



THE BEACON

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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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**GERALTON
GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

Achieve · Inspire · Motivate





Randolph Stow Young Writers Award



Lower Primary Poetry

Esta Penberthy 3/4L - Highly Commended
Seth Leech 3/4L - Third Place
Wil Burgess 5/6LM - First Place

Upper Secondary Pose

Sophie Spencer Year 11 - Highly Commended
Darcy Ingle Year 12 - Highly Commended
Ella Clarke Year 12 - Second Place

An extract from Wil's Winning Poem:

Why I Love Relief Teachers

Oh, Relief Teachers,
How I love you so.
You never know what to do,
As you come and go.

We get to lunchtime early,
Recess quick as well.
When we say it's home time,
You don't wait for the bell.

We can work with all our friends,
And goof around as well.
You believe all we say,
Does your head begin to swell?





Science Week

Excursion to the Australian Defence Satellite Communications Station



The Year 5/6 classes went undercover for National Science Week, visiting the Australian Defence Satellite Communications Station, known by everyone in Geraldton as the Spy Base. We were lucky to be the first school to ever go on a tour inside. We learned about the massive solar farm and the powerhouse, and how much energy is generated. Most of us really wanted to push some of the red buttons and pull the levers to see what would happen! We also went inside an Antenna RADOME - they look like giant "golf balls" on the outside.

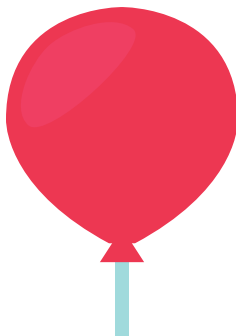
We went inside the data centre where it is so top secret, you can't take any electronic devices and have to stay inside the yellow lines. We learned lots of facts about the radars and satellites. We also found out that our school computers are really small compared to the ones in the data room.

The biggest thing we learned is that they don't do what the famous Hollywood movies show what spies do.

Thank you to the Australian Signals Directorate staff for cooking us a delicious sausage sizzle, providing us with awesome gift bags and teaching us more about science and technology. We learned many cool facts and enjoyed visiting somewhere that's top secret.



Kindy Science



The Junior Kindy and 4 Year Old Kindy classes have been investigating AIR this term through the Little Scientists program. This program gives young children the opportunity to explore STEM ideas and the natural world in a nurturing and playful way. The students have been using their senses to discover that air can be felt and heard and that it can be caught and made visible. They all had lots of fun blowing up balloons, using party whistles, running with umbrellas, creating bubbles and flying kites during their Investigations.



Year 1/2 Science



Friction



Our Year 1 and 2 students had a great afternoon completing four Physical Science experiments to conclude a topic on forces - we had a friction ramp experiment, tug of war push and pull forces, paper helicopters with air resistance and floating and sinking experiments.



Gravity



Float & Sink



Forces



Push & Pull



Camps

Year 4 - Local History & Art Camp



On Monday 17 August the Year 4's 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 low ropes, which required immense perseverance and a timed hoop game requiring us to get the whole team through the hoop in the shortest amount of time. We came up with some amazing strategies.

Each day we ventured out to visit local historical sites to learn about the exploration and settlement of Geraldton in the early 1900s. One day we travelled north to visit the historical Lynton Settlement. We found Governor Sanford'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 a Bingo evening with Minute to Win It challenges, twilight mini-golf, painting and a popcorn movie night watching Skippy the Bush Kangaroo. We loved Skippy.

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

We finished our fantastic camp by planning and creating a movie about the history of Geraldton between 1850 and 1900. This involved planning and writing a script, deciding on the scenes, costumes and suitable locations for filming. We also had fun playing lots of drama games with Mr Anderson to sharpen our acting skills. We look forward to sharing our movie later in the term. Thank you, Mr Anderson for facilitating this fantastic day.

The 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 and support us.



