



P: 9958 4141  
W: [willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.gov.au)  
E: [willoughbg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:willoughbg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Newsletter 11 December 2020

Term 4 Week 9

### Principal Report

At last the 2020 school year is coming to an end. It has been a long haul for everyone. Our Annual Presentation Day was held last Friday in two separate sessions to accommodate COVID limitations. It was lovely that all students receiving awards were able to have the same quality of presentation ceremony as has taken place in previous years. It was also excellent that so many parents were able to attend. One bonus was that those of who attended both ceremonies were able to enjoy the music twice. The music we enjoy at so many of our functions has been noticeably absent throughout this year so I thank the Music Department and our Ensembles Directors – Lucy East, Gerald Steinmann and Jason Isaacs – for persevering throughout the year in very trying circumstances. I also congratulate the students who have maintained their commitment and motivation throughout this year.

At presentation Day I outlined some of the community work our students have undertaken this year, including raising funds for key charities and most recently collecting toiletries and sanitary items for homeless women for the 'It's In the Bag' annual drive, and the collection of groceries for the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. I am very proud that students have continued these important projects this year, while maintaining their commitment to their study.

We are all looking forward to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December when the 2020 HSC results are released. Most of the graduating cohort will be coming to the school for morning tea with their teachers to celebrate their achievements. We have already been notified of several students' major works being nominated for HSC showcases:

#### Visual Arts

- Emma Francis - Sideshow (Virtual Exhibition VX, Art Gallery of New South Wales - Margaret Whitlam Galleries)
- Ella Carnegie - (New England Regional Art Museum)
- Melanie Hirunsook - In Da Gadda Da Vida (Cowra Regional Art Gallery)

#### Textiles:

- Ruby Kopsiaftis
- Philippa Taylor

#### Design and technology

- Madeleine Fenning

#### Music

- Anika Chan

Congratulations to all these students, their teachers and parents. This is conformation of the hard work, dedication and skill these students have displayed through their creations.

I sincerely thank all teachers, families and student for your commitment and resilience throughout 2020. All the best for a restful break.

**Elizabeth Diprose**  
Principal



## Important Dates

Students in Years 7 – 11 will conclude Term 4, 2020 on Wednesday 16 December.

Students will return to school in 2021 on the following dates:

Years 7, 11 and 12 – Friday 29 January

Years 8, 9 and 10 – Monday 1 February

All students are expected to return in full summer uniform. A reminder, it is advised that students wear sunscreen every day and the school hat when outdoors.

This past year has been an unexpected, extraordinary journey for us all - one of emotional challenges, disruption and steep learning curves. It has also been a year requiring flexibility, adaptability, persistence, patience and acceptance. It has been a tough year, but the staff and students of Willoughby Girls have demonstrated their capacity for growth and resilience in so many ways. I wish everyone in the Willoughby Girls High School community a safe, restful but most of all, happy holiday, filled with family, friends and laughter. Merry Christmas!

**Jennifer Watts**  
Deputy Principal

## DECEMBER 2020 CALENDAR

### Week 9A

#### Monday 07 – Friday 11 December

Monday 07 December –

Tuesday 08 December–

Wednesday 09 December– Christmas Services

Thursday 10 December – Year 8, 9 & 10 PBL

Friday 11 December – Mufti Day

### Week 10B

#### Monday 14 – Friday 18 December

Monday 14 December – School Picnic

Tuesday 15 December– Senior Citizens Carols

Wednesday 16 December– Students Last Day at School

Thursday 17 December –

Friday 18 December –

## WGHS P&C

Next P&C Meeting will be held face to face in the Staff room on Tuesday 16 February at 7pm. All parents welcome



## Study Skills Tip for December – SWOT Analysis

### Reflection on Triumphs and Tribulations

With the end of the year fast approaching it is a good time to reflect on your approach to school this year and what you have learnt from the challenges you faced. So as the holidays approach, take a moment to do a short SWOT analysis on your personal approach to school and learning. You may also like to discuss these questions with a teacher, parent or friend.

