



# THE BEACON

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Striving for Excellence





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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GERALDTON  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



# Meagan Plummer Arts Fest 2022



Primary & Secondary  
Champion House  
- Greenough

The 2022 Meagan Plummer Arts Fest was held across Week 10 of Term 2 and involved students from Kindy to Year 12. Competitions were held in cake making and decorating, art, drama, photography, singing and cosplay. It was wonderful to see so many students engaged in practical arts projects and we hope that even more students take the opportunity to creatively express themselves next year. A huge thank you must go out to all of the parents and staff who supported the students and the event overall. For the first time, awards were handed out to students based on their participation and achievement in the competition events. As well as this, a Champion House for the event was named in the Primary School and Secondary School.



## Congratulations to the Overall Winners

	Early Steps Hub (Kindy-Y2)	Step Forward Hub (Year 3-6)	Step In Hub (Year 7-8)	Step Up Hub (Year 9-10)	Step Out Hub (Year 11-12)
Champions	Emy Craft Tristan Taylor	Francesca Place Gareth Taylor	Scarlett Shortall Angus Chadbourne	Paige Gould Joe George-Kennedy Banjo McBeath	April Pusey Aidan Peacey
Runner Ups	Ellie Place Aarav Khanna	Aasta Johnson Kai Bassett-Scarfe	Willow Pusey Cameron Millns Sizer	Ella Asmussen	Amber Bestry



The extra cupcakes sold during Arts Fest raised over \$170 for UNICEF Australia - Ukraine Emergency Appeal.

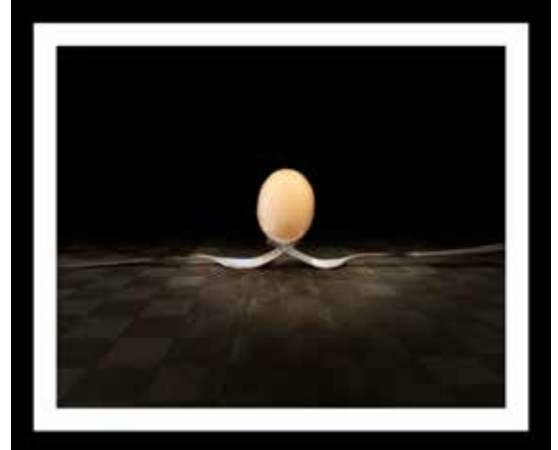
**People's Choice Award:  
Amber Bestry**

**Platinum Jubilee Cake Competition Winners**

	Cupcakes	Show Stopper Cake
Early Steps Hub (Kindy-Y2)	1st Place - Zeke Da Silva 2nd Place - Emy Craft 3rd Place - Ellie Place	
Step Forward Hub (Year 3-6)	1st Place - Aasta Johnson 2nd Place - Aerin Scatena & Francesca Place 3rd Place - Hamish Craft	
Step In Hub (Year 7-8)	1st Place - Ashlee Blake 2nd Place - Scarlett Shortall	1st Place - Scarlett Shortall 2nd Place - Isabelle Cowcher 3rd Place - Olive Davidson
Step Up Hub (Year 9-10)	1st Place - Christi Bestry	1st Place - Niyah Nasir & Jenna Butson 2nd Place - Elle Ryan 3rd Place - Ashleigh Blignaut
Step Out Hub (Year 11-12)	1st Place - Amber Bestry 2nd Place - Scheney Blignaut 3rd Place - April Pusey	1st Place - Jaime-Lee Carter & Sanika Santhosh 2nd Place - Amber Bestry

## Photography Competition Winners

	Early Steps Hub (Kindy-Y2)	Step Forward Hub (Year 3-6)	Step In Hub (Year 7-8)	Step Up Hub (Year 9-10)	Step Out Hub (Year 11-12)
Winner	Tristan Taylor	Gareth Taylor	Olivia Wynn-Taylor	Paige Gould	Breea Paech
Highly Commended	Isabelle McCleod	Ariana van der Merwe Francesca Place	Angus Chadbourne Sahar Chowdhury	Bella Teakle Georgie Boys	Sabine Angelatos Rosie Perham



## Secondary Art Competition Winners



Step Up Hub - 1st Place  
Scarlett Shortall



Step Up Hub - 2nd Place  
Jaxon Tindall



Step Up Hub - 3rd Place  
Sahar Chowdhury

# Year 5 Camp - Perth

Hi I am Nick and I would like to share what we did on Monday while on camp. We were all excited to hop on the bus to start our journey. We stopped at Badgingarra to play in the park for about 20 minutes before we were off to Perth. Once we got to camp we unpacked and played outside then we went to have lunch. After lunch, we were separated into two groups. One did the flying fox and the other did team building activities. The flying fox was really cool. We had to wear a special harness and jump from a tall tower to go flying down the wire. We worked together to help each other into the harness and to get off at the other end. After that, we had dinner before the two groups went to do another activity. One group completed the blind-maze where one person had to be blindfolded and follow a maze while their partner gave them directions - it was also in the dark! The other group went to do the Blackout Zone where we had to go into a maze, inside a dark building, and climb through small spaces, between tight corners and up and over big rope nets. All this was done in the dark while solving puzzles as we went along. After we did the activities we got ready for bed.

