



# WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

*A Leader in Girls Education*

## NEWSLETTER

Phone : 9958 4141

<https://willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

06 DECEMBER 2019

### DECEMBER 2019 CALENDAR

#### **Week 9A 09 – 13 December**

**Monday 09** Silver Merit Assembly  
**Tuesday 10** Year 9 Duke of Ed Hike  
**Wednesday 11** Year 9 Duke of Ed Hike  
**Thursday 12** Years 9 & 10 Presentations  
Year 11 Author Talk  
**Friday 13** Presentation Day

#### **Week 10B 16 - 20 December**

**Monday 16** Year 10 Excursion  
**Tuesday 17** Year 7 – 11 Senior Citizen Carols  
HSC Results  
**Wednesday 18** Year 12 Morning Tea  
Last Day of Term  
**Thursday 19** Staff Development Day  
**Friday 20**

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*(Red typeface denotes the event is open to the public)*

#### **TERM 4 DATES:**

14 October – 18 December 2019

### New Building News

The new building is very near completion and we are hoping to move teaching resources in before the end of Term 4 this year, so students and teachers can begin 2020 in the fabulous new classrooms.

Many of you will have noticed the beautiful 'privacy' screen that has been erected on the Penshurst Street side of the building. This is to provide shade for that section of the outer wall, which is all glass, and to provide privacy from passers-by. The screen was designed by Aboriginal artist, the late Jessica Birk, and is a representation of the harbor and the sea life and main food source for the local Cammeraygal community. Most of the fishing was done by the Cammeraygal women, so this is a particularly fitting part of the school, and the local Willoughby landscape.

### End of Year Learning

During these last formal learning weeks of the school year, many student performances and displays of learning products have been showcased around the school. Last Monday was the annual Music Spectacular, at which music students and members of all the music ensembles performed to parents, friends and teachers. As always, the performances were outstanding and the diversity of talent, choice of performance pieces and instruments played (including voice) demonstrated the talents, skill and commitment of students and their conductors and teachers. Congratulations to all who were involved in this production.

On Tuesday this week I had the pleasure of viewing Year 7 performances of understanding of the Shakespeare play *The Tempest*. Students chose to represent their engagement with the play in a range of ways, including costume design, set design, puppet shows, film trailers, short graphic novels, director's notes and performances of a scene from the play. The quality of products and performances was excellent with all students demonstrating a solid understanding of this complex play.



WGHS P&C



Facebook.com/wghspandc



secretary@wghspandc.org.au

Next P&C Meeting will be held in:  
**Tuesday 18 February 2020**

- ✓ Please follow our Facebook page to stay informed of interesting things happening in the parent community. You don't have to be a Facebook member to access the page
- ✓ All parents are welcome at P&C meetings, held twice per term at 7.00pm in the staff common room (Access via front door)
- ✓ Any queries or matters to be raised can be raised via the Secretary at the above email address at any time.

Students used their imaginations, creative making skills and their enjoyment of acting to bring the play to life for the audience. Congratulations to all students and the English teachers who have worked with the students throughout the term leading up to this major event.

I am looking forward to seeing other demonstrations of learning and understanding in the upcoming Year 10 Science project finals and the Year 9 cross curricular presentations before the end of term on 18 December.

**Ms Diprose**  
**Principal**



*The screen designed by Aboriginal artist, the late Jessica Birk*



## Japanese Penpal program and video conference.

Every year, around Christmas time, the students (in Japanese classes) write and exchange Christmas cards with Japanese students who live in Japan. Each student is given a name of a Japanese buddy in our Pen Pals program. This program provides a great opportunity for students to get to know students from a different country and to learn about their culture.

This year, students in Year 8 Japanese classes are writing a bilingual letter, in Japanese and English, to two Japanese schools from Tokyo and Nagoya.

We also regularly hold video conferences with these schools where we present Australian life and culture, as well as observe their presentations on Japanese life and culture.

**Ms Konishi**  
**Languages Department**



## Rotary Interviews

Congratulations to Year 10 students who anxiously prepared themselves for the Mock Interviews last Friday. Students were required to “dress” on the day for the interview as well as come prepared with a portfolio filled with a job advertisement, cover letter and resume. Students spoke to their interviewer about their strengths and why they applied for a particular job. Students were informally assessed on how they presented themselves and spoke about their achievements in a professional environment to an unknown “boss”. A special thank you to the Northbridge Rotarians who volunteered their time for the day.

Well Done Year 10!

