

Williamstown High School Newsletter

W-FILES

ISSUE 7 - 2021



Calendar

11 Nov	Remembrance Day	29 Nov	Year 9 examinations commence
15 Nov	Year 10 & 11 examinations commence	6 Dec	Year 10 Head Start commences
17 Nov	VCAA examinations end	14 Dec	Year 7 & 8 Celebration Assembly
22 Nov	Year 11 & 12 Head Start commences	15 Dec	Student reports available online
25 Nov	Chicago reopens	17 Dec	Last day of Term 4

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Principal Report

Welcome to this month's edition of the W-Files. Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic has been a constant over the past two years, however, it is quite exciting to now be emerging from the latest phase of restrictions. I sense that many of us have a greater appreciation for what we previously may have taken for granted - the excitement (perhaps even a little relief) a number of families experienced in seeing their children returning to school, the satisfaction staff demonstrated in seeing students return to their classrooms and the joyous reactions students themselves displayed in reconnecting with their friends and teachers.

All this has been missed and, I believe, is very much appreciated right now and perhaps warrants us all taking a moment or two to reflect and look forward to what lies ahead. It has also been particularly pleasing to see our Year 12 students commence their exams and, hopefully, look forward to finishing their secondary schooling with a formal and graduation. I have also been quite pleased and proud to hear our teachers talking about delivering a number of hands-on tasks, like new recipes, experiments or group tasks, in the remaining weeks of this term - activities we believe benefit greatly the student learning experience. Our Head Start program at the senior campus has also been extended to ensure our students are well prepared for 2022.

Following recent announcements from the government, we will be receiving air purifiers for our classrooms and grants for shading to increase opportunities for learning in outdoor classrooms. The tutoring initiative funded this year will also be continued for 2022, and for us that will result in five or six English and Mathematics tutors working across the college with a number of students and classes.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we are pleased to report we have successfully continued our work finalising student subject choices, campus timetables and staffing arrangements for the 2022 school year. It is this forward planning that enables us to launch into the new year in such an organised and smooth way.

New Uniform Item

We have continued to develop a new school jumper. Following feedback from 890 families and the creation of a jumper working party (with parent, student and staff representation), we have worked closely with our uniform supplier designers and are close to finalising a modern design for a new jumper. At present, options for a new colour and material are being considered. Both of these aspects are initiating many healthy discussions at the school council level and we will take the time to gather extensive information before we make a recommendation and seek further feedback. We are hoping this can be finalised by the end of this year.

Curriculum Day Update

Once again, we decided to postpone our curriculum day from 1 November to later this term to allow our students to return to their classes as soon as possible. We will discuss and communicate an alternative time, perhaps late November or early December, to ensure our staff experience the professional learning on literacy strategies for our Year 7-12 classes. The day will be student free and formal notification will be sent by the campus principals closer to the date.

Performing Arts and Study Centre Building Project

Despite restrictions being lifted, progress has been slowed and our architects are now indicating the project will not be completed this year. The Victorian School Building Authority continues to work with the architects and builders to ensure this project can be completed as early as possible but is also making sure no short cuts are being taken. The structural engineers are hoping to have all information in the near future to complete their recommendations. I will continue to provide updates through Term 4 via the W-Files.

Hold fast.

Gino Catalano | Principal

Bayview Campus Principal Report

After a number of weeks of a staggered return to the campus, I can honestly say that the joy of students reconnecting has given a real boost to energy levels across the campus. We will continue to have in place a number of restrictions even though we have all returned to campus from 1 November. We look forward to reimagining what life will look like together as a community.

As each year level returned on site, we dedicated time and resources to help rebuild any lost connections and boost the learning confidence of all students by running a series of wellbeing and engagement activities. From all accounts, this time was well received and was a wonderful launching pad to getting back to a sense of normality.

A return to school is an exciting and emotional time for students. They have been looking forward to seeing their friends, settling back into daily routines, and discovering what the “new normal” looks like. Consider the following set of tips for parents and carers when supporting your children and their return to on-site learning:

Be positive about returning to school

- Ask your child how they are feeling about returning to school. Your child may be feeling a mix of emotions about their return so it is important to listen to any concerns and respond in a calm, supportive and reassuring way.
- Promote positivity by asking what they like about school and what they are looking forward to.
- If they feel nervous or worried, help them understand this is a normal reaction, and that you and their teachers are there to support them.
- If your child has questions about COVID-19, provide factual and age-appropriate information. Let them know everyone at school is working hard so that everyone is safe.
- Consider limiting media content your child is viewing if it is contributing to worry or distress.
- Remind your child that everyone at school is working hard to make sure that everyone is safe and that anyone unwell will stay home.

Prepare yourself and your child for changes and new school procedures

- Look at the school website, Facebook page and newsletters to learn about new procedures that may have been introduced such as changes to parents’ access to the school grounds, drop off and pick up points, as well as new rules such as wearing face masks or hygiene protocols.
- Discuss these with your child and plan together how these changes will be managed. The more your child understands the changes, the more comfortable they are likely to feel.

Re-establish your routines

- Routines help provide certainty and increase feelings of security, so it will help to re-establish routines and plan for the return.
- Bring back the usual wake-up, bed, and breakfast routines. Set aside time to find school equipment and check uniforms and shoes still fit - your child may have grown. Give yourself enough time to organise replacements or a uniform alternative if needed.

