



Girrawheen SHS August 2015 Newsletter

From the Principal



Term 3 has begun in earnest with staff and students involved in numerous activities.

Staff began the first day of term working on our school's key priorities of Literacy, Numeracy and Attendance. Staff spent most of the day with key Department of Education personnel reviewing and analysing student data, both academic and attendance results. The purpose of this was to review what our school can do to assist student improvement. The outcome determined what staff can do across learning areas but this cannot happen without the full support of Parents and Carers. The key to student success and improved achievement is student attendance with support from families, working in partnership with staff to reach the desired outcomes.

If your child requires further support I urge you to meet with their teachers and encourage your son and/or daughter to attend after school Homework and Mathematics Academy classes. Staff at our school are committed to supporting your child in achieving good results, enabling them to attain their future goals whether they are to access tertiary education or employment.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL REVIEW

Last term I outlined that our school undertook its first DES review as an Independent Public School. The final report has arrived and verifies that our school has achieved many of the Targets set out in the school Business Plan. It also emphasised areas in which the school seeks to improve.

The report outlines 8 commendations based on good things achieved and taking place at our school and only 3 recommendations. I wish to thank the Review team for conducting this rigorous review and to the School Board, Staff and P&C for their strong and committed contributions to taking our school to a positive and new platform.

The report is available on our school website:
www.girrawheen.wa.edu.au

UNITY

In the final weeks of last term Unity performed at the State Championships held at Joondalup Arena. They competed against schools, universities, private groups and dance schools.

Once again Unity performed admirably, achieving 1st place in Junior Hip Hop, 3rd place in Senior Hip Hop, and 1st place in Contemporary Solo. I continue to congratulate our very talented students and thank **Mrs Heather Cargill** for her ongoing commitment in preparing the students for their competitions. Thanks are also extended to **Ms Jenny Drpich** for her support and assistance prior to and throughout the competition weekend.

WELLNESS DAY

On Wednesday 1 July students were involved in a Wellness Day with various organisations attending our school, providing students with information to support them in everyday life, at school and beyond.

The focus of the day was to allow students to interact with various people from **Headspace, WA Police, Suitcase Circus, Aboriginal Drug & Alcohol Service, World Vision - 40 Hours Famine, City of Wanneroo - Youth Workers, Youth Beat, Reach Out.com, Sexual Assault Referral Centre, Drumbeat - Holyoake and Spud Shed**. Students were provided with show bags with information brochures from each stall and were able to ask questions of Presenters.

The feedback was extremely positive from staff, students and visitors to our school.

Thanks are extended to our CARE TEAM who organised this event, **Ms Allen, Ms D'Raine, Ms Eaton and Ms Karman**. This day was a great success.

SCHOOL GARDEN REJUVENATION PROJECT

On **Saturday July 27**, staff, students, parents and 30 U.S. Marines worked all day on school garden projects. Everyone was put to work paving, painting gardening and cleaning. The day was an excellent one with the U.S. Marines being treated to glorious weather and a magnificent barbecue lunch. Throughout the day the students, families and Marines not only worked hard they also had a great get to know you session in which we were able to talk about our school and learn more about the U.S. Marines. Our students also taught them how to kick a football, a technique that they were not used to as they all played Gridiron.

Our school extends many thanks to **Mr Andrew Locke** (P&C President) who cooked the magnificent barbecue for the Marines. **Mr Hughes** and **Mr Young** for their organisation skills. **Ms Eaton** for her preparation behind the scenes and on the day, and **Mrs Gould** for assisting both in the kitchen, putting together a gourmet lunch for everyone, and helping in the garden. She was assisted by some of our fabulous students. We also thank **Mrs Williams, Mrs Alexander, Mr Cantwell and Mr Lee** and their families for their assistance and their donation of plants. A special thanks to **Landcorp** who kindly donated funds for the lunch. We are very grateful for all their support. **Re-plant** staff also assisted us on the day and kindly donated plants and trees.

Our **Clontarf Academy** will continue to work with **Re-Plant** and **Landcorp** to complete a Community Garden on Calvert way.

