

WILLYAMA WHISPERS – Term 2, Week 4, 22 May 2020

Principal: Grant Shepherd PO Box 708, Broken Hill, NSW, 2880

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Web: <http://www.willyama-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>



Artwork by Anna Bolton in Year 9 Visual Arts

Principal's Update:

I would like to once again thank our school community for your support, understanding and patience during this challenging COVID-19 pandemic.

Phase 1 of Return to School has gone extremely well with almost all students attending for their nominated day in the week and HSC students attending full time. It has been great to catch up with these students in person and it has been wonderful to see them enjoying the company of their friends again in the playground and as they engage in face-to-face learning again.

As the Premier of NSW announced earlier this week, all students return to school full time for face-to-face learning as of Monday 25 May 2020. Please make sure you are familiar with the important information inside this Whispers from NSW Department of Education, particularly around attendance, reporting and assessment, school activities and hygiene practices. We look forward to having our whole school back on deck again.

We are currently coordinating a new assessment schedule for year 7-10 students to make sure that the number of tasks going out is productive yet manageable for students. There will be a modified half-yearly report for years 7-10 and years 11 and 12 will remain in the usual format.

We are also in the process of re-scheduling our report distribution dates and will advise of these once they are finalised.

Please feel free to contact us at school on 80881055 should you wish to discuss any matters in relation to your child's return to school next week.

Grant Shepherd
Principal

Return to full-time face-to-face learning – Advice for families

School will be open from next Monday May 25 for all students following advice from the NSW Department of Education. All students are expected to attend every day for normal face to face lessons as per students' standard timetables. The current delivery of online learning activities will not be continuing.

Standard roll marking and attendance procedures will commence from Monday. Parents/carers are asked to keep their children at home if they are feeling unwell with cold or flu symptoms with any absences explained by parents/carers as per normal procedures.

More information for families on the return of students from Monday May 25 can be found on the next page.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school on (08) 8088 1055.

— WELCOME —
BACK TO SCHOOL



Schools are safe and open for full time face-to-face learning

All schools are returning to full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May. All school activities and operations will be in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.

School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.



School attendance

All students should be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition
- They are currently unwell.

Students who have a medical certificate to stay at home will be supported to learn from home in line with regular procedures if they are able to. These regular procedures are different to what was offered during the learning from home period. If you require work to be provided to your child whilst they are at home due to an underlying health condition, you should contact the school for assistance.

Please note, students who live with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk by the AHPPC, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise in writing.

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.

If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.

If you need any support to get your child back to school, please contact your school.



Reporting and assessment

Your child has been assessed during the learning from home period and will receive additional assessment on their return to school.

You will receive your child's semester 1 report before the end of August (week 6, Term 3).

This may be a simplified version of the report you normally receive. Schools are encouraged to discuss your child's progress with you before the written report is issued.



School activities

Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

What children can do:

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities
- Year 11 and 12 students may attend classes/activities relating to subjects available on other campuses
- VET work placement for Year 12 students is able to proceed from 1 June 2020. Year 10 and 11 work-placement is able to proceed from Term 3 2020.
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation
- Trade Training Centres can operate on school sites.

What students can't do:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Work experience
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Use hydrotherapy pools
- Drink from a water bubbler – bring a water bottle instead
- Students cannot attend TAFE for study but may continue to learn online.



School cleaning and hygiene supplies

Your school will receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Targeted areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap.

Your school has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. The school is able to order more as needed.



School grounds

There should be no visitors to school sites unless they are essential. Your school can provide guidance as to who is considered essential.

Your school will provide advice on drop off and pick up procedures.

Wherever possible, P&C and parent/carer/teacher meetings should be conducted virtually.

Canteens and uniform shops can open at the discretion of the principal.

Out of school hours care can continue to operate.

Community use of school facilities will recommence only for uses that are necessary for continuation of education and with principal's approval.



Responding to COVID-19 cases

There is a clear plan in place for schools to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise.