Year 7 - Nukara Camp

Fun, muddy, wet, enjoyable, and tiring are some of the words the Year 7s used to describe their camp at Nukara. Some were seasoned campers so the 'tent city' posed no challenges, for others, they were pushed right out of their comfort zones. Nukara is a perfect example of sustainability and the students experienced firsthand the ecofriendly 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 repurposed 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, learned to make friendship bracelets, and joined in with theatre games and sport challenges and tried to catch 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 for a morning and accompanied them on a walk over the farmland and a visit to the Chapman Valley Museum. Thank you to the staff who helped run and organise the camp and the students who participated so positively.



Year 8 - Lynton Station Camp

Our Year 8 students spent two nights at historic Lynton Station near Port Gregory for Camp Week. We were welcomed to the country by Mr Dion Harris who shared stories and insights of his Naaguja people. This helped the students develop a good sense of how wonderful a place it is. The students continued this journey of discovery by spending time at the beach collecting flotsam and jetsam for their bowl weaving project, climbing the hill to observe the colours of nature, restoring pathways at the convict depot, identifying plant adaptations, working in teams to build and test catapults, and sharing the cooking, clean up and consumption of delightful camp food. Students tell me that highlights included the games Fortnite, Spotlight and Murder.





Year 9 - Galena Camp

We started off our trip by being dropped off near the Galena Bridge, we then split into two walking groups and set off on a 7 km hike down the river, although we didn't have specific directions, we still somehow managed to arrive at the Galena campsite despite a few unlucky shoe blowouts.

When we arrived, the camp was not quite ready for us to get set up, so we stayed down at the river where Ms Kelly allowed us to remove our boots, air our feet and enjoy a lolly or two.

Later on that night, after we learnt how to successfully build a bivvy (some groups not so much), we made dinner on our homemade choofers. The dinners consisted of a range of meals as each group brought their own ingredients to make their own dinners.

The rest of the night included team building activities as well as hot chocolates by the fire.

After a cold, wet night in our bivvies, we cooked breakfast and were split into three groups and completed activities consisting of orienteering, art and a bit of geology Miss Kelly style, that involved smashing rocks as hard as we could with a hammer.

Mr Bibs also gave us a rundown on the interesting history of the area that links in with the Year 8 camp at Lynton.

After cooking butter chicken provided by Mr Bibs, we walked to the old cemetery where we told scary stories into the night before settling into our sleeping bags for another night.

We started off our third and final day by cooking breakfast on the choofers as well as packing our belongings and disassembling our bivvies after the camp was successfully packed up to the standard of having zero trace, we set off once again, on a shorter hike this time, to where the bus was waiting for us to be collected. Once we got on the bus, we travelled for about 20 minutes before we stopped to look at an old industrial chimney used back when the Galena mine site was in action.

After this, we got back on the road and drove for another 45 minutes before stopping in Northampton to purchase our lunch. After we all had filled our bellies we hopped on the bus for the last time before arriving in Geraldton.

Overall, the students agreed that Galena was an awesome camp and one well worth looking forward to for those who have not yet been.

I personally loved roughing it and the responsibility of cooking our own meals was great.

Valuable teamwork lessons and skills were also learnt and you may not believe it, but even teachers start to smell a bit after a few days in the bush.

On behalf of Year 9 students, we owe a huge thanks to Mr Bibs, Mr Jones, Mrs Opalinski, Ms Price, Ms Kelly, Mr Wilkinson and Mr Gray for organising a very enjoyable camp for our year group.