Our students are to be highly commended for the giving of their time and support on the day. These were: **Achia Onoesimo, Jamil Ali, Rebecca Hill, Kirsty Kickett, Jack Butler-Olofsson, Reginald Lyndon, Martin Isaacs, Cameron Riley, Anthony Roberts, Maddison Gibson French, Ellen Wantee and Jacob Locke**.

TERM DATES FOR 2015

SEMESTER 2

Term 3: Tuesday 21 July – Friday 25 September **Term 4:** Monday 12 October – Thursday 17 December



Girrawheen Senior High School

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

39 Calvert Way GIRRAWHEEN WA 6064

Phone: 9247 0555 Fax: 9343 3099

Email: Girrawheen.shs@education.wa.edu.au

SCHOOL VALUES

SCHOOL PRIORITIES

✓ Respect ✓ Responsibility ✓ Doing your best ✓ Numeracy/Literacy ✓ Positive Behaviour ✓ Attendance

DATES TO REMEMBER:

20 ~ 26 August:

- Year 11/12 Clontarf Camp

28 August:

- Whole school athletics fun carnival

4 – 11 September:

- OLNA testing

10 September:

- Year 10 Drama YOHFest Heats

14 September:

- P & C Meeting @ 6:30pm ~ all welcome

REPORTING TO PARENTS

On **Wednesday 1 July**, a Reporting to Parents day took place. From **12.00 - 7.00 pm**. Staff were available to meet with Parents and Students to discuss student achievements. The purpose of this important event was to allow parents to meet their child's teachers, discuss what has been achieved and what can be done to improve the student's achievements. 60% of our Parents and Carers were able to attend on this day. We thank those who were able to attend and encourage parents who weren't, to make an appointment with learning area teachers to ensure your child is not experiencing difficulties. Our Staff are committed to working with you and your child to achieve the best possible results.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Student attendance is closely linked to student academic results. Upon reviewing the most recent reports sent home to parents, it is evident that students who are not attending school on a regular basis are not achieving across a variety of learning areas and courses. It is important that Parents and Carers encourage students to attend school so they can work towards achieving good results. I strongly urge students to attend school regularly. Illness or exceptional circumstances that deem it necessary for absences are acceptable.

It is a legal requirement that schools are provided with a reason as to why students are not at school. If parents do not communicate this, schools are required to issue letters requesting this information. In the case where student absences are extreme, meetings with school staff and Departmental personnel are mandatory. If you are receiving these letters, please note that it is a requirement for ALL schools.

Our new SMS system will support parents in responding to absences. This system began last term, sending parents messages via SMS notification that their child was not at school. We apologise for hiccups and glitches in this initial implementation. If the school does not have your most up to date mobile phone number, please inform our Office ladies on **9247 0555**.

CARNIVALS

Last term there were inter school carnivals for Years 7-10. These were extremely successful days. **Mr Passera** and his PE Staff, along with **Mr Oddy** (AIEO) and **Mr Bughui** (Chaplain) spent 4 days at various locations with our students. We received great feedback from our students about how enjoyable the carnivals were, with many of our kids exhibiting excellent sporting ability. Our school aims to retain these carnivals as they provide student with an opportunity to compete with other schools, extend their skills in a variety of sporting areas and work as a team. I thank our staff for their work in the sporting arena.

PE staff have also done a great job offering students after school sport including teams in football, basketball, soccer, netball and some Irish Gaelic football. I thank the whole team for their commitment to our students.

