# Williamstown High School Newsletter Market School Newsletter School Newsletter

ISSUE 2 - 2021



# **Calendar**

1 April	Last day of Term One	4 May	Bayview Campus Open Night
19 April	First day of Term Two	11 May	NAPLAN commences
19 April	Year 10 Work Experience commences	17 May	Careers week commences
23 April	VCE Drama Production commences	17 May	IDAHOBIT Day
25 April	Anzac Day	20 May	Year 9 to 11 Music Concert

College Principal: Gino Catalano
: Tamy Stubley

Bayview Campus Principal: Tamy Stubley Bayview Assistant Principal: Darren Nicholas Bayview Street, Williamstown, 3016

T: (03) 9399 9228



Pasco Campus Principal: Adam Potter Pasco Assistant Principal: Stephanie Villemin Pasco Street, Williamstown, 3016

T: (03) 9397 1899

School Captains: Cameron Palin and Eliya Crossman

# **Table of Contents**

Calendar	1	
Principal Report	3	
Bayview Campus Principal Report	6	
Pasco Campus Principal Report	8	
Strategic Principal Report	9	
School Council Report	10	
Student Engagement and Wellbeing	11	
Bayview Campus	11	
Pasco Campus	12	
Year Level Reports	13	
Year Seven	13	
Year Eight	14	
Year Nine	15	
Year Ten	16	
Year Eleven	17	
Year Twelve	18	
Teaching and Learning Report	19	
Curriculum Report	21	
Humanities Report	21	
Maths Report	23	
Science Report	24	
VCAL Report	24	
Principal's Writing Competition	25	
Hiding in Plain Sight	25	
Careers, Pathways and Transition	27	
School Production	28	
CHICAGO	28	
Drama Studies Production	32	
Please Come Home	32	
Girls' Program Report	33	
Parents and Friends Association	34	
VCE Season of Excellence	35	
Uniform Shop: Easter Trading Hours	36	
5x7 Art Prize 2021	37	
Hobsons Bay Holiday Program	38	

# **Principal Report**

Welcome to this month's edition of the W-Files. Despite a three-day snap lockdown early in the term, on reflection it was pleasing to see our school programs and environment continue to return to pre-COVID conditions. We saw the return of both the swimming sports and athletic carnivals, and events such as Harmony Day, International Women's Day and World's Greatest Shave were conducted. Some lunchtime concerts were even held and our senior student newspaper, Hold Fast, resumed production and distribution.

Our Open Day and Open Night events also recommenced but in a modified COVID safe format, sporting and theatre organisations resumed the hiring and use of our school community facilities, and we were able to invite the families of the class of 2020 Year 12 award winners to come back for a presentation evening in our Centenary Theatre. Preparations for this year's school production, 'Chicago - High School Edition', are in full swing as well and the excitement and anticipation amongst the cast and community grows daily. Please enjoy reading about some of these events and the photos taken of them in this edition of the W-Files.



Growth Ladder in an English classroom



Lunchtime Music Concert



Harmony Day BBQ



Class of 2020 Award Presentations

#### **School Council Elections**

I am pleased to announce the 2021 WHS School Council Members. The Department of Education (DET) positions are occupied by new council member Jesse Craig and returning members Julian McCarthy and Sophia Marsden-Smith. Joining our returning parent representatives Katrina McFerran, Sally Hicks, Annette de Jager and Jon Court are newly elected members Jake Mansfield, Matt Clarkson and Kane Harnden. We also warmly welcome our newly elected student representative, Connor De Petro from Year 11, who will work with Bella Bunny from Year 9, who still has one year remaining of her tenure.

I would like to thank all parents, students and staff for engaging positively in the nomination process. We welcome the student leaders and Parents and Friends member Julie Taylor, who attend school council meetings to provide reports from their associated teams. I would like to acknowledge and congratulate Katrina McFerran, who has been nominated and elected as our School Council president for this year. Sally Hicks has accepted the role as vice-president and Kane Harnden will take on the position as treasurer.

#### **Curriculum Day**

Our recent curriculum day continued our professional learning on Developmental Assessments. Staff have invested many hours of professional learning and work time to increase our understanding of the latest advancements in this area. Significant time is being spent on developing assessment tools for students to use *for* their learning, hence increasing individual student agency in the learning journey. This sees students provided with assessment tools such as Developmental Rubrics and Growth Ladders during their learning. Originally, rubrics were used at the end of the topic to assess a student's work - predominantly a teacher tool with the benefit of assisting in feedback. Now this is provided to students when commencing, or during, a topic/task to help students clearly understand where they are at and what is required from them to move to the next level.

#### **Theatre and Study Centre**

The building of our new facilities is progressing very rapidly. Our builders have reported that the mild weather this summer has them well placed compared to last year when 18 days were lost due to hot weather - none were lost this year. Foundations are in place and the precast walls are quickly being added. We will be putting a time lapse video of the construction's progress on the school website. Although only in its infancy at present, we hope that as more photos are added we will eventually get a great overview of the works.

Please keep an eye on our website via the link here: www.willihigh.vic.edu.au









#### **Principal's Writing Competition**

I am proud of the WHS Principal's Writing Competition and look forward this year to reading our students' interpretations of the theme, "Hiding in Plain Sight", particularly with all that has been happening in the world of late. This initiative highlights the importance of building and promoting literacy skills across the school. Winners from each category will have their names placed on the Principal's Writing Competition honour board at their respective campus. Additionally, winners will be invited to attend an upcoming writers' festival, receive a personalised book award and have their work published in an anthology that will be stored in our school's libraries for student borrowing. "The pen is mightier than the sword" is a powerful motto, and with great eagerness I look forward to reading the collection of stories that aim to prove this true.

#### **Gino Catalano | Principal**

#### **Bayview Campus Principal Report**

As we approach the end of term, the Bayview Campus at Williamstown High School is still a hive of productive activity and learning! I would like to acknowledge the work done by so very many of our students, staff and families in our school community and wish everybody a safe, happy and restful holiday break.

Term 1 is such a key part of the school year. It is where teachers work hard to formulate positive relationships with their students. A learning environment based on trust, where students feel safe to share their ideas and comfortable to make mistakes, can set the scene for a successful school year for each child. Our teachers have been forming and strengthening these relationships over the last 10 weeks by getting to know your child, finding out their strengths as learners, their passions, hobbies, challenges and goals they have for the year ahead.

