



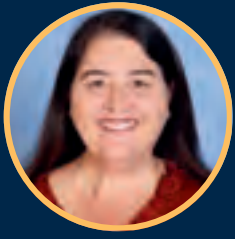
GERALDTON
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

A decorative horizontal band with a blue background and orange wavy borders. It features several Indigenous Australian motifs: a boomerang, a sun with rays, a flag, and various circular patterns.



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

TERM 3, 2026



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

What does it mean to belong at Geraldton Senior High School?

I have been thinking a lot about this question throughout Term 3.

Our Founders Day and NAIDOC celebrations have provided wonderful opportunities to reflect on our history, our culture and, most importantly, the people who make Geraldton SHS the school it is.

At our Founders Day Assembly, we were reminded that this school is much more than buildings and classrooms. For generations, this has been a place where people have gathered, connected and belonged.

The stories gathered, and shared by former students, families and staff were a lovely reminder of the impact a school can have on people's lives. People remembered their friends, teachers, sporting achievements, school traditions and the characters who made their time here memorable. Many spoke about their children and grandchildren now attending the school.

It reinforced for me that schools are about people, relationships and shared experiences.

I asked our students to think about one simple question:

What is the one thing that makes you feel you belong at Geraldton SHS?

I also asked them to consider what they could do to make a positive difference to someone else. Because belonging is not something that happens by accident. We all have a part to play in creating it.

Our NAIDOC celebrations provided another important reflection on belonging.

The land on which our school stands was traditionally a meeting place and campground — a place where people gathered, connected and belonged long before Geraldton SHS existed. Today, we continue that tradition.

The theme for NAIDOC 2026, 50 Years of Deadly, celebrates Indigenous excellence, strength, resilience and community leadership. I commend the Aboriginal Education Team, Cultural Reference Group, staff and students for working together to create opportunities for the whole school community to listen, learn, share and celebrate culture.

For me, belonging also means being able to be who you are.

It means that students do not have to leave part of themselves at the school gate. It means their culture, identity, experiences and strengths are recognised and valued. It means feeling that there are people here who know you, care about you and believe in you.

This was reinforced for me during my recent participation in the Advancing Curriculum for Equity (ACE) Pilot, led by Ochre Education.

I travelled to Sydney with a group of principals from the Midwest of WA and the Northern Territory to visit five schools: Windsor South Public School, Ingleburn High School, Briar Road Public School, The Entrance Public School and St Joseph's Primary School.

Each school was different, but there were some very clear common themes.



They had high expectations, strong teaching, consistent routines and a relentless focus on student progress. But alongside this was a genuine commitment to relationships, wellbeing, culture and community.

Across all five schools, I saw something that I believe is important for us at Geraldton SHS:

Belonging and high expectations go hand in hand. We should not have to choose between caring about our students and expecting great things from them. We need both.

This is the work that lies ahead for us.

We need to continue getting the fundamentals right, building the capacity of our staff, strengthening relationships, using data to understand our students and ensuring that the right support is there when it is needed. Most importantly, we need to put faces on the data.

Behind every attendance percentage is a young person. Behind every achievement measure is a student with their own story, strengths, challenges and aspirations.

Ultimately, I want every student at Geraldton SHS to be able to say:

I am known here.

I am valued here.

I belong here.

People believe I can succeed here.

That is the kind of school I want us to continue building together.

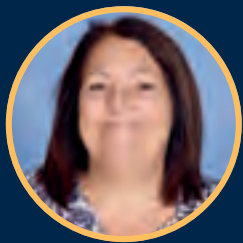
A school where we know our students, believe in them, challenge them, support them and celebrate who they are.

A school where every person understands that the small things we do each day can make a lasting difference to someone else's experience of school. Every student. Known. Valued. Expected to succeed.

Learning Now, for the Future.

Mrs Rhonda George-Kennedy
Principal





DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEAR 7 AND 8

There have been lots of celebrations and wins for our Year 7 and 8 teams in Term Three. We began the term with our Founders Day Assembly and games where we reflected on the history of our school and celebrated how far we have come. It was a great opportunity for students to get involved and show their commitment to our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Doing Our Best.

The Randolph Stow Young Writers Award takes place each year and encourages and celebrates young writers in the Midwest and Gascoyne. This year there were 75 awards presented, and I am pleased to announce the winners in Year 7 and 8 from our school:

- Ashlee, Year 7 - 3rd Place for Poetry
- Emily, Year 8 - 2nd Place for Prose

Congratulations!

Our Transition Coordinator has been out to visit Year 6 students in our local intake area primary schools to deliver HPE lessons and get to know the students. We are looking forward to our Transition Days in Term 4, when we will welcome all Year 6 students who are enrolled to start their learning journey at Geraldton SHS in 2027. These engaging and fun-filled days will take place on Tuesday 24 November and Wednesday 2 December. **Learning Now, for the Future.**

There is still time to submit your enrolments for next year. Please call into our reception where our friendly staff will be able to assist you. Alternatively, you can download, print or complete an enrolment form on our website, Application for Enrolments – Geraldton SHS.

Attending school every day is important for many reasons:

- At school, many concepts such as literacy and numeracy are taught in a sequence. Missing school means missing out on learning – which can often make it difficult to catch up later. This is particularly important in the early years when essential foundation skills are being taught.
- Going to school every day helps children learn the important life skill of 'showing up' – at school, at work, to sport and other commitments.
- Research from the Western Australian Telethon Kids Institute shows that every day at school counts towards a student's learning. Students who attend regularly generally do better at school and in life.

From time to time your child may miss school because they are unwell, or because they have a medical appointment. Cultural leave for Sorry Business or funerals is also an acceptable reason to miss school.

If your child is going to be away from school, please let us know. You can call our Student Services Team on: 9965 8415 or email: Geraldton.SHS.StudentServices@education.wa.edu.au

As Term 3 draws to a close, and the warmer weather begins to make an appearance, I would like to wish all our students and their families a restful and enjoyable holiday.

Ms Claire Croucher
Deputy Principal
Year 7 and 8





DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEAR 9 AND 10

Term 3 has been a long and busy one, with no public holidays and only one Staff Development Day to break it up. Despite the long stretch, our students and staff have continued to make the most of a very busy and productive term.

There has been plenty of activities happening across the school, including Founders Day, Book Week, NAIDOC celebrations, Career Tasters, Outdoor Pursuits and many opportunities offered through Clontarf and STARS. One of the things I enjoy most is seeing our students get involved, take on new challenges and make the most of everything high school has to offer.

Our Athletics Carnival was another highlight, with plenty of school spirit on display and students demonstrating our PBS value of Doing Our Best. A big thank you to Miss Sellers and all the staff who helped make the day such a success.



Athletics Carnival: Year 10 Boys



Year 9 Award Winners



Year 10 Award Winners

Subject Selections

Term 3 is also an important time for our Year 9 and 10 students as they start thinking about what next year will look like.

Our Year 10 students have now completed their Year 11 subject selections, while our Year 9 students have been choosing their electives for Year 10 in 2027. While these choices can help shape future pathways, there is also an opportunity for students to explore their interests and choose subjects they enjoy.

If you have any questions about subject selections or the opportunities available to your child at Geraldton SHS, please contact the school and ask to speak with me.

Attendance

It has been great to see the continued improvement in our Year 10 attendance. This year, the cohort has recorded the highest Year 10 attendance rate at GSHS in the past four years, which is a fantastic achievement.

Year 9 attendance, however, is still an area where we need to improve. Being at school regularly makes a real difference, both academically and in keeping students connected to their friends, teachers and school. If attendance is becoming a challenge for your child, please contact our Student Services team so we can work together to support them.





DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEAR 9 AND 10

Showing Responsibility

Responsibility is one of our PBS values and something I regularly talk about with our Year 9 and 10 students during “mini assemblies”.

We have seen some great examples of this throughout the term, whether it has been students helping younger students, getting involved in events such as Founders Day and the Athletics Carnival, or simply setting a positive example for others around the school.

Two areas where we still have some work to do are uniform and personal electronic devices. I ask families to continue supporting us by encouraging students to wear their uniform with pride and keep phones and earphones off and away during the school day.

Another way students can show responsibility is by having a say in issues that affect young people. The WA Student Council gives Year 10 and 11 students from public schools across the state the opportunity to represent their peers and provide feedback directly to the Department of Education and the Minister for Education.

I would like to congratulate Evie and Ella from Year 9, who have both been shortlisted as part of the selection process for next year’s Council. More than 70 students applied, with only 23 being shortlisted. This is a fantastic achievement for both girls and we wish them well in the next stage. Either would be a great representative, not only for Geraldton SHS and regional students, but for the more than 300,000 students attending public schools across WA.

Mr Brett Teakle
Deputy Principal
Year 9 and 10





DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEAR 11 AND 12

What a remarkable period this has been for our Senior School community. Across the state, the highest-performing senior schools share a common thread: they build achievement on a foundation of clear communication, genuine family partnership, and a broad, ambitious curriculum that meets every student where they are. I'm proud to say that is exactly the culture we continue to build together — and our improved results this year are proof that it's working.

Staying Connected Through Compass

Strong family engagement is one of the clearest markers of a high-achieving school, and Compass remains the heart of how we stay connected with you.

Through the Compass portal, parents and carers can:

- Check your child's timetable at any time
- Monitor attendance and Good Standing
- Receive notifications for positive achievements, as well as behaviour notifications

Please note: all official communication from the school — including notifications for incursions and excursions — is sent via Compass. We'd encourage every family to check the portal regularly so you don't miss important updates.

If you're having trouble logging in, our reception team is very happy to help — please give them a call or drop in.

A reminder, too, that we are currently not accepting online payments. For excursion payments or any other school fees, please see reception in person or over the phone.

Senior School Enrolments for 2027

Our pathway toward excellent WACE results continues to grow, and next year's Year 11 course offering reflects the depth and breadth that the strongest senior schools are known for.

ATAR Courses: English, Mathematics Applications, Mathematics Methods, Chemistry, Physics, Human Biology, Modern History, and — new for 2027 — Physical Education Studies.

As always, we will support students to pursue other ATAR courses via SIDE.