Willyama High School Virtual Library

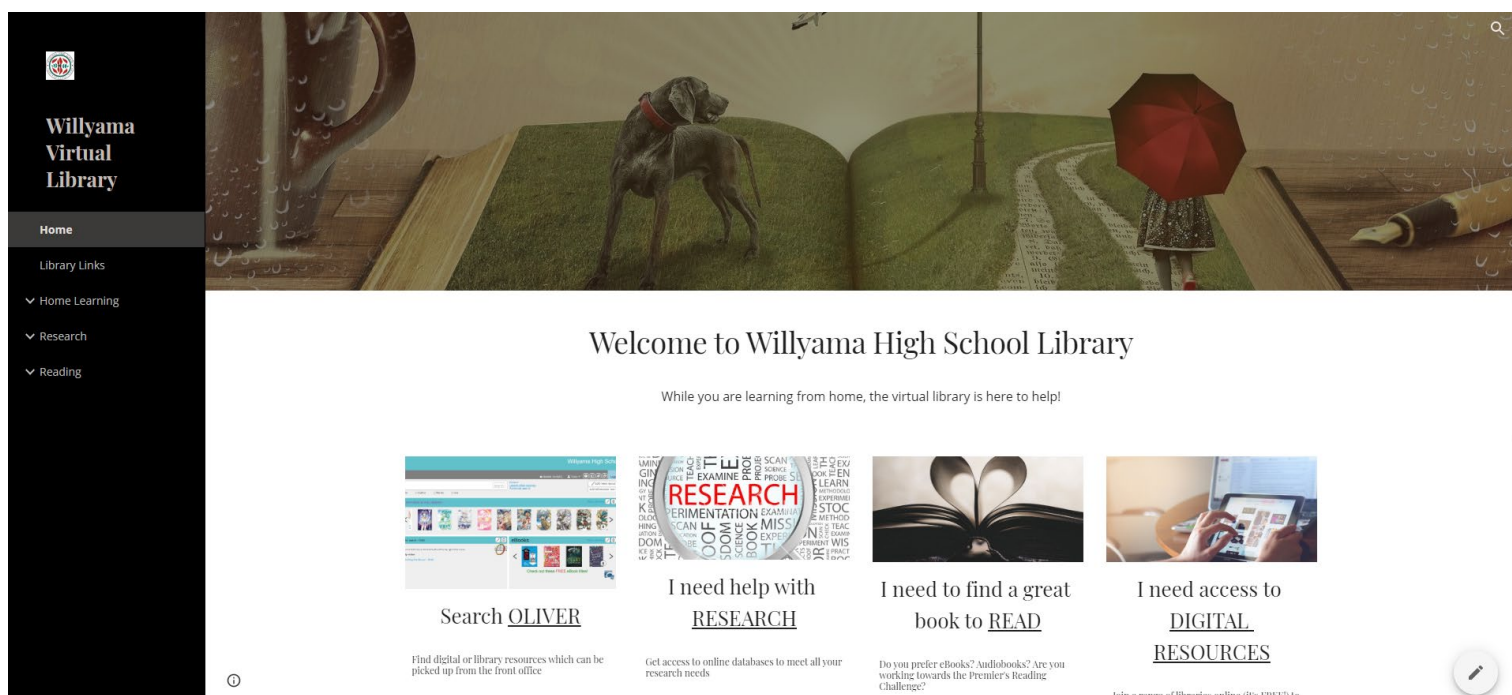
Willyama students now have Library access through the recently developed Library webpage.

The online Library was developed to further support students learning and to help students access the resources available in our Library.

The Willyama Virtual Library can be accessed via <https://sites.google.com/view/willyama-virtuallibrary/home>.

It contains lots of content to assist students and parents with researching and learning, as well as reading and other recreational activities.

Over the coming weeks more content will be added. If you have any suggestions for improvement, please email the Teacher Librarian (tracy.henderson1@det.nsw.edu.au) with your ideas.



Willyama Virtual Library

Home

Library Links


Home Learning

Research

Reading


Welcome to Willyama High School Library

While you are learning from home, the virtual library is here to help!



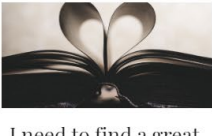
Search OLIVER

Find digital or library resources which can be picked up from the front office




I need help with RESEARCH

Get access to online databases to meet all your research needs



I need to find a great book to READ

Do you prefer eBooks? Audiobooks? Are you working towards the Premier's Reading Challenge?

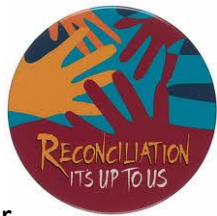


I need access to DIGITAL RESOURCES

Join a range of libraries online (it's FREE!) to



Reconciliation Week 2020



Throughout the year, there are a number of dedicated days and weeks that are significant for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and reconciliation.

These days are a great anchor point for teaching students about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions, as well as contemporary issues.

In this way, these days of national significance provide an opportunity to engage students and staff with the ***NSW Premier's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures Cross-Curriculum Priority***

In Term 2 2020 Willyama High School will be learning about the following dates:

- National Sorry Day – 26 May
- National Reconciliation Week – 27 May to 3 June
- 1967 Referendum – 27 May
- Mabo Day – 3 June

What is National Reconciliation Week?

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The dates for NRW remain the same each year 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

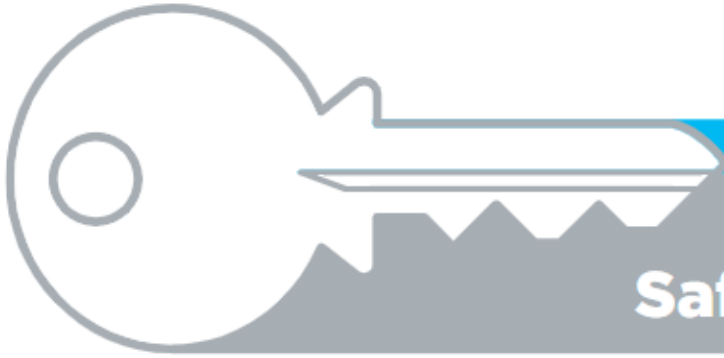
Cooking in Isolation

Willyama's Food Technology students have continued with their cooking while in home isolation, take a look at some of the creations made by Latesha Etrich, Dylan Wolstenholme, Kiarah Cain & Sydnie Lindsay.

