



WILLYAMA WHISPERS

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Term 4 Week 9

30 November 2015

From the Principal's Desk

It has been an exciting and productive couple of weeks as we get into the business end of the term and year. Well done to our SRC students on their efforts in planning and coordinating our recently held Colours of Summer Festival. I would like to sincerely thank all who contributed. Details and photos inside this Whispers.

More exciting news is that Willyama High School has been invited to participate in a highly regarded robotics program run by Macquarie University in Sydney. Early next year, a team of Willyama students will experience a two day robotics workshop where they will be given the materials and taught the skills to build a computerised robot to compete in a four day internationally accredited robotics challenge in Sydney.

Our HSC Formal was held Saturday 21st November and was a wonderful evening. All of our students looked fantastic and it was great to see the value each placed on celebrating such an important milestone with their peers and families. We wish them all well with their HSC results in three weeks time and all their future endeavours.

The Willyama Concert is on this Thursday night 3rd December starting at 7pm. Come along and enjoy what is always a great evening under the sails in our courtyard.

There has been a change to the 2016 start dates published in the last Whispers. Please be aware that Year 10 students will now also return on 4th February.

1st February – Staff

4th February – Years 7, 10, 11 & 12

5th February – Years 8 & 9

Grant Shepherd
Principal

Colours of Summer Festival 2015

On Friday the 13th of November, students from Willyama celebrated Term Four in style with the SRC's Colour of Summer Festival. In the past, this has been held outside school hours, but the SRC wanted to give all students a chance to participate and have a great time.

During lunch, a BBQ sold over 200 sausage sandwiches to ravenous students and teachers. For the sweet tooths out there, fairy floss, designer ice cream and cakes from the cake stall proved to be tasty treats.

The main attraction was the grand final of the Oval activities. Earlier in the week, the PDHPE Department ran heats of these activities and the festival saw teams from each year group compete against each other. A big congratulations to team "Epic Kazoo Solo", comprised of Year 8 students, who obliterated their opponents.

Students were also given the chance to play video games in the Hall and get revenge on staff in Teacher Aqua Ninja, where students pelted teachers with water balloons. Many teachers found it difficult to protect themselves from the onslaught with just a baseball bat.

By many accounts, the afternoon was very enjoyable and the SRC was able to raise funds to put back into our wonderful school. Thank you to everyone involved; we at the Council know that the day would not have been a success without you. The SRC is very busy planning the next festival, hoping to make it bigger and brighter in 2016.

Nicole Foreshow



Colours of Summer Festival 2015



Year 8 Visual Arts News

Children's book illustration

Mrs Jones's Year 8 class has been exploring children's book illustration in Visual Arts this term.

They have learnt about, author and illustrator, Shaun Tan's *The Lost Thing* and have been creating their own "Lost Thing" images which they painted in watercolours. In the second half of the term, they will be making sculptures that pop out from the pages of books on the theme of childhood, pirates, love or freedom.



Pictured here are Harry Morgan, Katelyn Polak and Tylah McNamara.

Year 10 Work Experience News

Students take part in school-based traineeships

New school-based trainees Stephanie Harman and Kirsten Groves represented themselves and their school tremendously at the orientation day for the Far West Local Health District program.

These school-based traineeships involve 100 days of paid work at the hospital over the school Years 11 and 12, and the completion of a Cert III in Allied Health Assistance (Stephanie) or Health Services Assistance (Kirsten) by distance through TAFE Riverina.



The Cert III can be used to gain a job as a health assistant and as a pathway into a health-related Diploma or Bachelor's Degree.

This will be the second intake of students into the Far West Local Health District School-based traineeship program, with six students from both high schools now moving into their second year of the traineeship.

SES Cadets News

Participants receive certificates

You may recall that 13 Willyama High School students took part in the annual SES Cadet program.

They are pictured here with Marc Coulter from the local branch after receiving their well-earned certificates. Members of the local branch meet between 6-8PM on Monday nights. It's a great way to serve the community and make new friends.



SES Cadets proudly display their certificates.

End of Year Concert

Term 4 Concert Under the Sails

Willyama High School presents this year's *Concert Under the Sails*. Join us for a combined night of music and art in our courtyard.

When: Thursday 3rd December 2015

Where: In the school courtyard

What time: Doors open at 7 PM and the show starts at 7:30 PM sharp.

Cost: Tickets are available at the door on the night and cost only \$4



School Fundraisers

Christmas Mufti Day Tuesday 1st December 2015

There will be a Christmas Mufti Day on Tuesday 1st December.

Come dressed in your Santa or elf outfits or just in Christmas colours. A gold coin will be collected for those in mufti during assembly. All proceeds to go towards our student acknowledgement system.

Running Group News

2016 Entry Forms Now Available

See Miss Kelly for a permission note to attend the 2016 Orroroo Half Marathon (March), Desert Dash (April) and/or City to Bay Run (September). Notes are on Miss Kelly's desk in the Science Staffroom.

