



# 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







## Valedictory



Congratulations to the graduating class of 2019. The Valedictory Day held on Friday 25 October was a wonderful occasion with several celebratory and formal occasions throughout the day.

Year 12 students arrived at school to enjoy a breakfast prepared and cooked for them by the Geraldton Grammar School staff. This was followed by a family and friends morning tea in the Sheila Flanagan Library, prior to the Valedictory School Assembly.

At the end of the Valedictory School Assembly, Year 12 students were farewelled with a guard of honour by the whole school, giving fellow students the opportunity to pass on their good wishes to the graduating class.

The culminating event of the day was a special service held at the Holy Cross Anglican Cathedral, a time where the Geraldton Grammar School community gather to give thanks and a final acknowledgement of the successes achieved throughout the student's years of schooling.





I would like to publicly acknowledge the performances of the Secondary School Choir, who performed at the Cathedral Service, everybody in attendance would agree the performances of the choir were excellent. I would like to thank our Director of Instrumental Music, Jodie Tonkin for her musical arrangements on the night and the hours of practice leading up to the event.

I would also like to acknowledge the Geraldton Grammar School teaching staff, administration, grounds, cleaning staff, parents, friends and family members of the year 12 cohort for their support in the lead up to and on the day.

To Troy Hutchinson (Operations Manager) at Geraldton Brickworks, who very generously donated his time and materials at no cost to facilitate the inscribing of the individual year 12 bricks, we thank you.



Finally, to the class of 2019, I wish you well as you look to find employment, complete further study or travel. I leave you with one final quote of our year 12 motto:

*"If you want something you have never had, you must be willing to do something you have never done".*





# Primary Chinese

## 2019 CLTAWA State Chinese Writing Competition

In term 3, six of our primary students' Chinese writing works were selected to enter CLTAWA (Chinese Language Teachers' Association of WA) State Chinese writing competition. This is our fourth year taking part in the writing competition, and the standards of this year's work was extremely high. Students from more than 25 schools across Western Australia participated in the writing competition this year. I would like to celebrate the successes and achievements of these six students:

1st Place: Year 5/6  
Category - Phoebe  
Teakle



Awarded Excellence Certificate &  
State Finalist:  
Year 3/4 Category - Jaxon Tindall  
Year 5/6 Category - Caitlyn Mann  
& Amara Starling



2nd Place: Year 3/4 Category -  
Bodhi Fitzgerald

3rd Place: Year 5/6 Category -  
Lily Scrimgeour



## Australia China Friendship Society Student Award

Congratulations to our year 6 student, Lily Scrimgeour, for receiving the Australia China Friendship Society Student Award this year. Every year, the Western Australia Branch of the Australia China Friendship Society presents special student awards to recognise exemplary students who are learning Chinese. Lily was given this award for her outstanding work and positive attitude toward learning Chinese. Well done, and you're a star, Lily.

## Thank You & Farewell



As we farewell the 2019 school year - The Year of Pig, I would like to thank the school community once again for embracing and supporting the Chinese language program. This year is the fourth year the primary students have been learning Chinese, and it has been rewarding to see how each student progresses with their Mandarin skills in such a short time. Although I am sad that I will not be returning to teach next year, I will take so many wonderful memories with me. I thank the supportive Geraldton Grammar School staff and students for making my time at Geraldton so marvellous!

Wishing you a blissful and safe holiday!

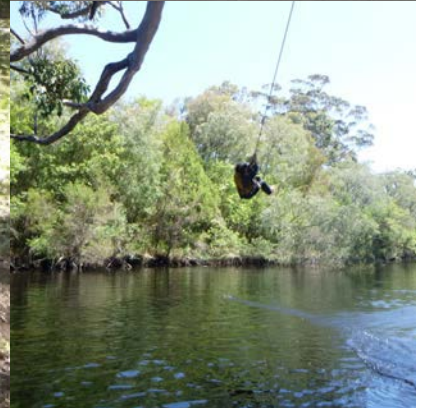






## Outward Bound

The annual Year 9 and 11 student migration to Walpole for Outward Bound occurred again in 2019. They left school early on 14 October and headed south returning just in time for the graduation on Thursday 24 October. The students were accompanied by Katie Clarkson, Yen Somers and Lara Watson and this year we were fortunate to have 3 parent volunteers Cath Dalle, Con Mees and Chris Herring. A big thanks goes to the parent volunteers as the students really enjoyed having them aboard and their efforts were really appreciated.