General Courses:

- Building and Construction
- Children, Family and Community (new)
- Design Graphics
- Food Science and Technology
- HASS in Action
- Marine and Maritime Studies.
- MDT Jewellery
- MDT Metalwork
- MDT Textiles
- MDT Woodwork
- Outdoor Education
- Physical Education Studies
- Science in Practice (new) - "CORE Academy"
- Visual Arts

We're also incredibly proud of our discrete programs, which continue to be highly sought after:

- **STEP** (Vocational Pathway)
- **Gigaman Gawala** (Aboriginal Boys Program)
- **Warlugurra Walgamanyulu** (Aboriginal Girls Program)





DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YEAR 11 AND 12

Invitations to interview for these programs will be extended in Term 4. Congratulations also to the many students who have been invited to undertake testing or interviews for certificate and pre-apprenticeship pathways at TAFE — a fantastic reflection of the opportunities our students are earning.

If you know a family considering enrolling externally in our Senior School, we'd love to hear from them — please contact the school to begin the enrolment process.

Celebrating Our Year 12s

It has been an extraordinary term for our Year 12 cohort. From Founders Day and NAIDOC Week to the Athletics Carnival, Book Week, Seekers Week and OLNA testing, our students have packed an enormous amount of learning, culture and community into these past months. Their effort — matched every step of the way by the dedication of our staff — has been a genuine team achievement, and it's exactly this kind of collective commitment that underpins the strongest senior school results anywhere.

Families are warmly invited to join us for two important milestones:

- Leavers Assembly — Wednesday 21 October
- Valedictory Ceremony — Thursday 22 October

A reminder for our ATAR students, WACE ATAR Exams will follow shortly after Valedictory.

To our Year 12 students: thank you for the energy, resilience and spirit you've brought to our school this year. We wish you every success in your exams and can't wait to see where your future takes you.

Mrs Kartini Signa
Deputy Principal
Year 11 and 12



STUDENT SERVICES

YEAR 7 AND 8

It has been a busy and positive Term 3 in Student Services, with a number of activities taking place across the school. We started the term with the Road Safety Kick Start program, which ran over two days during Week 1 and provided students with important information and activities focused on road safety and making safe choices. In Week 6, our student immunisation program was also successfully completed.

On 10 September, we recognised R U OK? Day, coordinated by Mr Alex Hadley-Rudolph. Students engaged enthusiastically in the activities throughout the day, promoting connection, wellbeing and the importance of checking in with one another. We also celebrated NAIDOC Week with our NAIDOC Assembly and NAIDOC Day, welcoming members of the community into the school to share in the celebrations. These events have provided valuable opportunities for our students to connect, participate and celebrate as a school community.



STUDENT SERVICES

YEAR 9 AND 10

Year 9 STARS Floristry Career Taster Incursion

STARS students had the opportunity to 'walk in the shoes of a Florist' and practice the skills of floristry during an incursion in Week 9. Under the guidance of experienced florist Mrs Sally Marshall from Flash Flowers, the students worked to create stunning flower crowns that will be used for on country experiences that are part of the STARS Team Time Term 3 program of activities. During the incursion Sally gave an insight into a career as a florist, sharing with the girls her career path and journey into the creative industry that is Floristry. Sally described in detail the skills and attributes that are necessary to be successful as a florist.

The flowers used in the creation of the crowns were supplied by Flash Flowers and included Proteas, Banksias, Sea Holly, Straw Flowers, Everlastings, Kangaroo Paw, Gum leaf varieties, Geraldton Wax and other native flower varieties. Sally was impressed with the crowns and how each one that was created, and reflected the personality of the 'Florist'.



Thank you to Ms Kathy Hay, owner of Flash Flowers and Sally for willingly and enthusiastically supporting the Geraldton SHS Year 9 Career Taster Program.

Year 9 Career Taster - Build your Career - Carpentry/Building & Construction

Earlier this term our students joined with Year 9 students from other Geraldton schools and participated in a career taster that focussed on the skills required for Roof Carpentry at CRTAFE. Students were hands on for two hours where they were tasked with completing a building project. The Lecturer, Andy, gave each group a set of plans and students had the opportunity to practice the skills of measuring, marking out, teamwork and working safely to construct roof trusses.

Students who are interested in a career in the building and construction Industry can access the Certificate II in Building and Construction (Pathway Trades) Carpentry Pre-Apprenticeship through a VETDSS Program in Year 11 or 12.

Our two Year 9 students who attended the career taster were commended by Andy for participating enthusiastically, staying focussed and working successfully as a team to get the job done!

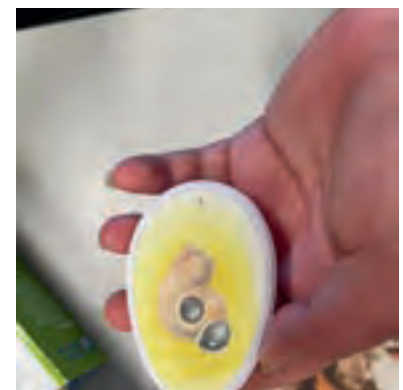
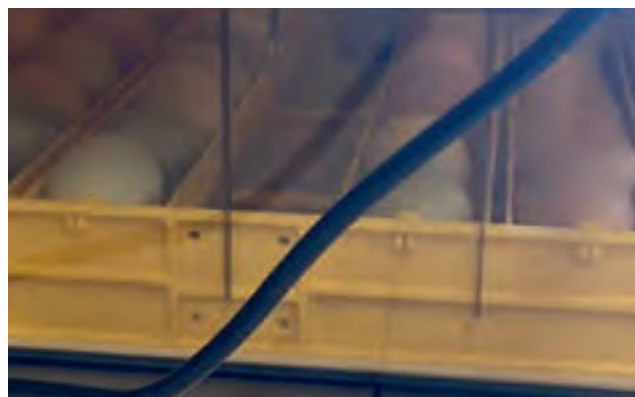
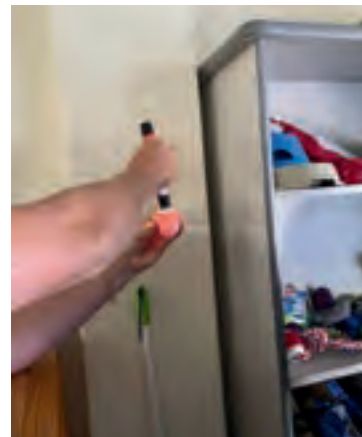


Year 9 Career Taster - Animal Care

Earlier this term, our students were invited to visit the simulated veterinary clinic at CRTAFE to observe live animal care.

Under the guidance of lecturer Brenda, students gained hands-on experience with the clinic's live animals, including guinea pigs, rabbits, stick insects and Poppy Sunshine - the clinic dog.

Students were given information about accessing the Certificate II and III in Animal Care qualifications in Year 11 and 12 through a VETDSS program. Brenda also talked to students about her own career journey and pathway, and outlined the skills and knowledge necessary for entry level and support roles in the animal care and management industry. It was a fun and relaxing afternoon at the clinic, with each student demonstrating our school values of respect, responsibility and doing our best.



STUDENT SERVICES

YEAR 11 AND 12

As Term 4 approaches, we take the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our senior students and recognise the hard work they have invested throughout the year.

VETDSS Award Nominations

Geraldton SHS is proud to announce that seven students have been nominated for the Midwest & Gascoyne Vocational Awards. These nominations acknowledge the dedication, professionalism, and outstanding achievements demonstrated by students undertaking Vocational Education and Training Delivered to Secondary Students (VETDSS) programs. The recognition reflects both their commitment to vocational learning and their readiness to pursue future career pathways.

 Congratulations to our nominees on this outstanding achievement.

Ryder	Year 11	Trade Based Student
Chloe	Year 12	Higher Vocational Studies Student
Jazmin	Year 11	Higher Vocational Studies Student
Krystabel	Year 12	Pathways to Success Student
Clare	Year 12	Certificate II Vocational Studies Student
Sierra	Year 11	Certificate II Vocational Studies Student
Bonnie	Year 12	Certificate II Vocational Studies Student

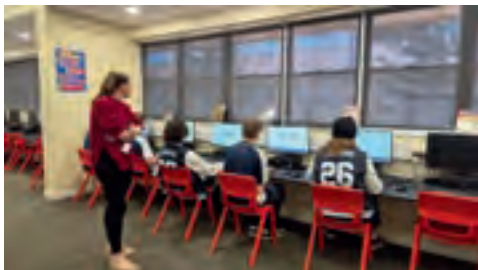
We wish them every success at the Midwest & Gascoyne Vocational Awards Ceremony, to be held on Tuesday, 20 October at Central Regional TAFE

Looking Ahead

As our Year 12 students complete their final assessments, VET qualifications, traineeships, and workplace learning programs, we acknowledge the perseverance and determination they have shown throughout their senior school journey. We congratulate all students on reaching this important stage and thank our staff, employers, and community partners who have supported them along the way.



To prepare for the next stage of life, staff from the Jobs and Skills Centre are assisting our Year 12 students to make sure they leave with a polished resume and cover letter. Students are encouraged to make sure they start to plan their next steps be it university entrance by applying through TISC, TAFE options both in town or elsewhere in the state – Semester 1, 2027 applications now open. For those seeking apprenticeships check out local jobs boards including on Jobs and Skills website or ATC Worksmart – register and they can assist you on the next journey.



Year 12 Valedictory Celebrations

A number of special events have been planned to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2026 as they prepare to leave Geraldton Senior High School and begin the next chapter of their lives.

Leavers Assembly Wednesday, 21 October 9.15am

A special whole-school farewell recognising the contributions, achievements, and memories of our finishing students. Parents are welcome to attend.

Leavers Lunch Mad Mex Restaurant Wednesday, 21 October 12pm

Following the Leavers Assembly, students will come together to celebrate friendships, reflect on their school journey, and create lasting memories with their peers.

Valedictory Ceremony Queens Park Theatre Thursday, 22 October 6:00 pm for 6.30 start

The Valedictory Ceremony is a highlight of the school calendar, providing students, families, and staff with the opportunity to formally celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2026. Tickets for guests are \$12 per person. Student allocation is initially set at a maximum of 4 per student. Additional seats can be purchased after all students have had a chance to purchase what they need.

