



# 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



# P&F Colour Run



The Run for Fun Colour Explosion, held on the last day of Term 1, proved to be a spectacular and successful fundraising event for the P&F. This lively event not only brought together enthusiastic students but also garnered generous contributions from local businesses. With a burst of colours and unending smiles, the Geraldton Grammar School community came together to make a fantastic event.

Students from all year levels displayed their dedication and commitment by actively participating in the Run for Fun Colour Explosion. It was rewarding to witness their enthusiasm as they completed the obstacle course and slippery slide, covered from head to toe in colour. Their determination and spirit were not only evident in their colourful appearances but also in their efforts to secure sponsorships for the event.

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to each and every student who went above and beyond to collect sponsorships for the Run for Fun Colour Explosion. Your commitment to supporting the P&F and its initiatives is truly commendable. Congratulations to Hamish and Emy Craft who won the award for highest funds raised.



We would like to express our appreciation to the following businesses for their generous support: **Balanced Electrical & Solar, Active West Real Estate, Novus Glass/Tint a Car, Taylor Mechanical & Marine, Batten Farms, Ankle & Foot Health Group, Offshore Charters, USEA Accounting & Business Advisory, Pharmacy 194, Northampton Pharmacy, Axiom Industries, WA Country Builders, Salt Boutique and Blue Ocean Mental Health.**

To all the businesses that supported the Run for Fun Colour Explosion, your investment in our students' education and extracurricular activities will have a lasting impact. We are grateful for your dedication to fostering a thriving community.



The success of the Run for Fun Colour Explosion not only showcased the spirit of our students but also highlighted the power of community engagement. The funds raised from this event will go towards supporting various P & F initiatives, such as a permanent all weather shade area for the primary school and completion of the gym landscaping.

As we celebrate the triumph of the Run for Fun Colour Explosion which made a profit of \$30,000 we remember that it is the collective effort of students, parents, staff, and businesses that makes such events possible. It is through collaboration and mutual support that we can create a brighter future for our school community.

Once again, a huge thank you to all the students who secured sponsorships and the generous businesses that contributed to the success of the Run for Fun Colour Explosion. Your unwavering support has made a significant difference and is a testament to the strength of our community at Geraldton Grammar School.



On Thursday 6 April our school participated in the P&F Colour Fun Run fundraising event, with the school community working together to raise money for new projects around the school. As part of this, the Kindergarten classes took part in a Colour Fun Day. Students spent the day participating in various colourful sensory experiences. It was such a fun and successful day for our school community.



# Outdoor Education Camps

## Year 12 Outdoor Education - Rottnest Island



In week 9 of Term 1, the Year 12 Outdoor Education class attended their first expedition to Rottnest Island. Students spent Term 1 working on their cycling skills at the Geraldton Foreshore.

The camp gave the students the opportunity to demonstrate their personal, working with others and leadership skills. Students were treated to some great weather and had an awesome time.



## Year 11 Outdoor Education - Coral Bay

This term the Year 11 Outdoor Education class went on a week long trip to Coral Bay from the 7 - 13 May. Our class was accompanied by Mr Greenaway, Miss Cinanni and Miss Gallop. We spent the first night in Carnarvon. After a lengthy drive North, we settled in and watched the sunset by the beach.





The next morning we packed up and set off for the Blow Holes and this was our first snorkel of the trip. It was a magical first swim. The rest of the trip was spent snorkelling, swimming, learning about the area's biodiversity and enjoying the company of others. We even spent a day in Exmouth doing some amazing snorkelling at Turquoise Bay, where we spotted six turtles.

Day five was an extra special day, spent on Frazer's boat 'Ningaloo Marine Interactions'. We swam with many different kinds of fish and marine life including manta rays and reef sharks. One night we had a 'Master Chef' competition and our winners were Ella Batten and Georgie Boys with their pesto pasta and baked veggies dish. Another friendly competition we had was 'Camper of the Week' whose title was earned by Sienna Hatch. Overall the camp was an unforgettable experience.

