

WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL A Leader in Girls Education NEWSLETTER

Phone: 9958 4141 https://willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/

15 OCTOBER 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Ms Elizabeth Diprose

Welcome to Term 4. I hope everyone had the opportunity to relax during the school holidays and are now enjoying the opportunity to catch up with friends and family since restrictions have been eased. It is an interesting time for all and I can feel that many people, including myself, are being cautious about going out and about.

I am very much looking forward to welcoming staff and students back on 25 October and I'm sure everyone is also keen to return after being away for so long. It has been lovely having small groups of Year 12 students coming into school each day for their 'Study Bubbles'. They are enjoying the opportunity to prepare together for their exams. The Higher



Quiet School - one week until students return!

School certificate examinations begin on November 9 at school. Covid safe arrangements are in place.

Return to school arrangements

Our return to school arrangements have been quite a logistical challenge with the recent sudden change in the government's plan. However, the plan is now finalised and all information is published in this newsletter in Mrs Watts' report. You will see that the plan minimises the movement of students around the school and includes a staggered recess and lunch to minimise Year groups interacting. Year groups will have designated playground areas and the canteen will be open, but for pre-ordered lunches only. We will hold Year meetings online next week to explain the arrangements to all students as well as providing them with written information on Sentral student notices. The plan aligns with Department of Education requirements, which are based on NSW Health advice.

No Parents or Visitors on site

Unfortunately, parents and carers will not be allowed on site, nor will any outside visitors. All school staff are fully vaccinated, as are the tradespeople currently completing some building works (Science labs, lift in A Block and TAS staff area). Parents and carers who want to contact the school will need to do so via phone or email. While this is not ideal, the purpose of limiting access to the school is to keep everyone at school, and their families, as safe as possible as the state opens up after such a long period of lockdown.

Events

Many of our usual Term 4 events are unlikely to take place this year. However, we are in very uncertain times and we will keep our whole school community informed regularly, via this newsletter, student notices on Sentral, and occasional direct email contact. *continued next page*

GHS	WGHS P&C				
f	Facebook.com/wghspandc secretary@wghspandc.org.au	Next P&C Meeting will be held:			
		Tuesday 19 October 2021 (Zoom details TBC)			
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					
\checkmark	✓ 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				

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE continued

Thank you

I very much appreciate families' support of students during the long learning from home period. I appreciate that this has often been very challenging, especially if others in the household are also working from home.

I wish to also acknowledge and thank the hard work of teachers who have had to make many adjustments to their planned teaching and learning programs and strategies, often at very short notice. We are privileged to have such a capable and dedicated team of teachers and support staff. Let's hope we have seen the last of lockdowns.

Ms Elizabeth Diprose Principal



RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN Mrs Jennifer Watts, Deputy Principal

We look forward to welcoming Years 7 – 11 back on site on Monday 25 October. To accommodate adjustments to ensure we are as COVID safe as possible and to reduce movement around the school, there will be a few changes to how we operate the school.

Students have been grouped as a year cohort and have been timetabled into set, allocated rooms in specific areas of the school. The students will remain in the allocated area of the school and will generally not move around the school between lessons – the teachers will. A five-minute break between lessons has been built into the timetable to give teachers time to move from one side of the school to another. The only exception to this is to maintain access to specialist rooms for timetabled specialist subjects eg TAS. In these circumstances, the students will move to the specialist room.

PE activities within class are restricted, and sport is not permissible under the current Department of Education return to school plan for Level 3 Plus schools. Sport will therefore continue online for Years 9 and 10 for the remainder of Term 4. Years 9 and 10 will be dismissed at 12.50pm each Wednesday and will be required to go home and log on for their afternoon sport session. More details will follow.

Year 11 is no longer required to participate in sport as they have now commenced the HSC course. Year 11 has been issued with their Senior Privileges permission note and once the note has been returned to Mrs Jarvis, Year 11 students are encouraged to only be onsite for scheduled classes.