Research has shown that students achieve more in school when their parents and carers are actively involved in their education. This involvement not only enhances academic performance, but also has a positive influence on a child's attitude and behaviour. A parent and carer's interest and encouragement in a young person's education can influence their attitude towards school, achievement, self-esteem, attendance and motivation in a positive manner. This week we held our first set of parent-teacher interviews for the year. This day provided invaluable opportunities to discuss individual student progress and provide real-time feedback for future growth. My thanks to the many families who made the most of this opportunity.

It has been a challenging and rewarding term at the Bayview Campus, with many of our activities and celebrations back on the program, always in a COVID safe manner. Our swimming and athletic carnivals, Year 7 camp, curriculum day, International Women's Week, Interschool Sports Program, student leadership camp, Tech Tasters, Immersion market day, and Harmony Day events are just some of the accomplishments shared and celebrated by our students this term. We are excited to relaunch Breakfast Club in Term 2, we have set the date for our Open Night and we also hope to reschedule our Year 7 Family BBQ event.







We pride ourselves on our innovative and dynamic learning community and capacity to grow to meet the needs of our school community. Much discussion had been had at School Council over the past 12 months about the homegroup preferences families can make after an offer of enrolment, i.e. All-Girls Homegroup, All-Boys

Homegroup or Co-Educational Homegroup. From 2022, all homegroups at Williamstown High School will be co-educational. We will continue to offer the Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) Program as usual.

Finally, I would like to remind students and parents and carers about a few key issues related to the campus. If you are a bike rider please ensure you wear your helmet at the appropriate times, walk your bike through the school grounds, lock your bike in the bike shed and always share the road in the safest way with other road users.

Enjoy the break and I look forward to seeing you all next term.

**Tamy Stubley | Campus Principal, Bayview Campus** 

#### **Pasco Campus Principal Report**

#### **Alumni Mentors Tutoring Program**

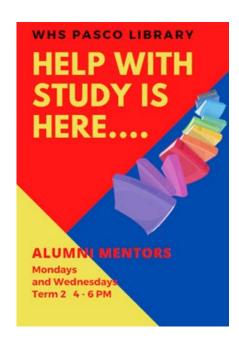
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#### **Extended Williamstown High School Library Hours (Pasco Campus)**

We are pleased to offer students in Years 10 to 12 the opportunity to complete work at school beyond the normal school day during Term 2. With the support of four alumni mentors, students will have access to library facilities and tutoring assistance after school each Monday and Wednesday throughout the term should they require help with their studies.

The library will remain open until 6:00pm and the four mentors, who are high achieving, recently graduated Williamstown High School students, will be available to assist students from 4:00pm to 6:00pm on Monday and Wednesday afternoons under the guidance of Melinda McKeegan, our Inclusive Education Learning Specialist.

This program is to help our students to establish a routine to complete their coursework, study and revision in a distraction-free environment that also supports collaborative learning. An additional goal of this program is for students to develop effective homework and time management skills, therefore giving them more time for active and/or creative pursuits once their homework/study has been done.



WHS Pasco Library Term 2

Mondays and Wednedays from 4 - 6 pm

Tutoring
Help and
Extended
Library
Hours

Alumni Mentors will be here!
Four of our high achieving 2020
VCE graduates will be in the libraray to help students from Years 10 -12.

Students have had to adjust to learning back at school and no doubt this has presented challenges. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all students, teachers and parents/carers for their efforts this term. Our student leaders should also be commended on their outstanding work this term as we have had many great events to promote International Women's Day, the World's Greatest Shave, Harmony Day, as well as make our athletic carnival a great day.

As Term 1 draws to a close I would like to wish all members of our school community a safe and restful holiday break.

Adam Potter | Campus Principal, Pasco Campus



#### **Strategic Principal Report**

#### Wyndham Tech Partnership: Student Leadership Program

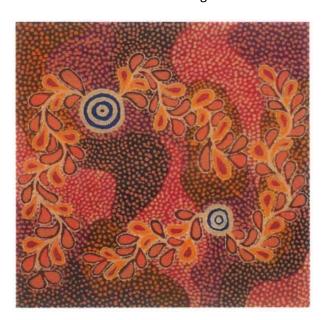
Applications for the Wyndham Tech School Student Leadership Program opened earlier this month with large numbers of students across the Western Region submitting applications. Six students from Williamstown High School were successful. Congratulations to Nubaid Zayan, Elena Turner, Alyssa Cunanan, Beatriz Keller De Albuquerque, Marcus Breet and Sienna Broekman, who were all successful and will attend the program launch on 1 April. The program aims to develop student leadership skills, provide industry experience through work experience and enhance opportunities for women in STEAM.

#### **New Teachers Induction Program**

Williamstown High School has a number of new teachers to the school this year including six in the first year of their career. New staff bring fresh ideas and energy to the school and are an integral part of the education system. A semester-long induction program is in place where new teachers are provided with professional learning and support, led by their experienced colleagues in the areas of student engagement and wellbeing, curriculum and assessment, and teaching and learning. The fortnightly sessions allow for collaborative learning between staff to meet students' learning needs.

#### **Aboriginal and First Peoples' Artwork**

The school has purchased six pieces of Aboriginal and First Peoples' art created by local and national artists. These works are proudly displayed at both campuses in reception areas and the libraries. These paintings will be a source of inspiration for students and also support our learning and understanding of First Peoples, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and the significant contributions they have made to Australia.



Kaliny-kalinypa/Ultukunpa Jukurrpa – Honey Grevillea Dreaming

Artist: Brenda Punytjina Armstrong

#### Daniel Pearce | Assistant Principal, Strategic

# **School Council Report**

Welcome to all the new families that have joined us at Williamstown High School. We have an active School Council who work collaboratively with the school by contributing to governance in the areas of education policy, environments and facilities, and of course, finance. Although the school has an excellent report card in academic achievements and sense of community, School Council still has a role to play in overseeing developments and continuing to highlight the school's values. We have just welcomed four new members to the council this year, but encourage you to consider getting involved next year – especially if you are new to the school and have many years ahead. It is an opportunity to understand both how the school is performing, and why decisions are made.

For example, at recent School Council meetings we discussed the closure of the all Girls' homegroup. We were saddened to acknowledge the end of this long tradition of valuing girls-only education, which was part of a commitment made when Williamstown High School merged with Point Gellibrand Girls' Secondary College on the Bayview Campus site in 2000. A multimillion-dollar program saw the buildings and grounds rebuilt by 2006 based on an award-winning environmentally sustainable design and a girls' program was established within the otherwise co-educational school. For the last three years the program has been offered but, because of new restrictions from the Department about school zones, it was not able to go ahead due to the impact it would have had on the gender balance in other classes. This year the school acknowledged that this pattern was not likely to change, and School Council is responsible for ensuring that this information is shared with the school community to prevent further disappointment for potential families. Having the opportunity to understand why these kinds of decisions are made is one of the benefits of being on a school council.

