

WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL A Leader in Girls Education NEWSLETTER

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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs Adrienne Scalese, Principal

STUDENT LEADERS 2022-2023

I wish to warmly congratulate our new student leaders for 2022 – 2023: School Captain – Jessica M, Vice Captain – Donna M, Senior Prefects – Georgia K and Rhiannon L. They will be supported by 11 prefects: Eva C, Aissatou C, Cameron G, Freya H, Sophie H, Yubin H, Tivija K, Naureen M, Zara R, Emilie T and Kiera W.

This group of 15 students will be excellent leaders and

Year 12 Farewell from Music Ensembles this morning

wonderful ambassadors of Willoughby Girls. As Principal, I morning am very much looking forward to working with our new leadership team and hope that together, we can continue to foster positive relationships and build on the extraordinary culture that has been built at Willoughby by those that have gone before us.

YEAR 12

We are pleased to welcome Year 12 students back into classrooms after completing their Trial HSC Examinations. The most important part of the process now is for students to concentrate on the feedback they are receiving from their teachers and to use this feedback for further improvement. Students should make time to plan how that feedback can be effectively implemented into their study and preparation for final examinations.

Congratulations to our Year 12 Drama students who earlier this week undertook their HSC Drama Performances. Our Year 10 and 11 Drama students had the privilege of being the audience for these performances and I know that they were amazed by the talent shown. Thank you to Ms Hattingh for her ongoing support of the Year 12 Drama students.

On Thursday evening, our Year 12 Visual Arts students showcased their major works to students, staff and parents/carers. These works included paintings, drawings, sculpture, digital media and photography. The variety and quality of the work was of an exceptionally high standard, and I pass on my congratulations to the students and Visual Arts Staff.

Year 12 Music 1, Music 2 and Music Extension students will be performing their HSC musical pieces for an audience on Tuesday 30th August. I am very much looking forward to enjoying the musical talents of our Year 12 students as they prepare for their HSC Music Performances on the 5th and 9th September.

Continued next page

	See WGHS P&C					
•	Facebook.com/wghspandc	Next P&C Meeting will be held:				
	secretary@wghspandc.org.au	Tuesday 20 September 2022 - 7pm, Meeting Room, Block A (Main				
		Building)				
✓	✓ 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) or online					
\checkmark	Any queries or matters to be raised can be raised via the Secretary at the above email address at any time.					
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26 AUGUST 2022

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Continued from page 1

FOCUS GROUPS WITH STUDENTS

Ms Jarvis has been running student focus groups this term as we look to hear from students on their learning experiences at Willoughby Girls High School. The feedback provided by students across Years 7 – 12 will assist us in evaluating current teaching practice and inform future areas for improvement.

YEAR 11

We would like to wish our Year 11 students well in their upcoming Yearly Examinations. We encourage all students to use this time before their exams wisely; to ask those last-minute questions of your teachers about any area of work you are unsure of. We are confident that our Year 11 students will continue to do your best in all aspects of your preparation.

P&C MEETING

Thank you to all those parents who came out on such a cold night and attended our P&C meeting on Tuesday this week. P&C meetings are a great opportunity for parents to get involved in the school and I look forward to seeing many new faces at the next one on 20 September.

MUSIC ENSEMBLE BREAKFAST

My day today started with a wonderful farewell breakfast for our Year 12 Music Ensemble students. Thank you for your commitment and dedication throughout your years at WGHS. Sincere thanks to our music committee parents for their organisation and support of the breakfast and the music program.

Mrs Adrienne Scalese Principal





2022 CALENDAR*

Monday 29 August Combined Choir Rehearsal & Performance

> Tuesday 30 August Y8 Geography Excursion Y12 Music Recital 6.30-8.30pm

> > Wednesday 31 August

Y11 Study Day Y8 Well Being Day

1-12-September Y11 Yearly Exams

7-9 September CHS Athletics

19 September Y10 Drama Evening

20 September Y11 Leaders induction P&C Meeting 7pm

22 September Y12 Review & Luncheon Y7-11 finish school early at 1pm

> 23 September Last Day Term 3 Y12 Graduation

TERM 4, 2022: 10 October - 20 December

Monday 10 October First day of Term 4

12,13,14 October Year 11 Camp

12 October – 4 November HSC examinations

> 18 October P&C Meeting 7pm

28 October Y7 Vaccinations

*Subject to changes due to Covid restrictions

2022-23 LEADERSHIP GROUP Congratulations and welcome to our new Prefects

Senior Prefects:



School Captain: Jessica M



Donna M



Senior Prefect: Rhiannon Lim



Senior Prefect: Georgia K

Prefects:



Eva C



Freya H



Tivija K



Emillie T



Aissatou C



Sophie H



Naureen M



Kiera W



Cameron G



Yubin H



Zara R

2023 TERM DATES

Here are next year's term dates for your planning purposes. (Please organise travel outside of school terms):

TERM	First Day	Last Day
Term 1	Tuesday 31 January (Y7, Y11, Y12 & new girls) or Wednesday, 1 February (Y8, Y9 & Y10)	Thursday, 6 April
Term 2	Wednesday 26 April Monday 12 June (Queens Birthday Public Holiday)	Friday, 30 June
Term 3 Tuesday 18 July		Friday, 22 September
Term 4	Monday 9 October	Monday, 18 December

SCHOOL TOURS

If you or a friend have a daughter who is hoping to start at Willoughby, and would like **to organise a small group tour, of if** you have any questions about enrolment, please contact us on 02 9958 4141 or email <u>willoughbg-</u>

h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

We also have a virtual tour online where you can meet and hear from teachers and students and find out about opportunities for your daughter, subjects, extra-curricular activities and more. <u>Click here</u>.



HOW TO FOLLOW OUR NEW WGHS FACEBOOK PAGE

It is very exciting that we are on Facebook! To ensure you never miss a post, please follow us today.

To follow us you can either:

Click <u>https://www.facebook.com/WilloughbyGirlsHighSchool</u> and then "like" and "follow" the page. or

In Facebook, search for "Willoughby Girls High School". **Please ensure you find the official page** (the one with the blue WGHS logo next to it (circled in this picture)



FROM THE DEPUTY

Ms Janet Atchison, Deputy Principal – Years 10,11, 12

EXAMINATIONS

Congratulations to the Year 12 Students for finishing their Trials and completing many practical assessments and performances.

Our Year 11 students will have examinations from 1 -12 September. Good luck to all students and thank you to all the teachers for the preparation of these exams.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The NSW Government has determined that parents, caregivers or persons having custody of a child are responsible for the regular attendance of that child at school until the child is 17 years of age.



Research highlights a clear correlation between student attendance and the achievement of quality academic, socioeconomic and health outcomes. This research tells us that students with an attendance rate below 90% are educationally at risk.

Willoughby Girls High School has the following procedures in place to monitor student attendance:

EXTENDED LEAVE

We encourage students to take family holidays in school vacation time, however, if a student needs to be absent from school for three (3) days or more, the following procedure must be followed:

- 1. An application for Extended leave must be submitted to the Front Office for the Principal to review at least 7 days prior to travel. Educational, social and participation reasons should be specified on the application. Travel documentation, such as travel itinerary or e-ticket should be included.
- 2. Parents will be advised by email if the leave is granted or declined. The Principal will not accept a reason for travel during term if it is not in the best interest of the student. If approved, absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll, and therefore contribute to the student's total absences for the year.
- 3. If leave is approved, the student is required to see the relevant Deputy Principal about classwork and assessments for the period they will be away.

DAILY ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend all lessons scheduled on their timetable unless they have prior approval.

EARLY LEAVE OR LATE ARRIVAL – APPLY BEFORE 8.45AM

Parents must notify the school via the <u>Parent Portal</u> before 8.45am if your daughter needs to leave early or arrive late. When you do this, please put the times in the comments section after the dates.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES continued from previous page

LATE ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

A student, who arrives after 9.00 am, is required to go directly to the Office to sign into school.

If a late student's parent has not requested this leave in the Parent portal, an SMS will be sent out to relevant parents/carers. Please respond via a return text as soon as you can. This SMS will be recorded in the system.

Early and direct contact with parents and carers of students who are frequently late to school will be undertaken by the Attendance Officer, Year Adviser/Assistant Year Adviser, Head Teacher Administration and relevant Deputy Principal.

HOW TO USE THE PARENT PORTAL TO INFORM THE SCHOOL OF ANY ABSENCES

1. In the portal, click on **Absences** in the menu on the left-hand side of the screen, then click on the **Notify of an Absence** button.