Community News

Leadership opportunities with PCYC

Applications for PCYC's Blue Star Citizenship program are now open!

PCYC will be holding 3 Citizenship camps throughout 2016. There are 30 places available and all young people from across the state are encouraged to apply. Our first camp will be held at Myuna Bay Sport & Rec facility (90mins north of Sydney). PCYC will organise transport for all successful applicants.

Blue Star Citizenship Program Application Forms Available from the Front Office

Referrals for our Citizenship program can come from PCYC clubs, schools, youth centres and the local community. Citizenship camps involve attendance at two consecutive camps, with 20 hrs of volunteering completed in your local PCYC between the two camps. Dates for our first Citizenship camps are 18th-21st Jan and 11th-14th April. Young people must be between the ages of 16 and 18 years. Please note that if you are referring a young person who is 18 years old they must have a verified Working With Children Check Number prior to applying (free for volunteers).

On completion of a Citizenship program, participants will have earned their First Aid Certificate, Duke of Ed Bronze Award & Certificate 1 in Active Volunteering. Both camps will involve hiking with an overnight stay in tents, facilitated learning sessions on citizenship and recreational activities that will challenge them both in a team environment and on an individual level. They will meet other young people from around the state in a fun and safe environment. After completion, successful participants will be invited back to complete our Blue Star Leadership program the following year!

The cost of our program is \$100 per participant. Participants are able to pay their \$100 fee at their local club. Students can collect application forms from the front office. **The closing date for applications will be Wednesday 9th December 2015.** Please ensure that all documents have been signed by a parent / guardian, and Police Checks & Working With Children Checks (*if applicable*) have been completed before sending through the applications.

BLUE STAR CITIZENSHIP

Introductory program including 20 hours' volunteering

- Cert I volunteering
- First aid certificate
- Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award

BLUE STAR LEADERSHIP

Leadership development program, including the delivery of an activity project at your local PCYC.

- Leadership interactive workshops
- 30 hours of volunteering at PCYC
- Mentor citizenship participants

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

Individual mentoring for development opportunities.

- Youth rep on PCYC board
- International One Young World Summit

COURSE FEES:

Blue Star Citizenship \$100

Blue Star Leadership \$100

Participants must be between the ages of 16 and 18



pcycbluestar.org

Community News (Continued)

Get your letters to Santa

The Broken Hill Y's Men's Club would like to ask ALL of the children in Broken Hill and the surrounding districts to post their letter to SANTA early this year, as Santa is VERY busy at this time of year.



The Santa letter boxes are out waiting for YOUR letter at the following locations:

TOWN n COUNTRY CYCLES (411 Argent Street)

YMCA Aquatic Centre (336 McCulloch Street)

YMCA (78 Chloride Street)

For more information please contact Program Coordinator via email

simeon.kloczko@det.nsw.edu.au

Assignments and Study Tips

Grab those books and get your brain into gear!

Yes, assignments are kind of a drag. There are a million other things you'd rather be doing. So to help you knock them over and score top marks, here are some ideas you might not have thought about before. There's loads of info for each subject and tips on the best ways to study. Simply go to <http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/students/high-school/assignments-and-study> for all the links to the sites below.

Ask now tag cloud

Gotta question? Ask away!

This site has been set up by the National and State Libraries Australasia and has information professionals waiting online to help you get started.

Fill out a simple form and watch as they suggest websites where you can find the info you're after.

12 steps for effective studying

Are you notorious for chucking an all-nighter? Believe it or not there is a better way to study. Follow these 12 steps and stay goodbye to the all-night cram sessions.

Study resources

TaLe4Students is a great place to start for study resources - you will need your school student login

Assignments

High school ace - Subject guides and library reference sites

How stuff works - Random, interesting facts, videos and blogs

IPL - The Internet Public Library - research subjects, reference links and books

HSC help

HSC Online - Hints and tips to help you study, survive and plan your life beyond the HSC

Science News

Female Careers in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

Any female student in Year 10 or 11 who is interested in pursuing a career in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) is invited to attend a webinar to discuss career opportunities, current barriers for female's seeking employment in these fields and to also hear from various women currently employed in STEM roles. The webinar is on Tuesday 1st December. See Mr Cawley for more information.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) News

Movie Rewards Day Friday 11th December 2015

As a thank you to all of our students who have displayed exemplary behaviour this year, Willyama High School will hold its Term 4 Movie Rewards Day on Friday 11th December.

Invited students will visit the Silver City Cinema to see the movie Transylvania 2. (If you liked the first one, this one promises to be even better!) The list of invited students will be displayed in the canteen area, so keep an eye out to see if you are on the list or check with your roll call teacher next week.



The cost will be \$10 and invited students will receive a permission note and further details in roll call on Wednesday 2nd December. Remember to show respect, responsibility and cooperation.

The Mildura Trip will be running Monday and Tuesday 7th-8th December. Invitations for this trip have already been issued to the students who have earned a spot.

Keep up the wonderful display of our school values!



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>

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.

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.