Hi name is Wesley, on Tuesday, after breakfast, we went to the Electoral Commission. Where we learnt about how elections are voted for and how the votes are counted. Then we ran our own election for our favourite sweet treat. The demonstration of an election was very interesting and Skittles just won against Maltesers. After the Electoral Commission we went to the Perth Mint. When we arrived we had lunch and we were able to hold models of some of the biggest chunks of gold ever found! The live gold pour was really cool - they had to heat up a solid chunk of gold until it was liquid - it was so hot the man had to wear special gloves and an apron to protect himself. After the Perth Mint we went to the zoo. Some of the animals at the zoo were really cool but some of them just paced around their enclosure. When we finished at the zoo we went back to the camp and had dinner. Everybody could not stop talking about lasertag, as it was after dinner. When dinner finally finish we went to laser tag, everybody had fun. After laser tag we went back to camp and went to sleep.



Hi my name is Ariana and I would like to share my experience about year 5 camp. My favourite day was Wednesday because we got to go to Kings Park, which was really fun. We learned how to follow a compass to orienteer around Kings Park looking for questions to answer about the plants in the park. We also did a walk around the park learning about the indigenous plants and how Aboriginal people use them. It was so interesting! Then we went to Scitech which was so much fun, especially the planetarium. In the planetarium we watched a video about how humans came into existence

According to science. The team building was fun also. We had to complete challenges by talking to each other and working together. It really helped my teambuilding skills. After that we had a campfire and roasted smores, it was so good, and don't tell anyone that I had seconds!

Hi my name is Amelia. My favourite day on year 5 camp was Thursday. First we had breakfast and got dressed then we jumped in the bus and off we go to the Maritime Museum. At the museum we learnt about people in the olden days and how they had lots of challenges when they immigrated to Australia. We investigated different people who came to Australia for different reasons. We had to look at actual artefacts from their journey and decide which artefact matched their journey the best. Next we followed the journey of one immigrant called Jackimo and how he came to Australia to earn money for his family by being a fisherman. He started fishing and finally had enough money to bring his family to Australia. We got to go onto a boat in the museum. It was heaps of fun. After that we went to the Fremantle Prison and we saw Moondine Joe's cell, it had nails all around the walls, nailing down big pieces of metal so he couldn't escape. We also saw a man's cell covered with art, he was very artistic. We learned about how the convicts were treated in prison when they were shipped to Australia. They even had to build their own prison! Then we went to the Hoyts Cinema and we saw the newest movie before having dinner at Cicerello's, we also got some outstanding ice cream.



Hi my name is Molly, on year 5 camp my favourite day was Friday.

First we had breakfast then we packed up our gear and got on the bus to drive to AQWA where we had morning tea and split up for our rotations. The first rotation was leaning about the sea turtles and meeting Bubbles. Bubbles was a sea turtles who was rescued after its back left flipper got a little rip during a storm. There are many types of sea turtles such as leather-backs, green sea turtles and the loggerhead sea turtles. They often get washed up on the shore after storms. The people at AQWA help to rescue them until they are strong enough, which is when they are release back into the ocean. After both rotations we headed back to Geraldton.

We would like to thank Mrs Halford, Mrs Beermer, Mr Matthews and Mrs Valenti. I for all of their hard work in making this the best camp ever! We would also like to thank the parent helpers Mr Doncon, Mr Brown and Mrs Hetherington, who helped us all have a great time.



## Year 6 Camp - Perth

Spencer - On Sunday, after we arrived and found our accommodation we got to try archery, it was fun. We learnt how to shoot a bow and participated in a competition at the end of the session. We also played the 'Lost Pilot' game where we had to use two way radios to find pieces of metal that had been lost after a plane had crashed. The people who organised the activity tried to catch us out during our search. We eventually found the metal which we had to use to help find the pilot with the clues they gave us. At night time we went ten-pin bowling and played some really fun arcade games.





Arley - On Monday, we first went to the Electoral Commission Centre where we learnt about how to vote and saw a video on people who were voting. We completed a mock election to view how the preferential system worked. Then we went to the Perth Mint where we heard stories of the biggest gold nuggets in the world, we weighed ourselves in gold and picked up a piece of gold. We got to see a gold pour which required our guide to melt down real gold and pour it into a bullions. After that we went to Scitech where we became detectives to solve a crime using scientific skills. We also watched a video on how the universe was made in the planetarium. Lastly we went caving at Ern Haliday in some artificial caves made out of sea containers, pipes, sand and wood. It was so much fun, some of us even completed parts of the course in the dark.



