



**GERALDTON**  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

TERM 4, 2024





## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**Thank you to our school community for your support throughout the 2024 school year.**

We have had a great year on many fronts, and we could not do this without students, families, community, our partners and the Department of Education supporting us.

A Special Thank You to our School Board for your advice and guidance throughout the year.

Acknowledgement to *School Board Chair: Chad Butler-Henderson*

<b>Community</b>	<b>Parent</b>	<b>School Staff</b>
Michael Cook	Jarna Kendle	Narrelle Bate (Deputy Chair)
Lara Dalton	Bindi Isbister	Enan Hann
May Doncon	Melissa Wharekawa	Rhonda Kennedy
Ben Puzzar	Deanne Vos Senger	Jay O'Sullivan

We value student voice and will continue creating opportunities for input into school decisions. A special thanks to School Captains James and Adrianna, and Vice Captains Cameron and Holly.

Our **Parents and Citizens Group (P&C)** has been instrumental in providing food services, sponsoring events like the Year 12 Valedictory Awards, attendance programs, and excursions. Thank you to *Taryn Clarke, Paula Steenson, Jarna Kendle, Sherry Datta, Mandy Fry, and school staff representatives.* <Thank You image>

We are grateful to the **Cultural Reference Group** for guiding our Aboriginal education and cultural responsiveness efforts. Thank you to *Carissa Bellottie, Chaili Bolton, Dan Brierty, Louise Dalgety, May Doncon, Gary Heir, Gavin Mallard, Jesse Phillips, Alyce Whitby, and school staff.*

*I look forward to working with the Cultural Reference Group, P&C, School Board and Student Leadership Team in 2025.*

This year we continued to build our school partnerships. With Champion Bay SHS, we're launching our Two-Way Science Program for Year 7 and celebrated a successful Combined Bands Music Tour. Local primary school collaborations have improved transitions and boosted Year 7 enrolments for 2025. Thank you to Champion Bay and our local primary schools for supporting our work to achieve better educational outcomes for students.

Outside of Geraldton, special thanks to John Curtin College of the Arts for partnering with us on the Quality Teaching Strategy. This collaboration has enriched staff through shared practices and workshops, benefiting both schools.

Over the school holiday period you may notice some building works occurring. We will have the following projects going ahead from Dec, 2024 until mid-2025:

- \$1.5 million STEM Refurbishment in Room 1.8, Room 8.1 and a space in the Trade Training Centre.
- NEW Perimeter Fence with automated gates.
- NEW Front Office Security System to ensure all visitors enter only via the Front Office and students enter and exit correctly at the start and end of each school day through the gates.
- NEW air conditioning installed throughout the Science building.
- A re-surfaced school gymnasium flooring.

Stay safe and enjoy the school holiday period.

**Karena Shearing**  
**School Principal**







## ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

### Geraldton Senior High School – Building our Psychosocial Risk Management Plan

Changes to the Work Health & Safety (WHS) act place an increased emphasis on providing a psychologically safe workplace for employees.

We all deserve to work in an environment that is healthy and safe.

To ensure we are working to **continuously improve psychological health and safety in our workplace** we are working through a Workplace Psychosocial Risk Management Process which will result in the development of our workplace psychosocial risk assessment and management plan.

This process will provide an opportunity for staff to have a voice in how our work is designed. It connects with our work in staff wellbeing and influences student wellbeing, and reflects the Department of Education Staff health & wellbeing strategy 2023-2027 and Student wellbeing and care: future directions.

Consultation has commenced this semester, and the WHS committee is leading the work alongside the school leadership team.

Psychosocial hazards are anything in the design or management of work that can cause work related stress, which can be emotional, physical, mental or a combination of these. Everyone reacts differently to different situations and can be impacted differently.

Early intervention and support are most effective in preventing psychological injuries in the workplace.

To manage risk of psychological injuries a systematic approach is needed. The elements include planning on how to incorporate processes

for identifying hazards, consultation with staff, assessing risk and controlling risks.

Our draft Workplace Psychosocial Risk Management will be completed by the end of Term 4.

### Complex Behaviour Support Project 2024

A key aspect of the Associate Principal role this year has been to work with the school leadership team to implement sustainable strategies and processes to address complex student needs. In our school, the CBS Project is:

- developing whole school approaches to student wellbeing, engagement, and achievement through a Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS)
- supporting staff capability and understanding of pedagogical approaches to complex behaviour
- growing inclusive systems and processes that accommodate the needs of all students
- strengthening access to coordinated and targeted support
- using data analysis, and evidence-based decision-making
- extending networks and partnerships with agencies and organisations to better support students with disability and complex behaviour.

The Program Coordinators from Student Services and Learning Support & Intervention have been integral in reviewing current systems and practices to support students suspended for verbal or physical aggression. Initial data is showing positive results, with less students repeating this type of behaviour after suspension. Our goal is to reduce this number further, and eventually move towards zero students demonstrating aggressive behaviour in the first instance.

**Rhonda Kennedy**  
**Associate Principal**





## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEAR 7 AND 8

### **Year 7 and 8 Reflections: End-of-Year Highlights**

As we approach the close of the academic year, it's time to reflect on the tremendous growth and accomplishments of our Year 7 and 8 students during this final term of 2024. This period serves as both a conclusion to their current learning experiences and a steppingstone towards future opportunities.

### **End-of-Year Assessments: A Time for Reflection**

As students prepare to engage in their end-of-year assessments, it is essential to recognize the hard work and dedication they have put into their studies throughout the term. These assessments are designed not only to evaluate their understandings but also to reinforce the learning objectives met over the year. We encourage parents to assist their children in creating effective study routines and ensuring they are equipped with the necessary materials as they head into this crucial period.

This is also a pivotal moment for students to reflect on the knowledge and skills they have acquired, celebrating their academic journey, and identifying areas for further growth. Encouraging a positive mindset during this time helps students understand that these assessments are opportunities to showcase their learning rather than merely a final judgment of their abilities.

### **Commitment to Growth Mindset**

At our school, we firmly believe in fostering a culture of resilience and a Growth Mindset, as championed by Carol Dweck. This mindset encourages students to view challenges as opportunities for development, emphasizing that effort and determination are key to success.

We are committed to fostering resilience and a Growth Mindset, reminding students that effort and perseverance lead to success. With support from families and staff, students can face challenges with confidence and determination.

### **Preparing for a New Year**

As we gear up for the new school year, parents are encouraged to help students prepare with the right tools, mindset, and enthusiasm for learning. This sets the tone for a productive and rewarding year ahead.

### **Welcoming our 2025 Year 7 students**

Our recent transition days for incoming Year 7 students were a great success. Students explored the campus, attended classes, enjoyed activities, and ended the day with a sausage sizzle. We're excited to welcome this eager new cohort in 2025.

### **Celebrating Success**

This term has been filled with accomplishments, from collaborative projects to active participation in school life. Thank you to our Year 7 and 8 students for your dedication and positive contributions. Your hard work enriches our school community.

### **Wishing Everyone a Wonderful Holiday Season**

We wish all students a safe and restful holiday. This is a time to recharge, reflect, and enjoy family activities. Thank you to our Student Services and Teaching Teams for creating a supportive learning environment.

As we reflect on the success of the past year, let's express gratitude for the support and collaboration within our community. Together, we are cultivating an environment where students can thrive and flourish. In closing, thank you once more to our Year 7 and 8 students for an incredible year. We are excited to welcome everyone back in 2025, ready to embark on another year of discovery, learning, and personal growth.

**Nicole Turner**  
Deputy Principal





## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEAR 9 AND 10

### Year 9 and 10 Reflections

As we approach the end of another school year, it is the perfect time to reflect on achievements and the challenges overcome. This year has seen growth, learning, and memorable moments. Students progressed through various year 10 programs and look to branch out further as they move into year 11. Our year 9 students had their first chance to experience industry skills and carer pathways taking part in TAFE Carer Tasters. Whether it was discovering new passions, or pushing yourself to reach new heights, students should be proud of the effort throughout the year.

Our positive behaviour initiative (PBS) has had its most successful year with a record number of seekers points awarded across the school and handed back to claim house points, prizes, and reward incentives. Seeker points are handed to students as a tangible reward to as an acknowledgement for demonstrating the expected behaviours as set out in our Behaviour Matrix. To teach these expected behaviours the staff as a collective have delivered 20 short lessons during Monday form class to start each fortnight. The PBS Team should be commended for their efforts and achievements throughout the year.

Our senior student leadership group has been confirmed for 2025 and congratulations to the following students.

School Captain – Zade C  
School Captain – Zoe H  
Deputy School Captain – Charlize M  
Deputy School Captain – Samarah D

Atlas Captains – Cooper B and Lucy B  
Mimosa Captain – Jaden R and Misha F  
Sirius Captain – Hayley G and Chloe M  
Vega Captain – Georgia R and Caven C  
Music Captain – Ethan D

Our junior leadership group has done a fantastic job in supporting their year groups and contributing student voice to improvements across the school. Well done on a great year and look forward to developing your leadership next year.

Year 11 Student leaders – Jaden R and Ethan D

Year 10 Student Leaders – Tahlia W, Hanna I, Ava R, Fatama A, Tyler B

Year 9 Student Leaders – Lucy R and Addison G

Year 8 Student Leaders – Layung C, Ashlyn B, Cailin C and Stephan V.

Year 7 Student Leaders – Logan B and Josie T.

