



GERALTON  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**August 2021 Edition**



# THE BEACON

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*Striving for Excellence*





Enjoy reading about another action-packed few weeks at our school.

Thank you to all the parents, staff, and students for their contribution to our school. The sense of community is obvious.

*Neesha Flint*

Principal

*We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Southern Yamatji Peoples who are the Traditional Owners and First People of the land on which we stand. The Nhanhagardi, Wilunyu, Amangu. I would like to pay my respect to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of the Southern Yamatji Peoples.*

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GERALDTON  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS





# Geraldton Music Festival

This year, students from years PP-12 participated in the annual Geraldton Music Festival. It was an incredible event that took place over 4 days. We had school groups as well as individual participants representing our school, and our results were outstanding! Congratulations to all participants!

- Ms Martin's 5/6 class - Highly Commended with Percussion Ensemble
- Mrs Luk's class - 1st Place in Choral Speaking and Recorder
- The Year 1 & 2 Choir - 1st Place
- The Year 3-6 Choir - 1st Place
- The Junior Concert Band - 2nd Place
- Senior Concert Band - 1st Place
- Tallula Kendi - 1st Place for Poetry Solo
- Sophie Nanninga - 2nd Place for Poetry Solo
- Jasmin Nicholson - Highly Commended for Poetry Solo
- Charlotte Pilsneniks - 1st Place for Poetry Solo
- Cameron Millns Sizer - 1st Place for Poetry Solo
- Sarah Pilsneniks - 2nd Place for Poetry Solo
- Audrey Nolan - Highly Commended for Poetry Solo
- Scarlett Shortall and Imogen Teakle - 1st Place for Poetry Duo
- Phoebe Teakle - 1st Place for 4th Grade Piano
- Lara Mincherton - 1st Place for Girls Vocal Solo Under 14s
- Elle Ryan - 1st Place for Modern Piano Solo 3rd Grade
- Sofia Burrows - 1st Place for 3rd Grade Woodwind
- Samantha Scott - 1st Place for Piano Solo 3rd Grade
- Willow Pusey - 1st Place for Girls Vocal Solo 12 years and under



These students participated with solos on piano:

- Scout Bailey
- Luca Buise
- Mirja Chan
- Leong Chan
- Mackenzie Nicol
- Laura Padman

These students also competed: Jack Ward, Ashleigh Blignaut, Aurora Milnes, Schenay Blignaut, Olivia Painter.



# Striving For Excellence

The school places value not only on students actual subject grades but also on the affective traits of effort, behaviour and attitude. In recognition of this, secondary students were presented with the inaugural "Striving For Excellence" certificate which acknowledges students who recorded an excellent rating in each affective trait of effort, behaviour and attitude in every subject area on their Semester 1 report.



## Year 7

- Eve Broad
- Cameron Stokes
- Lucy Tonkin

## Year 8

- Remy Gaudron
- Taylor Penney
- Elle Ryan
- Lily Scrimgeour

## Year 10

- Jonathon Brown
- Matthew Chamberlain
- Jack Preston

## Year 11

- Amber Bestry
- Hannah Curnow
- Emily MacPherson
- Kristy Orr
- Breea Paech

## Year 12

- Elliot Beat
- Shenton Butler
- Lily George-Kennedy
- Connie Greeve
- Tahnee Gronow
- Jasmyn Johnson
- Natasha Taylor

## Student Leadership



Congratulations to the students voted in as Semester 2 House Captains and Class Representatives.

### Semester 2 House Captains:

Chapman - Sahar Chowdhury  
Greenough - Aleisha Gerada  
Irwin - Sophie Chapman  
Murchison - Jaxon Tindall

### Semester 2 Class Representatives:

3/4C - Jasmin Nicholson  
3/4L - Evie Fong  
3/4P - Aisha Jones  
5/6B - Rafferty Watson  
5/6M - Connor Jones  
5/6V - Charleigh Scrimgeour



## Secondary Semester 2 Hub Captains

The Leadership Program provides students in Years 7-12 with the opportunity for personal development and reflection, encouraging responsibility, respect and compassion for others. It enables the students to develop life skills and empowers them to make a positive contribution to the community, now and for the future.