Year 11

Not to forget out Year 11 students! They have a way to go with their departure set at conclusion of Week 5 in Term 4. ATAR students will return in Week 6 for exams although some SIDE exams will be scheduled at the end of Week 5. Exam schedules will be released in Week 1 Term 4. This is the time for students to look at their grades and make sure they are maximising their efforts so that the journey towards the WACE in Year 12 will be easier. Ms Scott is working on preliminary plans for the 2027 School Ball and will be seeking committee members to work with her next term. We look forward to welcoming our new school leaders as our Year 12s pass the baton at the Leavers Assembly.



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION SUPPORT COORDINATOR (AESC)

It has been a busy and exciting Term 3 in Aboriginal Education at Geraldton SHS, with our students celebrating culture, connecting with community and taking part in some fantastic opportunities. Week 6 saw Geraldton SHS come alive as we celebrated NAIDOC Week 2026 and this year's theme: '50 Years of Deadly!'

Our NAIDOC Week celebrations began with the NAIDOC Opening Assembly, bringing together students, staff and invited guests to celebrate "50 Years of Deadly!". The celebrations opened with the school's NAIDOC Assembly, where students, staff and community guests gathered to celebrate Aboriginal culture, history and achievements. Two respected local Aboriginal men joined the school as guest speakers, sharing their stories, knowledge and experiences with students.

Proud Nhanda man and community leader Mr Gavin Mallard shared his life journey and spoke about his commitment to supporting Aboriginal young people, families, education and community.

Mr Dale Forsyth, a respected Amangu man and Yamatji cultural knowledge holder, shared his knowledge of culture and Country, including a powerful visual demonstration that helped students understand the thousands of generations Aboriginal people have lived on and cared for this Country compared with the much shorter period since non-Indigenous settlement.

The assembly also featured two powerful poems. Year 10 student Zephaya P shared her poem, *My Country – Barrapunta*, using her traditional language alongside Aboriginal English to express her strong connection to Country and the longing she feels to return to her Country.

The second poem was written by Aboriginal Education Support Coordinator Ms Kim Ryder especially for the assembly. Inspired by this year's NAIDOC theme, "50 Years of Deadly!", the poem reflected on the strength, resilience, culture and achievements of Aboriginal people and acknowledged the generations who have paved the way for those who follow.

The assembly concluded with a fantastic performance by the school's Wirri Bundara Dance Group, before invited guests gathered for morning tea. Celebrations continued at lunchtime with NAIDOC cake and face painting, setting the scene for a week filled with culture, sport, food, learning and sharing.





There was plenty of friendly competition throughout the week, with staff vs students netball and football on Tuesday, followed by basketball on Wednesday. The games brought plenty of laughs, encouragement and school spirit, with students and staff enjoying the opportunity to come together outside the classroom.

A big thank you goes to STARS Foundation, Clontarf Academy and Follow the Dream, which donated special gifts to recognise students who demonstrated outstanding spirit during the sporting events. IGA Queens also generously donated fruit for our netball and basketball players, while Clontarf Academy provided a sausage sizzle following the football game.



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

Wednesday's Cultural Cook-Up was another highlight and proved extremely popular with students and staff. The aroma of the kangaroo cuisine drew plenty of attention at lunchtime, with everyone coming together to enjoy kangaroo dishes served with rice and freshly made damper. It was wonderful to see so many students willing to try something different and come back for more!



The week finished on a high with our first-ever NAIDOC Cultural Inyayimanha. Inyayimanha is a Wajarri word meaning “sharing”, which perfectly captured the purpose of the day: sharing culture, knowledge and experiences with our students.

Students rotated through a range of interactive cultural activities, including learning about the traditional medicinal uses of emu oil, spear and net throwing at life like animal silhouettes, dance and storytelling through movement, yarning around the fire with some freshly cooked damper, beading, braiding, painting and other hands-on arts and crafts.



The activities gave students the opportunity to learn in a different way by watching, listening, participating and having a go. It was fantastic to see students and staff getting involved, asking questions and learning more about Aboriginal culture in such an engaging environment.

A special thank you goes to Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (GRAMS) for joining us and supporting our Inyayimanha Day. The GRAMS team spent time engaging with students and sharing important messages about health, wellbeing and the importance of looking after yourself. They also generously provided goodies for students and a sausage sizzle for students and staff to enjoy throughout the day. Their involvement added another valuable element to Inyayimanha, connecting the sharing of culture and knowledge with the importance of strong, healthy young people and communities. We are very grateful to GRAMS for supporting our students and helping to make the day such a success.

The day was a wonderful way to finish NAIDOC Week, bringing together the spirit of culture, sharing, connection and learning that had been celebrated throughout the week.



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

Elders Film Project - Capturing Stories for Future Generations

A group of Year 11 students have been involved in a special Elders Film Project in partnership with Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC).

The project is giving students the opportunity to work alongside YMAC, Elders and community members to help capture and preserve important stories, cultural knowledge and lived experiences. Along the way, students are gaining hands-on experience in interviewing, storytelling, communication, filming and production, while also learning about the work that takes place behind the camera.

YMAC staff members Tash and Ken have helped bring the project to life by connecting students with brothers Luke and Dan from award-winning Indigenous film and video production company Ardiol Creative. Working alongside industry professionals has provided students with a unique opportunity to develop new skills and gain insight into Indigenous storytelling through film.

At the heart of the project is something much bigger: the importance of listening to our Elders and preserving their stories, knowledge and experiences for future generations.

We are extremely proud of our Year 11 students for embracing this opportunity and look forward to seeing their work presented at Yamatji on Country at the end of this term.



From dancing and sport to sharing food, cultural activities and learning from Elders, the past few weeks have been about much more than individual events.

They have been about culture, identity, connection, learning and pride.

A huge thank you goes to our Aboriginal Education team, students, staff, families, Elders, community members and partner organisations that continue to support Aboriginal Education at Geraldton SHS.

Deadly students. Deadly culture. Deadly school.



LEARNING AREAS



MATHS

The academic year is fast approaching its conclusion for Year 12 students. Note that although General Mathematics course classes finish at the end of Term 3, students may still hand in unsubmitted work. If students submit by the end of Week 1 in Term 4, their mark can still contribute towards achieving a passing grade.

ATAR Mathematics courses will finish at the end of Term 3, and exams will be conducted during the holidays. External WACE exams will take place in Term 4, with Mathematics exams occurring from Monday 2 November to Monday 9 November. We wish students the best for their exam preparation, and remind students that they can still access their maths teachers prior to their WACE exams for additional help. All ATAR Mathematics students will receive past WACE papers to assist with their exam preparation.

On another note, Geraldton SHS students participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition organised by the Australian Maths Trust and delivered onsite. It was pleasing to see students engage with the challenge, and we congratulate them on their efforts.

The Mathematics Association of Western Australia brought a face to face professional learning conference to Geraldton in Term 3. It was attended by maths staff on Saturday 22 August and was well received. Sessions included implementation of the new mathematics curriculum, and strategies for tackling numeracy deficits in the classroom. Thank you to the host school, Wandina Primary School.



LEARNING AREAS

SCIENCE

After more than 60 years in its home, the Science Department has officially vacated the building in preparation for an exciting \$7 million upgrade that will transform our learning spaces for future generations of students.

While the transition has certainly presented some challenges, with many of our classes currently not having access to laboratories, our staff and students have risen to the occasion. True to the spirit of STEM, we have been finding creative solutions, adapting our teaching and learning, and making the most of opportunities when they arise.

Science Students Head Out into the Field

Our Year 8, 9 and 10 students are well underway with their Semester projects and are busy preparing for a range of exciting fieldwork experiences and field trips.

Year 8 students are heading to the Iluka mine site at Narngulu, where they will tour the processing facility and investigate the important role the mining industry plays in our local and regional economy.

Year 9 students are taking a journey through time as they explore the fossil record and the mining history of Coalseam Conservation Park. Their fieldwork will also provide an opportunity to experience the spectacular wildflower blooms that make the region so special.

Meanwhile, Year 10 students are gearing up for their upcoming visit to the Ramelius mine site at Mt Magnet, where they will connect their classroom learning with a real-world mining operation.

It's an exciting time for our Science students as they take their learning beyond the classroom and into the field



Girls in Physics Brunch

On 23 June 2026, nine of our brightest Year 9 and 10 girls joined the Girls in Physics brunch at the Geraldton University Centre alongside other girls from schools all over town. Hosted by the Science Teachers' Association of Western Australia, it was a morning packed with engaging content intended to encourage all the girls in attendance to pursue a future in physics.

The morning started with an inspiring talk from the keynote speaker – Mrs Angela Teale. Originally hailing from the USA, Angela is an aerospace engineer based in Geraldton. Together with her husband she runs Starsite Australia, a satellite company with the aim of boosting the growing Australian space industry. Angela regaled the audience with her inspirational back story of aspiring medic to NASA engineer and then on to founding her own company.



After a tasty brunch of pastries, toast and cereals the girls were then able to try some 'Fantastic photons' hands-on activities for themselves:

- Pet photons - learning how light behaves as both a particle and a wave.
- Glow in the dark paper – seeing how materials that can absorb light can then emit it under UV light.
- Quantum scattering – showing light scattering, which helped to explain why the sky looks blue and sunsets look orange and red.
- Pencil diffraction – spreading photons between two pencils
- Diffraction bubble microscope – observing diffraction of light in bubbles.
- Soap bubble interference – using lasers to observe interference through soap bubbles.
- Hair interference – using a strand of their own hair to observe interference of a laser beam.
- Spinning tops – to demonstrate quantum spin.
- Superposition and polarisation – through polarisers.

A fantastic morning was had by all, not least Geraldton SHS science teacher Mrs Nina Kyprianidis who was in attendance. We look forward to future events.



Year 8 Science

Our Year 8 Science students have been learning about the fascinating systems that keep the human body functioning. To bring their learning to life, students had the opportunity to examine a sheep's pluck, including the heart and lungs, and see these organs up close.

While there were certainly a few squeamish faces at first, students quickly overcame their apprehension and embraced the opportunity to explore real organs. It was a fantastic hands-on experience that helped students make meaningful connections between what they learn in the classroom and the structures and systems found in living organisms.