At this time of year, we also have the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the school, with a first look at the Annual Report to the School Community, which includes positive information about academic outcomes as well as connectedness to the school community. According to the data from the Parent Opinion Survey, 80% of families agree or strongly agree that they are satisfied with the school. This is an outstanding result given the challenges of 2020 and the state average score of 74%. Attendance and retention rates are also higher than the scores of similar schools and well above the state average, although management of bullying is slightly lower than similar schools but still just above the state average. Having the opportunity to talk with school leaders about this data is another advantage of being on school council.

Looking ahead, we have a uniform review planned, as well as a number of school policies to be reviewed and continuing developments of buildings and grounds, particularly at the Pasco Campus. The financial position of the school remains stable, and we will continue to monitor the processes that are in place to ensure this continues as we recover from the global pandemic and hope that 2021 will be more stable than last year.

We welcome our new and continuing members of School Council and appreciate the time and effort they are willing to contribute – thanks to Sally Hicks, Annette de Jager, Jon Court, Kane Harnden, Jake Mansfield and Matt Clarkson. Special thanks also to Felicity Joll and Mark Mannix, whose children have now finished Year 12, as has their time on School Council. Please be in touch if you have any queries or would like to express interest or be involved.

**Kat McFerran | School Council President** 

# **Student Engagement and Wellbeing**

#### **Bayview Campus**

The SEW team would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students for settling into the 2021 school year in such an amazingly positive way. It has been a very busy term with many great things happening around the school that have set us all up for a very successful year.

This term, we have had a renewed focus on our House System and the staff and students have put their "competitive energies" towards ensuring their house can reign supreme. The results so far from the two main school events were:

House	Swimming Day	Athletics Day	Other Points	Total Points
Green	340	825	102	1267
Gold	324	800	87	1211
Blue	332	677	113	1122
Red	338	565	115	903

Green (Greenwich) currently have the lead due to their efforts in winning both the swimming and athletic carnivals. We look forward to more house based activities in Term 2.

Also looking ahead in Term 2, our Year 8s will be off to the Roses Gap camp. This camp will take place from 18-21 May with approximately 220 students. We look forward to a range of team based, outdoor and adventure activities over the four days. Year 8 students need to be on the lookout for more information early in Term 2. The camp is always a fun event, and we look forward to students attending and participating in the experience.

We would also like to share with our Year 9 students the details of our Year 9 camps. This year, due to the COVID environment we are currently experiencing, we will be keeping our camps in Victoria. The two options of camps are snow camp and Portsea camp. The snow camp will be able to have 72 students attend, while the Portsea camp can have up to 200 students. Each camp will be from 16-19 August (Term 3). Details regarding itinerary for each camp will be made available in Term 2. Due to the reduced numbers for snow camp, students will be put into a ballot and selected randomly for this camp. There will then also be a waiting list. All details regarding the ballot process will be released shortly.

The SEW team would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our staff, parents, students and community members a safe, happy and healthy Easter Holiday break.

Liam Keating | Student Engagement and Wellbeing Leader, Bayview Campus

#### **Pasco Campus**

The end of Term 1 seems to have come quickly and we are sure that many students will be looking forward to an opportunity to recharge as well as catch up on additional study or revision over the break. We would like to congratulate students on their efforts this term, not only in the classroom but also in general around the campus by showing collegiality, commitment to the school environment and a willingness to volunteer for various programs.

Year 10 students enjoyed a lively workshop from Success Integrated to learn strategies to achieve their best within their studies, but also to encourage and establish a growth mindset, which is not only useful when tackling academic challenges but also as a general life skill.

Year 11 students were motivated with ways to better manage their time, organise themselves as well as prepare for important assessments throughout the year with tips and strategies provided by a guest presenter from Elevate Education.

Each year level across the campus has also participated in incursions and workshops, as well as homegroup lessons and activities around respectful relationships to promote awareness and education in this space.

Our student leaders have been busy planning and organising various worthwhile events such as the World's Greatest Shave, raising an impressive total of \$10,652.46 to help research into blood cancer treatments, as well as Harmony Day activities that included a BBQ where students were able to enjoy a free sausage, donut and beverage as well as a photo booth. Currently they are preparing the end-of-term Celebration Assembly to acknowledge and celebrate student achievements during Term 1.

Recently we were able to celebrate the academic achievements from 2020 with a number of current Year 12 and some current Year 11 students receiving awards on the night for academic excellence in the Unit 3 and 4 subjects they undertook last year.

Year 10 students should now have a work experience placement. In their homegroup lessons, students have been learning what to expect on their first day of their placement, workplace safety and other practical tips to assist them during their time in the workplace.

In line with COVID safe guidelines from the Department of Education and state government, Breakfast Club had to be postponed this term. We are, however, closely examining options that will allow us to resume this popular and important program during Term 2, with a team of enthusiastic student volunteers on standby.

We wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable end of Term 1 holiday.









Sarina Meusburger | Student Engagement and Wellbeing Leader, Pasco Campus

# **Year Level Reports**

#### **Year Seven**

#### Year 7 Camp Kangaroobie

This year due to the snap lockdown in March we had the opportunity for all of our Year 7s to go together as one group to Kangaroobie. Below are some reflections from the students that attended the camp:

"I liked camp as it was fun to build more stronger friendships with friends I had recently met. It was fun when we got to do the survivor activity as it was good for team building and helped me settle in with new people. Overall, the camp was fun and was a good opportunity to meet new people."

Written by Archer Russell 7A

"Camp was so much fun, the experience was so exciting and energetic, and everyone was very worn out at the end. Canoeing was so exhilarating, everyone enjoyed splashing around in the water, gliding down the river. The food was so fresh and tasty since we ate the beef from the cows at the farm."

