

## March 2019 Edition





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geraldtongrammarschool.wa.edu.au



## Welcome to the first edition of the resurrection of the The Beacon magazine for 2019!

As a leadership team, we want to highlight our celebrations and achievements and share them with our school community. All school information is now provided in the school newsletter. We hope you enjoy the electronic magazine which will also help to capture our history for generations to come. Well done to all the students featured in our first edition and thank you for your contributions to the life of the school as well as all the staff who always give their time to support our students and provide them with as many opportunities for involvement and leadership. It is amazing how much happens in a school in just a few short weeks.

**Neesha Flint** 

Principal



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Achieve · Inspire · Motivate



The service held on Friday 8 February signified an opportunity to thank God for our School, while asking for his blessing on the year ahead. It also allowed the school community to acknowledge special achievements and to induct the year 12 class of 2019.

## K-12 One School for Life badges recipients



School Captains Scott Batty and Ciedele Mezger wrote a personal poem recognising the year ahead.

Standing at the starting line for 2019, We glance ahead into the future that remains unseen. We know certain events lay ahead, From carnivals and fun to the dreaded exam spread. Bound to come are the highs and lows, But that should make us happy as opposed, To anxiously stressing about the stakes, Do not dwell but embrace your future mistakes.

Be patient but steady with all you must bear, Ready to meet every challenge with care. Do not be afraid to propose what is bold, Do not take shape to the usual mould. Maybe there's something you've wanted to try, But you've always hesitated, procrastinated, why? Think outside the box, this is what we advise, To try something new and be pleasantly surprised.

Riley Edwards, Zachary Dennett, Kane Chesson, Zali Young, Lauren McKay, Andrew Carroll

### **Susan Shaw Medal**

Awarded to the student achieving the highest ATAR score from the class of 2018.

Lauren Watt was acknowledged as the very worthy recipient.

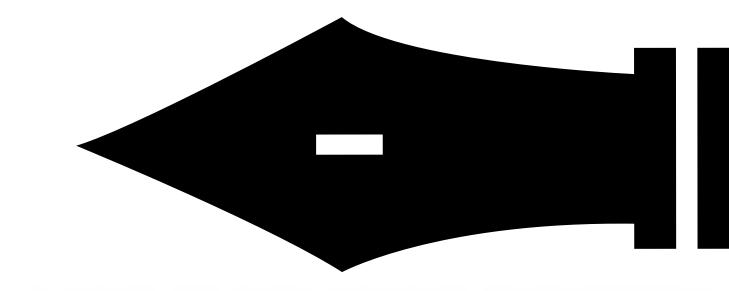


The future is unpredictable, scary and unknown, But always remember that we are never alone. When there is too much burden for you to bear, Our school is filled with those who care. From teachers, support staff, parents and peers, They'll be there to help, to lend an ear. Together we share the bad and the good, We'll look back and remember; united we stood.

We simply cannot foresee what tomorrow will hold, Regardless, we'll break through our potential threshold, We are the class of 2019, strong and proud, Our mission objective; stand out from the crowd. "If you want something you've never had, you must do something you've never done" So hit the ground running, the year has just begun.

Service Captain Anna Nguyen wrote a prayer for the service and read it with Murchison House Captain Greta Mitchell O'Father in Heaven, Give us Courage to accept our results, Knowing that all our efforts have not gone to waste. Thank you for blessing us with a new school year. We have received the responsibility as year 12's to Give us Gratitude as we are privileged of learning at represent our school as their new role models. this school, while many people in the world do not get We are blessed as individuals, no matter our gender, colour, ethnicity, such an opportunity. Give us Generosity as we not only help serve ourselves appearance or history to shine as leaders. Help us finish our time at Geraldton Grammar School with ease but the others around us as we enjoy our last moments here. Give us hope for the future, as the future is unknown. Fill the whole student body with your grace, so that we can dedicate the time and energy we need to study. We offer you this prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ Watch from above as we enter our classes with curiosity, our Lord, and exit the school with new knowledge Who lives and reigns with you, forever and ever. Amen

Observe as we not only learn from our teachers but continue To grow bonds between each other. Guide our teachers as they guide us, giving aid to every question we may ask, so that we can gain the ability to understand. Through thick and thin, good or bad, we know you Are there for us when times get tough.