**Ms Morris – Careers Adviser**





## Social Justice League – “It’s in the bag”

As the year is coming to an end, the Social Justice League and Prefects have come together in the spirit of Christmas to give back to our community. Over the last fortnight, we have been promoting and encouraging the students and teachers at Willoughby to bring in essentials such as pads and tampons for women and girls experiencing some form of homelessness or domestic violence. This campaign is a part of ‘It’s in the Bag’, run by the charity Share the Dignity. It involves the filling of an old handbag with some necessities for a girl’s daily life; this can include a personal note and any extra thoughtful items. The overwhelming support from the students and teachers has been incredible, with over 30 full bags!

The difference and effort that so many have made to contribute and give to less fortunate girls have made Willoughby Girls proud to be involved in the wider community. Share the Dignity run many events and campaigns throughout the year which I would encourage everyone to get involved in, and if you missed our collection of bags, Bunnings Warehouse is working with Share the Dignity as a collection point for bags until 07 December.

Have a safe and merry Christmas from the Social Justice League and Prefects.

### **Allegra N - Year 12 (2020)**



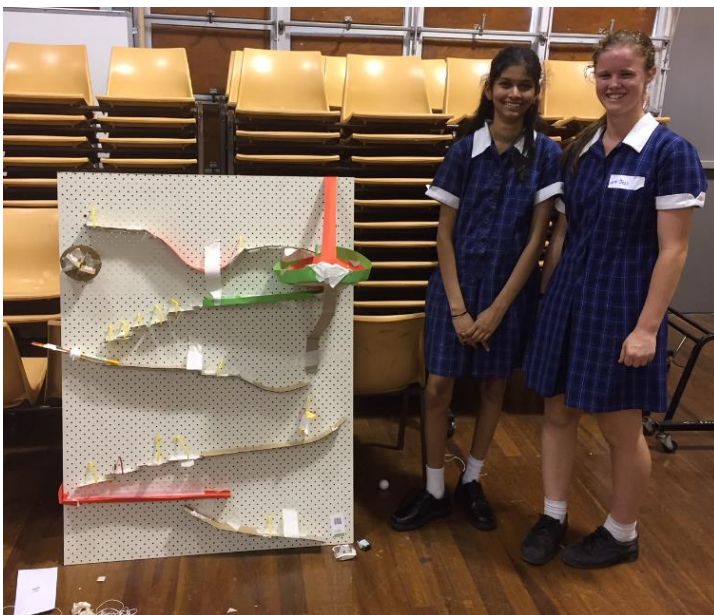
## Year 9 iSTEM LNCoS Challenge Day

On the 25 November, Year 9 iSTEM (iSTEAM) set off to North Sydney Girls High to compete in the Annual LNCoS iSTEM challenge day. Upon arrival we were clueless about what would be a packed yet fun day ahead of us. We all had thought that it would be a school vs school challenge, but our groups consisted of four people all from different schools. This ensured that we needed good communication skills and test how confident we were when talking to new people and working in a new environment.

At first, we were sceptical, however, as the day progressed we started becoming more comfortable and many even made new friends. The challenge itself wasn't very easy. We had to construct a Marble Rube Goldberg machine and were given limited materials (plain pegboard, cardboard, string, pipe cleaners, straws, etc) and a time constraint.

The competition was very intense and the limited knowledge of our group members made it even more challenging. When we first got into our groups it was quite awkward and no one really talked, however as the hours past the conversations became a little less formal and a little friendlier. The four hours we spent together were very enjoyable and in the end, although the pegboards that we constructed may not have worked as we had planned, we were very proud of the effort we had put into it. Walking away from this day we had made many new friends and learnt many new skills.

**By Sanvi G and Lorin Chanel R**



## [SPECIAL REPORT: Surviving Christmas](#)

Many people see Christmas as a wonderful time of celebration and an opportunity to spend time with family and friends. However, there are some that view it as a time of stress and hardship. This may be due to a combination of things: financial pressures, relationship issues and, quite often, loneliness, making it a very challenging time.

Often the true meaning of Christmas can be lost due to commercial exploitation, but there are a number of things you can do to create a magical Christmas, without the financial burden. Creating or maintaining traditions can contribute to a sense of comfort and belonging.

Unfortunately for some, there is also an ugly side to Christmas. Support organisations often report an increase in the number of calls from people seeking help due to their inability to cope during this time. If you, or a loved one, is finding that it is all too much, then it is important to reach out to a trusted friend, family member or medical professional.

In this Special Report, parents and care givers will be presented with a number of ideas on how to achieve a stress-free Christmas and where to seek help should they need it. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report:

[https://willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.schooltv.me/wellbeing\\_news/surviving-christmas-au](https://willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/surviving-christmas-au)



SPECIAL REPORT

## Surviving Christmas





## Invitation to Parents

On 12 December between 11.30am and 12.30pm there will be an exhibition of projects from all students in Years 8 and 9.