LEARNING AREAS

Year 11 Marine and Maritime Studies – Building boats from Lego

During a recent Marine and Maritime Studies lesson with Teacher Mrs Nina Kypriandis, Year 11 students were tasked with a novel way to get to know the structure and parts of a boat. Challenged to build their own boat from Lego, the students diligently followed the instructions to build their own vessel. To ensure they became familiar with the technical terms for the different parts, the students then had to label their boats to show the port side, starboard side, hull, stern and gunwale among others. This fun, hands-on learning experience has helped our students commit the knowledge to memory, ready for their new unit of work on boat design.



Future Scientists Get Hands-On with Human Biology

Geraldton SHS was delighted to welcome this term, nine enthusiastic Year 5 and 6 PEAC students for an exciting, hands-on dissection experience in our Trade Training Centre laboratories.

The students have been studying the human body this term and have been busy creating their own board games to help teach others about the different systems of the human body.

Their visit to Geraldton SHS provided a fantastic opportunity to step into our senior school laboratories and explore anatomy up close. Adding to the experience, our Year 12 Human Biology students took on the role of mentors, demonstrating their dissection skills and sharing the knowledge and techniques they have developed throughout their course.

It was wonderful to see so much curiosity, confidence and enthusiasm for science from our visiting students. They certainly weren't afraid to get involved!

A huge thank you to Mrs Bairstow and our Year 12 Human Biology students for generously sharing their time, knowledge and expertise to create such a memorable learning experience for these future students and scientists.



Physics in Motion: Year 12 Students Build Their Own Motors

Our Year 12 Physics students recently put their knowledge into action, designing and constructing their very own electric motors.

Each motor was unique, reflecting the creativity, problem-solving and persistence of its designer. Even better, every single motor worked!

The students then had the opportunity to share their creations and explain the science behind them with our neighbouring Year 10 APEX class. The session provided a fantastic opportunity for our senior students to showcase what they have learned while inspiring the next group of students who are about to begin their own ATAR journey.

It was a great example of learning extending beyond the classroom, as students not only applied their understanding of physics but also shared their knowledge and enthusiasm with others.



LEARNING AREAS

HASS

Term 3 has been a busy and engaging time for students across the Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) learning area, with a range of exciting learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom.

One of the highlights this term has been the development of our HASS Stairwell Mural Walls. Students and staff have contributed ideas and artwork that celebrate history, geography, civics, economics and the diverse cultures that shape our world. The mural has transformed the stairwell into a vibrant learning space and showcases the creativity and enthusiasm of our students while promoting the importance of HASS in understanding the past, present and future.

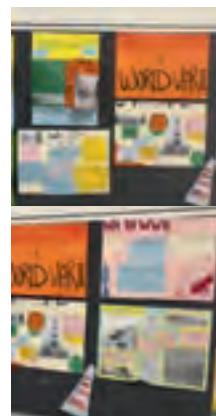
Students also had the privilege of hearing from Ms Kaylene Tomkins - guest speaker from Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders). The presentation provided valuable insights into the humanitarian work undertaken by medical professionals in areas affected by conflict, natural disasters and humanitarian crises around the world. Students were highly engaged and gained a deeper understanding of global citizenship, compassion, and the challenges faced by communities in need.



Our Year 10 History students have been investigating the causes, experiences and impacts of World War II. Through analysing historical sources, examining significant events and exploring personal stories from the war, students have developed their historical inquiry and critical thinking skills while gaining a greater appreciation of how this conflict shaped the modern world.

Meanwhile, our Year 8 and Year 9 Civics and Citizenship students have been learning about Australia's democratic system, the role of government, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. Through class discussions and inquiry activities, students have explored how individuals can participate in civic life and contribute positively to their communities.

We are proud of the curiosity, creativity and commitment our students continue to demonstrate across all HASS subjects. We look forward to sharing more of their achievements in Term 4. There will be exciting opportunities to look at and taste BUGS.... Watch this space!



ARTS

Geraldton Music Festival

Our school ensembles performed at the 2026 Geraldton Music Festival, held at Geraldton Grammar School. The Concert Band, Jazz Band, Rock Band, Guitar Ensemble and Vocal Ensemble all took part across the festival, showcasing the talent and dedication of our students. Students also had the opportunity to nominate themselves for solo and small ensemble performances, providing further opportunities to perform and develop their confidence as musicians. The festival featured professional musician Ms Rebecca Guy as the primary adjudicator, providing students with valuable performance and feedback experiences.

Our students achieved some fantastic results across the festival.

Ensembles

Distinction

- GSHS Guitar Ensemble
- GSHS Rock Band – Yeah Nah Yeah
- Combined Schools (CBSHS & GSHS) Vocal Ensemble
- Baby Swing Band (CBSHS & GSHS)
- 50c Swing Band(CBSHS & GSHS)

Merit

- Combined Schools (CBSHS & GSHS) Concert Band

Small Ensemble and Solo Performances

High Distinction

- Jasmine Year 11
- Julian Year 11

Distinction

- Jorja, Averley, Ella and Zahlee - Year 8, 8, 9, 7
- Royce & Lucas - Year 7
- Liam & Charlie - Year 10
- Millie-Ann & Molly - Year 8
- Millie-Ann – Solo - Year 8

A special thank you to our instrumental music team — Mrs Anne Williams, Mrs Alida Wright, Mr Josh Crothers and Mrs Leonie Courtney — for their work preparing students and directing ensembles throughout the festival.



Concert Band Camp to Perth - ABODA Senior Schools Music Festival

Our Combined Schools Concert Band travelled to Perth for an exciting four-day band camp, culminating in a performance at the ABODA WA Schools Senior Band Festival. The camp provided students with an opportunity to develop their musical skills, strengthen their ensemble playing and build connections as a group. Students also enjoyed a range of educational and team-building experiences, including attending a concert at Winthrop Hall, visiting the new WAAPA facility and participating in activities around Perth.

Thank you to Mrs Anne Williams for her extensive organisational work in preparing for the camp, Mr Josh Crothers for his support throughout the trip, and Mrs Jessica Swift for conducting the group at the ABODA festival performance.



LEARNING AREAS



IMSS Primary Schools Tour

During Week 10 of Term 3, from Monday to Wednesday, our talented music students took their performances on the road as part of the IMSS Primary Schools Tour. The Guitar Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble, Rock Band and Concert Band visited Walkaway Primary School, Waggrakine Primary School, Bluff Point Primary School, Wandina Primary School, Allendale Primary School, Rangeway Primary School, Geraldton Primary School, Mt Tarcoola Primary School and Beachlands Primary School, delivering an exciting program of music to students across the Midwest. The tour provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to share their musical talents with younger students and showcase the wide range of performing arts opportunities available at Geraldton SHS. Thank you once again to our instrumental music staff team for their work preparing the ensembles and supporting students throughout the tour.

Drama Club Performance - "The Cure to Die For"

Drama Club students brought their student-led production, "*The Cure to Die For*", to life with an interactive murder mystery performance for members of the school community. The production

was written by our Year 9 and 10 Drama students, with set design, blocking and almost all creative decisions coming directly from our Year 7 to 10 Drama students and members of the cast. Millie-Ann, a Year 8 student, also took on the role of co-director alongside Mrs Jessica Swift, providing an excellent example of student leadership and creative ownership.

Students worked collaboratively throughout the production process, taking on a wide range of creative and performance roles. The interactive performance challenged audience members to become the jury and decide who they believed was responsible for the mystery, providing an entertaining and engaging showcase of the students' creativity, teamwork, leadership and developing drama skills.

A special thank you to Mrs Katie Hood for creating the case files and organising photography students, including Joshua (Year 10), to photograph the cast. Thank you also to Mrs Carly Grey for her assistance with costumes and dress rehearsals in the lead-up to the performance. Their support helped bring the students' vision for the production to life.



Visual Arts

Genesis Art Exhibition

Congratulations to the Geraldton SHS students whose artworks were selected for inclusion in the 2026 Genesis Art Exhibition. The exhibition showcases selected artworks from high schools across Geraldton and provides our students with an exciting opportunity to have their work displayed at the Geraldton Regional Art Gallery (GRAG).

This year, 18 student artworks were selected, with students working across a variety of media including foam print, digital print, acrylic paint, charcoal, lead, Posca pens and ceramics. The diverse range of artworks reflected the creativity and skill of our Visual Arts students across Years 7 to 12. Congratulations to all our participating students on this wonderful achievement and the opportunity to exhibit their work in such a special gallery.

The exhibition will open on Friday 27 November and continue throughout the summer holidays until 7 February 2027.

A special thank you to Mr Luke Basset-Scarfe and Mr Michael Thomas for their work in preparing students and submitting their artworks for consideration.



Genesis Art Exhibition – Geraldton SHS Entries

Year | Student | Artwork

Year 12 | Violet | The Great Australian Dream

Year 12 | Hannah | Sand Goanna

Year 12 | Kirbi | 60 Series

Year 12 | Kemani | Icon

Year 12 | Chelsea | MILO: Coastal Edition

Year 11 | Jazmin | A Lullaby in Indigo

Year 11 | Evie | Scream

Year 11 | Ashaz | Self Portrait

Year 11 | Dhexie | Self Portrait

Year 11 | Mikayla | Anatomy 1 & 2

Year 8 | Tahl | KJU Pop

Year 8 | Emily | Gorilla Face

Year 8 | Jay | Gorilla Face

Year 7 | Chase | Coral Trout

Year 7 | Bodhi | Untitled

Year 10 | Suzie | Finger

Year 10 | Bella | Savages

Year 10 | Layung | Catching Fish



LEARNING AREAS

ACADEMIC PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE (APEX)

History, Science and the Midwest in Action

It has been an exciting term for our APEX students, with opportunities to take their learning beyond the classroom and engage with history, science and the unique environment of the Midwest.

Two of our students have produced outstanding entries for the National History Challenge. Alexis, Year 10, created a compelling non-fiction narrative exploring the daring escape of the Fenians from Fremantle Prison, bringing this fascinating chapter of Western Australian history to life through storytelling and historical research. Jessica, Year 10, created a documentary investigating the Spy Base and its unique relationship with the Geraldton community, exploring its role in wartime Australia, intelligence and espionage. Both students have earned bronze awards for their entries and are well placed heading into the State judging. We wish Alexis and Jessica the very best as their work progresses!

