



# Girrawheen SHS December 2014 Newsletter

From the Principal



Girrawheen SHS has so much to celebrate based on achievements attained across many areas. 2014 has been an extremely busy year with so many in-school and after hour activities delivered to our students. Throughout each of our Newsletters staff and I have highlighted to you the many successes across all learning areas. This is comprised of student achievement in the academic arena, in the many sporting areas, across many areas of The Arts, in the STEP program and in the Vocational Education field with many of our students attaining jobs and Certificates. I wish to congratulate staff on their outstanding commitment, students who have worked exceptionally hard to achieve their goals, and parents for their support in working with the school to offer the best opportunities for their child. I also extend special thanks to our partnerships with the numerous organisations that include all of the universities, TAFES, Rotary Club, Lions Club, the Vietnamese Community, our local Senior Citizens Associations, our State and Federal MLA, the Smith Family, Fogarty EDvance, Victory Life, LIVE Church, City of Wanneroo, Edmund Rice Centre and all our local Government agencies. A special mention is extended to our P&C and School Board who have been instrumental in developing our school's future direction, and continues to remain focused on helping us further enhance our opportunities and progress our school from a "good school to a great school".

## YEAR 7/8 AND WACE PREPARATION

On the academic front our teachers have been continuing in their preparation for the many changes for 2015. Senior School teachers have been reviewing and producing the new courses for the impending 2015 WACE changes and Year 7 programming. With the introduction of Year 7 students to all high school settings our teachers have been visiting primary schools to

work with some Year 7 teachers and they have also been visiting our local schools to allow the Year 6 and 7 students to become familiar with teachers and older students. Earlier in the year the Performing Arts and Dance students visited primary schools to introduce themselves to prospective students. They performed for them and held some workshops with the students. Over the course of Week 9 two transition days were held. These were extremely valuable as they allowed students to get to know the school before arriving. A refurbishment for the teaching and learning area for our new Year 7 and 8 students is almost complete.

When the students arrive in 2015 they will have a two week special program based on getting to know staff and students. The program consists of pastoral care activities, study skill sessions as well as a number of career information sessions. This will also incorporate students attending some of their literacy and numeracy classes. Our staff are eager to meet our future Year 7 and 8 students and are looking forward to their arrival.

## EXCURSIONS

Excursions continue to be a highlight for our students, this term there have been numerous. Since our last newsletter excursions have included Unity performing at the opening of Coles in Banksia Grove, Clontarf taking our young men on various sporting and career camps both in our state and interstate, students attending Edith Cowan University, students attending a military career session at Warnbro College and on Monday a rewards River Cruise took place with 120 students attending.

Our excursions continue over the summer period with Mr Miln, Maths staff and Mr Hughes preparing for a week long program for the Mathematics Academy at UWA. For the past 5 years this program has been organised with a strong partnership support from the team at UWA ASPIRE. Staff at our school spend many

hours preparing courses to support over 50 of our students who attend this program. This has been a huge success as students are provided with a support program to extend their maths, to meet with University staff and access some career counselling ideas but most importantly receive a week long course in a University environment that provides our students with a chance to get to know what it is like to live it and to aspire to becoming a potential university student. Many of our former Girrawheen SHS students who are at University spend some time with our students during this highly valuable week.

## GIRRAWHEEN SHS 40<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

Our school has celebrated 40 years since opening its school gates. On 21 November our students celebrated with the end of the 2014 academic year and had a special day. After school a number of past students, teachers and former principals attended an afternoon tea to celebrate Girrawheen Senior High School's 40<sup>th</sup> year. This was an extremely enjoyable celebration with over 100 former students and staff enjoying some very memorable moments. Our school community wish to sincerely thank P&C – led by Ms Alana Hutchings (P&C Treasurer), canteen staff, parents, staff and our fabulous students for their invaluable contributions. A number of our parents supported us with their personal time, taking leave from work and preparing the food with the

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Wed 28 January 2015

Book and Uniform shop open  
9am to 2pm daily from  
28 January 2015 throughout  
the school year

## TERM DATES

### Term 1:

Monday 2 February – Thurs 2 April

### Term 2:

Tuesday 21 April – Friday 3 July

### Term 3:

Tuesday 21 July – Friday 25 Sept

### Term 4:

Monday 12 October – Thurs 17 Dec

**18 DECEMBER 2014**  
**TERM 4 ENDS**



## 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](mailto:Girrawheen.shs@education.wa.edu.au)

## SCHOOL VALUES

✓ Respect ✓ Responsibility ✓ Doing your best

## SCHOOL PRIORITIES

✓ Numeracy/Literacy ✓ Positive Behaviour

canteen staff and students. These students kindly came back to school to help with serving food and drinks, Unity performed their magical dance routines and staff assisted in numerous ways.

