

# August 2019 Edition





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geraldtongrammarschool.wa.edu.au



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.

# Inside this issue

**Book Week** Mystery on the Orient Express 14 03 **Geraldton Music Festival Spelling Bee 16** 04 Year 4 Camp - Local History & Art Young Writers Program 17 06 **Secondary Camp Week Student News** 07 18 • Year 7 Camp - Galena • Year 8 Camp - Lynton Station **Staff News** • Year 9 Camp - Galena 19 Year 10 Gateway Camp - Perth  $\bullet$ **School History** • Year 11 Wellbeing Staycation

## 11

#### **Outdoor Education**

- Year 12 Kalbarri Hiking Camp
- Year 11 Kalbarri Abseiling Day Trip

Interschool Surfing

13

12

Kindy Camp Out

Australian Geography Competition





Achieve · Inspire · Motivate







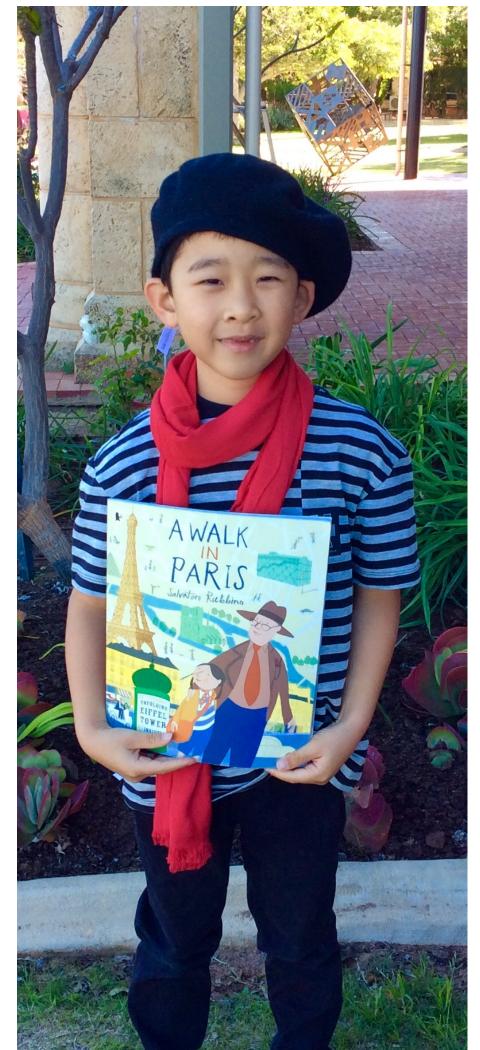


Students from K - 6 assembled hall to celebrate the in children's literature by dressing up as their favourite book character for our annual book week parade. We paraded through the school much to the delight of many. At the conclusion of the parade we buddied up in house groups for a special Reading is My Secret Power quiz. Congratulations to Irwin and Chapman who were the winners of the quiz.

















## **Instrumental Music Program**



During week 1 of term 3, the students from the Instrumental Music Program participated in the annual Geraldton Music Festival.

Instrumental students from years 6 to 12 represented our school in the solo, small and large ensemble, Concert Band, Jazz and Rock Band categories. All of our students performed beautifully and were excellent ambassadors for our school. There were many successful entrants in this year's festival including:

GGS Concert Band (Senior Division) - 1st Place 96/100 GGS Secondary Choir - 1st Place 94/100 GGS Rock Band - 1st Place 96/100 GGS Sax Ensemble (Jazz division) - 1st Place 96/100 GGS Clarinet Ensemble - 1st Place 94/100

Rose Adamson (Own Composition) - 1st Place 98/100 Erin Haultain - 1st Place - Woodwind Solo Grade 5 92/100 Irylle Cabuguas - 1st Place - Brass Solo Grade 3 95/100 Matilda Patten - 1st Place - Woodwind Solo Grade 2 94/100 Rosie Perham - 3rd Place - Woodwind Solo Grade 1 90/100 Charlotte Barber - Credit - Woodwind Solo Grade 3 Clancy Hann - Credit - Woodwind Solo Grade 2 Layne Gillingham - Credit - Woodwind Solo Grade 2 Nicole Chamberlain - Credit - Woodwind Solo Grade 1 Charlie Regan & Sophia Kalajzich - Highly Commended in Brass Duet Under 12s



All of our Instrumental Music Program students can be extremely proud of their efforts and musical skills as they showcased the hard work and dedication that they are known for. Well done everybody, we couldn't be prouder.

