

WILLYAMA HIGH SCHOOL END OF YEAR CONCERT

The end of year concert was very successful and thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance. There were twenty acts all up, and some amazing talents were on display. With an audience of about 150, the students were excited to showcase their choice of music that they had worked on this term.

Performances such as our term concerts, are a very important part of our school culture. They are reliant on students being committed, dedicated and proud of their participation, so as always, we thank you for your continued support in these endeavours.

Mr Gavranich and Mr Mullard would to thank all the students who participated in the performances, the stage crew in setting up the stage and lighting, and those students who helped on the night. Well done everyone. A special thank you to Miss Roper and Raynor Hicks, who were the MCs, Mrs N Jones for the photography, Mr G Shepherd and the WHS staff, who always attend, and give the Music Department their continued support. Everyone is looking forward to next years concerts.



PDHPE POLO TOP

Students pictured: Dylan Vale and Bailey Olds showing the new PE shirt for 2011. This shirt will be available at Work Clobber for \$20.00. Sample sizes are available in the PE Staffroom and work clobber to try on.



New School Skirts

Just a reminder to all parents that the new junior school skirts will be available from the school at the end of the holidays on Friday 4 February 2011. They cost \$35 and are available in two styles, an A-line skirt and a straight skirt with side pleats. Please feel free to come up to the school on this day to try on and buy a skirt. (Stocks are limited!) It will be great to have our girls ready for the year in this great new uniform! If your daughter is still wearing the old summer check skirt or shorts, this is fine. When she grows out of it, just replace it with the new grey skirt or shorts.

Term 4 finishes on Wednesday 15 December 2010

Students in Year 7, 10, 11 and 12 start on Monday 7 February 2011

Students in Year 8 and 9 start on Tuesday 8 February 2011



WILLYAMA WHISPERS

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Term 4 Week 10

Monday 13 December 2010

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It is time to celebrate the achievements of students at Willyama High School for 2010. We have in the past week had Year Presentations where students received Merit Certificates for giving their personal best, with parents and friends in attendance.

Students who sat the Higher School Certificate will receive their results this week and we await in eager anticipation the reward that reflects their hard work. Many have already got jobs or pre-admission to university and others await their results to see if they can pursue further education. I wish them well for their futures.

Students in year 10 received their School Certificates last Friday. It was wonderful to see the smiles on their faces, as it was a proud moment for the students and their families. I welcome them back as senior students in 2011.

Reports of student's progress have been finalised and will be posted to parents this week.

I have enjoyed working at Willyama and look forward to seeing you again in 2011.

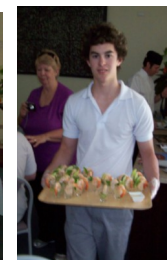
Happy Christmas and New Year. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Shirley Ellis

ATHOL WARK CELEBRITY MASTERCLASS

On Friday 19 November 2010 Year 11 Food Technology and Hospitality students went on an excursion to TAFE to participate in a Celebrity Chef Masterclass with Athol Wark. Athol is an Executive Chef, Culinary Lecturer, ISSI Fellow '04, Northern Territory Culinary Ambassador '05, specialist in value adding with 'Australian Wild Foods', Honorary Ambassador for Alice Springs. Athol has just returned from the International Food Expo in Shanghai, where he worked as the Head Chef.

The students and teachers were given the opportunity to taste some of the delicious samples of canapés that were served at the Food Expo. Some of these samples included Sesame Crusted Beef Tenderloin, Seared Scallops with Almonds, Button Mushroom stuffed with Herbed Fetta, Prawn canapé with Lime Aioli, Fresh Beetroot and Goats Cheese Bites and the lunch was topped off with a refreshing fruity sorbet.



HSC VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION

The seven students who completed HSC Visual Arts at Willyama this year will have their work exhibited at the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery. The gallery is located in the restored Sully's Emporium, Argent St. The exhibition was opened by Visual Arts teacher Alison Jones at 6:30pm on Friday 3 December 2010. This is an exciting opportunity for the students to see their artworks exhibited in a professional arena, and for their family and friends to support them.



Sandy and Sarah Palmer pictured her with their teacher Ms S Roberts with their artworks now on show at the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery.

