

Making Family a Priority: Your Weekly Fathering Tip

The kids always had priority over any visiting professor and over any weekend activities that I might otherwise have done, such as play golf. I never felt that this was a sacrifice, it's just what we did. -Ian Constable Children need your 'available' time. Time with them should take precedence over other free time activities. Sometimes spending time with your children means sacrificing things you want to do. And yet, time with your children will be the most valuable time you spend. And the most meaningful in the long run

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Respect, Responsibility and Cooperation



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
PO Box 708
BROKEN HILL NSW 2880
Phone: 08 8088 1055
Email: willyama-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
<http://www.willyama-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Term 1 Week 6

3 March 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It has been an eventful couple of weeks with the school swimming carnival and Leadership Induction Ceremony both being held.

The school swimming carnival was a huge success with a number of students participating fully in the swimming races and novelty events. Congratulations to all, in particular the age champions and record breakers. Details are inside. We wish our students well who are swimming in the West Darling Carnival on 7 March 2014 as we aim to continue our dominance of the West Darling sporting carnivals.

Congratulations also to all students involved in the Leadership Induction Ceremony. It was certainly a proud day for the whole school community and we look forward to working with you to develop the leadership capacity of everyone.

Parents/caregivers were recently sent home packages containing information about voluntary school contributions, bus travel, Positive Learning Environments Policy, Attendance Policy and a FOEI update form.

It is very important that the latter, Family Occupation and Educational Index (FOEI) form, is completed and returned to the school with current details. A significant part of our school funding is determined on the information harvested from the FOEI forms.

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 11 March 2014. Forms have been sent home with students. This year we will be ordering Willyama High School student photo ID cards for all students. These will be very beneficial as they will be barcoded for school use and also enable students to receive student discounts and concessions for public transport. Hence, it is very important that students attend photo day and have their photo taken.

Year 10 students will be starting their work experience with a three day block from 5-7 March. We wish them well and hope that it is both an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all involved.

Willyama High School P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on 13 March in the library starting at 7pm. Please come along and have a say in your child's education. Grant Shepherd (Principal)



School captains and Vice Captains Induction day

From left - Sage Collins Vice Captain, Jason Masclet Captain, Chloe Vella Captain and Mitchell Spangler Vice Captain.

Library news

It is with pleasure that I introduce to you Alex Wardrop, our Yr 7 student, who will be writing reviews of our fiction collection. Thank you Alex and I look forward to your publications. *Mrs Adams*

Good Reads by Alexander Wardrop - Nanberry: Black Brother White By Jackie French Historical Teenage Fiction

It is 1789 and new European colonies are being established across Australia. Surgeon John White disobeys the "white – man" rules and adopts Nanberry a clever and resourceful Aboriginal boy.

Nanberry witnesses almost everything that occurs around him with his "white-brother" and realises what is happening to his land and people.

The book is what you would expect from Jackie French, good literature and descriptive writing. The story is a true one, is full of love and cruelty yet a sense of forgiveness. However, some paragraphs are hard to understand or are not necessary which does slow down the pace of the novel. Other than that I recommend it.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 May 2014 ~ The Outback Science and Engineering Challenge ~ Open to only Yr9 and 10 students ~ notes and registration forms will be available from the Science staff room ASAP ~ Regular lunch time practice sessions will be held in Room 3.30. Listen to daily notices for days and times.

Thank you.

M Kelly

NSW School-Based Immunisation Program 2014

NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended for adolescents by the National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC) in a school-based vaccination program.

Students in high schools in 2014 will be offered the following vaccines:

Year 7 Males and Females ~

1 dose, Varicella (chicken pox) Diphtheria, Tetanus- Pertussis (dTpa)

3 doses Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

Year 9 Males only ~

3 doses Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

Students have been given a Parent Information Kit that contains a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement. Any student who did not receive one should go to the office and collect one. Completed forms need to be returned to the school office by Friday 14 March. The first round of immunizations will be held on Monday 17 March. If you have any questions feel free to contact Mrs A. Jones at the school.

Up and Running

Are you one of the 1000's of people that say on New Year's Eve "This year I am going to get fit". If you were one of them and want to be one of the few who keep up the commitment then the Willyama Running and Fitness group may just be the thing you are looking for. We are looking for more students, parents and teachers to get involved. Our team motto is "if it is to be, it is up to me" so now is the time to lace on the sneakers and get moving. We are a team that caters for all fitness levels from walking and beginner runners right through to the advanced half and full marathon members. No matter what your goal, what your fitness level is we would love to have you along. Why not get a start on that pre-season for winter sports or destress a little. If you still need more motivation why not sign up for the Willyama High School team that will be defending many of the junior age categories in this year's YMCA living desert dash or you might like to set your goals on completing your first or fastest City to Bay in Adelaide later this year.