#### **STRENGTHS:**

What did you do well at school this year?  
What subjects or topics were you good at?  
What worked for you in your approach to learning?  
What are you proud of achieving?  
What new skills did you develop?

#### **WEAKNESSES:**

What were your greatest challenges in achieving your personal best at school?  
What did you find difficult this year?  
What skills do you feel need more work?  
What areas of your approach did you struggle with?  
When did you feel not confident about your ability to succeed?

#### **OPPORTUNITIES:**

What could you do to build your strengths and deal with your weaknesses?  
Who did you encounter this year that might be able to help you on this journey?  
What will be different about next year that will create opportunities to change?  
What could you personally do differently in your approach to school next year?  
What one thing could you change that would make the biggest difference to you being a more effective learner?

#### **THREATS:**

What are the biggest obstacles to you making changes in your approach?  
Are there other students you sit with who make learning difficult?  
What is stopping you from achieving the top marks you are capable of achieving?  
What challenges do you face in staying motivated to do your work for school?  
What challenges do you face in managing distractions and procrastination?

**A note to Parents:** In these school holidays, it is important for students to have a decent break, recharge and spend time with friends and family doing things they enjoy. Certainly, if students were weak in areas such as literacy or numeracy, some practice on a regular basis over the holidays would not go astray.

It is essential however, that Year 11 students allocate some time these school holidays consolidating the work from Year 11, ensuring study notes are up to date and they are organised and prepared for the challenges ahead in Year 12.

All students may find it useful to complete some of the study skills units over the holidays, particularly on their areas of weakness.

**Jennifer Watts**  
Deputy Principal



## Social Justice League - 2020 It's in the Bay

On Friday 27 November, The Social Justice League with the aid of some prefects sorted through and packed 33 bags filled with female sanitation essentials. These bags and their contents including shampoo, conditioner, tampons, pads, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and even luxury items like makeup which were donated by members of the school community.

The 33 bags collected have been sent to the Share the Dignity foundation as a part of their 'It's in the Bag' Christmas drive. These items will then be distributed to vulnerable women across Australia who may be experiencing homelessness or domestic violence. This fantastic initiative was highly successful this year, all due to the efforts of the school community, the Social Justice League and their supporting teacher, Ms Menhinick. So thank you!



The Social Justice League will continue to raise awareness for social issues facing not just our country but also the international community and help to improve these issues also with the aim of supporting minority groups. New members are always welcome and SJL is an open space for students to engage with positive change for our society.

Thank you, Willoughby, your efforts will make a meaningful difference to 33 women's' lives!

**Matilda Lawton, Year 11, Prefect and Social Justice League Member**





## Children's Week Parliament

Rosie K represented Willoughby Girls High School at The Youth NSW Children's Week Parliament on 29 October 2020. She did an excellent job speaking on a topic that she is really passionate about.

Below is her speech on the topic of Minority Representation in the Education System

"The curriculum for primary, secondary and tertiary education needs to reflect a more contemporary depiction of modern Australia's diversity in society. The true character of Australian culture is not a one-sided perspective and the education system that should be implemented must highlight the inaccuracies that stop society from prospering.

Minorities in society are severely unrepresented in the education system and students are unaware of many of the inequalities in our past that still occur today. The worldwide Black Lives Matter movement is only one example of the improving societal standards for minorities that students should be encouraged to learn about and participate in. Promoting courses that teach students about past and current events that are affecting groups of minorities would allow a deeper understanding of how underrepresentation doesn't allow for change to occur. Discussions between students surrounding how youth can help command the change towards a more inclusive society will help develop and encourage a mindset that leads to reform happening.

The society we want to live in is in the hands of Australia's youth. We need to change the representation of our cultures to educate ourselves on the mistakes of our past and how we can move forward as a nation to become a better and more inclusive society to everyone, particularly these minorities."



## Library News – Premier's Reading Challenge 2020

Congratulations to the 33 students who completed the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) this year. Arabella T (Year 9) is to be congratulated on the outstanding achievement of being awarded a PRC Medal for completing the challenge every year from Year 3 to Year 9. Arabella is one of only 755 students awarded this medal across NSW. Special mention should also be made of the 3 Platinum and 6 Gold certificate awardees:

Platinum Certificate (seventh successful year) recipients are: Lydia A, Margot A and Abbey M. Gold Certificate (fourth successful year) recipients are: Ashlee C, Catherine H, Saher J, Tivija K, Jieun P and Tiffany P.