Written by Lily Nicholson 7B

"In my opinion camp was a blast. The activities were educational and super fun at the same time which made it great. Additionally, the food there was AMAZIIIING!!!! Overall, I had a great time and am pleased to say that I enjoyed camp a whole heap:)"

Written by Matisse Rossow 7C

"Camp was fun and a good experience away from school, I loved all of the fun activities that I got to do with my friends and it was a good way to get to know more people around the school." Written by Sebastian Dabner 7G









Isabella O'Malley and Stewart Wilson | Year 7 Student Management Leaders

# **Year Eight**

The Year 8s have settled back into school reasonably well and are enjoying the large variety of opportunities they have before them. This term many students have been very busy representing the school in a number of sporting events including volleyball, softball/baseball, tennis and cricket. The Year 8 cricket team was the only team to progress to the next round but I am sure that we will see more success with the Term 2 sports of netball, AFL, soccer and badminton.

Students have also been involved in some valuable incursions this term with a special breakfast held on International Women's Day, where a guest speaker spoke to some of our parents and students about her life as a newly arrived Australian and the difficulties she faced, especially with regards to gender roles in her migrant family.

All Year 7-9 students were also involved in a session throughout the morning that looked at equality across all genders. More information about these sessions are available in the <u>Girls' Program Report</u>.

The Year 8 Health and Physical Education Department is also running sessions with **Elephant Ed** on Navigating Sexualised Images in the Media, which looks at gender portrayal in the media as well as discussing consent and respect. A number of groups have already had the opportunity to attend these workshops, with the rest of the students accessing the program in Term 2.

Students in the **Year 8 OED program** have also had a busy first term, with both classes going on a snorkelling excursion to Queenscliff, which included a 3.5 hour boat trip in Port Phillip Bay, swimming with seals and dolphins, and snorkelling in some of Australia's best snorkelling areas. They also had the opportunity to attend a five-day camp at the Rubicon Outdoor Education Centre in Nayook, where they experienced camping in tents and

preparing and cooking their own food for the week. It also included a Canopy Quest, which involved climbing and ziplining through the tree canopy, caving, overnight bushwalking and paddling in canoes on Lake Narrabeen.

Students also had the opportunity to spend a day at **Kryal Castle** as part of their Humanities unit on Medieval History. It was a huge undertaking to transport all of the students for the day so a special thanks goes out to Ms Erasmus and all of the staff in attendance. The students had a great time and got to experience a little of what it was like in medieval times, watching a jousting contest, seeing the dungeon and methods of torture used, as well as having some sword fights with their classmates using practice swords.

Both Mr Grossman and Ms Mahoney are looking forward to Term 2 and hope the students have an enjoyable, restful break. The **Year 8 Camp to Roses Gap** will be held in **Week 5 (18-21 May)**, so the first three to four weeks will be quite busy finalising camp plans. Your child will be issued with a **medical form** that needs to be filled out and returned to the school. Please remember to return camp medical forms to the school ASAP. If you did not receive one from your child you can download one from your child's events on Compass.

Karen Mahoney and Mathew Grossman | Year 8 Student Management Leaders

#### **Year Nine**

The Year 9 cohort was welcomed back in 2021 with a busy and jam packed term. Although it was nothing short of lively, the students worked hard to reaccustom themselves to a COVID-normal school life.

Term 1 saw the students back in the classroom, completing a full term (almost) of the subjects they dearly missed whilst in lockdown last year - particularly those practical experiences, such as science experiments and the Immersion program.

We were lucky enough this year to have our swimming and athletic carnivals take place, where the Year 9s were able to enjoy their final year as a Bayview campus student at these events.

However, being a Year 9 student this year isn't all about fun and games - our students have been starting to look forward to their future through the homegroup curriculum, where they have been starting to learn about career pathways.

This year will see our students work harder than ever before, learning the important study habits and revision skills that they will need to complete their exams at the end of the semester.

It's been an excellent start to the year, and on behalf of the Year 9 student management leaders, we wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Easter break.











Berna Gonen and Warren Patterson | Year 9 Student Management Leaders

#### **Year Ten**

It has been an action packed term for Year 10s. They started the year with their official transition from Bayview to Pasco after they had a week at the senior campus during Head Start last year. After a year spent mostly learning from home, students have adapted back to on-site learning and a new campus really well.

"Although the Pasco campus initially seemed intimidating and unfamiliar, transitioning from the Bayview campus has been an exciting experience for many Year 10s. Many students of the cohort have enjoyed the relaxedness of the campus, as well as the independence we are provided with. We are all very excited for the new experiences we will have at Pasco this year." Charlotte Kolevski, Year 10 student leader

Alongside their regular subjects, the Year 10s have also been participating in the homegroup curriculum. Students have participated in several incursions, learning about subject skills and respectful relationships.

"The Year 10s had the opportunity to engage in not only an interactive, but a very knowledgeable and helpful study incursion. Who would've thought? A motivational speaker and a DJ in the very same room, presenting to high schoolers. Although the trap mix version of The Jackson 5 brought a lot of attention, the main ideas that were extracted were impactful and long-lasting study habits and how to start implementing them in our daily lives. These healthy habits included things such as carrying out a growth mindset, creating a weekly schedule and following this simple acronym: BEST - BELIEVE EXCELLENCE, STUDY TOUGHNESS.

"As well as gaining these useful tips, the Year 10 cohort obtained some knowledge into how our brain works using neural pathways. But to top it all off, any time we wrote crucial information down, Timmy D The Phantom provided us with booming remixes of beloved songs. Certainly a memorable and joyous experience."

Amelie Freiin von Rechenberg, Year 10 student leader

Much of the program this term has been devoted to organising work experience, which will take place in the first week after the school holidays. Despite some changes to workplaces due to COVID policies, students have been successful in finding placements in a range of different careers, including placements with theatre companies, libraries, primary schools, electricians and environmental engineers. We wish our students all the best next term with their week of having a taste of potential future careers.

Students have also been actively involved in extracurricular activities, such as student-run clubs, interschool sport, interschool debating (pictured below) and rehearsals for the school musical 'Chicago'. Year 10 student leader Nina Lang summarises her experiences here:

"The transition from Bayview to Pasco has been nothing short of huge, not only are we the smallest on campus again, but we have much more mixed classes. For those doing VCE you even have classes with Year 11s and that can be very daunting, but teachers have gone to a huge effort to make it as easy as possible. One thing that I have noticed is that at Pasco the clubs and everything in general is much more student-run, something that I look forward to participating in throughout the year."

We wish everybody a restful and enjoyable break, and look forward to next term!



Matthew Grose and Grace Robertson | Year 10 Student Management Leaders

#### Year Eleven

As always, the first term of Year 11 has been a challenging but exciting experience for our current cohort. The adjustments in workload and expectations of undertaking a full VCE or VCAL pathway can be quite different for students out of Year 10, but we've found that this group has taken to these with a high level of engagement and enthusiasm. They handled the short period of remote learning with great resilience and have overall appeared happy to be back on site to enjoy their learning environment with their peers.