2021 CALENDAR

Term 4

5-29 October Year 12 Revision seminars

EVERY Wednesday 10.30am Year Group Meetings in Home Room

18-22 October Year 10 Assessment Week (on-line exams)

> Tuesday 19 October P&C Meeting 7pm

Monday 25 October Years 7,8,9,10 & 11 return to school campus

> 1 – 8 November Year 12 Study Week

Tuesday 9 November HSC Exams start

Tuesday 16 November P&C Meeting 7pm

Friday 3 December Year 7 "Jump Rope for Heart" Jump Off afternoon

> Thursday 16 December Last day of term

> > Continued next page

RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN continued from previous page

TIMETABLE / BELL TIMES - commencing 25 October, 2021

PERIOD	TIME	ACTIVITY
0	8.00 - 8.45	Class
1	9.00 – 9.45	Class
BREAK	9.45 – 9.50	
2	9.50 – 10.35	Class
RECESS/HOMEROOM	10.35 – 10.55	Years 7, 9 and 11
HOMEROOM / RECESS	10.55 - 11.15	Years 8 and 10
3	11.15 – 12.00	Class
BREAK	12.00 – 12.05	
4	12.05 – 12.50	Class
LUNCH/WELLBEING	12.50 – 1.25/1.25- 1.45	Years 7, 9 and 11
WELLBEING/LUNCH	12.50 - 1.10/1.10 - 1.45	Years 8 and 10
5	1.45 – 2.30	Class
BREAK	2.30 – 2.35	
6	2.35 – 3.20	Class
BREAK	3.20 – 3.25	
7	3.25 – 4.10	Class
8	4.10-4.55	Class

Canteen

Due to COVID restrictions, the canteen will not be open for counter service at recess or lunch. The canteen will operate a delivery service at lunchtime for orders made through Flexischools (please see information later in this newsletter). Orders must be received by 8.30am each day. There will be no recess delivery service, so all students are encouraged to bring sufficient food and drink for the day. Years 7 - 10 will **not** be permitted to leave the grounds to purchase food.

Each Year will receive an email later next week with further details, specific to the individual Year group.

Only 10 more sleeps! Jennifer Watts Deputy Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENTS

Ms Janet Atchison, Deputy Principal

YEAR 12 REVISION SEMINARS

Year 12s are spending the first 4 weeks of Term 4 completing Revision Seminars. Each session is a double period. They will then have Stuvac in Week 5, and the HSC exams will start in Week 6.

I would like to wish our Year 12 students the ability to stay motivated in the last few weeks to ensure you make the most of all your efforts to date, before you begin your HSC examinations.

Year 12 Study Skills Day 2021 - pre lockdown

YEAR 11 TRANSITIONING INTO YEAR 12

Year 11 students have started a new chapter of their education journey this term, taking on their latest project; the HSC.

The HSC Assessment Booklet 2021/2022 will be released next week. I will email all students and parents about this. Students must sign off on their Year Page (Year 11 Wellbeing 2021 page) to acknowledge receiving and reading the document. A year meeting will be called soon when I will go over the Assessment Booklet and answer any arising questions.

I wish these students the best in their HSC year, working with great courage and commitment to their best ability.

Importantly, I would like to remind them that they need to work as a collective team with their teachers and parents, reflecting on their learning and seeking support to continuously improve their skills and study techniques.

YEAR 10 – ASSESSMENT WEEK IN WEEK 3

Fun on Year 11 Study Skills Day March 2021

Year 10 students have an Assessment Week next week starting on Monday 18 October. Assessment Tasks will be completed online. No online classes for any subject will be held during this week to give students time to study.

Details for each assessment task have been provided to students by their teacher. 10 minutes before the start time of each task, students should login using the details provided to them by their teacher.

If a student experiences a technology issue during the task, they should immediately contact the school via telephone to report the problem. Otherwise, all normal assessment procedures apply. If a student is sick or there is misadventure, standard assessment protocols must be followed:

- 1. the school must be contacted prior to the start of the task.
- 2. Provide the school with a medical certificate detailing the illness or an evidence-based document to support the misadventure, along with a letter from parents requesting Mr Palmer to reschedule the task.

