



WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

A Leader in Girls Education

NEWSLETTER

Phone : 9958 4141

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

20 DECEMBER 2019

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020 CALENDAR

Week 1A 27 - 31 January

Monday 27 Australia Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 28 Staff Development Day

Wednesday 29 Years 7, 11 & 12 return
Year 7 Orientation

Thursday 30 Years 8, 9 & 10 return
Year 7 Orientation

Friday 31 Year 7 Orientation

Week 2B 03 – 07 February

Monday 03 Assembly
Year 7 Camp

Tuesday 04 Year 7 Camp
Years 8,9,10 & 11 Leadership Day

Wednesday 05 Year 7 Orientation
Years 9 & 10 Sports Selection

Thursday 06 Year 7 Orientation

Friday 07 Year 7 Orientation

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

Principal's Message

Thank you to all Willoughby families for your support of the school as we have managed the tragic events involving the Langford family.

Winona has been a much loved friend to many of your daughters and I know several of the girls have strong connections with Winona's brother, Jesse, and the young men from Knox who tragically died in the White Island volcano incident. Winona's mother, Kristine, has been an integral member of the parent-run music committee and a tireless worker in this role, supporting and fundraising at all school music performances. Jesse is a friend of many of our students and has been transferred from New Zealand and is recovering in hospital in Sydney.

I particularly wish to thank all members of our school community for ensuring the connection between Willoughby Girls High School and Winona was kept out of the media for over a week, out of respect for the privacy of the Langford family and friends. This also minimised the likelihood of media outlets approaching the girls who would not appreciate being met with cameras or microphones outside the school, when they are trying to come to terms with the tragedy of Winona and her family.

I released the following statement about the Langford family on Tuesday night, which has been published in the media:

The Willoughby Girls High School community is deeply saddened Winona is still unaccounted for. At this distressing time, the school community's thoughts and heartfelt sympathy are with her family and friends. The Department of Education and Willoughby Girls High School are working closely with students and staff to support them at this most difficult time. There is and will be ongoing extensive support in place for those impacted by this tragic event.

The school will continue to provide support for our students and families next year. As it is the end of the school year, I remind you of the support services available to assist at this very difficult and sad time:

* **Kids Helpline** (1800 551800 or www.kidshelp.com.au)

* **Lifeline** (131114 or www.lifeline.org.au)

* **headspace** (1800 650 890 or

<http://www.eheadspace.org.au>)*] www.eheadspace.org.au)*

Parent Carer Clinician available

* You or your child may also care to contact the **Mental Health Telephone Access Line** (1800 011 511) which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is staffed by clinicians who can provide advice, make referrals and link callers to the mental health service in their Local Health District.

The principal of Marist, North Sydney, Mr Tony Duncan, has informed us that a funeral service will be held in the Marist school hall on 30 December at 11.00am. This invitation is extended to all who may wish to attend.

It goes without saying that our hearts and deepest sympathy are with the families and friends of Kristine, Anthony, Winona and Jesse Langford.

I wish all our students and families a safe and healing holiday break.

Elizabeth Diprose

Elizabeth Diprose



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.

Smoking Ceremony

On Tuesday 16 December, Willoughby Girls High School held its first Welcome to Country ceremony by Cammeraygal elder Dr Dennis Foley. Dr Foley is a Professor at the University of Canberra whose research focuses on Indigenous enterprise. He welcomed the students and honoured guests including the Willoughby Mayor, School Education Director and representatives of the community and schools in the local area. Dr Foley shared his personal experiences of growing up as an Aboriginal person on the northern beaches of Sydney and answered student questions. He explained how the local traditional community was a matriarchal society and the hill tops were special places for women. He noted that Willoughby Girls High School was in a very appropriate location for female learning and ceremony.

Dr Foley then performed the school's first Smoking Ceremony around the new building to ready it for opening and use in 2020. He finished with a powerful message asking youth to oppose racism in all its forms and work towards reconciliation.

