



WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

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Term 2 Week 6 Communication – Friday 3 June 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our end of week communication for Week 6. Winter has arrived and we certainly felt it this week! Speaking of the cold weather, we have a new and improved version of our Alpine (puffer) jacket which we have placed an order for. Daylight have listened to your feedback and have improved the durability of the jackets. Many students got to see the sample over this week and their feedback was extremely positive. These should arrive a few weeks into Term 3.

Student toilets – we have had close to 300 students complete the survey about the student toilets this week. The Student Leadership team will support the school to look at the survey data and consider what students need to continue to improve the situation. School Captain, Caleb Kennedy and Vice-Captain, Charlie Kolega met with Ms Facas yesterday to discuss a plan of action. We look forward to sharing our next steps with you and all students soon.

Positive Behaviour team – the PBL team launched a poster competition for the Keep it Clean Campaign last term. The team have been busily looking through a huge number of submissions from students. The winners of the competition will be announced soon, and all submissions will be displayed around the school in the coming weeks. For now, we would like to share Year 12 student, Ethan Day's submission – isn't it awesome!

Luke Kennedy's parent and carer session is on this coming Thursday evening (9 June) from 6pm in our school hall. Parents and carers of all year groups are welcome to attend. Year 9 and 10 students will have the opportunity to have a session with Luke during the day. We cannot wait to introduce him to Luke Kennedy in Year 10 at Winmalee 😊. Luke in Year 10 has fielded many questions about this event!

This session is being sponsored by Planet Youth. Staff from Blue Mountains Council, MYST and Headspace will also attend the evening. We do hope you can make it. This session is being held as a face-to-face session only and there will be no online option. We have included a copy of the flyer on the final page of this document.



Planet Youth are also holding some **creative workshops for young people aged 12-17**. Workshops on Improv Theatre and Comedy are being held in June at both Springwood and Katoomba. The flyer is included on the final page and you can also find information on the Planet Youth [Facebook](#) page.

Synergy Dance Festival – next week, a large team of 45 students will commence performances at the Synergy Dance Festival. We look forward to sharing some photos and the names of students participating. Thank you to these students for representing Winmalee High School and for working hard to prepare for the performances. Thank you also to Dance teachers, Mrs Byrnes, Ms Wilson and Ms Niven for attending over multiple days with students.



Winmalee High Radio Podcast program – back in 2020, just before the pandemic hit us, we were lucky to have the wonderful Mr Ron Fuller supporting our students with creating our own radio podcast program. We only managed to complete one episode due to lockdowns and restrictions, but we are back on track again! Ron has been working with interested students from a range of year groups and he has been supporting them to set up interviews with a range of amazingly interesting people. We do not want to give away too much, but once we have our new recording equipment next week, we will be well on the way to finalising our next episode. Watch this space!

Kitara Taylor (Year 7) recently applied to join Blue Mountains City Council's 'Youth Council' and she was successful! Kitara joined her first Youth Council meeting on Wednesday 25 May held in the Council Chambers in Katoomba and she is already making a very valuable contribution.



The Youth Council plays a very important role in giving a voice to young people on Council matters and community issues and works to gain Council's support for projects and initiatives that are important to them and other young people in the Blue Mountains. Congratulations, Kitara!



Sport - Congratulations to both the **Boys and Girls soccer teams** for winning against Nepean High School last week! Unfortunately, inclement weather and damaging winds prevented Grade sport from going ahead this week. Hopefully all that wind can dry out the grounds a bit! Speaking of sports grounds, many students have put in nominations for the **Zone Cross Country** event which is due to take place towards the end of this term. Mr Meyers will communicate with nominees about an in-school event to finalise participants. This will happen within the next two weeks if our ovals are ready for use.

On Sunday night four members of our school band represented Winmalee High School by performing with the **State Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra** at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

Congratulations Lili Baran, Josh Craig, Eva Greenaway and Jasper Musgrave on their outstanding performance and for their ongoing commitment to music.



Schools Spectacular is going ahead this year! Mrs Clifford has been working with students to prepare for auditions for featured vocalists. Lots has been happening with the school vocal groups and we will share more news with you next week. Thank you to Mrs Clifford for supporting students.

New furniture for our School – we are updating student furniture across many areas of the school, including seating for student assemblies and school events. We have had some terrific help from students to help us unpack and store these new items. Below is an action shot of Year 7 students helping prepare the new examination tables.

We would like to thank students *Ben Dawson, Jack Buttriss, Joel Machin, Ashton Jacobs, Coen Werner, Zane Shorten, Ben Coster, Owen Bishop and Boston George* for helping!



Next week, we will have some more updates on other exciting programs, including the Westwords Gifted and Talented writing project.

Finally, a reminder that our Year 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Evening is on next week, Tuesday 7 June from 4.00pm-7.00pm in the school hall.

Have a great weekend.

Winmalee High School

PLANET YOUTH CREATIVE WORKSHOPS
Blue Mountains FREE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12-17

Take a Comedy Class!
BEGINNERS GUIDE TO STAND-UP COMEDY
Hosted by professional comedian Marty Bright
4.00-7.00pm Tuesday 14 June
Blue Mountains Theatre, Springwood
1.00-4.00pm Saturday 25 June
Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba

Try out Improv Theatre!
PLAYBACK THEATRE WORKSHOP
Hosted by writer & director Cymbeline Buhler with actor Sarah Dillane.
1.00-4.00pm Saturday 18 June
Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba
1.00-4.00pm Saturday 25 June
Blue Mountains Theatre, Springwood

Workshops are for young people aged 12-17 and are free. No experience needed. Just come along and have some fun. There'll be food & drinks too. Places are limited so book now!

BOOK YOUR SPOT AT planetyouthbm.eventbrite.com.au

INVITATION FOR WINMALEE HIGH PARENTS & CARERS

Together we can help our young people live their best lives.

Winmalee High School & Planet Youth Blue Mountains would like to invite you to attend a parent talk with inspiring motivational speaker **Luke Kennedy...**

Luke S. Kennedy is one of Australia's most sought after speakers. He uses his breathtaking life story to inspire resilience, motivation, and self-awareness for a wide range of audiences from primary schools to high schools, businesses, events and even prisons. "After almost 20 years in education, he is the most inspiring guest speaker that I've heard."
Andrew Kosty, Head of Senior School, Cessnock

Winmalee High School: 6-7:30pm Thursday 9 June

Luke's Student Sessions:
Luke will be speaking with Year 9 and 10 students at Winmalee High during the day. By sharing gripping stories from his own life, Luke makes a unique connection with students. His talks with young people are all about resilience, mental health self-care, motivation & inspiration, reducing fear, anxiety, and stress, how to be yourself & stop worrying what people think, bullying, self-bullying & impact of negative self talk.

Luke's Parent & Carer Sessions:
After speaking with students during the day, an evening session with parents is incredibly valuable. At Luke's parent talks there are always tears, laughs, and plenty of a-ha moments. Parents leave inspired and with simple strategies to help improve their connection with their kids and their own mental health.

Please join us
Parents, carers and community members are welcome to join. If you have any queries please contact the school on 02 4754 2822 or email winmalee-h.school@del.nsw.edu.au

Find out more about Planet Youth at www.planetyouthbm.net.au