Students requiring special provisions will be contacted by the school to make arrangements. continued next page



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL continued from previous page

Year 10 Assessment Timetable:

Date	Time	Subject
Monday, 18th October, 2021	9.15am - 10.15am	English
Monday, 18th October, 2021	12pm - 12.45pm	Geography
Tuesday, 19th October, 2021	11.15am - 12.45pm	Mathematics
Tuesday, 19th October, 2021	2pm - 3pm	PDHPE
Wednesday, 20th October, 2021	11.15am - 12.15pm	Music
Thursday, 21st October, 2021	9.15am - 10.00am	Commerce
Thursday, 21st October, 2021	11.15am - 12.15pm	PASS
Friday, 22nd October, 2021	9.15am - 10.15am	Science

YEARS 7, 8 & 9 ASSESSMENTS

This term, Year 7 to 9 students will undertake their assessments, which can be in the format of a quiz, assignment and/or presentation.

Students are reminded to follow the junior assessment protocols if they are unable to attend or complete the assessment. The student's parent or guardian must:

- 1. contact the school to give prior notification before the day of the assessment, or
- 2. provide a letter explaining the situation if the student is unwell or there is a misadventure on the day of the assessment. This letter must be received by the school on the first day back after the task has been missed.

Ms Janet Atchison, Deputy Principal

YEAR 12 – CONFIRMED UAC & SRS DATES

Ms Rana Morris, Careers Advisor

Below are the confirmed UAC and SRS dates for preferences and offer releases. (Note: January Round 2 is the main UAC offer round.)

November Round 1 SRS offers - 12 November 2021 November Round 2 SRS offers - 25 November 2021

December Round 1 SRS offers - 9 December 2021 December Round 2 SRS offers - cancelled

January Round 1 SRS offers - 13 January 2022 January Round 2 first ATAR based offers – 26 January 2022

February Round 1 offers - 3 February 2022 February Round 2 offers - 10 February 2022 February Round 3 offers - 17 February 2022 March Round 1 offers - 3 March 2022





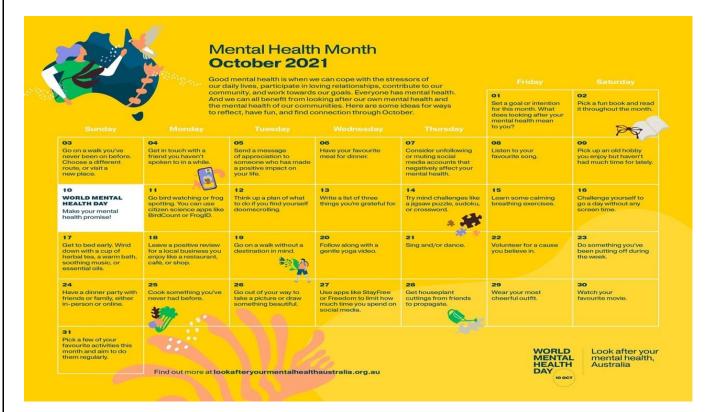
YEAR 11 & 12 - PARENTS QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSIONS ABOUT UNIVERSITY

Ms Rana Morris, Careers Advisor

UTS is hosting Personalised 1-1 consultations for Year 11 and 12 parents on 23 November and 14 December. This is an opportunity for parents to get their UTS questions answered on topics such as course content, admission requirements, student life, and more. Registrations are now open.

WELLBEING NEWS

Mrs Dianne Topic, Head Teacher Wellbeing



Welcome back to Term 4!

This term promises to be an exciting one, with the return to face-to-face teaching and learning. We are very excited to see our students, but we recognise that this will be a time that will not be without challenges.

We will need to draw on the lessons we have learnt throughout the last few months, and use these to support ourselves and each other during this time of transition.

We can agree that we have had to learn to be more patient, flexible, adaptable, resilient, kind and compassionate.

As lockdown restrictions are slowly being lifted to varying degrees, we are entering a time of transition and adjustment. The circumstances of this situation have significantly impacted us all. For some it has been an opportunity to reflect on what is important, whilst others have embraced the opportunity to learn new things.

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WELLBEING NEWS continued from previous page

Many young people may be excited at the prospect of restrictions being lifted, whilst others may be feeling mixed emotions. Reactions will differ depending on how well they cope with stress and change. Keeping a check on your child's mental health and wellbeing as they adjust to new routines, will be vitally important.

There is still a lot of uncertainty ahead of us, so focusing on the things you can control or enjoy doing, can help establish predictability and familiarity for the whole family. Adult carers need to provide young people with reassurance by acknowledging any concerns and fears they may have at this time. Consider this to be a normal reaction, however it may be best to focus more on their feelings and emotions, rather than the practicalities at this stage.