Year 8 APEX: From sand to science

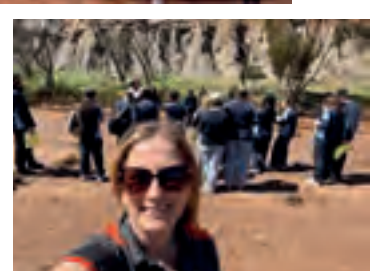
Our Year 8 APEX students put their geological knowledge into practice with a visit to Sunset Beach, where they went hunting for Heavy Mineral Sands, including garnet, ilmenite and zircon. Their investigation continued at the Iluka Narngulu Separation Plant, where students attended a safety briefing before touring the site and laboratory with a senior chemist. It was a fantastic opportunity to see how the science they learn in the classroom connects directly to industry. From minerals in the sand to sophisticated separation processes in the laboratory, students were able to see science in action!

Year 9 APEX: Rocks, fossils and wildflowers

Year 9 APEX travelled to Coalseam Conservation Park to investigate the geological history of our region. Students explored evidence of plate tectonics and millions of years of deposition while hunting for examples of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks, as well as fossils.

We also channelled our inner naturalists, studying the remarkable wildflowers of the Midwest and examining the physical adaptations that allow plants to survive in our harsh, arid environment.

These experiences are at the heart of APEX and CoRE Learning Foundation: learning by investigating, questioning and experiencing the world around us.



ENGLISH

The English team always enjoy Term 3. Firstly, we celebrate our talented young writers of poetry and prose with their invitation to attend the Randolph Stow Writing Awards held at the Queens Park Theatre on the 27 August. This is a prestigious Midwest-Gascoyne competition, honouring the literary legacy of Geraldton born author, "Randolph Stow". A big thank you to all students who entered their writing and our English team for their belief that every student's voice is important.

Congratulations to Geraldton Senior High School Award Winners

Year 7 - Ashlee - 3rd Place - Lower Secondary Poetry

Year 8 - Emily - 2nd Place - Lower Secondary Prose

Year 9 - Louise - 3rd Place - Middle Secondary Prose

Year 9 - Josephine - Highly Commended

Year 9 - Tienne - Highly Commended

Year 10 - Zephayah - 2nd Place - Middle Secondary Poetry

Year 10 - Aloka - 3rd Place - Middle Secondary Prose



The Place I'm From

Third Place: Ashlee, Year 7 – Geraldton SHS

*I'm from the weaving trees
That'll never leave*

*I'm from my creaking bed
From the meals I'm fed*

*I'm from the long nights
That turn into sleepless times*

*I'm from the bright street lights
From those noisy nights*

*I'm from a baking kitchen
From a banquet of dishes*

*I'm from shoulders back
From do not slack*

*I'm from the scent of the seas
From the howling sea breeze*

*I'm from the traffic as loud as a band
From an up and down land*

*I'm from the strength of the breeze
I'm from the rustle of the leaves*

The place I'm from

LEARNING AREAS

My Country – Barrapunta

Second Place: Zephayah, Year 10 – Geraldton SHS

I see my homeland Emu Springs – ‘Barrapunta’

The old houses and school where my Jaja grew up

I can hear the buffalo calling out to his herd as they are running through the grass

The thudding of their feet as they stampede

I feel the strong wind flowing through us as the ancestors greet us saying, “Welcome back home my people”

When we come back to our country we call out to our ancestors in our language

I feel the grass on my bare feet, and I love when I dip my hand in the warm waters of the Billabong.

In the wet season we go fishing, we see the turtles and fish eating the figs, falling from the trees

The women chop down the red gum tree to use as mats to sit on

The young girls go fishing near the waterfalls, catching long necked turtles, yabbies and barramundi

In the dry season we go out hunting, snake, goanna, frill necked lizard, and kangaroo

I love the taste of the kangaroo, the juices taste sticky, meat soft, falls apart in my mouth

The damper, fresh from the fire, warm with peanut butter and jam, I dipped in my tea

I can smell bush medicine, the Eucalyptus trees we use it for if you are sick

The smoke signalling to our family where we are

I feel sad for being away for so many years but,

I see my family again and am happy to have a good yarn with them

I feel so close to my family when we go out camping under the stars

Telling stories around the campfire,

I love my homeland, Barrapunta

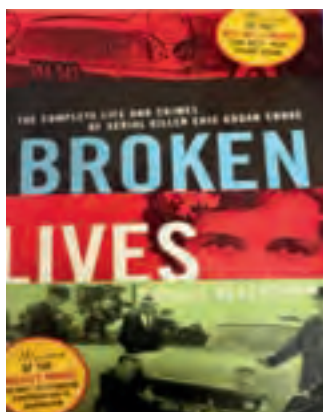
Year 8 and 9 English

Geraldton SHS is committed to the development of Quality Teaching and Mrs Gilmore has been demonstrating the value of student accountability with her use of whiteboards.

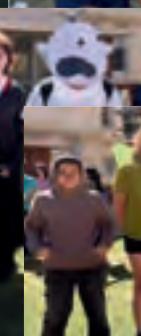
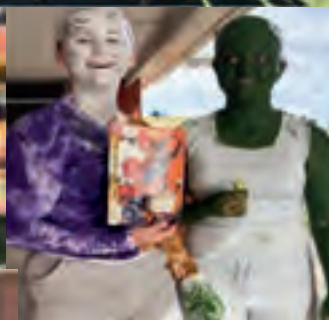


Book Week

It was fabulous to see the enthusiasm of so many students celebrating Book Week. The 2026 theme “Symphony of Stories” provided for a wide range of genres to be represented in the wearing of character costumes. There were some outstanding efforts made by staff and students. We really appreciated everyone’s participation and look forward to next year’s being bigger and even better.



Hanna - Year 12 - Book Week – Dress up Day but still having to complete an assessment.



LEARNING AREAS

Year 12 ATAR English

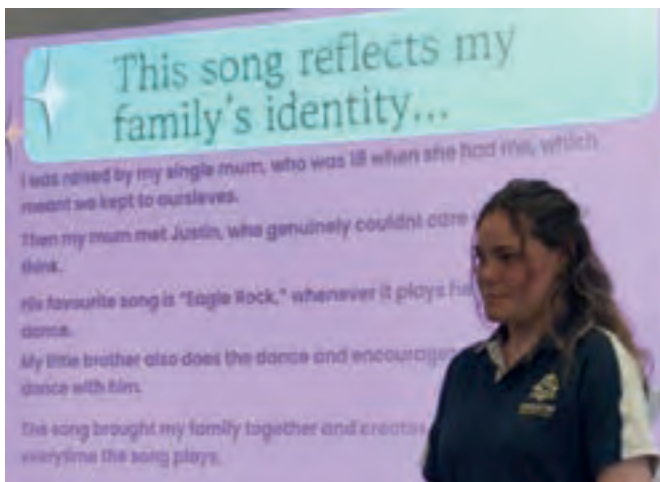
Through Estelle Blackburn's investigative journalism, Year 12 ATAR students studied Broken Lives, Archie Weller's short story 'Stolen Car' and Judah Waten's short story 'The Knife'.

These texts illustrate the concept of perspective – how content, structure, voice and narrative point of view carry attitudes and values, how the context of production differs from the context of reception, and how a text's omissions matter as much as its inclusions



Mrs Stone we will miss you!

Year 12 General English



Chloe - Year 12

Year 11 ATAR English

To complete their analysis and study of the novella Montana 1948 written by Larry Watson, students produced a multi-modal task for assessment. Firstly, this required a visual representation illustrating the theme or themes that resonated most with them. A script was then written to explain their ideas with textual evidence to substantiate their critical thinking. Students delivered their finished work in a vlog format. The quality of work and perspectives presented showcased high student engagement in this richly rewarding task.



Dion - Year 11

Keith - Year 11



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Athletics Carnival 2026

What a fantastic day at our 2026 Athletics Carnival! With beautiful weather and an incredible level of participation, it was great to see so many students getting involved, giving events a go and supporting their houses throughout the day.

Huge congratulations to **Mimosa Marlu**, who claimed the House Shield for an incredible fifth consecutive year! Their consistency, enthusiasm and participation across the carnival were outstanding.

Well done to all students for making the day such a success and a big thank you to our staff, students and families for their support. It was fantastic to see our school community come together for such a positive and energetic day of athletics!



GERALDTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2026

What an outstanding day of participation, sportsmanship and house spirit! Congratulations to **Mimosa House**, our 2026 Athletics Carnival champions, finishing ahead of Vega, Atlas and Sirius. Congratulations also to all students who gave their best and proudly represented their houses.

HOUSE SHIELD RESULTS

1		MIMOSA 1547 points
2		VEGA 1255 points
3		ATLAS 1039 points
4		SIRIUS 946 points

YEAR CHAMPIONS

Year 7:	Isla (S) & Ernie (A)
Year 8:	Nazalima (V) & Darnell (S)
Year 9:	Alexis (V) & Shaan (V)
Year 10:	Kiera (A) & Trey (M)
Year 11:	Halo (V) & Bodhi (M)
Year 12:	Shathon (M) & JJ (M)

HOUSE SPIRIT AWARD WINNERS

Atlas: Madli & Alex	Mimosa: Mohamed & Melody	Sirius: Kale & Jorja	Vega: Elough & Wiley
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OVERALL HOUSE SPIRIT WINNER

 **Marcus**

Thank you to Miss Sellers and our PE team for their incredible planning and hard work in making this such a successful event.
Thank you to our students for their energy, enthusiasm and school pride!

WELL DONE, GSHS!



LEARNING AREAS



COUNTRY WEEK

We would like to start by thanking the staff who put in their time to train, coach, and transport the country week cohort to and from Perth. Mr Hadley-Rudolph, Mr Parsons, Mr Robinson, Miss Boni and of course Miss Sellers, we want to extend another thank you for your unwavering support and effort in making it one of the most enjoyable and unforgettable experiences of the school year.

We would also like to once again congratulate all the athletes who participated in their sports during the week. You should all be very proud of yourselves and your teammates for the outstanding results that we have produced for our school. Not to mention our amazing managers Emma, Flynn, Miles, Kiarna-Faye and Abbey, who gave their support and used their organisational skills to help the week run smoothly.

