere of Australian composer Olivia Davies' *Hyphae*. Thank you to Mr Stevens, Mrs McGrath, and Mrs Flint for organising and running the camp.

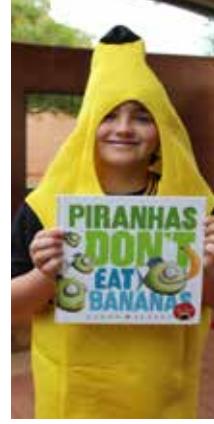


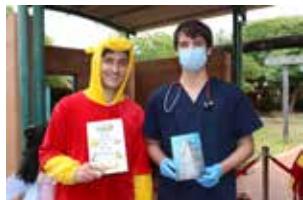
Book Week



Book Week has come and gone, but the magic of reading continues! This year's theme, 'Reading is Magic', enchanted our students and inspired them to explore the world of books. During Book Week, we celebrated the joy of reading and discovered new favourite books and authors. We also highlighted the contributions of Australian authors and illustrators who have made a significant impact on children's literature.

Thanks for joining us in celebrating Book Week 2024, where we discovered that 'Reading is Magic'!





The Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) category winners for 2024:

Book of the Year: Older Readers

Winner: Karen Comer - Grace Notes

Book of the Year: Younger Readers

Winner: Tristan Bancks - Scar Town

Book of the Year: Early Childhood

Winner: Briony Stewart - Gymnastica Fantastical!

Picture Book of the Year

Winner: Kelly Canby - Timeless

Eve Pownall Award

Winner: Isolde Martyn and Robyn Ridgeway

CBCA Award for New Illustrator

Winner: Erica Wagner (text by Johanna Bell) - Hope is the Thing

These award-winning books are great recommendations when choosing your next book.



Winners announced
Visit cbc.org.au/winners-2024

Randolph Stow Awards



2024 was another successful year for our participants in the City of Greater Geraldton Library's annual Randolph Stow Writing Awards (RSA). The event continues to grow, with awards ranging from Highly Commended to First Place, showcasing the increasing talent and enthusiasm of our participants.

Students write poetry and prose as a part of their English class curriculum and are asked to submit work they are proud of to be judged in the RSA. This year, we had over 30 entries, with students writing in their own time to submit work.

The winners included:

Scout Bailey, Hafsa Aung, Austin Goad, Wesley Brown, Harry Ward, Emma Stokes, Jennifer Tobler, Sahar Chowdhury, Pippa Lin, Kent Bristow, Chloe Cruickshank, Declan Argent, Gideon Kentish & Taylor Penney.

Chinese Excursion



On Wednesday, 4 September, the Year 9 Chinese class headed to Noodle King Roast Duck House for a hands-on speaking assessment. We invited students from Years 10 to 12, as well as those joining the Chinese Cultural Tour, to join us.

After arriving at the restaurant, we put our Chinese skills to the test, ordering dishes like honey king prawns, Mongolian beef, sweet and sour pork, and the roast combination (duck, crispy pork, and barbecue pork). The staff even complimented our Chinese

It was a fantastic experience using our language skills in a real setting, and we're proud of how far we've come.



Talented Young Writers



Secondary NAIDOC Week

Geraldton Grammar School celebrated NAIDOC week in Week 7 of Term 3. The Year 12 student leadership group was responsible for planning and organising various activities and experiences that increased awareness of the beliefs, values, and culture of our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

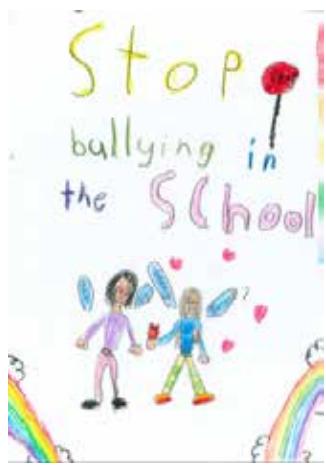
We would like to thank Geraldton Senior High School for its support during NAIDOC Week and for joining us at the NAIDOC Week assembly. We were privileged to witness a captivating Indigenous performance that truly showcased the incredible students' talent, dedication, and spirit.