Students will gain the opportunity to develop their decision-making, act as role models, and to be of service to their school and peers. The hub captains will work alongside the school captains, gathering student voices amongst their respected year groups and leading acts of service within the school community.

Congratulations to the students voted in by staff and their peers as Semester 2 Hub Captains.



Year 7 - Emily Canny & Blair Haultain



Year 8 - Taylor Penney & Phoebe Teakle



Year 9 - Christi Bestry & Jenna Butson



Year 10 - Jack Preston & Lissi Taylor

## Young Writers Workshop



About 20 Y6s from our school have been participating in the Young Writers Collective workshops over the past three terms. We have learnt a lot of writing skills over the three days we have been there.

The visiting author this term was Bren MacDibble, who was born in New Zealand. She is a local author who has travelled around Australia in a caravan and on motorbikes before moving to Kalbarri. Bren has written a lot of interesting books that I recommend reading. Mrs Jefferies has some of the books in our school library.

*by Sol Jones*



# Secondary Camps Week

## Year 7 Camp - Nukara

The Year 7 camp began Monday morning with a trip to the Chapman Valley Fishing farm. Here amongst the howling wind and heavy showers the students caught fish and learnt about hydroponics and aquaponics as part of the work on sustainability.

Tuesday morning the clouds were lifting and the camp to Nukara began.



Fun, cold, and tiring are some of the words the Year 7s used to describe their time at Nukara. Some were use to the outdoors so sleeping in a tent posed no difficulty but for others, they were pushed right out of their comfort zones. With all the recent rain, Nukara was beautiful. The creeks were full, the wildflowers were out and the sun shone. Nukara is a perfect example of sustainability and the students experienced first-hand the ecofriendly environment. They saw how stone, wood and tin could be re-purposed to make furniture and buildings. They drank the rain water, ate fresh food from the orchard, had the opportunity to use the bucket showers and had great fun playing on the recycled tyres and re-purposed wood offcuts that has been made into an amazing adventure playground. They climbed trees, sat around the camp fire and just enjoyed the nature around them. The students made damper, sailed model rafts, learned to make macramé and caught marron with simple nets. They were treated to homemade pizza and a movie night. The Year 7s were visited by our current Year 12s who came out to spend Wednesday morning on camp. Together they walked over the farmland and visited the Chapman Valley Museum. One of the activities on the final morning was community service, clearing the fallen trees to make bonfires.

It was a great camp. Thank you to the staff who helped run and organise the camp and the students who participated so positively.