Isla - On Tuesday we did the Optus Stadium tour and it was really interesting. I loved going through all of the rooms. We got to sit in both the Eagles and the Dockers change room and check out where they have their ice baths. After that we went to Yanchep National Park to learn about the Indigenous peoples' culture, we also went through the crystal caves and saw some kangaroos and koalas. The crystal caves were really cool and interesting. It was amazing to see how they were formed. I liked how quiet and spacious the caves were.



Leo - On Wednesday we went to the Army Museum and learnt all the cool things about different wars Australia has been involved in. There were many artefacts and displays showing the conditions that soldiers had to survive in. After that we went to Cicerellos for lunch, it was so good. Later we to the Literature Centre and learnt all about visual art through a workshop. We then went to the Escape Rooms where we needed to work in teams to escape. My team escaped with three seconds left on the clock. It was really hard, but great fun. It was my favourite thing on camp.





Lochie - On our last day we did splatball. Splatball is like paintball, but has less impact so it doesn't hurt as much when you get hit. We had splatball guns and shot each other with paintballs. My gun kept getting jammed, but it was still great fun, and the dark camo team won everything. Splatball was very messy.

We had a fantastic time and learned a lot at each place we visited. We would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Liddle, Mrs Watson, Mr Barham, Mr Greenaway, Mr Canny and Mrs Flint for helping Mrs Buckley on our camp. We really appreciate all you did to make our camp great.



# Primary Cross Country



	Champion	Runner Up
Pre Primary	Hunter Orenshaw Willow Valenti	Liam Simpson Asta Falconer
Year 1	Hudson Kennedy Hazel McCartney	Zeke Da Silva Emy Craft
Year 2	Jake Bassett - Scarfe Sadie Barnes	Digby Hearman Bailey Thomas
Year 3	Gareth Taylor Samara Penney	Flynn Wilkinson Freya Teakle
Year 4	Charlie Fong Lola Gould	Tayte Ackland Isla Quirke / Lia Frick
Year 5	Seth Leech Evie Fong	Bede Halford Ilahi Gill
Year 6	Noah Brown Isla Dawson	Charlie Morrison Esta Penberthy



**Champion House  
- Murchison**



# Education Perfect Humanities Competition

In Term 3 Secondary students had the opportunity to enter the Education Perfect Competition. Competing with students across Australia and New Zealand students earned points answering questions in any Humanities area - Geography, History, Economics and Social Sciences.

Geraldton Grammar School achieved 15th place overall in WA with some of our students achieving individual awards. Congratulations to Benjamin Munday who scored over 1385 points earning him a Bronze certificate. Sania Sajeev and Sahar Chowdhury were awarded a Credit Certificate.



## Bilya Kaatijin Incursion



In May, the primary school was treated to a performance from the Yirra Yaakin Indigenous Theatre company sponsored by the Water Corporation. Students watched a performance of Bilya Kaatijin (which means 'Fresh Water Knowledge' in Noongar). Journeying through global Dreaming stories the show demonstrated to students the importance of accepting others, the power of empathy, the impact of climate change and the significance of the Indigenous calendar and seasons. It was a colourful, entertaining show for Reconciliation Week and being an Act, Belong, Commit and Waterwise school, it was a perfect way to reinforce the programs that our school supports.



# Year 11 Integrated Science Incursion

In week 9 of Term 2, the year 11 Integrated Science students, accompanied by Mr Angelatos, travelled to the Geraldton Fishermen's Cooperative at the Geraldton Port. The students have been learning how important sustainability of fisheries are for many stakeholders and also about the life cycle of the Western Rock Lobster. At the facility, they were met by Mr Leith Teakle who showed the students an informative introductory video, followed by a tour of the operation. Students observed the unloading dock, sorting lines, and holding tanks and learned more about lobster anatomy and how they are packaged and transported to Perth. Mr Teakle also shared how the fishery has been successfully managed sustainably and the changes that have taken place over the years. Many thanks to the students, Mr Teakle, Mr Angelatos and also Shaun McInnes from the Co-operative for organising the tour.



# Year 2 Geraldton Museum Excursion



Year 2 students braved the wind and rain to visit the Geraldton Museum to find out more about a significant event in local history. Students visited the shipwreck gallery and viewed the original portico rescued from the ocean depths that our school emblem and entrance to our hall are modelled on. They discovered more about the Batavia and viewed maps of where it was blown off course. Students then saw the replica of the boat that was to make the journey back to Indonesia to save the survivors trapped on the Aboholhos Islands.



