



CONNECT

NEWSLETTER WEEK 6 TERM 2

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2023

27 MAY — 3 JUNE

**BE A VOICE
FOR VOICE
GENERATIONS**

NRW.RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU

#NRW2023



KOISHIKAWA

Students from Koishikawa Japan are returning to Wirreanda Secondary School in term 3. Students will be visiting 7 - 18 August and we are seeking families to be homestays and host a student (or 2) for their time in Australia. This is an amazing opportunity for students, families and our school community.

<https://youtu.be/QurWaBp8PH4>

If you want to be involved please email carmen.schapel4@schools.sa.edu.au or call 08 8329 7200





FROM THE PRINCIPAL

TERM CALENDAR

It is hard to believe that it is already half way through term 2. Already this term there have been many exciting activities and events that have occurred at the school. Some of the highlights include:

- The Governor of South Australia Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC and Mr Rod Bunten visiting the school to speak to our school leaders
- Year 12 formal
- IDAHOBIT Day
- Reconciliation Week
- Year 11/12 Drama Performance
- Specialist Sports Course Trials for 2024
- Year 11 Outdoor Education camp
- Music Night
- Year 8 Camp



There continues to be a range of new and exciting opportunities for our students to be part of including;

- Extra-curricular clubs at lunch times
- Inter-school sport
- And many others

Semester 1 Assessment & Reporting

Ongoing information about the progress of your student is available on Daymap. This includes summative assessment due dates and grades and attendance information. Semester 1 reports will be available to families in week 10 on Daymap. If you wish to have a hard copy please contact the front office to organise.

Semester 2

Semester 2 classes will begin on Tuesday 27 June. Students will get their semester 2 timetables next week and they can request any changes prior to the start of semester 2.

Staffing

We continue to be challenged by a high number of staff absences due to illness. At times this means we need to make decisions about how to safely operate the whole school to ensure all students are able to attend school and have support from staff. Some senior classes have not run recently if teachers have been absent. Please ensure that you keep your student home if they are unwell to prevent the spread of illness.

Attendance

Our current attendance level is lower than the recommended attendance level for students to be successful at school. Non-attendance has a variety of effects on students, both academically and socially. Absenteeism can increase social isolation and lack of engagement, leading to emotional and behavioural difficulties. Every day of attendance counts and there is no safe threshold for absences. The correlation between absence and achievement is consistently negative and declines in achievement are evident with any level of absence. Please support your young person to attend school each day or contact the school if you require further support.

To notify of absence:

TEXT 0438 647 988 ** Absence Hotline 8329 7242 ** Student Reception 8329 7202

Mobile Phones

We continue to implement a school wide mobile phone ban for the duration of the school day including at break times. This is in line with the new Department for Education policy. Students need to have their mobile phone in a Yondr pouch and in their school bag for the duration of the school day. If students don't comply with this process, mobile phones will be placed in a lock box in the Learner Wellbeing Centre for collection at the end of the school day. More information is available here

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parents-and-families/safety-and-wellbeing/bullying-and-cyberbullying/using-mobile-phones-and-personal-devices-school>

Vaping

All schools are smoke free environments including the use of e-cigarettes and vapes. Please remind your student that vaping at school is inappropriate, not aligned to our school values and expectations and poses a serious health risk. More information is available here <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/students/health-safety-and-wellbeing/alcohol-tobacco-and-other-drugs-schools>

Access to the school during the school day

As previously communicated, access to the school during the school day is available through the Richards Drive entrance. Students and visitors should enter and exit the school through this location. Students can enter and exit the school through all gates at the start and end of the school day.

Please contact the school if you have any other questions or concerns.

