



# 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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## Year 12 Induction Service

The service held on Friday 7 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 2020.

The year 12 student leaders must be commended on conducting an excellent service.

"I don't quit, I don't cower, I don't run. I endure and conquer.

*So Class of 2020, stop feeling sorry for yourselves, find the silver lining and get to work with the same belief, same drive and same conviction as Kobe Bryant - learn from him and honour his memory" - Mrs Flint*

### K-12 One School for Life badges



Recipients: Lucas Chesson, Wade Cuthbert, Ryan Dennett, Libby Hyde, Ronin Mayne, Tess Adamson, Tessa Grima  
Daisy Herring, Madisyn Jeffery, Indi Smith

### Susan Shaw Medal

Awarded to the student achieving the highest ATAR score from the class of 2019.

Lhyncee Cabugas was acknowledged as the very worthy recipient with an ATAR of 94.85

She has enrolled in a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery at Curtin University.

In year 12, Lhyncee studied the following subjects:

- English
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Human Biology
- Maths Methods

Lhyncee is a quiet unassuming student, who quietly went about achieving sound results. Congratulations and we wish you well.







## School Leaders



**2020 School Captains:** Erin Haultain & Iman Suprpto



**2020 Primary School Captains:** Emily Canny & Wil Burgess

**Semester 1 Primary House Captains:** Chapman - Lucy Tonkin / Greenough - Jake Leech / Irwin - Ryan Dines / Murchison - Callum Sojan

## Secondary Hub Captains Induction

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

Congratulations to the students voted in by staff and their peers as Semester 1 Hub Captains.



**Semester 1 Secondary Hub Captains:** Year 8: Milla Penberthy & Jenna Butson - Year 9: Lissi Taylor & Matthew Chamberlain - Year 10: Amber Bestry & Chulun Wei (Absent) - Year 11: Jake Williams, Tahee Gronow, Lily George-Kennedy & Sophie Spencer





## 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 teambuilding activities.

The day also enables teaching and support staff to welcome the Year 12 cohort (2020) back after the summer break through a shared morning tea.



## 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 speaker Annastacia, 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 who has struggled with mental illness, the aims to increase mental health literacy, reduce stigma and promote help-seeking for young people.



# Black Dog Institute





## Year 6 Leadership Camp

In week two, the year 6s attended a two-day Leadership Camp at Bluff Point Camp School. We did many activities and team building games and had fun learning the properties of a good leader.

Some of the activities we did on the first day included Bang, Minefield, the low ropes course, spider web and rope swing challenge.

In the evening, the year 12 leaders ran some fun games for us and stayed for dinner. Lots of teachers also joined us after school. All the year 12 students who stayed for dinner sat at each table so we had a great time listening to what they had to say.

On Friday, we spent most of the day at the beach for a raft building challenge and other tasks where we needed to work as a team.

We learnt that to collaborate effectively, communication and trust are important. These are also part of being a good leader.



My personal favourite was the low ropes - the spotter and the teamwork aspect made it quite challenging.  
Ace



I loved the games we could play during recess and lunch. For the raft building, we all used our abilities to collaborate and gather ideas from team members.  
Indah

My favourite part was when the Year 12s taught us some games.  
Harrison M



It was amazing. My favourite part was building a raft down at the beach.  
Liam D



On behalf of the year 6s, we thank all the staff who helped make our camp so enjoyable. We all really enjoyed our stay at Bluff Point Camp School and learning about being a good leader and team member.

Ace, Indah and Riley







## STEPIN Day

On Thursday 20 February Year 7 students participated in their first STEPIN day. STEPIN is a program designed for Year 7 & 8 students to provide an opportunity for students to work together in either gender groupings or across the cohort to further develop their social, emotional and age-appropriate resilience skills. As part of the STEPIN program, each day will also focus on developing one of the Future Ready Skills of Collaboration, Creativity, Critical Thinking or Communication. There will be four STEPIN days a year, 2 days where the Year 7 cohort will engage in activities alongside their year group and 2 days involving both year 7 & 8 students. The overarching theme of the first STEPIN day for the Year 7 students was Collaboration. The students participated in a range of activities that developed social interaction and resilience whilst developing their collaborative skills.