The exhibition will include strategies to save endangered species and expressions of an interconnected world. These projects have required students to work collaboratively to apply skills and concepts from Mathematics, Languages, Science, Visual Arts and Geography. We are looking forward to presenting the students' efforts which promise to be innovative, thoughtful and imaginative.

On the day, please come to the School Hall to begin viewing.

**Matthew Palmer**  
**Head Teacher Social Science**





# Antipodeans



## Willoughby Girls High School Family Community Trip July 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Antipodeans is excited to announce the launch of the Willoughby Girls High School Nepal Family Community Trip departing in July 2020! Open to all 2020 Year 9-11 students, this once in a lifetime experience will give you and your daughter the opportunity to see the local side of Nepal while creating unforgettable memories.

### **Nepal Expedition Highlights!**

- Contribute to a sustainable, hands-on community service project aligned with the UN Global Goals
- Capture a photo of a life-time whilst strolling below the tallest mountain peaks in the world amongst stunning scenery.
- Explore the incredible markets, bazaars, temples & palaces in Kathmandu.

We would like to invite you and your daughter to a dedicated presentation where we will discuss the Trip and its benefits, the pre-departure program, safety and back-up procedures, fundraising support and answer any questions you have about this unique and rewarding educational opportunity.

**Thursday 28th November 2019, 6:00pm – 7:00pm**

**Willoughby Girls High School - Library**

**PLEASE REGISTER FOR THE INFORMATION EVENING VIA THE LINK BELOW:**

[www.tinyurl.com/wghsinfo](http://www.tinyurl.com/wghsinfo)

### **About Antipodeans**

The Expedition is managed by student travel specialists, Antipodeans, who bring over 27 years' experience in conducting high school Expeditions through 30+ developing countries. You can read more about Antipodeans' Expeditions online at: [www.antipodeans.com.au](http://www.antipodeans.com.au)

Rewarding, hands-on community service projects are the central focus of this Expedition. Antipodeans' carefully selected projects are sustainable and safe, provide local employment and are created in consultation with local communities, many of whom have been working with Antipodeans for a number of years.

This is truly a once in a lifetime experience that we encourage you to find out more about! If you have any difficulty registering for the event, please don't hesitate to contact us using the details below.

Warm regards,

### **Antipodeans**

Will Hams - [whams@antipodeans.com.au](mailto:whams@antipodeans.com.au)

### **WGHS Parent Coordinator**

Monique - [palisander@yahoo.com](mailto:palisander@yahoo.com)



## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

### POP UP MOVIE NIGHT

Tuesday 14 January  
Chatswood Youth Centre  
5 - 8:30pm  
Ages 12 - 18



Come and enjoy a chilled movie night with your friends and a BBQ.

Bookings at [eventbrite.com.au](http://eventbrite.com.au)



40 AVAILABLE SPACES

\$5

### GLAM-BOXING RELOAD

Thursday 16 January  
Chatswood Youth Centre  
9:00-1:00pm  
Ages 12 - 18  
Lunch included



Come along to unleash, unwind and nourish yourself with kickboxing, inspirational speakers, mindfulness, creativity and nutrition whilst we explore themes around body esteem.

Gender and culturally inclusive event.

Bookings at [eventbrite.com.au](http://eventbrite.com.au)



30 AVAILABLE SPACES

\$20

### PAMPER DAY

Tuesday 21 January  
Ku-ring-gai Youth Centre  
10:00-2:00pm  
Ages 12 - 24  
Free transport - Meet at Chatswood Youth Centre at 9.15am - returning by 2.45pm



In partnership with Ku-ring-gai Council, Ku-ring-gai Youth Services invites you to sit back and relax these school holidays with a 'Treat Yourself Day'.

It includes pampering, a delicious lunch and a movie.

Bookings required:

[kmc.nsw.gov.au/youth](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/youth)  
9424 0994 - [youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au)



20 AVAILABLE SPACES

FREE

### CYC LOADED-PASS

Thursday 23 January  
Chatswood Youth Centre  
10.00am - 2.00pm  
Ages 12 - 24



A loaded day of activities to celebrate the last of the school holiday bliss!

The CYC will be your one-stop-shop for all your artistic, sporty, creative and musical needs. Join us as you design your day, bouncing from different workshops all over the Centre. Finish up with a BBQ at Chatswood Skate Park.

No bookings required



FREE

Cnr Albert Avenue and Victor Street, Chatswood Ph: 9777 1062 or 9777 7538