Students can be reading for PRC 2021 over the holiday break and are encouraged to visit the library to borrow books. Happy holiday reading!

**Alex Parker**  
Librarian





## Year 12 Textiles & Design

Year 12 Textiles & Design spent the last 12 months planning and constructing a major work as part of their course work.

Students drew inspiration from a number of sources such as Burlesque, Victorian era, African sunsets, Indian Holi festival, the beach and Mexico. Students had to incorporate creative and innovative techniques into their work.

Congratulations to Ruby K and Pippy T on their nomination for the Textile Style Exhibition. We wish the students all the best.



## Video conference & Penpal Christmas cards from Japan

Each year, students in Japanese class host a video conference with Japanese schools and also send and receive Christmas cards. This year, the students have been working with two schools, which are located in Nagoya and Tokyo.

Students wrote about themselves in Japanese script and received the digital and hand-written cards from their Japanese buddies in English.





## WGHS Drama Evening via Zoom

Dear Parents,

To celebrate some of the performances we have had this year in Drama, we will be holding a Drama Evening on Tuesday 15th December at 6:30pm via Zoom.

This will include recorded performances from the Year 7-8 Drama Ensembles and from the Year 9-11 Drama classes. Please come along to watch your daughter and to support the performance work they have completed this year!

You will need a DET email login to access the Zoom meeting.

WGHS Drama Evening

Time: Dec 15, 2020 06:30 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

<https://nsweducation.zoom.us/j/2394611234?pwd=eEdnNWlOWlp6UU9BWj9jdUJXSWMZz09>

Meeting ID: 239 461 1234

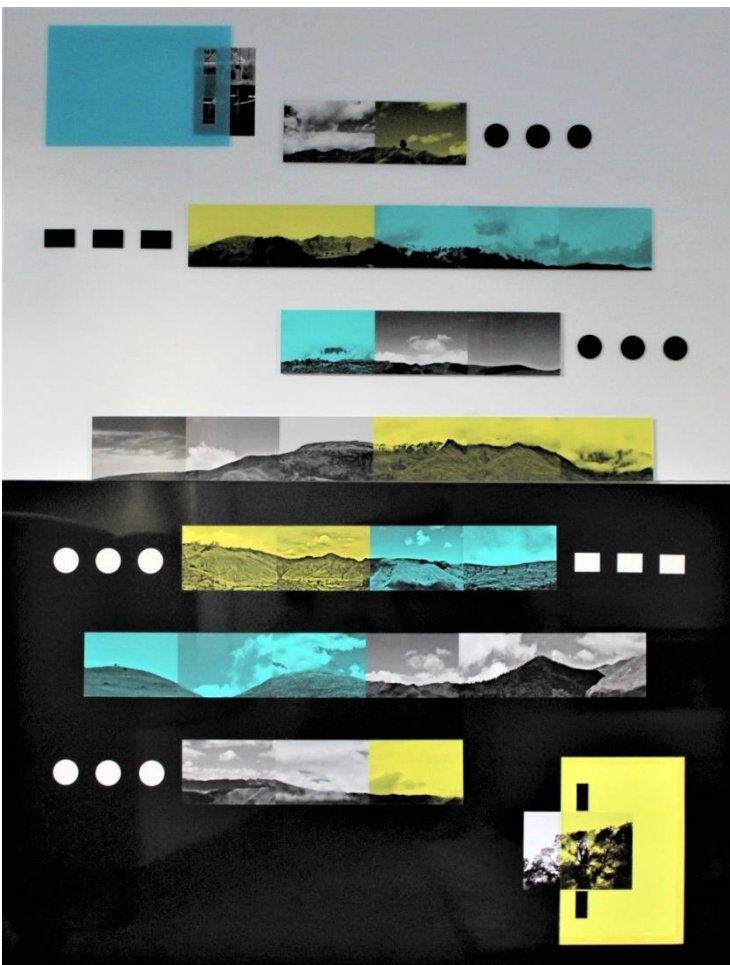
Passcode: 801369



## ARTEXPRESS 2021

Some exciting news for Willoughby Girls High School with three HSC Visual Arts students having their bodies of work selected for exhibition in ARTEXPRESS.