In this Special Report from SchoolTV, you will find some ideas about how to help ease this time of transition. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered. Here is the link to your special report

https://willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/specialreport-coronavirus-transition-back



The Wellbeing Team has organised the following support to assist students with the transition back to school –

- 1. Student Wellbeing Hub
- 2. Bite Back Challenge
- 3. Wellbeing Week
- 4. Mental Health Month October 2021
- 5. Wellbeing Homeroom program face-to-face from week 4

Parents, we have also sent you several emails with links to online events you can participate in this month.

In addition, please find below a link to the Department of Education website, with additional tips about preparing for the return to school.

https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/wellbeing-week-11-15-october-2021/helpful-tips-forreturning-to-school#Helpful2

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.



YEAR 9 MUSIC Mrs Caroline Jarvis, Music Teacher

In Term 3 during lockdown, Sunshia M in Year 9 really enjoyed participating in performance activities and making her own compositions on software like Soundtrap.

Sunshia M

YEAR 12 SCIENCE EXTENSION SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

Ms Marina Gulline, Head Teacher Science

Two students, Julia T and Susie A, completed the Science Extension course in 2021. As part of this course, students design and conduct an investigation cumulating in scientific research report outlining their findings. An Abstract is a short paragraph at the beginning of an academic paper that outlines the purpose, methodology and findings of the research. Below are the Abstracts for Susie's and Julia's papers.

We congratulate both Susie and Julia for their perseverance throughout the year and on the completion of their projects. We wish them the best in their upcoming examinations.

"Plastics heavily contribute to global warming and pollution through their production process and long degradation time. Bioplastics are an alternative that reduces the carbon footprint, and so, it is highly important to find the optimal conditions for the decomposition of bioplastics with variables that can be controlled at home.

This investigation studied the impact of pH levels on the rate of decomposition of a corn-starch-based bioplastic as well as the relationship to the number of microbes in the soil.



Pieces of bioplastic were cut and placed into containers with a wide range of pH levels and left for 96 days. The soil was then tested for microbes using agar plates. It was found that the soil with the pH of 6.1 had the highest mass loss percentage, with this decreasing as the pH moved away from 6.1. Statistical tests were carried out, and it was discovered that there IS a correlation between the pH of the soil and the rate of bioplastic degradation. However, this investigation revealed no clear correlation between the number of microbes and this rate. This correlation could be further researched by investigating the impact of the type of bacteria affecting the bioplastic decomposition rate. " Susie A

"Hydrogen produced with aqueous phase reforming of crude glycerol; a main by-product of the biodiesel production may become an appealing source of energy in the future, as one part of many strategies to reduce our society's reliance on fossil fuels for energy.

The aqueous phase reformation of glycerol is a challenging pathway to value add hydrogen that typically requires high temperatures and pressures for hydrogen production.

A low temperature, low pressure rudimentary setup made of distillation equipment was used to determine if a Raney Nickel catalyst would successfully produce any hydrogen out of a water and glycerol mixture in a 150°C, atmospheric pressure environment. The setup did not allow for the Raney Nickel catalyst to break the C-H bonds of the glycerol, reaffirming the need for high temperatures and or high pressures for successful hydrogen production." Julia T

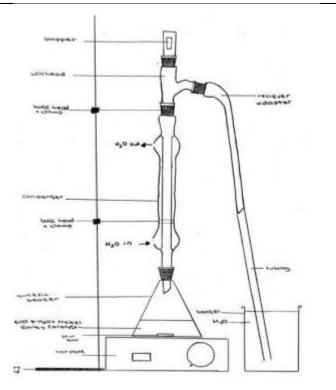


Diagram showing Julia's experiment

YEAR 12 VISUAL ART BODIES OF WORK EXHIBITION - COMING SOON Mr Francesco Maltese, Head Teacher Visual Arts

In non-Covid years, we would have shown our Year 12 bodies of work at the Festival of Creative Arts which unfortunately could not take place this year. Instead, we are creating an online exhibition later this term. We hope you will take the time to view and appreciate our Year 12's efforts.