	Absences	
✓Notify of an Absence		

2. Tick the box next to your daughter's name, select the Absence reason, select the first and last day of the absence, and complete the absence notification by including a comment ie why your daughter is absent and times for early leave/late arrival.

Students	
🖓 Student Name	
Absence Reason	
Medical	÷
Start Date	
2022-06-10	
End Date	
2022-06-16	
Comment	
COVID-19 positive	
	Send
	and the second se

3. Click on the send button.

What will happen if you do not notify the school prior to an absence

If your daughter is absent or late without prior notice, the primary contact will receive an SMS message from the school (0428 251 911) on their mobile phone. The receiver of the SMS must reply directly to the SMS with the reason for the absence/late arrival. Alternatively, you may go to the <u>parent portal</u> and record the reason.

I do not know my login

Recently, most parents have been sent their individual login to the Parent Portal. If you have not received it or are unable to log in please email the school: <u>willoughbg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au</u>

How do I contact the school for reasons other than absences?

For general enquiries or to contact specific members of staff, continue to use the school email address *willoughbg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au*

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Mrs Tania Prowle, Relieving Deputy Principal – Years 7, 8, 9

There have been many events happening across the fortnight for Years 7, 8 and 9.

SUBJECT SELECTION PROCESS FOR YEARS 7 & 8

The subject selection process has been a focus for Years 7 and 8. Year 8 have now submitted their elective choices for Year 9 & 10 (Stage 5), and Year 7 have begun making their language selection for Year 8 2023. I have been so impressed with the students' organisation and management of this process.

Last night, we had a Zoom session for Year 7 parents to outline the Language choices, what students will learn in each course and the importance of language learning. This was presented by the Language Faculty. This was a great opportunity to understand about the curriculum options.

STUDENT WELLBEING DAYS

Student wellbeing has been a significant focus, with Year 7 having their Wellbeing Day last Thursday, and the Year 8 Wellbeing day coming up next week. These days are a great opportunity for students to connect, as well as learn strategies that can support their wellbeing and therefore their learning.

Thank you to the Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisors for all their efforts in organising these days.

We also celebrated 'Wear it Purple' Day today, a student-led initiative focused on supporting and promoting inclusivity and diversity.



Be different, be

yourself

I'm wearing purple today because I feel it is important that me and others show our inclusivity and kindness towards the LGBTQIA+ Community

Because it's important to be inclusive and supportive of others whatever they chose to do.

NO DOGS ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES OR OUTSIDE

We have observed that there are dogs in attendance during pick up and drop off times. They are often outside of the school grounds, however, at times they are along the lane way between the primary school and oval. Please ensure your dog is never left unattended as this can become a risk for other members of the school community.



Students wrote about the importance of inclusivity







YEAR 12 FESTIVAL OF FRIDAY FUN

Abbey T, School Captain 2021-22

Last Friday evening, Year 12 had their Festival of Friday Fun. After the last few years of doing Friday fun activities in homeroom, it was a joy to celebrate one of our last Friday funs all together. Organised by our dedicated prefects Claire O, Olivia T and Sanvi G, Year 12 students and teachers took part hilarious trivia and games before doing our favourite just dance routines. We then ate delicious pizza and later decorated our junior uniforms while watching a movie. It was such a fun night and a great testimony to the wonderful connection and bond we have across the whole Year 12 Year group.



SCIENCE WEEK

Ms Marina Gulline, Head Teacher Science

To celebrate Science Week at WGHS, we had daily quizzes on scientific topics including space and animals. The response was great and congratulations to all of the home rooms and students who entered. Year 8 students were also lucky enough to have a presentation by Reuben, the Surfing Scientist, who wowed the girls with his demonstrations.

YEAR 8 SURFING SCIENTIST Rinnah C and Celina T (Year 8)

Tuesday morning was thrilling as Ruben, the Surfing Scientist came to Willoughby Girls to share with Year 8 all about Chemistry.

He did many experiments, such as exploding balloons and using liquid nitrogen to deflate and then blow back up again a balloon. We also learnt about the dangers and other cool experiments that can be done with liquid nitrogen.

The science presentation was filled with important information and experiments.



