

Selective High Schools

Online application for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2016 closes 17 November. Find out more:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php>

NSW public school terms and holidays

Here's a snapshot of NSW public school terms and holidays for 2015 - 2016.

Find out more: <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/events/vacations.html>



SCHOOL CALENDAR

The following link will connect you to our online school calendar for up to date information including term dates, school events, excursions etc.

<http://web1.willyama-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/webcal/calendar/1>

EMAIL ADDRESS

If you would like the Willyama Whisper emailed to you, please let the Front Office know and we will put you on our email distribution list.

THE FAST CENTRE

The FAST centre is open for all Willyama students on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3.30pm to 5.00pm and provides a great opportunity for students who may be having difficulty with assessment tasks or class work to receive extra assistance and tuition in any subject in a relaxed and resourceful environment.



WILLYAMA WHISPERS

Principal: Grant Shepherd
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Term 4 Week 6

13 November 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As we surge past the midway point of Term 4, there are lots of things happening at Willyama High School including yearly exams and assessments as well as camps and other activities.

A number of our Aboriginal students have not long returned from a cultural education camp at Kinchega National Park. More details and photos are inside this newsletter. I would like to acknowledge and thank Miss Kelly (for all of her organisation), Mr Carrett and Bill Bergman for attending and Julie Philp for initiating and overseeing the camp as well as all others involved.

A number of our year 11 students are in Lithgow this week attending the Outdoor Recreation Camp in Lithgow. They are involved in activities such as climbing, canyoning, abseiling and canoeing as part of their experience. This course can also count towards two units of their HSC.

Year 10 PASS students have also spent three days this week camping at Kinchega with Mr Kloczko and Miss Harris.

Congratulations to the Year 10 students who were formally acknowledged this week for their completion of the SES cadet course. This is a terrific achievement and a real opportunity for our students to learn new skills and possibly join the SES in the future to contribute to the very important role that they play in our community. I would like to thank Doug Hughes for his

organisation here at school and Marc Coulter and all of the others at the SES who made this such a worthwhile experience for these students.

Year 6 transition has continued over the past few weeks. I would like to acknowledge and thank the many teachers who have volunteered to take extra lessons to give Year 6 students a true taste of what high school life is like. We look forward to seeing them here next year.

After consultation with staff and the P&C, the school intends to change a school development day next year from 18 December to 2 February. This change will not affect the start or finish dates for students in 2015. Year 7, 10, 11 & 12 will still commence on 4 February and Years 8 & 9 will commence on 5 February. The last day of school next year for students is 16 December 2015. Please contact the school if you have any concerns or queries.

The Colours of Summer Festival, incorporating the Colour Run, is fast approaching and our SRC have done a great job in getting things organised so far. We are looking forward to seeing you all there.

21 November	Colours of Summer Festival
22 November	Year 12 Formal
26 November	6-7 Orientation and Disco
28 November	West Darling Sports Dinner
2 December	Willyama Concert
3-4 December	PBL Rewards Trip to Mildura
10 December	Presentation Night

Grant Shepherd
Principal

YEAR 10 SPORT

Year 10 Sport was a great success with a number of students participating and enjoying the benefits of an active lifestyle. The students participated in a number of sports ranging from soccer, grass hockey, and oz-tag to unconventional sports such as ultimate Frisbee and Lacrosse. Students also participated indoors and were involved in Indoor AFL, Slide Hockey and European Handball. A big thank you to the year 10 students for their behaviour this term and also a thank you to the teachers involved in sport.

Enrich your home with a WEP exchange student arriving in January 2015!

World Education Program (WEP) is looking for caring families who wish to experience another culture in their own home by becoming a volunteer host family. Browse through student profiles, and select a student who you think will fit best into your family and lifestyle!

Who are the students? Read over their profiles below:

Nine (15) from Thailand enjoys playing basketball, golf, swimming, going camping, reading Japanese manga, drawing and playing the piano. At home he helps with the gardening and takes care of his dog Benjy. He is very excited to learn all about Australian lifestyles and to meet new people. He wants to share some Thai greetings and food with his host family.

Andrea (17) from Italy is looking forward to making his dream come true when he comes to Australia. He enjoys trekking in nature as well as swimming for pleasure and is equally happy reading a book or spending time with his friends and family. His parents say he is helpful at home and as they both work he sometimes helps with the cooking. Andrea also likes to take photographs and can't wait to experience Aussie culture, nature and the beautiful landscapes.

For further information, please contact Sylvia Kelly (WEP Inbound Manager) on 1300 884 733, by email on info@wep.org.au or by visiting our website www.wep.org.au.