Jodie Tonkin Director of Instrumental Music





### **Primary Music**

Congratulations to all Geraldton Grammar students for triumphant performances at the 2019 Geraldton Music Festival. Parents and staff were delighted at the polished and professional participation of our students. We would like to acknowledge all the students in the primary school who won a place in their category:

#### Classes & Groups

Percussion
Percussion
Recorder
Choral Speaking
Vocal Group
Percussion
Percussion
Choir (Years 5/6)
Recorder
Choir (Years 3/4)
Choir (Years 1/2)

Individuals and Duos

1<sup>st</sup> Place 1<sup>st</sup> Place 1<sup>st</sup> Place 1<sup>st</sup> Place 1<sup>st</sup> Place 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Highly Commended Highly Commended





Preliminary Piano Piano Grade 1 Poetry Piano Grade 1 Flute Solo Poetry Duo Poetry Duo Poetry Preliminary Piano Preparatory Piano Modern Piano Grade 2 Piano Poetry Piano Grade 2 Preliminary Piano Piano Grade 2 Poetry Poetry Novice Piano Piano Duo Prelim. Piano Duo Prelim. Preliminary Piano Flute Solo

1<sup>st</sup> Place 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Highly Commended **Highly Commended** Highly Commended Highly Commended Highly Commended Highly Commended **Highly Commended** Credit Credit





On Monday 12 August the year 4s eagerly met at the Geraldton Camp School to begin their awesome local history/arts camp. We were all very excited as we settled into our dorms and prepared for one of the many team problem-solving challenges we were to participate in throughout the week. The problem solving tasks helped us to develop our teamwork skills, as we soon realised, if we didn't work together we couldn't complete the tasks. Some team challenge highlights were the marble run game and solving patterns in a stepping-stone sequence.

Each day we ventured out to visit local historical sites to learn about the exploration and settlement of Geraldton. One day we traveled north to visit the historical Lynton Settlement. We found Governor Sandford's house and the convict hiring depot very interesting. The next day we headed south to Greenough to visit the Pioneer Museum, the Hundred-Year Cemetery and the Greenough Historical Settlement. We also took part in a simulated gold rush which we found very challenging as some of us found lots of gold, while others found very little or none. We are so lucky to live in an area with such a rich and fascinating history.







After each long busy day of working hard we completed our social emotional reflections and then it was time to play. Some of the evening activity highlights were twilight mini golf, collaborative games, painting and a popcorn movie night watching Skippy the Bush Kangaroo. We loved Skippy!

Camp helped us to step outside our comfort zones and take risks by participating in new and challenging things. Sand boarding, zip lining and archery were brand new experiences for many of us and were great fun.

We finished our fantastic camp by planning and creating watercolour picture books about the history of Geraldton. This involved completing a sequenced storyboard, designing and creating our pictures, painting them and adding text suitable for lower primary students. We look forward to sharing our picture books later in the term. Thank you, Mrs Elliot Lockhart, our artist in residence for facilitating this fantastic day.

Camp was a great experience for us all and although we were sad it was finished, we were also very happy to go home to our parents. We learnt lots and had a super time.

Thank you to all the teachers that came along to help us.





#### Year 7 Camp - Nukara

Fun, exciting, adventurous, enjoyable and inspiring are some of the words the year 7s used to describe their camp at Nukara. Despite the rain and pitching tents under cover the camp was a great success. Nukara is a perfect example of sustainability and the students experienced firsthand the eco-friendly environment. They ate fresh food from the orchard, had the opportunity to use the bucket showers and saw examples of creativity in the ingenious ways the Blakeways re-purposed items that would have been thrown away. Most fun was had playing on the adventure playground, climbing trees or just enjoying the nature around them. The students made damper, sailed model boats, made Chinese noise makers out of recycled bottles and had great fun catching marron with simple nets. The 7s were visited by Just Raptors who brought a peregrine falcon, a whistling kite and a baby barn owl. The year 12 students came for a morning, joined in the activities and over a delicious morning tea shared memories of their year 7 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

The year 8 Camp was held at the historic Lynton Station, near Port Gregory.

The camp focused on creativity and natural resource use as students completed a number of artworks inspired by living on country from an indigenous perspective, the colours of nature and the changed perspective of nocturnal light. These artworks included house banners based on indigenous foods, night sketches, light painting photography and a beach rubbish colour display.

Apart from learning a little about indigenous



land use with Mrs Colleen Drage from the Northampton Old School Community initiative, students also explored the colonial history of the area and modern use of the pink lake for harvesting beta carotene. For the latter, Mr John Curnow of BASF gave a great talk and displayed interesting samples of the bacteria, algae and brine shrimp that live in the Hutt Lagoon.

The evenings were supplemented with the obligatory games of fortnite-spotlight and a visit to the "haunted" homestead!

Students completed a short service project in restoring paths to the lookout on the station and around the convict depot.





### 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 students had to attend in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable three days camped out near the abandoned Geraldine mine.