#### THANK YOU TO CITY OF WANNEROO – SUPPORT FOR CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

This year there has been much talk around ongoing funding support for the National Chaplaincy Program. To continue with this valuable program our school has put forward a submission to access funds. In addition, through the City of Wanneroo, Mayor Tracey Roberts kindly donated \$7013.00. These funds were raised during a community Golf Day.

We thank the Mayor and members of the City of Wanneroo for this ongoing yearly contribution. Our Chaplaincy Program is utilised extensively across the school. **Jonathan Bughiu** has become a familiar face and support person across many programs.

He has supported staff on a variety of excursions and is instrumental, along with **Loan Tran** and **Retz Oddy** with the Breakfast and Attendance Program. Watch out for Jonathan's future information snippets called the "Chaplain's Chat".

#### STEPPING TOWARDS EDUCATION PROGRESS (STEP PROGRAM)

In 2015, the Education Support Unit will be further amalgamated into an inclusive program across the school. A renaming and renewal program has been developed; the program is now called Stepping Towards the Future (STEP). This change was initiated by students and progressed by staff. Students will continue to have a mixture of teachers work with them from across the school and across the NNEI schools. They will be supported by the STEP lead teaching staff and Education Assistants working with them across the school in various academic and vocational courses. This year **Mrs Gould** and staff across her team have worked with a number of senior students preparing and transitioning them for life after school, with the Year 12 students either gaining employment or apprenticeships. Employers have been so impressed with the students work ethic and eagerness to learn that they have requested the students continue to work in their chosen field. Congratulations to members of the STEP program supporting these students.

#### GIRRAWHEEN GIRLS SOCCER PROGRAM – EDMUND RICE CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

You may have noted there have been a lot of after-hours activities in our school. This term the Edmund Rice Centre has offered an afterschool Girls Soccer Program for girls across the Girrawheen community. Many of our girls, along with other girls in the community from many other schools are attending the Wednesday program being held on our school oval. At this point there are around 27 girls engaged in the Soccer program. This program offers girls an opportunity to train, participate in a tournament in January, and they are treated to a trip to the Perth Glory Women's FC match

being held on 14 December. This programme is supported by many people that include Edmund Rice Centre, physical education staff from our school, the Girrawheen Football West Association and the Wanneroo Soccer Club. This is an exciting program for our girls that provide them with another opportunity to enhance their sporting skills and allows talented girls in soccer to extend their sporting prowess.

#### REPORTS

Each semester I make a point of reading every student report. I endeavour to digest the information about my student's progress. Once I read the reports I have conversations with the Executive about the positives and concerns I have with some of our students' progress. These conversations are shared with the leadership team and leaders work with their staff to ascertain what they can do to further support and/or extend our students. Your child/ren's reports will be included with this final newsletter. Please review their achievements with them. It is a good time to reflect and discuss their successes and also how they can consider ways in which they can improve their results. Teachers will have ticked a box indicating concern, if any. You have been reminded that teachers welcome conversations about their students and would be pleased to speak or meet with you. Should you wish to do so an appointment can be made by contacting the school.

#### STAFFING PROFILE 2015

At this time every year, as with all schools there are often some staffing changes that will occur. The school is currently in the process of advertising 3 positions which include a Deputy, a Work Placement Officer and Youth Worker. In addition the school is re-appointing some staff in various positions. There are some changes that will take place with staffing however, the majority of our staff will be continuing in current positions. Following is an outline of staff that will be leaving due to new appointments in other schools or the cessation of the programs they have worked on in a fixed contract for 2015. Our staff and students wish to congratulate:

**Joan Orr** who has won a teaching position at Belridge Senior High School.

**Ms Olivia Johnston** who has won a teaching position at Joseph Banks Senior College.

**Ms Amanda Peddel** who has been appointed to Wyalkatchem District High School as Maths and Science teacher.

We wish our teachers every success at their new schools and hope that they keep in touch with us.