As part of our commitment to respectful relationships, all Year 11 students took part in a SEED (Self-Esteem Education and Development) Workshop day. Students examined ideas around body image, positive self-talk, dealing with stress and how to build positive peer relationships. Students enjoyed the relaxed nature of the day and the ability to explore these ideas in a safe environment. Students also undertook an Educate Elevate seminar that allowed them to examine effective study habits to help them deal with the challenges of the senior years of high school.

We are excited to watch the continued development of the cohort and what they can achieve in Term 2.





Tyson Hartwig and Ian Hume | Year 11 Student Management Leaders

#### **Year Twelve**

Term 1 has been an exciting and busy one for the Year 12s. We have managed a full term on site minus the minor five-day scare we had going into Week 4! Camp was first up, which saw students coming together and challenging themselves on the giant swing and high ropes course, developing teamwork skills whilst trying to build a raft that would float, and getting to know new friends and teachers outside of the classroom.

We held the "Homegroup Hula Hoop Challenge", where each homegroup had to pass a hula hoop over each person while the group (COVID safely) held hands. Congratulations to 12B for taking out the win! Athletics Day was another highlight for students. They finally got to dress up in costumes and house colours to compete in their favourite events.

The term has allowed the Year 12s to find their routine and set up good habits for the remainder of the year. Our student leaders have worked hard this term, bringing everyone together for lunchtime activities and getting different clubs up and running for students to attend on a weekly basis. We look forward to working with them for the rest of the year!



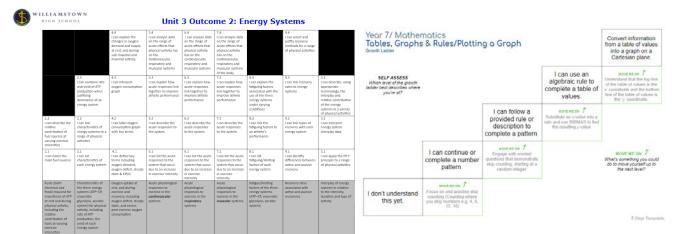
Melissa English and David Urwin | Year 12 Student Management Leaders

# **Teaching and Learning Report**

As we move into the final year of our four year strategic plan, the teaching and learning team is looking to embed the key work from our teaching and learning framework to improve teacher practice and student learning outcomes.

This term the college undertook a curriculum day that focused on Developmental Assessment and in particular a developmental assessment tool known as Growth Ladders. A Growth Ladder should be developed to support student learning through a challenging or difficult concept or skill. It articulates to students the developmental progressions in learning a difficult concept or skill, but also suggests key learning activities or tasks that students can complete to assist them to move their level of understanding from a basic level to one that is more complex.

What will the outcomes of this Curriculum Day look like for our students? Our students will see an expanded use of developmental assessment tools to support them for the learning they are about to undertake and as they're undertaking the learning within a topic or unit of work. Students will be asked to self assess their level of understanding on assessment tools such as Developmental Rubrics and Growth Ladders so as to make learning visible. This allows students to see where they are at with their current level of understanding, but also articulates to them what the next level of understanding looks like. This allows students to set clear learning goals to improve their learning outcomes. Making learning visible through developmental assessment tools allows students to increase their agency for their learning, empowering them to contribute to their improved learning outcomes.





Lauren Gaylard and Simon Thorley | Teaching & Learning Leaders

# **Curriculum Report**

Term 1 has been a busy term for Pasco students, adapting to being back on campus full-time, back to remote learning, and then back again. They've proved themselves to be resilient and hard working. Our Year 12 students are fully immersed in the rigour of their all-important final year of VCE and VCAL. Our Year 11 students have just commenced their senior program of study, with many students realising the additional effort and commitment required to succeed in senior subjects. And our new arrivals at the campus, our Year 10s, have been working hard to meet the learning and assessment challenges that have come their way. In Term 2, all Year 10 and VCE students will be undertaking examinations for each of their subjects. More information will be provided to families about this examination period in coming weeks.

During Week 3, I ran a session at Year 12 camp focusing on identifying personal strengths and values. As individuals, students were asked to identify and rank what values align with feelings of success, achievement and happiness. These votes were tallied and a poster of the shared values of the class of 2021 is now displayed in the study centre. Year 12 students were also given the opportunity to write a positive note to another student, identifying a quality/strength in that person. These notes have been stored and whenever a Year 12 student is feeling like they need a boost they can collect their note.



Corrine Hall | Curriculum Leader, Pasco Campus

# **Humanities Report**

It's been a busy start to the year with the launch of a new Year 9 elective and a highly anticipated trip to Kryal Castle for our Year 8s and the Year 7 SEALP students.

Last week, our eager Year 8s and Year 7s who have been studying Medieval Europe headed to Kryal Castle to further explore this intriguing and often gory time period. The students took part in hands-on activities to investigate the medieval court, gain a deeper understanding of nobility and peasant lifestyles and test their sword fighting skills. An in depth look at the torture dungeons had many of us squeamish and scrambling to comprehend how such horrific acts were once acceptable - definitely not for the faint-hearted!



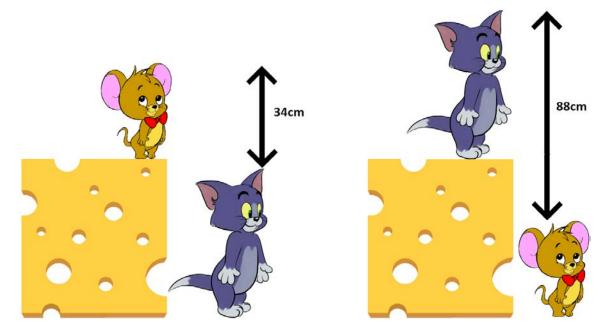


This term saw the introduction of a new Year 9 Humanities elective on the Holocaust. This subject has been focused on empathy and perspective building as students come to understand the implications of prejudice, discrimination and stereotypes.