Ava Chesson & Jack Preston

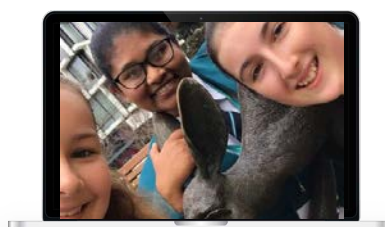
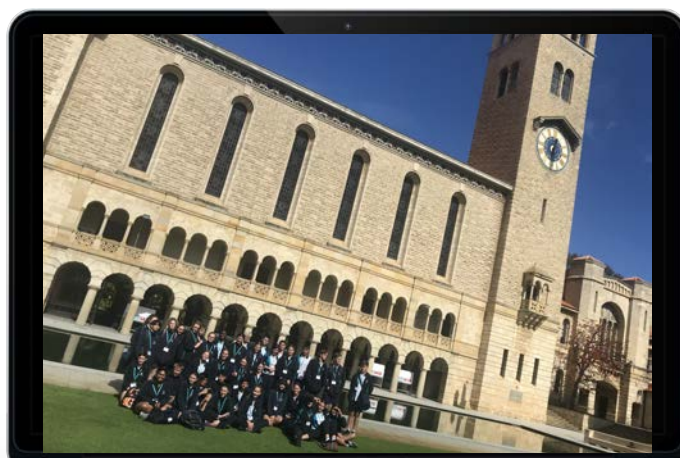




Year 10 - Perth Careers Camp

The annual trek down to Perth with the Year 10 cohort took place again during camps week. The students are lucky enough to visit; Notre Dame, Curtin, U.W.A, E.C.U and Murdoch with the goal of opening up some possibilities of further study, getting an idea what the university lifestyle is all about and simply broadening the horizons of the students in relation to opportunities post Year 12. The camp is also used as an opportunity to discuss pathways through school and some of the opportunities that exist as Year 11 and 12 students at Geraldton Grammar School.

The camp is a great opportunity to bond as a year group, enjoy some time together with friends and experience the city. Highlights are the mini-golf, late-night shopping and of course the Perth Treasure Hunt where students do a version of the amazing race around Perth.



Year 11 - Staycation Camp

Our Year 11 students participated in a Wellbeing day on Wednesday 12 August. The day began with the 'RU Legal' talk presented by representatives from Legal Aid WA giving students up-to-date on topics such as Sexting and Imaged Based Abuse. The student then separated into four groups and spent most of the day participating in Wheelchair basketball, Zumba, Escape Room and Art with guest speaker Dr Ros Worthington OAM.

All the activities were linked to increasing the students Mental Wellbeing, in particular the benefits of community-based health promotion campaign - Act, Belong and Commit.

- Act - To keep active.
- Belong - Connect with others.
- Commit - Take on a challenge.

We would like to thank Kelly from Legal Aid, Christine Collett, Andrew and Gerrard from ATLAS, Lisa Wheatley and Shelley Anderson from Zumba with Lishell and Dr Ros Worthington for making the day so successful. A big thanks to all the Year 11 students who took part in the day.



Year 11 Outdoor Education - Kalbarri



On the 14 August, the Friday of camps week, the Year 11 Outdoor Education class went on a day trip to the Kalbarri Gorges. Our two instructors for the day, Col and Steve had set everything up and were ready to go when we got there. We started with a walk down to the Z bend and the first abseiling sight for the day. When we got there Col set us all up with our harnesses, carabiners and gloves. We then split up and a couple of people stayed down the bottom to do the breaks but also to do the 20m rock climb. Once the whole group had had a couple of attempts at the 25m abseil we moved onto the 35m one. The whole experience was a challenge for some, but every single person had given each abseil a go and by the end of the day and were loving it. This day trip formed part of the practical assessment for the abseiling/roping and knots unit. Year 11 students are studying the General Outdoor Education course and have had a busy few weeks with both Coral Bay and Kalbarri expeditions occurring in quick session.

Tallis Kentish



Year 12 Outdoor Education - Kalbarri

For 3 days in August, the Year 12 Certificate II Outdoor Education class went to Kalbarri gorges on our final hiking trip. During the first day of the trip, we hiked the coastal cliffs in the rainy and windy conditions of Kalbarri, as well ending up at a fabulous campsite that was 5 min walk from the Z bend and the famous Nature's Window trail. Alongside our experience, the 2020 class got to see the new established Kalbarri skywalk. The students enjoyed each other's company alongside Mr Greenaway, Miss Cinanni and Annie Messina, a past student completing her practical component of her university studies. The camp was a great ending to our schooling journey by achieving great potential in communication and leadership skills.