**Mrs Caroline Crowhurst** will be taking leave for 2015 to be with her aging parents in the UK. We wish her a wonderful year with her family and look forward to her return. This year Mrs Crowhurst has worked extremely hard to revitalise the Volunteer Program and has had huge success. We thank her for her work with the community and for her commitment to her students. Relieving Mrs Crowhurst is Ms Emily

Birt who begins next year. Ms Birt has spent some time this term in the school meeting with Mrs Crowhurst and students.

**Ms Cara D'Raine (School Psychologist)** will be taking long service leave during Term 1 next year. She will be on a wonderful adventure travelling with her family. We wish her an enjoyable time away and look forward to her return. Relieving Ms D'Raine will be Ms Philomena Rourke, who is well known to our students and many of our parents.

We thank the following teachers and staff for their support and commitment to our students this year:

**Ms Eimear Beatty** as the ATAS teacher who has worked with our Aboriginal students supporting them in Literacy and Numeracy. At this point Eimear will not be appointed as ATAS 2015 but has committed to ongoing relief at our school and possible future appointments as vacancies arise.

**Ms Jody Hyde** has been teaching at our school for most of Semester 2. She has worked across Physical Education, Health, Business and much more as teacher in charge while some of our staff has been on LSL and sick leave. We thank her for her positive commitment to our students and for becoming quietly ensconced ever so quickly within our staff team. We wish her well and hope that we see her in 2015.

**Mr David Nguyen** has been relieving as Science teacher. We thank Mr Nguyen for supporting our students while **Mr Ruhen** has been on long service leave.

Special Program Coordinators are central to our school programs supporting students. This year we have continued with the following programs led by various positive staff. At this point we will continue the Study Centre Program and will appoint a member of staff to the Centre. The position of Youth Worker and Work Placement Officer are being advertised. As the process will not conclude before the end of the year we are unable to identify a successful applicant.

We thank these fabulous ladies for their invaluable contributions to our students and for their support to staff.

**Study Centre:** Samantha Skinner and Natalie Cook

**Work Placement Officer:** Alana Hutchings

**Youth Worker:** Samantha Eaton

There are various other staff in fixed term positions. As has been mentioned once the appointment process is complete you will be notified of staffing appointments. This will be in next year's first newsletter.

Special thanks to all of our short and long term relieving staff across all teaching and support roles. Your invaluable help has contributed to the smooth running of our school!



*Thank You*



### PRACTICUM STUDENTS

Our school has become a popular school for supporting and preparing Practicum teachers. Practicum teachers not only benefit from the reality and rigour required to become a teacher at school; they also become an integral part of our school team, developing warm and strong partnerships with staff, students and parents.

I thank **Nina Siew, Mary Gillooly, Emily Bakker and Kirsty Newberry** for their enthusiasm and wish them every success as future teachers and leaders in education.



### ENROLMENTS FOR 2015

If you are intending on sending your son or daughter to our school please visit or call us. The sooner you enrol your child then we can ensure that they are prepared for the start of the school year by knowing what classes they will be in on the first day of school. Please feel free to call us at the school.

In concluding our school year I wish everyone a peaceful and happy holiday. To staff and students may your holidays be restful and safe. I look forward to seeing you in January 2015 for another progressive and successful year ahead.

*Rosalba Butterworth*

PRINCIPAL

STUDENTS RETURN  
TO SCHOOL  
MONDAY  
2 FEBRUARY 2015



## Mathematics Summer School

Preparation is in earnest for the upcoming sixth annual Mathematics Summer School to be held at the University of Western Australia 12 January to 16 January 2015. The summer school focuses on aspirant ATAR students that aim to gain university admission through mathematics and science. This year we are also providing additional literacy support in critical essay writing to ensure that our mathematics students are able to navigate the demands of the new English courses and Curriculum.

Over the past few months we have been trialing Mathematics Olympiad materials with Year 9 students with an aim to roll out the resources in 2015. The success of the trial has indicated that this is a worthwhile pursuit and we will be instigating Olympiad teams next year to develop higher order thinking and problem solving skills in Years 9, 10 and 11.