2019 Primary School Captains: Hamish Sojan & Phoebe Teakle



Semester 1 Primary House Captains - Chapman: Gideon Kentish - Irwin: Caitlyn Mann -Greenough: Amara Starling - Murchison: Nicole Chamberlain



Semester 1 Secondary Hub Captains - Year 8: Matthew Chamberlain & Rosie Perham - Year 9: Raine Wheatley & Amber Bestry - Year 10: Tahnee Gronow & Sophie Spencer -Year 11: Lucas Chesson, Demi Bestry, Zephyr Milnes & Erin Haultain



2019 School Captains: Ciedele Mezger & Scott Batty - Chapman House Captain: Kane Chesson - Greenough House Captain: Tabitha Rowe - Irwin House Captain: Zali Young Murchison House Captain: Greta Mitchell - Sports Captain: Arizona Galbraith - Academic Captain: Tristan Batty - Arts Captain: Leroy Brennan - Service Captain: Anna Nguyen



## Year 12 Orientation Day

As part of their transition into their final year of school, year 12 students attended an orientation day at Geraldton Grammar School.

The orientation day was an opportunity for students to discuss and receive information about the process of year 12. Students had the opportunity to discuss the Year 12 Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) requirements, hear from past year 12 students, whilst also participating in some team building activities.

The day also enabled teaching and support staff to welcome the year 12 cohort (2019) back after the summer break through a shared morning tea.







During week two, the year 6s participated in a leadership camp at the Geraldton Camp School. This camp was to teach the year 6s how to be great leaders and work better in teams.

We participated in many group activities to teach us the qualities needed to be a leader. These activities included orienteering and low ropes. We had to use critical thinking and problem solving to be able to complete these tasks successfully. We did some rotational activities to further build upon collaboration and teamwork. Afterwards, some of the year 12s came along and ran some group activities with us, then stayed for dinner. After dinner, we participated in more activities involving human foosball, camp songs, balloon relays and the ideals of a Round-Square school.

In the morning we went to St Georges Beach, where we built rafts and raced them in the water. After morning tea, we did some surf lifesaving activities including boards and rescue races and a flags race on the beach. In the afternoon, we had a reflection on our time at camp and how we learnt to become better leaders. Overall we grew as leaders and learnt how to collaborate better with different people and learnt a whole lot about leadership. *Phoebe & Hamish* 



### Some year 6 reflections on leadership:



The qualities of a leader: persistence, team work, strong spirit, encouragement and commitment. A leader cannot leave anyone behind. Lily



What I learned about being a leader: listen to people's ideas; be a good role model; you need to work as a team. Remy



I learned that we can't get far without someone to help us. A good trait in a leader is collaboration. Teyah



My new leadership

goal I have is to learn how to make sure that

everyone's ideas and opinions are heard so that everyone feels included.

Phoebe





A good leader leads by example. Jameson



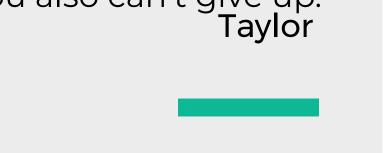
Being a leader, you not only have to look after yourself, but others. Leaders need to have good traits; they need to be kind, loyal, respectful, helpful, caring and need to be able to collaborate. You also can't give up. Taylor



Leaders don't just tell people what to do, they do it themselves. A good leader helps when help is needed. Sofia









#### **Primary Celebrated Students**

Archer Bailey, Kobe Marshall, Molly Evans, Otis Barnes, Freya Teakle, Aisha Jones, Seth Leech, Cooper Wynn-Taylor, Sol Jones, Isla Satie, Henry Burton, Esta Penberthy, Jessica Orlando, Dexter Ward, Tara Javens, Zac McMahon, Mackenzie Nicol, Robyn Sluka, Alby Gilbert, Remy Gaudron, Henry Davidson, Finlayh Davies, Matilda Patten, Hamish McCormack, Hamish Sojan, Violette Krizanek