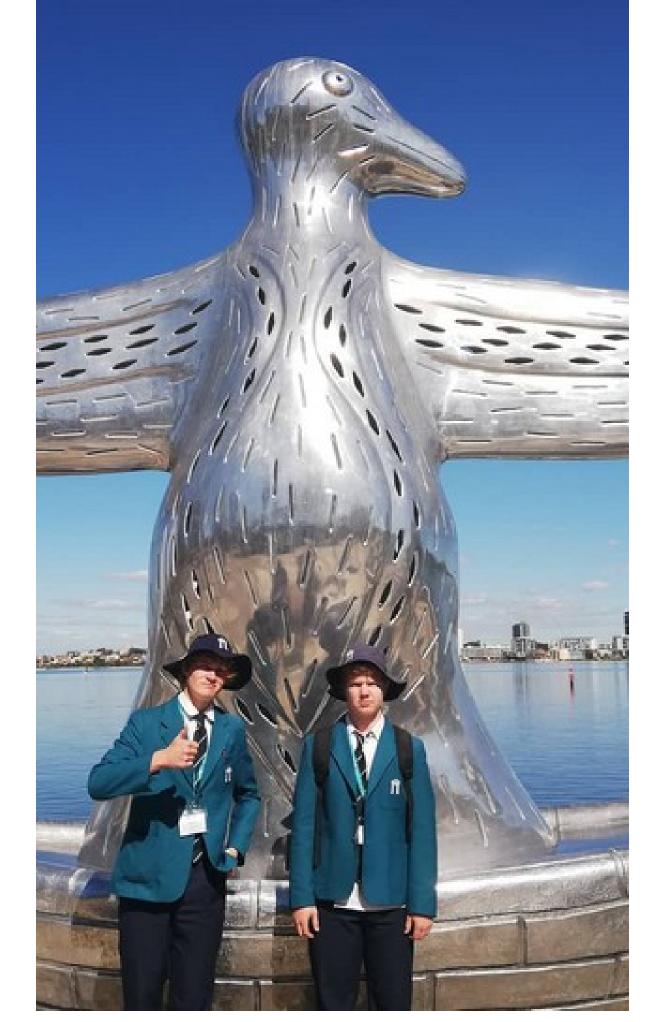
All 49 year 9 students attended the camp along with 8 teachers who supervised a variety of activities conducted over the 3 days. The weather was favourable for the 6 km hike to the campsite. Lots of wild flowers and everywhere green as far as the eye could see. The expected change in conditions on day two did not disappoint. Intermittent showers throughout the day sent students and teachers scurrying for what little shelter was available, but spirits were high and the occasional down pour didn't spoil the occasion one bit. Day 2 wound up with a night hike, fording the Murchison River, followed by a steep climb to the isolated, lonely old graveyard where students shared frightening stories. But, what about the pig?

The prospect of lunch in Northampton made breaking camp an easy task. 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?



### Year 10 Gateway Camp - Perth





On Monday 12 August, 57 year 10s and 5 teachers traveled to Perth for the annual year 10 Camp. The focus of the camp is to introduce students to different tertiary pathways and as such students visit all the universities; Notre Dame, Murdoch, Curtin, UWA and ECU. It is a fantastic opportunity for students to explore the campuses, gain an understanding of pathway requirements and begin to explore tertiary opportunities. It isn't all work with the students having time to play mini golf, go late night shopping and participate in the hotly contested Perth treasure hunt, where teams navigate themselves around Perth, enjoying a bit of autonomy and time in the city. The students arrived back in Geraldton on Friday evening and a good time was had by all.

The camp is a real highlight for students and they were exceptionally well behaved. A big thanks to the accompanying teachers who gave up their week to join the group.





## Year 11 - Wellbeing Staycation





On Wednesday 14 August, during camps week, year 11 students took part in a morning of wellbeing activities. The activities were designed to highlight that our social, emotion, physical and mental wellbeing is linked to many things including, health, fitness, working together, and community involvement.

The morning started with, solicitor Kelly Beard from Legal Aid who presented a talk entitled 'R U Legal', delving into the law around topics such as sexting, assault and rights.

The students were then split into four groups and spent the rest of the morning moving through different activities that included the following:

- Marcus from Basketball WA, and although the weather moved this activity into the hall, students still enjoyed learning new skills.
- Mandy Jolley from the SHINE program saw students create amazing artwork with a group of year 6 Shimmer participants. Loved the tiara's!!!
- Zumba with Lisa and Shelley, and from the feedback, this was by far the activity students enjoyed the most. There is footage floating around of everyone dancing in the corridor of I Block.
- The Nightclub 'Escape Room' that kicked the brain cells into gear, with students having to solve puzzles to escape their particular room, before police arrived.

