



# 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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# Inaugural Arts Day



In a school it is sometimes easy to just focus on numeracy, literacy, and the academics as well as sporting achievements and push the Arts into the background. Arts Day is our day as a community to celebrate the creativity that lies in all of us in one way or another with some obvious stand out talents.

Last term, I got a team of Arts teachers and our Arts Captain, Leroy Brennan together and said I wanted to introduce an Arts Day to the school. I could not have done this without their help and enthusiasm and for that I thank them all sincerely.

The Music staff, Ms Jodie Tonkin, Mr Andrew Sloan and Miss Jasper Kaur have in particular worked very hard to put together a wonderful array of music for us all to enjoy today. Thanks to the students for the wonderful music we will be hearing and for rehearsing so hard to get ready.

I thank Miss Katie Clarkson who have spent endless hours getting the school drama production up and running and I am sure we are all looking forward to watching this afternoons performance called *Appropriate Audience Behaviour* and thank the drama students for their efforts.

I thank Mrs Megs Plummer and Mrs Liz Elliott-Lockhart who has organised many of the visual arts displays, our visiting artists and the art exhibition highlighting the talent in our school. A while ago, Zali Young drew the Batavia ship in pencil but sketched it by writing the story of the Batavia. It is an amazing piece of art and if I didn't tell you, you might not have noticed the written story. Have a close look at it in the Art exhibition.

I also thank each and every member of staff who have helped as everyone has played a part in getting today ready whether it's through the ring making in D&T, the Karaoke, Just Dance, stand-up Comedy, cake decorating, photography, the play dough activity, the STEPIN day display, and all the activities running in the primary school. Other staff are helping with set up, clean up, supervision, roving photographers etc. Even our gardeners are helping with cooking today. Everyone has played a part and I sincerely thank you for that.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the P&F for their help with the cake stall and the hamburgers and for getting involved in the spirit of the day.

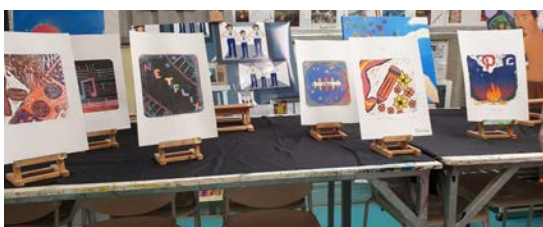
A special thank you must go to Mr Andrew Sloan who has been the event organiser. Thank you Mr Sloan sincerely for all your help, guidance and organisation.

Last but not least, I thank you the students who have been open minded and have taken the opportunity to go outside your comfort zones to enter events. Remember, you will get something out of today and learn something about yourself.

***The arts are a way of learning, of exploring, of responding, of revealing and demonstrating, of imagining, depicting, and making meaning. They belong in the school curriculum, as they belong in the minds and hearts of all lifelong learners.***

Mrs Neesha Flint  
Principal  
An extract from her opening speech on Arts Day







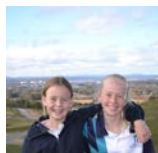


## Year 6 Camp - Canberra

Students from Geraldton Grammar Primary School recently undertook an educational tour of our national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government contributed funding of \$260 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the camp.

The Year 6's were lucky enough to attend a 6 day camp to Canberra during Week 9 of Term 2. They represented the school with pride at the many venues we visited and we received numerous positive comments as to the manner in which our students interacted with the public and staff at venues we visited. We would like to thank Ms Martin, Mrs Mundy, Mr Matthews and Mrs Liddle for their support and professionalism while away. We would also like to say a big thank you to Mr Bradley Walkley for accompanying us on camp this year.



There were many highlights including our stay at Canberra Resort Park, where we rubbed shoulders with many sporting stars and participated in numerous sporting experiences. Our itinerary included a visit to the Australian War Memorial where we were lucky enough to participate in the Last Post Ceremony. We also visited old and new Parliament House where we viewed our politicians at work debating many issues, CSIRO, Questacon, the Mint, the Dinosaur Museum and the National Zoo, to name a few. The weather, while a little brisk in the morning and evenings, was kind to us. For many students there were a few firsts, including flying, visiting Canberra and being away from home for an extended period. We were proud at how brave they were at accepting these challenging firsts.