One of the highlights of NAIDOC week was the creation of a unity hand Aboriginal flag by our secondary students. This activity was not just a creative endeavor, but a powerful symbol of our unified approach towards the importance of embracing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage.

Students also experienced some immersive arts and cooking activities.



National Day Against Bullying and Violence



On Thursday 22 August, students in years PP - Year 4 acknowledged the annual National Day Against Bullying with a Funky Hair Day.

The theme for this year was 'Everybody Belongs'. When we all feel like we belong, bullying struggles to find a place.

Belonging means we all have a crucial role in preventing bullying. We're not just bystanders, but active participants, encouraged to speak up and create a safe place where everyone feels supported and respected, and our voices are heard and valued.

During the day, children participated in various activities to develop their understanding of respecting everyone's differences and standing up together against unkindness. The INSPIRE Student Leaders also facilitated lunchtime games and activities to promote respect and inclusivity.

On Thursday, we gathered in House groups on the oval for a planned afternoon of fun pro-social games. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, we were unable to play. Instead, the children and their House leaders headed inside to work with buddies to create anti-bullying posters.

Despite the disappointment, it was a fun afternoon of inclusion and collaboration.

Thank you to the staff and students for their flexibility and participation.



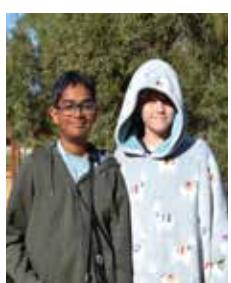
Service

Nepal Sister School Fundraising Day

On Thursday 1 August, during Week 2 of Term 3, the Nepal Sister School Fundraising Day was held at Geraldton Grammar School. Staff and students embraced the day's spirit by showing up in their warmest and comfiest pyjamas, hoodies, and Ugg boots. Each participant donated a gold coin to raise money for our sister school, Shree Janakalyan Primary School in Nepal.

The funds raised will help provide essential items to improve the school's environment, including a fence around the grounds, teaching aids, books, paper, and new roofs. This year, our school community raised an impressive \$887.25, which will make a meaningful difference in enhancing the children's education.

Thank you, each and every one of you, who participated and donated. Your generosity is not just a donation, but a gift that will make a positive impact on the lives of children less fortunate than us. We are deeply grateful for your continued support of our fundraising efforts for Shree Janakalyan Primary School.



World's Greatest Shave

On Friday 13 September, our secondary school came together for the annual World's Greatest Shave, with students bravely shaving, cutting, or colouring their hair to support the Leukaemia Foundation. The atmosphere was electric, with everyone united by a common goal – raising funds and awareness for those affected by blood cancer.

A special thank you goes out to the wonderful team at Shampers @ 3 for their continued support, expertly wielding the clippers and ensuring everyone left with a fresh new look.

We're thrilled to announce that the students have nearly reached a combined total of \$8,000! Every donation, no matter how big or small, makes a difference. If you'd like to contribute to this worthy cause, [click here](#).



Kindy Father's Day Dinner

On Thursday 29 August, the Junior Kindy and 4-Year-Old Kindy classes hosted a Father's Day Dinner to help celebrate their special Dads and Grandfathers. The students and their family members spent the evening enjoying some delicious pizza together. It was a wonderful evening, and the Kindy students cherished sharing some special time with their loved ones.



Kindy Library Excursion



On Tuesday 27 August, the Kindy 4 classes went on an excursion to Geraldton Regional Library to participate in the Better Beginnings program. This program supports children to build the early literacy skills they need to become good readers and succeed at school. The students were all very excited about our trip, as many of them had never been on a bus before.

While at the library, the students read a story, sang songs, and had the opportunity to explore all the different books available there. Our excursion concluded with a park trip to enjoy morning tea and play in the playground. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our parent helpers who accompanied us on our excursion!