At the end of the school day

- Talk to your child about their day and what they are looking forward to tomorrow.
- Provide opportunities for your child to play and relax after school. Returning to school may contribute to tired and emotional reactions at the end of the day.
- Help re-establish after-school routines to review the day’s learning and complete homework tasks.
- Consider having extra family time together as your child may have missed being at home with you.

Supporting your child

- Getting used to school routines again may take some time. Reassure your child that this is normal. Encourage them to ask for help if they need it.
- If they are finding things difficult, remind your child of times in the past when they were able to do difficult things and face situations that made them nervous or scared.
- If you are concerned about your child, seek support by contacting your child's homegroup teacher or Student Management Leader.

Update the school

- Let the school know of any concerns relating to your child that may impact their transition back to school. This will assist the school to work with you to plan and put in place appropriate support strategies.



World Teachers' Day is held internationally on 5 October and Victoria celebrated this day on Friday, 29 October, 2021. World Teachers' Day was a chance to recognise and celebrate the incredible contributions teachers made in Victorian communities. This year our teachers continued to show their resilience, leadership and adaptability throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. They adapted their learning environments, supported their students and continued to share their knowledge at such a challenging time for everyone.

World Teachers' Day is one small way for us to celebrate the teachers who are making, or have made, an impact on so many lives. There are many events and activities still to come before the end of the year and we are planning to do as many of them as we can. It will be sad to say goodbye to our current Year 9 students, who will be transitioning to the Pasco Campus, but on the flip side we certainly are looking forward to welcoming a new bunch of excited and optimistic Year 7 students in 2022.

Over the next six weeks the Bayview Campus will roll out: Selections for the 2022 Student Leadership Team; Year 9 exams; Year 7, 8 and 9 homegroup excursions; Year 9 graduation; Parent Information Night and statewide Orientation Day for new Year 7 student and their families; the Year 7 and 8 end-of-year program; Awards Assembly and the fabulous and famous Adventure Park expedition.

With not long to go, I look forward to celebrating what has been another challenging but successful year at the Bayview Campus. For now, we need to continue to work together, support and challenge each other each and every day.

Tamy Stublely | Campus Principal, Bayview Campus

Pasco Campus Principal Report

Welcome back to Term 4. It has been so pleasing to have our students back on site reconnecting with their peers and teachers. Our Year 12 students were the first cohort to return to school and I would like to take this opportunity to commend each and every student on the way in which they have approached the start of Term 4.

This year we had planned to take the Year 12 students off site to Funfields to celebrate the end of the year. Similar to last year, the students missed this key event and we understand how disheartening this was for our students. We continued on and did what we could to celebrate the end of Year 12 and our students approached this in such a positive manner. We can't thank the students enough for their understanding throughout this period. We are looking forward with optimism in relation to the Year 12 formal and graduation. And whilst we don't yet have specific guidelines for either event, at this stage we are planning for both to go ahead.

Our Year 12 VCE students then headed into the first exam on Wednesday, 27 October, and there was definitely some nervous energy evident prior to the exam. We had a team of staff there to support our students and wish them luck as they headed into the exam. We were also there, however, to thank them for their efforts throughout this period as they had worked so hard under challenging circumstances.

To the class of 2021, we thank you for everything you have contributed to our school and I look forward to thanking you in person at our end-of-year events. In the meantime, our parents/carers and staff should be very proud of our students in the way in which they have accepted the challenges that have been presented. All students have continued to strive to be the best versions of themselves throughout the past two years and we should continue to acknowledge this right up until graduation at the end of the year.

Our Year 10 and 11 students have commenced their return to on-site learning and, having visited some of the classes, it is as much about reconnecting with their peers and teachers as it is about focusing on the learning at hand. There is a real sense of excitement as students have received their subject offerings for next year and I have had many discussions with students who are genuinely looking forward to their time at school.

Year 10 and 11 students are in the midst of finalising their assessment as we head into an examination period in Week 7. We have adjusted the examination schedule and conditions in response to the remote learning period but at the same time I encourage all students to focus on the revision and study required to allow this to be a positive learning experience.

Our year level teams will continue to look at activities and events that will allow our students to feel as connected as possible as we then begin the 2022 Head Start program. Over the past few weeks we have had discussions amongst our staff about how important this period is in terms of connection, and it will be a theme that will continue into the future. We want our students to reconnect with their passions as things start to open up again.

I do want to take this opportunity to thank our teaching and education support staff for their commitment and dedication throughout recent difficult periods. Our staff have certainly appreciated the ongoing support and messages of gratitude from parents and carers. To our parents and carers, we would also like to thank you for your support and understanding as we have navigated our way through this time to best support your children.

I am excited about the rest of the year and am committed to having this campus thriving again, where students can showcase their talents, be supported with their learning, and have opportunities to be connected to their school and the broader community.

Adam Potter | Campus Principal, Pasco Campus

Strategic Principal Report

STEM Pathways Program with GHD

Year 10 students **Alyssa Cunanan**, **Nefeli Hogan**, **Nina Lang** and **Zara Harnden** completed their work experience placement with multinational company GHD in the final week of Term 3. I was privileged to attend the summary presentations of the girls' placement experience, which included the CEO of the company in the audience. They did a fantastic job and really showed off what they'd learnt of the industry and their presentation skills. Congratulations on completing the program Alyssa, Nefeli, Nina and Zara. We're very proud of your efforts.



