



Girrawheen SHS August 2014 Newsletter



From the Principal

Welcome to Term 3. As is always the case at Girrawheen SHS, the term is filled with a variety of interesting activities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Our staff began the term with a Professional Development Day which was extremely positive. Staff worked on the School Business Plan and focused on a strong self-assessment process based on our school priorities, targets set, what has been achieved in relation to all targets and what further work is required to continue to develop positive outcomes for our students. The Business Plan will be developed as there are some aspects that required fine-tuning and adjustments. Shortly the 2013-2015 School Plan will be developed into a formal document and made available on our website. I invite you to look out for this as it will be accessible at the commencement of Term 4.

STUDENT CENTRED FUNDING MODEL

You will now be aware of information released about the newly formulated Student Centred Funding Model for all schools. Whilst Girrawheen SHS has been highlighted as a school that has a reduction in funding I wish to convey to parents, students and our community members that staff at our school will continue to boast strong and engaging programs for our students. Our school is not closing and staff are currently ensconced in a number of planning activities for our students for 2015. Timetables are being set for our Year 12 students to complete their WACE, and courses for the new WACE requirements

for Year 11 students are being developed. Formulation of the exact timetable, needs and allocation of staffing is still taking place and cannot be confirmed at this point but we will be offering clear pathways for students and will continue to have a strong partnership with the New North Initiative (NNEI) so that our students will receive a broad spectrum of courses to complement our course offerings.

YEAR 7 AND 8 INTRODUCTORY PROGRAM

We are also planning a strong introductory program for our Year 7 & 8 students. Plans are afoot for a two week introduction. The first two weeks of school for Year 7 and 8 students will involve a mixed program of getting to know staff, the school, each other, participating in pastoral care programs, involvement in Drum Beat, Rock and Water and many other activities that will also include special guests speaking to students and a Performing Arts introduction and an academic focus based on course expectations. For the first two weeks this means students will be fully engaging in a familiarisation and super transition program at Girrawheen SHS covering many aspects of secondary schooling. Key staff will be meeting with me over the course of a weekend to work on this special and new initiative for our students. In addition, Mr Cantwell and our Trade Training young men are working on redesigning and beautifying the garden and seating area for the Year 7 and 8 students. Our staff are fully committed and excited about our school's future, in particular the year ahead with Year 7 students arriving at

our school. Our teachers are also dedicated to providing your child with engaging learning programs. Our values will continue to be embedded, aiming to continue and develop our culture of "Respect, Responsibility and Doing Your Best".

HIGHLIGHTS

Contained within this newsletter are amazing stories and photographs of some of what our school offers as well as student achievements. Our fabulous Unity team have once again achieved extremely highly across numerous dance divisions. We are extremely proud of their success and congratulate them on their performances. I extend my thanks to Mrs Cargill for her commitment to the team. We also continue to enjoy many of their performances at our assemblies. Our Bush Ranger Cadets have also spent some time doing incredible volunteer work at Yanchep National Park and Dryandra. They have also experienced a number of excursions based on conservation and sustainability. Mrs Gould, Ms Bainbridge, Mr Passera and many of our Education Assistants have spent a number of days and weekends leading our Bush Rangers on

TERM DATES

Term 3:

Tues 22 July – Fri 26 Sept

Term 4:

Tues 14 Oct – Thurs 18 Dec

Dates to Remember

18 August – 12 September

Year 11 Subject Interviews

26 August – 29 August

Clontarf Camp Year 8-9

3 September

Year 10 Performing Arts –
Drama

YOH FEST Heat

4 September

Whole School Athletics/Fun
Carnival

16 September

Year 8 Immunisation

22 September

Clontarf Camp Bunbury

Yr 11 - 12

22 September – 26 September

Year 12 Mock Exams



Girrawheen Senior High School

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

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SCHOOL VALUES

✓ Respect ✓ Responsibility ✓ Doing your best

SCHOOL PRIORITIES

✓ Numeracy/Literacy ✓ Positive Behaviour ✓ Attendance

their activities. Ms Green has been working with her Art students on fabulous abstract work. Just take a look at our fantastic Art work. Science has also featured at our school with numerous after school events with Mr Gary Cass, an expert Scientist who challenges students to consider science as a creative discipline. Ms Amanda Hales has been working on a Girrawheen SHS Cook Book with favourite family recipes. Staff, students, parents and community members have been invited to provide us with a photo of their favourite recipe that they have cooked and a photograph. The recipes will make up a cook book that will be available to purchase in Term 4. If you have a recipe you would like to send in please email us as we are keen to incorporate them in our school's cook book. We will be showcasing recipes in our Newsletter. This week we have Ms Margaret Quirk's (MLA) Strawberry Shortcake recipe.

PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE

On Saturday September 13, our Performing Arts Students will be showcasing "The Stars of The Future" at Lady Wardle Performing Arts Centre, St Mary's Karrinyup. There is a huge amount of work going on behind the scenes led by Ms Jenny Drpich, Mrs Cargill, our practicum students, and many other staff. Rehearsals, costume and prop making is taking up every moment of time of staff, volunteer parents, friends, and students. We are excited about the Performing Arts showcase, and look forward to seeing the amazing talent that exists in our school. The team will also be performing at the Performing Arts YOH FEST heat in Mandurah on Wednesday 3 September. We wish them ongoing success at this competition.

P & C

P&C recently convened and discussed and endorsed some positive and exciting opportunities and changes. As an Independent Public School, discussions have been revolving around a change in school uniform that will be phased in without causing angst to students and parents, a tweaking of our current school emblem to help modernise it for our documents and a possible renaming of our school and rebadging of our school emblem. These are progressive and exciting conversations that have begun with our students. Our School Captain, Ayan Rashiid Mohamed, representing Student Council and the student voice, raised the school uniform changes. This has been endorsed by P&C. Ongoing research and work around this is taking place. Continued communication regarding any changes will occur through this newsletter and our school website.

Please be on the lookout for this as we are keen to attain feedback from you.

You will note that this newsletter has our newly refined emblem.

As outlined to you, this newsletter captures the spirit and success of only a few programs at our school. We continue to build on the fabulous work that is taking place and aim to support our students to build on a culture of belonging.

LONG TAN COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY

The 48th annual commemorative ceremony of the Long Tan Battle took place in Kings Park on Sunday. A number of staff and students, who went on the Vietnam 2014 Tour, attended this Ceremony. Our students were recognised by a number of dignitaries who were at the ceremony. They included: The head of the Australian Vietnam Veterans Richard Williams, The US Consul General Cynthia Griffin and other Vietnam Veterans. As a result of our school's respect and attendance at this ceremony we have received some emails of thanks from a number of Vietnam veterans. I have included some heartfelt words from the gentlemen. I continue to be especially proud of our students, particularly when they represent our school as proudly as ambassadors and because they also espouse our school's values of "Respect, Responsibility and Doing Your Best"

We wish to thank you for your dedication and remembrance of our troops who fought at Long Tan and elsewhere in Vietnam during our 10 year war in that country. It warms our hearts that we are remembered for what we did and achieved by schools all around the country - schools like yours- which have understood what we did while many other organisations do not grant us the honour of remembering

Dear Rosalba

I too want to say to you and the children a big "WELL DONE". I see you travelled to Vietnam, something I have not done since the war. Both Bill and myself were involved in the battles at Firebase Coral where Bill was wounded in action. All goes well for Long Tan day (Viet Vets Day) and Anzac Day with the likes of you and the children of Girrawheen Senior High School carrying the torch long after we are gone and saying the Ode for us "LEST WE FORGET"

Dear Principal

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I am sending you this correspondence.

On Sunday last, Vietnam Veterans attended the annual service to commemorate the West Australians who served in the Vietnam War, now so many years ago. Numbers were down as our ranks thin with old age and chronic illness, however, many of us feel it important to remember the fallen and injured as well as the surviving families. Regrettably, our contribution to democracy and way of life seems to have been forgotten by the general populace as well as the mainstream media. It was therefore a terrific morale booster to see your school ably represented by a number of your students in school uniform. They were a great credit to their school in the way they paid respect and in their general demeanour during the service. I can honestly say that my veteran comrades and I were duly impressed by them and would like to say "Thanks" from an old digger!