Pedal Prix

On Wednesday 17 November 2010, the Willyama High School Pedal Prix team left for Maryborough for the RACV Energy Breakthrough. We arrived at Coomealla High School that afternoon to spend the night and prepare for a long day of travelling. The next day we were up early (some without showering) then we set off for Maryborough. We eventually arrived at our destination, no thanks to Mrs Hicks who decided to take a short detour. It was then time for our group of twelve students plus four teachers to set up the tents and unpack all our belongings; the disagreements between students were just a bonus.

The next day was presentation day. While other schools dressed in coloured costumes, had songs and dances and some even had presented a play; we decided to keep things simple and use big technical words to impress the judges. Mr Harvey on the other hand was more interested in his double scoop ice cream rather than our presentation.

Before we could participate in the race, we had to go through a series of tests known as scrutineering. These tests focused on different safety aspects such as the height and thickness of the roll cage, the reliability of the seat belts, the brightness of the lights and the positioning of the chain guard. They also looked at the brakes and the degree of rotation for the steering. After some minor alterations we made it through scrutineering. At the next stage, the questionnaire, the riders were questioned about the different safety aspects of the car, the different coloured flags and their meaning, the requirements of a high energy diet and the amount of training and commitment we put into pedal prix this year.

To end the night we had shootout; which is where all competitors go out and do their fastest laps to determine their position on the starting grid. We were pretty pleased with our results.

The big day had now arrived. It was time for the 24 hour endurance race. We were off to a great start with our first rider's helmet missing and a crash on the second lap which resulted in damage to the car and a missing mirror and horn. Everything was soon fixed with Mr Harvey's handyman skills and we were then back to belting out some fast times. During the race we had a few mechanical issues but that didn't stop us from having fun and giving it our best. At the completion of the race the team had covered over 470 kms. It was a great trip and we would like to thank the four teachers who put up with us the whole time.



Lions Youth of the Year Quest



Congratulations, Raynor Hicks, 2010-2011 Lions Youth of the Year Quest and public speaking winner.

On the 25 November 2010 the Lions Youth of the Year Quest was held at the West Darling Dinning Room. Students, from both Willyama High School and Broken Hill High School, took part in the competition where they were judged on their academic attainment, leadership qualities, personality, sportsmanship, public speaking and good citizenship.

The contest is a project of the combined Lions Clubs of Multiple District 201 and supported

by the National Australia Bank (NAB) to select an outstanding youth to be an ambassador for the Lions Club of MD201.

The contest is designed to encourage, foster and develop leadership skills in conjunction with other citizenship qualities in Australia's youth.

During the afternoon each participant was interviewed by the judging panel and in the evening they took part in a public speaking competition. Each competitor had to complete two impromptu speeches on current affair questions and one five minute prepared speech on a subject of their choosing.

Raynor spoke about the youth of today and how teenagers have not changed that much over the last thousand years. Her wonderful presence, clear speaking voice and humorous topic won the judges over and she was voted best public speaker of the competition. Finally, the moment came to announce the winner and to all our delight Raynor Hick's name was called.

Thank you to the Lion's Club for hosting this wonderful event and to Raynor Hicks for representing Willyama High School with distinction.

Ingrid Seck

School Link Coordinator/Program Summary for School Newsletters

School Link is a collaborative initiative between the Department of Education and Training and NSW Health. The aim of School Link is to improve the mental health of children and young people in NSW.

Key functions of the School Link Coordinator include: Improving pathways to mental health care for school students. Facilitating and coordinating training for both Education and Health staff aimed at improving identification and management of students with mental health problems. Assisting in strengthening collaboration between local service providers involved in the identification and management of students experiencing mental health, emotional and behavioural problems.

FAST CENTRE 2010



Throughout 2010, Willyama High School has offered the *Free After School Tutoring (FAST) Centre* for all students to receive assistance in areas they may be experiencing difficulties. The FAST Centre provides an environment for students to work independently or in small groups on homework and assignments. The FAST Centre has been a resounding success with a large number of students taking advantage of the opportunities presented to them, with a number of students commenting through-

out the year about the benefits they have received from attending.

As we approach the end of the year, the FAST Centre will not be open in Weeks 9 and 10. However, it will reopen in the New Year and be available for students to receive assistance in any subject area in which they are struggling. A big thank you to parents for supporting the FAST Centre throughout the year, and also to Woolworths Broken Hill for providing afternoon tea to students each afternoon. We really hope that students will continue using the FAST Centre in 2011, and encourage attendance if your child is experiencing difficulties.

Miss Millsteed assisting Hannah McNamara, Ben Mills and Hannah Norley

Year 7 Sport Pool Party.

