

# OPPORTUNITIES

CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

TERM 4 / 2025

Community Newsletter



# CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

## Churchlands students lay wreath of remembrance in Canberra



See page 26 for details of the Year 10 Civics Tour



## From the Principal

### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A SCHOOL AND WHO ARE ITS CLIENTS?

This is a question I have found myself reflecting on throughout this year. In most businesses, the answer is simple, there are customers, and there are clear clients. For schools, however, the question is far more complex. As a principal, who do I listen to, and who are my clients? Is it parents, students, industry, universities, the community surrounding our school, or our staff? Who do I report to, and from whom should I seek feedback? And, importantly, whose voice should I prioritise?

The truth, of course, is that a good principal, and a good school must listen carefully and equally to all voices. Each group offers an important perspective, and together they shape a balanced understanding of our school's needs. However, at the centre of everything we do is the education of young people, and we must listen particularly closely to their voices. Too often, student voices are overlooked, despite the fact that they are the individuals for whom we hold the greatest responsibility. While students may not have the life experience of staff, parents, or community members, it is essential that we engage them in the school planning cycle and provide structured opportunities for them to contribute to the development of their school. There is an old saying: "never work with children or animals," perhaps because children speak without the politeness or social filters adults often use when giving feedback. Yet it is precisely this honesty that schools need to harness. Students will speak frankly about what will improve their lives at school and as adults, it is our job to listen.

Over the past two years, and moving into next year, my focus has been on listening carefully to the voices within our community. Last year, I conducted a survey with staff, student leaders, the P&C, and the School Board to help identify and articulate our new school values document. This year, I organised a series of student surveys to gain a deeper understanding of the issues that matter most to our students. Using this data, students developed their own school improvement ideas, with several groups presenting their proposals to the School Board.

The ideas that emerged from these student-led projects have been remarkable. Suggestions ranged from updates to aspects of the uniform, to improvements in student rewards and awards, the creation of an assessment calendar, and enhancements to classrooms and school grounds. These contributions have not only helped shape targeted improvements, but have also strengthened student voice, an essential element of a thriving school culture.

In 2026, as part of the school's business planning cycle, we will be consulting with our parents to gather feedback and ideas for the next Business Plan, which will guide the school through the next five years. The School Board and Executive Team are also working on a ten-year strategic plan, ensuring we maintain a long-term vision that aligns with the aspirations of our community. Your insights will be invaluable in helping us shape a future that reflects the needs, strengths, and priorities of the families we serve.

What will Churchlands Senior High School look like in 2035, and what do we need to do to ensure our ongoing success?

As we look ahead to 2035, we envision a school that continues to be innovative, inclusive, and deeply connected to its community, a school that offers rich learning experiences, embraces emerging technologies, and prepares young people for pathways that may not yet exist. To ensure our ongoing success, we must remain committed to strong community engagement, evidence-based practice, and a culture that values student voice and staff expertise. We need to continue investing in high-quality teaching, modern learning environments, wellbeing initiatives that genuinely support young people, and partnerships that extend beyond our school gates. By planning thoughtfully and listening carefully, we can build a future where Churchlands remains a leading school, one that adapts, grows, and thrives in a rapidly changing world.

**Kate Grayson**  
**Principal**



## Associate Principal Senior Secondary

### SENIOR SCHOOL UPDATE - TERM 4

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding year at Churchlands Senior High School, it is with great pride that we farewell our Year 12 students. Their final weeks with us were filled with celebration, reflection and well-deserved recognition of their achievements.

Our 2025 Presentation Ceremony was a fitting tribute to the hard work and dedication of our senior students. Congratulations to every student who crossed the stage, and a special acknowledgement to the award recipients whose commitment to excellence, leadership and community spirit set them apart. Thank you to all parents, caregivers, extended families, and our distinguished guests for joining us on this important occasion. Your support has been invaluable throughout your child's schooling journey.

Earlier in the term, our Year 12 cohort enjoyed a wonderful evening at Fraser's Kings Park for the Dinner Dance. The atmosphere was warm and celebratory, with students relishing the chance to come together one final time as a cohort. It was an elegant, fun and memorable night that truly captured the joy of reaching this milestone.