Shannon Bush



Community News



NSW POLICE FORCE CRIME PREVENTION SERIES

Safe people, Safe places

Protect your children

The safety and wellbeing of our children is paramount. As parents and carers we can't always be with our children to advise and protect them.

When out and about, children can be confronted with situations where good decision-making is vital. With this in mind, advising our children with appropriate responses to certain situations will help them avoid trouble and danger.

Here are some simple tips to give your children for when they are out and about.

Protect your child walking home

- **ALWAYS** identify safe places on the way home from school.
- **DO NOT** stop and talk to people you don't know. Go straight home or to your intended destination.
- **ALWAYS** find a safe place if you feel frightened. These include schools, shops, churches or police/fire/ambulance stations and tell them that you are frightened.
- **NEVER** get into a car with someone you don't know.

Protect your child on public transport

- **NEVER** travel in isolated areas. Find crowded carriages, guard's compartment (marked with a blue light) or at the front of the bus.
- **ALWAYS** try to travel in groups of friends if possible.

Protect your child when in public spaces

- **ALWAYS** carry a contact number for your parents. (On a card attached to your clothing, written on your arms or in your phone).
- **DO NOT** walk away from family or friends without telling them where you are going, when you'll be back and who you are with.
- **ALWAYS** walk away from fights or arguments, unpleasant or aggressive behaviour and take your friends with you.
- **REMEMBER**, always tell your parents, carer or teacher if something has happened.

*For more crime prevention information
visit us on www.police.nsw.gov.au*

Opportunity Pathways

offers a range of services to support you to achieve your goals and aspirations – and this support doesn't end once you get a job.

Call us on 1800 940 409
or email op@housingplus.com.au
to get started

PLACES ARE LIMITED
For more information, visit www.housingplus.com.au/op
or follow us on



Want to make
a positive change
to your life

but need help accessing
training and work
opportunities?

Funded by the NSW Department of Family and Community Services



Bathurst | Orange | Dubbo | Broken Hill

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WANT YOUR
OWN MONEY AND
INDEPENDENCE?

”
WANT TO ACCESS
TRAINING
OPPORTUNITIES THAT
PROVIDE PATHWAYS
TO LONG-TERM
EMPLOYMENT?

Is Opportunity Pathways for you?

You need to be:

- Aged 17 or older; and
- Living in social housing as the head of a household or as a household member; or
- An approved social housing applicant; or
- Receiving a Rent Choice subsidy

What can we offer you?

Our Program Coaches and Employment Mentors provide advice and one-on-one support to help you work towards your training, employment and housing independence goals.

- This includes:
- Learning about your **strengths and existing skills**
 - Receiving help with **resume writing, computer literacy and interview skills**
 - Accessing local **training opportunities**
 - Connecting you with local employers to **gain work experience and paid job opportunities**
 - Providing **financial assistance** to help you complete the Opportunity Pathways program
 - Connecting you with a mentor who meets your **cultural needs**
 - Working with employers to provide **follow-up support**
 - Working with other service providers to ensure you receive the support you need to **achieve your goals** and aspirations

What can we expect from you?

You need to be:

- Willing and motivated to take part in a Training, Employment and Housing Plan that we will develop with you
- Willing and motivated to take steps to achieve the goals you set for yourself in the Training, Employment and Housing Plan

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UNEMPLOYED?
WANT TO WORK
MORE HOURS?

”
WANT TO EARN
MONEY WHEN
YOUR KIDS ARE
IN SCHOOL?

OPPORTUNITY PATHWAYS IS A FREE SERVICE THAT WORKS WITH YOU TO PLAN, SET AND ACHIEVE YOUR EMPLOYMENT GOALS, AND GAIN GREATER HOUSING INDEPENDENCE

www.housingplus.com.au/op





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Willyama High School
with EVERY purchase!

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It's fast, it's easy and it can make a difference!



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BONDS



- 1 Visit SchoolBuy.com.au
- 2 Nominate '*Willyama High School*'
- 3 Click through to the website where you want to shop
- 4 A percentage of your purchase will be contributed to the school!

**HERE'S
HOW IT
WORKS:**

It's Easy!

There are millions of items that can be bought through SchoolBuy to support your school – and every purchase helps. Just remember to visit SchoolBuy first before shopping online. Simply by clicking the link on the SchoolBuy site, the online store you are visiting will know that SchoolBuy sent you and which school you want to support. Plus you still get all their best online deals and can take advantage of any special offers or sales on the retailer's website.



www.facebook.com/schoolbuy

www.schoolbuy.com.au

Stymie Focus – Saying No

We all have the right to express what we need as much as we have a duty to listen to the needs of others. No and stop are complete sentences that do not require explanations.

Always respect a person's right to say no.