Congratulations go to Ella C with her photomedia work title ...---... (SOS), Emma F with her ceramics series Sideshow, and Melanie H with her work titled In Da Gadda Da Vida.



Ella C...---... (SOS). Photomedia (detail)



Ella C...---... (SOS). Photomedia (detail)



Emma Francis, Sideshow Ceramics



*Emma F, Sideshow. Ceramics (detail)*



*Melanie H, In Da Gadda Da Vida. Ceramics*

## Year 9 & 10 Barista

On 11 December, Year 9 & 10 students attended an introductory Barista class in the CBD College in the city. They learnt the skills of making all barista types of coffee, decorating and making a great cup of coffee.





## Year 10 Science

Throughout Year 10 Science, students have had a focus on developing and conducting valid investigations. In Term 3, all Year 10 students completed an Individual Research Project. In recognition of their outstanding efforts, 25 students received Bronze CREST Awards for their projects from the CSIRO. These are awarded for creativity, perseverance and the application of knowledge in science and technology.

During Term 4, students worked in groups to investigate an inquiry question as part of the WGHS Science project run with the support of the University of New South Wales. The videos that the students produced were presented on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December to Dr Michael Janitz and Dr Chris Marquis from UNSW and all of Year 10. The winning group investigated the most effective ways to sterilise face masks. Congratulations to Yuna H, Cleo W, Sarah H and Tiffany C! A special mention goes to the runners up Jessica O, Rosie K, Nicole W and Vanessa W who investigated factors that affect the surface tension of liquids. All of the groups' presentations were of a high quality and reflected the students' understanding of the scientific method.

**Marina Gulline**  
**Head Teacher Science**





## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD



**CatholicCare**  
Diocese of Broken Bay

**PARENTING & SUPPORT GROUPS**  
NAREMBURN, NORTHERN BEACHES & WAITARA

**TERM 1 PROGRAMS 2021**

TUNING INTO KIDS	TRIPLE P (TEENS) GROUP	STEP INTO WORK	BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS	KEEPING KIDS IN MIND
For parents of primary school children on how to develop your child's emotional intelligence.	For parents of teens. Develop skills, gain support, video demonstrations of core parenting skills and strategies to manage misbehaviours. Practice these skills with support from the presenter.	Designed for women who want to find work – whether you are seeking employment for the first time, or wish to return to the workforce.	Build confidence and knowledge about development, connection with others and an opportunity to reflect on your communication with your children.	For parents experiencing conflict after separation. Learn how to support your children.
<b>Wednesdays</b> 10 February – 17 March 2021 10.00am – 12.00pm	<b>Tuesdays</b> 16 February – 30 March 2021 6.30pm – 8.30pm	<b>Mondays</b> 22 February – 22 March 2021 10.00am – 12.00pm	<b>Tuesdays</b> 9 March – 30 March 2021 10.00am – 12.00pm	<b>Tuesdays</b> 23 February – 23 March 2021 6.00pm – 8.30pm
Chatswood Youth Centre Albert Ave & Victor Street	 via Zoom	Naremburn Family Centre 40 Merrenburn Avenue	 via Zoom	 via Zoom
Cost Free	Cost \$20	Cost Free	Cost Free	Cost \$150
<b>TO REGISTER:</b> For Tuning into Kids, Triple P, Step into Work or Bringing up Great Kids P: (02) 8425 8700 E: <a href="mailto:intakefs@catholiccaredbb.org.au">intakefs@catholiccaredbb.org.au</a>			<b>TO REGISTER:</b> For Keeping Kids in Mind P: (02) 8425 8700 E: <a href="mailto:nfc@catholiccaredbb.org.au">nfc@catholiccaredbb.org.au</a>	

OR SCAN THIS CODE

<https://trb.gy/ga2f4g>