Overall, everyone had a great time. Thank you to all the year 11 students for getting into all the activities even though they may not have been 'your thing'. We had such positive feedback from you all but I think this comment summed it up the whole morning "Lit fam, Dardi as".













## Cert II in Outdoor Ed - Year 12 Kalbarri Hiking Camp





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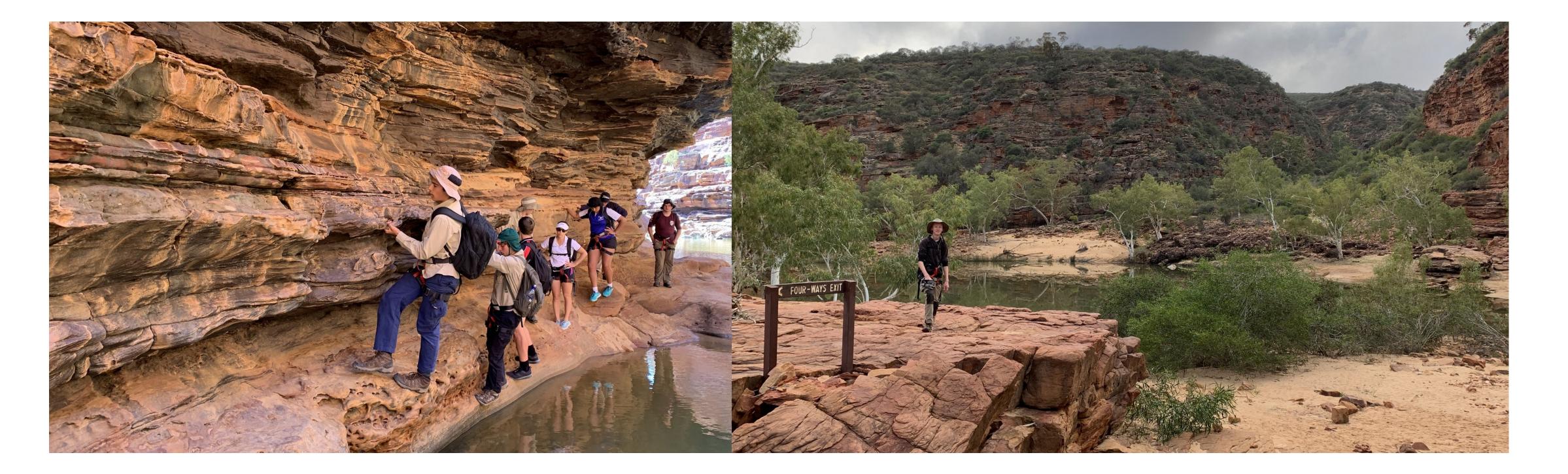
## **Cory Brooks** @geraldtongrammar

The year 12 Outdoor Recreation class went on our last expedition camp from Monday 12 - Wednesday 14 August. During our expedition, we hiked along the coastal cliffs of Kalbarri, as well as trekking through the Kalbarri Gorges and wrapping up our camp by walking the famous nature's window trail. Each person worked to achieve their full potential by working with others in the group effectively through communication and leadership skills. This final camp was our last practical of the year, it was both memorable and enjoyable and something we would look back on for years to come.

#### 11:11 AM - 15 Aug 2019







## Cert II in Outdoor Ed - Year 11 Kalbarri Abseiling Day Trip







## Nizar Al-Harari

 $\checkmark$ 

12

## @geraldtongrammar

On Friday 16 August the Certificate II Outdoor Education class went to Kalbarri for an abseiling course. We enjoyed a wonderful drive in the bus to Kalbarri before heading out to Z bend National Park where we appreciated the scenery that got us excited for the day. When we arrived we met Col from Kalbarri Abseil who briefed us about the day. We had two jumps on the 25 metre wall, two jumps on 35 metre wall and a 20 metre rock climb that challenged all of us physically as well as mentally. There were many different skill levels involved in the abseil. We had lunch in between our abseils, it was so enjoyable that when we were done with one abseil we raced to the top to have another go. Students were treated with an amazing weather around the Z bend all day long.

## 18:35 PM - 16 Aug 2019

# **Q** Interschool Surfing

Waking to great conditions on Monday of camps week, 8 students participated in the Interschool Surfing competition at Back Beach. It was a great day of surfing and everyone competed so well in their heats.



Both junior girls' teams made it through to the final. Amber Bestry and Milly Kalajzich finished runners up and Christi Bestry and Lailah Belottie won the junior girls final, and have qualified to compete in the State Finals at Trigg Beach. Overall, the surfing team finished 2nd!