Secondary Merit Awards - Term 1 2019 Luke Cowcher, Evelyn Curnow, Lewin Herring, Asher Milnes, Vatsan Suresh, Georgia Walker



## Student Leadership Programs

## Year 6 Leadership Program

All Year 6 students participate in a House Leadership Program throughout the year with weekly meetings designed to develop our leadership skills and care for our community. Each group rotates to a different focus area each term. Our four key focus areas are known as the 4S's.

- Student Wellbeing
- SAT—Student Action Team
- Service
- Sustainability

This term Ms Martin and Greenough house are the **Sustainability** team. We generate ideas and are involved in promoting sustainability practices. We learn to care for our planet and help others to understand how important it is to care for our planet. Wrapper free Wednesdays, recycling and looking after our vegetable garden are just some of the things we do.

The **Student Action Team** run by Mrs White and Murchison house are focusing on organising and running the disco to raise money for Dolly's Dream, this term. Each term this group organises a social event to promote belonging and connectedness in primary and fundraises for a worthy cause. It is fun coming up with a theme and working as a team to make it all happen. Mr Matthews and the Irwin house are in charge of **Service**. We are learning what service is and at the end of the term we will be organising Clean Up Australia Day at GGS for the primary school. We are rostered on the sports shed each day as a service to the primary school. The Student Wellbeing Team led by Mrs Buckley provides opportunities for students to feel included. This term we are organising games on the oval at lunchtime and are painting a bench which will be known as the buddy bench. We hope the buddy bench will be a place you can meet new friends As year 6s we are lucky to have a Leadership camp and many activities organised by the House directors and other teachers. It teaches us 'the leader in me' and acknowledges we don't need a badge to be a leader. We can all be leaders in our own way.

## **Secondary Hub Captains**

The Student 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. In recognition of this, the secondary school has created 10 new student leadership positions. These positions are known as Year level Representative Leaders (Hub Captains).

These positions are gender natural and independent of a student's house.

Congratulations to the students voted in by staff and their peers for semester 1.

#### Year 8 Semester 1 Hub Captains









Matthew Chamberlain

**Rosie Perham** 

#### Year 9 Semester 1 Hub Captains



Raine Wheatley

Amber Bestry

#### Year 10 Semester 1 Hub Captains





Gideon Kentish, Caitlyn Mann, Amara Starling, Nicole Chamberlain

**Tahnee Gronow** 

Sophie Spencer

#### Year 11 Semester 1 Hub Captains



Erin Haultain

Lucas Chesson

Demi Bestry

Zephyr Milnes





The secondary interhouse swimming carnival was a successful day at the pool. There were some outstanding individual performances in the pool, with a number of new school records being set. Congratulations to the following students for achieving awards for their individual performances;

	Champion Girl	Runner Up Champion Girl	Champion Boy	Runner Up Champion Boy
Year 7	Milla Penberthy	Christi Bestry	Asher Milnes	Sandy Hann
Year 8	Sydney Williams	Ava Chesson	Matthew Chamberlain	Xander Pieterse
Year 9	Sabine Angelatos	Amber Bestry	James Auld	James Hyde
Year 10	Leyton Butler	Mitchell Thompson	Daisy Walsh	Darcie Newman
Year 11	Demi Bestry	Libby Hyde	Wade Cuthbert	Ronin Mayne
Year 12	Zoe Angelatos	Lauren McKay	Leroy Brennan	Kane Chesson

Congratulations to **CHAPMAN** House for winning the carnival and well done to Greenough House who won the spirit award for their enthusiasm and House spirit during the carnival.





As a part of the History unit, Studying History, year 7 students visited the museum to explore primary and secondary sources on Ancient Rome. The exhibition, Ancient Rome: The Empire that Shaped the World, provided students with the opportunity to examine and interact with technology used in the Roman Empire, and consider the impact this had on past societies and their legacy.