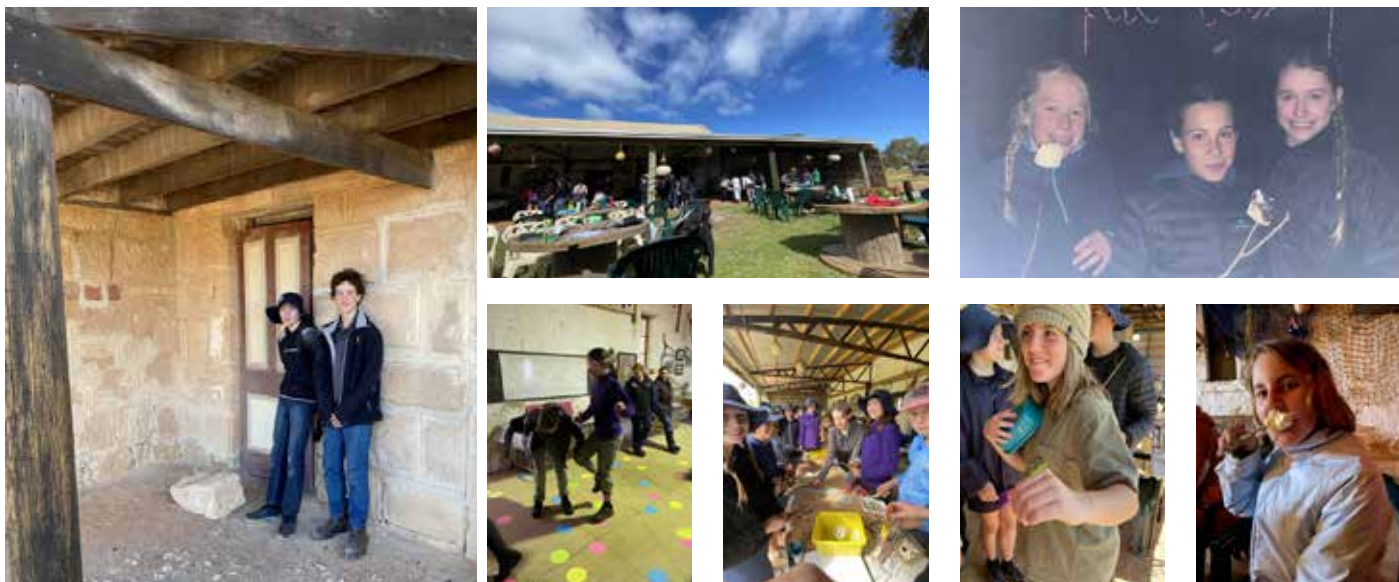
## Year 8 Camp - Lynton Station

On Tuesday 10 August, the Year 8 students came to school dressed in their bush clothes ready to depart to Lynton Station. When we arrived at Lynton at around 10:30am, we went exploring and soon we arrived at the beach where we stopped and had something to eat. When we got back we set up our tents, played some games and started our activity rotations which included visiting the historical sites, climbing the hills, building catapults and an escape room. After dinner we watched a movie accompanied by a hot Milo. On Wednesday, after a bacon and eggs breakfast, we continued with our activities, before we participated in making a bush tucker themed mosaic in our house groups which was conducted by some visitors from Northampton Old School. After dinner that night we played Fortnite spotlight and went stargazing. After we had packed up camp the next morning we left Lynton and attended a NAIDOC celebration at the Northampton Old School, before going back to Geraldton. It was a super fun camp and we would like to thank all the staff that organised the camp and came along with us.

*by Taylor Penney & Phoebe Teakle*







## Year 9 Camp - Galena

Galena camp provided students with the opportunity to hone their personal preparation skills in readiness for Outward Bound in Term 4. Dressing appropriately for all weather conditions, setting a heavy backpack to ride comfortably, keeping well-nourished and hydrated were just some of the important considerations that students had to attend in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable three days camped out near the abandoned Galena mine.





Forty one Year 9 students attended the camp along with 7 staff who supervised a variety of activities conducted over the 3 days.

Day 1 started off with some wild weather as we loaded up the vehicles which had some questioning what else was instore, but thankfully it abated and the weather was favourable for the 6km hike to the campsite and for the remainder of the camp. We were greeted with lots of wild flowers and green as far as the eye could see.



Day 2 saw students try their hand at mining, orienteering, and a reflective activity by the fire before converging to cook their meals. Later there was a team based activity followed by a warm drink by the fire to keep the chilly night air at bay.



The prospect of lunch in Northampton made breaking camp on Day 3 an easy task and with a quick scout around for rubbish, then it was off to the Warribanno Chimney and to the Northampton cemetery for a look. While there were plenty of good nutritious meals prepared on camp and nobody went without, after a few days, the desire for home comforts and something sweet can be for some, quite overwhelming. But then again, isn't that what camping is all about?



A big thanks goes out to the staff for giving up their time to camp out with us, without them this sort of event cannot run.

