



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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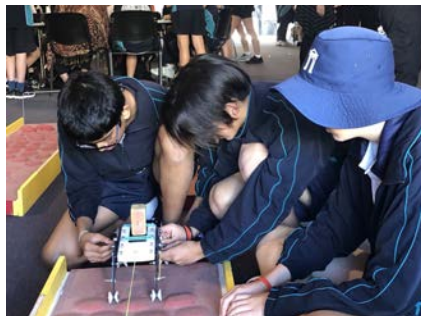
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Science & Engineering Challenge

The Science and Engineering Challenge is a nationwide STEM outreach program presented by the University of Newcastle in partnership with local communities, Rotary Clubs and sponsors. Through the Science and Engineering Challenge, students experience aspects of science and engineering which they would not usually see in their school environment. Geraldton Grammar School recently hosted the Midwest Challenge Day for year 9 and 10 students and the associated Discovery Day for primary school students.

Our students were engaged in two exhilarating days competing against other schools in fun and engaging hands-on activities such as designing an earthquake-proof tower, building a hovercraft or bridge, providing electricity to a city or creating an environmentally friendly house. Both days were a huge success and it was great to see many students from around the region having an exciting time working in teams to solve these complex engineering problems. Our primary team did exceptionally well scoring over 1000 points and were announced the overall primary school winners





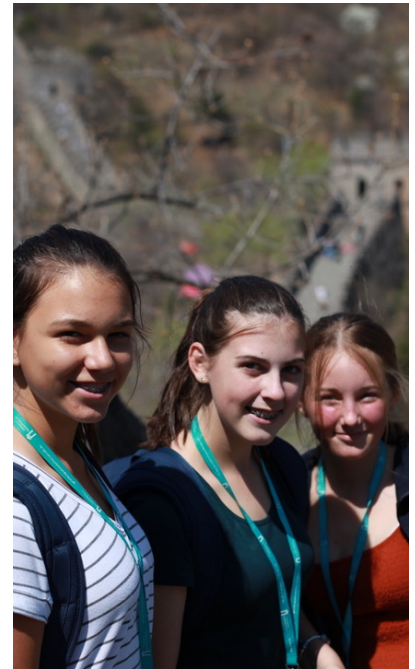
China Tour



Learning a foreign language can be a great way to experience another culture and a great excuse to travel! A group of 25 students visited China in the last school holidays to spend two weeks exploring some of the world's most famous sites and tasting some of the more interesting dishes of the local cuisine along the way.

Mrs Somers and Ms Hope planned a jammed packed tour starting in Beijing. Here they had their first taste of authentic Chinese food before visiting the Forbidden Palace and the Heavenly Temple. With a number of sports fans in the group, a trip to the Bird's Nest Stadium, the home of the Beijing Olympics in 2008 was a must. Of course, the group couldn't leave Beijing until they took a walk, and a few steps along the Great Wall.





After a fast ride on a bullet train to Xian the group cycled around taking in the imposing city walls and the Great Mosque, before ticking off another bucket list item with a trip to see the Terracotta Warriors. The final stop on the tour was Chengdu and the panda rehabilitation centre and a traditional ancient market town to buy some last minute souvenirs.

The trip would not have been as successful without the assistance of Mr Angelatos and two wonderfully supportive parents, Wendy Norris and Nat Wheatley. All five adults were impressed by our students' willingness to discover more of the world, interact with locals and their culture and assist each other in staying well and happy. A special thanks is reserved for Wendy and Nat who added so much to our trip with their humour, care and diligence.

It can be tough work travelling away from home but comfy accommodation, huge meals and the good spirits of all within the group made things easy.

Highlights of the trip included making new friends at a Beijing school, seeing the countryside fly by from a 300km/h bullet train and watching Mr Angelatos' face turn pale when he realised just how much he paid for that tea!