"On the 12 February, week 2, we went to visit the Ancient Rome exhibit in the museum. The exhibit contained models of all the resources and tools that they used for many years. I enjoyed the exhibit because of all the interactive games and tasks. It really encouraged me to try different activities and learn a lot about Ancient Rome at the same time."



"My favourite part of it all was how the Romans actually invented lots of the machines that we use today, but the Roman's just built some of them in a bigger version. Like the odometer for example, the odometer that we use today is built into the car, but theirs was a little machine that actually went on the road, and for every mile driven a little pebble would drop into a container, so when the measuring is finished, they just count the pebbles, and for every pebble it is one mile. There were heaps of different types of machines, that we could look at and play with. There were also games that the Romans used to play, and an ancient calculator, that looks nothing like ours today. I learnt that in Ancient Rome they didn't have cameras, so to remember what things look like they had to sculpt most things, I also learnt about the gladiators, and how much armour they wore, and how much heavy stuff that they wore, and every time they fight something has to die. I thought that the day was very worthwhile and was an awesome experience to know exactly what Ancient Rome

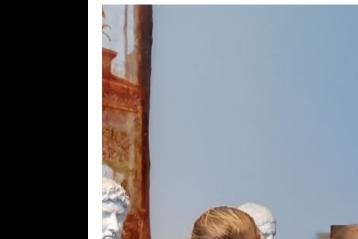
"I liked the Ancient Rome exhibition because I learnt lot's of new things about the architecture and the traditions of the time. I found the animals being kept in captivity very cruel because they extinct a few of the species of animals. thought it was also very cruel how slaves were forced to fight to the death, and even worse that people came to watch it for 'entertainment'. I liked going to the museum because it was interesting and it was nice to experience just a glimpse of Ancient Rome." Milly

"It was fun because we got to see some of the tools the Romans used, armour and weapons they used back then. I enjoyed looking at the machines they used for war and attempting to build a star of valley. Even though I had already been I still got some information out of it and I still found it interesting. They had some dress up costumes and and toys, and I wish I could go again." Sandy

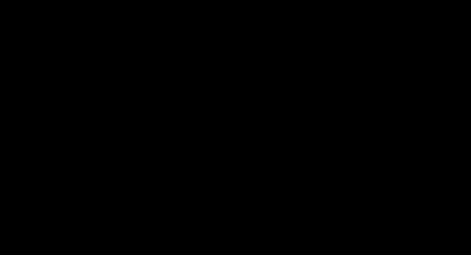
looked like and was like." Ella







It was very educational because we learned about the Roman and Greek gods and the items that they made that we use in our everyday lives and a lot about the past. We learned about the past using movies and replica items of their amazing and interesting inventions. I found it interesting how back then they watched gladiators slaughter other gladiators and sometimes animals and nowadays we watch movies or go to the park. Also how the gladiator that is winning will point his index finger up to the crowd and they will give a thumbs up to kill him and there thumb tucked in there hand to give him mercy. Stella







## Interact Brings Plastic Recycling for 3D Printer Filament to GGS

The Geraldton Grammar School Interact club is a group of enthusiastic and dedicated students whose main focus is on community programs and service. One of their local programs involves ways to reduce our carbon footprint through recycling.

Most of us think we're safe in assuming that the plastic water bottles we put in our recycling bins are being recycled into new water bottles. This could not be further from the truth. Currently, there is no plastic reprocessing in WA, and only one plastic reprocessing plant in the whole of Australia.



As an easier and more cost-effective alternative, our plastics are piled up by the tonne and sold to overseas markets, mainly China, where 98-99% of it is burned for fuel, and only 1-2% gets recycled. As plastic burning produces thirty times more greenhouse gases than coal,

this is clearly becoming an enormous problem for the security and preservation of our environment.





Interact President - Anna Nguyen, Vice-President - Elliot Beat, with Darren Lomman from Greenbatch

In just one minute, Australians throw away 2267 plastic bottles. A large majority of these end up in landfills, rivers and oceans. It is estimated that by 2050 there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish.