"In this first unit of Holocaust Studies, we have been digging deep into the origins of it all, and asking the tough questions: What are the origins of antisemitism? How did someone like Hitler and an organisation like the Nazis rise to power? How can it become acceptable to a society for something like this to be done? It has been confronting and thought-provoking, and once again I am impressed with the respectfulness and desire for knowledge that WHS students have." Written by Bradley Nicholls, Holocaust Unit teacher

Hannah Erasmus | Humanities Leader, Bayview Campus

#### **Maths Report**



Wow! What a whirlwind start to 2021, it's hard to believe we are nearing the end of Term 1 already. There are so many great things happening in and around the school and I can definitely say that this is also the case for our maths department. The Year 9s have been, and will continue to be, diving into the depths of algebra; the Year 8s are now climbing their way through the topic of linear graphing; and our Year 7s are carrying out some excellent work on statistics and probability.

We have also had some new faces join our fantastic maths team, some of whom have joined us from the Pasco Campus. They bring along a wealth of expertise and so we would like to welcome Tim Howie, Beth Richardson and Daniel Marshall to the Bayview Campus.

One of our continuing projects is the regular improvement and updating of our unit plans and resources. There has already been lots of time and effort from across the team that has gone into creating more engaging and effective resources, as well as more rigorous assessment so far in 2021. This is all focused on creating a better teaching experience for students and improving student growth in the area of maths.



Finally, our numeracy program continues to be a great time and space for students to work on things such as:

- Maths application tasks
- Retention based Mathspace tasks
- Extension opportunities
- Extra support for difficult maths skills

As always, we as a team want to better ourselves and provide a quality mathematics education for your child, so please don't hesitate to get in contact if you have any thoughts, ideas or concerns.

Cory Duker | Maths Leader, Bayview Campus

#### **Science Report**

It's been a busy term in Science at Pasco Street. Our budding young physicists have been examining star catalogues to investigate the distance and luminosity of stars. Psychology students have been completing experiments to learn about the social norms and pressures that contribute to conformity within society. In Chemistry students have been designing experiments to determine the rates of chemical reactions, while in Biology students have investigated factors that influence the activity of an enzyme that breaks down fat in the digestive system. It's been great for all our students and teachers to be back in the classroom this year and taking advantage of a more hands-on approach to learning science.

Nari Watson | Science Leader, Pasco Campus

#### **VCAL Report**

Our VCAL students have had a busy start to the term, many of our students are starting to look for work placements and some students have started a School Based Apprenticeship.

Work placements are an important part of VCAL as it enables students to put what they have learned in VET into practice, it also enables them to get some real-life experience in a workplace and hopefully make useful contacts for job opportunities when they complete their VCAL certificate.

The VCAL teaching team have been working together to develop some projects that will cover all the learning areas. The Year 11 students are currently working in teams on an awareness campaign of an issue of their choice. They looked at road safety and visited the Road to Zero interactive space at the Melbourne Museum, where they made a video clip in teams. They have also developed storybooks, written resumes and cover letters and looked at Occupational Health and Safety in the workplace.

The Year 12 students have also been looking at Occupational Health and Safety and we are currently in the process of planning excursions to relevant worksites. The students have also been researching possible options for a camp at the end of the year. Last week we started planning the Willi High Café, which we hope will be operational by midyear. This has been made possible by the generous donation of a professional coffee machine from the Parents and Friends Association. This is a great opportunity for the students, and both year levels will undertake barista training and will be rostered to work in the café. This will provide students with a great foundation in running a business.

The VCAL team are looking forward to working on these and more projects in Term 2.

Melissa Bell | VCAL Leader, Pasco Campus

# **Principal's Writing Competition**

## **Hiding in Plain Sight**

# Williamstown High School Principal's Writing Competition

# Hiding in Plain Sight

#### CATEGORIES

- 1. POETRY AND LYRICS (ANY STYLE RELATING TO ANY ASPECT OF SOMETHING OR SOMEONE HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT)
- 2. NARRATIVE (A FICTIONAL STORY THAT EXPLORES ANY ASPECT OF SOMETHING OR SOMEONE HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT)
- 3. SPEECH (PERSUASIVE SPEECH RESPONDING TO THE QUESTION: WHAT IS A BIG ISSUE THAT WE HAVE ACCEPTED AS NORMAL IN OUR CURRENT SOCIETY SO THAT IT IS 'HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT'?)
- 4. SHORT GRAPHIC/ILLUSTRATED STORY (NARRATIVE MUST CONTAIN TEXT AND IMAGES RELATING TO ANY ASPECT OF SOMETHING OR SOMEONE HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT)



Artwork provided by: Tahlia Hall
Entries close Friday 21st May

The Principal's Writing Competition runs to further expand and promote the literacy program of Williamstown High School. Our aim is to create an inclusive and creative environment for our school community and to celebrate our passion for writing.

The competition is open to all students at Williamstown High School, who may submit creative pieces that fit within the four set categories below:

- Poetry and Lyrics (any style relating to any aspect of something or someone hiding in plain sight)
- Narrative (a fictional story that explores any aspect of something or someone hiding in plain sight)
- Speech (persuasive speech responding to the question: What is a big issue that we have accepted as normal in our current society so that it is 'hidden in plain sight'?)
- Short Graphic/Illustrated Story (narrative must contain text and images relating to any aspect of something or someone hiding in plain sight. It must be a minimum of 250 words, can be fiction/non-fiction. Images must be original. Story can be scanned and submitted digitally, or submitted by hand to Ms Attenborough at the Pasco campus and Ms Paatsch at the Bayview campus).

#### **Competition Rules**

- Students are allowed one entry in each category of the competition.
- Students will be judged on their writing skills, as well as their originality and creativity.
- This is a school-wide competition and is inclusive of both Bayview and Pasco campuses.
- Plagiarism of any kind will not be accepted. Any plagiarised work will automatically disqualify the entrant.
- All writing entries must be submitted online via email to <u>writingcompbayview@willihigh.vic.edu.au</u> with the subject as: [Your Full Name and Home Group: Title of Submission and Category] or by another negotiated source (such as in hardcopy, in person to Ms Paatsch or Ms Attenborough).
- Students wishing to become a judge may submit an expression of interest to
   <u>writingcompbayview@willihigh.vic.edu.au</u> with the subject as [Your Full Name and Home Group: Student
   Judge EOI]. Students should explain in their expression of interest why they wish to be a student judge.
   Maximum 150 words. Students cannot participate in judging their own work if successful.