Congratulations to all students involved and a huge thank you to Nigel Da Silva, Rachel Opalinski and Dee Bestry for volunteering their time to support our students.

Q Kindy Camp Out

As part of our NAIDOC Week celebrations, 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, story telling, singing, Bush Kindy, a rest in the tents and a sausage sizzle lunch. The weather was warm on both days and the students all enjoyed their day spent outside in the sunshine.









## Australian Geography Competition

During the Humanities and Social Sciences Skills Session, a group of year 8 students elected to participate in the Australian Geography Competition 2019. With the support of Mrs Clare Place, they worked on developing their geographical knowledge and skills before participating in the competition.

The aim of the Australian Geography Competition is to encourage student interest in Geography and award student excellence. This competition is well represented with 72,000 students participating from 782 schools last year.



We would like to commend all the students who chose to participate this year and congratulate those who achieved outstanding results. Congratulations to:

Omar Hassan – High Distinction (placing him in the top 8.88%) Angus Krinks – Credit Riley Sayers - Credit





On Friday 23 and Saturday 24 August, Geraldton Grammar School presented Mystery on the Orient Express in Batavia Hall. This production was well received by the community. An all-star cast led the audience on a journey in search of the missing Romanoff pearls on the famous Orient Express. As the train stopped in France, Italy, Switzerland and Austria a number of interesting suspects were introduced to the audience. Some sharp detective work from famous sleuths Sherlock Holmes, John Watson and Miss Marple saw the missing pearls returned to their rightful owner at the conclusion of the show.

It was my absolute pleasure to direct this wonderful performance. The students involved displayed so much professionalism and commitment during the rehearsal process. Their amazing performances really speak for themselves, I had so much fun watching them develop their characters and I could not be prouder of the work we have created over the past six months.

Productions provide an excellent opportunity for students to step out of their comfort zone, make lifelong friends, develop creativity, build self-confidence and collaborate with like-minded individuals. At Geraldton Grammar School we offer many opportunities to participate in performances. Please keep an eye out for what is in store in 2020!











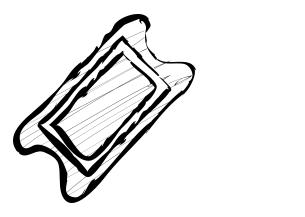


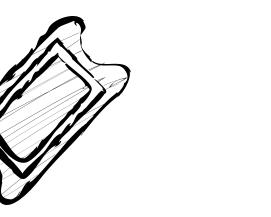


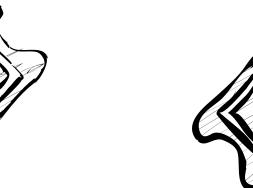
#### Cast:

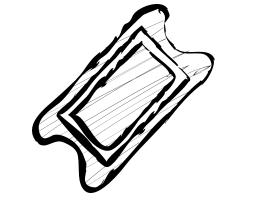
**Inspector**- Shenton Butler Miss Cast/Miss Marple-Ciedele Mezger Sherlock Holmes- Zephyr Milnes John Watson- Zali Young Countess Vinealotski- Nikita Nankiville Garter Hari- Zahra Gallarza **Ethel**- Jamie-Lee Carter Grace- Elena Dalle Fred- Dougal Watson Ted-Ben Maynard Lotsa Von Crapp- Connie Greeve Pila Von Crapp- Tanami Stewart Fulla Von Crapp- Ben Todd Heapa Von Crapp- Breea Paech Loda Von Crapp- Nick Grima Heidi Von Crapp- Taylor Ricketts French Gendame 1- Ann Jacobs French Gendame 2- Jameela Msuo French Maid- Jenna Butson Italian- Quasha Hazal Cockney- Jett Butson William Tell- Ben Todd Swiss Miss- Anna-Rose Frater **Porter 1**- Shalise Baker Porter 2- Breea Paech Fruity Gelata- Cory Brooks Sergio- Taylor Ricketts Guido-Ben Todd Fabio- Quasha Hazal Giovanni- Nick Grima

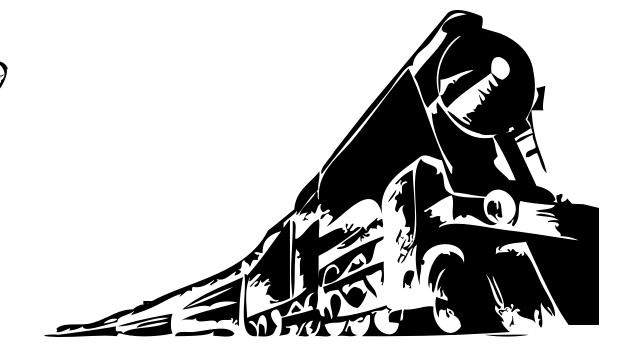












Special thanks must be given to:

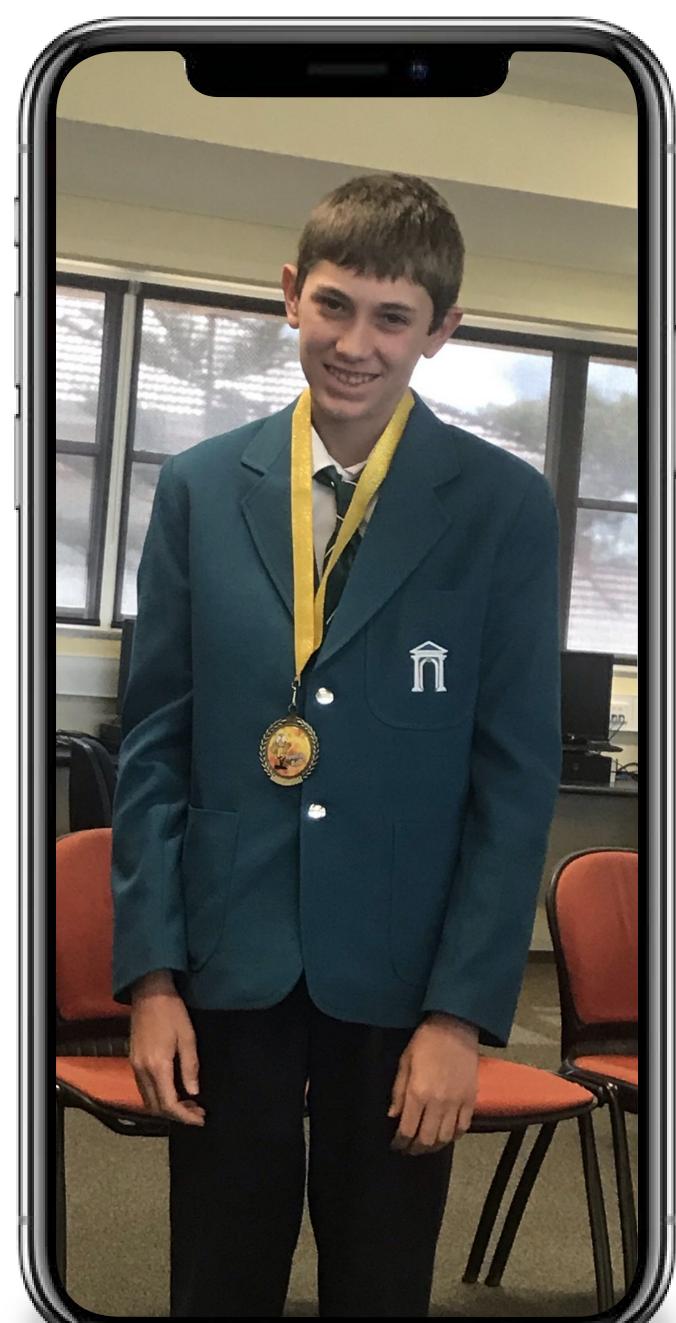
- Gascoyne Music Services
- Jodie Tonkin and Andrew Sloan as our technical support
- Front of house by Derek Lange, Mrs Caroline Hann, Graeme Munday, Donna Trusso, Sheila Frye, Layne Gillingham, Maggie Rutter, Betty Steer, Clancy Hann and Hayley Baker
- Hair and Makeup by Corine Verbe, Cindy Verbe, Julia Olenius, Holly Ellis and Odette Luk
- Box office and promotions by Di Taylor, Stacey Morgan and Clare Place
- Costume designer Karen Benson
- Set design and construction by Russell Jones, Mike Bibrlik and Ross Clarkson





Friday 9 August saw Geraldton Grammar School compete for the second time in the Midwest Spelling Bee High School Competition. This year we sent a larger team that consisted of students from years 7 to 10. Students were identified as having strength in spelling after testing was conducted at the beginning of the year and have been training for the event since Term 1. The competition was tough in both the individual and teams categories and a number of schools walked away with wins.

Congratulations go to our very own Dylan Spencer who won the Year 8 Individual Competition with the correct spelling of the word **GASTROENTERITIS** and we look forward to competing again next year.