If you are after a little more information or would like to come along and try it out see you at the Brooks Street ramp every Tuesday and Thursday 6.55am for a 7.00am start. Showers and breakfast at school can be arranged by seeing one of the teachers.
James Hale and Connor Esling cross the Finish line at the 2013 Gold Coast half Marathon

The YMCA Broken Hill Desert Dash

Sunday 6 April - The YMCA Broken Hill Desert Dash - everyone welcome - notes and registration forms will be available from the Science staff room ASAP - 5km and 10km walk or run - it's a great way to get fit and represent the school. Weekly training sessions are every Tuesday and Thursday at the bottom on the front ramp from 7am to 8am.



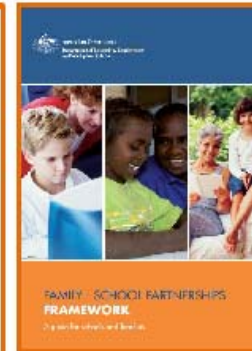
The Family-School Partnerships Framework Refinement Project

The Family-School Partnerships Framework has been available for use in schools for 5 years and has never had a comprehensive evaluation or update. In light of Education reforms, it is timely that the Bureau ensures that the Framework maintains currency, relevance and is easily accessible and familiar to schools families and community organisations.

What will we do?

Our Project Officer will conduct focus groups in your area. The purpose of these groups is to gather vast collections of opinions on

- how we can better the framework,
- improve schools, families and communities knowledge of the existence of the framework
- and make the framework more accessible to schools, families and communities,



Will it cost us anything?

We want and value your input to ensure the Framework remains relevant to schools families and Communities, therefore the sessions are **free** of charge and refreshments will be supplied by our Project Officer. All we require is a venue provided by your organisation to conduct the focus sessions.

When is this happening?

The focus sessions are being conducted across Australia during the months of February and March and can be held throughout the day, evening or weekends. Each session will run for approximately 1-2 hours each session

How can you help?

We want to connect with members of your communities who have had:

- no exposure previously to the Family- School Partnerships Framework
- limited exposure the Family- School Partnerships Framework, or
- awareness of and use the Framework

The cohorts could include but not limited to;

- New parents or family members to a school/preschool or groups of these,
- Existing parents and family members,
- Parents and family members from linguistically diverse backgrounds,
- Teachers
- Affiliate to your organisation
- Community members
- School executive
- Playgroups ect...

Contact Details: Helen Walton (0414726455)

- Primary parent group - 10.30 am to 12.30 pm - Monday, 3rd March (at Dept of Education and Communities Office 1A Wentworth Rd)
- Secondary Parent group - 7pm to 9pm - Monday 3rd March (at YWCA Hall, Blende Street)
- Aboriginal parent group - 10:30 am to 12:30 pm - Tuesday, 4th March (at Dept of Education and Communities Office 1A Wentworth Rd)

2014 Swimming Carnival Results

Age Champions

BOYS

GIRLS

12Years Runner Up	Liam Spencer n/a	Maighan Mashford Lara Camilleri
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13Years Runner Up	Zachary Murray Dylan Crabb	Kiara Pressler Angel Simmons
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14Years Runner Up	Eli Bock Tyler Hicks	Georgie Kuerschner Hannah Evers
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15Years Runner Up	Jesse Cochrane-Adolfson Kai Pressler	Chelsea Masclet n/a
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16Years Runner Up	Connor Esling Cooper Murray	Jessica Pryor n/a
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17+ Runner Up	Jason Masclet	Mikayla Mills Caitlin Lee
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Records Broken: Jesse Cochrane Adolfson ~ 15yrs Male: 50m Breaststroke (37.0), 50m Backstroke (34.4), 100m Breaststroke (1.23.3). Georgie Kuerschner ~ 14yrs Female: 50m Breaststroke (38.8)

House Pointscore: 1st Kyara ~ 663 points
2nd Yancowinna ~ 413 points
3rd Hexham ~ 149 points



Pictured from left back:
Eli Bock, Jason Masclet,
Cooper Murray
Connor Esling &
Jesse Cochrane-Adolfson.
Front: Dylan Crabb, Liam Spencer
Zachary Murray, Kai Pressler &
Tyler Hicks.



From left back: Chelsea Masclet,
Angel Simmons, Georgie Kuerschner,
Jessica Pryor & Mikayla Mills.
Front: Maighan Mashford, Kiara
Pressler,
Lara Camilleri. (Absent Caitlin Lee)

Year 12 cooked up a storm with
their BBQ including, this year,
pancakes for those who needed
that early morning snack.



The slide was fun
reward for many of the
students who had
champion tickets for
participating in main
events and/ or the
novelty activities