Excerpts written by

"Three of the Commanders of the Battle"

Former Major, OC D Coy, Harry A Smith SG MC

Former 2Lt, OC 12 Platoon, D Coy, 6RAR, David R Sabben

Former Sergeant, 11 Platoon, D Coy, 6RAR, Robert S Buick MM



Rosalba Butterworth
PRINCIPAL



OUR STUDENTS SHINE

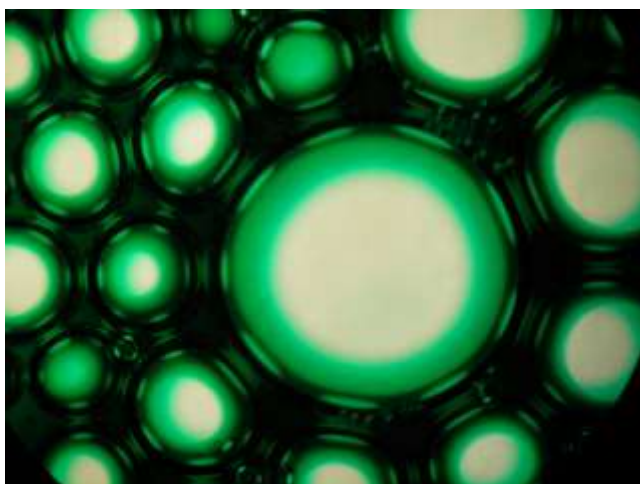
Mathematics Academy

The Mathematics Academy continues to draw students for year 8 to 12 "actively seeking extension" of their knowledge and capabilities. Students of all academic levels work through a range of problems to improve their results. Most recently Year 8, 9 and 10 students completed the AMC competition after many months of preparation with Ms Wood. Students have benefitted from materials and tutors supplied through UWA Aspire developing and supporting the development of students to a tertiary level. Preparation for the January Mathematics Summer School is underway, the highlight of the academic year for our aspirant mathematics students.



Thinking Science

Thinking science is a research based programme integrated with the Year 8 and 9 curriculum. Students develop their understanding of key science concepts through practical application of ideas. Ms Orr, Ms Pabla and Ms Peddel have delivered the course throughout the year in conjunction with hard work from Ms Snow (our laboratory technician) to prepare new resources for the course. We look forward to reviewing the results of the course to see how it is assisting our students gain an appreciation of how science is applied in practice.



Developing Wider Associations

Being an avid board gamer, Mr Miln has created an environment in the Mathematics laboratory where academic students can investigate games old and new. Currently accessed by Year 9 students, Chess and Warhammer 40k are the current games of choice, with demand for old favourites such as Citadels and a variety of dice and card games.

Creative Science

UWA Aspire has sponsored the Creative Science course being run at the GSHS science laboratories. The course is run by Gary Cass of the 'Wine Dress' fame, challenging students to consider science as a creative discipline. The class has grown from 8 students to over 30 during the year, investigating light passing through polarized lenses with salt crystals and soap bubbles. Later in the term students will investigate creating music with their own DNA. Images by students have been astounding and are being prepared for display around the school.



Mathematics Extension

The Year 8 mathematics extension class has been running weekly with Mr Miln, withdrawing students from classes and developing their understanding in key areas in small groups. A mathematics extension class is running with Mr Lee for students in year 9 and 10 seeking to prepare for mathematics specialist classes in Year 11. These courses are aimed at developing pathways for students into physical and biological science courses at university in areas such as Engineering, Medical Sciences, Nursing and General Science courses.



ICT

90 iPads are now in use in Math and Science classes, complemented by Interactive Whiteboards in each class. These are being used to complement teaching methods to further inspire and develop our students. They are being used to present lessons, assess students, gather information, record data and photograph results with new uses being identified daily. They are proving to be a classroom friendly and reliable way to access information.

ATHLETICS SEASON CROSS COUNTRY EVENT

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS



We are fast approaching Athletics season at Girrawheen SHS. The year 8s, 9s and 10s have started practicing their Athletics skills during Physical Education lessons and are looking forward to the full school carnival on Thursday 4 September.

Prior to the carnival day, we will also be running our Cross Country events for all students. These will be conducted during class time and the results will be added to the full carnival results.