Across the week, Geraldton SHS took to Perth four sports teams including a boys' basketball team, coached by Mr Hadley-Rudolph, a girls' netball team coached by Miss Boni, a boys' volleyball team, coached by Mr Robinson and lastly a girls' volleyball team, coached by Mr Parsons.

We would also like to acknowledge the amazing sporting talent we brought to country week, and share the significant results we achieved each day.

The girls netball team held their foot on the gas to produce an undefeated streak for the second year in a row, while also moving up two grades! The girls fuelled themselves throughout the week with a ginormous container of candy salad, said to have been the driving force behind their victory.

Well done once again, girls.

Our boys' basketball had similar results with a 2-loss series, while also moving up to C grade, competing against two home teams in Champion Bay and Geraldton Christian College. The boys held up well to defeat Geraldton Christian College later in the week, but had a close loss to Champion Bay on the first day. With wins against numerous Southern WA schools, the boys had made it to the big dance against Champion Bay Senior High School. The boys ended the week with a grand final win to seal the deal, Nathaniel shooting a winning three pointer to end the game with a four-point lead. Excellent effort boys.

Boys' Volleyball, after moving up two whole grades this year, presented their strong team cohesion and skills to the opposing schools. They played out the week with strong support from all teams, especially the girls' volleyball, who had players leaving the arena with damaged vocal cords by the end of the week.

Along with this, cardboard cut-outs of the volleyball girls' and boys' faces in Snapchat filters, created by Shathea, JJ and Nate, had made cheering all the more enjoyable. The boys ended the tournament in third place with a close 2-1 set game against Australind. Congratulations again boys.

Lastly, our girls' volleyball, with a loss on the first day and some recovery time in the freezing hotel pool, they were feeling beaten. However, the next day the girls organised a cunning rotation that would strategically dominate over the course of the week. Each game the girls' chemistry and skill brought set after set, including a close win against Champion Bay. The girls volleyball ended in a grand final win against Hope Christian College in a 2-0 set game. Excellent effort girls.



LEARNING AREAS

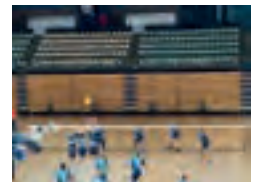
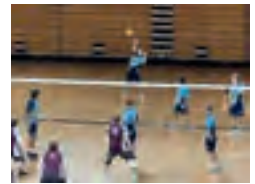
Across the board, Geraldton SHS had totalled three out of four first-place plaques for the week, symbolising our efforts, outstanding talent, and teamwork. But it wasn't always about winning. Country Week is the opportunity to build friendships with other students that you may have never spoken to, the opportunity to make your teammates feel confident as you cheer them on from the sidelines, to feel valued in a team and to be there to support them if they have a loss.

We want to promote Country Week as a vessel for students to feel included, valued and supported, all while having fun playing sport with your mates and a bonus of late night UNO in the hallways. We also would like to promote the opportunities for future leaders who can pursue the same values and expectations that we as captains, and many previous leaders have had the privilege to uphold.

So, we invite you to sign up next year to Country Week 2027, where the opportunity for a wider range of sporting teams can be entered and a chance for you to represent our school. The more students, the better.

We have enjoyed the honour of being your Country Week captains for 2026 and wish you all the best for 2027.

Written by Country Week Captains, Hayley and James.



Founders Day Games 2026

Geraldton SHS recently celebrated Founders Day 2026, with students coming together for an action-packed afternoon of competition, teamwork and house spirit!

Students competed across a range of activities, including Buroinjin, rounders, netball and ultimate frisbee, demonstrating fantastic enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the day.

The competition between the four houses was fierce, but once again Vega Bungarra came out on top, claiming the Founders Day Games title for an incredible third year in a row!

Congratulations to all students who participated and represented their houses with pride throughout the afternoon. Huge congratulations to **Vega Bungarra**, our Founders Day Games Champions for 2026!



Girls AFL Carnival

On Thursday 30 July, 19 of our Year 10 girls took the field at the annual All Girls Fremantle Dockers Secondary School Lightning Carnival. The girls demonstrated fantastic teamwork, enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the day, competing against schools across Geraldton. It was a great opportunity for our students to develop their skills, challenge themselves and enjoy playing alongside their peers. They finished the carnival strongly, securing an impressive 50-point win in their final game. While they narrowly missed out on taking home the trophy, the girls finished the carnival as runners-up, an outstanding achievement. We would also like to extend a special thank you to our Year 12 helpers, Shathea and Hayley, for their valuable support throughout the day, as well as to the parents who came along to cheer on and support the girls.

We hope to get the trophy next year!

Miss Carrigg and Mr Parsons



LEARNING AREAS

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGIES

A few things happening in Mr Hann's workshops lately.

In the last weeks of Term 2, Jupps Flooring generously donated some commercial vinyl flooring remnants to Geraldton SHS for the purpose of resurfacing the woodwork benches.

The benches were in need of some TLC and after several weeks of working around other classes, the last benchtop was finally finished in Week 4 of Term 3. All vices were given new jaws and a bit of attention and the result gives both rooms a degree of appeal. Mr Clarke, the now retired former Head of Technologies, said he was shocked to see it looking so good and that it gave him a real lift as soon as he walked in.

New benchtops and tuned vices mean better ease of use and improved results for all students and teachers. Hopefully for a long time!



Also, the Building and Construction class have been working on a bridge engineering challenge. They are given thin strips of pine, nails and thin aluminium sheet and a set of rules which force them to design and build a bridge using the minimum amount of material.

Students research roof trusses and bridge styles before drawing plans for and then building their bridge to span a 600 mm gap.

Then the real fun happens. The students each predict what weight each bridge will be able to hold. We hang a milk crate from the bridge and gradually (and carefully) add weight to the milk crate until the bridge collapses with great drama! Building and Destruction!

What more could you want?



LEARNING AREAS

Fashion & Textiles

Another fantastic term is underway in the textiles room, with students embracing creativity, developing new skills and bringing their ideas to life!

Our Year 9 students have designed and created their own tie-dye printed cushions, showcasing their creativity while developing their sewing skills. They have also demonstrated excellent knowledge and confidence with the sewing machines by successfully completing their sewing machine driving tests!



Our Year 10 Fashion and Textiles students have been learning how to sew pockets and casings while creating their own drawstring bags. They are now embarking on their Textile Art projects, where creativity is flourishing through embroidery, beadwork and a range of exciting textile techniques.

In Year 10 Childcare, students have been having lots of fun creating adorable animal baby rattles and personalised soft toys, while exploring the possibilities of our computerised embroidery machine.





Following on from their fantastic garment-making achievements last term, our Year 11 students have been designing colourful educational toys and completing their research portfolios. They have now begun production, and we are excited to see their creative ideas come to life!

The textiles room has also been a hive of activity during recess and lunchtime, with students working on personal projects, including mending and upcycling garments. A special shout-out goes to Year 8 student, Ash, who took on a crash course in dressmaking over many lunchtimes and created the most stunning dress for a concert!

If you have an idea you'd love to create, repair, customise or bring to life, come and see Mrs Gray in 6.2!



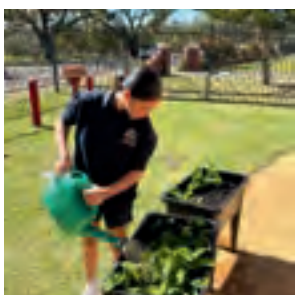
PROGRAMS AND VET

WALUGURRA (WW)

WALGAMANYULU

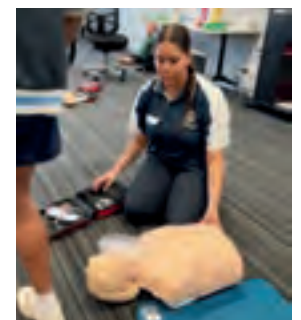
ASDAN - Horticulture

It has been a busy start to Term 3 for the WW Girls. With the mild winter this year providing perfect growing conditions, the girls have seen a recent flourish in the vegetable garden they started back in Term 2. With an abundance of fresh produce ready to harvest, the girls decided it was the perfect opportunity to put their garden produce to good use. Using silver beet, spinach and parsley from the garden, they prepared a delicious spinach and semi-sundried tomato pasta, putting their fresh produce to use while developing their cooking and food preparation skills.



First Aid Training

Our Year 12 students have also had a busy start to Term 3, completing their Provide First Aid course at St John Ambulance in Week 6. The course forms an important component of their Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways, giving students the opportunity to develop valuable first aid knowledge and practical skills that can be applied in both the workplace and everyday situations. It was a great opportunity for the students to build their confidence and gain a nationally recognised qualification as part of their studies.



Museum Visit

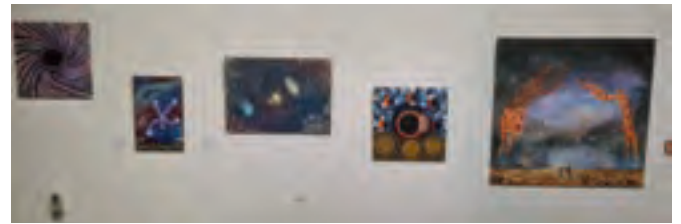
In Week 3 of Term 3, the Year 11 and Year 12 WW ladies were lucky enough to explore the collaborative exhibition being held at the Museum of Geraldton named, Cosmic Echoes:

A Shared Sky Indigenous Art Exhibition. Cosmic Echoes brings together under one sky Australian and South African artists in a collaborative exhibition, stemming from a vision by the SKAO and its partners, CSIRO and the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory.



Students were able to look through the artworks and many recognised familiar family names of local artists who contributed to the exhibition including Noeleen Hamlett, Gail Roses Simpson, Carleen Dingo, and Susan Merry. Many of the artworks depicted adaptations of the night skies, stars, and local Dreamtime stories including the Seven Sisters and The Emu in the Sky.

It was a beautiful way to learn about Indigenous knowledge of Country and a wonderful way to see stories come to life through the magnificent artworks on display.



Final Year 12 Classwork

Students have been working hard in both EALD General and Foundation Mathematics, especially our Year 12s as they move towards the final few weeks of their schooling career.

Our Year 12s have been busy creating brochures or infographic posters on current environmental issues that are important to them and researching ways in which we can work together to reduce the impact of these global issues.