Ruben's performance and stage presence were fun and exciting and really engaged the audience in Science. His experiments were both thrilling and educational and helped us understand the Chemistry concepts we are learning in school.

SUPER ZONE FINALS OF GRADE SPORT

Mr Andrew Reid, PDHPE Teacher

On Wednesday the 24th of August Willoughby had 5 teams play against various schools from the Warringah Zone in the Super Zone finals!

Our Junior and Senior Soccer, Volleyball and Basketball teams were all victorious with fantastic wins! Congratulations to all players and super coaches - Mr Smith, Mr Samios, Ms Burdon-Poole and Ms Lemaic! Our Senior Netballers put up a good fight but just fell short. Bigger and better next year!



Volleyball team

Junior Soccer team

COMBINED CHOIR

Mr Clem Burgmann, Head Teacher Music

Wednesday 23 August was our Combined Choir's last rehearsal before their exciting performance in the Concert Hall of the Opera House next Monday night! Many thanks to Ms Schroers, who is about to go on maternity leave, for leading this ensemble with passion and enthusiasm.



YEAR 11 WOODWORK

Mrs Hayley Carruthers, Technological & Applied Studies Teacher

Year 11 Design and Technology students have been creating timber furnishing units. This project has involved developing woodworking skills to design and produce a multifunctional furnishing item, within set constraints. Students are also documenting their design process in a portfolio.

The students have created bedroom furnishings that accommodate dogs or plants, lounge items with storage options, headphone and jewellery storage solutions, and many more clever designs.

We will share some photos of the completed projects later, but here is a photo of the class in action and one of the works in progress!

Every single student is making something interesting, creative and unique, and can be very proud of the useful and varied skills they have developed, as well as proud of the perseverance and attention to detail they have each applied to their design process.



I am very proud of them all.



STATE WIND BAND 2022

Congratulations to Celina Y (Y9) for being accepted into the State Wind Band 2022. This program involved students from across the state of NSW who have been preparing individually for past months and will meet in Sydney in the coming week. The program culminates with two performances in the Sydney Opera House at the NSW State Festival of Instrumental Music and InConcert.





On the last day of term we will farewell our Year 12 2022 students at a Graduation Ceremony. Two guests per Year 12 student are invited to attend. On Thursday, 25 August 2022, Year 12 parents were emailed the RSVP link. (Siblings will be organised by the school.)

NSW ALL SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mrs J Carruthers, PDHPE Teacher

The NSW All Schools Cross Country Championships were held on 22 July at Eastern Creek. The following students represented Sydney North Area. Congratulations girls on an amazing effort!

NAME	AGE	PLACE
Pin Pin M	14 years	17/87
Zoe B	16 years	15/75
Annabelle	17 years	19/73
W		
Aurelia H	18+ years	13/67



YEAR 12 BODIES OF WORK – OPENING NIGHT AND EXHIBITION

Thowshi D and Anevay F (Y12)

On Thursday evening, 26 August, the Year 12 Visual Arts HSC bodies of work exhibition opening was held. After a lack of exhibitions in the past two years due to Covid, it was a surreal experience to see our finished works in person and on display. It was also amazing to see all our other classmates' works after being so focused on our own, and in a gallery set up too. Our families were excited to see everyone's finished artwork and were really proud of all the work we've done this year. The entire cohort worked collaboratively with the Visual Arts faculty and are all really proud of everyone's works, and can't wait to finally submit our major works.



YEAR 12 MUSIC ENSEMBLE BREAKFAST

This morning we celebrated and farewelled our Year 12 students at the Music Ensemble Breakfast. Thank you for your commitment and dedication throughout your years at WGHS. Sincere thanks to our music committee parents for their organisation and support of the breakfast.



YEAR 9 BAKING BRILLIANCE WITH LEMON MYRTLE!

Ms Chloe Chevell, Technological & Applied Studies Teacher

On Monday 22 August, Year 9 Food Technology students completed the second stage of their Strawberry and Lemon Myrtle Dodger biscuit practical. Students created buttery shortbread biscuits which they sandwiched around strawberry jam infused with Australian lemon myrtle powder as part of their exploration into Australian native ingredients. They then experienced the joy of eating their creations!













YEAR 7 WELLBEING DAY – LOTS OF FUN!