It was a hot, steamy day - perfect pool weather and thank goodness for that! With the recent cool change, coupled with some much needed rainfall, we thought we might have to cancel our end-of-year, Year 7 Sport pool party. But the weather gods remained friendly and all went according to plan. Everyone had a great time and there were lots of squeals of delight as kids were "slip, sliding, away" down the seemingly endless water slide. Thanks to Mr. Mortimer who organised this fun event.



YR 10 / 11 TVET – Outdoor Recreation Lithgow

Recently a group of Year 10 and 11 students had the opportunity to attend a ten day Outdoor Recreation Camp to gain the first six modules in Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation. It was an action packed and extremely busy ten days for the group. Over the ten days they completed the units of work for Canyoning, Natural Surface Rock Climbing and Canoeing.

It started with a very early departure from Broken Hill via bus which turned out to be a long, long, long day. By the time we arrived in Lithgow on the train some sixteen hours later we had a few very tired but excited students. Once we arrived, the realisation that mobile phones and TV's would be swapped for the camp life was almost instant with the kids preparing their first meal for the week after setting up camp as the sun set in the Blue Mountains.

The next two days presented plenty of challenges for the group with some cold water, big hills and slippery rocks. The group really started to bond and the evidence of the learning was reinforced when one of the Year 11 boys slipped into some freezing water and the group implemented their emergency action plan which meant that he recovered quickly and without any ill effects.

After returning to TAFE in Lithgow for some of the theory units and some more of the logistics units we set up our second camp about 15km from town. The next couple of the days were the highlights for most of the group with the Rock Climbing components. The TAFE's staff was really impressed with the commitment and efforts of the group with two students climbing a grand total of thirteen climbs each over the two days. This including a grade 19.

The third leg of the trip saw a bus trip down to Sydney's Berowra waters for the Canoeing component of the course. This was both physical and mentally challenging for the group with a 20 + km / h wind turning the two to three hour paddle into a six hour marathon. The group set up an environmentally friendly minimal impact bush camp site, enjoyed a spot of fishing and sat back and enjoyed the serenity in this magnificent part of the world. After mastering some of the key competencies including recovery from capsized boat, the stern rudder and how to waterproof your sleeping bag to pack it, the group returned to Lithgow for the final night before the long train trip home.

Reflecting back on an exciting ten days gave plenty to talk about on the way home and it was great to see so many newfound friendships develop. The TVET outdoor recreation is an exciting and enjoyable way to gain some very important skills for the industry while challenging yourself to achieve so many things you may not realise are possible. We hope to run Outdoor Recreation in 2011 so if you will be in Year 10 or 11 please see Mr Kloczko or Mrs Hicks for more information.

Careers in Science Program – 2010 On 22 November, eight Senior students from Willyama and Broken Hill High flew to Sydney to take part in the Careers in Science Program. The trip started early, with a 6.30 am departure from Broken Hill, and was packed with activities from start to finish. Arriving at our accommodation, we met the other three rural schools who joined us from Yass, Temora and Narabri. It was then time to visit the CSIRO where we indulged in a free lunch and listened to Dr Bruce Lee, an internationally renowned and award-winning scientist. In particular, Dr Bruce Lee develops techniques to improve the quality and resilience of natural food products, and emphasised his goal to address potential food shortages as the world's population increases.

We were then taken into the CSIRO learning lab where students learnt how to extract DNA.

The next day was spent at the University of Technology where students undertook hands on activities in physics, maths and forensic science. Students were particularly impressed with the complexity and reality of carrying out forensic investigations, compared to its portrayal on NCIS, Law and Order, and the like!

Overall, staff and students had an inspirational experience. There was plenty of discussion on the trip home about new career options and pathways that we never new existed!

Photos -Bradley McInnes, Cameron Andrich, Kimberly Cherry & April Demery.



LETS / Skill Centre Welding Program

Pictured are the boys that have been attending the LETS / Skill Centre Welding Program during Semester 2. This valuable course provides the opportunity for the students to develop basic skills in welding. The boys have completed a number of projects during the program and have developed a range of skills in a practical setting. This is a great achievement and the boys need to be congratulated on their fine work.



Whooping Cough

There has been a recent increase of whooping cough (pertussis) among primary-school-aged children and a modest increase in high schools.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough caught at school can spread to younger brothers and sisters at home and can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and is worse at night. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Children with symptoms should see a GP.