Karla Pobke
Principal

STUDENT FREE DAY



MONDAY
12TH JUNE

**A REMINDER THAT
MONDAY WEEK 9 (26 JUNE, 2023) IS A
STUDENT FREE DAY.**



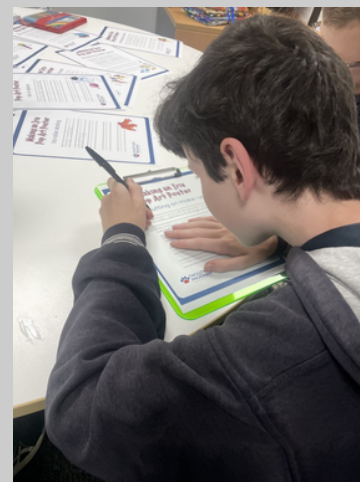
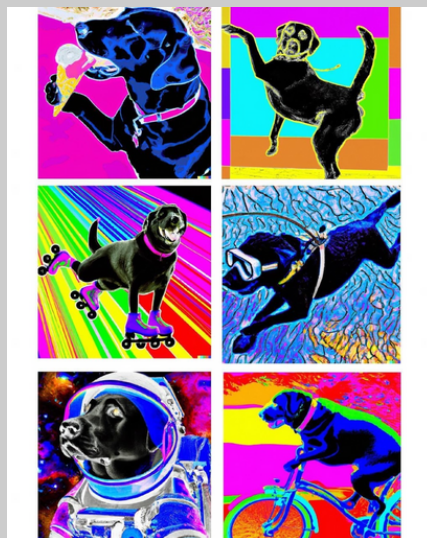
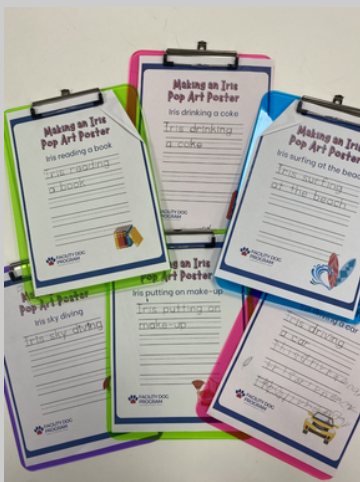
FACILITY DOG PROGRAM

The Facility Dog Program has seen some great examples of engagement to learning in 2023. Facility Dog Iris can contribute to the school environment feeling less confronting and associates learning as something positive. Iris also encourages students to relax, focus on their learning and can be used as an incentive to attend, remain in class or complete a task. Engagement can also be created through links to learning and curriculum.

Iris put her best paw forward, participating as a subject for Wirreanda Secondary School photography students. Facility Dog Iris is a great reference when creating engagement strategies. Photography teaches practical skills starting from research, the effective use of digital cameras, composition, photo editing, printing and framing of pictures. The students captured Iris' personality and working role beautifully.



Disability and Special Class students have put their creative hats on and explored ideas of activities that Facility Dog Iris can't do. Using their imagination, students chose an activity, carefully traced or wrote the sentence, then using digital technology viewed Iris doing those activities. These fun images were used to create some fun posters which are displayed in their space. Iris supported the students in these lessons to engage in literacy, developing creative thinking and fine motor skills. These fun sessions were filled with focus, communication and laughter.



MASTERCHEF CHALLENGE

Year 10 – Food Cultures

In recent weeks the Year 10 class have been competing in the infamous WSS MasterChef unit. Students compete as individuals, as well as in small teams, in numerous different challenges.

Invention Test

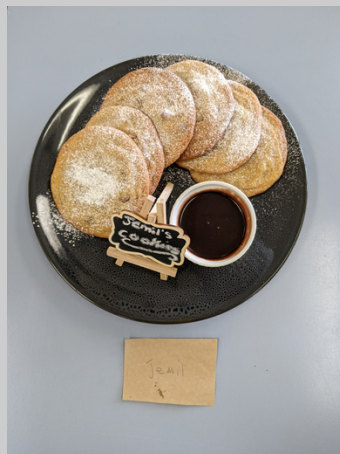
- The students had to produce a sweet tart dish centred around one randomly allocated core ingredient (white/milk/dark chocolate, frozen berries, canned apple, fresh pear).

Technical Challenge

- The students individually produced chocolate chip cookies following specific judging parameters. They all followed the same recipe, but were able to add their own flair in the plating phase of this challenge.