*by Dusty Morgan*



# Science & Engineering Challenge

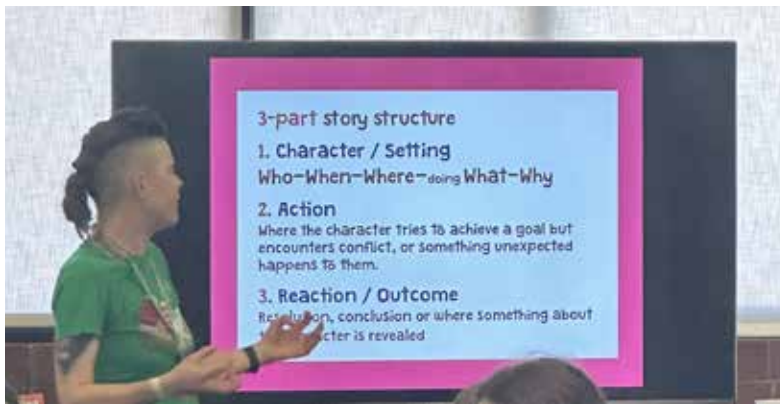


On Friday 28 April, 30 Year 9 students attended the MidWest Science and Engineering Challenge. This is a day of STEM-based challenges where students work in small groups to complete activities such as making a glider plane from scratch which can hit a target, building a light but strong bridge which can support a heavy moving weight, make an earthquake-proof tower from straws and paper, and making a Mars-rover which can traverse a very uneven surface. There were also puzzle style challenges where students had to use mathematical networks to design transport routes, make up coding systems to communicate information, design electricity infrastructure for a city and plan and schedule complex events efficiently.

The day aims to encourage students to consider STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects and careers and to use the associated skills such as creativity, critical thinking, communication and problem solving. Our students performed excellently with some groups winning their challenges overall. All students also displayed the school values of Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance and Inclusivity at all times and were great ambassadors for our school. A huge thank you also to our fabulous parent volunteers who attended and helped on the day.



# Young Writers Program



Our enthusiastic young writers were treated to a special graphic artist author this term Aska; who is passionate about visual literacy and has published more than ten books and graphic novels. The students participated in learning how to communicate ideas and emotion and tell stories through drawing. Check out Aska's site for more information about her novels and her passion.

<https://askastorytelling.com/about/>



# Kindy Mother's Day Afternoon Tea



On Thursday 11 May the Junior Kindy and 4 Year Old Kindy classes hosted a Mother's Day Afternoon Tea to help celebrate their special Mums and Grandmothers. The students and their family members spent the afternoon enjoying some delicious sweet treats under the shade of the Early Learning tree. It was a wonderful afternoon and the Kindy students cherished sharing some special time with their loved ones.



# Service

## Secondary School - 40 Hour Famine



### What is the 40 hour famine?

The 40-hour famine raises money for those facing the hunger crisis around the world.

**How many people participated?** 22 people.



**What did some participants give up as their 40 hour challenge?** Some people gave up food, furniture or even sleep!

**How much money did Geraldton Grammar School raise?** \$2,135

**Can you still donate?** Yes! You can donate to Geraldton Grammar's page at:

<https://40hourfamine.com.au/geraldton-grammar-school>

## Staff News

### Simon Moffatt - Welcome to Baby Nash



At the beginning of April, Simon Moffatt and his wife Sally welcomed another addition to the family, a baby boy named Nash.

He is already a much loved little brother to older siblings Parker and Sadie.

Congratulations to the Moffatt family.

Glad to hear both you and your boy are in good health.

# Sports News

## The Dockers Lightning Football Carnival



In April, students across the secondary year groups took part in a carnival with other schools in Geraldton.

The 7/8 team started off with two great wins against Nagle and Champion Bay followed by a couple nail-biters! The 9/10 team were up against some tough opposition in the two Nagle teams and fought hard all day.

All the girls did us proud by showing perseverance, teamwork, courage and above all great sportsmanship. A special thank you to Olivia Hurst and Clancy Hann for coaching and Wil Burgess, Callum Sojan, Ryan Dines and Harry Keach for umpiring throughout the day.

## 2023 Equestrian State Championships

In the Easter school holidays two of our students competed at the State Equestrian Championships in Perth at the State Equestrian Centre.