Nefeli



Alyssa



Nina



Zara

GHD Website: www.ghd.com

Girls in STEM Professional Development for Teachers

Four staff are attending a series of workshops led by Jo Dunbar from Western Sydney University with the aim to increase STEM participation and achievement for girls. The workshops will continue throughout Term 4 with an emphasis on having an impact in 2022 and beyond.



Tutor Learning Initiative

An additional VCE Mathematics and VCE English tutor have been added to the Tutor Learning Initiative team to support students in preparation for their examinations. Students are being supported via small group learning in weekly 45-minute sessions. Many Year 12 students are using the sessions to fine tune their preparations for the VCAA examinations.

Daniel Pearce | Assistant Principal, Strategic

Student Engagement and Wellbeing

Bayview Campus

The SEW Team would like to take this opportunity to welcome our students and families back to face-to-face learning for Term 4. It has been so nice to have a happy, engaging and vibrant campus again. Such a great start to the term!

We are currently looking at transition back into good habits, including organisation, trying our best, having respectful relationships, and communicating clearly with our peers and teachers. Also, if you are a student who has found the transition back to face-to-face learning difficult, please speak to your homegroup teacher, your year level Student Management Leader or a teacher you trust. We are here to make every student's transition back a positive experience.

As you are all aware we are a SWPBS (School Wide Positive Behaviour System) school. Our three key values are *Be Respectful, Be a Learner, Be Safe*. Students will all be revisiting these themes and what they look like when we are at school. Our SEW Team members have been able to visit numerous classes and have heard many positive discussions regarding these topics. This program also complements the work we are doing with the *Respectful Relationships* program with our students.

This term, students from Year 7-9 were able to take part in a Headspace online incursion. The 70-minute incursion titled '*Let's Talk about it: Mental Health*' covered:

- What is mental health and wellbeing?
- How do I strengthen my mental fitness?
- Discussions on healthy coping strategies to support yourself
- How to identify options for seeking support online and in our community

The participation by students was outstanding, and feedback from teachers and presenters was very positive. In 2022 the school will look to build upon these sessions to further meet the needs of our students and future cohorts.

Lastly the SEW Team would like to send our best wishes to all students and families on what we hope is another engaging and successful term at Willi High.

Liam Keating | Student Engagement and Wellbeing Leader, Bayview Campus

Pasco Campus

After what will hopefully be the final lockdown for everyone, students have been excitedly reconnecting with their peers and teachers back on site ready to finalise their assessments, whilst supporting each other and taking advantage of additional teacher and after-school tutoring support.

Year 12 students enjoyed celebration packs containing Class of 2021 face masks, special WHS socks and some other special treats, as well as an important online incursion from Sonya Karras from Whole New World about celebrating safely and strategies for keeping their friends safe too. Many Year 12 students have been enjoying use of the Study Centre to study with peers and seek out their teachers for additional assistance.

We look forward to celebrating with the Year 12 students at their formal, to be held at Marvel Stadium on 10 December. Ticket sales have now closed. The Year 12 team are also busy planning the graduation ceremony for 15 December, to be held at the Williamstown Town Hall, to celebrate the achievements of our resilient and hardworking Year 12 cohort. More information for this event will be released closer to the time.

Year 10 and 11 students are finalising their assessments for each of their classes and preparing for their exams commencing in Week 6. After a brief rest, we will be welcoming them back during our Head Start program - as Year 11 and 12 students. They will receive some special gifts and have incursions to help welcome them to the next step in their educational journey, and to help prepare them for the year ahead.

Positive acknowledgment posts continue to be posted to Compass in recognition of the wonderful efforts of so many of our students. Any students who have had their name drawn in the Positive Post Draws are reminded to see their Student Management Leaders to receive their prize if they have not done so already.

We wish all of our students the very best of success in their upcoming exams and congratulate them for their persistence and overall positivity in what has been another unusual year.





Sarina Meusburger | Student Engagement and Wellbeing Leader, Pasco Campus

Student Leadership Report

Bayview Campus

The Bayview Student Leadership Team has shown great resilience, perseverance and dedication despite the many challenges that were presented during the remote learning periods in Terms 3 and 4. They continued to hold weekly online meetings, with discussions often leading to how they can better support the student community throughout this time.

Student leaders worked together to form some big ideas, and from this the 'Connect, Engage & Energise' event was born. Teams of students created, planned and conducted an afternoon of activities that gave everyone an opportunity to connect with students across the campus, engage in some fun, as well as energise both their bodies and minds. Two of our Year 9 students, Indy Readsmith and Sammi Tapping, produced and edited an amazing (and professional) video that promoted this event and encouraged students to get involved.

All Bayview students had the afternoon off from their scheduled classes and instead were encouraged to attend one of the activities on offer. Activities included trivia, a scavenger hunt, Get Creative in the Kitchen session, meditation/breathwork and game development. This was the leadership team's major event of Term 3 and relied on a massive effort from all leaders. It was such a successful afternoon with both students and staff enjoying the opportunity to connect, engage and energise!

BAYVIEW STUDENT LEADERS PRESENT

CONNECT, ENGAGE & ENERGISE!