Mystery Box

- The students are currently working in small groups to produce a dish with a small selection of specific ingredients which are supported by some pantry staples. They are using lots of dynamic thinking to develop a dish which they feel will win over the judges!



LUNCHTIME CLUBS

A range of Lunch Time Clubs are now in full swing at WSS. Students are welcome to join in any of the clubs that spark their interests during lunch break.

		Lunchtime Clubs @ WSS		
Monday	 Imagination Creations Learning Hub	 LGBTQIA+ Group (D07)		
Tuesday	 Fiction Addiction Learning Hub	 Drama Group Theatre	Everyday  Various Activities Inclusive Learning	
Wednesday	 Check Mate Learning Hub	 Sew Club D10	 The Karaoke Club D07	 Vocal Ensemble A Block
Thursday	 Shadow Gremlins Learning Hub	 Cup'a Conversation UB08	 Futsal Club Gym	
Friday	 Yin, Yang, YOU Learning Hub	 Wirreanda Dance Crew A05	 Crochet Club DC15	



DANCE IS BACK

Dance was relaunched as a curriculum subject at WSS this year in our newly renovated spaces. In addition to this, we have started a lunchtime club called the WSS Dance Crew.

On Tuesday 30 May, crew members Izzy, Emma, Ella, Holly, Gravity, Tiana & Lillie visited Pimpala Primary School to work with the Year 5 and 6 Performing Arts classes. They performed their Street Jazz item Push It (by Bagsy) and then worked with students in small groups to teach their own sequences of choreography. Our students were excellent teachers and the primary school students were outstanding participants. It created a sense of community and excitement for the transition to high school. Thank you to Libby Maxwell for supporting us on the day.

The Dance Crew is open to any student from Year 7-12 interested in developing their technique and performance in a range of styles. New members welcome from Week 6, when we will start our next dance!

Hayley Simmons, dance teacher

YR 7 FOOD AND TEXTILES

Fun Focaccias

Students from the year 7 Food and Textiles class designed their own traditional Italian focaccias using a range of produce to decorate including fresh herbs from our school's community garden. The students made their breads over two days, practicing their measuring and dough-making skills on the Monday and decorating and baking their bread on Tuesday. To manage this we left the bread to prove in the fridge overnight which results in a slower prove but is an effective time management strategy and can result in a more flavourful bread.

Our Focaccia Recipe

Ingredients:

- 0.5 Cups Water(warm)
- 0.5 Teaspoons Yeast, dried
- 1.5 Teaspoons Honey
- 450 Grams bread flour, additional flour if required.
- 2 Grams Salt, cooking
- 2 Tablespoons Oil, olive, pure
- 2 Grams Sea Salt Flakes



Toppings (choose your own):

- Capsicum (red, green and or yellow)
- Cherry tomatoes
- Mushrooms
- Spinach, baby
- olives
- Parmesan cheese, shaved
- Herbs (thyme, rosemary, chives, parsley)



Method

Due to the length of this cook (due to the dough needing to rise) this cook will take place over two lessons.

First Lesson

1. Mix the warm water, honey and yeast in a mixing bowl and let it sit until its foamy.
2. Next, whisk together the bread flour and salt in a large mixing bowl.
3. Mix the yeast mixture into the flour mixture and stir until combined into a wet, shaggy dough.
4. Place 2 Tablespoons olive oil in a clean large bowl and turn the dough out into this bowl.
5. Flip the focaccia dough to cover it in olive oil and then cover it with a towel or plastic wrap and let it rise for the first time, in a warm place until doubled in size.
6. When the dough has completed the first rising, butter a 9x13 baking pan and drizzle in the remaining oil.
7. Starting with the top of the dough, pull it up and press it down into the middle of the dough. Turn the bowl a quarter turn and repeat. Repeat this two more times until all four sides have been folded in.
8. Turn the dough into the prepared baking dish and gently stretch it into a rectangle shape. Let the dough sit uncovered for the second rise until doubled in size.