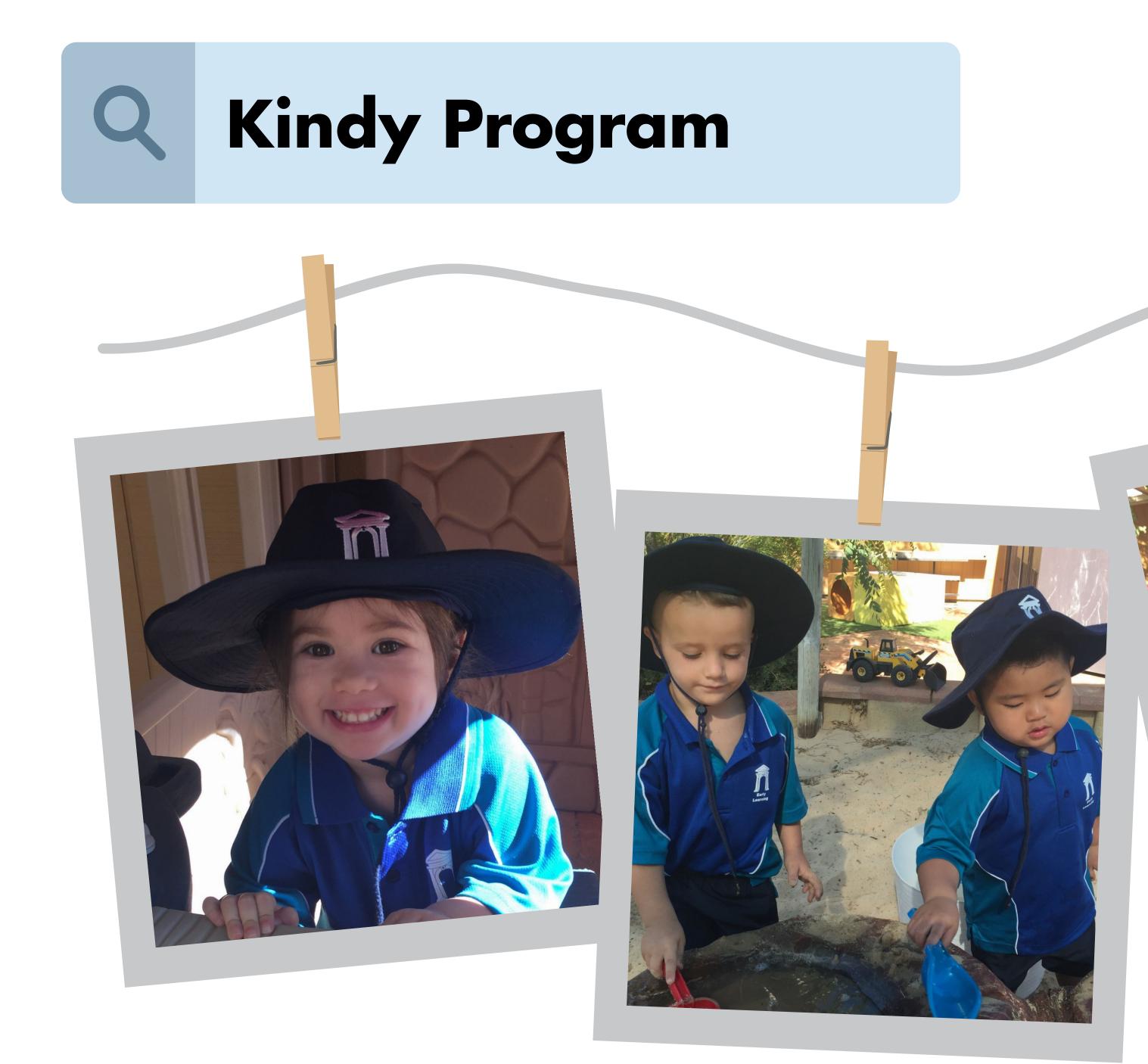
This was the eye-opening message given by Darren Lomman from Greenbatch, a start-up initiative pushing to reverse this imposing environmental issue. Their mission is to build WA's first plastic reprocessing plant, turning the PET plastic bottles we put in our recycling bins into 3D printing filament. This means the plastic is actually being re-purposed.