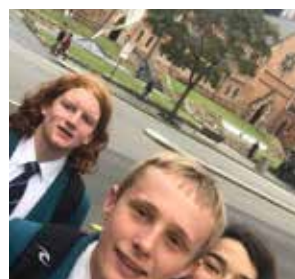


## Year 10 Camp - Perth

The Year 10 students undertook their yearly migration to Perth in order to experience a week of visiting the universities, discussing subject selection, pathways, WACE, playing mini golf, exploring the city and of course late-night shopping. The students toured Notre Dame, UWA, Curtin, ECU and Murdoch. Exploring what these universities had to offer and the layout of campus. St George's College put on a fantastic lunch to give the students a taste of college life and the students also participated in some learning activities including the printing of food. As always, the city treasure hunt was a highlight.







Students should be commended on the way in which they behaved and engaged in all activities. Special thanks also to the camp staff for accompanying the students and making the camp such a fantastic learning opportunity.

During the Year 11 and 12 school-based camp students engaged in a variety of activities relating to academic improvement, mental, physical and social wellbeing.

## Year 11 Wellbeing Day

During Camps week our Year 11 students participated in a Wellbeing morning on Wednesday 11 August. The day began with the 'RU Legal' talk presented by representatives from Legal Aid WA giving students up-to-date information on topics such as Cars & Driving, Common Offences and Drugs and Alcohol. The students then separated into three groups and experienced Wheelchair Basketball, Zumba and The Escape Room. We finished the morning with the activity 'What Stresses You Out'

All the activities were linked to increasing the students Mental Wellbeing, in particular the benefits of the community-based health promotion campaign - Act, Belong and Commit, of which the Geraldton Grammar School is now a part of.

Act – To keep active.

Belong – Connect with others.

Commit – Take on a challenge.





We would like to thank Faye from Legal Aid, Christine Collett, Chris and Ryan from ATLAS, Lisa Wheatley and Shelley Anderson from Zumba with Lishell for making the day so successful. A big thanks to all the Year 11 student who took part in the day.

## Year 12 Study & Service

At the start of camp week the Year 12 students were involved in a series of presentations by David Castelanelli to improve students' study, time management and examination techniques.

After joining the Year 7 at Nukara on their camp the Year 12 students visited the Shire of Mullewa on Thursday to provide a helping hand to the junior and senior members of the community. Students cleared yards, carried out small maintenance jobs and organised a range of sports activities for the local children to participate in.





# Outdoor Education

## Year 12 - Kalbarri Hiking

During camps week, the Year 12 Outdoor Education students attended their final expedition. With a hiking focus, the students headed to Kalbarri completing the 8km coastal cliff hike, 14km Z-Bend to 4ways and the 8km Natures Window Loop trail over 3 days. Students experienced some wet and windy conditions on Monday and Tuesday which led to some amazing flowing water through the gorge and challenging bouldering sections. The students all performed exceptionally well and were a credit to the school.



## Year 11 - Kalbarri Abseiling



On Friday 13 August, the Year 11 Outdoor Education students attended the Kalbarri Gorges to abseil. This formed part of their rope skills unit and they were tested on the 25m and 35m wall. Students were also able to complete a rock climb on the day. The weather was fantastic and the students had an awesome day.







## Year 10 - Skippers Ticket



On the 17 June, the Semester 1 Outdoor Education class completed their skippers ticket practical at the Batavia Marina. Students practiced their skills in the two dinghy's before being assessed in the afternoon. Congratulations to all students.



## Kindy Camping Day

On Thursday 19 August, both Kindy classes participated in a bush camping day. The students spent their morning setting up the tents with the assistance of the high school students. They then participated in various other activities including fishing in the creek, outdoor craft, storytelling, singing, damper making, Bush Kindy, a rest in the tents, and a sausage sizzle lunch. The weather was beautiful and the students all enjoyed their day spent outside in the sunshine. We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped to make our day so special.