WILLYAMA CHAMPION NEWS

Once again the **finest champions** from Willyama High School will be invited to go on the yearly reward trip to Mildura. This year **42 champions** from Years 7 through to Year 11 will be invited to attend the overnight excursion. They will be chosen based on a combination of their **excellent attendance**, the number of **merits** they have received throughout the year and the **champion tickets** they have been given in class. Some students will also have the opportunity to attend through an Executive or Year Advisor nomination. The students will enjoy activities such as putt putt golf, dinner out and of course shopping. Keep working hard to earn your invitation!

During Term 4, the school has been focusing on the expectation: **following instructions**. It has been great to see a reduction in the number of reported incidents after our whole school lesson. Year 10 are leading the way with the best behaviour in the school. **Congratulations Year 10**. Keep up the great work.

Over the coming weeks the lesson focus will move onto the use of **appropriate language**. Students will learn about what is appropriate language and where, when and how it should be implemented and used throughout the school and in the community.

A big thank you goes out to the **student PBL Team members**. Students from the **SRC** regularly join our team meetings and give invaluable insight into the needs and wants of the students in the school. The SRC have also helped decide on reward days each term. Another new implementation has been the **Student PBL Team**. This team has worked on advertising and helping organise the Mildura trip and will continue to develop in 2015. If you would like to join this leadership team please contact Mrs Gauci in the HSIE staffroom.

SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

Year 7/8 news

On Friday 31 October Year 7 and 8 went to the Art Gallery to learn about the history of sound. While we were there Gary and Graham taught us about Thomas Edison and how the phonograph was used to record sound and music. Tyler had the opportunity to record his voice using the phonograph.

Vegie garden

Our year 7 students have been working hard to establish a vegie garden. Students planted tomato, capsicum, strawberry and carrots and are looking forward to eating the produce. We would like to thank Roy for helping us set it up.

IMMUNISATIONS

The final immunisation session for 2014 will take place on Tuesday 18th November. Immunisations will be HPV for all of Year 7 and Year 9 boys who have returned a form previously. There will also be some "catch up" immunisations for students who may have missed them earlier in the year.

Alison Jones

Head Teacher- Professional Learning (Acting)

Visual Arts and Photography Teacher

Girls Adviser

Future Leaders Program

An ideal development opportunity for school Student Representative Council (SRC) or any student who shows leadership potential. To make a booking or find out more, contact Sport and Recreation on 13 13 02 or visit <http://dsr.nsw.gov.au/futureleadersprimary/> for primary school programs and <http://dsr.nsw.gov.au/futureleaderssecondary/> for secondary schools.

KINCHEGA CAMP

From Monday 27 to Thursday 30 October 2014 sixteen students from Years 7 to 10 participated in a four day indigenous cultural education camp at Kincheha National Park.

The weather was great and the mosquitoes left us alone while we learnt painting, tool making skills and explored the Menindee lakes system. Highlights included a visit to Menindee ***“Joining In The Dreaming Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage Centre”***, several trips to Copi Hollow for ice cream and catching carp in the Darling River.

Participants included Dexqlan Lehman-Jones, Preston Slater, Jason Doyle, Caitlin Burrell, Jasmin Langdon, Paige Pigdon, Shakiera Eades, Lakisha Sloane, Simone Robinson, Cameron Lee, Shakera Williams, Blade Crowe, Tariq Odegaard, Robert Ferguson, Jesse Johnstone and Darren Bennett. Willyama staff attending included Bill Bergman, Jon Carrett and Maria Kelly.

We would like to thank Tex from Thrifty Buses and National Parks and Wildlife as well as community members Beryl Carmichael, Bonnie Blair, Robert Sloane, Cissy Cearn and Cindy Marks for all their time and effort. A very special thanks goes out to Julie Philp from the Broken Hill District



Dexqlan Lehman-Jones, Preston Slater, Jason Doyle, Caitlin Burrell, Jasmine Langdon, Paige Pigdon and Cameron Lee gain new experiences at Menindee ***“Joining in the Dreaming Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage Centre”***.



The students spent some time exploring the Menindee Lakes System. Lakisha Sloane, Darren Bennett and Dexqlan Lehman-Jones play “cricket” along the Darling River.

EAT MEALS AS A FAMILY

- Try to find one meal during the day you can eat as a family. Perhaps breakfast if dinner is a problem.
- Make it a priority to be home for that meal. Be sure that you sit together around the table.
- Use the time for each person to talk about what is going on in their lives. Be sure both parents share as well as the children. Include everyone in the conversation.