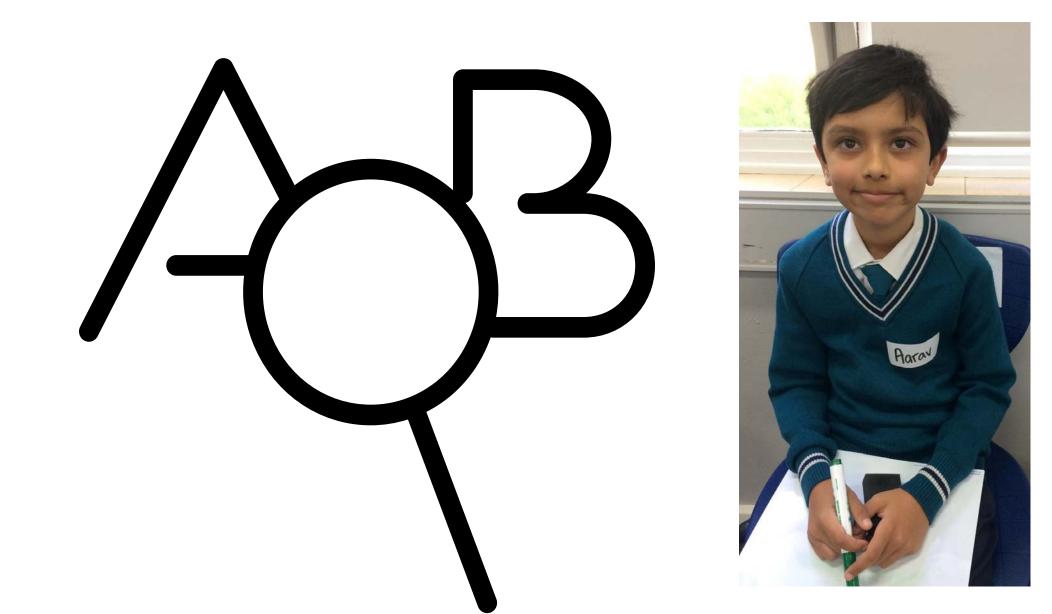


Secondary Spelling Bee Team Members (L-R): Daniel Stickney, Tahnee Gronow, Joe George-Kennedy, Isabella Krinks, Jenna Butson, Cindy Verbe, Elliot Beat, Lily George-Kennedy, Dylan Spencer and Elena Davidson.

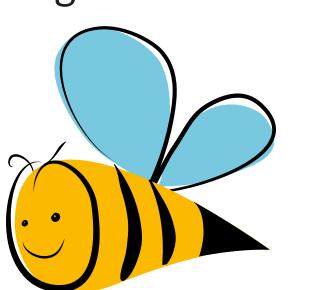


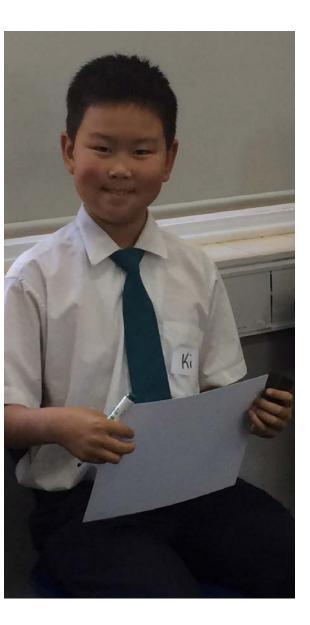


Primary Spelling Bee Team Members (L-R): Sofia Burrows, Esta Penberthy, Phoebe Teakle, Lily Scrimgeour, Scarlett Shortall, Aarav Dhillon, Samantha Scott, Xavier Shiosaki, Henry Davidson and Ki Zhang.



This year was the first time the primary school entered the Midwest Spelling Bee. This event showcased the best spellers from 16 schools from Geraldton and surrounding areas. Organised by Geraldton Literacy Strategy Committee and hosted by Geraldton Senior High School, students competed both individually and in teams. We congratulate our team of 10 super spellers.





# **Young Writers Program**



On Wednesday 14 August, the year 6s in the Talented Young Writers Program went to Champion Bay High School to meet Amanda Jane Betts. AJ Betts is a very successful author who has won many awards for her five published books.

We started the day with brainstorming ideas to start a story. AJ Betts asked us to think of the unexpected and what could happen; this was how she came up with the book titled *Hive*. AJ showed us examples in this book and gave us ideas on how to create an exciting story line. Throughout the day we were given time to create stories of our own and brainstorm our own characters, some by looking at shopping lists! AJ read the lists and created characters and short stories to go with them this was one of the things she said she enjoys doing.

This opportunity gave us all a chance to use our creative thinking skills and develop our writing quality. We thoroughly enjoyed this visit and we are all looking forward to the next terms workshop!

Lily Scrimgeour and Drew Murdoch.