Nizar Al-Harir

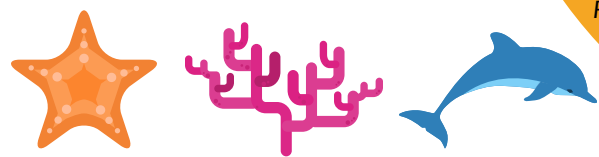


Year 11 Outdoor Education - Coral Bay



In July this year the Year 11 Outdoor Ed class drove up north to Coral Bay. The week started off with departing Geraldton on Sunday, we arrived in Carnarvon later that day to stay the night and visited the blowholes the next morning. After that, we travelled up to Coral Bay to pitch our tents for the night. When we were there we did a bay snorkel and had a tennis tournament. The following day we went further north to Exmouth and did two awesome snorkels at Turquoise Bay and Oyster Stacks and spent some time by the beach. We then went into town to treat ourselves with ice cream and visit the Discovery Centre. On Day 5 we split into two groups and one spent time in the bay by the beach, playing volleyball and having another local snorkel. We ended the day with a sausage sizzle by the beach watching the beautiful sunset over the water. The second group went on the manta ray tour which was the highlight of the trip, snorkelling at the shark nursery and swimming with multiple manta rays flipping upside down in crystal clear water. We also saw dugongs, turtles and all types of sharks. We were treated especially well, being given lunch and snacks throughout the day, which ended with a snorkel at 'The Maze' which was everyone's favourite snorkel spot being so clear and full of marine wildlife. To finish off the trip we went out for dinner at the Reef Cafe and had some delicious food. On the final day of our epic trip we had to wake up at 5am to depart Coral Bay by 6am to drive all day back to Geraldton by 4:30pm, we were all disappointed that the best trip ever was over.

Fynn Young and Alicia Brown





Semester 2 Hub Captains

Congratulations and welcome to our new secondary Hub Captains for semester 2.

Year 7 Semester 2 Hub Captains

Nicole Chamberlain



Hamish Sojan



Year 8 Semester 2 Hub Captains

Shanaya Gronow



Joe George-Kennedy



Ava Chesson



Jack Preston



Amber Bestry



April Pusey

Year 9 Semester 2 Hub Captains

Year 10 Semester 2 Hub Captains



Come & Play

GERALDTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

COME & PLAY

EVERYONE WELCOME
FREE

Find us on
Facebook

Starts back
Wednesday
29th July



Wednesday (Term time)
8:30am - 10:30am

At the Early Learning Centre, Geraldton Grammar School,
154 George Road

Please wash your hands as you enter the Come & Play sessions



Every Wednesday we welcome Geraldton families to come and join us from 8:30am - 10:30am for our Come and Play playgroup!

This term we've had some fun with minibeasts and the Hungry Caterpillar and enjoyed a trip to the school library where Little Ted and Pete the Cat were waiting to share some stories!



Midwest Surfing Titles

We were spoilt with beautiful warm weather to spend the day at Back Beach for the Surfing WA Midwest Surfing Titles. Conditions were challenging but a lot of fun was had by all our competitors.

Our students achieved some great results:

Junior Boys Matthew Chamberlain and Hamish Sojan finished 2nd in their heats for surfing and bodyboarding. (Ben Todd) competed solo, achieving some excellent scores.

Junior girls Christi and Amber Bestry were knocked out in their heat for surfing, but went on to win the Junior Girls Bodyboarding overall. The girls now have the opportunity to compete in the State Finals down in Perth at Trigg Beach. Lailah Bellottie and Nicole Chamberlain won their heat and progressed through to the semi-finals.

Senior girls (Georgia Surtees/Demi Bestry) finished 3rd overall.

Overall Champion School we placed 3rd out of 6 schools.

Congratulations to all students who participated.



Student News

Demi Bestry - Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award



During the July holidays, Demi became a Youth Leader on the Scripture Union Camp to Kalbarri. She really enjoyed the experience and was also part of her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award which she has now fully completed, so she is super excited to have finished all three of the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards, which has spanned over 4 years since Year 9. Congratulations Demi on such a commendable and rewarding achievement.