Mr M Palmer
Head Teacher – Social Science



Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Appeal

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Appeal during Weeks 6 to 9.

Thank you to the SRC students who organised this fantastic initiative. As a school community we donated over 30 baskets full of non-perishable food items, toys, books, board games and other items families and children in need can access this Christmas.

I am incredibly proud of the enormous generosity displayed by you all.

Ms Turrise
SRC Co-ordinator



Year 10 Science Project

Once again Year 10 students participate in the Annual Science Project which is run with the support of the University of New South Wales.

Students work in teams to investigate a question of personal interest and prepare a presentation of their findings to their class. A project from each class is selected to be presented to the entire grade and a panel of judges, including scientist's Dr Rebecca LeBard, Dr Michael Janitz and Dr Chris Marquis, decide on the winning group.

There was a range of topics studied including:

- Which earrings corrode more easily?
- How can chewing gum be removed from desks?
- Are natural hair dye treatments effective?
- Can the toppings in bubble tea actually be digested?
- How can the fermentation of cabbage be accelerated?

The winning group, as judged by the panel, looked at the effectiveness of a range of soap brands.

Congratulations to Rebecca W, Alice Z, Katie M, Tabasum D and Kristina S for your outstanding work.

Ms M Gulline
Head Teacher Science



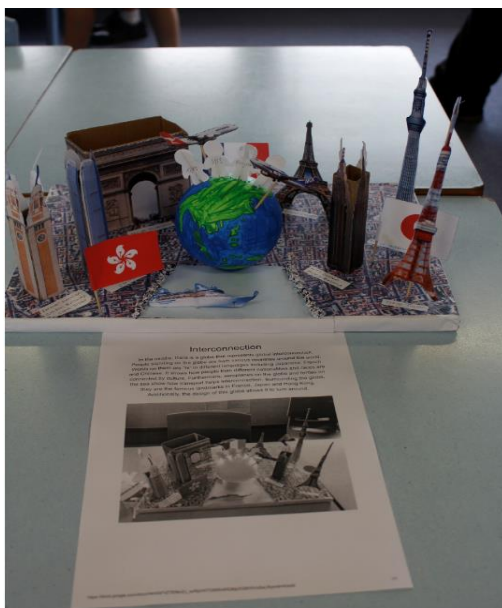
Year 9 Cross Curricular PBL

On the 12 December, Year 9 presented an exhibition on many different endangered species and how we can save our chosen animals. There were around 50 groups presenting their projects in the hall to invited guests and students. In our groups, we had to research different aspects of our animals. Some of these included their habitat, diet and population in the different places that they are found.

My group (Mia, Aggie and April) chose to pick snow leopards. We wanted to do something related to the snow as it is different from the environment that we live in. After our research, we used it to design a solution to help save our species. Our solution was to limit the number of permits for the hikers in parts of the snow leopard's habitat during the breeding season. We also decided that we would recruit former poachers and employ them to protect rather than kill the leopards. This technique was already used for pangolins and was very successful.

Overall, this project was very engaging, informative and gave me an understanding about how important it is to save our endangered species before it is too late.

Lara H - Year 9



Year 8 Cross Curricular PBL

Throughout the end of term four, all Year 8 classes completed a project in small groups across Geography, Languages and Visual Arts. The project had a wide range of options with minimal guidelines allowing groups the freedom to create what we wanted to make.

In Visual Arts we produced a stop motion video or graphic novel about Interconnections, which was our topic. In Geography and Languages (French or Japanese) everyone started with a small idea and developed that idea into a project that was completed over several lessons and weeks.

It was on the topic Interconnections and to have a clear connection within it.

Some of the projects that were made were on imports and exports around the world which were portrayed in cardboard games and large maps. Others were on littering, climate change and lots more topics. Part of the project had to relate to our studied language. This project was an amazing experience for every one as we were free to create something on a topic we were passionate about as long as it related back to interconnections.

