



WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

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Term 4 Week 8 Communication – Monday 5 December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warami. We hope you had the chance to see our brief email on Friday afternoon, with a reminder about our CAPA Showcases on this evening and tomorrow evening. Just in case you still need to book your tickets, you can purchase them online via [Blue Mountains Theatre](#) or phone sales, through the box office on 4723 5050. Monday 5 December 6.30pm (**Music/Drama**) and Tuesday 6 December 6.30pm (**Dance**). Many of our students are on site rehearsing today and tomorrow. We are excited that our first showcases since 2019 will be held at the Blue Mountains Theatre. We hope to see many of you there.

Many staff, students and families attended the **Schools Spectacular** show last Friday or Saturday. What a show! This is another big event that we have missed over the past two years. We sincerely thank staff who committed to attending rehearsals and staying overnight with students. We congratulate all students involved for their commitment to a state-wide opportunity which highlights the outstanding talent of students across Public Education. We had students in the **Secondary Choir** and **Dance**, **Joshua Craig** played French Horn in the Orchestra, and **Belle Hirst** and **Jackson Fitzgerald** as Featured Artists. Such great representation from Winmalee High School in this most amazing of events. We are very proud of our students. If you want to get a sense of the camaraderie amongst students, and what goes on behind the scenes at rehearsals, take a look at [this fantastic video](#), put together by **Jackson Fitzgerald** – thanks for sharing this, Jackson!



As we mentioned at the end of last week, **Musical auditions** are well underway. It has been truly inspiring to see so many students put themselves forward and audition. This shows courage, commitment and energy.

Particularly at this time of year, when so many students have been busily involved in several whole school activities; it's impressive.

Just over 60 students committed to auditioning for various roles. Congratulations all. Watch this space for more news about our 2023 Musical Production.

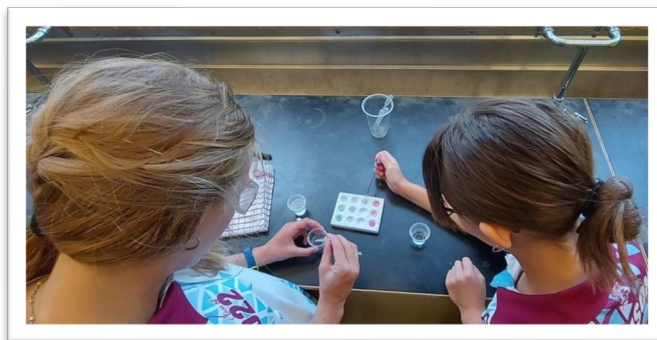




On Tuesday we welcomed **Year 7 2023** students and their families for **Orientation Day**. This is another event, that after 2 years, has returned in full. It was fabulous to have parents and carers on site and share our wonderful school. Our students put on a spectacular concert, emceed by Vice Captain, Nea Mulligan. It highlighted the school's

co-curricular Dance, Drama and Music programs, which was truly our own mini-Schools Spectacular. Year 9 Peer Support leaders did a stellar job looking after Year 6 and Year 11 Hospitality

students, led by Mrs Brown, prepared a delightful spread of sweet and savoury snacks. We would like to thank all students and staff involved for supporting this event, and our families for attending.



Lunch Touch Football - Congratulations to Year 8's 'The Hendogs' who won the Mixed Lunchtime Touch Football competition last Thursday. This was a largely social competition where students were

invited to form their own teams from friendship groups, create a team name and sacrifice the odd lunchtime to play against other teams. Despite the friendly nature, the quality of play was still high - clearly demonstrated by the grand final going to extra time. The 'Hendogs' beat Year 9's 'Aggressors' with a classy Seda Amputch try in 'drop off'. Thank you to all students who participated in the competition. Thanks, Mr Bonora for coordinating this.



Pictured are some of the 'Hendogs' enjoying their victory pizzas: Aadyne Hoare, Liam Foote, Ryan Tosatto, Oliver Davies, Liam Dale, Ashton Anderson, Renee Watts, Seda Amputch, Amelia Peake, Malakai Keyes (absent).



Year 11 have been under a lot of pressure these past few weeks as they have commenced their first round of Assessment Tasks for their HSC courses. Music students, pictured below, performed their assessment on Thursday evening. English students completed a task on Thursday and Biology



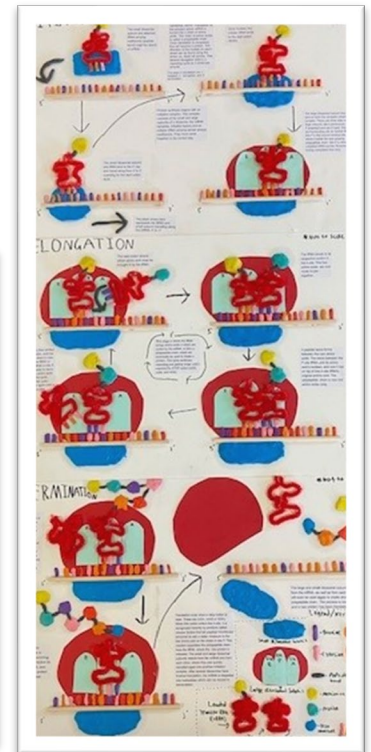
students recently submitted their first task also. As other year groups wind down from completing assessments, we appreciate how much time and preparation Year 11 are putting into their work at a time of year when so many other things are happening across the school.