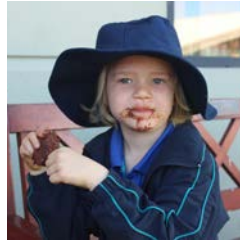


Biggest Morning Tea



On Tuesday 21 May Geraldton Grammar School held their annual Biggest Morning Tea event to raise funds for the Cancer Council. The year 8 cohort organised and coordinated the event as part of the Grammar School's Service-Learning Program. All the year 8 students were required to bring a plate of food to share and were involved on the day with the event. The raffle to win one of 3 homemade cakes proved to be very popular, as did the cupcake decorating stall. The entertainment was provided by Mrs Tonkin and the Music students. A total of \$1326.75 was raised. Thank you to all parents, staff, students and friends who supported the event and to the year 8 cohort for their hard work in making the event so successful.

Ms Sharon Cole





Circus Extravaganza!

The Circus Extravaganza was a huge success. The hall was buzzing with colour, lights and little people dressed in clown suits, big bow ties and circus-inspired outfits. Lots of fun was had with 'balloon pop', 'tin can knock out' and 'coin toss'. An amazing live show was watched by all on the Batavia Hall stage as three very talented students; Connie Greeve, Umi Loy and Elena Dalle performed high ropes, acrobatics and the hoop swing, receiving with loud applause!



A massive \$1,900.00 was raised for Round Square. Well done to everyone who contributed.



The correct guesser was 'Lewin Herring' with a count of 541 lollies in the jar!





Interhouse Cross Country



The Interhouse Cross Country Carnival enabled students from the whole school to enjoy a day of endurance running and novelty events. The students competed with great House spirit, participating in their year level events and cheering on other competitors from their House. Congratulations to all individual champions and the overall Champion House's.





Outdoor Education

Cert II in Outdoor Ed - Year 12 Rottnest Cycling Camp

The Cert II Outdoor Education year 12 class went on a 3-night camp to Rottnest Island on the last week of last term from Monday to Thursday as apart of our cycling unit. We demonstrated our cycling skills riding almost 60km around the picturesque island. We snorkeled at Little Salmon Bay on Wednesday morning and then completed an interactive compass challenge navigating around the island in the afternoon. Quokkas, cute little creatures at first, but then they get everywhere even sneaking into your tent and munching on your food! Overall, it was an amazing camp and as a class we love the course and would thoroughly recommend it to all the up and coming year 11 students who love getting out into the outdoors and learning new skills.

Arizona



Cert II in Outdoor Ed - Year 11 Coral Bay Snorkeling Camp

The year 11 Outdoor Recreation students attended a week-long expedition to Coral Bay in week 3. Students were completing their snorkeling unit as part of the Certificate II in Outdoor recreation. Students were treated to some excellent weather and had a fantastic time.



That was totally wicked - **Darcy**
Was life changing - **Alex**



Loving this experience, I hope I can do it more regularly - **Nizar**

I enjoyed the week, it was complete fun and a cracker of a time - **Wade**



The week was really good, we got to interact with people we don't usually hang with - **Maddi**

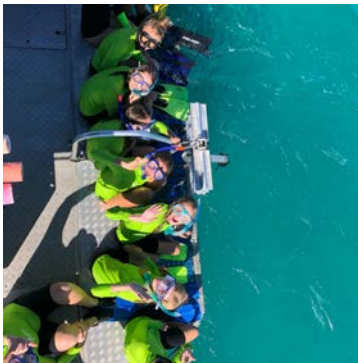


Fun, sharks, friends, manta rays, ocean and lots and lots of laughter. The camp was awesome! 10/10. Would recommend - **Elena**



Was up close with sharks, it was awesome - **Dylan**
It was a great camp, wish I brought a pillow - **Riley**

Got to get along with people we don't normally hang with - **Jeremy**



Had a phat time. It was an amazing experience, I suggest doing Outdoor Ed in year 11 and 12 - **Chloe**





Good to know
I can live
without my
phone for this
long - **Libby**



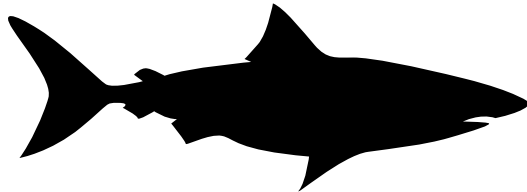
It was a wicked
experience but
I wish I put on
more
sunscreen
- **Ashlyn**

It was good to not
be on our phones for
the trip - **Alix**

I enjoyed swimming
with the manta rays
and sharks - **Daisy**



Camp was
good without
a phone and
we got more
out of the days
- **Starr**



Cert II in Outdoor Ed - Year 11 Dongara Canoeing Day Trip

The year 11 Outdoor Recreation canoeing unit culminated in 16 students travelling to Dongara to participate in a day trip on the Irwin River. Students demonstrated a number of different paddling techniques, cooked their lunch on a Trangia, had a swim in the ocean and competed in a race across the river. Students displayed excellent behaviour and teamwork for the entire day. They now look forward to the Coral Bay expedition in week 3 of term 2.