The new Australian Curriculum courses in Year 11 commenced in week seven and student response to the new courses has been positive. The new courses (particularly Foundations and Essentials) have a practical focus, giving students core numeracy required for the workplace. Applications, Methods and Specialist provide the background required for a range of University and State Training Provider courses.

A small group of students attended an excursion listening to submariners on the newest submarine in the US fleet at the invite of the Consul General. Students observed the importance of mathematics in elite roles with the submariners indicating that roles in sonar, logistics, command, fire suppression, oxygenation, and weapons control all had a high degree of mathematics required. A big thank you to Samantha Eaton for assisting with supervision of the event.

**Russell Miln**  
Head of Department (Math/Science)



### SCHOOL WATCH

School Watch encourages the school community to report any suspicious activity in and around school grounds, after hours and on weekends, as well as during school holidays. If you see anything please phone 1800 177 777 (free call) or 13 14 44 (WA Police)



### WANNEROO CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Experience Christmas with Community. Why be alone on Christmas Day when you can celebrate the occasion with others?

Join us at: Wanneroo Showgrounds Margaret Cockman Pavilion  
25 December 2015 at 12pm

To RSVP go to: [www.wanneroochristmaslunch.com](http://www.wanneroochristmaslunch.com)

(Event run by the combined churches of Wanneroo) Supported by

For more information go to: [wanneroochristmaslunch@gmail.com](mailto:wanneroochristmaslunch@gmail.com)



# *A Note of Appreciation and Thanks*

Our staff and school community wish to extend our thanks to the many organisations that have supported our school. Your contributions have assisted with enhancing opportunities for our students.

## **SCHOOL BOARD**

Mrs Cassie Bowyer; Mr Andrew Locke; Mr Mike O'Hanlon; Winthrop Professor Helen Wildy; Mr Duncan Ord; Ms Tracey Roberts; Dr Anh Nguyen; Ayan Rashiid Mohamed; Russell Miln; Rosalba Butterworth; Barb Newton; Emma Bainbridge; Carol Gould; Daniel Slavich.

## **P & C**

Andrew Locke - President; Cassie & John Bowyer - Cassie Vice President; Rosalba Butterworth; Alana Hutchings - Treasurer; Melanie Gould - Secretary; Fiona Fletcher; Stuart Mackenzie; Donna Walmsley; Maria Cooper; Karen Bush; Veronica Mudra; Jan Bigwood; Jenny Naylor

## **CANTEEN STAFF**

Maria Cooper; Donna Walmsley; Di Cross; Alison Ford; Debbie Grubelich.

Ms Margaret Quirk MLA - State Member  
Mr Luke Simpkins MLA- Federal Member  
City of Wanneroo - Mayor Tracey Roberts  
Stephen Dawson MLC

*Thank You*

Dr Anh Nguyen - Vietnamese Community in Australia/WA Chapter Inc.

Clontarf Foundation

Mr Declan White - Director Monford Group

University of WA, UWA ASPIRE

Edith Cowan University - Practicum Teacher Program

Edith Cowan - ECU Mentor Mates

Edith Cowan - ECU AIME

Fogarty EDvance

Notre Dame University - Practicum Teacher Program

Youth Care - Chaplaincy Program - Sue Dutton

Girrawheen Lions club

Australian Business Network Community (ABCN)