We are very proud of our Year 12s for their perseverance during lockdown and for creating such fabulous bodies of work. We have some very talented students. This year 32 students submitted works to be marked for the HSC. These artworks varied from painting, drawing, photo media, digital drawings, ceramics and sculpture.

I would like to thank all the Art teachers, especially Ms Gregg who have done an amazing job motivating the Year 12s to keep going in very trying circumstances. The final products are fantastic.



Akayo C



Grace B



Zenobia A



Claudia H







Angelique P



Nancy C



Jenny J



Amy B

YEAR 9 PUBLIC SPEAKING WINNER

Mrs Constanza Hanich, English Teacher

Congratulations to Kimberly S (Year 9). Kimberley entered the Junior Legacy Public Speaking competition with a speech about female role models and has been selected to go on to represent WGHS at regional level. Good luck!

YEAR 10 TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY

Ms Adel Frames, Technological & Applied Studies Teacher

The Year 10 Textiles Technology class of 2021 embarked on various projects that provided them with the opportunity to be creative whilst learning a range of technical skills. Students started the subject with an in-depth exploration of the history of sleepwear and undergarments, showcasing their ability to conduct relevant research and formulate an informative report.

The first practical project required the design and making of a set of pyjamas. Students were tasked with conducting a range of experiments to determine the suitability of different textiles for sleepwear. They also experimented with different decorative elements to determine the most suitable embellishment techniques for their pyjamas. These were carefully documented in their portfolios before the making of the outfits.

Due to the sudden Covid 19 lockdown, plans for the Semester 2 project had to change. Since not all students had access to sewing machines at home, a new project was devised which would allow students to complete complex textile art panels by hand. Every student had to design and make two panels, inspired by a specific colour palette. Students documented their design inspiration and idea development, before creating their unique designs.

It takes commitment and courage to learn new skills, but this class has risen to the challenge by setting goals and managing their time. Well done to all! I look forward to seeing what you can do in Term 4.



GANIC DAIRY ICE CREAM



Textile Art 1 - Gracie M



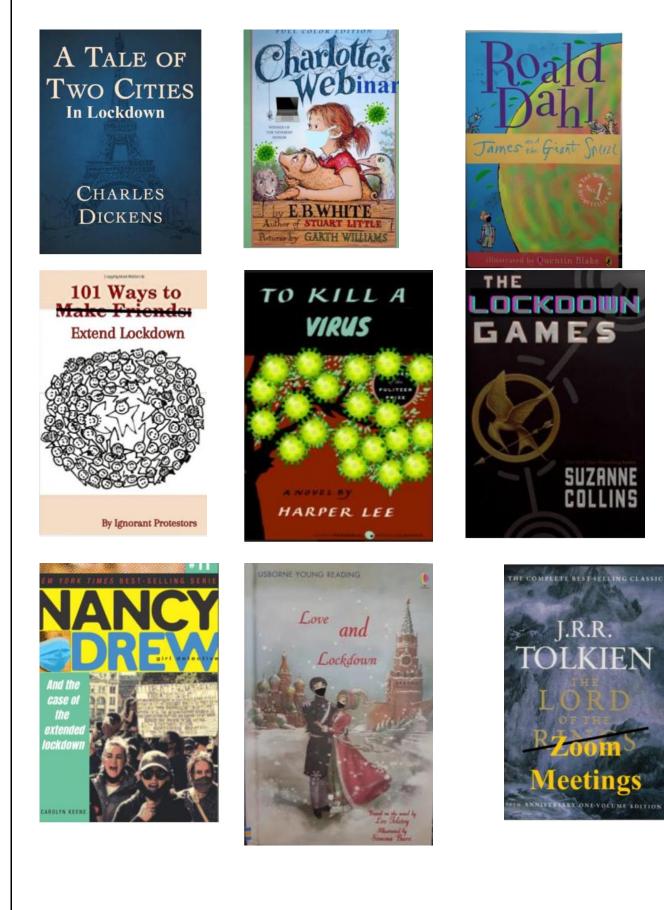




COVID COVERS LOCKDOWN BOOK TITLES COMPETITION

Ms Alex Parker, Teacher Librarian

During lockdown students were invited to rework a book title to suit lockdown. There were some fantastic responses. Well done to everyone for all the clever interpretations!