We thought we would share a snippet of a couple of outstanding Biology assessments with you.

To the right is **Ashleigh Sagovac's**, model on *Transcription* and **Padraic Whale's** model on *Translation*. Both models demonstrate protein synthesis in eukaryotic organisms. Congratulations!

Junior Basketball - On Thursday afternoon, the school hall was alive with energy as our Year 7 and 8 Basketball teams played a game. Refereed by Tyler Cavanough and Daniel Horton, the younger teams showed impressive energy. The teams were coached by members of our Year 9 Basketball Team. They are following the lead of the Wombats, as they hone their skills and dedicate time to regular practice each week.

We are proud of the progress of Basketball this year and thank coaches Mr Dutton and Rob Bradshaw for their time and leadership.



Mobile Phones – we have **pre-recorded an information session** on new procedures we will be implementing from the start of 2023. You can view it [here](#). We have also included the slide deck as a separate attachment in the email of this communication, in case this is an easier way for you to access this information. From 2023, we will expect all students to follow these new procedures, which aim to reduce the distraction to learning from mobile phones in our classrooms.

The Duke of Edinburgh program – there seems to be a theme to some of the items we have shared this week, and it is a feeling of gratitude to have an activity we value, return to our school. After COVID-19, and many cancellations due to tumultuous weather, it was brilliant to have another Duke of Ed hike go ahead. Mr Booth and Mr McCormick led a Bronze walk to **Wollangambe Crater**. They were blessed with magic weather conditions. Congratulations to all students involved. For more photos please see our [website gallery](#).



Cultural excursion - On Monday, our Aboriginal students and some of their peers, attended a cultural workshop at Sydney Zoo. Students were lucky to be led by guide, Shalee Stubbs. Shalee is not only a guide at the Zoo, but also one of our parents and a member of our local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group. In the workshop, students learnt about the complexities within family and kinship systems and the importance of place to communities.



Our students participated in a hands-on workshop exploring traditional Aboriginal art with a focus on ochre painting. In the session students understood how Aboriginal art was used as a communication and recording tool. The conduct of our students was outstanding. Thank you to Mrs Wood for organising this learning opportunity for our students.





The Shoebox Project - Our SRC are powering ahead with the Shoebox Project. All boxes will be collected on Thursday morning, so you still have time to donate a box, or some items to be included in a box. Thanks for your support so far. We are hoping to meet or exceed our 2021 target of 32 boxes!



We thank students who supported the Christmas themed mufti on Friday. Some of the proceeds will be used to donate to the Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group.



Our **crochet group** met for the last time this week. Led by Student Learning Support Officers, Yvette Weadon-Davis and Karen Van Den Brink, students have come a long way with their crocheting skills. Well done to all students for taking up a new skill, and thanks to Karen and Yvette for not only sharing their skills and giving up their time, but also for donating materials.

If anyone out there has needles or wool they would like to donate for 2023, we will put them to good use for some ambitious projects this team have planned for next year.

The **Back-to-School NSW Vouchers program** will provide 3 x \$50 vouchers, totalling \$150 for each eligible child. The vouchers can be used:

- towards the cost of school uniforms, shoes, bags, textbooks and stationery
- at registered businesses
- before 30 June 2023.

Applications open in December 2022. The uniform shop will be accepting these vouchers.

You'll be able to apply for vouchers if your child is:

- a NSW resident
- enrolled in a government or non-government school, or registered for home schooling, in 2023
- listed on a valid Medicare card.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL
NSW VOUCHERS

Redeemable in-store ONLY

Applications
open in
December 2022.

find out more on:

EXP
JUN 30 2023

service.nsw.gov.au/back-to-school-vouchers#related-information

Read the program guidelines or scan the QR code on the image for more information.



We have a massive two weeks ahead of us here at Winmalee High. After the CAPA showcases, we will be busy preparing for upcoming Presentation Assemblies, our annual Presentation Evening, ROSE Breakfast's, and student led Spirit Week activities. Only 2 more weeks left of the school year for our students, with the **last day for students being Friday 16 December 2022.**

Speak soon and enjoy your week.

Best wishes,

Winmalee High