This vision resonated with the Interact club who are now determined to support Greenbatch in making a change. In Term 1, the Interact club began working with Greenbatch to encourage the recycling of type 1 and 2 plastic bottles as well as aluminium cans in and around the school. Special green and purple bins will be placed in a number of locations around the school for students and families to participate in this initiative. Once the bins are full, the bottles collected will be given to Greenbatch to recycle into 3D printing filament for use in the Million Waves Project whose aim is to provide 3D printed prosthesis to people in need.

Students and staff are encouraged to recycle plastic bottles purchased from the Canteen in the purple and green bins, and families are welcome to bring their Type 1 and 2 plastic bottles and aluminium cans to school for recycling. The more bottles we collect, the less that goes into landfill or oceans. One of the bins will be located beside the current plastic and newspaper collection points near the front of the administration building for ease of depositing for families.

Please note, the Interact club is encouraging the recycling of bottles that would be getting used anyway, not the purchasing of 'extra' bottles and we hope that everyone can get on board.







The 3 and 4 year old Kindy children have settled in beautifully to their new classrooms. They have formed new friendships, are becoming familiar with the classroom routines and are eager to participate in all aspects of the program. The children have been busy exploring their new environments; relishing in sand and water play in the outdoor area, participating in craft activities and investigating the various learning centres within the classroom. They have also been out and about around the campus with visits to the library and music room.





你好 ni hao, the primary students had a wonderful start to the term in the Primary Chinese Classroom. It was great to see many students who are so excited to learn more about Chinese language and culture this year. Chinese people celebrated Chinese New Year – The Year of the Pig during week one and two this term. Chinese New Year is also known as the Lunar New Year or Spring Festival and it is the most important festival in Chinese culture. This year the students celebrated Chinese New Year by learning about the 12 Chinese zodiacs story, carrying out New Year craft activities and sampling some Chinese food and sweets. Here are what some of our students said about the Spring Festival celebration:



Celebrating Chinese New Year is fun. Eli, Pre-Primary Student

I loved doing the Chinese paper cutting. I had to take my time to carefully cutting out the paper to ensure it looked nice in the end. Emily, Year 5 Student

The noodle and honey chicken were so delicious. I learned that Chinese people eat noodles on Chinese New Year Day because noodles represent long life in Chinese culture. Spencer, Year 3 Student







We compared the differences and similarities of celebrating Christmas and Chinese New Year in the classroom. I was surprised to learn both events shared many things in common. Nicole, Year 6 Student

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# **P-2 Walker Learning**



# Walker Learning Approach – Fun and Engaging Learning in Early Steps!

Geraldton Grammar School uses the Walker Learning Investigation Approach from K-2 to provide our students with a great start to their primary school learning. This approach engages children in authentic and meaningful learning as they begin their primary school years. The Walker Learning Approach draws upon evidence from neuroscience and human development and reflects and respects the uniqueness of culture, family and relationships. It uses play-based and personalised learning theories as its basis and retains explicit instruction of literacy and numeracy. We love seeing our students flourish and enjoy their early steps at Geraldton Grammar School.

# Secondary Physical Education

On Tuesday 26 February, a range of secondary Physical Education classes received some Rugby specialist coaching from the Western Force. The students were introduced to the game by learning correct passing, tackling and a Rugby 7s game. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to gain a deeper understanding of the rules and expose them to an elite rugby athlete.





Currently the year 10 Physical Education Studies students have been learning and developing their skills of bowling, catching and throwing at targets in cricket. We have been fortunate enough to receive some experienced coaching from the WACA and Midwest Cricket. The students have responded to the sessions with an exceptional attitude and this has greatly improved their skills in team drills and games.