I will be moving onto a different role within the school next year and would like to take a moment to express my gratitude for time as Deputy Principal, particularly in supporting our Year 9 and 10 students this year

To the **parents and guardians**, I extend my sincerest appreciation for your partnership, and support. Your involvement in your children's education has been valuable, and your encouragement has played a key role in their growth and success. It has been a privilege to work with such a caring and engaged community.

To the **students**, you have been the heart of my work. I took up this role to make an impact in young people's lives and make GSHS a better place to teach and learn. Watching you grow, learn, and thrive has been the most rewarding aspect of my role. I am incredibly proud of all that you have achieved and confident in the bright futures ahead of you all.

To the **staff**, thank you for your dedication, professionalism, and commitment to fostering a supportive and enriching learning environment. It has been an honour to work alongside such a talented and passionate group of educators. Your efforts in guiding and inspiring our students have made a real difference in their lives, and I am grateful for the collaboration and camaraderie we have shared. I have full confidence that the Year 9 and 10 Student Services Team will be able to support your students in the coming years.

While it is bittersweet to finish this role, I leave with a sense of gratitude for the connections we have built and the collective progress we have made. I will cherish the memories and lessons from my time as Deputy Principal. My next challenge is working with disengaged students and exploring new programs that may benefit their learning. Watch this space.

**Jay O'Sullivan**  
**Deputy Principal**





## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEAR 11 AND 12

### Preparing for Senior School

As Year 10 and 11 students prepare for 2025 and the challenges of senior school, reflecting on the past year and planning ahead is essential. Here are some practical steps to ensure your child is ready for the year ahead:

- **Reflect and Set Goals:** Review past achievements and challenges using their School Reports and feedback. Set clear, actionable goals, such as improving specific skills or time management.
- **Stay Organized:** Help your child create a study schedule and ensure all necessary materials are ready before school starts.
- **Build Healthy Habits:** Encourage balanced routines, including good sleep, regular exercise, and time for relaxation.
- **Strengthen School-Home Partnership:** Maintain regular communication with teachers to monitor progress and address concerns.
- **Explore Pathway Options:** Use resources like TAFE, university open days, or work experience to discuss career pathways and subject selections.

With preparation and a strong school-home partnership, your child can approach senior school with confidence and motivation!

### Important Dates for Year 12 2025 Students and Families

As our Year 12 students near the end of their high school journey, these milestone events mark the last opportunities to celebrate and participate in school traditions. Please take note of these key dates:

<b>Friday, 14 February</b>	Leaders Induction and Year 11 2024 Academic Awards Assembly
<b>Friday, 28 February</b>	Swimming Carnival
<b>Friday, 4 April</b>	School Photos
<b>Saturday, 5 April</b>	School Ball
<b>Term 2 and 3 Weeks 2 and 3</b>	OLNA testing
<b>Monday, 26 May – Friday, 30 May</b>	Year 12 Mid-Year Exams
<b>Monday, 22 September – Friday, 26 September</b>	Year 12 Seekers Experience
<b>Friday, 26 September</b>	Year 12 Last Day
<b>Monday, 6 October – Friday, 10 October</b>	Year 12 Mock Exams
<b>Friday, 24 October</b>	Year 12 Leavers Assembly
<b>Monday, 27 October</b>	Year 12 Valedictory Ceremony
<b>Wednesday, 29 October – Thursday, 20 November</b>	ATAR Exams

We encourage students and families to cherish these final moments and plan ahead for a smooth finish to the school year.

**Kartini Signa**  
Deputy Principal





# STUDENT SERVICES

## YEAR 7 AND 8

Term 4 has been jam-packed for the Year 7 and 8 Team! We celebrated R U Ok? Day with Vega house, took part in weekly Form Games on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and in Week 7 we welcomed our 2025 Year 7 cohort as they attended their Transition Days.

### R U Ok Day – Vega House Event

On Thursday 12th September we acknowledged R U Ok? day and at Geraldton Senior High School. Throughout the day we checked in with staff and students in several ways.

During Form classes throughout the week students took part in a range of mini learning activities to build their skills in recognising when someone may not be okay and how to start an 'R U Ok?' conversation.

On Thursday we put those skills into action! Student Leaders delivered staff tea and coffee during Form class. At Recess we were joined by Headspace and students were able to take part in a range of activities to win prizes. There were conversation starters, R U Ok Day bingo as well as frisbee, half court shots and hacky sack games. After school, staff were treated to a well-deserved ice cream!

R U Ok? Day is vital in continuing conversations about well-being and self-care. Together, we've all got what it takes to ask a friend or colleague, R U Ok?

### Form Games

This Term at Geraldton Senior High School we began having combined Form class once a week for each Year group. These combined Form classes are a great opportunity for building House culture, earning House points and getting involved in some hands-on activities. The Year 7 and 8 students particularly enjoyed the Basketball half court shots and Volleyball competition this Term.

### Year 6 Transition Days:

In Week 7, Year 6 students attended Transition days to experience their first taste of high school life. We welcomed students from a range of primary schools across the Midwest, including Allendale, Wandina, Bluff Point, Waggrakine, Beachlands, St Lawrence, St John's, Yuna and Geraldton Primary School.

Students gathered at the start of the day on the Science Lawn, ready with their usual equipment, sun hats and water bottles ready for a day of learning.

Each day started with an introductory session where students learned about our school motto, our PBS Seeker Points, our whole-school behaviour expectations and our House virtues. There was then a tour of the school with a lesson on how to use our amazing Canteen facilities.

The Year 6 students then got hands on in a Science lesson with a cabbage experiment and took part in an engaging Music and Performing Arts lesson. At lunchtime they were treated to a sausage sizzle and an Ivey pole before heading off to finish the day with a Physical Education session. Before the Year 6's departed we handed out our special Transition Day show bags with goodies inside and did our PBs Seeker Point draw for the day where one lucky student took home a Kmart voucher.

We look forward to seeing all the students again at the start of next year for our Year 7 Orientation program!



# STUDENT SERVICES

## YEAR 9 AND 10

This term has been another busy and productive one for our year 9 and 10's. A group of year 9/10 students represented their respective Cadet Units at the HMAS Sydney Memorial Service, showcasing their commitment and dedication.

Throughout the term, our year 9 and 10 students have engaged in weekly form games, providing a fantastic opportunity to start the day in a positive manner.

Our student leaders have made a significant impact by supporting Year 6 students during their transition days. It was inspiring to see our year 9 and 10 leaders stepping up and embodying our school values. Their leadership and mentorship have made a positive difference to our school community and incoming 2025 year 7 students.

Year 10s have participated Driver's Education and OLNA testing.

### Mental Health awareness

After receiving the news that a prominent tree in the Design and Technology area was to be cut down. VIP AIEO officer Janice Weir decided that the tree should stay and instead become a "Blue Tree" for mental health awareness.

Students from the VIP program got hard at work painting the tree blue for mental health awareness. The tree now stands tall in the Design and Technology area as a reminder to check in on others mental health.

The Year 9/10 Student Services Team wish you all a restful break, stay safe and we look forward to working with our new year 9/10's next year!





## YEAR 11 AND 12

### Valedictory Ceremony Honour Roll 2024

Congratulations to all our Year 12 students on completing their Secondary education. A special mention to our Honour Roll for 2024. Each subject has either an Excellence award or a Commendation award. An Excellence award is presented to a student who achieves the highest score in a course and receives an A grade. Where no A grade has been achieved in a course, a Commendation award will be presented to the student who achieves the highest score. Our special awards are also presented to students who demonstrate specific characteristics linked to each award.

Please congratulate these students if you see them in the community. We wish all our Year 12 students the best in their future endeavours.

Valedictory Ceremony Honour Roll 2024		
Subject Awards		
Subject Name	Recipient	Award
Applied Information Technology General	James McColl	Excellence
Automotive Engineering and Technology General	James Bishop	Commendation
Building and Construction General	James McColl	Excellence
Chemistry ATAR	Samuel Wilson	Commendation
Design: Graphics General	Irish Joy Ocampo	Excellence
Design: Photography General	Chelsea Mourtoulakis	Excellence
English ATAR	Samuel Wilson	Commendation
English Foundation	Zoe Tyson	Commendation
English General	Willow Rook	Excellence
Food Science and Technology General	Adrianna Wharekawa	Excellence
Geography General	Kelsi Bean	Excellence
Human Biology ATAR	Imogen Darling	Commendation
Marine & Maritime Studies General	Cameron Griffith	Excellence
Materials, Design & Technology: Jewellery General	Kira Roper	Excellence
Materials, Design & Technology: Metals General	Luke Johnston	Commendation
Materials, Design & Technology: Wood General	Rory Beard	Commendation
Mathematics: Applications ATAR	Aaron Drain	Commendation
Mathematics: Essentials General	Christopher Benson	Excellence
Mathematics: Foundation	Ryan Egan	Excellence
Mathematics: Methods ATAR	Samuel Wilson	Excellence
Mathematics: Specialist ATAR	Samuel Wilson	Commendation
Outdoor Education General	William Isbister	Excellence
Physical Education Studies General	Ava Gould	Excellence
Physics ATAR	Samuel Wilson	Commendation
Visual Arts General	Kelsi Bean	Excellence



# STUDENT SERVICES

## YEAR 11 AND 12 (CONTINUED)

Special Awards	
Edith Dircksey Cowan Award	Kaitland Kelly
Sportsman of the Year	William Isbister
Sportswoman of the Year	Ava Gould
ADF Long Tan Teamwork & Leadership Excellence Award	Cameron Griffith
ADF Future Innovators Award	Samuel Wilson
Susette Carr Memorial Citizenship Award	Nariko Simms
Richard Pym Award	James McColl
AMPOL Best All Rounder Award	William Isbister
Warlugurra Walgamanyulu- Highest Achiever	Kaitland Kelly
Gigaman Gawala – Highest Achiever	Corbin Clinch
P&C ATAR Dux	Samuel Wilson
P&C ATAR Dux Runner up	Tessa Walch
P&C General Studies Dux	Kelsi Bean
P&C General Studies Dux Runner up	Ava Gould
STAR Award	Michelle Vanderelst
UniReady Award	James McColl

### Year 12 Celebrations – Seekers Week

It was a week to remember for our Year 12 students who celebrated Seekers Week in Week 10 of Term 3. The student leaders presented a range of activities they wanted to participate in and were involved in the organisation of some fantastic events. Monday kicked off with the 'Wear it Pink' day, raising over \$150 for Breast Cancer research, Tuesday our Year 12's fought it out in staff versus student games (staff won... again!) and we finished it off on Wednesday full of colour with an amazing colour run with games and music. It was a great way to send off our Year 12's after an awesome year and sure to be something the school continues for future students.