# Primary Athletics Carnival



	Champion	Runner Up
Pre Primary	Hudson Kennedy	William Davies
	Zara Nanninga	Hazel McCartney Kelsee Thomas
Year 1	Jake Bassett-Scarfe	Digby Hearman
	Sadie Barnes	Jemima Nolan
Year 2	Flynn Wilkinson	Tate Joyce
	Samara Penney	Danah Mubi
Year 3	Charlie Fong	Darcy Patience
	Isla Quirke	Lia Frick
Year 4	Seth Leech	Bede Halford
	Evie Fong	Lahni Bell Elle Dines
Year 5	Henry Burton	Charlie Morrison
	Esta Penberthy	Isla Dawson
Year 6	Rhys Bell Nate Lane Leon Plummer	
	Isla Satie	Imogen Teakle



1st	Murchison	1556
2nd	Irwin	1310
3rd	Chapman	1282
4th	Greenough	1119

## Champion House - Murchison





# Carnival of Learning



To celebrate the learning and achievements that occurred in the primary school during Term 2, we held a Carnival of Learning on the last Thursday evening of the term. Families visited classrooms looking at the Year 3-6 student's Education Research Projects and joining our K-2 students in our play based Investigation areas. Then it was off to the hall where the P&F provided a delicious dinner and families watched a preview of the primary school Music Festival performances. Thank you to everyone who came along and celebrated all of the great things happening in our primary school.





# Batavia Games

After a term of training and practice matches against other schools, Geraldton Grammar School had planned to take 75 students to Senior High School Country Week in Week 11 of Term 2. Unfortunately, on the morning we were due to leave, Perth was in the beginning stages of a lockdown and Country Week for 2021 was cancelled.

To overcome the student's great disappointment, the Country Week coordinators of Geraldton Senior High School, Champion Bay Senior High School, Geraldton Christian College and Geraldton Grammar School worked together to organise the first ever Batavia Games. Geraldton Christian College hosted the event with games of soccer, touch rugby, netball, basketball and volleyball. Rosie Perham sang the National Anthem with an amazing voice at the opening ceremony and Geraldton Grammar School experienced success by coming Runner up in the girls and boys basketball and Champion in the mixed touch rugby.

It was a fantastic day and Geraldton Grammar School looks forward to hosting the Batavia Games in 2022.





# Interschool Secondary Football

On the 25 June, 61 Year 7 - 10 students attended the annual Secondary Schools Football Carnival held at GBSC Sports Park. For the first time, the girl's competition was added to the day. Geraldton Grammar School were represented by teams in the Y7/8 boys Y9/10 boys and the Y7/8/9 girls. Students played with excellent team work, commitment, sportsmanship and skill.

A big thank you to student coaches Kade Gillingham, Mitchell Thompson, Olivia Hurst and Clancy Hann who did a fantastic job on the day.

Best Players on the day were presented with a brand new Burley Football.

- Y7/8 Boys – Charlie Regan
- Y9/10 Boys – Callan Hill
- Y7/8/9 Girls – Nicole Chamberlain



# Interschool Secondary Netball

Friday 11 June, Geraldton Grammar School entered 7 teams to compete in the Midwest High School Netball Carnival. The girls competed with excellent sportsmanship, determination and skill in perfect weather conditions. Other schools participating were Geraldton Christian College, Northampton District High School, Geraldton Senior High School, Champion Bay Senior High School, Governor Stirling Senior High School and Nagle Catholic College.

A huge thank you to parent Mel Finlay, student Sophie Batten and staff Mrs Jefferies, Miss Cinanni, Mrs Winterbine, Mrs Watson, Mrs Flint and Mrs Opalinski who helped out coaching and umpiring throughout the day. It was also fantastic to see many of our students helping umpiring and scoring in a professional manner.