We are sure all students have many stories, and a wealth of knowledge, they can share with others, and experiences they will share as a group for many years to come.









# Senior High School Country Week

On Sunday 30 June, 34 Geraldton Grammar students and four staff members departed for Perth to attend the 91st Senior High School Country Week for WA. With 49 schools and 3800 students across the state competing in various sports our students were fortunate enough to create new friendships, learn from other teams and referees in various competitive situations, and enjoy all the evening activities off the sporting fields. Our two captains, Regan Connor and Arizona Galbraith led the way into the opening ceremony and represented the school at the Leadership breakfast and wheelchair basketball events.

Mr Damon Angelatos was the coach for our academic athletes, the Speech and Debating team, comprising of Ciedelee Mezger, Randal Starling and Zephyr Milnes. They won their debating in the B grade and Ciedelee received a bronze medal for her performance piece in A grade.

Mrs Rachel Opalinski was the Netball coach comprising of Indi Smith, Melanie Treasure, Mia Stewart-Cake, Ashlea Ramasamy, Erin Haultain, Maddison Jefferies, Breanna James, Demi Bestry and Nicole Sloper. The girls had a very successful week making it into the grand final for D division. Unfortunately, they lost and placed second out of nine teams.

Miss Megan Cinnani was the boy's volleyball coach comprising of Marcus Mannion, Kyle Howieson, Tye Jolley, Zai Sykes, Ronin Mayne, River Milnes, Nizar Al-Hariri and Ryan Dennett. The boys competed very well in E division and placed third overall.

Miss Megan Cinnani and ex-student Carly Peddie were the girl's volleyball coaches including Arizona Galbraith, Daisy Walsh, Libby Hyde, Staff Ferris, Jazmine Mumby and Alix Hearman. The girls played well and ended up 2nd in their E division group.

Mr Chad Greenaway was the boy's basketball coach including Corey Brooks, Jeremy Scott, Hayden Messina, Alex Solomon, Lucas Chesson, Regan Connor, Luke Peddie and Denva Batten. They were also in E division and were very competitive throughout the week placing third overall.

All of the students thoroughly enjoyed participating in the evening activities of 3D mini golf at Glowing Rooms, watching Spider Man at the movies, late night shopping at Garden City, doing a recovery swimming session at HBF stadium and dining out at Grill'd and the UWA dining Hall.



It was fantastic to see all of the students improve in their chosen sports each day, support one another and other Geraldton teams. They all consistently displayed excellent mature behaviour and beautiful manners on and off the field for which we received genuine compliments from Grill'd and Glowing Rooms







# Primary Poetry



## Poetry Results 2019

| Runner-Up Champion            | Champion                                | Children Choice  |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Flynn Wilkinson               | Frederick Boys                          | Zoe Reynolds     |
| Zoe Reynolds & Aliza Mitchell | Lucy McCartney                          |                  |
| Jordan Lim                    | Kodah Smith                             | Charlie Fong     |
| Lennox Buck                   | Lia Frick                               |                  |
| Oliver White                  | Arjun Betti                             | Wesley Brown     |
| Indi Fitzgerald               | Elle Dines                              |                  |
| Noah Brown                    | Spencer Sojan                           | Lochie Patience  |
| Charleigh Scrimgeour          | Isla Dawson                             |                  |
|                               | Cameron Millns Sizer & Bodhi Fitzgerald | Bodhi Fitzgerald |
| Scarlett Shortall             | Aleisha Gerada                          |                  |
| Jake Leech                    | Wil Burgess                             | Malia Combrink   |
| Emily Canny                   | Malia Combrink                          |                  |
| James Tindall                 | Hamish Sojan                            | Amara Starling   |







## P/1 Northampton History Excursion

On Friday 21 June, our Pre-Primary and year 1 students traveled to Northampton for a day of History inquiry. The Western Australian curriculum requires that students explore the differences and similarities between students' daily lives and life during their parents and grandparents childhoods, including family traditions, forms of communication and leisure time. Chiverton House museum provided students with the opportunity to walk into a kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and many other rooms that have been set up with artefacts from the past, making it an ideal location for students to make connections with how life was different in the past. The Old Railway Precinct provided the opportunity to explore how transport has changed over time. Thank you to the lovely volunteers at both places and the families that assisted to make this a great day of learning for our students.