TRANSITION

The Performing Arts and Clontarf Academies have visited a variety of our local and extended Primary schools. They have put on workshops and conducted football clinics for these schools. Our students have thoroughly enjoyed these events and look forward to future visits. **Ms Drpich** has offered schools some of her time to run these workshops. I thank my fellow Principal colleagues for opening their doors to our students and look forward to future partnerships with schools across a variety of areas

NAIDOC DAY

On **Thursday 2 July** we celebrated NAIDOC day at our school. This year the national NAIDOC theme was "We stand on sacred ground: Learn, Respect, and Celebrate." The theme highlights Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' strong spiritual and cultural connection to land and sea. NAIDOC day was a great success with everyone being treated to so many cultural activities throughout the day, along with some great performances. Our dancers, both boys and girls, were fantastic when they opened the day with two fabulous traditional dances. A thank you is extended to **Retz Oddy** for his contributions and ongoing commitment in ensuring NAIDOC is a success. Special thanks are extended to **Alice Kearing** who prepared our girls for their dance, and **Nigel Wilkes** who worked with our boys, along with **Bryte** who performed for our students.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Wayne Young** who was nominated by Rohan Blee, District Development Staff/Volunteer, for the 2015 Woolworths AFL School Ambassador of the Year Awards in the Outstanding FIRST YEAR AFL School Ambassador category. We thank Wayne for working with our new Football teams as we have had outstanding results.

Judging is being carried out now and we are hoping to hear some great news from this.

SCHOLARSHIPS

A positive partnership with Heirsson Rotary is to be highlighted. Heirsson Rotary continues to find ways to support and extend students opportunities. Last Term, **Mr Allan McLean** and **Mr Doug Worthington** attended our last assembly to present a \$1000 Scholarship to **Joseph Kitto**. This Scholarship is to support and fund a variety of school based activities for Joseph. We sincerely thank Heirsson Rotary members for their ongoing and valued support to our students.

In addition' Heirsson Rotary have extended a nomination for **Rebecca Bogle** to be involved in the National Youth Science Forum, a 12 day programme run during January in Canberra aimed at developing skills in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). Rebecca has reached the second stage of this process and has been selected as a Reserve for the forum.

CANTEEN

Our school canteen has worked overtime to improve the menu and become involved in schools activities. They assist us with catering, student rewards and the staff are always supportive of all school programs. During the year the ladies have put up balloons for Harmony Day and NAIDOC Day. We thank our canteen ladies; **Donna, Diane, Alison** and **Karen** for their amazing work and for continually getting into the school spirit.

PARENT PICK UPS AND PARKING

Please note that there have been some ongoing issues with parent pick up and drops offs. Our wider community, which include neighbours, have reported their concerns with parents doing dangerous u-turns, parking in community driveways stopping people from leaving and having some near misses with cars and students. I continue to urge families to be cautious about pickups/drop-offs. Pickups/drop-offs should not occur in the Staff car park as this is for Staff only. The reason parents are not permitted to enter the Staff car park is to prevent students from being harmed as they arrive and leave school.

Rosalba Butterworth
PRINCIPAL

2015 ANZAC DAY SCHOOL AWARDS

Congratulations to teacher **Ms Jackie Bolt** on her hard work in organising and co-ordinating our schools entry into the 2015 ANZAC Day Schools' Awards. We received a Certificate of Achievement from Senator, the Hon. Michael Ronaldson, Minister for Veterans' Affairs. A copy of his media release announcing the winners of the 2105 ANZAC Day Schools' Awards will soon be available on the ANZAC Portal at www.anzacportal.dva.gov.au



PICTURED ABOVE: Rosalba Butterworth with members of the Grace Life Church.



A special **thank you** the Grace Life Church who supplied the staff with a delicious lunch on **Wednesday 5 August**. It was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by everyone.

Year 7 Boys Soccer Successful



Our 15 man soccer squad representing Girrawheen SHS at the Year 7 Carnival have experienced the sweet taste of success by winning the B Division Championship. Strong leadership, dedication and commitment by all saw our boys dispose of Ashdale, Greenwood and Woodvale with ease. Our final match against the other undefeated team from Duncraig Senior High School, became the Grand Final.

A tight contest ensued during the first half with both teams creating opportunities in front of goal. Duncraig had their first goal disallowed for offside but were able to score shortly afterwards. The second half progressed with both teams defending strongly, but time was running out for the Girra boys. With less than 3 minutes to play we broke through the defensive wall and scored to equalize, sending the contest into a penalty shoot-out.

A couple of early misses and then a magnificent save by goal keeper Lual put Girrawheen in front. A clinical finish by Ramses and the trophy was ours.