THURSDAY 26TH AUGUST

SESSIONS START 1.30PM

Go to your chosen activity at 1.30pm by clicking or pasting the link below:

- Virtual Trivia Competition**
1.30 - 2.30pm
<https://meet.google.com/ybx-onnz-guk>
- Get Creative in the Kitchen!**
1.30 - 2.30pm
<https://meet.google.com/vsc-bwff-lbh>
- Game Development**
1.30 - 2.30pm
<https://vu.webex.com/vu/j.php?MTID=me7fb769058ae00b419053fd051e0bde3>
- Virtual Scavenger Hunt**
1.30 - 2.30pm
meet.google.com/mwf-hnfa-rnx
- Meditation/Breathwork Session**
1.30 - 2.15pm
<https://meet.google.com/rzw-tpum-hst>

Check out the Connect, Engage & Energise site for things you may need to bring to your activity:
<https://sites.google.com/willihigh.vic.edu.au/connect-engage-energise>

Term 3 also saw the end-of-term celebration assembly going virtual for the second time in 2021. School captains Olivia Campbell, Bella Bunny and Heath Corry led this assembly with a welcome and reflection of the term that was. Students were treated to a pre-recorded video that contained an abundance of student contribution and achievement. Congratulations and thank you to all students and staff that contributed to this video.

Term 4 will see a new group of students embark on an exciting leadership opportunity at the School for Student Leadership in the Yarra Ranges. Six of our Year 9 students will attend the five-week program at Haining Farm, a residential campus that takes 48 students per term. The curriculum has a focus on leadership and personal development, teamwork, and community participation and involvement. It also has a strong outdoor adventure element, with students participating in many activities that use the surrounding environment including hiking, bike riding and kayaking. The following students are very excited to be attending in 2021: Imogen McFerran, Harriet Ronchi, Genevieve Edwards-Simes, Liam Heatherich, Ned Landry and James Priday.

We're looking forward to hearing about your adventures upon your return!



Amy Curran | Student Leadership Coordinator, Bayview Campus

Pasco Campus

As the 2021 school year draws close to its end, the Pasco Student Leadership Team have had a busy few weeks of returning to school, finishing up their subjects, and completing final assessments and exams. As their year wraps up and, for the Year 12s, their time as student leaders is almost over, we have begun the process of finding our next capable group of students to form the 2022 Student Leadership Team.

At the end of Term 3, applications were opened to the current crop of Year 11 students to represent their peers during their final year of school. In past years, applicants for Year 12 leadership positions were required to submit a physical written application, responding to a selection of questions. But this year hasn't been like every other year. Applications have gone digital, with students applying via a Google Form. A total of 25 Year 11 students have applied for positions, with nine of those applying specifically to be the 2022 school captains.

The school captain applicants were also asked to upload a short campaign video with their application, which has since been shown to all students across Years 9, 10 and 11 (next year's Pasco students). These students were then given the opportunity to vote for two students they would most like to see representing them in 2022. At time of writing, 297 students had submitted their votes. The final part of the application process for school captain is a panel interview. The successful candidates will be announced soon.

The positions of art captain, drama captain, House captains, journalism captain, music captain, respectful relationships captain, social justice captain and VCAL captain will also soon be decided based on their written applications. Announcements for these positions will be followed by the opening of applications for five year level representatives each at Year 10 and 11. Year 9 and 10 students will be contacted shortly about the application process for these roles.



WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM 2022

Leadership Qualities

- Be enthusiastic, dedicated, organised, and proactive
- Be a positive role-model for all students
- Value the school community
- Have an open mind and a willingness to try new things
- Show initiative and reliability
- Work well with students across a variety of year levels
- Interact respectfully with all peers and staff
- Make peers and new students feel welcome



Leadership Responsibilities

- Advocate for and represent your fellow students
- Consistently display the correct school uniform with a sense of pride, including leadership badges
- Write articles for the W-Files and High Tide
- Attend leadership meetings on a weekly basis
- Support the school's commitment to the School-Wide Positive Behaviour System
- Support the school's commitment to Respectful Relationships
- Lead school tours for visitors, parents and new students
- Assist with Student Leadership fundraising events and activities
- Work with the Student Leadership Coordinator, Principals and Coordinators in school related decisions and projects
- Present at Year-Level and Campus Assemblies



Martyn van Reyk | Student Leadership Coordinator, Pasco Campus

Numeracy Report

How many dots?

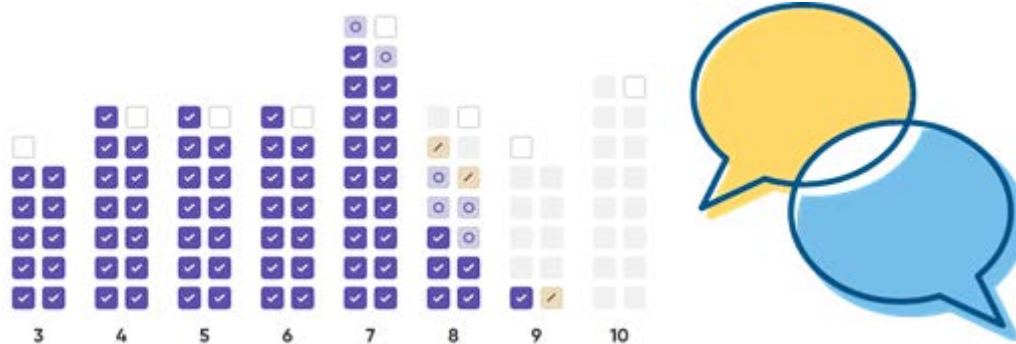
To create a triangle, you need to connect a minimum of three dots.