## STUDENT LEADERSHIP



At the year 12 Leavers Assembly the current house coordinators and school captains handed the reigns over to our incoming Leaders who are very keen to demonstrate and uphold our school values.

Well done to our new Leaders and thank-you to our departing ones who have set the standard high. Please acknowledge the leaders for 2025:

School Captains: Zade Colley and Zoe Humphries

Deputy Captains: Samarah D'Silva and Charlize McDonald

Music Captain: Ethan Dahlberg

House Captains Atlas: Cooper Butler-Henderson and Lucy Brennan

House Captains Mimosa: Jaden Roach and Mysha Finch

House Captains Sirius: Hayley Gibson and Chloe Marwood

House Captains Vega: Georgia Raffan and Caven Colley.

Zade and Zoe have already attended a number of events to represent our school such as the recent HMAS Sydney's War Memorial Service. We look forward to working together next year! Many students in junior leadership roles continue to assist staff and the school, working to provide student voice across several committee's and groups. Thank-you.



Congratulations to Jamine Walker on her selection into the 2025 WA Student Council. She will represent the voices of hundreds of thousands of students from across WA and give young people a stronger say in shaping education policy and help the State Government respond to the needs of students. Being a part of the WA Student Council is a fantastic opportunity and we know you will represent our school with pride and respect.

2025 looks promising and we start the year off fast with a Leadership Camp and conference in February.

Enjoy a well-deserved break Geraldton Senior Leaders!





# STUDENT SERVICES

## ABORIGINAL EDUCATION TEAM

Introducing our deadly team of Aboriginal and Islander Education Officers (AIEO) that are at Geraldton Senior High School. These wonderful individuals are members of the Aboriginal Education Team at GSHS. Find out more about this outstanding team in the information provided, such as, who their mob is and which country they belong too as well as some other info they've decided to share.

Their amazing abilities are always displayed at school, they assist in the classrooms, as well as provide some pastoral care for the students.

They are always around the school with their friendly and approachable presence and are always available to have a yarn with students and staff.

We have confidence in our AIEOs as they are knowledge holders in Aboriginal education, and they amaze us, as they continue to show their hidden talents when necessary.

In 2025, this magnificent team will assist in the classes of Two-Way Science, an Indigenous visual and performing arts program and also throughout the school in all other learning areas.

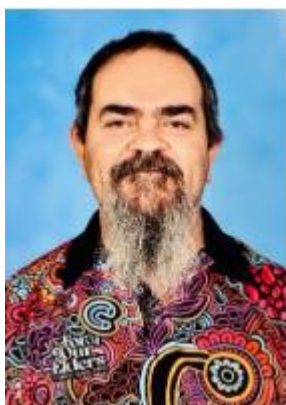


**AALTJE LIEZENGA**

<b>Mob:</b>	Poland, Bellotti
<b>Country where you belong:</b>	Malgana, Father - Dutch
<b>How long have you worked at GSHS:</b>	17 years
<b>How long have you worked in education:</b>	19 years
<b>Favourite subject at school:</b>	Maths and all my WW classes.
<b>Interests/Favourite pastime:</b>	Spending time with family, camping, fishing.
<b>Favourite song:</b>	I love listening to all genres.
<b>Quote that resonates with me:</b>	<i>One kind word can change someone's entire day.</i>



## ABORIGINAL EDUCATION SUPPORT COORDINATOR (CONTINUED)



**JASON HENDERSON**

<b>Mob:</b>	Dodd, Brockman, Farrell
<b>Country where you belong:</b>	Yamatji
<b>How long have you worked at GSHS:</b>	20 years
<b>How long have you worked in education:</b>	20 years
<b>Favourite subject at school:</b>	Clontarf academy classes.
<b>Interests/Favourite pastime:</b>	Spending time with family and friends, watching most sports.
<b>Favourite song:</b>	Anything <b>ACDC</b> – <i>Thunderstruck</i>
<b>Quote that resonates with me:</b>	<i>Is what it is. Never above, Never below, Always side by side.</i>



**COREY DICKERSON**

<b>Mob:</b>	Taylor, Brockman, Dickerson, Councillor
<b>Country where you belong:</b>	Yamatji – Amangu, Naaguja Ngarluma
<b>How long have you worked at GSHS:</b>	14 years
<b>How long have you worked in education:</b>	14 years
<b>Favourite subject at school:</b>	Science, English, Phys Ed
<b>Interests/Favourite pastime:</b>	Basketball, Football, playing my guitar, diving, playing darts, spending time with my kids and family.
<b>Favourite karaoke song:</b>	<b>Ed Sherran</b> – <i>Life Goes On</i>
<b>Quote that resonates with me:</b>	<i>'Love the life you live. Live the life you love.'</i> – Bob Marley.



## ABORIGINAL EDUCATION SUPPORT COORDINATOR (CONTINUED)



**GORDY CLINCH**

<b>Mob:</b>	Clinch, Merritt, Riley, Dick
<b>Country where you belong:</b>	Yamatji – Wajarri, Badimaya Noongar – Ballardong
<b>How long have you worked at GSHS:</b>	6 years
<b>How long have you worked in education:</b>	14 years
<b>Favourite subject at school:</b>	Aboriginal Integration Studies
<b>Interests/Favourite pastime:</b>	Supporting the local sporting community at many events throughout the year.
<b>Favourite karaoke song:</b>	<b>Chris Stapleton – Tennessee Whiskey</b>
<b>Quote that resonates with me:</b>	<i>'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.'</i> – Nelson Mandela



**JANICE WEIR**

<b>Mob:</b>	Burns, Powells, Douglas
<b>Country where you belong:</b>	Wiradjuri Country
<b>How long have you worked at GSHS:</b>	3 years
<b>How long have you worked in education:</b>	10 years
<b>Favourite subject at school:</b>	English – working with different students in different subjects.
<b>Interests/Favourite pastime:</b>	Most crafts; quilting, sewing, painting and gardening.
<b>Favourite karaoke song:</b>	I don't have one.
<b>Quote that resonates with me:</b>	<i>Treat others how you want to be treated. Tell it how it is, always speak the truth.</i>





## ABORIGINAL EDUCATION SUPPORT COORDINATOR (CONTINUED)



**ARTHUR GARLETT**

<b>Mob:</b>	Garlett, Jackson, Ryder, Ryan
<b>Country where you belong:</b>	Noongar – Whadjuk, Ballardong Yamatji – Wajarri, Nhanda, Yuet
<b>How long have you worked at GSHS:</b>	Almost one year, started at the start of 2024.
<b>How long have you worked in education:</b>	One year
<b>Favourite subject at school:</b>	English
<b>Interests/Favourite pastime:</b>	Keeping fit, running, boxing
<b>Favourite karaoke song:</b>	<b>Cold Chisel</b> – <i>Khe Sanh</i>
<b>Quote that resonates with me:</b>	<i>'The greatness of a man is not how much wealth he requires, but in his integrity and he's ability to affect those around him positively' – Bob Marley</i>



**SIMONE YARRAN**

<b>Mob:</b>	Yarran, Ryder, Egan, Kallin
<b>Country where you belong:</b>	Noongar Country – Ballardong Broome – Jaru
<b>How long have you worked at GSHS:</b>	Almost one year started at the start of 2024, Term 1
<b>How long have you worked in education:</b>	2017 until present
<b>Favourite subject at school:</b>	Art, Jewellery Making
<b>Interests/Favourite pastime:</b>	Playing darts, listening to music, spending time with family and friends, camping.
<b>Favourite karaoke song:</b>	<b>Kasey Chambers</b> – <i>Pony, Captain, Pretty Enough</i> <b>Tracey Chapman</b> – <i>Give Me One Reason</i>
<b>Quote that resonates with me:</b>	<i>Keep on Cruising.</i>



# WHOLE SCHOOL

## BLUE TREE PROJECT

The year 10 VIP students have recently repurposed an old tree that was destined for the wood chip pile as a part of the Blue Tree Project. Many blue trees have popped up to spark a conversation and encourage people to speak up about Mental Health concerns.

Thank you to the VIP students for taking time out of their day for this important initiative.