Emily W – Year 8



Year 12 Morning Tea

On 18 December, a special morning was held to celebrate the fantastic and well deserving 2019 Year 12 HSC results.

The Year 12 students shared their joy and success stories, achieving their personal goals at many different levels, with the staff.

Ms R Morris
Careers



2019 Year 12 – Goodbye and Good Luck

Fun photo of the 2019 graduating year.



Congratulations to Year 12, 2019 on their outstanding HSC results. Willoughby Girls High School is again the top performing comprehensive public school in NSW. Two students, Nausheen M and Danielle S were all-rounders, achieving Band 6 in all subjects. Four students, Mariam A, Zahra K, Josephine L and Tess G were placed among the top ten students in Society and Culture, Stella S was placed in the ten in Standard English and Jacqui F gained first place in NSW in Korean Beginners.

In addition, several students' major works were nominated for showcases in their respective subjects, including Music, Textiles, Design and Technology and Visual Art.

Nine students achieved a Distinction or High Distinction for their Personal Interest Projects in Society and Culture.

We are looking forward to celebrating these outstanding achievements at a Gold Assembly in Term 1.

Ms E Diprose
Principal



COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

**WILLOUGHBY CITY COUNCIL
PRESENT**

GLAMBOXING RELOAD

LIMITED TO 30 SPACES

Thursday January 16, 2020
Chatswood Youth Centre
9am-1pm
ages 12 - 18
\$20
Lunch and gifts included

Bookings at eventbrite.com.au





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



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



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
 9424 0994 - 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





COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Could you, or someone you know, volunteer your time to mentor in a local high school in 2020?

Raise Foundation, a not-for-profit mentoring organisation, is urgently recruiting volunteers from our local community to become a mentor for students in our school, and other local high schools. The programs run from March through to September for two hours per week. Raise measures the impact of its mentoring programs and statistically significant outcomes include increased confidence and resilience, ability to set goals, coping skills, hope for the future and asking trusted adults for help. Raise Mentors also benefit by contributing to the community, gaining improved listening and parenting skills through free mentor training, and connecting with the younger generation.

Head to www.raise.org.au/volunteer to sign up or get more information

THE YOUTH MENTORING FOUNDATION

raise

**RAISE YOUR HAND
TO MENTOR**

Helping to empower young people to become more resilient, capable and connected by delivering best practice mentoring programs in schools across Australia

raise.org.au

The poster features a blue background with a white speech bubble containing the word 'raise'. Below the speech bubble, a man in a denim jacket is shown in profile, talking to a young man in a school uniform. The young man is sitting at a table, resting his head on his hand. The text 'THE YOUTH MENTORING FOUNDATION' is at the top right, followed by 'RAISE YOUR HAND TO MENTOR' in large, bold letters. Below that is a smaller line of text: 'Helping to empower young people to become more resilient, capable and connected by delivering best practice mentoring programs in schools across Australia'. At the bottom, a blue banner contains the website 'raise.org.au'.



COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Sydney Drug Education & Counselling Centre (SDECC) will be delivering "Parents Prepared", a one-day drug education workshop for parents of high school-aged children on Saturday 15th February 2020 from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

This workshop will provide parents with information about drugs, their effects and tips for talking to young people about drug use.


Parents can register at <https://www.trybooking.com/BHFOG>

Which drugs are young people using?

How would you know if your child was using drugs?

What are the signs of drug use?

How could you talk to your child about drugs?


SDECC

Presents

Parents Prepared

Starting the conversation with young people about drugs

When: Saturday 15th February, 2020
Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm
Where: Dougherty Community Centre, The Annexe Room,
7 Victor St, Chatswood
Cost: \$10 per ticket (catering included)

Presenters:
Belinda Volkov, Clinical Coordinator
Laila Castelino, Team Leader

RSVP: visit <https://www.trybooking.com/BHFOG>
to register

To find out more about SDECC, visit www.sdecc.org.au

Supported by the Sydney North Health Network