# Greenough Pioneer Museum Excursion

Our Pre Primary and Year 1 classes visited the Greenough Pioneer Museum as part of our History learning program. Students explored the differences and similarities between their daily lives and life during their parents and grandparents childhoods, including family traditions and leisure time. The Pioneer Museum provided students with the opportunity to walk into a kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and many other rooms that had 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. Thank you to the parents, grandparents and friends who joined us for this excursion.



# Primary Poetry 2022



## Girls

	Champion	Runner Up
Pre Primary	Abigail Luscombe	Isabelle McLeod
Year 1	Chelsea Lim	Frankie Nicholson
Year 2	Scout Bailey	Wen Rui Wong
Year 3	Zoe Reynolds	Kara Pothan
Year 4	Rhea Poligadu	Lennox Buck
Year 5	Indi Fitzgerald	Taliah Connarty
Year 6	Sarah Pilsneniks	Charleigh Scrimgeour



## Boys

	Champion	Runner Up
Pre Primary	Beau Reynolds	Marshall Gray
Year 1	Aarav Khanna	Tristan Taylor
Year 2	Miles Kelly	Jonathan Leigh-Firbank
Year 3	Tate Joyce	Flynn Wilkinson
Year 4	Darcy Patience	Jordan Lim
Year 5	Wesley Brown	Hamish Lochhead
Year 6	Leo Gaudron	Ewyn Lochhead Lucas Symonds



## Children's Choice Winners

Pre Primary	Victoria Teale
Year 1	Liam Dyson
Year 2	Ethan van der Merwe
Year 3	Lucy McCartney
Year 4	Hannah MacDonald
Year 5	Seth Leech
Year 6	Jessica Orlando



## Student News

### ACC Cross Country

Christi Bestry, Milly Kalajzich and Nicole Chamberlain had amazing success at the ACC Cross Country at Perry Lakes in June.

Nicole ran in the Year 9 Girls 4000m, finished 8th in 16:30.96.

Christi ran in the Year 10 Girls 4000m, finished 1st and winning Gold by 200m in 15:13.43.

Milly also ran in the Year 10 Girls 4000m, finished 7th in 16:38.76.

There were 76 schools participating at ACC this year and a total of 2370 competitors, such an incredible sight and atmosphere. The girls were wonderful ambassadors for Geraldton Grammar School.





## Tanisha Suppiah - WA Scrabble Championship



In June Tanisha attended the WA Scrabble Championship in Perth. She played a total of 18 games and won 6. She is the only child player in WA playing against adults (most are 60s and above) with over 30 years experience. Her wins have resulted in an increase in her ratings and she is super excited.



## Alumni News

### Brynn Teakle (2017) - Drafted for Port Adelaide

Selected by Port Adelaide with the eighth pick in the 2022 mid-season draft, Brynn Teakle is a 204cm big man originally hailing from Western Australia. Teakle plays primarily in the ruck however is also able to swing up forward and exert damage in front of goal. His agility, foot skills and ability to hunt the ball at ground-level makes him one of the club's most exciting young prospects.

Teakle made his AFL debut against Sydney in Round 15, just over two weeks after arriving at Alberton. His debut was cut short however after suffering a broken collarbone early in the match. Although his on-field time was limited, he has made a huge impression on the fans – quickly becoming a favourite within the Port Adelaide faithful.



### Thom Johnstone (2019) - Releases Debut Single



Originally from Bundaberg, previously from Brisbane, now residing in Coffs Harbour - Reverend Green is the solo project of 20 year old Australian singer/songwriter Thom Johnstone former student and son of Geraldton Grammar School 4th Principal, Nick Johnstone.

Low Power Mode is the debut single for Reverend Green and showcases his blend of Indie Rock craftsmanship, playful charm, romantic chords and self-reflection.

## Sarah Dring (2011) - Mid West Rural Ambassador

Congratulations to Sarah Dring who was sashed as the Mid West Rural Ambassador for youth in agriculture for 2022 at the Awards Dinner held in Carnamah in July.

Sarah is presently both a farmer in Eneabba and an early childhood teacher in Geraldton. She's excited to be part of the next generation of innovative farmers, to promote the benefits of living and working regionally, and to play an active role in the future of the North Midlands Agricultural Society.

The Judges had a difficult job as the calibre of entrants was diverse and strong, one of which was fellow Geraldton Grammar School graduate Holly Freeman (2015) representing Mullewa Agricultural Society.



## Staff News

### Narissa Valenti - It's a boy!



In the July holidays, Narissa gave birth to a handsome baby boy - Vinnie. Big sister Willow is loving cuddles with her new brother. Congratulations to the Valenti family.