How many dots are required to create a triangle with angles of 1° , 89° and 90° ?



Maths with context continues to play a significant role in making concepts accessible for all students. This will continue to be a focus with students back on site at school.

Progress tracking and goal setting will soon become even more transparent between students and caregivers. Waypoints was trialled this year and has received positive feedback. The next step is to teach students how to identify, record and communicate which skills they have mastered and which skills they can still improve on.



Teaching and learning remotely has presented many challenges. Despite this, students have continued to perform exceptionally well across a number of assessments, particularly in NAPLAN. The return to on-site learning has been an important and welcoming step, however, I'm also confident that we are prepared for whatever lies ahead.

Dat Che | Maths Leader, Bayview Campus

Learning Specialist Report

At the Pasco Campus this year, we have continued encouraging a growth mindset in students. This work began in January on Year 12 Camp and has continued despite the challenges of remote learning. To foster student agency and help students keep themselves motivated, a strategy we implemented this year is creating visual reminders of how they can use positive self-talk to approach a task even when facing difficulties.

These visuals have been constructed in conjunction with our students and can now be found in our classrooms at the Pasco Campus. Another goal for 2021 was to remind students of the school's instructional model, SIMPLE. Our hopes are that students will be more aware of the way teachers structure lessons and use their metacognitive skills to take more responsibility for ensuring that they understand the purpose of activities and then can link, evaluate and reflect appropriately. This will be a continued focus for our students as we look forward to stability in the classroom for 2022.

Brianna Murray & Nate Nichols | Learning Specialists, Pasco Campus

Curriculum Report

Bayview Campus

At the time of writing, the Bayview Campus has all students and staff back on deck - it's great to be back in the face-to-face environment and to again hear the "good noise" of students conversing with other students and teachers, and collaborating in person. Many thanks to all students and families for their efforts to support and complete coursework in the different settings we have been learning and teaching in this semester. As we near the end of the year we will again be holding Year 9 exams, which aim to provide an authentic exam experience for all, and in particular for those students undertaking VCE subjects in 2022.

Semester 2 exams are scheduled to occur in the week beginning **Monday, 29 November** (Week 9). We encourage Year 9s to be familiar with the exam rules and responsibilities listed below. More information is to come via a letter to parents/guardians in the coming weeks.

Year 9 Examination Period - Semester 2, 2021 | Student Examination Rules and Responsibilities

What students are allowed to bring into the exam room:

- Full school uniform must be worn during the exam period.
- Only required equipment can be taken into the exam room - **NO** bags, pencil cases, liquid paper, books or mobile devices are allowed.
- Students cannot share materials eg. rulers, calculators, dictionaries.
- Approved materials and equipment for each examination are set and communicated by the classroom teacher. It is the student's responsibility to bring only approved materials to each examination.
- **NO** food or drink, other than water, is allowed in the exam room. The water bottle must be in a clear plastic container and any labels must be removed.

Students arriving late:

- Students arriving late must have the arrival time indicated on the front of their paper but will not receive extra time.

During the exam:

- Students are permitted to read only during Reading Time - **NO** marking of papers, use of calculators, etc. can occur during this time. They may only read the exam paper and their dictionary (if permitted).
- Students must not communicate with other students or act to cause nuisance when the exam is being conducted.
- Students who do not follow exam protocols may be removed from the exam room and receive a '0%' result.
- In seeking clarification or assistance during exams, students must raise their hand and wait for an exam supervisor to assist (where appropriate).
- Students must stop writing when instructed by the supervisor.
- Students must remain in the exam room for the duration of the allocated exam time.

Gavin Clifford | Curriculum Leader, Bayview Campus

HAPE Report

Bayview Campus

Semester 2 saw the return to online learning. Staff and students embraced the challenges thrown their way. We have managed to deliver our theory-based health units and provided students with many creative ways to stay active during this period.

Some of the activities students participated in included: Parley discussion forums, Kahoots, Quizlet, Strava, DownDog Fitness App, yoga for teens, pilates for beginners, Netball Victoria Online Program, AFL Online, PE with Joe, Fitness Wheel, training programs, activity journals, juggling for beginners, Zumba dance sessions, Strava Art and many more.

One of the highlights of Term 3 was the Connect, Engage & Energise - Let's Get Physical Edition on 1 September. Staff and students opted to join sessions that interested them. Options included kickboxing, yoga, Strava Art, a HiT workout and a healthy cooking class. We all appreciated the screen-free afternoon.

At the time of writing we have been given the green light to resume our normal programs. This means that throughout November the Year 9 Advance students will be able to participate in a number of sailing sessions at the Royal Yacht Club of Victoria, Williamstown. Great news and positive signs for 2022!

Marie Glass | HAPE Leader, Bayview Campus

Pasco Campus

Over the past month the Pasco HAPE department has been busy preparing our students for their end-of-year VCE exams. Our students have worked incredibly hard under unimaginable circumstances this year and we are extremely proud of their effort. In addition, I would also like to thank the hard-working HAPE teachers who have already spent hours marking practice exams and working with students to ensure they are well prepared. We look forward to celebrating some incredible results later in the year.