The winners of the Semester 1 Principal's Writing Competition will:

- receive free tickets to a daylong literary festival/workshop
- receive a personally gifted book from the Principal
- have their piece published in the Principal's Writing Competition 2021 Anthology
- have their name engraved on the Principal's Writing Competition honour board
- receive an individualised trophy acknowledging their achievement

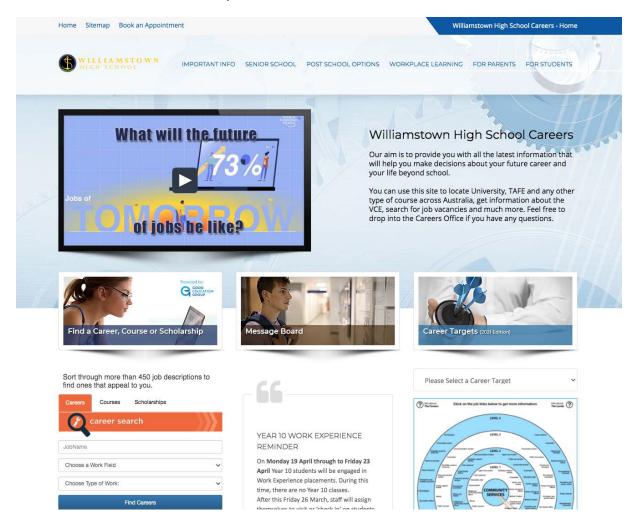
The panel of judges will consist of both teacher judges and student judges. All students must submit their entries by 21 May.

#### Kim Paatsch | Literacy Leader

# **Careers, Pathways and Transition**

For all current and up-to-date Careers Pathways and Transition information, please visit our Careers website at <a href="https://www.willihighcareers.com.au">www.willihighcareers.com.au</a>

If a Careers Newsletter is no longer available on Compass, students, parents/carers and teachers can locate all newsletters on the website under the "Important Info" tab.



Anna Bovdis | Pathways and Transition Leader

#### **School Production**

#### **CHICAGO**

Williamstown High School students have commenced rehearsals to bring to the stage the roaring '20s in CHICAGO. Roxie Hart murders a faithless lover and convinces her hapless husband, Amos, to take the rap ... until he finds out he's been duped and turns on Roxie. Convicted and sent to death row, Roxie and another "Merry Murderess", Velma Kelly, vie for the spotlight and the headlines, ultimately joining forces in search of the "American Dream": fame, fortune, and acquittal.

#### **Performances:**

Tuesday 13 July, 7pm Wednesday 14 July, 7pm Thursday 15 July, 7pm Friday 16 July, 7pm Saturday 17 July, 2pm and 7pm

#### Cost:

Adults \$28 Student/Concession \$22

To purchase tickets please follow this link: <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/BPFUS">https://www.trybooking.com/BPFUS</a>

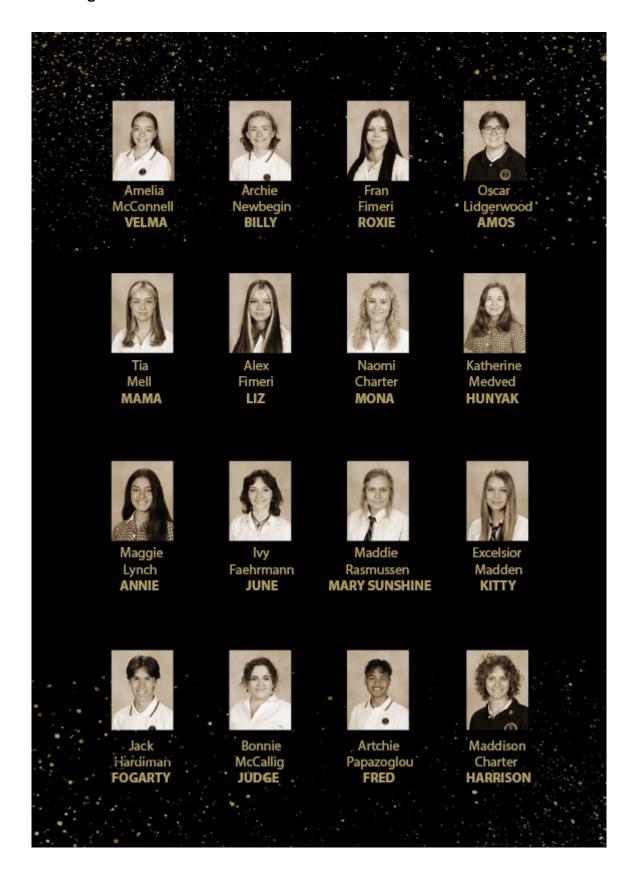
#### Venue:

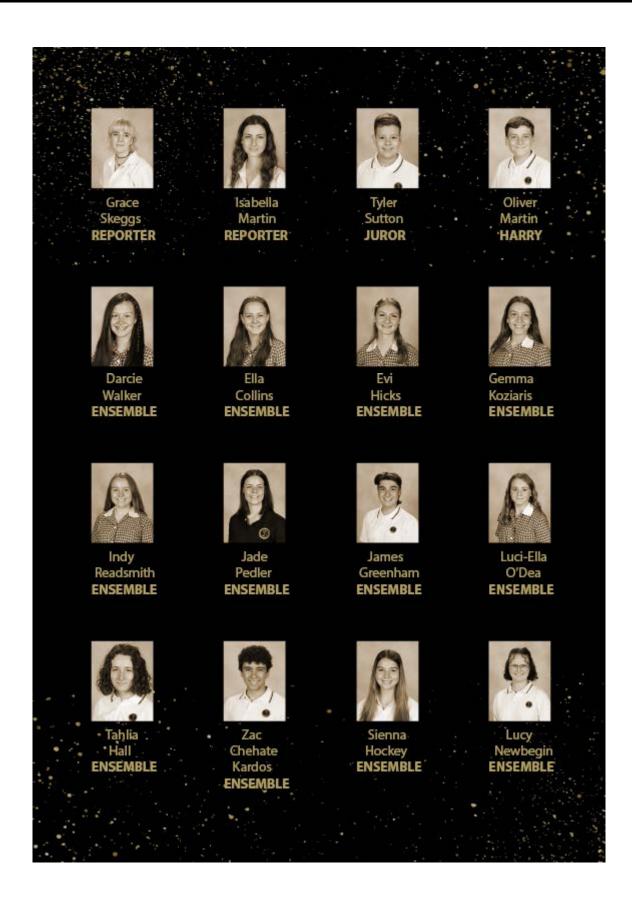
Centenary Theatre, Railway Place, Williamstown High School

Students across the Bayview and Pasco campuses have shown interest in backstage, front of house, and crew production roles. We will be contacting these students and sending out an EOI at the beginning of Term 2. For students who are interested, please email the production team <a href="mailto:production2021@willihigh.vic.edu.au">production2021@willihigh.vic.edu.au</a>

The production team is proud and inspired by the efforts of the cast in rehearsals. Always of an excellent standard! Well done to all students.