# Primary Swimming Carnival



- Year 3 Girls**
- Champion Girl – Aisha Jones
- R/U Champion Girl – Phoebe Hetherington
- Year 3 Boys**
- Champion Boy – Seth Leech
- R/U Champion Boy – Bede Halford
- Year 4 Girls**
- Champion Girl – Esta Penberthy
- R/U Champion Girl – Matilda Canny
- Year 4 Boys**
- Champion Boy – Spencer Sojan
- R/U Champion Boy – Riley Penney
- Year 5 Girls**
- Champion Girl – Macy Halford
- R/U Champion Girl – Charlotte Hillbrick
- Year 5 Boys**
- Champion Boy – Leon Plummer
- R/U Champion Boy – Jaxon Tindall
- Year 6 Girls**
- Champion Girl – Emily Canny
- R/U Champion Girl – Kate Smart
- Year 6 Boys**
- Champion Boy – Callum Sojan
- R/U Champion Boy – Patrick Lodge







## Secondary Swimming Carnival

*Champion House – Chapman  
Spirit Award – Chapman*

**Congratulations to our Champion Swimmers!**

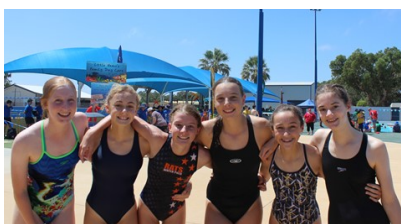


	Champion Girl	Runner Up Champion Girl	Champion boy	Runner Up Champion Boy
<b>Year 7</b>	Nicole Chamberlain	Eleanor Ryan	Hamish Sojan	James Tindall
<b>Year 8</b>	Milla Penberthy	Christi Bestry	Sandy Hann	Benjamin Walsh
<b>Year 9</b>	Sydney Williams	Ava Chesson	Matthew Chamberlain	Xander Pieterse
<b>Year 10</b>	Sabine Angelatos	Amber Bestry	Jimmy Hyde	Benjamin Todd
<b>Year 11</b>	Madison Nelson	Darcie Newman	Mitchell Thompson	Fynn Young
<b>Year 12</b>	Demi Bestry	Libby Hyde	Wade Cuthbert	Ronin Mayne

### New Records

#### Wade Cuthbert

Freestyle Year 12 Boys 27.44 secs  
Backstroke Year 12 Boys 33.52 secs  
Butterfly Year 12 Boys 29.99 secs



### Chapman Year 12 Relay Team



Ronin Mayne, Wade Cuthbert, Libby Hyde, Demi Bestry

These 4 students have swam in the Chapman year level relay together every year since year 8. They hold the record for the year 10 and year 12 freestyle relay.



### Thank you to all student helpers

Erin Buckle, Angela Addison, Nina Morton, Mille Patterson, Olivia Painter, Bailey Gerada, Jonathon Brown, Adelle Newman, Dougal Watson, Shenton Butler, Irylle Cabugas, Iman Suprpto, Maddi Kitto, Tessa Grima, Georgia Harding, Rowan Jermyn, Shelby Clarke, Estella Chan, Hayley Baker, Olivia Hancock, Georgia Walker, Josiah Carey







## Jack Preston - Winner of the Pelican State Yachting Title



Jack started sailing when he was 10. Sailing is in his family - Dad won the same title in 1984, uncles are professional sailors, Mum sailed and Grandparents. With that kind of pedigree, Jack decided to give it a go as he had always loved the water being a surf club kid and enjoyed surfing.

Jack sails every weekend during the season from October to April and he sails in all regattas during the year around the state.

Jack enjoys the strategy behind racing, enjoys the challenge of boat handling, rigging and tuning his boat Westside to different sailing conditions. His favourite aspect of yachting is going as fast as he can, with the spinnaker up in heavy winds and pushing the limits.

Jack has made a lot of friends from around the state who also love the sport, enjoy getting together and competing. They have a load of fun together on and off the water.

In January he and his crew competed in the 62nd Pelican State Title in Busselton. The competition runs over a week with 42 other sailors from metro and country clubs. Jack was the Geraldton Yacht Club Junior Captain.

"I felt that I sailed consistently well in varying conditions with my crew. We worked hard as a team and came in first overall in points for the week. I felt happy and was proud of the crew who sailed with me for 2 seasons. At times it was very stressful but I managed to work my way through it"

Jack

"Mum, Dad and Grandparents are very proud. He worked hard for 5 years to achieve this goal he set for himself when he was 10. Not only has he worked hard for himself but he has given a lot back to the sport by taking on younger sailors as crew and has developed into a great role model to younger sailors in the Pelican class. A lot of the kids look up to him and he is always happy to help them. He is very quiet about his achievements"

Kerry Townsend, Mum

## Swimming Success at the Annual Swimming WA Country Pennants Competition

A small group of our Secondary students thoroughly enjoyed competing in the Annual Swimming WA Country Pennants Competition this weekend, hosted by the Geraldton Swimming Club (the last time they hosted this event was in 1992). Thirty-five towns/swim clubs from the country (Tom Price to Esperance!) including over 1800 swimmers plus supporters/coaches/family arrived to compete. Lots of PBs were achieved from our talented swimmers. Looking forward to heading to Mt Barker for the 2021 competition.