In Years 10 and 11 it has been great welcoming students back on campus this past week. Similar to the Year 12s, they are only a few weeks away from exams and then it will be on to Head Start for 2022. It's crazy how quick this year has gone! We look forward to hopefully sharing many more practical photos and stories with you next year once we are back to some normality.

Angus Rodda | HAPE Leader, Pasco Campus

Humanities Report

It's been fantastic to return to on-site learning this term. Recently, we've been embracing the joys of being face to face and prioritising collaboration amongst peers. Discussion and teamwork activities are something that we just can't replicate the same online, so it has been magical to watch the students be hands-on and truly engaged in their learning once more. Seeing their smiles and hearing their laughter certainly brightens teachers' days after months of seemingly talking to ourselves and blank screens!

In Year 7 Humanities, we have been busy investigating all that is involved in creating a happy and healthy city in our Liveability Unit. Interesting and extremely topical discussions have emerged while we consider the effects of a global pandemic on our neighbourhoods.

Our Year 8 students didn't let remote learning stop them from experiencing an enriching online visit from Parks Victoria earlier this term. As part of our unit on Landscapes and Landforms, students were treated to a virtual tour of the You Yangs. Many Year 9s have also been diving into geography this term by investigating different biomes and the impact of food security.

We can't emphasise how overjoyed we are to have all students return home to Bayview Campus for the last half of term. To all our Humanities students, best of luck for the end of 2021!



Hannah Erasmus | Humanities Leader, Bayview Campus

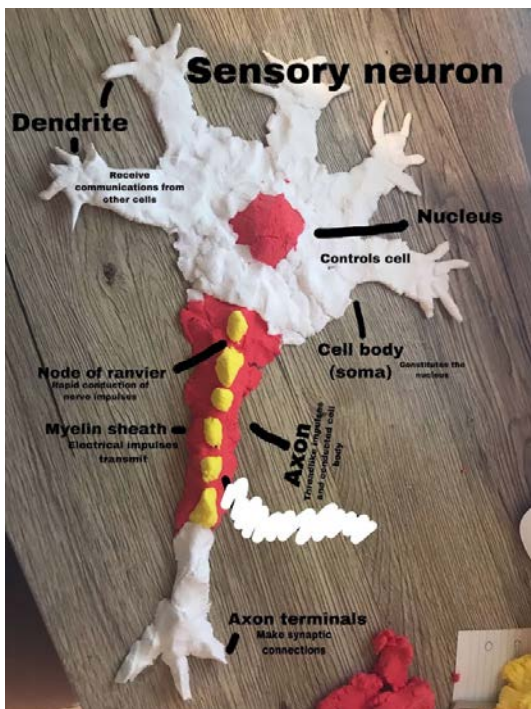
Science Report

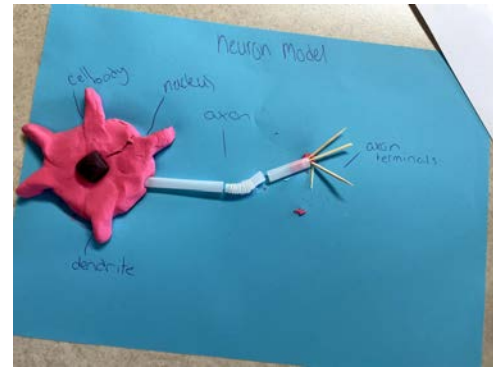
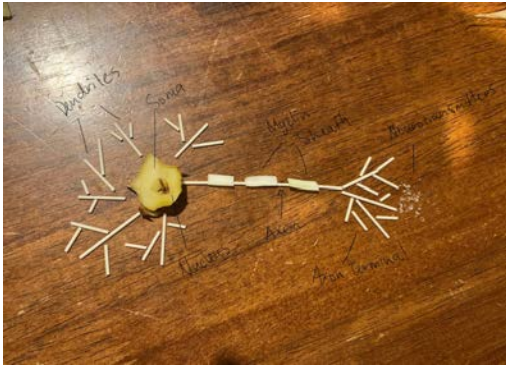
Anatomy of a Neuron

Completing practical, yet still engaging, activities during remote and flexible learning can often be a challenge. However, I am always impressed by the creativity of students in their approach to these tasks. During the shorter Lockdown 5, we were learning the anatomy of a neuron as part of our study of the brain structure and function. Students were asked to design their interpretation of a neuron using household items.

Fortunately, we were back at school the following day for our Thursday single-period lesson. Students brought in their models and we completed a learning walk analysing the accuracy, but also applauding the creativity, of the different representations of a neuron. Students voted on their favourite using a Post-it note and said why they liked each example. Please see some of our favourites below.

Nate Nichols, Year 11 Psychology Teacher





Nari Watson | Science Leader, Pasco Campus

Technology Report

In Semester 2, Year 7 and 8 students rotated into their new Technology classes and many Year 9s started their new Tech elective. We started the courses for nearly four weeks and then pivoted to online learning when Lockdown 6.0 came along. The teachers, students and parents quickly adapted, persevered and continued to engage in learning Design and Technology from home, making the term a success.