Well done boys.

Dear Parent/Guardians

This note is to make you aware that we are fast approaching Athletics Season at Girrawheen SHS. The Year 7s to 10s have started practicing their athletics skills during Physical Education lessons and are looking forward to the full School Carnival on **Friday 28th August**.

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.

Students will be required to wear their sports school uniform and they should have a water bottle. All students with Asthma **MUST** have their medication with them.

If your child has had any change to their Medical Details, it is important that you contact me before the carnival. Should there be any reason that your child is unable to participate in the Cross Country and/or the Carnival, please let me know.

The timetable for the upcoming events is below. In the event of inclement weather Cross Country may be postponed or times may change.

Year 7 Cross Country	Tuesday 25 th August	Period 4 12.20pm – 1.25pm
Year 8 Cross Country	Wednesday 26 th August	Period 5 1.55pm – 3.00pm
Year 9 Cross Country	Friday 21 st August	Period 5 1.55pm – 3.00pm
Year 10 Cross Country	Tuesday 25 th August	Period 1 8.55am – 9.55am
Year 11/12 Cross Country	Date and time to be announced.	
Full School Athletics and Fun Games Carnival	Friday 28 th August	All Day

Parents are welcome to attend as spectators at the Carnival on the 28 August. If there are any queries, please contact me at school on 9247 0555.



Regards, Carlo Passera, TIC Physical Education

The Canteen will be doing a sausage sizzle, chicken and salad, ham and salad rolls and drinks can be purchased on the day. The Canteen ladies are open to new suggestions. Come down and have a chat. Donna – Canteen Manageress

HASS DEPARTMENT UPDATE OF VIETNAM TRIP 2015

The raffle organised to raise funds for this year's trip has now been drawn. **First prize** of a trip to Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh City) was won by A. Hughes. Thanks to **Viet Travel** for contributing some funds to this trip. **Second prize** - the **Western Force Membership for 2016** (Thanks **Western Force** and **Rugby WA**), went to L. Holloway; and **third prize** - the **bar fridge** was won by D. Shepherd. Thanks to the **Kaka family** for donating the third prize. We also would like to thank other generous donors this year. This especially includes **Mr Biddle** from **Westwide Roofing**, **Richard Williams** and the **Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (W.A. branch)**, **Luke Simpkins**, **HHR Cowan** and **Margaret Quirk, MLA Girrawheen**. Without this financial support this educative trip for our students would not have occurred. Also a thank you to the staff, parents and students who helped raise money by sausage sizzling, selling raffle tickets and stepping up for any jobs that needed to be done. A reminder to parents of students completing the Endorsed Program that all work is due by September 14th.

Thanks again to everyone who helped support this year's trip. Ms Jackie Bolt, History Teacher

NAIDOC DAY 2 JULY



“YOH FEST” COMPETITION



On **Thursday 10th September**, the **Year 10 Performing Arts Academy Drama** students will compete in the State-wide competition known as **YOH FEST**. This competition requires students to write and perform their own play based on a given health topic. The topic given to us this year is “Equality”.

After weeks of planning, scriptwriting and rehearsals, the students will stage their final performance in their first heat at the **Mandurah Performing Arts Centre**. Our play is titled “**Everyone has a Heart**” and presents a sensitive insight into the expectations placed on us by society. We are pleased with the innovative and educational nature of our play this year. We have enjoyed great success in this competition numerous times

(including Grand Final Runners-up in 2010, 2011 and 2014). We hope to build on this success this year!

Details regarding the **YOH FEST** performance are as follows:

When:	Thursday 10 th September
Time:	6.30pm
Venue:	Mandurah Performing Arts Centre Ormsby Terrace, Mandurah
Tickets:	Book your tickets through Box office at Mandurah PAC: 9550 3900

THE YOUNG AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE JJ “BOSS’ SIMONS CHARITABLE ENDOWMENT TRUST

Have you got a dream, but don't have the financial support to see it filled? YAL would like to help. Since 1905 YAL have helped young Australians achieve beyond their wildest dreams. This could be you. Find out more about the trust by visiting yalscholarships.org.au or on 08 9325 3473 or email info@yalscholarships.org.au

WELLNESS DAY



Term 2 Wednesday 1st June, Girrawheen Senior High School held a Health and Wellness Day for students.