Please note:

The Cross Country course is 1.5 km in length and is mainly run on the footpath outside the school's fence line. Even though the students will be running outside the school's boundary, they will not be required to cross any roads and school staff will be on hand to make sure that they are kept safe.

The timetable for the upcoming events is below.

| | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Year 8 Cross Country | Thursday 28 August | Period 4 12:20pm – 1:25pm |
| Year 9 Cross Country | Monday 1 September | Period 4 12:35pm – 1:35pm |
| Year 10 Cross Country | Friday 29 August | Period 4 12:20pm – 1:25pm |
| Year 11/12 Cross Country | Friday 29 August | Period 3 11:20pm – 12:20pm |
| Full School Athletics and Fun Games Carnival | Thursday 4 September | All Day |

Parents are always welcome to attend as spectators and/or helpers at the carnival on 4 September.

If there are any queries or concerns, please contact me at school on 92470555.

Carlo Passera

TIC Physical Education

Tips for Parents Who Don't Want Their Children to Smoke

Parents have a very important influence on their children's lives and can help them to make healthy choices. It is important for parents who do and do not smoke to express their opinions about smoking. The following tips may help:

- *Talk to your son or daughter about what you would prefer them to do about smoking. You could begin by saying "You have to make up your own mind, but I think..."*
- *Ask your teenager about the risks of smoking (getting into trouble, costs, addiction, smell, fitness)*
- *Try to help your teenager understand that most people chose not to smoke (80% of teenagers do not smoke regularly)*
- *Talk to your child about making your home and car into smoke free zones*
- *If you smoke:*
 - *Try to explain how hard it is to quit*
 - *Try to avoid smoking in the car*
 - *Try to avoid leaving cigarettes lying around*
 - *Try to make your house a smoke free zone*
 - *Do not buy your teenagers smokes*

For more info: Parent Drug Information Service: (08) 9442 5050

Alcohol and Drug Information Service: (08) 9442 5015 or 1800 198 024

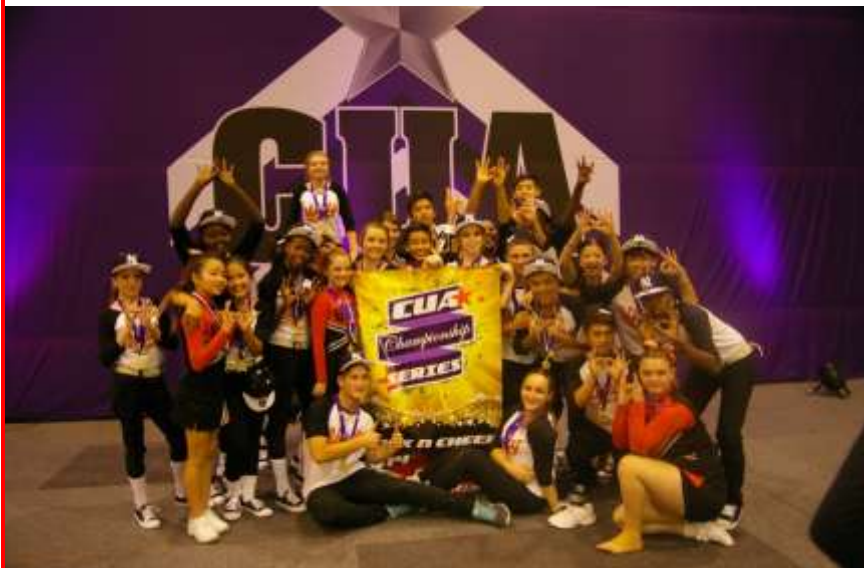
Quitline: 131 848



OUR STUDENTS SHINE

Girrawheen Senior High School's Unity Team, Hip Hops to the Top

At this year's Cheer Unlimited Australia Rock n Cheer Dance Championships the Girrawheen Senior High School Unity Dance team received the highest award in the scholastic division. The CUA Rock n Cheer Dance Championships brings together Perth's best cheer and dance schools to compete for the states champion team.