The students also embraced the lighter side of their final week at the end of Term 3 with the Dress-Up Day, bringing colour, creativity and good humour to the school. This was followed by the traditional water activities, which once again proved to be a highlight, full of laughter and camaraderie as they celebrated the end of their schooling journey.

We extend our congratulations to all Year 12 students currently completing their ATAR examinations, and we wish them every success as they look ahead to university and further study. Equally, we acknowledge our vocationally focused students, many of whom are already stepping confidently into apprenticeships, traineeships and the workforce. We are proud of the diverse pathways our students have chosen and the dedication they bring to each.

This term also featured the outstanding Musical Presentation Evening, showcasing the depth of talent within our music program. Our students performed with professionalism and passion, providing a remarkable night of entertainment for families and staff.

Finally, a special mention to our Year 11 students, who completed their Workplace Learning placements and Final Exams. They demonstrated maturity and commitment, laying a strong foundation as they prepare to step into their final year of school.

**Hagop Boyadjian**  
**Associate Principal - Senior Secondary**



## Associate Principal Middle Secondary



## Associate Principal Junior Secondary

### LEARNING AND PERSONAL GROWTH

As we approach the end of another dynamic school year, I have been reflecting on just how far our Middle secondary students have come, both in their learning and in their personal growth. It has been a privilege to watch them develop confidence, character, and a genuine sense of belonging at Churchlands Senior High School.

Our Year 10 students are now preparing for one of the most exciting steps in their school journey, the transition into Year 11. Over the last semester, students have been finalising their subject selections for Senior secondary, supported by their teachers, counsellors, and families. This process has prompted some rich and meaningful conversations about aspirations, strengths, and future pathways. I have been continually impressed by the maturity, curiosity, and self-awareness our students have demonstrated as they make these important decisions about their next stage of learning.

There is also a sense of nostalgia and pride as we prepare to farewell our Year 10 cohort. Many of us have known these students since their very first days in Junior secondary, and it has been a joy to see them grow from enthusiastic Year 7s into capable, kind, and confident young people who are ready for the next step in their education. Watching them develop both academically and personally has been incredibly rewarding, and I know that they will continue to make a positive impact as they move into the senior years.

Our Year 9s have completed their first year in Middle secondary and recently sat their first round of exams. This experience provides students with an opportunity to refine the skills required for future years at Churchlands SHS. Students will receive their Year 9 OLNA results at the beginning of 2026 which will help guide students in their Year 10 Pathway planning. Many students attend the Career Taster Program to identify areas of interest and learn valuable skills. Year 9 students demonstrated leadership by mentoring and supporting the Year 6 students on Orientation Day. The students were exceptional role models for our incoming cohort.

One of the true highlights of the term was our Year 9 and 10 Leadership Days, where students engaged deeply with school feedback and data, explored the voices of their peers, and worked collaboratively to generate ideas for school improvement. These sessions reflected everything we value about leadership at Churchlands: teamwork, active listening, critical thinking, and a shared sense of purpose. Their ideas will help shape initiatives in 2026 and beyond, demonstrating the important role that student voice plays in our continuous improvement.

Looking ahead, one significant change for our school community will be the introduction of the social media ban during school hours. This will be a major adjustment for students, but also a wonderful opportunity to refocus on personal connection, learning engagement, and wellbeing. We will continue to work with students and families to help them prepare for this transition, guiding conversations around healthy digital habits and the benefits of disconnecting during the school day. By approaching this change with openness and support, we can ensure that it strengthens our school culture and enhances student focus and relationships.

As we move towards the end of the year, I want to take a moment to thank our Middle secondary students for the way they have embraced new challenges and demonstrated resilience throughout the school days. I express my deep pride and gratitude.

I wish all our students and their families a safe and enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming our new Year 9 and Year 10 students into Middle secondary in 2026.

**Jayne Kitto**  
**Associate Principal - Middle Secondary**

### ANOTHER PRODUCTIVE TERM

As Term 4 draws to a close, I am excited to reflect on what has been an engaging and productive term for our Year 7 and 8 students at Churchlands Senior High School. It has been wonderful to witness their growth, resilience, and enthusiasm as they approach the end of another academic year.

This term has been filled with exciting opportunities for our students to shine, both in and out of the classroom. From stellar performances at the A Grade Athletics Carnival to outstanding displays of talent at the AFL Girls Carnival, our students have demonstrated their abilities and commitment to excellence. The term also featured captivating music concerts, inspiring Young Writers' excursions, and the highly impactful Year 7 and 8 leadership days, which have fostered personal growth and leadership skills among our Junior students.