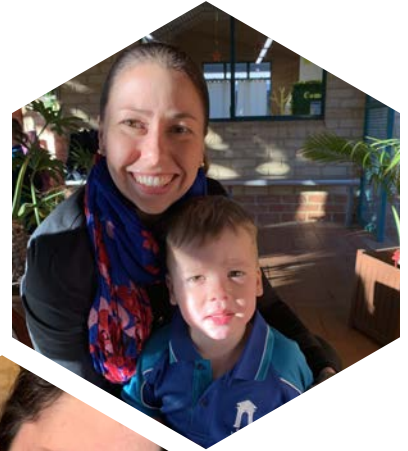




Kindy Mother's Day Breakfast



The children from Junior Kindy and Kindy invited their mothers and grandmothers to a special breakfast on May 9 to celebrate Mother's Day. The special guests were treated to a delicious buffet breakfast with hot tea and coffee and a selection of home-made treats.





P-2 Art Excursion



On Monday 6 March our P-2 classes went to the Geraldton Art Gallery to see the exhibition, Divine Assembly by Louise Paramor. Louise is well known for her large scale public art commissions across Australia. Students observed how the individual shapes, and common items, are combined to create sculptural works of art. We are looking forward to seeing the sculptures our students create in the art room after this inspiration from our local Art Gallery.



Aspire UWA Camp

Aspire UWA works with Geraldton Grammar School to raise student aspirations for tertiary education. They promote a culture of academic achievement and a desire for learning that changes lives. Recently seven of our year 11 students joined other students from the Midwest on an Aspire UWA camp in Perth. On this camp they explored their own future study options through a variety of activities including industry visits, campus tours and team activities. Our students particularly enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about the assistance UWA gives our students, through Geraldton Grammar's partnership with them, to gain a tertiary education.





Keeping Safe

Keeping Safe – Child Protection Curriculum

Our Year 12 group kicked off their Keeping Safe sessions this term with an interactive activity related to Focus Area 2 - Relationships. Each student had the opportunity to come up with what they believe they might see or hear in both a healthy and unhealthy relationship.



The result was four body outlines covered in sticky notes with some amazing ideas. The session ended with student completing a worksheet, where they decided what kind of behaviours would 'Cross the Line' for them in a relationship.



Education Perfect Humanities Championships 2019

Congratulations to the following students on their fantastic achievement in the Education Perfect Humanities Championship:



- Elliot Beat – Emerald Award
- Angela Addison – Silver Award
- Breanna Mead – Bronze Award



- Oscar Lin – Credit Award
- Dylan Spencer – Credit Award

The Emerald Award won by Elliot Beat, placed him in the top 1% of all participants worldwide. The participation of students involved in the championships placed Geraldton Grammar School amongst the top 18 schools in Western Australia out of a total of 128, and 3rd in Western Australia in our school's category.

Congratulations to all involved.



Secondary PE

On Monday 13 May, Geraldton Grammar School was fortunate enough to have two coaches from Athletics WA run a 50 minute athletics specialist sessions for year 7 to 12 students. The sessions consisted of specific coaching of sprinting starts and technique, modified javelin throwing, long jump and triple jump take offs and landings and relay running. The students were highly engaged and applied maximum effort to every activity. This was a great preparatory lesson for our upcoming athletics carnival in term 3.



ANZAC Day

During the holidays our primary and secondary leaders Ciedele Mezger, Caitlyn Mann, Phoebe Teakle and Scott Batty attended a ceremony at Birdwood House to represent the School and the school community, laying wreaths in memory of all the fallen soldiers who fought for Australia and New Zealand during the First World War.