Outward Bound is a fantastic learning experience for our students and the 2 different year levels undertake quite different programs. The Year 9 course is focused on building resilience, communication skills, teamwork, confidence and building positive expectations. They do a number of activities including service, rafting, the giant ladder, low ropes, expedition and much more. The Year 11 course focuses on the next steps in life, leadership, action consequences, self-confidence, critical thinking, creativity and communication skills. They do a lengthy expedition, rafting, a high ropes course, a service activity and a 24-hour solo. This year we tried something a little different, we asked students to write to their parents or a significant carer/guardian as well as the letter they write to themselves which are returned at Graduation. I hope those of you that received the letter, enjoyed the surprise.







The central tenet of the program is summed up in a quote from the founder of Outward Bound, Kurt Hahn:

*"We are all better than we know. If only we can be brought to realise this, we may never again be prepared to settle for anything else".*

It is this striving to improve on oneself that makes the program so important and whilst the course is challenging, it is very rewarding.



**OUTWARD BOUND**  
Inspiring Australians







## 2020 Student Leaders

Congratulations to Erin, Iman, Chloe, Irylle, Umi, Carolina, Wade, Indi, Darcy and Nizar who were inducted to their positions at the recent Valedictory Service.

We look forward to seeing you lead the school with pride.

POSITION	NAME
<b>CAPTAINS</b>	
School Captain	Erin Haultain
School Captain	Iman Suprpto
<b>HOUSE CAPTAINS</b>	
Chapman	Wade Cuthbert
Greenough	Indi Smith
Irwin	Darcy Ingle
Murchison	Nizar Al-Hariri
<b>REPRESENTATIVE CAPTAINS</b>	
Sports	Chloe Spence
Academic	Irylle Cabuguas
Arts	Umi Loy
Service	Carolina Mees







## Year 3 Sleepover

On Friday 22 November, the Year 3 students participated in a sleepover at the school. The aim of the sleepover is to begin to come together as an entire cohort to communicate, collaborate and create wondrous things together, as well as prepare for Year 4 camp.

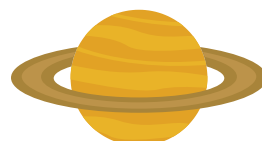
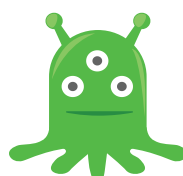
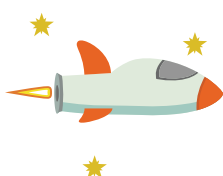
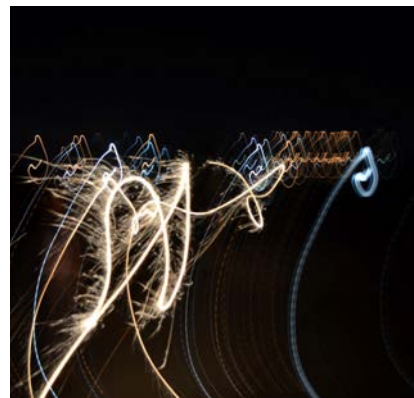
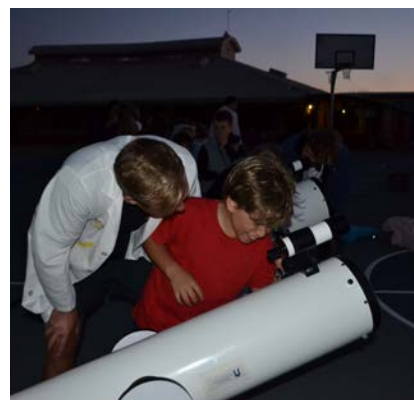
The students began the afternoon creating 'out of this world' pictures. They drew their own ideas of planets and stars with some rockets and aliens flying through them.

Next, they worked together to measure, sift and mix to produce some delicious moon rock cakes.

After dinner, the Year 3's ventured up into the high school to meet Mr Angelatos and Ms Beeck to learn about the stars and planets they could view through telescopes. They were amazed to see the rings of Saturn. They then created some impressive night-time photos using sparklers, glow sticks and torches.

Finally, the students enjoyed the movie "Space Jam".

It was a fantastic evening and the students were excellent. Thank you to all the staff for the time they gave to make this a most enjoyable experience for all the students.







## District High School Country Week

During week 9 of term 3, 86 Geraldton Grammar School students attended the 21st District High Schools Country Week in Perth.