They are also in the midst of finishing off their final tasks ever, exploring how Indigenous knowledge and practices for managing Country can benefit and bring our communities closer together.

Lastly, students are creating a reflection poster that symbolises their journey as a young person about to head off into the next chapter of their lives in this changing world.

Students are using images, symbols, colours, quotes, and more to represent the people, places, and objects that have helped to shape who they are today and guide their hopes, dreams, and concerns for their futures.



PROGRAMS AND VET

Follow The Dream

Term 3 has seen some amazing results born from the hard work of our dedicated students that regularly attend our morning and afternoon Follow The Dream sessions.

Our tutors have had the pleasure of supporting Year 10 student Zephayah in entering her beautiful poem into the prestigious Randolph Stow Young Writers Award.

To be nominated for an award is amazing in and of itself, but for Zephayah, the awards night held so much more.

With a huge smile on her face when her name was called out, Zephayah made her way up onto stage in front of a huge crowd to receive her 2nd place prize and well-deserved recognition of her poem. Congratulations on your hard work and beautifully written, heartfelt poem, *'My Country – Barrapunta'*.



Zephayah - Year 10

GIGAMAN GAWALA (GG)

Year 12 Students Gain Valuable Construction Industry Skills

This year, our Year 12 students have been building valuable skills and experience through participation in the Skill Set: Working Safely in Construction program at Central Regional TAFE.

Attending TAFE one day each week, the students successfully completed the course and obtained their White Card, an essential qualification required to work on construction sites across Australia. Throughout the program, they developed a strong understanding of workplace health and safety, hazard identification, risk management, and safe work practices within the construction industry.

Their experience provided an excellent opportunity to learn carpentry in a practical environment while exploring potential career pathways in the trades and construction sectors.

A special thank you goes to Mr Jason Henderson, AIEO, whose outstanding mentorship, guidance, and encouragement supported the students' success throughout the program. His commitment to helping students achieve their goals has been greatly appreciated.

Congratulations on this achievement and taking an important step towards future career opportunities in the construction industry. We look forward to seeing what comes next.

Student Leadership

Our House Captains have done an amazing job bringing energy, enthusiasm and house spirit to this year's Athletics Carnival. In the lead-up to the event, all captains helped create promotional videos to encourage students to get involved, wear their house colours and support their team. On the day, they continued to lead from the front by helping with set-up, encouraging participation, supporting competitors and keeping the house spirit high throughout the carnival.

Huge congratulations to all our House Captains for the effort and enthusiasm they have shown. They have done a fantastic job hyping up their houses and encouraging students to get involved.

Special congratulations to Mimosa House Captains JJ and Shatheia, who finished the carnival by bringing the win home for Mimosa! A fantastic achievement and a great way to celebrate all the effort and house spirit shown throughout the day.

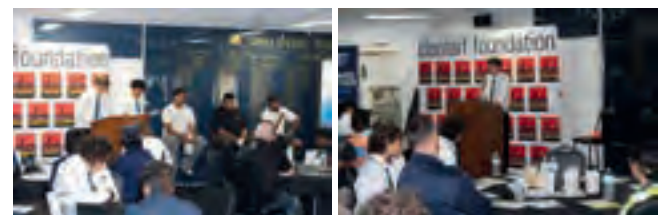
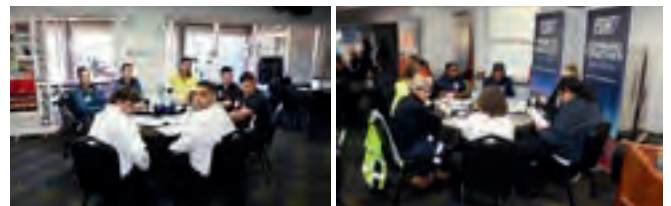
Next, our focus turns to the 2027 student leaders. Nominations will soon open for our current Year 11 students to put themselves forward for School and House Captain positions. Our current leaders will be involved in this process, sharing their experiences before eventually passing their roles on to the 2027 leaders. We look forward to seeing the next group of students step up and continue the fantastic work of our current House Captains.



CLONTARF ACADEMY

Geraldton Employment Forum

The Clontarf Foundation hosted the Geraldton Employment Forum at Spalding Park Golf Club to support our senior students in their transition to work. Year 10,11 and 12 Clontarf Academy students met with 20 employers from the education, mining, retail, logistics and construction industries. The day gave the boys an opportunity to discover new careers and talk to employers about job opportunities and pathways to employment.



PROGRAMS AND VET

VOCATIONAL INDIVIDUALISED PROGRAM (VIP)

Students Build Their Job-Ready Skills

Students in the Vocational Individualised Program (VIP) have been focusing on developing important employment skills by updating their resumes and preparing cover letters for future opportunities.

As part of this work, students have reviewed their resumes to make sure their skills, experience and achievements are clearly presented and up to date. They have also been learning how to adjust their cover letters depending on the opportunity they are applying for.

Rather than using the same cover letter for every application, students have been practising how to reformat and revise their writing to suit different pathways, including TAFE courses, apprenticeships and employment opportunities. This has involved identifying the skills and qualities employers or training providers may be looking for and explaining how their own experiences relate to the position.

These activities are helping students become more confident in presenting themselves professionally and understanding that a strong application should be tailored to the specific job, course or organisation.

The work being completed in VIP is giving students practical skills they can use beyond the classroom as they begin preparing for further training, apprenticeships and future employment.



STARS FOUNDATION

This term has been an incredibly busy and rewarding one for everyone at STARS. We have had a term filled with opportunities for our members to learn, connect, build confidence, celebrate culture, and strengthen their engagement with school and their futures.

Throughout the term, we have held some amazing Team Time sessions across all year groups, providing our members with opportunities to come together, build relationships, participate in meaningful activities and strengthen their connection to the STARS program.

We have also celebrated and participated in a range of important school and community events, including Founders Day, Health Checks, Book Week, NAIDOC Week, Women's Health Week, the school carnival, and Year 9 and Year 11 camps.

Women's Health Week

For Women's Health Week, STARS hosted a delicious and healthy breakfast for our members. This provided an informal and relaxed opportunity to talk with the girls about the importance of prioritising their health and wellbeing, while also providing age-appropriate information and conversations around women's health.

It was a wonderful opportunity to remind our members that looking after themselves and making healthy choices is an important part of their overall wellbeing and future success.

Attendance and Engagement

This term, we also implemented rewards for high attendance and improvements in attendance, with the aim of recognising and encouraging students who are making positive changes.

We have been particularly pleased to see a significant improvement in attendance among our targeted students. Recognising small improvements and celebrating student success has helped to encourage greater motivation and engagement, and we will continue to build on this work throughout the remainder of the year.

NAIDOC Week

We were extremely proud and excited to participate in a very successful NAIDOC Week. This was a particularly meaningful time for STARS, as it provided us with the opportunity to share our culture with the wider school community and celebrate Aboriginal culture, history, identity and achievements.

Our members were proud to participate and contribute to the celebrations, and it was wonderful to see our culture being recognised and celebrated throughout the school.

School Carnival

The school carnival was another highlight of the term. We noticed a significant increase in engagement and participation from our STARS members compared with previous years.

The girls embraced the day, participated enthusiastically and gave everything they had. It was fantastic to see so many of our members getting involved, supporting one another and proudly representing themselves and STARS.



PROGRAMS AND VET

STARS Futures Forum – Term Highlight

While we have had many wonderful experiences this term, by far our biggest highlight was the STARS Futures Forum.

Our STARS Year 11 and 12 students attended the Futures Forum at TAFE, where they had the opportunity to connect with 11 different partners and organisations representing a wide range of employment, training, education and career pathway opportunities.

The purpose of the forum was to expose our students to potential future pathways and encourage meaningful conversations with prospective employers and industry representatives. Throughout the day, the girls visited each stall, asked questions, discussed their career interests and explored opportunities that aligned with their future goals.

One of the most significant outcomes of the event was the confidence displayed by our students. Many of the girls demonstrated a level of self-assurance that we had not seen before. In the lead-up to the forum, several students expressed feelings of nervousness, shyness and anxiety about speaking with employers. However, once the event began, they embraced the opportunity and engaged in genuine and respectful conversations with the stallholders.

We were incredibly proud of the way our members conducted themselves. They communicated confidently, asked thoughtful questions and presented themselves in a professional manner. The growth in their confidence and interpersonal skills was evident throughout the day and was a real highlight for STARS staff.

The feedback from participating organisations was overwhelmingly positive. Employers were

extremely impressed with the girls' attitudes, engagement and willingness to learn about future opportunities. Several representatives commented on how well the students interacted with adults and how refreshing it was to see young people taking such an active interest in their future careers.

A number of employers expressed genuine interest in students who submitted their names and resumes, with some indicating that they looked forward to the possibility of employing these young women in the future.

Most importantly, several of our girls have since gained employment directly through connections made at the Futures Forum. This is an incredible outcome and demonstrates just how valuable it is to provide our students with direct access to local employers and organisations.

For STARS, hosting a local Futures Forum is particularly valuable because it allows our members to explore opportunities that are available within their own community. It enables students to build local networks, meet potential employers face-to-face and see that meaningful employment and career pathways are available right here in our region.

The Futures Forum was an outstanding success and provided our Year 11 and 12 members with valuable exposure to employment, education and career pathways. Most importantly, it allowed them to recognise their own potential and build confidence in speaking about their future aspirations.

We are incredibly proud of each of the girls for stepping outside their comfort zones and representing themselves, their families and the STARS program with such maturity and confidence.