**Ashlee Blake** & Thiacon Donandra  
4th Senior Working Hunter Championship  
5th Senior 60cm Show Jumping Championship  
11th Senior 70cm Show Jumping Championship

**Isabelle Dewar** & Tiaja Park Gift  
2nd Participant Primary Prep Dressage  
6th Participant Primary P 1.2 dressage



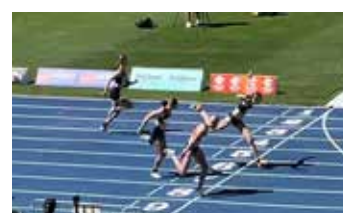
## Australian Track & Field Championships

In the April school holidays, Ella, Christi and Nicole travelled to Brisbane to compete in the Australian Track & Field Championships.

Ella competed against 10 others in the U18 Heptathlon (Day 1 Thursday: 100m Hurdles 1st, High Jump 1.67m PB 1st, Shot Put 10th, 200m 10th. Day 2 Friday: Long Jump 5.06m 4th, Javelin 6th, 800m 9th). She scored numerous points for the hurdles and high jump, and secured enough points in the other events to win a silver medal! On Sunday Ella competed in the U18 High Jump and jumped 1.64cm to secure 7th place. A fantastic Nationals campaign.

Christi and Nicole competed in the U17 2000m Steeplechase on Saturday afternoon with 20 of the nation's best on the start line. Christi ran faster and navigated the steeples better than she ever has before and crossed the line 0.54 of a second behind the second place athlete to claim the bronze medal in a 4 second PB time of 7:07.39. She has never been so ecstatic!

Nicole finished 18th in a time of 7:55.06, thoroughly enjoying the experience of her first Nationals Athletics event.



## SSWA All Schools 2023 State Cross Country Championships



In May, Christi Bestry and Nicole Chamberlain travelled to Perth to compete in the SSWA All Schools 2023 State Cross Country Championships.

This event is the platform for selection into the SSWA State Cross Country Team. It was held at UWA Sports Park, McGilivray Oval, Mt Claremont on Thursday 18-05-2023 at 9.45am. This event attracts about 1800 competitors from Year 7 to Year 12's each year.

Christi and Nicole competed in the Girls 16 years 4000m race. Their results were outstanding and a magnificent reward for effort after their dedication and commitment in training, to being the best they can be. Out of 110 competitors Christi claimed the SILVER MEDAL in a time of 15:10 mins and Nicole placed 5th in a time of 16:17 mins.

Well done girls, the school community are super proud of you and wish you all the best at the Australian Cross Country Championships in Canberra in August.

## 2022/23 Sailing Season Awards

At the Geraldton Yacht Club Presentation Night some of our Geraldton Grammar School students received awards.

Westside with Finn Preston and Charlie Fong won the Pelican State Champions, back to back Club Champions and GYC Honour board for Sailing with Distinction at a state level. In addition, they were also given credit as sailing fishermen who can win a race while squidding.

Flashing Ya Nemo with Jack Preston and Finn Preston won the Nationals 125 Junior State Champions, GYC Distinction Honour board members and placed 11th at the 125 Nationals.



## Alumni News

### Chloe Taylor (2013) - Patents New Chemical Molecule



Former student, Chloe Taylor, spoke with upper secondary students recently about her educational journey and recent completion of her PhD in Chemistry. Chloe was a Geraldton Grammar School Lifer (a student at the school from 3-year old Kindy through to Year 12) and she graduated in 2013. After school she moved to the University of Tasmania to study Marine and Antarctic Studies. Chloe told the students about how this led her to specialise in Chemistry and graduated with a double degree in Marine Studies and Chemistry.

During her undergraduate degree she participated in a research study with one of her lecturers and she strongly encouraged the students to take up these opportunities. This led her to complete an Honours year and then undertake her PhD during which she has designed, manufactured and tested a brand new chemical molecule which changes colour in the presence of a highly toxic, yet prevalent chemical, PFAS. She has now patented this technology and is looking towards further study. Her journey and story was very inspiring and insightful for the students, encouraging them to follow their passions and interests, to work hard and take the opportunities available to them. We are very proud of Chloe and it was great to hear another fantastic Geraldton Grammar School student success story. We thank Chloe for visiting the school and giving up her time.