Second lesson:

1. Mix together the olive oil with the garlic and herbs for the topping.
2. Dip your fingers in the oil topping and press dough into the focaccia dough to dimple it over the entire surface. Drizzle the garlic and herb oil over the entire surface of the focaccia dough and sprinkle it with coarse or flaky sea salt and top with your chosen decorations
3. Bake focaccia in a 200°C preheated oven for 20-30 minutes until golden brown. Allow the bread to cool for 5-10 minutes before slicing and serving.

FROM THE WELLBEING TEAM

2023 IDAHOBIT Celebrations at WSS

The Wirreanda Secondary School community celebrated IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia) on 17 May. On this day we recognise the LGBTQIA+ community and stand up against discrimination towards them and be positive, supportive allies.

Students engaged in inclusive, safe activities together at lunchtime, including playing board games with Taylor, volunteering to create snuffle mats with Mandy and Iris, making origami with Chrissy, and chatting to our youth workers Amie, Chris, Nigel and Joden over a biscuit decorated by our Home Economics classes. We also had the team from Headspace join us to connect with our students.

“I liked the day because it made us all welcome and I felt it made people be open and share their pronouns to their friends. IDAHOBIT is about inclusion and I felt that way on the day” - Year 7 Student

“Congratulations on a great acknowledgement of IDAHOBIT! My daughter was really happy to see it occur and was stoked to see such acceptance being promoted and her fellow students being supportive” - WSS Parent

“It’s a day to recognise the LGBTQIA+ past and present. The day went well and I enjoyed the day. I liked the cookies and bracelets” - Year 8 Student

“It was well organised and inclusive with yummy cookies. It was good to see students happy to celebrate IDAHOBIT and they enjoyed the face paint and wristbands. We like the pride flag outside Wellbeing, inviting students into our space” - WSS Youth Workers

Lisa Cmrlec - Middle School Learning and Culture Leader



IDAHOBIT COOKIES

Year 7 and 9 students were commissioned by the Wellbeing team to support IDAHOBIT this year by designing and decorating cookies to be handed out across the school on IDAHOBIT. The designs were mostly based around the various LGBTQIA flags.

Students all received taste testers as part of their efforts. Students used royal icing to produce the cookies and learnt more about piping techniques including outlining and flooding and were able to demonstrate their design skills in producing a product in a large scale.



YEAR 12 FORMAL

The Wirreanda Secondary School formal was hosted at the Stamford Grand Hotel on Tuesday, 16 May, 2023.

Guests enjoyed a three-course buffet, with other highlights including the much-loved photo booth capturing moments of the night, the dance floor and the award ceremony, where a range of students were recognized and celebrated for their accomplishments and contributions to the cohort.

The night was a great success due to the exceptional behaviour of all guests and the support provided by a range of staff in attendance to ensure the night ran smoothly.

Special thanks to the finance team for their diligent work ensuring every aspect of the event was organised and planned.

FINANCE NEWS

THANK YOU FOR TO ALL WHO HAVE PAID THEIR FEES FOR 2023.

All school M&S invoices were due to be finalised by 14 April 2023. We offer various payment arrangements via QKR and Bpoint and are also able to set up direct debit for your convenience.

If you believe that you may be entitled to School Card assistance, please contact the school for an application form. School Card Applications must be received by 7 November 2023. Alternatively, you can now submit your school card application form online via at www.sa.gov.au.

Further information and applications for financial hardship or for the self-employed are available via this same link.

If you have already applied for a school card or set up a payment plan please keep a copy of your statement for your records.

Please contact the finance office, if you require any further information or assistance with school fees.

Kind Regards
Finance Office

YR 11 & 12 DRAMA PRODUCTION

The self-devised year 11 and 12 Drama Production 'H & G - Survival in a Wasted World' was performed as a matinee for students and an evening show for an audience of family and friends. The production was a culmination of a drama project with Windmill Theatre and supported by theatre director Corey McMahon. Our play was a re-imagined version of the traditional Hansel and Gretel story, set in an apocalyptic future where civilians were at war with the state. Hansel and Gretel, played heroically by year 12 performers Kit W and Mackala B are told to leave their home by their controlling Stepmother, performed with wicked coldness by Imogen M and who later doubles up as the Swan Lady street gang leader. Hansel and Gretel's heartbroken Mother was performed by year 11 Selene B with subtle emotional depth and in contrast to this, the caring but cold counsellor was performed with precision by year 11 Isabel M..