<https://bluetreeproject.com.au/blue-tree-story/>





# LEARNING AREAS

## ENGLISH

### English – Mr Dallas Corunna

As acting Program Coordinator for English, I would like to congratulate our fabulous Year 12 students who have successfully completed their Secondary education. I would also like to offer a special acknowledgment of the three students who earned their place on the Valedictory Honor Roll for 2024 by achieving the top score in their respective English courses. Well done to Samuel Wilson for their Commendation in English – ATAR, Willow Rook for their Excellence in English – General, and Zoe Tyson for their Commendation in English Foundation. Bravo to you all, and on behalf of the entire English staff, we sincerely wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

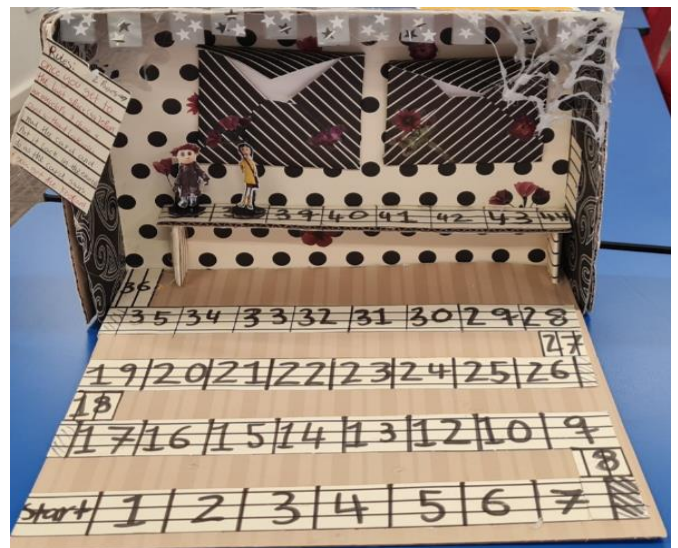
### Year 8 – Task 8 Coraline Film Analysis By Miss Rachel Mckay

This term, Year 8s dove into the eerie, fantastical world of film, looking at the genre of Dark Fantasy through the 2009 gothic-based stop-motion animated film Coraline. Throughout the unit, students have explored the film components of genre, characterisation, plot, settings, film techniques and common themes shown within the film. Breaking down each of these elements, students were able to gain a deeper and more meaningful understanding of the film Coraline, which brought up some great class discussions about identity through Coraline's journey, symbolism through the repeated visual motif of buttons, how setting can be used to emphasise the differences between reality and fantasy, and important themes of bravery, family and the dangers of conformity.

Students have similarly learnt about three main types of board games: strategy games that involve long-term planning and tactics, like chess; chance or luck-based games that rely heavily on randomness, often through dice rolls or card draws, like Monopoly; and social games that focus on player interaction as a group, such as trivia.

Working together in groups, students have collaborated to design and create their very own Coraline-themed board game to demonstrate their understanding of the key elements of the film. Students had to join forces to determine which type of board game they wished to create, define the game objectives, build a storyline or plan a movement system and decide how they were going to incorporate the elements of characters whilst also displaying their understanding of the setting,

Well done, Year 8, and what a fabulous end to an excellent year of learning.





# LEARNING AREAS

## MATHS



In Week Two of Term Four, the Year 11 Physics students delivered presentations to the Year 8 APEX students in Mathematics on what they had been learning about in Physics. Violette Barndon and Jaden Roach spoke about radio waves and sound waves, topics they had shown a personal interest in researching. Their presentations were delivered with confidence and professionalism and inspired the Year 8 APEX class, who are close to presenting their work on their semester-long CoRE projects next week at the University Centre.

The Year 8 students asked great questions of Violette and Jaden and showed a keen interest in not only the presentations, but in their reasons for studying Physics too. They later presented feedback to their Math teacher, Mr Mondello, giving comments such as, "It was great to see that the Year 11's had the courage to present to a class," and "It helped me see how I could improve my own presentations for CoRE". Overall, the presentations were a great success and were enjoyed by all the students involved.

Year 7-10 students also participated in workshops presented by the Ecstra Foundation on the topics of "Spending and Saving Money", and "Your Rights at Work". Many students found these sessions useful and informative.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the excellent work done by the Maths team this year in helping students develop their skills. It has been a privilege this year to lead and work alongside such a dedicated team of professionals. Sadly, we say goodbye to a couple of them: Marie Klein left halfway through Term 4 to take up a Deputy Principal position in Tom Price, and Yamina

Ahderom leaves at the end of the year to pursue other interests in the United States. Both have been very popular with staff and students alike and will be missed; however, we have quality replacements lined up to take on the baton in 2025.

### Christmas Brain Teaser

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:



- 12 drummers drumming
- 11 pipers piping
- 10 lords a-leaping
- 9 ladies dancing
- 8 maids a-milking
- 7 swans a-swimming
- 6 geese a-laying
- 5 gold rings
- 4 calling birds
- 3 french hens
- 2 turtle doves
- And a partridge in a pear tree

*How many gifts did my true love give me on Day 12?*

*How many gifts did I receive in total over the twelve days?*

*What percentage of those gifts were birds?*

### And one for the Methods students...

Rearrange the equation to find a holiday message:

$$y = \frac{1}{r^2} \ln\left(\frac{x}{m} - sa\right)$$

Answer found somewhere in the booklet.



## ARTS

### Genesis Art Exhibition

Genesis is the name of a prestigious Art exhibition held in the Geraldton Art Gallery. Artworks are selected from all secondary school students in the town. To have their work selected for this exhibition is deserving of special recognition, but also on the opening night on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024 special winners from different schools and a variety of different categories will be presented. A list of all works selected with names of students is supplied.

#### Genesis 2024 Exhibition List for:

Art teacher	Year Level	Students Name	Title	Medium
L.Bassett-Scarfe	8	Jamie-Lee F	Birds of Australia	Foam Print
L.Bassett-Scarfe	8	Shannon G	Blue Ring	Foam Print
L.Bassett-Scarfe	8	Jheya-Zeanne T	Australian Kangaroo 'Marlu'	Foam Print
L.Bassett-Scarfe	9	Lucy R 	Untitled Pixels	Cardboard/Texta
L.Bassett-Scarfe	9	Angus F	Urban	Texta/Pencil
M.Thomas	10	Chloe B	Finger	Ceramic
M.Thomas	10	Kirbi I	Untitled	Acrylic/Board
M.Thomas	10	Kayley B	Carlos	Acrylic/Board
M.Thomas	11	Summa W	Untitled	Acrylic/Board
L.Bassett-Scarfe	11	Samara D	'Eyes'	Ceramic/Acrylic
L.Bassett-Scarfe	11	Lachlan S	Drawing Study	Lead Pencil
L.Bassett-Scarfe	11	Hanisha A	'Cicadas'	Acrylic/Board
L.Bassett-Scarfe	11	Hanisha A	Shock Collage	Collage/Texta
L.Bassett-Scarfe	11	Samara D	Untitled	Collage/Texta
M.Thomas	12	Janelle C	David	Acrylic/Paper
M.Thomas	12	Nariko S	Cracking Mask	Acrylic
L.Bassett-Scarfe	12	Kelsey B 	Triptych	Spray Stencil/Mixed Media
M.Thomas	12	Janelle C	Fashion bra	Can tops/Spray





# LEARNING AREAS

## HASS

### HASS Department Term 4

This term, we have dived into some fascinating topics that helped us understand our world and its history in new and exciting ways.

Year 10's started exploring **Civics and Citizenship**, where they learned about the structures and functions of government in Australia and another country and the rights and responsibilities that come with being an active member of a community. We discussed how laws are made, the role of different government branches, and how you can engage in your local and global communities.

In Year 8 and 9 we turned our attention to **Geography**. This term, we studied the physical and human characteristics that shape our planet. From maps and landforms to climates and ecosystems, the students gained a deeper understanding of how these elements interact and influenced our world. We also looked at how people adapt to and modify their environments, both locally and globally. Students have had fun making Diorama's on natural landforms and hazards.



Finally, the Year 7's took a journey back in time to explore **Ancient Egypt**. This civilization offers incredible insights into the past with its rich culture, achievements, and contributions. We uncovered the mysteries of the pyramids, delved into the significance of gods and goddesses, and understand the daily life of Egyptians. Through this exploration, students got to see how the legacies of ancient societies continue to impact our world today. A term filled with discovery and adventure! Students constructed their own sarcophagus (coffin) and experienced the different foods through a feast for the gods. Students made their own mummified canopic jars ready for the afterlife of their pharaohs. They had fun decorating their own paper pyramids and cracking the ancient hieroglyphics writing.

7.1 HASS class with Ms. Little



The 7.1 class has been busy at work uncovering the secrets of Ancient Egypt!

Students started off by learning about the power of the Pharaoh king and the importance of the afterlife in Ancient Egyptian culture. They tried their hand at crafting detailed sarcophagi (tombs to hold the bodies of Pharaohs) which were then painted and outlined by each student.

We also created our own papyrus (a writing material of ancient times), diligently engineered a shaduf (an ancient watering mechanism), and even practiced trade and bartering skills along our makeshift Nile River. It has been an eventful term, full of adventures and loads of learning!





## HASS (CONTINUED)

### 8.5 HASS Class with Ms. Little



Term 4 was an exciting one for the year 8's! Our focus was on landforms and landscapes. Students diligently worked on a research project about landforms, landscapes and natural hazards. They had the opportunity to then create a physical representation of their chosen landform. Students displayed their creativity and innovative ideas as you can see from the samples of their work!

Some of the year 9's got to work cleaning up campus after our class discussions on environmental sustainability. Students created pamphlets with the aim to educate audiences about the importance of taking care of our environment. Reduce, reuse, recycle!