Wade Cuthbert & Chloe Spence - Geraldton Triathlon Club Award Winners



After the final event of the 2019 Tri season - Revolutions Geraldton Team Challenge the whole community group held their 2019 Awards Dinner at Spalding Park Golf Club.

Wade was awarded the Male Winner for the Revolutions Geraldton Championship Short Course and the Geraldton Bikes Double Up.

Chloe was awarded Female Runner Up in the Geraldton Bikes Double Up.

"I started triathlons because my close family friends said I should so I went along with them and surprisingly really loved it. I like doing triathlons because they leave me feeling exhausted afterwards and that's what is satisfying, especially when they are the longer distances, and being able to improve your time for each leg every week is an added bonus. My favourite leg of the race is definitely the run, followed by the cycle and then the swim, since I can't exactly swim fast. Competing with adults is good because seeing the more experienced triathletes race shows what you can achieve, especially those who do the 70.3 half iron man and 140.6 full iron man, but they are also very nice and welcoming, helping us younger ones all the time. The double or triple up series is a new series the Geraldton Tri Club has brought in where you are required to complete the enticer course two or three times. So that's a 300m swim, 7km bike, 2km run, 300m swim, 7km bike, 2km run. This is the event that I won an award for and they are really fun."

Chloe

"I started triathlons out of curiosity not knowing whether or not it was for me, but after a couple, I started to like it and so I continued to complete. Eventually, I got to a point where I wanted to see where I was compared to other people my age, so I did the school tri-series and I began to train to become faster with my running and riding. I have been lucky to have the support of family and friends to motivate and push me and I always feel my best when I push myself to my absolute limits and tri's have given me that opportunity. Tri's have not only given me physical resilience but mental resilience too. I would highly recommend giving them a go!"

Wade



Christi Bestry & Nicole Chamberlain - Selected for WA Cross Country Team



Christi and Nicole achieved some outstanding results at the under 12s All Schools Cross Country Championships. From a field of 150 competitors, the girls placed in the top 5. Christi finished 4th in 11.30 mins and Nicole 5th in 11.33 mins. The girls have been selected for the State team which will compete at the The National Titles in Wollongong, NSW on 22-26 August. The girls will continue to train hard in the lead up to the titles. We wish them good luck!

"It was so great that Nicole and I finished in the top 6, and I am so excited to go to NSW for the National Championships. All those hill sprints paid off!"

Christi



Indi Smith - Selected for Women's Open WA Country Waterpolo Team

Indi Smith was selected in the women's open WA Country Waterpolo team which competed on the Gold Coast. She was the youngest team member at age 16. They played 9 games over the four days, and made it through to the bronze medal match. Indi enjoyed the experience being part of the tournament and the team, as she was able to learn new skills, sets of plays and lots more.



Abby Green - Makes the State School AFL Development Squad

Abby Green has been attending the State School Girls AFL selections over the past few months. The original try out included 180 girls from across WA. Abby made it down to the top 36 girls who form the development squad, with the top 24 travelling interstate. Abby will continue to train as part of the development squad for the next 12 weeks. Congratulations Abby!



Staff News

In April, Mrs Jayne Caley and Ms Alexis Payne joined delegates from other independent schools around Western Australia on a study tour to observe educational practices in Finland. Regarded as having one of the best education systems in the world today, Finland achieves excellent academic outcomes in conjunction with long term happiness and wellbeing outcomes for its students. With the current priorities in Finland based around their transversal competencies (very similar to the Australian Curriculum General Capabilities), integrating subjects into project-based learning and contemporary classroom spaces, it was exciting to realise that the Geraldton Grammar School's Improvement Plan is taking our school in a similar future direction.



To Geraldton Grammar School



From Mrs Caley & Ms Payne





On the 29 May we had a visit from Mrs Sheila Flanagan, co-founder and former Board member of our lovely school. We had a wonderful tour accompanied by Rob Dines, current parent and former student 2001, looking at the new buildings, many changes and meeting up with various staff who remember her. Sheila was ecstatic with her few hours on campus, it was almost like coming home she said. However, it won't be her last visit, Sheila has kindly accepted Mrs Flint's invitation to attend the Secondary Presentation Day, and as time progresses I am sure Sheila will visit from time to time to assist with the 25th school celebrations.