Outdoor Education

Year 11 Kalbarri Abseiling



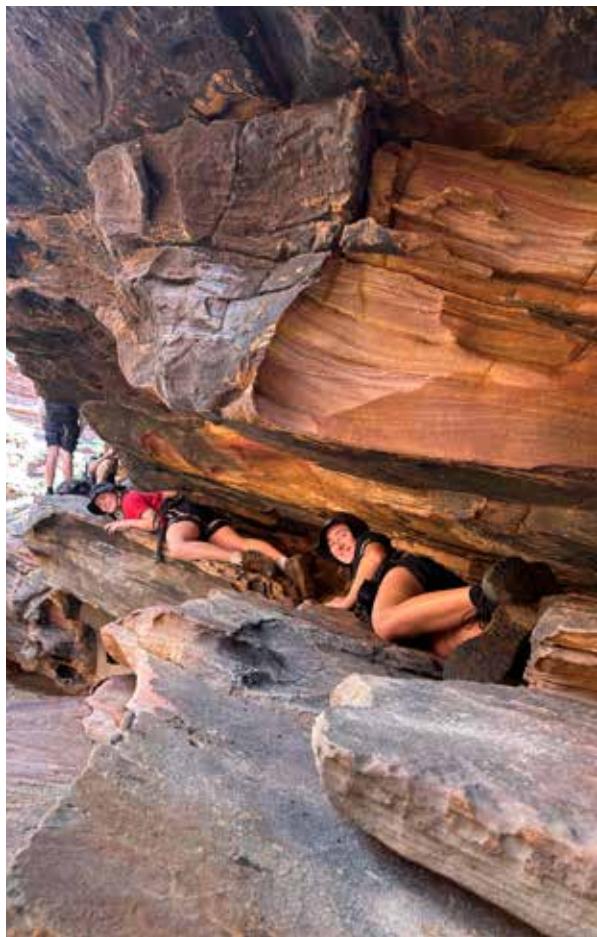
Year 11 Outdoor Education students enjoyed going abseiling in Kalbarri. It was an exhilarating way to explore the stunning gorges of Kalbarri National Park and challenge students to overcome fears and push the limits of their comfort zone. Students developed skills in handling ropes and teamwork by assisting each other as their safety brake and encouraging each other to overcome fears and abseil down two sections of the gorge – a 25m and 35m descent. All students grew in self-confidence and had a fun time together. It was a memorable experience that combined adventure with an opportunity to connect to nature. Thank you to Mrs Bassett-Scarfe, Mr Waters, Ms Cinanni and Mr Storey for providing this opportunity.



Year 12 Kalbarri Hiking



The Year 12 Outdoor Education students have just returned from their final expedition. On Monday 19 August, students hiked 8km of the Bigurda Trail before visiting the skywalk and setting up camp at Z Bend. On Tuesday, students completed a 12km guided hike from four ways back to Z Bend. On Wednesday morning, students completed their final hike at the Nature's Window Loop Trail (8km). The students were fantastic and a pleasure to have on camp!



Primary Athletics Carnival

Fantastic weather greeted us on Friday of Week 4 for our Interhouse Athletics Carnival. Students had a fantastic time demonstrating skill, sportsmanship and strong house spirit. A big thanks to all staff for helping with the day, particularly our Maintenance Team, for helping with setting up and packing away. Congratulations to Murchison for coming away with the win.



**Champion House -
Murchison**



Individual Results

Well done to these individual champions for their efforts across the pre-carnival events day, and the main athletics carnival.