## SCIENCE

### Marine and Maritime

This term Year 11 marine and maritime students enjoyed an afternoon at Geraldton's Batavia Coast Maritime Institute (TAFE). We were treated to a very informative tour given by one of the course lecturers in Aquaculture, Shanae Read. The tour followed the aquaculture process through from breeding of the tropical fish species, such as Clown fish and Blue Tang made popular by the 'Finding Nemo' animation, to raising the fry and eventual sale to collectors. The aim of the institute is to limit the amount of these fish species taken from the ocean by providing a reliable source of the most popular tropical fish species to retailers. The tour also looked at breeding and growing on of fish species farmed for sale to consumers such as King fish. These fish are grown to commercial size in large outdoor tanks which have been fitted with viewing windows that allowed us to take a closer look. As a result of our tour one of our students, Miles Johnston, has signed up for the TAFE Aquaculture course next year. Lucy Brennan, also a Year 11 Marine student, successfully completed this course this year alongside her studies at GSHS and has recommended it to any students interested in aquaculture and boat handling.

Back at school the students have been learning about the structure of boats, how the engines work and the benefit of using pulley systems on board. Everyone had a go at making their own pulley system to demonstrate the effect on lessening the effort needed to lift heavy loads. This knowledge was then applied to practical uses such as hoisting sails and cargo onto boats.



# LEARNING AREAS

## SCIENCE (CONTINUED)

### CoRE APEX Investigation

Imagine digging into the secrets of the Earth and uncovering millions of years of geological history. That's exactly what our Year 8 students achieved during their CoRE investigation into Heavy Mineral Sands (HMS) deposits. The journey began with a thrilling field trip, where students didn't just learn about mining—they lived it! They collected real samples to analyse back at school, uncovering the incredible science behind these ancient treasures.

Heavy Mineral Sands don't just happen—they're the result of powerful forces shaping the Earth over eons. Students dove deep into the science, connecting each step of HMS formation to what they experienced in the field. What makes this investigation so special is how it connects science to the real world. By handling actual samples and analysing them through cutting-edge techniques, students gained insights into how HMS deposits fuel industries, shape landscapes, and challenge scientists to balance resource extraction with sustainability. Beyond the science, the project sparked curiosity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. Students debated how rehabilitation practices at sites like Eneabba restore ecosystems and explored the career pathways waiting for them in geology, mining, and environmental science.



### Partnership Between Geraldton Senior High School and John Curtin College of the Arts

We are excited to announce an exciting new partnership between Geraldton Senior High School and John Curtin College of the Arts. This collaboration aims to foster the exchange of ideas, resources, and teaching strategies to further enhance educational experiences for our students. Earlier this term, Jo Bulley and Benjamin Errington from John Curtin College spent two days observing classes and touring JCCA facilities. This visit is part of a broader initiative to explore quality teaching solutions and share best practices that can lead to continuous improvement in schools.

Our science team is particularly excited to implement a range of fresh ideas and innovative approaches into our programs and facilities next year. We are confident that these enhancements will further enrich the learning journey for our students.

As we look ahead, we are excited to continue this valuable partnership throughout 2025 and beyond, and we can't wait to see the positive impact it will have on our school community.





## SCIENCE (CONTINUED)

### Natural Selection Experiment

In the wild, survival often comes down to how well an animal's physical traits fit its environment. For birds, beak shape and size are key to thriving or struggling in their quest for food. This term our Year 10 students stepped into the shoes—or feathers—of different bird groups to explore this fascinating concept in a hands-on investigation.

Each tribe used a unique tool representing a bird's beak to gather butter beans, symbolizing food. A timer app was then used to start the competition. Some "beaks" made the task easy, while others may leave their birds group hungry. Through multiple rounds of competition, students discovered how small adaptations can mean the difference between survival and elimination.

This engaging experiment brings the principles of evolution and adaptation to life, encouraging students to think critically about the role of traits in species survival. Which tribe will reign supreme in this beak battle?



PEAC

This year, the Geraldton PEAC students have been making the most of the facilities at Geraldton Senior High School, particularly the Trade Training Centre. To wrap up their course on food science, the PEAC students teamed up with Year 11 and 12 ATAR Chemistry students to delve into the fascinating world of acids and bases.

Together, the students made red cabbage indicator and used it to test a variety of common household solutions, creating a vibrant rainbow of colours in the process. It was an exciting hands-on learning experience for all involved, and both the PEAC and ATAR classes thoroughly enjoyed the activity, gaining valuable insights into the chemistry of everyday life.





# LEARNING AREAS

## TECHNOLOGIES



It's been a big year in Technologies this year. With a range of subjects on offer including Metalwork, Woodwork, Jewellery, Automotive, Building and Construction, Food and IT across all years, there have been many happy faces and wonderful projects emerging from Technologies rooms this year. In a previous newsletter we have seen some of the rocket stoves made by the Year 12 Metalworkers. Here are a few other senior projects:

**The old shed** - Substantial work was completed on an historic jarrah framed shed, erected by apprentices back when the old sawtooth workshops were TAFE workshops (now Automotive, Construction and Woodwork). Stumps were rotten, there was no level in any direction and the cladding had been vandalised. The shed had been used as a storeroom over the years and the STEP class, under the direction of their Cert 2 Construction lecturer, set to work on restoration. Work completed included Leveling and restumping, removal of windows and framing up window openings, recladding inside and out with heavy fibrecement. Final clean up, painting and door hanging will happen next year giving the school a fantastic functional storage space ready for another set of decades. Well done to all the students who contributed while gaining valuable skills across a range of building trades.

**Before: A bit of a lean!**



**After: Nice and Level!**



**Before: A bit too al fresco**



**After: Nice and dry, less draughty**



**The old tool rack formerly known as a chalkboard** - The big old Chalkboard in the composite room, which had been converted to a tool rack around 25 years ago, was finally replaced. Upon dismantling we found the days learning intention for Marine Studies (bowline, sheepshank, sheet bend, clove hitch) and the name of our former Head of Department, who ran the class, the much beloved, Craige Clarke. Mr Clarke informs me that he last taught in that room in 1999! The blackboard constructed of Tasmanian Oak and the main timbers were cleaned up and will be used in Year 12 Jewellery boxes for years to come.



## TECHNOLOGIES (CONTINUED)

### After the Chalkboard was exposed



### The all-new Rack



### Year 12 Wood

Speaking of Jewellery boxes, here we have a sample of this year's Year 12 work. Future work can now incorporate the Tassie oak reclaimed from the chalk board, some white meranti reclaimed from a broken Gymnasium bench and Jarrah reclaimed from old school benches: Bodhi Y, Ethan R and Rory B

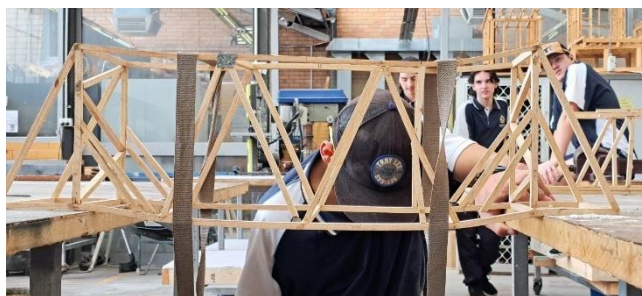


Year 11 Wood – Personal projects, a few examples, Zoe H, Caven C, Jerry A and Ajaye S



### Building and Construction

We had a bit of fun building and destruction testing lightweight bridges in year 11 Building and construction. Students researched bridge design and engineering and then were given very flimsy lengths of pine and small nails. Their bridge had to span 600mm unsupported. A crate was hung below their bridge and weight gradually added to it until the bridge failed(broke) Several examples held all the available weight. Impressive!





# LEARNING AREAS

## TECHNOLOGIES (CONTINUED)

Here we have our Year 12s laying bricks at bench height – how luxurious! Also – Brick Paving!



Some happy year 12s proudly display their scale carpentry, where they learn the fundamentals of house framing without breaking their back, or the budget.



### Jewellery

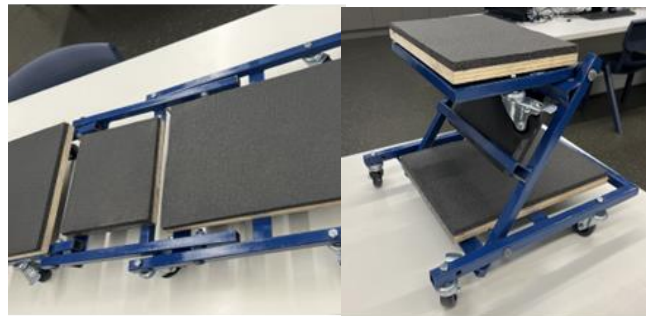


As previously celebrated, our school runs a fantastic jewellery program. Students design and create all sorts of wonderful stuff in all sorts of industry standard materials using a variety of techniques including forging, soldering and a variety of casting processes. Students also get the opportunity to enter the Latitude Galleries Jewellery competition where they compete for substantial cash prizes and tuition time with a professional jeweller. An absolute gem of a subject!

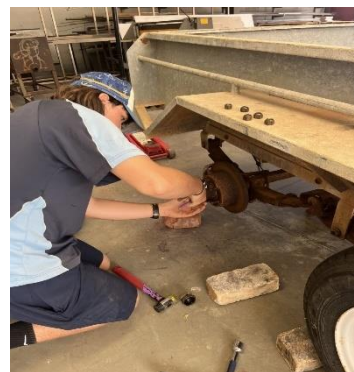


### Automotive

Aside from all the engine servicing and knowledge gained in Automotive workshop, students also complete a fabrication project. Check out this little beauty! A creeper that folds into a rolling stool!