In Horticulture, classes had time at school to clear and prepare their garden beds, ready to grow their carefully selected seedlings. When we returned after lockdown, the weeds were running rampant, reminiscent of the post-apocalyptic 'The Day of the Triffids'! Once again, the students showed their positivity, flexibility and grit and have been working hard to get their gardens back to their former productive and weed free glory.



This semester, the inaugural Art and Technology Expo was organised. It was quickly changed to online activities and then back again to school-based activities halfway through the week. There were quizzes, workshops and prizes to be won. Some classes were able to participate in a Wyndham Tech workshop on how to build Minecraft worlds using drawing programs such as Tinkercad. There were also home baking competitions, with many impressive entries for the pancake presentation, including those presented by Holly Alexander and Emma Albicocco of 7D.



Rebecca Love | Technology Leader, Bayview Campus

VCAL Report

Project Based Work: Supporting Those Who Need It Most

As part of the 11VCAL course, students had to plan a group based project/activity that would support an organisation of their choosing. Prior to the Semester 2 lockdown being called, the class had been investigating the issue of homelessness and the impact it has at both a personal but also societal level. This led to all groups deciding to link their project back to supporting a not-for-profit organisation connected to the issue of homelessness.

Since returning back to on-site learning, the class has had the opportunity to undertake two of their planned projects practically - a staff car wash that supports the organisation FareShare, and a homegroup-based food drive that supports the Salvation Army's Project 614.

The **staff car wash** project kicked off last Friday and will continue to run through Week 5 and 6. Staff pay \$10 to have their car washed by a group of students from the class with the estimated profits of this project to total approximately \$200, which will be donated to FaresShare to support their work to reduce food waste and support people in need. Well done to Seb Bird, Ronan Rowe and Harry McCarthy who planned this project, and thank you to the other class members who made the completion of this project possible.

The **homegroup food drive** project is running during Week 5. All students from Years 10 and 11 are being encouraged to bring in donation items during homegroup. These can be placed in marked donation boxes in homegroup rooms that will be collected and sorted in preparation for donation to the Salvation Army. Well done to Kasey Bowyer and Naomi Charter who planned this project. Thank you to the other class members who made the completion of this project possible.

All students will use the planning and execution of these projects to demonstrate and evaluate their use of eight key employability skills: communication, teamwork, technology, learning, planning and organising, initiative and enterprise, problem solving and self management.



WHS HOMELESS FOODS/GOODS DONATION!

Collecting donations during **Week 5!**

- Donation boxes will be located in your Homegroup Classroom -

Donation Suggestion List:

Non- Perishable Food + Other Items

<p>Tinned Food</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vegetables - Fruits (in juice) - Soups - Meats or fish - Spaghetti/ Baked beans - Canned meals <p>Meal bases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soup - Pasta/ Pasta sauce - Rice, all types - Curry and stir fry sauces - Rice meal packets - Noodles (all instant noodles) - Baby & Infant Food 	<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long life milk/ juices - Breakfast Cereals - Dried Fruit - Nuts - Fruit Bars - Crackers - Rice Cakes - Spreads - Tea/Coffee/Milo - Sugar - Salt - Bottled Water 	<p>T toiletries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soap/ Body wash - Toothbrushes - Toothpaste - Shampoo/ Conditioner - Deodorant - Sanitary Items - Toilet paper <p>Baby Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nappies - Baby Wipes 
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General Household Items:

- Dish detergent
- Clothes detergent
- General cleaning spray

Please ensure there are long expiry dates for food. Any out of date food cannot be used. All the donations will be going towards The Salvation Army and significantly helping homeless people!