Girrawheen/Koondoola Senior Citizens Association

City of Wanneroo

Heirisson Rotary

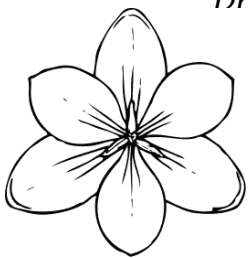
Victory Life Centre

Smith Family

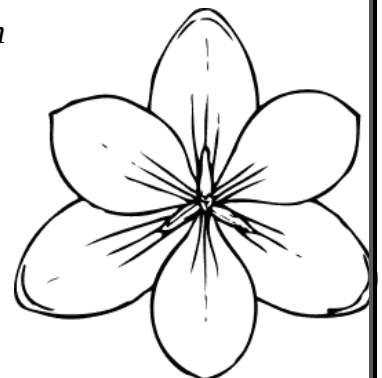
Edmund Rice Centre

Polytechnic West

West Coast Institute of TAFE



*Thank You*

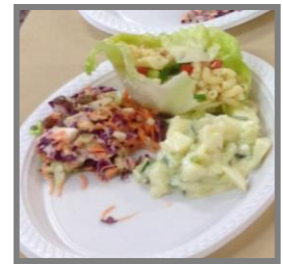


# *HOSPITALITY STUDENTS*



On Melbourne Cup Day the Year 11 Hospitality and Product Development students were invited to serve a luncheon to the members of the Girrawheen Koondoola Senior Citizens Centre. We served a 2 course lunch with drinks and accompaniments to 53 people. Students were also asked to judge a best dressed fashion parade on the day. It was an enjoyable day for the members, students and staff involved and we have agreed to return next year.

**Amanda Hales**  
**Home Economics**



## *Girls Soccer Program*

During term four the Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka with the help of our Physical Education Department introduced an exciting program for girls interested in playing soccer. Training sessions conducted by Joe from Edmund Rice and Gordon from Football West have been running on Wednesday afternoons. Around twenty girls from Girrawheen (and some from other schools) have joined in the fun as they are taught the skills and tactics of soccer while participating in a variety of game-based competitive drills. The girls are really enjoying the experience and as the word spreads more are turning up each week. The opportunity to play together as a team in an upcoming tournament (during the school holidays) is also an exciting prospect for our players.

**Carlo Passera**  
**Health and PE Department**





# 100 Years since Gallipoli Anzac Trip

## Girrawheen SHS Vietnam Anzac

*April 15-26 April 26, 2015 (to be confirmed) \$2400-50 (to be confirmed)*

Girrawheen SHS proudly offers a school trip to Vietnam for Anzac Day, 2015 for Year 10, 11 and 12 students. After the great reports from students on the last trip and the school's ongoing commitment to commemorating the Anzacs and particularly the Vietnam connection, we have decided that the opportunity to go to Long Tan is by far the best option for this important event.

This time we are looking at a 12 day itinerary finishing with Anzac Day. We are still costing and confirming this itinerary but on estimates we will leave late Tuesday night (in fact Wednesday morning) 14 April 2015 (in the second week of the school holidays) and return Sunday morning 26 April. The Anzac holiday is on Monday and students will return to school on Tuesday. They will have missed 4 school days (April 21- 24). Getting the best air fare prices (which is usually possible if we have significant deposits by February) and the land tour cost which includes accommodation, breakfast, lunch and entry fees, and paying a staff supplement, the trip will cost roughly \$2450. Other expenses for which we will be fundraising include school shirts, some dinners not included in the cost and required visas. Any monies raised over and above expenses will be taken off the final payment (or refunded). Parents will also need to pay and organise their own child's trip insurance and passport. **Passports must be organised over this school holidays** (takes 6 weeks) because air tickets cannot be booked without passports (and 'best prices' must be taken up when available - usually beginning of February; if booked later it may cost that student more)

We are basing these prices on 25 students attending and so need a firm commitment to the trip before the Christmas break. **Please pay the Business Manager at least \$400 by Wednesday 17 December (before the Christmas holiday break)** and then a further \$600 in the first week back by Friday 6 February 2015. The next payment of \$600 will be due by Friday 27 February, \$600 by Friday 20 March, and the balance by Monday 30 March. There will be a parents'/ guardians' meeting on Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 4:00pm in the staffroom and another on Thursday March 26, at 4:00pm.

This trip is an invitation to Year 10, 11 and 12 students who meet the school's requirements for overseas travel; that is, have 'good standing', appropriate attendance and marks, and meet group safety needs. You can be studying ANY courses at the school. The principal can make a final decision on who attends. The school encourages a mix of Year groups.

Students who are interested need to pay the Business Manager the first deposit and have completed the Student Health and Consent form. Please get and give the Consent Form and the number of the receipt to Ms Bolt. If we do not get the required numbers or there is a massive cost blow out all monies will be refunded.

Any questions ring Ms Bolt on the school number or [jacqueline.bolt@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:jacqueline.bolt@education.wa.edu.au).

Thanking you for your ongoing support.

Ms Bolt (For more information on past trips and the Proposed Itinerary please go to the school website)