The aim for the day was to have community agencies attend the school displaying information stalls around areas of the school to share awareness and education of the services available for adolescents that maybe experiencing **Mental Health or Social and Emotional Issues**. The many agencies that participated were: **WA Police, Suitcase Circus, Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Service, World Vision – 40 Hour Famine, City Of Wanneroo – Youth Workers, Youth Beat, Reach Out.com, Head Space, Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC), Drumbeat – Holyoake**. This was a very empowering day for all students and staff based on the importance of looking after your health and wellbeing. No matter what young people are dealing with, there IS help and support available. You don't have to feel alone.

Thank you to **THE SPUDSHED WANNEROO** (37-39 Prindiville Dr, Wangara WA 6065) for their sponsorship of our Wellness Day with an overwhelming donation of fresh fruit allowing us to supply students with fresh fruit at every stall. This was greatly enjoyed and consumed from all students participating.

An extended thank you to the amazing CARE Team staff that put in an amazing effort getting all the agencies on board and overseeing the setting up and smooth running of the morning events: **Cara D'Raine (School Psychologist), Melinda Allen (Positive Behaviour Co-ordinator), Sam Eaton (Youth Worker)**. A **BIG** thank you to **Mrs Carol Gould (VET Co-ordinator) and Teneeka Eaton-McCavana (Year 12 Student Counsellor)** for your early 6:00am morning attendance to help wash, cut and prepare all the fruit platters for students. Everyone's help was greatly appreciated. The morning was such a success and couldn't have been possible without all the amazing support and effort from all that took part. We hope to run many more of these events in the future to continue development of a strong Health and Wellbeing Girrawheen SHS Community.

Samantha Eaton - Youth Worker

Free and Confidential 24 Hour contact numbers for young people if there are any matters they may be concerned about.

LIFELINE: 13 11 14

BEYOND BLUE INFO LINE: 1300-224-636

WOMENS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: 1800-007-339

KIDS HELP LINE: 1800-551-800

SARC CRISIS LINE: 1800-199-888

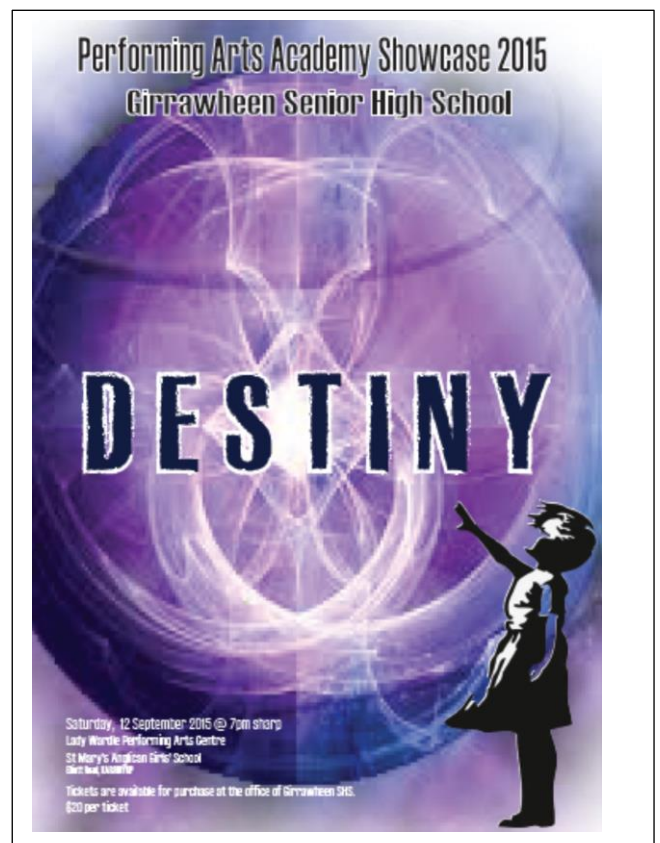
MENS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: 1800-662-112

PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE

We are very excited to announce the Girrawheen SHS Performing Arts Showcase for 2015
"DESTINY"

This year, the showcase will feature a culmination of the **Performing Arts Academy** students in both **Dance** and **Drama** as well as our **"Unity"** team. The **"DESTINY"** showcase will be held on **Saturday 12 September @ 7pm** at **Lady Wardle Performing Arts Centre, St Mary's Girls School, Karrinyup**. Tickets are **\$20** each (available from the Front Office). This is an event not to be missed!

Ms J Drpich – Drama Co-ordinator





From the Chaplain

This semester I will be working with the **Student Councillors** to co-ordinate fundraising activities for charity. Our first fundraiser is "Cup Cake Day" on 17th August during Lunch 1. I also coordinate a "**Breakfast Club**" on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We welcome all students to come to Home Economics 1 and have something to eat before they go off to their Form classes.

The City of Wanneroo - Youth Workers visit the school every Tuesday during Lunch 2 to assist with sport activities. This gives the Youth Workers an opportunity to meet and interact with the students and promote programs running at Hainsworth Recreation Centre.

I am looking forward to the ongoing building of relationships with the students and ensuring that the Care Team is available and accessible for the various needs of our students, parents and staff.

TRAINING

In Term 2 and early Term 3, I joined a group of chaplains in a **Multicultural Chaplain Professional Learning**.

The program contains training in various multicultural/refugee/asylum seeker areas, including Aboriginal awareness. The program was conducted through ASETTS (Assisting Torture and Trauma Survivors).

On 4th August I attended a **Student Wellbeing** seminar along with **Cara D'Raine** (Senior School Psychologist) and Sam Eaton (Youth worker). The presenter, **Donna Cross**, gave an enlightening presentation on the importance of Pastoral Care for students and the whole school environment.

EXCURSIONS



On Friday, August 7th I attended the **Rising Star Excursion** at Aerial Fun in Malaga (pictured left). This excursion took place from Lunch 2 until the end of the day. The students who attended were nominated by staff based on their Semester one performance and improvement.

I joined **Russell Miln** (Dean of Students) and 14 Year 11 students on the **Aspire Camp**. The students participated in various games and team building activities. The students participated in presentations from various speakers who promote a culture of academic achievement and a desire for learning which will impact on the students'.



The Year 9-12 students attended an **excursion to ECU** to see the facilities in the School of Engineering. I joined **Tracey Wood**, Mathematics Teacher and **Russell Miln** on the excursion. The students had the opportunity to interact with the Engineering Department faculty.



WORLD SKILLS AUSTRALIA

The World Skills Australia Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VETiS) has a regional Competition on Friday 20 - 23 August at the Perth Convention Centre. VETiS Categories include: Automotive, Business, Commercial Cookery, Construction and much more. This competition is open for students who are enrolled in the first year of a VET course in secondary schools.

Keith Hill is a Year 11 student who is completing a Building and Construction Certificate II within the Trade Training Centre at Girrawheen Senior High School.

Keith has been nominated to participate in the World Skills Australia competition within the Construction/Bricklaying category. Keith will construct a piece of work based on Industry Standard frameworks.

I want to wish Keith success and great results as he competes against other young talented Australians undertaking a trade or skill based career. The competitors are marked against a national training packages, standards and benchmarks.

"Keith is a dependable, hardworking student. He shows willingness to learn new things. Always ready to help the others in their tasks and set up. As his lecturer, I am very proud that he will be representing Polytechnic West and Girrawheen Trade Training Centre by taking part in a bricklaying competition for VET for schools at the World Skills event. His school should be very proud of him as well." **Bruce Dickie** (Lecturer Bricklaying/Blocklaying).

This is an example of the work Keith will complete in the competition on the 21st August at the Perth Convention Centre.



Jonathan Bughiu
Girrawheen Senior High School Chaplain