### Regan Connor - Army Gap Year Program



The Army Gap Year program is a way for people to experience what Army life is like for one year. To apply for this program, you must be between the ages of 18 and 24. Positions are opened annually for limited positions in the Army, Navy and Airforce. Applications for the Gap Year Program are made online. After my initial application, I was asked to attend a Your Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) session where I had to complete multiple aptitude tests as well as have a careers coaching session. This was to determine my suitability for a specific role. Upon successful completion of this session, I was invited to attend an Assessment Day at the Defence Force Recruiting Centre in Perth. This was split into three parts; a medical session, a psychologist interview and a defence interview. From this I was highly recommended for the roles I applied for. I was advised that the next step would be a Pre Fitness Assessment (PFA), where I was required to meet the minimum standard for pushups, sit-ups and the shuttle run. I achieved the required standard for entry and have recently been offered a Driver Gap Year position. The enlistment date is early February 2020 where I will be transferred to the Kapooka training base near Wagga Wagga in southern New South Wales. Basic training goes for 80 days and upon successful completion, we will attend a Marching Out Parade. We will then be transferred to our specific training centre depending

on our job role. I will go to Puckapunyal in Victoria for a further 70 days where I will undergo training to become a Driver Specialist. Then I will be posted to a Defence Base around Australia where I will complete the rest of my Gap Year. From here I might be offered a full-time position in the ADF or I can choose to come back and use my experience in the civilian world.

After being offered the position I have felt mixed emotions. I feel a great sense of accomplishment that I have been rewarded for the effort I put in. I am also excited about the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead of me. At the same time, I am also nervous about how different my life will be, especially moving to the other side of the country and being so far away from my family. I am also scared that the next 6 months could be that last time I ever live at home with my family if I choose to pursue a career in the ADF. Both my parents were very supportive during the application process as well as pursuing my goal. I am looking forward to what will be the next chapter in my life and the experiences that lay ahead of me.

## Jack Preston - GYC Championship Award for the 4th Year

For the 2018/2019 sailing season Jack represented the club at 4 regattas competing against both country and city clubs in the Pelican Class. He finished 4th at the East Fremantle State Titles and 1st and fastest at the Batavia Regatta in Geraldton in June.

On a club level he was awarded for the 4th consecutive year Pelican Class Championship and 1st place Consistency Award as the skipper of his yacht `Westside` with his 9 year old crew. Jack was also awarded the clubs `Most Active and Dedicated Sailor` for consistently representing the club while showing great sportsmanship and leadership over the 4 seasons of sailing. He has also set a club record to be the first junior skipper to have achieved the club Championship Award in the 102 year history of the GYC for 4 years running.



Mr Moffatt said "Jack is very quiet about his achievements but is becoming more confident about sharing as he gets older. I believe being at Grammar and having such a lovely, similar group of friends has helped him become more confident in this area. They really do support each other personally as well as academically with their very healthy bench-marking against each other. It can get very humorous at times"







Huge congratulations to Ms Dallas Bruce on becoming a Finalist for the Curtin University, School of Education Teaching Excellence Award, part of the 2019 Western Australian Regional Achievement and Community Awards. This is an absolutely amazing achievement and one to be extremely proud of – well done!

The judges were very impressed with her nomination and she is invited to attend the Gala Presentation Dinner where she will be presented on stage with a framed Finalist certificate. Winners of each category will be announced at the Gala Dinner, which is being held in Perth on Friday 18 October 2019.





## **Q** School History

20 years ago, 1999, our school had been open on the current site for just 2 years. This is how it looked:



Cumbersome computer in use



The first primary play area adjacent to the main admin building where the pre primary enclosure is now



A typical whole school assembly within the Primary Quad



Enrolments numbered 232 students; there were three hockey teams and three netball teams, a swimming team, football teams, an interschool athletics team, and a cross-country team event all of whom competed in Inter School events. A senior and junior choir as well as a vocal group were winning musical awards back then. There was also a Primary and Secondary Equestrian team who competed in the WA High Schools One Day Equestrian Event at Wooroloo, coming equal second with John Wollaston on the day. School Camps, Work experience engagement, Book Week, Science Week, Math's Week, a Biology Field Trip were in place and a Rock Eisteddfod, as well as an Arts Showcase. Grammar was well on the way with many activities happening, most of which are still current today in similar format.

The P&F were very active that year as the Library Building Fund was launched with many fundraising activities such as two huge garage sales, a mystery dinner; sheep manure drive, GGS labelled wine sales, car rally, garden tour, and lastly a quiz night. Their undertakings did not stop, as they assisted with sporting carnivals, entertainment performances, Open Day, tree planting, school camps and just being supportive parents in the classroom.

Dedicated commitment to create attractive surroundings and infrastructure within the new school was evident with many weekends and holidays dedicated by families and students to tree planting, laying lawn and constructing furniture for leisure areas all of which are utilised on campus today.

In 2021, the 25th celebrations will present many additional magnificent extensions to our lovely school as well as an opportunity to view the whole school in working mode.

