

WILLYAMA WHISPERS – Term 1, Week 4, 21 February, 2018

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Willyama High Schools new logo - The design is a re-vamp of the old logo, but with a contemporary look designed by Erin Smith, a visual arts and history teacher at Willyama High School.

Principal's Update

It has been a smooth and productive start to the new school year with all of our new students and staff settling into some quality teaching and learning routines in our school.

Our Year 7 students and peer support leaders have already been involved in a successful day of activities and information to support them in their transition to high school. Our school appreciates the efforts of the various youth interagency groups in planning and running this worthwhile day.

Our student leaders have been involved in a planning day to plan events for 2018. Details and photos inside. We look forward to working with you on some more great initiatives this year to benefit our school and community as a whole.

Welcome to our new staff and students this year. Our new teachers in 2018 include: Mr Matt Jessop (Mathematics), Miss Coco Chen (Science), Miss Ebony Simpson (HSIE), Miss Sophia Papazoglou (HSIE), Miss Meggen Clarke (Special Education), Miss Jenna Spinks (Special Education), Mr Michael Mifsud (TAS), Ms Barbara McGuigan (TAS/Computing) and Miss Ashleigh Forbes (Day-to-day relief). Mr Rob Jordan (Mathematics) and Mr Evan Armstrong (English) have also joined us for Term 1.

School Learning and Support Officers Mrs Amanda Philp, Mrs Kristy Ramsay and Mr Matt McIntosh have also joined us this term as well as Mrs Anne Campbell as Project Officer.

We wish Ms Naomi Harper well as she gained a late transfer to Narrabeen Sports High School at the end of January. Ms Harper has been replaced by Ms Belinda Bell for this year.

As we enter a new school planning phase for 2018-2020, we will focus on initiatives based around our new strategic directions of: Inspired Learning, Quality Teaching and Distributed Instructional Leadership. We look forward to hearing your input as we further develop and finalise our new school plan this term

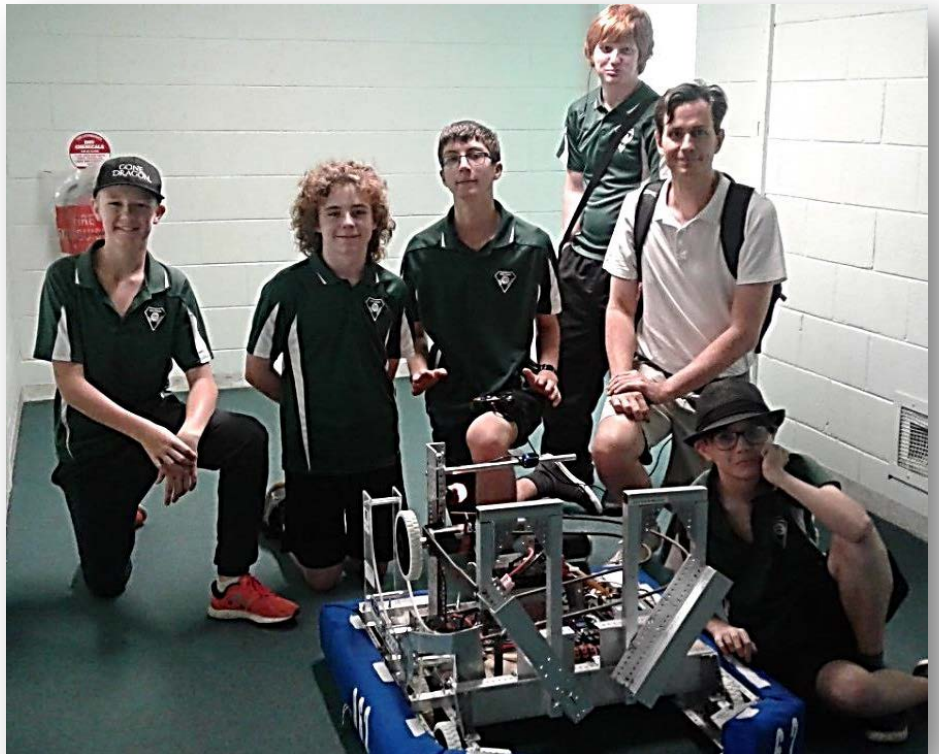
Upcoming events:

23 February	Swimming Carnival
28 February	Leaders' Induction Ceremony (12:15pm)
2 March	School Photos
13 March	7-12 Parent 'Meet and Greet' (4-6:30pm)
16 March	West Darling Swimming Carnival

Grant Shepherd
Principal

Calling for a new generation of Willyama Engineers:

It was sad saying goodbye to Mr Mann last year as he left Willyama to start his new job in Tamworth. Although we have put the Willyama Robotics STEM Program aside for the timebeing we are calling for a new generation of Willyama Engineers to participate in the Cobar Outback Science and Engineering Challenge, being held for the first time since 2015. This year's challenge will be held on Tuesday 8 May 2018 permission notes are available from the Science staff room. We need 25 enthusiastic students from Years 8, 9 and 10 to travel to Cobar on Monday 7 May 2018 to compete and return home the next day. Willyama still holds the title of regional champions having won the 2015 Outback Challenge and travelling to Newcastle in August 2015 to participate in the Newcastle University Super Challenge. Please direct any questions to Miss Kelly and Mr Harris.



SRC Planning Day

On Friday 16 February the SRC of 2018 met at Headspace to plan events for the upcoming year. Each term will see the SRC hosting a fundraising event for a community and/or national organisation.

This year is sure to be an exciting and engaging celebration of our students' commitment to supporting each other and the Broken Hill Community.

The first event planned for the year is a multi-day on the 16th March for Bullying No Way! Day of Action.

Students will be

encouraged to wear something blue in solidarity of teenagers across Australia and in recognition of the life of Dolly Everett.



Peer Support Day

On Thursday 15 February, Year 7 students and Year 10 Peer Support Leaders attended a wellbeing information day at the Racecourse.

The day provided students with a supportive learning environment in which to build and develop skills focussing on leadership, team work, wellbeing and problem solving as well as an opportunity for the students to get to know one another.

A great day was had by all!



Elevate Education

All Students in Years - 7 -12 had the opportunity to participate in an Elevate Education workshop/seminar this week. Since 2001, **Elevate** has been transforming the way study skills programs are run across Australia. Over 15 years of research into the habits of the country's top students, **Elevate's** high impact seminars & workshops help students improve their study techniques, increase motivation and build confidence.



Silver City Roller Skating Club

Learn to Skate Lessons – New Times:

Tuesday 5.00pm – 6.30pm

Friday Night Disco 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Saturday 2.30pm – 4.00pm

\$5.00 per person, children under 8 must have adult present always, all Discos are subject to Volunteer numbers. This is a lock in event.

We even do birthday parties. Garnet Street Broken Hill Phone: 0408 848 298



\$100 VOUCHER FOR CHILDREN'S SPORT AND RECREATION FEES

Parents in NSW are now able to start claiming \$100 towards extra-curricular sport and other physical activity fees thanks to the NSW Government's new Active Kids program.

Active Kids will provide a \$100 voucher for parents to put towards sporting fees and registration costs for every school-aged child in NSW.

The health of our children is a priority for me and every parent. I hope this makes a difference in enabling you to enrol your child in the sport or physical activity of your choice.

Families will be able to use the voucher for registration and membership costs, as well as fees for physical activities such as swimming, dance lessons and athletics.

The annual voucher will not be means tested because the NSW Government wants every child from every family to get active and involved in community sport and fitness.

Parents are able to use their voucher to claim up to \$100 per school age child, per calendar year to reduce the cost of sport registration or membership of approved active recreation activities.

More details about the program and eligible sports is available at <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/activekids> or by phoning Active Kids enquiry line on 13 77 88.

Kevin Humphries MP
MEMBER FOR BARWON

6th February 2018

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