## Year 2 Geraldton Walking Excursion

On Thursday 20 June, our year 2 students went on a walking tour of Geraldton to discover significant landmarks in the history of our town. After touring the Shipwreck Gallery in the WA Museum, the students discovered facts about the Longboat located in the Geraldton harbour. A highlight for students was discovering the connection between the Batavia Arch located in the Geraldton Museum and our school history. Lunch outside the museum and a visit to the lovely new Midalia playspace was enjoyed by all. Thank you to the families that assisted.







## STEPIN Day



On Friday 14 June students in Years 7 & 8 took part in the first inaugural combined STEPIN day. The theme of the day was Creativity. Students elected from a choice of 6 activities:- Pattern making – designs using coloured rice and paints, STEM building tower challenge, jewellery making using FIMO, designing a game in computers, designing and using a NERF gun run, and cake decorating. The students spent almost all of the day in their chosen activity. Our Wellbeing Officer assisted by Ms Cole ran a Caveman Mind activity, this was the first of 3 activities about active mindfulness. Their work and photographs were then displayed on Arts Day. Thank you to all the staff and students who made it such a great day.



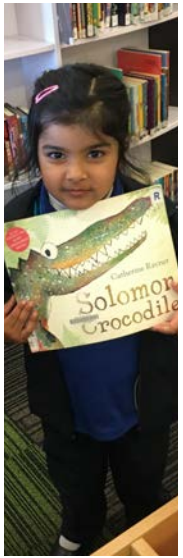




## Kindy Library Trip

On Tuesday 18 June, the 4-year-old Kindy class went on an excursion to the Geraldton Regional Library, to participate in the Better Beginnings program. This program works to support children so that they can build the early literacy skills they need to become good readers and succeed at school.

The students were all very excited about the trip as most of them had never been on a bus before. Whilst at the library; the students were read a story, sang songs and had the opportunity to explore all the different books available there. Our excursion concluded with a walk to the foreshore park to enjoy some morning tea and a play in the playground.



## NAIDOC Day

NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee) is an Australian event occurring each year from the first Sunday in July until the following Sunday. As this falls in the July school holidays, our school has focused on this event during the last week of the school term. NAIDOC week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Australian Curriculum has an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures cross-curricular priority that is designed for all students to engage in reconciliation, respect and recognition of the world's oldest continuous living cultures. Throughout the school week, this will be incorporated into many aspects of the curriculum including the year 3/4 White assembly, before culminating with a flag-raising ceremony and some special events and activities on the last day of term.







## Yellow-Bring a Friend Disco

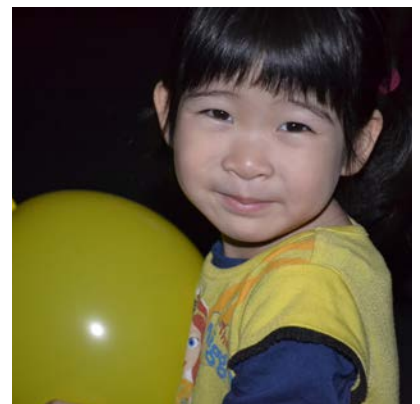
On Friday 14 June, Irwin Year 6 Leaders hosted the Primary "Yellow-Bring a Friend" disco. The theme yellow was used to represent the Lions Cancer Council charity for which the Irwin leaders were raising money for. The Lions Cancer Council raises money for children with cancer and help to organise events such as Christmas outings for those children affected by cancer.

There were heaps of games and activities to entertain all. There was a doughnut hang, face painting, colouring station, limbo and balloon races to name a few. We had a few creative yellow costumes including a banana and a few smiley faces.

Thank you to all those that attended the event, especially after swimming, a lightning carnival and poetry.

