

WILLYAMA WHISPERS – Term 4, Week 9, Wednesday 13 December

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Photograph taken by Year 10 Photography student, Shakirah Brown

Principal's Update

As another school year comes rapidly to a close, I would like to sincerely thank our entire school community for your efforts and dedication to student learning this year.

The efforts and achievements of our amazing students have certainly been showcased through events of recent weeks including our school concert, HSC art exhibition, West Darling sports awards evening and presentation night. We are extremely proud of you all.

Good luck to our HSC students who will gain their results at the end of this week. I know many of you have already been offered university places or have decided on future pathways and we wish you well.

Congratulations to Mr Ross Mackay who was successful in gaining the permanent principal's position at Broken Hill High School. We have really appreciated all that you have done for our school over the past twenty one years and will certainly miss you as an amazing teacher, school leader and colleague. We wish you well in your exciting new venture.

For our teachers who are leaving us at the end of the year, Ms Korrin Chennell, Ms Sarah Gauci, Mr Julian Mann and Mr Michael Black, we would like to thank you sincerely for your valued contributions to Willyama High School and wish you well in your new schools next year.

Please enjoy a safe and happy festive season and holiday break. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Grant Shepherd
Principal



Start Dates for 2018

Start Dates for 2018:

Friday 2 February	School Development
Monday 5 February	School Development
Tuesday 6 February	Year 7, 10, 11 & 12 begin/resume
Wednesday 7 February	Year 8 & 9 resume

Finish Dates for 2018:

19 December	Last day for students
20 December	School Development

HSC Art Exhibition

The 2017 HSC artworks from Willyama High School are on display at The Regional Art Gallery Broken Hill. The gallery is showcasing the works from Willyama, Broken Hill High and Menindee High. Year 12 students work hard over a period of four terms to produce a major Body of Work.



7 Fernandina English gets to work!

This term in English, Year Seven have been studying the experiences of refugees within Australia. Year Seven Fernandina completed a study of Anh Do's picture book, 'The Little Refugee', and began researching and discussing the living conditions of asylum seekers based on the ideas from this book. They were tasked with building model refugee camps to help show their understanding of the living conditions and adversities these asylum seekers faced. The students were actively engaged in this task, considering not only the limited access to water and food sources but strategically planning their camps to incorporate security, sanitation and sleeping arrangements. Through this activity, students developed a sense of empathy, being able to recognise the difficulty in being forced to leave one's own country and survive with limited resources and in confined quarters.



Movember-Willyama Warriors

This month teachers at Willyama High School took part in Movember. They grew Mos to raise awareness for men's health. The Movember Foundation raises funds and awareness for prostate cancer, testicular cancer and mental health, including suicide prevention.



Willyama High School Cricket News

Willyama High School sent a mixed team to play Broken Hill High School in an exhibition match before the Alan Davidson Shield next year. The boys put up a strong total of 221 runs, with BHHS unable to bowl us out. Luke Hall top scored with over 70 runs and Lachlan Kaye contributing 48. With a well-rounded bowling attack, the Willyama team were able to bowl out the 40 overs keeping BHHS 24 runs short of our total.

Massive credit to the Willyama team for keeping strong throughout a long day of cricket. Looking forward to the Alan Davidson Shield next year!



Fowler's Gap Excursion

On Wednesday 22 November, 36 students attended a Science Outreach Program run by UNSW and the Australian Museum at Fowler's Gap Research Station. The students participated in hands-on activities such as using forensics to identify suspects at a crime scene, as well as identifying native and invasive species using microscopes and driving a simulated Mars Rover from the Mars Lab. The day was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all students.



West Darling Presentation Night

The annual West Darling Presentation was held on Friday 17 November. Several Willyama students were recognised for their sporting achievements for 2017. Logan Berryman, Lydia Hinton-Neal and Kalyce Pressler were the recipients of West Darling Blue awards. Congratulations to all students who received awards.



Library News

From time to time people wonder why reading is important. There seems to be so many other things to do with one's time. Reading is important because words spoken and written are the building blocks of life, we discover new things, develop the imagination and our mind.

In one of his latest interviews, David Bowie said “when I look back, I am so impressed again with the life-giving power of literature. If I were a young person today, trying to gain a sense of myself in the world, I would do that again by reading, just as I did when I was young”.

These holidays I hope our students will embark on a reading journey with the Library's excellent collection of hardcover and ebooks. I also ask parents to encourage their digitally active children to read for enjoyment and enrichment.

To access the digital ebooks please go to Det portal and sign in as usual – select the oliver icon – other searches – resource type – select “O” – overdrive read.

Happy reading

Mrs Adams
Teacher Librarian

Concert Under The Sails

Willyama High School held the Concert Under the Sails on Wednesday 22 November. It was a fantastic night with students from Years 7 to 12 performing. A big congratulation to Mr Ancora and Mr Hussell who organised their first musical event together!