And here they are repacking the bearings on the school trailer. Probably one of the most frequently maintained trailers in Geraldton!



This is a very small selection of all the cool stuff happening in Technologies this year. I didn't even mention all the food that gets made and eaten in Home Economics! Next year Mrs Gray is starting Fashion textiles where students will learn how to design and create original clothing! I can't wait to see the results of that, and all of the other new stuff that gets done next year. Our goal is to make everything as hands on as possible. Bring it on!

Enan Hann.





## HPE

The **Year 12 Outdoor Education Outdoor Education** students recently enjoyed an unforgettable day trip to Kalbarri. Due to weather conditions the usual overnight trip had to be merged into one day trip. The day kicked off with a stunning Gorge Walk, where students marvelled at the breathtaking landscapes and took in the natural beauty of the area. Afterward, they embraced the art of camp cooking, working together to prepare a delicious outdoor meal. The group then embarked on a scenic coastal walk, soaking in the ocean views and fresh air. To top it all off, they enjoyed a well-deserved lunch at the local bakery, sharing stories and savouring freshly made treats before heading back.



Our Year 11 Outdoor Education class recently embarked on a trip to Little Bay.

The day started with arriving at Horrocks and going for a snorkel at the whiting pool. Which included seeing crayfish, fish and swimming through underwater caves.

The students then embarked on a hike along the beach. Students embraced the stunning coastal scenery, learning about local ecosystems and the importance of conservation. The challenge of the walk not only fostered physical fitness but also encouraged teamwork and perseverance among peers.

Once students completed the walk, they set up camp and went for a much needed and very refreshing dip in the pristine water at little bay. The afternoon consisted of some fishing and beach cricket before embarking on the dreaded little bay hill climb but we were rewarded with a stunning sunset and the journey down was much faster than the journey up.

The Evening was dedicated to camp cooking, where students prepared their own meals on their Trangia's. This experience not only taught essential cooking skills but also emphasized the importance of collaboration. The night was spent telling some riddles and toasting marshmallows before students got some much-needed rest.

The following day the students woke up all very well rested and embarked on the walk back into Horrocks. Once students arrived in Horrocks, they cleaned their Trangia's and went for a swim on the famous Horrocks jetty. The trip was a great success, and all students and teachers thoroughly enjoyed it.



# LEARNING AREAS

## HPE (CONTINUED)

This year's **Year 10 Outdoor Education** canoeing day trip on the Greenough River was a fantastic adventure for all participants. Students navigated the serene waters while learning essential paddling techniques and teamwork skills. Along the way, many tried their luck at fishing, with some even reeling in impressive catches that added excitement to the day. The trip not only fostered a love for the outdoors but also deepened friendships and created lasting memories. Overall, it was an enriching experience that combined adventure with the beauty of nature.



On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, we took 18 students to the Phyllus Jupp Badminton centre to compete in a **School Badminton Day**.

We entered 3 mixed teams of six players into the social competition. Our students represented the school proudly, by sharing the courts and socialising with students from other schools. Ms Sue Britt did a great job organising the day for the schools and even provided students with a free sausage sizzle. Geraldton Senior red managed to take out the win for the social competition, narrowly edging out Geraldton senior gold. Also, a big thank you to Mr Blake Luxton our Education Assistant for PE for driving the bus.



**Year 10 students** enjoyed a morning trip to the Queens Park Theatre for an insightful RAC driving presentation, where they learned about the dangers of driving and the importance of responsible road behaviour. The session highlighted key topics such as distracted driving, speed limits, and the impact of alcohol and fatigue on driving performance. Through interactive discussions and real-world scenarios, students gained a deeper understanding of the responsibilities they will have when they begin driving. The students were then able to talk to real life first responders outside the QPT before returning to school.





# LIGHTHOUSE

## LEARNING SUPPORT AND INTERVENTION

### WELCOME TO THE LIGHTHOUSE (FORMERLY COMPASS)



As mentioned in the last newsletter, we have changed the name of our learning support space from 'Compass' because our new school system is called 'Compass'.

Our name change has been approved and our learning support space at Geraldton Senior High School is now

known as:

'Lighthouse'

Lighthouse is an appropriate choice for our school because it complements our school Compass logo and motto "The Seeker Finds".

A Lighthouse provides light and direction in times of need. Metaphorically, a lighthouse represents navigation through challenges and difficulties as they provide a sense of direction, safety, and hope. Lighthouses symbolise the importance of staying on course, making informed decisions, and finding our own way.

Our Point Moore lighthouse has been lit in Geraldton since 1878 and is an appropriate symbol for our Lighthouse spaces at Geraldton Senior High School where our Learning Support motto is:

"to forge independence, confidence and resilience without limitations or fear".

Our Lighthouse Space in Room 6.1 provides an area for students to complete work in a calm environment when they are overwhelmed in their classroom or need to take some time to reset before returning to class.

In 2025, our Program Coordinator Learning Support will be taking a year to go travelling as part of the Department of Education Deferred Salary

Scheme. Mr Steve Twigg will be taking on this role for 2025.

### **Yoga – Jo Miragliotta**

In the Compass room Miss Jo has the pleasure every Tuesday Block 5 to take a group of students to participate in Mindfulness and Yoga Nidra.

We begin by checking in with our emotions in a safe space, exploring how we are feeling physically and mentally.

Yoga Nidra promotes deep rest relaxation that isn't found in your average meditation practice. The stages of body scan and breath awareness alone can be practiced calming the nervous system, leading to less stress and better health.

It is said a 30-minute practice of Yoga Nidra is equivalent to 2-4 hours of actual sleep in terms of its effects on your energy and health. Yoga Nidra also improves memory and cognitive functions.

Our students love the effects of a well-rested practice, and I love seeing how relaxed the students become and float out of the class after.





# PROGRAMS AND VET

## LIGHTHOUSE (CONTINUED)

### Passports 2 Employment (P2E)

Passport 2 Employment (P2E) is a 9-week program that consists of a select year 10, 11 and 12 students taking part in tailored programs aimed to prepare them for what comes next after finishing school.

This year, along with Holland Street School, students had the opportunity to visit and take part in sessions at Central Regional TAFE, Mid-West Ports Authority, Workpower, Good Sammys, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Aquarena, Geraldton Art Gallery and the City of Greater Geraldton. Students also had the opportunity to learn practical skills such as resume writing and interview preparation.

Our Passports 2 Employment (P2E) Graduation took place at the Multipurpose Centre on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and was attended by our mayor Jerry Clune.



### TRANSITION DAYS

We have recently welcomed some of our students requiring additional support and some extra time to transition ready to start in Year 7 in 2025. We had 3 successful days over Term 3 and 4 where the students were able to meet some key staff members, visit areas of the school, experience lessons with some of our teachers and earn Seeker Points to spend in the library.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new students in 2025 and offering them support in our Lighthouse Space. Our Lighthouse staff will be contacting some of our new student's parents this term to plan for their arrival. If you would like to arrange a time for a phone call or a visit to discuss your child, please contact the office to make an appointment.

Here are some of the activities from our Transition Activity Booklet. Can you answer the questions?

**School Values Activity**

What are the 3 school values?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

List 2 ways that you can show Respect

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

List 2 ways that you can show Responsibility

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

List 2 ways that you can show Doing Our Best

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Who is this?**

Match the photo of the staff member to their name and position

	Jay O'Sullivan
	Deputy Principal
	Ebonda Kennedy
	Associate Principal
	Heather Pardee
	Learning Support Coordinator
	Alex Hadley-Rushleigh
	Transition Coordinator
	Ashleigh Dancer
	First Aid Officer

## LIGHTHOUSE (CONTINUED)

## 2024 Central Regional TAFE Art Exhibition

Save the date! Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November @ 6pm for the TAFE Art Exhibition!