The old Grandmother performed by Tristan K reflected dark comedy and evil intent as Hansel is pushed into a cage and Gretel is enslaved. The grandmother's ghosts from the past come back to haunt her as year Caleb C and Selene B as Danny and Daisy warn Hansel and Gretel about hidden truths. Year 12 Elijah T provided musical accompaniment to the dramatic action with guitar and song and year 11 Chris P executed laser projection text and imagery as a commentary on the action unfolding. Costume designer Aleiyah S designed meaningful costumes using a palette of earthly apocalyptic hues and our set designer Callie S crafted simple set designs with purpose and ease of movement on the stage.

The year 11 supporting cast and crew including Jazmine E, Phillip K, Hayley T and Charlie W combined their efforts to create a supportive ensemble and Mr Jack Paull our theatre tech provided well-timed lighting cues in a sharp 30 minute production. With themes of hope, family and survival, the dramatic narrative showed siblings working together to find their way back home.

In the lead up to final rehearsals, our year 11 and 12 drama students experienced a day out to the Windmill Theatre studio for dedicated rehearsal time and a tour of the Adelaide College of the Arts TAFE campus in Light Square. Many thanks go to Windmill Theatre for their continued support throughout this drama project.



 **WINDMILL
THEATRE CO**

ABCN FOCUS PROGRAM

Senior school girls across Year 10-12 have attended their first Australian Business and Consumer Network (ABCN) Focus Program excursions. On Friday the 12 of May the students traveled to the CBD to meet with Business Leader mentors and to develop and discuss strategies for Women in Leadership. The students discussed women who they look up to, discussed conflict resolution strategies and looked at their own strengths and accomplishments. The students will continue these sessions over the next few weeks working with their Mentors and students from another school to develop a wide range of leadership skills and capabilities.

‘It’s important to remember you don’t always have to know exactly what the plan for your life is, and that it’s ok to change your mind about what you think you want to do. If you try something and it doesn’t work out for you, you can always try something else.’ Lara, Year 10.

‘You’re not alone. Lots of people experience the same things, there is support around and not to assume that everyone knows what they are going to do with their life.’ Tara, Year 10.

I enjoyed being able to talk to strong women who are successful in jobs that are generally abnormal.’ Esther, Year 11.

The second session focused on the 7 habits of highly effective people and students' understanding of their own use of time and different methods of addressing challenges and applying situational leadership methods. Students worked with students from another adelaide school to explore problem solving approaches and practice using their leadership skills, being assertive and confident in sharing views and ideas. The students also continued their discussions with the ABCN mentors.

For year 10 students interested in developing more of their capabilities and getting mentorship to help them achieve their goals for secondary and higher education (VET, apprenticeships and university) who may be at a disadvantage and need further support Year 10s can apply for the ABCN scholarship which includes a cash scholarship and mentorship over three years.

For further information:

<https://abcn.com.au/scholarship-foundation/>





PARENT FORUM

June 19th 2023, Adelaide

You are invited to a Parent Forum for parents and carers of children and young people with disability.

The forum will include information about Special Options process as well as provide advice and strategies to manage transition changes.

The forum will provide a safe and supportive environment to share your experience, obtain information and helpful strategies as well as providing the opportunity to have your questions answered.

The information you provide will also assist us in the planning of future forums.

This workshop is for a limited number of parents and carers and will be held maintaining current COVID 19 guidelines.

WHEN: Monday 19th June 2023

9.30 am – 10.00 am Register/tea/coffee

10.00am - 2.15pm Parent Forum

WHERE: Special Education Resource Unit (SERU)

72A Marlborough Street, Henley Beach SA 5022 Ph: 82352871

Please enter via Northey Street

Contact: Education.ParentForum@sa.gov.au if you have any questions

Lunch/refreshments provided

Register via: [Eventbrite](#)

For other information and resources available please visit SERU website: web.seru.sa.edu.au