Surabhi P (Year 7)

Thursday 18th August was our Year 7 Well-being Day. That day we met a man named Nick from KYDS who talked to us about strategies to help manage our mental health, he called it 'Mental Stealth'. Nick told us about his experiences and how he dealt with his problems.



After that, Year 7 was split into groups to do some activities and play games based on our mental health. My favourite activity was throwing the gratitude ball around the group.

At lunch we had our picnic and I enjoyed it, my friends and I bought lots of food to share.

Lastly, we watched a video without sound to help us understand that body language can be as strong as words. I had lots of fun and hope to have days like this in the future!



SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

Brenda Bridson, Second Hand Uniform Coordinator

Just a reminder that there are second hand uniforms available.

Located in Forestville, with flexible appointment times, weekdays or weekends if preferred.

I currently have a good selection of -

- Junior summer/winter dresses, white shirts and Blazers
- Jumpers, music shirts

- Senior Skirts/blouses and a few great quality Blazers

With year 10 students getting ready for senior uniform, now is a great time to purchase.

Please email brenda.bridson31@gmail.com or message me on 0432715066

GRADE BASKETBALL – WINNERS ARE GRINNERS!

Ms Natasha Lemaic, Science Teacher

Congratulations to our Grade basketballers who played Mackellar High School on Wednesday 17 August. The girls set themselves a target of 50 goals and with tight defense and superb goal shooting, they achieved 60! Well done team!



YEAR 10 HISTORY INCURSION ABOUT THE VIETNAM WAR Sophia N (Y10)

On Monday the 22nd August, Year 10 gathered in the hall for a presentation by Brett Hunt who is the son of a Vietnam veteran.

It provided us all with a valuable opportunity to truly understand the experiences and impacts of the war which is correlating with our studies in Year 10 history.

We enjoyed the engaging and entertaining presentation as Brett used music and storytelling to tell the stories of his father and mother. One of the intriguing moments of his presentation was when Brett was discussing the generational impacts that war places on a family, and how it is very important to be commemorating our veterans and all the work they do.

This presentation supplied us with helpful information and insight for our next history assessment.

P&C NETBALL CLUB EXCITING NEWS!

Mel Fisher, P&C Netball Convenor

We have exciting news - we have 4 teams progressing directly to the Grand Final on Saturday 3 September, and another 6 teams playing off this Saturday for their chance to make the Grand Final.

See the next newsletter for a wrap-up of the season.



YEAR 7 REPTILE INCURSION REVIEW

Camelia BS, Year 7

I have always been fascinated with reptiles since I was young. I have been interested in the concept of cold blooded animals. Thus, I have been curious to touch the rough, parched, scaly skin of these odd animals. The reptile incursion made this dream a reality.

It was incredible to know so much about each and every creature that had come to visit us, knowing their names, their habitat and when they were found made me feel close to all the reptiles. It was bewildering to see a crocodile walking around, curious to figure out its new environment. Touching a reptile for the first time was a new experience for me. The turtles and lizards were gentle and I loved their unique skin textures. The snakes striked me as curious and inquisitive creatures who liked investigating the sleeve of my jumper.



Thus, the day was wonderful and I enjoyed it thoroughly. I look forward to seeing these enthralling creatures again along with more exciting adventures!

NEW MULTILINGUAL MENTAL HEALTH CHATBOT AVAILABLE 24/7!

Ms Alex Stankovski, Head Teacher Wellbeing

The Mental Health Foundation Australia is excited to launch it's first ever mental health multilingual chatbot available to assist Australians online with their mental health around the clock. Chatbot supports translation in more than 100 languages, with a primary aim to educate and support communities with their mental health. Feeling anxious, overwhelmed, or just need to talk to someone? Chatbot is here for you!



2022 NEED A LIFT- YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION





EMERGE FESTIVAL 2022 ORGANISED BY WILLOUGHBY COUNCIL

Emerge is back from 1 September to 9 October 2022. With over 70 events across Willoughby showcasing the arts, entertainment and the diverse culture of the wonderful Willoughby. Find out about the experiences offered <u>here</u>



Emerge Festival 2022 1 September - 9 October

Emerge is back next month with over 70 events across Willoughby showcasing the arts, entertainment and diverse culture of the wonderful City of Willoughby. Don't miss out on discovering the local experiences on offer.