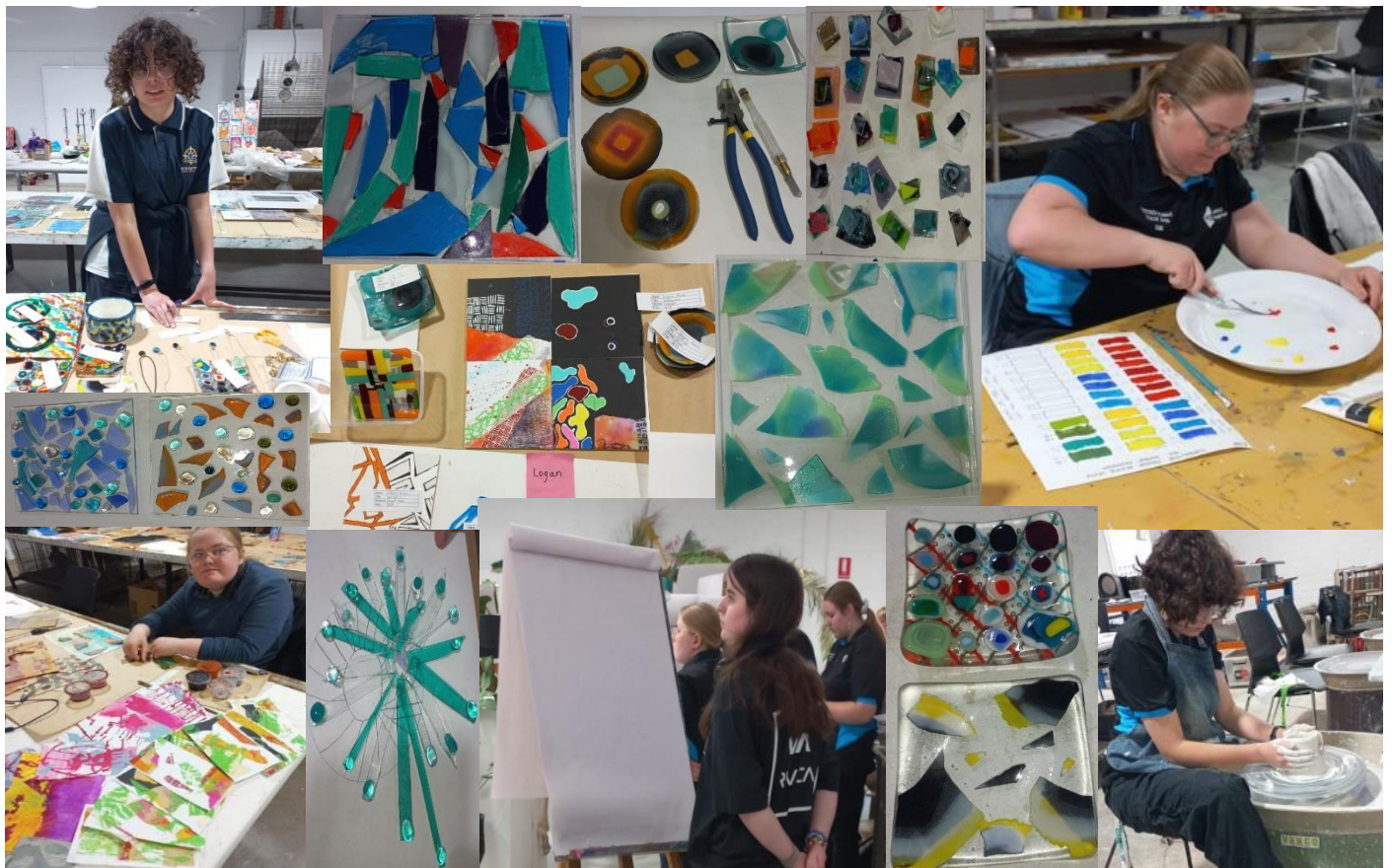
As some of you may be aware...this year we had three of our extremely talented Lighthouse students attend the Certificate III Art Design course at Central Regional TAFE with outstanding success and great enthusiasm.

Zoe, Kelsey and Logan were enrolled in a class of seventeen from various other Midwest schools and members of the public, all of varying ages. The course covered ceramics, glass, print making, mark making, textiles and much more.

These three students fully immersed themselves in the experience, embracing each week and creating some stunning individual work which will be showcased on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of Nov starting at 6pm in the Art Department at TAFE.

Various pieces are merely for display, however some of their work and the other course participants work will be for sale.

We look forward to seeing you there!





# PROGRAMS AND VET

## GIGAMAN GAWALA (GG)

### Year 12 Gigaman Gawala

The Year 12 students in the program enrolled in 2 programs over year 11 and 12. In Year 11 they went to CRTAFE and did the Certificate II Rural Operations where they looked at horticulture, use of hand and power tools as well as some civil construction in learning to operate a skid steer and an excavator. Five students managed to complete in 2023 and 3 more were able to catch up some units to attain the Certificate by the end of Year 12. In Year 12 we decided to look at widening their skills by completing the AE386 Working Safety in Construction. They completed their White Card that allows them to work on construction sites. As a project they worked together to construct a series of raised garden beds outside the Clontarf classroom.

Thank you to Karl Proudlove-CRTAFE lecturer Jason Henderson- AIEO and Clontarf for providing the transport. All 12 students are to be congratulated on achieving the Skill Set. Well done!



## ABORIGINAL SCHOOL BASED TRAINING

### Year 10 Aboriginal School Based Training

The Aboriginal School Based Training course is an opportunity for Year 10 students to participate in some vocational training that can help develop skills and assist in future career planning.

- This program is a good option for students who need to develop their skills a bit more before doing an Aboriginal school-based apprenticeship or traineeship or as an entry point to further study in year 11 and 12.
- Finishing the course will also contribute 2 equivalents to the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

In 2024 we had the Certificate I Leadership, Certificate I Automotive Vocational Preparation and Certificate I Engineering. The benefit of being involved in the program is showing dividends with Noah being selected automatically into the PATiS Automotive course for year 11 and Kingston into Fishing Operations. Several of the girls are showing an interest in some traineeships to be decided shortly in which the leadership certificate is certainly valued.



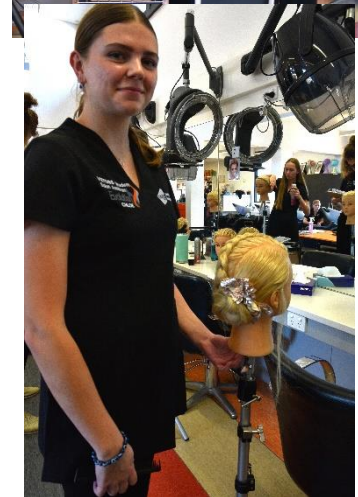
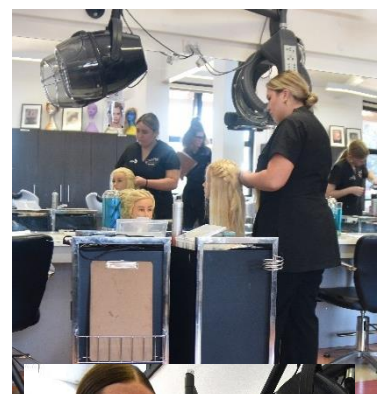
## VET

### World skills Hairdressing @ CRTAFE

Worldskills Australia run competitions that test the skills and knowledge of 4000+ apprentices, trainees and students, who have the chance to win gold, silver and bronze medals and go on to compete at a national level in 2025. This year is the year of Regional Competitions in 34 regions across Australia. Central Regional TAFE VETDSS students competed in the WorldSkills Australia Regional Competition in the VETiS Hairdressing category on September 12, 2024.

The competition involved 10 students competing over a 4.5-hour period that involved having to braid hair based on a photo and then creating their own long hair braid design. The competition involved 10 students competing over a 4.5-hour period that involved having to braid hair based on a photo and then creating their own long hair braid design. Four students from Geraldton Senior participated – congratulations to Lillie, Brooke, Chloe and Dakota for your participation and beautiful creations!

We were excited to get the results to find Dakota took out the gold medal in the VETiS section of the World skills Hairdressing completion! Dakota took part in the Worldskills regional event at CRTAFE in September where she was studying Certificate II Salon Assistant course. The presentation ceremony was recently held at Crown Perth. As well as the gold medal Dakota was announced as a representative of Team WA to go to the national competition in Brisbane next year! A fantastic opportunity.





# PROGRAMS AND VET

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE (APEX)



Year 8 APEX students are at a pivotal stage in their education, where their curiosity about the world and its natural resources is growing. They embarked on project-based learning, working in business units to study mineral sands, an educational enrichment activity that combines practical science with local industry knowledge supported by our integral partnership with CoRE Learning Foundation.

STEM education and STEAM learning skills results in;

- Hands-On Learning: Students learned directly about the composition and significance of mineral sands in a real-world context. With a field trip, laboratory experiments, and research in collaborative projects, they get a firsthand experience of what it's like to study the earth's natural resources.
- Scientific Inquiry: By exploring mineral extraction, sustainability, and economic impact, our 8s developed critical thinking skills, formulated hypotheses, and understood scientific methodologies.
- Interactive Workshops and Guest Speakers: Bringing experts from CoRE Learning Foundation into the classroom and working with Iluka to engage local experts, these opportunities bring the subject to life and inspire students to consider future careers in science, environmental management, and local mining industries.

The Year 7 APEX students' journey through the ancient world is a celebration of their curiosity, creativity, and intellectual growth. By studying ancient history in a cross-curricular way and preparing for the upcoming event at the Geraldton Museum, they are not only deepening their understanding of the past but also building skills

that will serve them throughout their educational journey.

Sara Walker, visited to prepare students for their research and curation of exhibit pieces in our second year working with the Geraldton Museum. The Geraldton Museum is the perfect setting for the students to step out of the classroom and into a space that tangibly showcases history while embodying this in their own presentations.

Leading up to the event, students are involved in creating presentations, artwork, or displays that reflect what they have learned about ancient history. By synthesising information from various sources and presenting it to their peers and museum visitors, they will not only reinforce their knowledge but also develop valuable skills in communication, teamwork, and public speaking. This unit of study is about more than just memorising dates and facts. It is about fostering a deep, interdisciplinary understanding of the world and encouraging a passion for learning that will last a lifetime.



All APEX students embarked on a creative journey by writing and editing pieces for the second APEX Annual, a book of poems, short stories, and fables, showcasing their unique voices and imaginations. This project allows students to hone their writing skills and explore different genres, from the rhythmic beauty of poetry to the captivating narratives of short stories and the moral lessons embedded in fables. Through this process, they have learned the art of storytelling, the importance of revision, and the power of self-expression. The published book serves as a testament to their hard work and should be a source of pride for both students and teachers, demonstrating how literary arts can spark personal growth, collaboration, and confidence.





## ACADEMIC PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE (APEX) (CONTINUED)





# PARTNERS

## FOLLOW THE DREAM

### Follow the Dream – End of Year Celebration

In week 5, our amazing Follow the Dream students and tutoring staff were recognised for their participation and dedication to the Follow the Dream Aspirations program.