YEAR 7 – JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Ms Narelle Best, Head Teacher PDHPE

This term Year 7 are participating in Jump Rope for Heart – a fantastic fundraising and physical activity program by the National Heart Foundation.

By continuing our involvement in Jump Rope for Heart this term, we are expecting to keep our students moving. During this term Year 7 students have been engaging in skipping based skill and fitness activities in PE. They have been working on rehearsing their skills and skipping routines and submitting them to gain their skipping passport.

Over the coming weeks Year 7 students will learn new skills, increase their physical activity, and learn more about heart health.

The program will end with all of Year 7 participating in a 'Jump off afternoon' in Week 9 on Friday the 3rd of December where students will have the opportunity to engage in a fun and fitness afternoon where skills can be showcased.

As a school, we are encouraging all students to help raise funds for lifesaving research and support programs.

If your child isn't yet registered online, now is the perfect chance to do so. Once registered, your child will gain access to additional skipping resources to help give them a great reason to get away from the screens and get outdoors. You can also register and create your own secure webpage at jumprope.org.au/parents

By signing up online, you and your child can:

- Easily raise funds online
- Track skipping skills progress and earn virtual badges along the way
- Post updates to your page so family and friends can follow their progress

If you would like more information regarding the Jump Rope for Heart program, visit <u>jumprope.org.au/parents</u>. To find out more about this initiative contact Mr Andrew Reid or Ms Narelle Best in PDHPE by emailing the school.



Milan S









Lily Z

Alexandra Z

LIBRARY NEWS – E BOOKS & AUDIO BOOKS

Ms Alex Parker, Teacher Librarian

Access to a collection of ebooks and audiobooks is currently available to WGHS students through ePlatform by Wheelers books. Borrowing ebooks and audiobooks is as easy as:

- 1. Download the eplatform app from your app store.
- 2. Find the Willoughby Girls High School library and log in using your student ID.
- 3. Browse and borrow to read or listen on your device.

CONGRATULATIONS TEACHERS – NEW BABIES

Congratulations to:

- Mrs Hannah Johnston from Art for the birth of a baby girl, Lila.
- Mrs Caitlin Mulford from History for the birth of a baby girl, Charlotte.



LOCK DOWN TRIVIA ANSWERS REVEALED!

Each day everyone has to answer a simple question to show they are attending school. We thought it would be fun to show you some answers!



94% of WGHS students have tried ice-skating



63% of WGHS students like to chew on icecubes



89% of WGHS students think smell is a stronger sense than hearing in a dog.