Girls	Champion	R/Up Champion
Pre Primary	Maya Banda	Keysha Bertelsen
Year 1	Aria Kennedy	Charli Hollaway
Year 2	Asta Falconer	Abigail Luscombe
Year 3	Violet Taylor	Jazmine Johnson
Year 4	Sadie Barnes	Alyssa Nguyen
Year 5	Samara Penney	Freya Teakle
Year 6	Asha Reid	Hannah MacDonald

Boys	Champion	R/Up Champion
Pre Primary	Crew Anick	Kobe Dewar
Year 1	Sonny Dutton Tom van der Merwe	Matteo Ruiz
Year 2	Ruben Turner	Aiden Nicholson
Year 3	William Davies	Blair MacDonald
Year 4	Jake Bassett-Scarf	Ziggy Gould
Year 5	Flynn Wilkinson	Tyde Middleton
Year 6	Tayte Ackland	Charlie Fong

Secondary Athletics Carnival

On Friday 30 August and Friday 6 September was the Secondary Athletics Pre-Carnival and Carnival. We were very lucky with the weather and all the students are to be commended on their excellent efforts and achievements throughout the two days. Well done to Chapman, who was the overall Champion House. This is the first time Chapman has won a secondary athletics carnival in the school's history. Thank you to all the staff, the Maintenance Team, our student helpers, the P&F and parent helper Fiona Cosgrove for your assistance at the carnivals, it was greatly appreciated and enabled it to be a great success.

Congratulations to the following students, who were our individual champions:

Runner Up Champions

Yr 7 Buddy Hay and Indi Fitzgerald
Yr 8 Marcus James and Esta Penberthy
Yr 9 Bodhi Fitzgerald and Macy Halford
Yr 10 Finn Preston and Emersyn White
Yr 11 Angus Reynolds and Phoebe Teakle
Yr 12 Rowan Jermyn and Ella Batten



Champions

Yr 7 Bede Halford and Aisha Jones
Yr 8 Noah Brown and Isla Dawson
Yr 9 Nate Lane and Imogen Teakle
Yr 10 Luke Roden and Olivia Teakle
Yr 11 Owen Scatena and Eva Carlberg
Yr 12 Asher Milnes and Christi Bestry



Champion House - Chapman



Zones of Regulation Program

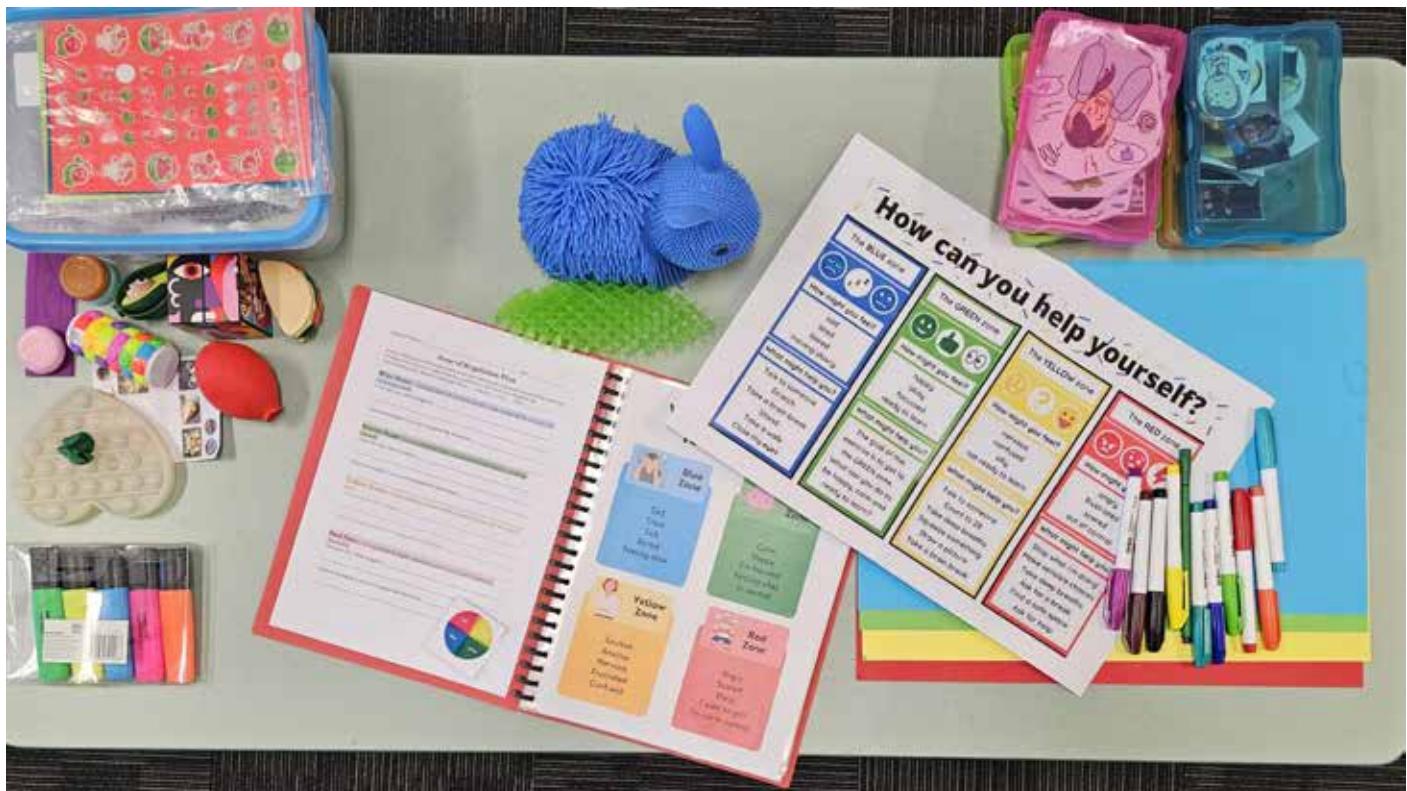
At Geraldton Grammar School staff are always looking to improve how we support our students in their social and emotional and academic spaces. One way we are doing this is by implementing the Zones of Regulation program. The excellent and dedicated educational assistants, Di McBeath, Tegan Goudge and Maggie Mills, have worked hard to up-skill themselves in how this program can support students and adjust it to fit a high school model.