DHS Country Week is a week-long sporting event that gives students the chance to compete against each other in a number of different sports. This year's country week was made up of 27 Schools, totalling 880 students competing in over 500 different fixtures.

Students were also treated to some fun night-time activities which included movies, ten pin bowling and late-night shopping.

The Geraldton Grammar School team was led by Tallis Kentish and Darcie Newman who paraded out in front of the big opening ceremony crowd.

A big thank you to the Geraldton Grammar Staff who attended for the week: Ms Cinanni, Mrs Trusso, Mrs Tonkin, Ms Clarkson, Mrs Flint and Mr Baumgartner.

I would also like to pay a special mention to Bruce Gillingham who volunteered his time for the second consecutive year. Also a big thank you to past students Rukaya Msuo and Natalie Sloper who filled a coaching role and to current Sports Captain Arizona Galbraith for her work with the badminton team.

Please see below for team results:

### Boys AFL

**Coach:** Bruce Gillingham

**Division:** A

**Friday Playoff:** 1st and 2nd v  
Bridgetown

**Finish:** Champions



### Mixed Volleyball

**Coach:** Jodie Tonkin

**Division:** B

**Friday Playoff:** 1st and 2nd v  
Norseman

**Finish:** Champions







### Mixed Hockey

**Coach:** Meg Cinanni  
**Division:** A  
**Friday Playoff:** 1st and 2nd v Bethel  
**Finish:** Runners Up



### Girls Basketball

**Coach:** Rukaya Msuo and Natalie Sloper  
**Division:** A  
**Friday Playoff:** 1st and 2nd v Waroona  
**Finish:** 2nd



### Netball 1

**Coach:** Donna Trusso  
**Division:** A  
**Friday Playoff:** 3rd & 4th v Champion Bay  
**Finish:** 3rd



### Netball 2

**Coach:** Neesha Flint  
**Division:** B  
**Friday Playoff:** 1st & 2nd v Jurien Bay  
**Finish:** Runners Up



### Netball 3

**Coach:** Katie Clarkson  
**Division:** B  
**Friday Playoff:** 3rd & 4th v Derby  
**Finish:** 4th



### Mixed Badminton

**Manager:** Arizona Galbraith  
**Division:** A  
**Friday Playoff:** 3rd and 4th v Champion Bay  
**Finish:** 4th



### Boys Basketball

**Coach:** Chad Greenaway  
**Division:** A  
**Friday Playoff:** 3rd and 4th v Bethel  
**Finish:** 4th







## Secondary History

### The National History Challenge

Each year students in year 7 to 10 have had the opportunity to participate in the process of historical research by entering the National History Challenge. This year, students from year 7 and 8 chose to accept the challenge as a part of the Humanities and Social Sciences Skills session.

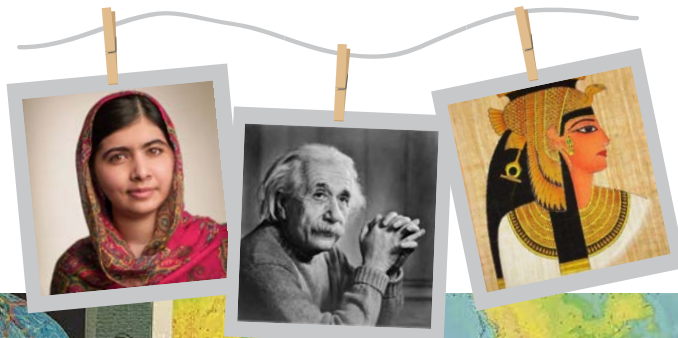
The theme this year was *People and Power*. Students were able to choose any topic for research based on this theme and present their research to the challenge judges in the form of an essay, presentation, website or model.

The following students achieved the **Young Historian Green** award, recognising their participation in the process of historical research:

Clancy Hann and Layne Gillingham  
*Presentation - Malala Yousafzai*

Daniel Stickney  
*Essay - Inside Einstein*

Olivia Painter  
*Website - Cleopatra*



The following student's work was selected for the next level of competition judging, awarding them **Young Historian Bronze**:

Millie Patterson  
*Essay - It's not my fault: How following orders can make us evil (an examination of World War 2)*

Oscar Lin  
*Website - SPQR A Day in the Life of an Ancient Roman*

Matthew Chamberlain  
*Interactive timeline - The House of York*

Jett Butson and Adelle Boyle-Newman  
*Essay - Power in the Music Industry*



Congratulations to these students on their fantastic work!