# Interschool Surfing Titles

Day 1 of Term 3 saw some of our up and coming surfing stars show their stuff against rival Geraldton teams. Back Beach turned on some pretty gnarly conditions with large swell bringing sizey waves out the back that were preferred by the more experienced competitors, and reforms on offer on the inside for those that could withstand the side drift. As a team based event surfers had to put their best foot forward to go through to the finals. Considering the challenging conditions, all of our competitors surfed their best with smiles and shakas all round. Our senior girls team surfed well with Amber and Christi Bestry being crowned runner up in their category. All points contributed to the overall champion school. With the sheer weight of numbers Nagle Catholic College came first and Geraldton Grammar School took the bronze claiming 3rd Place. Thanks to Surfing WA for putting on the event and water safety, the parents that came down to help, and the staff Mrs Bestry, Miss Cinanni and Mr Jones for their support.



## Student News

### Jack Preston & Taylor Penney - Mingenew Expo Winners

Jack and Taylor entered the Mingenew Expo Design Technology Fabrication Showcase competition with their metalwork and woodwork pieces. Jack took 1st Place for his tack hammer beating local and Perth schools. Taylor was awarded a creditable 3rd Place for her creative chopping board. Congratulations to you both.





## Finley Painter - Taekwon-Do Gold Medallist

On Sunday 27 June, here in Geraldton was the Taekwon-Do State Championships.

Finley entered 3 disciplines and won Gold in sparring for his age/weight category.

This is a massive achievement to be State Champion for this discipline and shows dedication, perseverance and commitment.



## Lailah Bellottie - Young Indigenous Women in STEM Academy



Lailah Bellottie was successful in her application to be part of the Young Indigenous Women in STEM Academy. The Academy provides young indigenous women with wonderful support to follow their studies and vocation in STEM areas. The program supports Lailah throughout her time at school with a mentor, opportunities to participate in fantastic STEM learning opportunities and camps as well as establishing strong networks with other young indigenous women interested in STEM or working in STEM fields. The CSIRO are partners in the nationwide program. Daniella Borg came to visit Lailah on the 16 August and outlined the exciting opportunities open to Lailah. The wonderful part of the academy is that the support will extend beyond school and into university. The school congratulates Lailah on her successful application to the academy.

## Country Week Hockey Team

Five of our Y7/8 girls and Super Coach Katie Clarkson represented Geraldton Grammar School at the Junior Y7/8 Championships in Perth in the first week of the School Holidays. All girls played well and were rewarded for their efforts with joint 3rd Place.

Team: Nicole Chamberlain, Emily Canny, Sophie Chapman, Katie Clarkson, Ruby Lin and Taylor Penney.





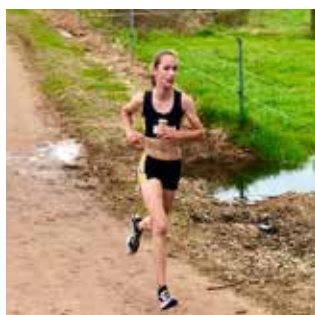
## Christi Bestry & Nicole Chamberlain - WA Cross Country Champs

In July Christi and Nicole were awarded a place in the WA State Athletics Cross Country Team, after Christi ran a personal best of 15.02mins for the U15 Girls 4000m at the WA State Cross Country Championships at Kings Park on Sunday 25 July, coming a close second and achieving a Silver Medal. Nicole also ran well finishing a strong 10th to earn her spot on the team.

On Tuesday 3 August the girls competed in Busselton with the SSWA State Cross Country Team at the South West Cross Country Championships. Christi won Gold in the 5000m with Nicole not too far behind in 4th Place.

Next stop is the Australian Cross Country Nationals in Adelaide which has just been postponed. Hopefully a new date will be confirmed in the not too distant future.

Congratulations Christi and Nicole.



## Alumni News

### Jarrold Heelan (2015) - MWCCI Winner



Congratulations to Jarrod on his recent Best Customer Service Award - Hospitality at the 2021 Mid West Chamber of Commerce and Industry - MWCCI Business Excellence Awards.