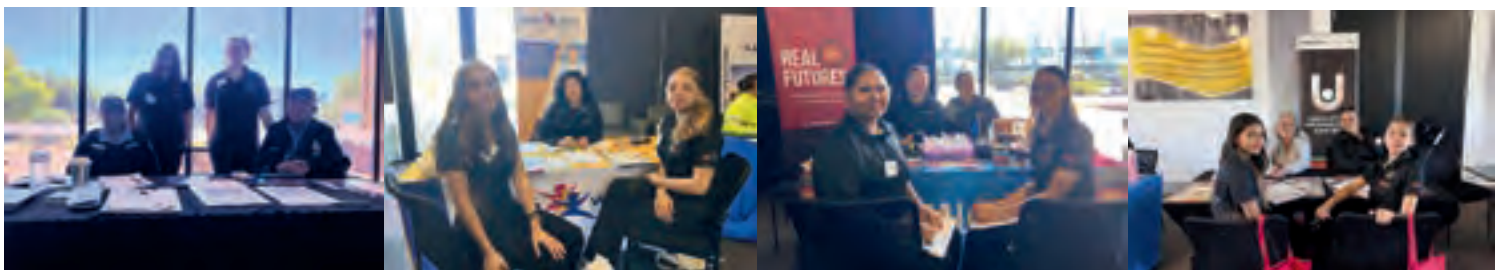
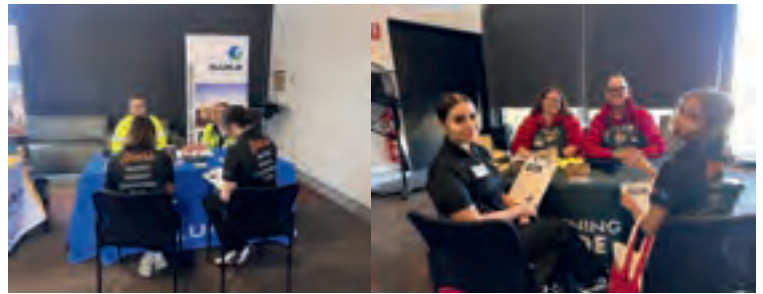


Looking Ahead

Overall, this has been a busy but incredibly rewarding term. From celebrating culture and participating in school events, to supporting attendance, encouraging healthy lifestyles and creating meaningful opportunities for our senior girls, we have seen some wonderful examples of growth across our STARS cohort.

The confidence, engagement and willingness to step outside their comfort zones that we have witnessed this term has made us incredibly proud. We look forward to continuing to support our members, celebrate their achievements and create opportunities that help them recognise their strengths and reach their full potential.

We would also like to sincerely thank all of our STARS partners, school staff, community organisations, employers and supporters for their continued commitment to our young women. Their time, encouragement and willingness to create opportunities for our members plays an important role in helping our girls build brighter futures.



PROGRAMS AND VET

LIGHTHOUSE

Our students in Lighthouse have been involved in celebrating R U OK? Day during Term 3. This important event encourages everyone to check in with family, friends and classmates, and reminds us that a simple conversation can make a big difference.

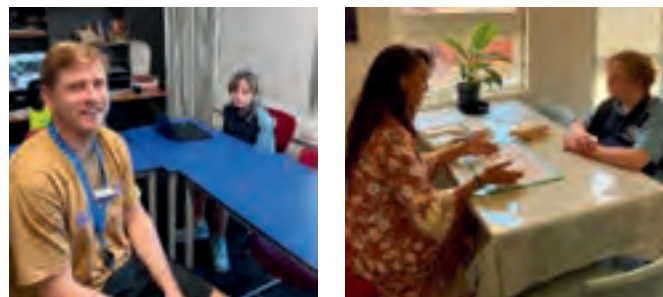
Throughout the week, students participated in a range of engaging activities designed to promote kindness, friendship, and wellbeing. They created a wall of conversation on the ways we can check in with our mates. We watched videos raising awareness on how to ask, “are you ok?” and groups of students found out more about others by playing conversation bingo!

These activities focussed on the importance of looking after ourselves and others, recognising when someone may need support, learning how to start a meaningful conversation, and building positive relationships and communication skills.

The students showed great enthusiasm for the activities, and we are very proud of their participation and the respectful way they embraced this important message.



LITERACY AND NUMERACY



Our students are developing their mathematical understanding through hands-on learning with Bond Blocks. These lessons provide a practical way for students to explore numbers and see mathematical concepts in action. Recently, students have been using the blocks to explore doubling, building equal groups and physically seeing how numbers combine.

Using concrete materials makes learning more meaningful and accessible, while also encouraging students to explain their thinking and build confidence in mathematics. It is wonderful to see students engaged, participating and developing their mathematical skills through practical learning experiences.

Our students have been working hard in MacqLit with our support staff Mr Daniel and Ms Cate. MacqLit provides structured, explicit literacy instruction that supports students to develop their reading skills, including phonics, decoding, fluency and comprehension.

It has been fantastic to see students engaging in their sessions, building confidence and developing their reading skills through regular practice and targeted support. Working closely with our support staff, students are encouraged to “have a go,” practise new skills and celebrate their progress. We are proud of the effort they are putting into their learning and look forward to seeing their continued growth in literacy.



GSHS WEBSITE



INSTAGRAM



FACEBOOK



Term 4 2026 Dates to Remember (Weeks 1-5)

All dates are subject to change without notice - please review updates regularly

12 Oct - Staff Development Day 13 Oct - Term 4 Commencement for Students 14 - 18 Oct - Y11-12 APSC 98 Invasion Field Trip 14 Oct - Y11-12 Outdoor Ed Camp 14 Oct - Y11-12 RAC Project Road Show (Blocks 1-2) 20 Oct - STARS Y11 Activity 20 Oct - STARS Y12 Team Time 20 Oct - GCA Y11-12 Dinner (Bullying) 21 - 23 Oct - Stars Y11 Camp 21 Oct - Y11-12 Lowest Assembly (Block 2) 21 Oct - Y11-12 Lowest Lunch 21 Oct - Y11-12 Lowest EOTF Lunch 22 Oct - Y11-12 SEN Transition 22 Oct - Y11-12 Swimming Tournament 22 Oct - GCA Y11-12 Activity 22 Oct - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 22 Oct - Y11-12 Volunteering Community (Y11-12) 24 Oct - Board Meeting 24 - 26 Oct - OLNA Y11-12 24 - 26 Oct - GCA Y11-12 Camp 26 Oct - P & C Meeting (5:00pm) 28 - 30 Oct - Y11-12 Outdoor Ed Camp 28 Oct - ATAR Events commence	28 Oct - SEN Transition Day 2027 Students 29 - 31 Nov - OLNA Y11-12 31 Nov - STARS Y11-12 Camp 1 Nov - GCA Y11-12 Activity 1 Nov - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 1 Nov - GCA Y11-12 Activity 1 Nov - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 1 Nov - Y11-12 Outdoor Pursuits Day Trip 1 - 13 Nov - Y11-12 SEN Transition 10 - 12 Nov - STARS Year 10 Camp - Perth 10 Nov - GCA Y11-12 Activity 10 Nov - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 10 Nov - Board Meeting (5:00pm) 10 Nov - Y11-12 Outdoor Pursuits Day Trip 11 Nov - Y11-12 Sign Off (Block 5) 11 Nov - GCA Awards Night (4:00pm) 12 Nov - SEN Transition Day 2027 Students 12 Nov - GCA Y11-12 Activity 12 Nov - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 12 Nov - Talent Show Final 13 Nov - Y11-12 Outdoor Pursuits Day Trip 13 Nov - PTD Y11-12 Lunch (Block 4-5)
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Forward Planning:
 Tuesday 12 October 2026 - Term 4 commences for students
 Thursday 12 December 2026 - Last Day for Students
 Friday 18 December 2026 - Staff Development Day

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Term 4 2026 Dates to Remember (Weeks 6-10)

16 - 20 Nov - Y11-12 ATAR 9-10s 17 Nov - Y11-12 Action Request Invasion (Block 1-2) 18 - 20 Nov - GCS Y11-12 Camp 18 Nov - Y11-12 Action Request Invasion (Block 1-2) 18 Nov - Y11-12 ASST TAFE Tour (Block 2) 20 Nov - Y11-12 Outdoor Pursuits Day Trip 1 23 - 27 Nov - GWA/KSWR Camp (selected students) 23 Nov - P&C Meeting (5:00pm) 24 - 27 Nov - STARS Y11-12 Thrust Friday Carnival (Event) 24 Nov - Y11-12 Transition Day 5 24 Nov - GCA Y11-12 Activity 24 Nov - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 24 Nov - WMS Sydney AGMC Ceremonies (5:00pm) 25 Nov - Y11-12 Music Students Workshop (Block 4-5) 26 Nov - GCA Y11-12 Activity 26 Nov - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 27 Nov - Y11-12 Outdoor Pursuits Day Trip 2 27 Nov - WKSU - 18 Days in WA (Y11-12 selected students) 27 Nov - Gateway AN Extension Opening Event 1 Dec - Y11-12 Transition Day 2 5 Dec - WMS Awards Night/Parent Information Evening	2 - 4 Dec - GCA Y11-12 Camp 2 Dec - STARS Y11-12 Commencement 3 Dec - APSC 98 Night at the Museum 3 Dec - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 8 Dec - GCA Y11-12 Activity 8 Dec - STARS Y11-12 Team Time 8 Dec - Board Meeting (5:00 pm - EOTF Dinner Meeting) 8 Dec - Music Concert (5:00pm Performance Arts Center) 10 - 13 Dec - GCA Y11-12 Camp 10 Dec - STARS Y11-12 Day Trip 11 Dec - Y11-12 Lighted 5-10km 12 Dec - APSC Y11-12 (Showdown (selected students)) 14 Dec - White School End of Year Assembly (Block 1) 14 Dec - APSC Y11-12 (Showdown (Y11-12)) 14 Dec - PTD Y11-12 End of Year Celebration 15 Dec - GCA Y11-12 Board Meeting 15 Dec - STARS Y11-12 Board Meeting 16 Dec - Y11-12 Good Standing Forward Day (Block 4-5) 17 Dec - Students Last Day
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Forward Planning:
 Thursday 17 December 2026 - Last Day for Students
 Friday 18 December 2026 - Staff Development Day

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Remember, Personal Electronic Devices:

Off and away all day,
from arrival at school until the end of the school day

This includes - mobile phones, smart watches, other electronic communication devices, handheld gaming devices and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to headphones and ear buds

We are responsible and wear our school uniform with pride.

See our website for more information
<https://geraldtonshs.wa.edu.au/parent-information/new-students/>

Uniform:
 School shirt with logo
 Navy shorts with GSHS embroidered on leg
 Enclosed shoes
 School jumper or jacket with logo



GERALDTON

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Learning Now, for the Future



19 Carson Terrace
PMB 10100
Geraldton WA 6530

P | 08 9965 8400
E | geraldton.shs@education.wa.edu.au
W | www.geraldtonshs.wa.edu.au