This year Girrawheen Senior High school's Unity Dance team was the overall winner of the competition as well as first place winners in both Contemporary and Hip Hop dance categories. Twenty seven students aged from 12–17 years competed against other State and National championship schools including; Thornlie S.H.S., Greenwood College, Wanneroo SH.S, Safety Bay S.H.S., Hampton S.H.S, Mater Dei College and Santa Maria College.

Girrawheen Senior High School's Unity and Performing Arts Academy coordinator Heather Cargill said "The students knew they were going to be competing against some of the best schools in Perth. It was fantastic to see that the hard work and commitment the students have put in over the last few months has resulted in such a wonderful success for our students."

As a result of this amazing success Girrawheen Senior High School's Unity Dance team will now compete at the National Championships held in Brisbane during November this year.

**By Heather Cargill
(Dance Teacher)**

GSHS BUSH RANGER CADETS

The Bush Ranger Cadets have had a very busy semester and are looking forward to an equally busy Semester 2. During Term 1 the cadets participated in surf safety and awareness, team building and leadership skills. The cadets continued their volunteer work, rubbish pick up at the beach and around the school grounds. The volunteer replanting project at Yanchep National Park that was started in 2013 has continued. On our visit to the site during Term 2 the cadets re-staked and weeded around the shrubs and trees that we planted last year. The survival rate of the plants has been successful due to the fencing that was placed around the area which keeps out the kangaroos.

The excursion to Kings Park Rio Tinto Nature Escape gave the cadets the opportunity to learn how to monitor the quality of wetlands and establish what the results tell us about the biodiversity of the ecosystems. The data collected by the cadets was added to Kings Park's on going collection of data. The camp to Dryandra Woodlands, Narrogin was the highlight of the Semester. Even though it was cold – minus 2 degrees one morning- our Bush Ranger uniforms kept us all warm. The cadets had the opportunity to participate in a trapping activity coordinated by a licenced Trapping Officer. Traps were set out by the cadets late evening and revisited bright and early the following morning to process the catch. The trapping officer was delighted that we caught a Woylie, which is an endangered species. The cadets assisted in recording data about the Woylie which was tagged and in fine condition before letting her go. Another trap contained a possum which was also tagged and data recorded.

The cadets visited Barna Mia which is a conservation program set up to educate the public about threatened species and give them the opportunity to view a number of rare native mammals. The tour took place at night and infra-red lights were used which allowed us to sit and watch the animals feeding without disturbing them.

A volunteer clean-up of the Dryandra Woodland Village surrounds was carried out by the Cadets demonstrating their ongoing community commitment.



**By Carol Gould
Inclusive Learning Centre**

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Term Three is certainly a busy term in the Performing Arts learning area! Students in both Drama and Dance are working hard to prepare for two major upcoming performance events. Firstly, the Year 10 Performing Arts Academy will be representing our school in the "YOH FEST" competition. "YOH FEST" IS ONE OF Australia's biggest health themed youth arts event. This annual competition requires school students to construct and then perform their own dance routine or drama play based on a given topic. The topic for 2014 is "Our Community". This invites schools across Western Australia and the Northern Territory to tell a story about the challenges faced in their community and to explore how these challenges might be overcome.



Thousands of young people participate in the "YOH FEST" competition. The key objective of our participation in this event is to educate and empower our young people to enable them to make positive lifestyle choices.

Our school has enjoyed great success in the drama category in the past, where we have reached the Grand Final of the competition for years in succession. We are working hard to maintain this exceptional standard. The experiences that the participants have already encountered have been amazing and we wish them all the very best for their heat on Wednesday 3 September. Good luck to all involved!

Secondly, this term we will be staging a Performing Arts showcase.... "The Stars of the Future". This showcase will feature the performing Arts Academy students from Years 8, 9 and 10 as well as our amazing "Unity" team. The students will be presenting their best class work from the year so far and also their "YOH FEST" entries. The "Unity" team will also treat everyone to some of the routines that have earned them State titles last term. The details regarding the "Stars of the Future" showcase is outlined in the Flyer advertised opposite. Tickets are now on sale at the front office of our School. We hope you will join us for what should be an evening full of great entertainment. Thank you to all those staff, parents and students who are going above and beyond to support us in the "YOH FEST" and/or "The Stars of the Future" showcase. Your help and support is genuinely appreciated.