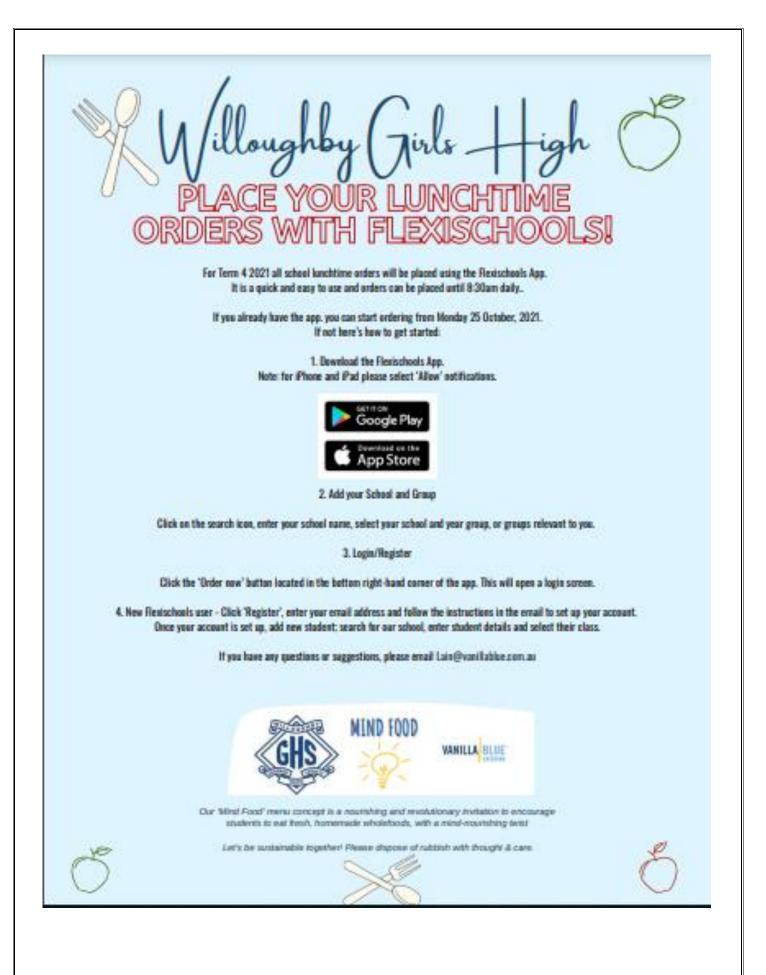


92% of WGHS students had a good relaxing holiday



48% of WGHS students would like to go to outer space for a vacation





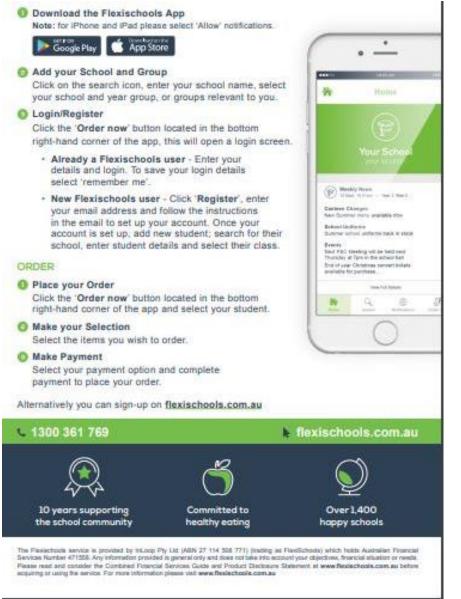


NEW CANTEEN PROCEDURES

As per Mrs Watts' article at the start on this newsletter, due to COVID restrictions, the canteen will not be open for counter service at recess or lunch. The canteen will operate a delivery service at lunchtime for orders made through Flexischools (please see information on how to set up your account below). Orders must be received by 8.30am each day. There will be no recess delivery service, so all students are encouraged to bring sufficient food and drink for the day.

Years 7 – 10 will **not** be permitted to leave the grounds to purchase food.

HOW TO SET UP YOUR FLEXISCHOOLS ACCOUNT





2022 SCHOOL TRAVEL APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2022 can <u>apply now</u>. A new applications need to be submitted if they are applying for a school travel pass for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, or who have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should <u>renew or</u> <u>update</u> their details before the end of term 4.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2022.

Further information can be found at <u>transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-</u> <u>travel</u>

2022 NEW STUDENT UNIFORM FITTINGS

The Noone Uniform shop in Chatswood is now taking bookings for uniform fittings, particularly for new students for 2022. January is always busy, so now is a good time to get organised.

Due to covid restrictions only one student and their parent/guardian may attend the fitting.

The experienced staff fit for growing room, however, if for any reason your daughter grows over the holidays, Noone will happily exchange sizes.

To book a uniform fitting, to find address details, opening hours etc please go to:

https://www.noone.com.au/school/willoughby-girlshigh-school-willoughby-nsw





COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Free workshop for parents and supervisors of learner drivers



Helping learner drivers become safer drivers

The session will offer practical advice about:

- current driving rules and requirements for L and P platers
- how learners benefit from supervised on-road driving
- how you can help make learning to drive a safe and positive experience

6:00pm – 7:15pm Thursday 25 November 2021 Online via Zoom

Find out more at www.learnerdriverwebinar.eventbrite. com.au



Presented by Harston's Hill Grand Lane Cove (in partnership with the NSW Government.



To register: www.learnerdriverwebinar.eventbrite.com.au





COME AS YOU ART!

JOIN CHATSWOOD YOUTH AND ART PSYCHOTHERAPIST, EMMA FITZGERALD FOR FREE GUIDED ART WORKSHOPS THIS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

> Zoom dates! MON 18th Oct 3.30 - 4.30pm WED 20th Oct 3.30 - 4.30pm MON 25th Oct 3.30 - 4.30pm WED 27th Oct 3.30 - 4.30pm

*Bookings essential via YOUTH@WILLOUGHBY.NSW.GOV.AU