## Australian History Competition

Students in year 7, 8, 9, and 10 demonstrated their historical source analysis skills and knowledge of history in the Australian History Competition. The annual national competition involves students completing a source analysis test under timed conditions on topics relating to the Australian Curriculum: History.

Congratulations to the following high achieving award winners this year.

Matthew Chamberlain - High Distinction  
Cullyn Kentish - High Distinction

Oscar Lin - High Distinction  
Daniel Stickney - Distinction  
Vatsan Suresh - Distinction  
Elliot Beat - Distinction  
Breanna Mead - Distinction



## AUSTRALIAN HISTORY COMPETITION



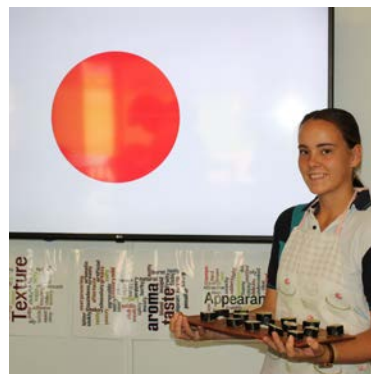
## Secondary Food Technology

As part of the year 10 Food Safari unit in Food Technology, students went on their own adventure researching the food culture of a country, creating a presentation and making a dish from that country.

We had ANZAC biscuits from Australia, sushi from Japan and a chocolate yule log and crepes from France.

All students worked hard to plan, create and present their chosen dish. What a talented bunch of chefs we have at Geraldton Grammar School. Look out families for some tasty treats coming your way at home.

Bon Appetit!







# Mental Health Week

On Friday 11 October, students and staff in the primary school, acknowledged Mental Health Week with a special assembly and associated activities.

Mental Health Week is held in October each year to raise community awareness about mental health issues.

The aim of Mental Health Week is to promote social and emotional wellbeing to the community and to encourage people to maximise their health potential. Similarly, our school celebrations aim to promote the social and emotional wellbeing of our students and to raise awareness within the school community. The Mental Health Week theme for this year was “Hats on for Mental Health”.

Donned in bright colours to represent positivity, the children and staff came to school ready for an exciting day of fun community activities. The day began with a special assembly hosted by the 3/4L Happy Hatters. Throughout the week, leading up to the assembly, classes had been busy creating their own hats as a means of sharing wellbeing messages and tips. This served to set the scene for the assembly, which began with a ‘Hats on for Mental Health’ parade. Key themes and messages were then shared through music, dance and a mini-play along with several interactive wellbeing activities. A highlight of the assembly was the BIG ball game, coordinated by the Junior Representative Council who did a wonderful job. Following assembly, students returned to class and enjoyed a very special treat from Mrs Lodge.

Thank you to all staff and students for your participation and support. It was a truly INSPIRE- ational day.







## Talented Young Writers Program



This term, at the Young Writers we met with the author Meg McKinlay. This was the last of the four authors we had the opportunity to meet. 15 students from Geraldton Grammar School joined with many other students from the Midwest Region. Throughout the day, we discussed many techniques and tips on how to improve our writing and help us become better authors. We had the chance to purchase some of her books.

We talked about many topics including how to develop our writer's voice and how Meg used the different techniques in her books, in order to make her books the best they could be. One of the techniques we learnt was different ways to think about how to start a story and how to continue the story to make it interesting. We feel extremely lucky that we had this opportunity to participate in this program.

*Pheobe, Nicole, Matilda & Taylor*



## Antarctica Experience

On Thursday 17 October our Year 1 and Year 2 students walked to the Geraldton Museum for the 'Antarctica Experience'. We watched a virtual reality adventure that provided students with a unique opportunity to experience a day in the life of scientists working in Antarctica. This excursion reinforced the sustainability priorities that we have at Geraldton Grammar School and excited students about the global Geography curriculum taught in term 4.







## Primary Christmas Disco



The last primary disco for the year was held on Friday 15 November. The Greenough and Chapman Year 6 leaders combined to host a fabulous Christmas themed dancing soiree.

All money raised goes to support the local Midwest Charity Begins at Home Giving Tree, which will help make Christmas special for those in our community who are doing it tough at the moment.

Thank you to all those who attended the event, and a big thank you to all of the people that helped make the disco the wonderful success that it was. We appreciate the time you give to make events like these special for our students. The Year 6 leaders did an outstanding job of being hosts for the evening, and Santa was certainly a big hit.