This program asks students to recognise their body and mind responses to different emotions they experience throughout the day. All emotions are valid and serve a purpose. The students are encouraged to identify their responses and triggers and develop a plan to respond appropriately to their feelings. The EAs are working with individual students to develop their plans, and so far, the students have done a great job of being open and honest about their experiences.



Mrs McBeath and Miss Mills introduced the program to staff in a briefing on Tuesday and familiarised teachers with plans and strategies that students may use in the classrooms to indicate that they are feeling a particular way, such as their little coloured cards which they can use to let the teacher know that they may be experiencing a particular emotion at a particular time and may need some support.

Thank you, EAs, for your commitment to the social and emotional well-being of our students. We appreciate your hard work



Library News

Celebrating National Science Week: Species Survival

During National Science Week, our library transformed into a vibrant exhibition space, showcasing the fascinating world of birdlife and endangered species. We partnered with Birdlife Midwest-Geraldton and Houtman Abrolhos Conservation-HAC and presented the Birdlife and Endangered Species Exhibition.

Welcoming Our Feathered Friends

As September marks the beginning of our local bird migration into Geraldton, we celebrated the incredible natural phenomenon with this engaging exhibition. Our school community discovered the amazing shorebirds and seabirds found on our beaches and at the Abrolhos Islands.

Conservation Efforts

The exhibition highlighted the importance of conservation efforts in our region and showcased the work of Birdlife Midwest-Geraldton, a volunteer group dedicated to bird-watching excursions, citizen science projects, and community education.

Stunning Photography

The exhibition also featured the incredible photography of Chris Surman, capturing the beauty and diversity of our local birdlife.

Take Action Towards a Sustainable Future

By celebrating National Science Week and our region's unique wildlife, we aim to inspire our school community to take action towards a more sustainable future. We hope you enjoyed the exhibition and will continue to explore and protect our natural world.