#### **Meet the Chicago Cast**







# **Drama Studies Production**

#### **Please Come Home**

**Performance Dates:** 

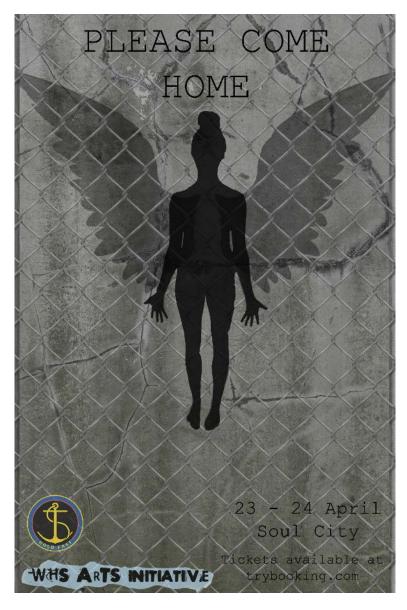
Friday 23 April at 7pm Saturday 24 April at 2pm & 7pm

Cost:

\$10 Adult and \$5 Student/Concession

Tickets: <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/BPFUW">https://www.trybooking.com/BPFUW</a>

Venue: Soul City, Williamstown High School, Pasco St, Williamstown



Dean Commons and Lachlan Wyatt | School Productions Leaders

# **Girls' Program Report**

We celebrated International Women's Day at Williamstown High School with a special breakfast, bringing together students and families from both campuses. A guest speaker also spoke at the breakfast and to our middle years students. Below is a transcript of what Julia Kitanovski and Eliya Crossman, both in Year 12, said to welcome everyone to our breakfast.

Lots of the feedback from the breakfast was incredibly positive, and we can't wait to have this event each year. A big thank you to Tamy Stubley, Adam Potter and Ashlee Horyniak for helping set up early in the morning. Thank you to the many staff that came along and supported this inaugural event, but mostly a huge thank you to those students and families who braved an early morning to join us on our journey for gender equality.

Good morning everyone. Today we are celebrating International Women's Day. International Women's Day has been celebrated globally for over 100 years and recognises the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women, as well as aiming to accelerate gender equality.

The United Nations says: "International Women's Day has become a time to reflect on progress, to call for change and to celebrate the courage and determination of the women who changed history, and those who will advance gender equality into the future. International Women's Day is an occasion to review how far women have come in their struggle for equality, peace and development. It is also an opportunity to unite, network and mobilise for meaningful change."

Today, we are fortunate enough to have Sumaya Harare sharing her story with us today. Sumaya is a Somali-Australian artist and storyteller on a mission to inspire one million girls globally to be the actors of change within themselves and their communities. Please make her feel welcome.







Lou Leggett | Girls' Program Coordinator

#### **Parents and Friends Association**



#### Next Meeting: Tuesday 18 May, 7:30pm via Zoom

Guest speaker - Juliette Coyne, one of the new mental health practitioners at WHS

(the link will be made available via Compass closer to the date)

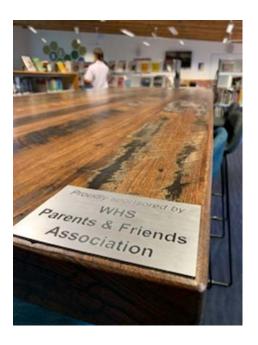
Bayview Campus Principal Tamy Stubley was our guest speaker at the recent PFA AGM. Due to Covid restrictions throughout 2020 and Year 7 orientation, this was the first opportunity many new parents to WHS had to talk with her, and we thank Ms Stubley for taking the time to discuss a wide variety of observations, concerns and queries.

We farewelled our outgoing PFA president, Rodanthi Logos, and thank her for her many years of contributions to WHS. The PFA welcomes Cath Palin as our new president, and Elizabeth Cushion, Julie-Anne Smith, Anne Cooper, Lauren Gregory, Allison Lauder, Megan Scott, Amanda Smith, Jo Patel, Tina Mifsud and Deb Ramsay as new committee members. More information about the PFA can be found on the Parents section of the WHS website: www.willihigh.vic.edu.au

Bayview Library - new table and giant Scrabble board

PFA fundraising provides "extras" for Willi High students, and we have recently contributed to two engaging new additions to the Bayview Library. Late last year a giant Scrabble board was installed, and this year has seen the arrival of a beautiful wooden high table that students flock to in class and at recess/lunch.





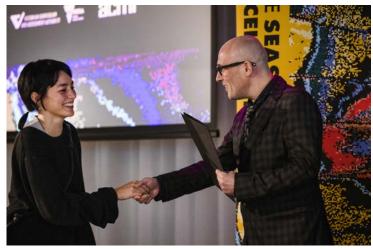
Cath Palin | Parents and Friends Association

# **VCE Season of Excellence**

Congratulations to ex-student Anise Perry, who was awarded runner up in the Jury Prize at Top Screen on Tuesday.

Over 250 students applied for Top Screen. Of those, 16 were included in the program, which will run at ACMI until May. Well done on this wonderful achievement Anise!







Photos of Anise with Academy Award-winning animator Adam Elliot

# **Uniform Shop: Easter Trading Hours**

The Dobsons Uniform Shop Easter Trading hours are as follows:

Wednesday 14 April from 8am until 11am

Friday 16 April from 12pm until 3pm

Monday 19 April 8am until 11am



**Dobsons Williamstown High Uniform Shop** 

P 03 9399 8662 E wil@dobsons.com.au W dobsons.com.au

## 5x7 Art Prize 2021



# **5X7 ART PRIZE 2021**

# Joel Gallery

Louis Joel Centre 5 Sargood St, Altona 3018

The 7th annual 5X7 ART PRIZE comprises works in a 5" x 7" format created by artists from Melbourne's Western Region and Hobsons Bay schools. This year's theme is:

#### **FREEDOM**

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:







# 10TH - 22ND APRIL

10am - 4pm Mon -Fri 11am - 3pm Weekends Closed public holidays

#### CONNECT:

Email: hbas@y7mail.com

Phone: 0417 056 762 (Kirsten Craggs)

hobsonsbayartssociety.org.au

f 5X7ArtPrize





# **Hobsons Bay Holiday Program**

