Students were acknowledged for their academic abilities, as well as active participation in the program. Zade was presented with the Geraldton Universities Centre (GUC) Academic Award. The prestigious award was presented by Ms Tiambra Calvin, GUC representative.

Jojo, Dasia and Candice were also gifted a laptop from Polly Farmer Foundation as part of the Follow the Dream Bankwest Laptops initiative. Students will use the repurposed laptops to assist with their studies in the near future.

### ***Geraldton SHS would like to congratulate all award winners .***

A special shout out to the Aboriginal Education Team, STARS Foundation and Clontarf Academy for everything they do in supporting our students throughout their learning journey at Geraldton Senior High School.



# CLONTARF ACADEMY

## Awards Night

Each year, the Clontarf Academies in Geraldton come together to celebrate the boys' achievements with their families. It's a night filled with pride, laughter, and recognition of the hard work the boys have put in throughout the year. This year, our talented MC, Declan Kerley-Jones, an alumnus from the Class of 2023, hosted the event brilliantly, showcasing the confidence and skills he developed during his time with Clontarf and now applies in his career.

At the awards ceremony, the boys accepted their recognition and awards with strong handshakes, brave speeches, and proud smiles. Each award was well-deserved, reflecting their dedication and growth over the year. The partners of Clontarf played a vital role in the evening, graciously presenting the awards to the boys. Their unwavering support and presence at our events each year demonstrate their deep commitment to our mission. These celebrations would not be possible without their generosity and dedication, and we are truly grateful for their ongoing partnership.

The Year 12's attended their final Clontarf event. They arrived in professional attire, radiating pride and accomplishment. It was a fitting send-off for these young men as they prepare to embark on the next chapter of their journey. The evening was a powerful celebration of community, resilience, and the incredible potential of these young men.



## Year 12 Gold Coast Experience

On The 23 October 2024 the Year 12's visited the Gold Coast to celebrate completing their final year of school. The trip involved several new experiences and opportunities for development. The visit to the Gold Coast Suns led by former player Jarrod Harbrow was inspirational for the boys. He talked about leadership, identity and culture and shared the challenges of his football career. Jarrod spoke to the boys about their future plans with a key message of working hard, being resilient and true to yourself.

The team prepared a partner presentation and presented to industry leaders of the Southern Gold Coast Chamber of Commerce at the Currumbin RSL. The partners were impressed by the way the lads spoke and shared some advice with the about future pathways. The boys did a great job of representing the Academy.

The trip included many great activities with visits to Warner Brothers Movie World, Wet 'n' Wild, Top Golf and sightseeing in Surfers Paradise. It was a fantastic experience and a great memory that the boys will share forever.





# PARTNERS

## STARS FOUNDATION

The end of the school year is fast approaching! What's been happening in STARS? We have been on camps with our senior STARS girls. Our Year 12's ventured to Queensland whilst our Year 11's explored Perth visiting Marr Mooditj Training (Aboriginal Healthcare Training Professional). A group of our lower school students participated in the Shooting Stars - Deadly Minds Matter Netball carnival. They had the privilege of meeting Australian Diamond Netball Star Donnelle Wallam.



We want to extend a safe and happy holiday to all, and we look forward to supporting STARS girls in 2025.



We welcome Emma King to STARS as our Transitions Co-ordinator.

Every Stars program is supported by a Transitions team, who focus on education and employment opportunities and pathways for students.

During the senior school years, the Stars Transitions Coordinators work closely with the school, families, preferred universities, and local employers to help a young student make her aspirations a reality. This assistance may range from helping students gather critical documents such as a birth certificate or earning a driver's

license or assisting with a university or job application. The Transitions team are committed to working with our Stars for two years after school when the students become Stars Alumni. The Stars Alumni enjoy regular events and communication with each other. In 2023, Stars is proud to have gathered 900+ members of the Alumni and this network continues to grow.

### Year 10 Team Time Activity

Graffiti Style Art workshop with Shah Jackey  
The girls enjoyed this activity and the chance to be creative using spray painting techniques.



Please come and visit our STARS room and have a look at the final masterpieces.



## STARS FOUNDATION (CONTINUED)

**Our Year 11 STARS** girls travelled to Perth for their camp with a focus on education and

employment and exploring different pathways they visited Marr Mooditj Training. Marr Mooditj Training is a registered training provider with a focus on healthcare. "Aboriginal Health in Aboriginal Hands". The girls were given a tour and participated in some hands-on activities in their training facility. We may see STARS girls in scrubs as part of the wonderful healthcare staff in our community!



STARS Year 12s... As you close this chapter of your High School journey, we want to take a moment to reflect on everything you've achieved and your shining future ahead. Today is not just the end of your time in the Stars program; it's a celebration of all your hard work, perseverance, and growth. You've shown dedication and resilience and will continue to carry STARS values of Respect Honesty Commitment and Pride in your hearts. STARS mentors and the wider school

community couldn't be prouder of each and every one of you.



We look forward to staying connected and our doors stay open for our valuable STARS Alumni. Keep reaching for those stars, because you have everything it takes to succeed.

Congratulations, and may the future be as bright as the stars you've become!

Maths Solution

### Solutions:

78 gifts on Day 12

364 gifts altogether

48.9% birds

$$r^2y = \ln\left(\frac{x}{m} - as\right)$$

$$e^{rry} = \frac{x}{m} - as$$

$$me^{rry} = x - mas$$





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## COMPASS

In Term 4 this year, we moved from SEQTA to COMPASS learning management system which has meant some changes to our attendance and behaviour outlooks. In 2025, we will be able to have all parents on board.

In Term 4 this year, we moved from SEQTA to COMPASS

### What is Compass?

Compass is a school management solution that allows parents and carers to access up-to-date and meaningful information about your school and your child's progress. Compass includes many different features.

In 2025, you will be able to:

- Monitor your child's attendance, and enter an explanation for absence or lateness
- Communicate with your child's teachers, and update your family contact details
- View your child's timetable and the school calendar
- Provide consent for events

In the future, you will also be able to

- Monitor your child's homework and assessment tasks
- Download and view your child's academic reports
- Book parent-teacher conferences
- Pay for events and school fees

### How do I access Compass?

Compass is accessible on any modern web browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari) or by using the Compass iOS or Android apps.

To access the parent portal, you can go to your school's website and click the Compass link on their homepage. Alternatively, you can go to [schools.compass.education](https://schools.compass.education) where you can search for our school's direct URL.

To log in you will require your unique family username and password. These details will be provided to you by our school. Upon first login, you will be required to change your password and confirm your email address and mobile phone number. These details may be used by our school for SMS, password recovery and email communication throughout the year.

If you have not received your Compass login and password, please contact the school in the new year.

For further information about Compass, please visit <https://www.compass.education/guide/>



# THE GREATEST SHOW

## The Greatest Show

Wednesday 27 November 2024 was a great night, a night that students showcased their amazing talents across musical items, dancing and acting in the musical The Greatest Show. Students rehearsed and perfected the act with over 35 hours of practice time, this goes to prove how much effort Performing Arts teacher Jessica Swift has put in and invested in our wonderful students. Arts staff and IMMs staff pulled together to make the night so successful, well done to all staff and students!

Many audience members came up after the show to congratulate staff on the event, one mum said to Ms Swift "It really was the Greatest Show!". The show was adapted to suit our students and time frame and it was fantastic to see some students who are very quiet in class come to life on the stage. We cannot wait until the next performance and wonder what the next one will be based on!

Keep your eye out in January for auditions for next years show that will be even bigger and better. Congratulations again.





## CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024



*Edith Dircksey Award*



*STAR Award*



*AMPOL Best All Rounder Award*



*Sportsman of the Year*



*Sportswoman of the Year*



*Suzette Carr Memorial Citizenship Award*



*Richard Pym Award*



*ADF Long Tan Leadership*



*Unready Award*



*P&C General Studies Runner Up Dux*



*P&C General Studies Dux*



*P&C ATAR Dux Runner up*



*P&C ATAR Dux*





## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

18 September

Year 8 APEX students continued their CoRE project-based learning on Thursday and Friday with CoRE Learning Foundation Co-Founder Suzy Urbaniak (OAM). Students work in business units' groups completing project components once a week during Maths, HASS and Science lessons. Work started last term with a field trip to our local beaches to find heavy mineral sands and record data about the environment. On Friday they began to work on hypotheses related to erosion and movement of sand to be tested through investigations experiments. Prototypes were starting to be designed! Illuka representatives will visit for an incursion next Term to link us to local industry and uses of heavy mineral sands. We look forward to seeing what these young scientists create and present at the end of the year. Thank you to Miss Kimber and Suzy for their inspiring mentorship.

@corelearningfoundation CoRE Learning Foundation

@illukaresources

#geraldtonshs2024 #learningnowforthe future #therealclassroom



26 September

Year 9 Health Education and Care Industry specific Career Taster Excursion

Year 9 students returned to Central Regional TAFE in Week 10 for the follow up to the Health Education and Care 'bite sized' taster visit earlier this Term. Students engaged in 1 1/2 hours of hands-on activities with Lecturers from the Industry area they elected to specialise in, that included Massage Therapy, Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy/Retail Cosmetics, Nursing and Childcare. The longer sessions prov... See more



First day of Term 1

Wednesday

5 February 2025

We are excited to welcome all students both new and returning to school today!



Facebook QR Code:

Instagram QR Code:







**GERALDTON**  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

*Learning Now, for the Future*



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