Lauren Gaylard | Teaching & Learning Leader, Pasco Campus

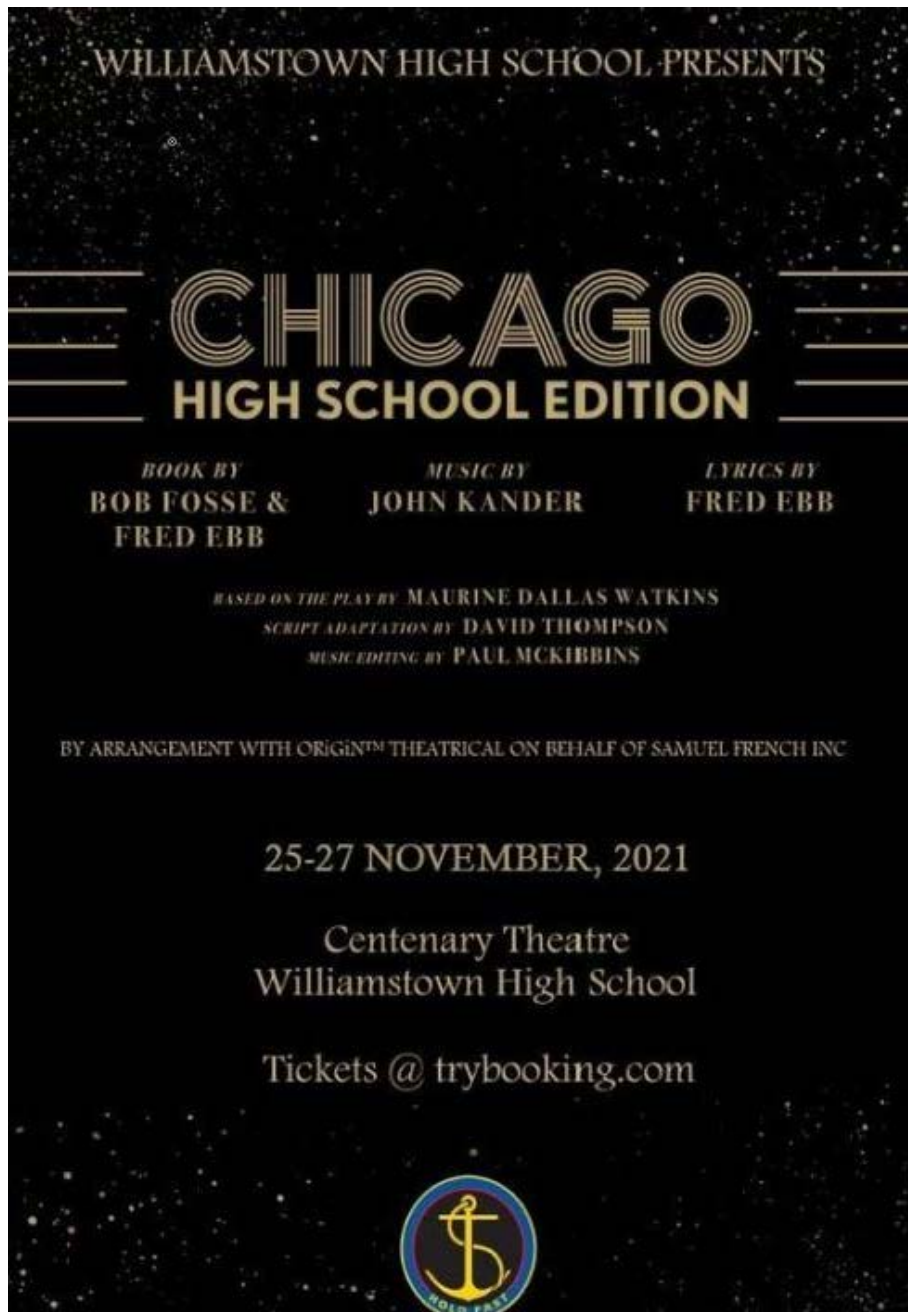
Young Women of Willi Report

Well here we are, in the final term of the year! This W-Files article is going to be short and sweet. We finally managed to have a meeting last week, after not meeting for the past three months, and it was wonderful to be back together. We shared some chips and chocolates, and caught up on the past few months. The students wanted to discuss some items from the news cycle, and the depth and insight given by students on some really sensitive topics was mature beyond their years. To finish the year, we are aiming to work with the incredible Student Leadership Team as they have a few projects in the pipeline. Can't wait to fill you all in, in the next and last issue for the year. Enjoy being out of lockdown!

Lou Leggett | Young Women of Willi Leader

School Production

CHICAGO



New Tickets Released!

Williamstown High School returns to the stage this November with the roaring twenties hit musical CHICAGO - HIGH SCHOOL EDITION.

Venue: Centenary Theatre. Railway Place - Williamstown High School

Dates:

Thursday, 25 November, at 7pm

Friday, 26 November, at 7pm

Saturday, 27 November, matinee at 2pm and then at 7pm

Cost:

Adults \$28

Student/concession \$22

Tickets:

www.trybooking.com/BUBTR

**All show dates are subject to COVID-19 restrictions and health guidelines.*

Dean Commons & Lachlan Wyatt | Production Leaders

School Aerobics

A huge congratulations to all our amazing Aerobics athletes for a great year with all three teams qualifying for the state championships! Our stage 3 team was also successful in qualifying for the National Competition, where they placed third against teams from around the country.

"The experience of training and working our way to nationals was exhilarating. My teammates and coaches were awesome. We all put in 100% of our time and effort into doing the best we could, and I think it paid off."

- Maggie Lynch, 9L

"I felt like this year had a really different vibe than the years before. We had new coaches and new team members but it was a fun and challenging year!"

- Charlotte Kerr, 9K

"Being able to go to compete at Nationals was an amazing opportunity despite not actually going to the Gold Coast. This year, being my first year doing aerobics, I had so much fun with my team and coaches doing comps and training. Even though it was on and off with lockdowns, it was a fun experience."

- Indy Webster, 9K



Pictured: Stage 3 Team at the State Championships
Maddie Mok, Charlotte Kerr, Maggie Lynch, Indy Webster, Isabelle Cembala and Excelsior Madden

Natasha Molent | Aerobics Leader

Parents and Friends Association



Next Meeting:
Tuesday, 16 November, 7:30pm via Zoom
Guest Speaker: Kat McFerran, School Council President

Many thanks to Stephanie Villemin, assistant principal at the Pasco Campus, who spoke about the 4 Rs program (Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships) at our meeting in October.

PFA funds new digital data logger sensors - Science Department, Bayview Campus

Ticket sales for the PFA's major fundraiser for 2021, the Scout and School Monster Raffle, have now closed. **Thanks to all of the families who bought tickets.** Your generosity enables the PFA to fund 'extras' for our kids, like the 11 new digital sensors to be used in science experiments and activities by Year 9 students at the Bayview Campus.



Cath Palin | Parents and Friends Association