# Q Fremantle Dockers Visit

Players and coaching staff from the Fremantle Dockers Football Club presented to students in the form of a Question and Answer platform. The players shared their experiences and advice about goal setting, perseverance and success. At the conclusion of the presentation students had the opportunity to interact with the players and have Dockers memorabilia signed.



# **Q** Black Dog Visit

Mental, Physical and Social wellbeing is at the centre of all that we do at Geraldton Grammar School. While it can be quite easy to recognise the physical signs of distress, the mental signs are not always that obvious. To reinforce this message, students attended an incursion by visiting guest speak Anna, who is a member of the Black Dog Institute. The Black Dog institute is an organisation dedicated to understanding, preventing and treating mental illness. The incursion was delivered by a presenter with a lived experience of mental illness, the aims to increase mental health literacy, reduce stigma and promote help-seeking for young people.





# **25 Year Celebrations**

Our School is celebrating 25 years in 2021. From time to time I will publish some memorable events and newspaper extracts as we advance towards the big occasion. This is our first Beacon since June 2016, I am sure you will remember our 3 publications per year which highlighted the many Sporting events, School balls, multiple educational achievements, progressive House Tally Scores, Past Student news, staff comings and goings and much more current information at the time. The School is compiling a history journey of events which have occurred since 1996, and even prior to that year with the first inkling of investigations of building a new School for Geraldton. Since 1996 when the School first opened on the St Patrick's College campus with 56 students, the current School site was being developed where it is today. The school officially opened here on April 3rd 1998 with 170 students. Incidentally that year the P&F made \$30,000, an amazing feat from a band of magnificently passionate first families. 2021 will host a number of activities to celebrate this happy event as well as a journal of historical timelines of personal memories, photographic memorabilia, anecdotes and much more which will be posted on the school website, as well as a limited number of hard copies. How things have changed, look at the first edition of the Beacon !!

# RTHE BEACON

The quarterly newsletter of Geraldton Grammar School

ISSUE NO.1 MARCH, 1996

#### OPENING DAY FOR GERALDTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 1996 was a most important day for all who had dreamed, planned and worked for the establishment of Geraldton Grammar School. For on that day the school was founded.

Rev Stuart Brooking, rector of St. George's

Having thanked all who had contributed to the foundation of the school he spoke directly to the students, telling them what a special group they are, to be in at the birth of a school; "to few is given this challenge. To us is given this privilege".

If any family have some items of archival interest, please advise me, I can scan and return, or you can loan items if agreeable.

Di Hamilton - Archivist / School History Officer di.hamilton@gegs.wa.edu.au - 9965 7832 parish, Bluff Point, and wearer of many hats at Geraldton Grammar School (Board member, chaplain, parent, friend) was Master of Ceremonies for the occasion, and welcomed all to the ceremony.

GGS has been extremely fortunate in being able to lease part of St. Patrick's College from the Christian Brothers and a pleasant leafy area behind the primary classrooms afforded a perfect setting for the opening.

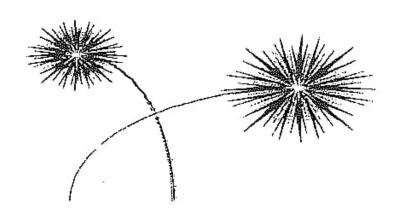
The fifty six foundation students paraded in with their teachers, looking fresh and smart in their blue and white summer uniforms.

Later, they performed a short drama about the purpose of Geraldton Grammar school.

The attendance of students, teachers, parents, grandparents, friends, supporters and benefactors were addressed first by the Foundation Headmaster, Mr AA Brooker. The Chairman of the Board, Mr David Moustaka added his thanks and appreciation to all.

The school was officially declared open by the Bishop of North West Australia, Bishop Anthony Nichols, and a small brass plaque commemorating the occasion was unveiled.

Parents and friends were then entertained to a celebration morning tea. Teachers and students were noticeably absent from this happy gathering. Where were they? They had already begun the serious business of teaching and learning.



# **Q** New House Shirts

2019 sees the introduction of the new House shirts which were designed by Georgie Tunbridge who graduated from Geraldton Grammar School in 2016.