Big thanks also to all the people that helped to get the disco together. We appreciate the time you give before, during and after the event. We thank all the people that were able to make biscuits, cakes and treats and those that could donate bread for the sausages. And of course, the wonderful Year 6 Irwin students that did a fantastic job at running the event.

Please join us in term 4 for the last disco of the year.







## Year 5/6 Tree-Planting Day

Last term, the year 5 and 6 students celebrated National Tree Day early by assisting the City of Greater Geraldton and the Chapman River Friends to plant trees in the Chapman River Regional Park.

The students learned about local flora and fauna, some past uses of the area and the reasons for the regeneration project. They also learned that the native seedlings planted were propagated by volunteers at the Community Nursery, using seed endemic to the area.

The weather was kind, with great teamwork evident as the year 5s and 6s planted 300 trees. The students also assisted with rubbish removal from the site.

It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to be involved in such an important local community service project, furthering their understanding of the importance of caring for the natural environment now and for the future.







## Secondary PE

### Bendigo Bank Midwest Netball Carnival



Friday 7 June, Geraldton Grammar School had 62 female students represent our school at the Midwest Netball Carnival. We entered two Year 7 teams, one Year 8 team, two Year 9 teams, one Year 10 team and one Year 11/12 team who also participated in Senior High School Country Week.



Through the rain, sunshine, rain and sunshine again our students demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, excellent netball skills and a willingness to umpire which for many was out of their comfort zones.

A special thank you to Holly Ellis and Arizona Galbraith, our senior students for umpiring and co-coaching one of our Year 7 teams, to Ms Cole, Miss Clarkson, Mrs Flint and Miss Cinnani for coaching teams, to Sharon Orr for umpiring all day and to Mel Finlay and Juanita Penberthy for also volunteering their time to umpire. It was greatly appreciated and allowed our experience at the carnival to be smooth.

### Volleyball Scratch Match



In preparation for Senior High School Country Week, the boy's volleyball team competed in a scratch match vs Strathalbyn Christian College. It was an excellent opportunity for the boys to practice their skills in a competitive environment and a great way to foster interschool relationships within the community. The boys were successful in beating Strathalbyn 2-1.



## ACC Cross Country



Our first ever ACC cross country team competed in Perth and had a very successful carnival. Each event had between 350-440 students lined up for a mass start. This proved a challenge but our students were well placed to get around the first corner. All of our students who competed finished in the top half of the field, with some stand out performances from a few young runners. Milly Kalajzich finished 27th, Matthew Chamberlain finished 26th, Olivia Hurst finished 33rd and huge congratulations to Christi Bestry who finished 3rd. Christi was selected in the ACC All Stars Cross Country team. Well done to all students on their participation.



## Student News

### Abby Green, Indi Smith & Tabitha Rowe - State Equestrian Festival



Abby Green, Indi Smith and Tabitha Rowe competed at the State Equestrian Festival during the April school holidays and had another successful year. The girls achieved top 5 placings in the following events: two 1st places, two 2nd place and a 5th place in show jumping, 3rd place in combined training, 5th in a novice dressage test. The girls accrued points in all the classes the girls rode in, which led them to achieve Runner-up Champion Secondary show jumping team and overall Champion Rural school. The girls' results were outstanding which lead them to place 4th overall in Western Australia. Abby Green was placed 3rd overall out of the Secondary Rider's. An amazing effort girls and a huge thank you to Jo Green for managing the team.







## Staff News

During the July school holidays, a number of primary school staff attended the Australia Literacy Educators 2019 National Conference. Across four days, national and international presenters as well as successful classroom teachers, shared research and current best practice in literacy education.



## School History

While we were touring around Marble Bar and the Comet Gold Mine, imagine my surprise when we came face to face with Gerard Poot, past P&F president, and Tony Brooker awardee 2011 for services to the P&F, and Adrianna's (2011) and Brodie's (2006) Dad.

Gerard is now enjoying his role as tour guide for the Comet Gold Mine and holding captive audiences with his knowledgeable history tales and anecdotes surrounding the rise and fall of this gold mine. The smoke stack in the photo was the highest in the southern hemisphere in the mid 1930's.

Di Hamilton  
Archivist/School History Officer