"I really enjoyed organising this year's Christmas disco as it was a brilliant experience and it was fun to take on this leadership role. It was also quite challenging to run as the schedule we organised did not go to plan and we had to stay on our set roles for longer than we expected. My favourite moment was when I walked into the hall and witnessed the amazing decorations for the first time. Thank you to everyone who helped set up, you did an outstanding job!"

Lily



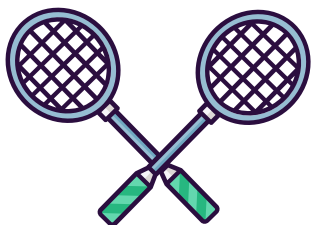




## Inter-school Sport

### Secondary Interschool Badminton

On Thursday 31 October, 12 Year 7-10 Grammar students attended the annual inter-school badminton tournament. Students competed against Geraldton Senior High School and Nagle Catholic College. A great day was had by all students. A special mention to Jett Butson and Dylan Spencer for winning their division.



### Secondary Interschool Rugby

An excellent skill set was on show as Geraldton Grammar School defeated Strathalbyn Christian College 29-21 in the inaugural rugby fixture between the schools on Wednesday 27 November. The boys were very proud of themselves and the umpires award for Man of the Match went to Callan Hill. Well done to all involved!







## Student News

### Abby Green - National Equestrian Interschool Championships

Abby Green represented the school at the National Interschool Championships and achieved 5th place in show jumping. She also competed at the Pony Club Nationals and achieved an outstanding 2nd place in the Gymkhana, which includes show horse, show jumping and games, as well as placing 2nd in the Quiz Team event where riders show their theoretical knowledge of care for horses and equestrian events.

Congratulations, Abby!



### Caleb Sewell - Runner-Up in the D'Arcy Slater Tennis Cup



I started to play tennis at a very early age and I loved every bit of it. I picked up a racquet at 2 and started to have rallies with my dad. I enjoy the competitiveness and the spirit of the sport because I meet lots of new people and play them as well. The spirit is great because tennis is just an all-round great sport.

I used to train 2 times a week plus social tennis on the weekends because I loved my coach Colin Thompson as he appreciated every person for who they were and helped with tennis in a generous way. Unfortunately, he has left us for the opportunity of a lifetime to work with Tennis Australia in NSW, so now I just hit with my dad every weekend.

The tournament I played in was called the D'Arcy Slater Cup (boys) and the Foundation Cup (girls) which is a 13 and under tournament for regional players. It was named after a young boy called D'Arcy Slater because he played tennis every day and loved the sport, but at the age of 13 he sadly drowned, so his mother started a foundation in his memory. The D'Arcy Slater Foundation is an organisation dedicated to education, sport and leadership in young people.

At the end of the tournament, the feeling was beyond amazing although I did not win, I was still delighted to be given this chance and hope to do well in the future. Korbin Priestley was the winner of the competition and his outstanding skills at tennis allowed him to be the champion of the tournament.

As for the upcoming interstate camp in Victoria, I am not expecting much because it doesn't matter about the glory of winning, it is all about having fun, giving it a go and just trying something new. I am still delighted and looking forward to it and hope to have the best experience. These camps teach us about life on tour.

*Caleb*



We were very proud of Caleb's sportsmanship throughout this tournament and the friends he has made on the circuit with young boys and girls. They're all lovely people and have to travel from all over WA to get the match play experience. Caleb's beloved Coach Colesy has left us for a fantastic opportunity in NSW with Tennis Australia but will always be the coach that got Caleb started. He is going to have an amazing experience playing at the Kooyong Tennis Club in the Judy Dalton Cup in January and watching the Australian Open with new friends.

*Tim & Reahanan Sewell*





## 2013 Cohort - April Porter - Jewellery Designer Entrepreneur



If you have shopped in Perth's many incredible handmade markets, you may be familiar with Marime Studio's stunning ceramic jewellery. April Porter is the talented woman behind the business, which she started after being inspired by her travels across the globe and has now turned into a successful side hustle. When April's not being a green thumb working in a local plant store, she's making jewellery, planning new collections, getting stuck into her businesses finances and keeping on top of social media.

Featured in an article for Urban List on 21 October she gives her best tips for small business owners and what she's most proud of.

<https://www.theurbanlist.com/perth/a-list/on-the-side-marime-studio>

Check out her jewellery on  @marimestudio