More news soon.....

Regards

Ms Jenny Drpich
(Drama Co-ordinator)



Girrawheen Senior High School Enrolments

Now is the time to ensure that enrolments for your child entering high school are completed.

To help you in this process, staff from Girrawheen Senior High School will be available at local primary schools to assist with completing enrolment forms to attend Girrawheen Senior High School in 2015.

They will help by answering any queries you may have. If you require more information about specific dates and times please phone the school on 9247 0555.

Please feel free to meet with our staff and they will help you complete the enrolment process. You may also lodge your enrolment forms with the Girrawheen Senior High School office staff

from 8.00am to 3.30pm Monday to Friday



OUR STUDENTS SHINE

Visual Art

This semester I have had the pleasure of teaching new lower school classes who have begun exciting art projects. The Year 8 class are currently beginning work on an Abstract Art painting project; meanwhile the Year 9 and 10 classes are working with clay this term. I look forward to displaying the finished results.

Student Displays:

Currently on display in the library are the Semester One Year 9 lino prints. Based on animals and influenced by Aboriginal Art these black and white prints are eye-catching and showcase the upcoming talent we have in lower school. There are also the Year 9 collaborative paintings with an 'Australia' theme in display in the library, which highlight the diversity of the Australian landscape. Well done Year 9 Visual Art students, you are producing artwork of high quality.

Visual Art 'Student of the Month' Award:

This is a new initiative aimed at recognising individual success, to be awarded to an outstanding Visual Art student each month. Their work will be displayed in the library. This month's winner is **Aberoul (Abe)** of Year 12, congratulations!

Ms Green



GIRRAWHEEN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL COOKBOOK

Our 40th Birthday celebration school cookbook is coming along well. Staff have been keen to get involved, share their recipes and bring in samples for others to taste. Margaret Quirk, Member for Girrawheen, has very kindly shared a well-loved family recipe that will feature in our cookbook. This is a recipe that she learnt as part of a cooking class in Sicily many years ago. Since then it has become a family favourite. We have included a sneak peek of the recipe, which will be featured in the cookbook, below. We are still looking for student submissions for the recipe book so please share your family's favourite dish. Send to Amanda.Hales@education.wa.edu.au or contact me directly.

Strawberry Shortcake



Ingredients

125 gm Unsalted butter
125 gm icing sugar
1 large egg
125 gm self-raising flour
125 gm plain flour
1 pinch of salt
1 apple cored and grated
2 tablespoons strawberry jam
Zest of an orange
125 gm ripe strawberries
2 tablespoons sugar

Method

Preheat the oven to 180 degrees C
Cream butter and icing sugar until white and creamy
Beat in egg, sift in flours and salt together and fold into the mixture a little at a time
Mix into a soft dough. Refrigerate for 10 minutes
Divide the pastry into two pieces and put one into a well-greased 20cm (8") sandwich tin
Cover with jam and apples and sprinkle with orange zest. Hull and thickly slice strawberries and add to the tin. Roll out other pastry and put it on the top
Brush top with water and then sprinkle 2 tablespoons sugar
Bake 30 – 40 minutes until golden brown and well risen
Serve with cream or ice cream and freshly sliced strawberries

every CARER needs SUPPORT

sometimes you just need to take a break, talk to other carers
...simply take some time just to be YOU.

The **Carers WA Social Support Program** offers organised social events and activities for carers to have a break from their caring role in a relaxed, friendly and supportive environment.

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- Yoga and Meditation Sessions
- Short Break with Carers WA
- Multi-Cultural Carer Group
- Vietnamese Carer Group
- Anne Bluntish Retreat
- Short Break Funding
- Male Carer Group
- Pamper Sessions
- Movie Events

Are you registered with Carers WA?

If you are someone who provides unpaid care and support for a family member or friend who has a disability, is frail aged or who has a mental or chronic illness, then you are one of around 310,000 family carers in Western Australia.

Call now to be part of our Social Support Program

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Carers WA

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Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Meagan Parry, your local Saver Plus Worker:
(08) 9440 4147 / 0438 518 603
meagan.parry@thesmithfamily.com.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered across Mirrabooka by The Smith Family.
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.