**DEMI BESTRY//**

4 X Gold - 50m freestyle, 50m breaststroke, 50m butterfly, relay



**HAMISH SOJAN//**

4 x Gold - 14U 200m medley relay, 16U 200m medley relay, 14U 200m freestyle relay, 16U 200m freestyle relay.  
3 x Silver - 14U 50m freestyle, 14U 50m backstroke, 14U 50m butterfly



**MATTHEW CHAMBERLAIN//**

1 x Silver - 100m back  
4 x Bronze - 100m fly, 100m breast, 100m free, 4 x 50m free relay



**AMBER BESTRY//**

1 x Gold - Relay  
1 x Bronze - Open 100m freestyle



**CHRISTI BESTRY//**

2 x Gold - Relay, 50m breaststroke  
1 x Bronze - Open 100m breaststroke



**NICOLE CHAMBERLAIN//**

3 x Gold - 12U 50m butterfly, 13U 50m butterfly, 200m freestyle relay  
4 x Silver - 12U 50m freestyle, 13U 50m freestyle, 200m medley relay, 200m freestyle relay  
1 x Bronze - 200m open freestyle relay



## Demi Bestry - U19s Thinkwater Geraldton Waves Netball Team

Demi has been selected to represent Geraldton in the U19's Thinkwater Geraldton Waves Netball Team. They have been training since October 2019 with the Metro League Competition taking place between the 15th February - 4th April at the Perth Netball Centre. They play double headers in Perth each fixture and have begun the season well with 2 wins from 2 games. Good luck Demi!





# Sustainability



There was a buzz around school this term with a visit from Milli Henderson Pitman, former PLC students and passionate bee advocate. After taking her time to find the right pathway and travelling the world Milli embarked on an Industrial Design course at Swinburne University. Her final honours project encapsulated sustainability and its connection to natural spaces and materials for humans and the insect population.

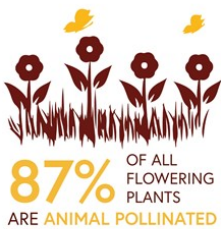
Milli focused on saving native bees. Her research found more than 1700 species of native bee in Australia, with only 11 species living in hives and producing honey. Seventy per cent live in the ground. Others make nests in sticks and holes in wood. Native bees come in a range of shapes, colours and sizes (2mm to 25mm from antennae tip to tail).

Introduced species, disease, agriculture, climate change, a decline in available food, habitat loss and the use of pesticides have contributed to the decline of native bees. To support and grow populations in urban areas, bee habitats can be integrated into inner-city gardens and exterior building structures.

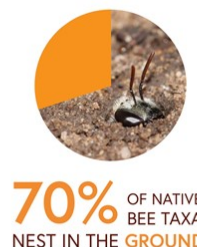
Visit [aussiebee.com.au](http://aussiebee.com.au) for more information about native bees and instructions on how to build your very own native bee hotel.



Native bee habitat modules by industrial design student Milli Henderson Pitman



**BEES** ARE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTORS TO POLLINATION



SOLITARY BEES ARE **NON-AGGRESSIVE** AND MORE LIKELY TO BITE THAN STING EVEN WHEN HANDLED

Unlike honeybees, native bees don't have a hive to protect, so they aren't aggressive. Their stings have barely formed enough to pierce through human skin, and they are more likely to try and bite you, over other handled. This means you can spend time in close proximity to them without worrying about being stung.





## School History

We have contracted the services of a reporter, Lucinda Jose, from the ABC in Geraldton to conduct a series of interview recordings both spoken and videoed with some wonderful founding GGS families who were pivotal in creating this lovely school we have today. These are to commence on 9 March in a dedicated room in the Sheila Flanagan Library, kindly accommodated by Kerrianne Jefferies, our Library Manager. Past family and community supporters being interviewed are a selection of those who were committed to the beginnings of a new independent school, with dedication, hard work and in many cases giving generously to provide both much-needed resources and fundraising campaigns resulting in some of the buildings your children use today.

Do you know of anyone who might be interested in being part of this journey, maybe a grandparent or a friend of your family you might know who would like to be contacted to tell their story?

Remember the school becomes 25 years old next year, the stories of the beginnings of the school show the passion and generosity of all those involved at the time. Please contact me by email/phone at the school, many thanks.

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# The Archway



1996