STEM Competitions

This term, we have been working hard to provide opportunities for our students to demonstrate excellence in Maths and Science through their participation in National and International Competitions. We have also been using Dalton periods to run some Maths consolidation sessions focusing on OLNA preparation for Year 10, 11 and 12 students and skill and confidence-building sessions for Year 7 and 8 students. These sessions have successfully built numeracy skills for these students, and we hope to continue offering similar programs to complement student's in-class learning.

Australian Mathematics Competition

A number of students participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition. This is an extremely challenging mathematical problem-solving competition, and our students achieved some great success, as seen below.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Rawley Duperouzel - Distinction Blake Wills - Credit Wesley Brown - Credit Angus Harrop - Credit Jasmin Nicholson - Proficiency	James Taylor - High Distinction Felix Andrews - Distinction Alex McAlpine - Credit Hannah Antony - Credit	Levi Beckett - High Distinction Tarif Khandoker - Distinction Isaac Gamble - Distinction Sahar Chowdhury - Credit Xavier Shiosaki - Credit Eva Mellow - Proficiency
Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
Caleb Richardson - High Distinction Luke Roden - Distinction Liam Doncon - Distinction Samantha Scott - Credit	Freya Bergen - Credit Emma Cruickshank - Credit Jack Ward - Credit Roaa Elgamal - Participation Lily Scrimgeour - Participation Thi Chi Tran - Participation	Theo Chan - Distinction William Hoang - Credit



AMC.

**Australian Mathematics
Competition**

International Chemistry Quiz

We also had a few students participate in the International Chemistry Quiz. Again, these students performed extremely well, demonstrating excellent analytical and scientific reasoning skills in chemistry. The results are below.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Wesley Brown - Credit	Alex McAlpine - Participation	Isaac Gamble - High Distinction Xavier Shiosaki - Distinction Levi Beckett - Distinction Ahmed Elgamal - Participation
Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
Luke Roden - Distinction	Roaa Elgamal - Credit	Theo Chan - Distinction



Staff News

Australian Education Research Organisation Recognition

At Geraldton Grammar School, we value staff involvement in professional development. Recently, a group of primary and secondary school staff members were recognised for their commitment to professional learning in high-impact teaching practices. This included developing and reinforcing awareness and strategies around engagement norms, questioning, explicit teaching and feedback. In addition to their 2-year commitment to the program, Mrs Bonnie Chaplyn, Ms Nicki Biggins, Ms Paula Van Bladel, Ms Sheila Frye, Miss Amber Gerrard, and Ms Donna Hope (Team Leader) participated in a study collaboration between the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA) and the Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO). AERO recently recognised these staff for their hard work on the research project. We would also like to acknowledge and congratulate them on their continued dedication to improving professional practice.



Student News

Mason Dennis - Shoots His Way to 3rd Place in State Sporting Clays Titles

Mason recently completed his first year competing in the Sporting Clays WA series, culminating in the State Titles held at Echidna Park over the weekend. After shooting 200 targets across two days, Mason was in a tie for 3rd place in the Sub-Junior category. He participated in a tense shoot-off against his competitor to break the tie. It took 25 challenging targets, but Mason maintained his composure and focus, securing 3rd place by just one target.

In addition to this achievement, Mason finished 3rd overall in WA for the Sub-Junior category in the 2024 Season Aggregate.



Tanissha Suppiah - Australian Youth Scrabble Championship



Tanissha recently represented Western Australia in the inaugural Australian Youth Scrabble Championship, held in Sydney on August 25, 2024. Competing as WA's sole youth representative, she achieved 3 wins out of 7 games, with an impressive margin of 402 points.

Her performance at the championship has also earned her an invitation to the World Youth Scrabble Championship in Sri Lanka this September.

School History

Jenna Brooker Visits Geraldton Grammar School

On Tuesday 27 August, Jenna Brooker, wife of Geraldton Grammar School's first Headmaster, Tony Brooker, visited the school. Jenna met with outgoing Principal Neesha Flint during her visit and toured the campus to see the latest developments. One highlight of the tour was the gymnasium, the newest addition to the school's facilities, showcasing the school's continued growth and commitment to student wellbeing.