A special highlight this term was seeing our Year 9 Peer mentors step up to assist with the Year 6 Orientation Day. Their ability to connect with and mentor younger students, while showcasing teamwork and interpersonal skills, was truly commendable. These students exemplified the values of Churchlands Senior High School, and we extend a heartfelt "well done" to all involved.

Looking ahead, as we wrap up Term 4, I encourage students to take some well-deserved time over the holidays to relax, recharge, and reflect on their many achievements. The journey ahead for our current Year 7 and 8 students will be full of new challenges, opportunities, and successes as they move into Years 8 and 9 in the coming year. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff, who have worked tirelessly to support and guide our students throughout this term, and to our parents and caregivers for your invaluable partnership. Your involvement is essential in fostering a positive and supportive school community, and I deeply appreciate your contributions.

I wish all our families a joyful, restful, and safe holiday season. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year, ready to embark on another exciting chapter at Churchlands Senior High School.

**Paul Siwek**  
**Associate Principal - Junior Secondary**



## Year 7 Report

### STUDENTS ROCK AT HALLOWEEN DISCO

Term 4 started with a lot of excitement around the Halloween Disco organised by our Year 7 Student Leaders! In Week 3, and on the night before Halloween, the Sports Hall was transformed into a spooky space. But it wasn't all gloom and doom! There was the limbo, and prizes were awarded to students. Little did we know that Maleficent, the Joker and the Witch-king of Angmar would take out best dressed.

The disco was also the first time most of our Year 7s experienced the skills of our resident DJ and Year 11 student, Cooper Grek. Cooper put on a music, smoke, and light show extravaganza which thrilled the students throughout the night and inspired three dancers in particular, who won the prizes up for grabs in the dance off. A fun night was had by all, and a special thanks must go to our wonderful Year 7 Form Teachers because without their support, the event would not have been possible.

We would also like to thank all our Year 7 Student Leaders, not only for their efforts with our fantastic disco, but also for their commitment to our year group throughout the year. We appreciate their hard work on behalf of their peers.

As the term ends and in between many assessments, the looming social media ban for under-16s has also been another hot topic in our year group. In Week 8 students attended a special assembly where public speaker Paris McNeill took students through the practical and legal aspects of the ban. Students had the opportunity to ask questions, and to consider the presented information ahead of the 10th of December, when the national laws come into effect.

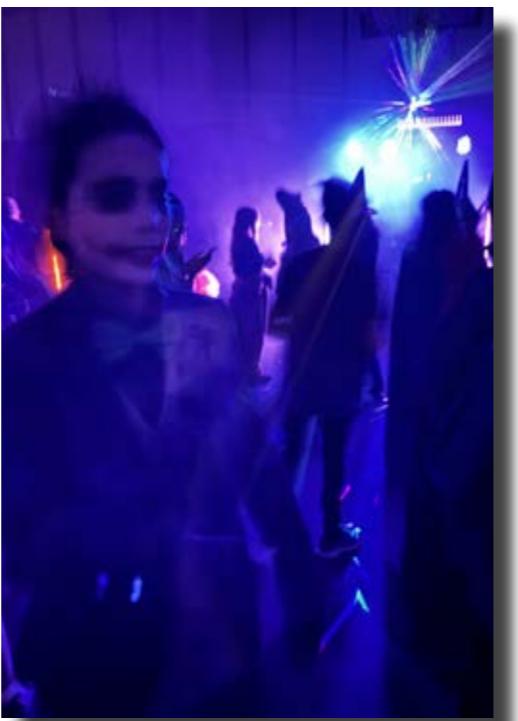
The final week of the year will see our Year 7s attending the zoo, where they will have the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine and exhibits with their peers.

Congratulations to all Year 7s for getting to the end of their first year of high school. The jump from primary to high school can be a daunting one, particularly for students coming from small primary schools. Students have become accustomed to changing classes each period, often travelling from one end of the school to the other. They have engaged with a range of subjects and extracurricular activities, and made some new friends along the way. All Year 7s should be proud that they have completed their first year of high school! We hope all Year 7s enjoy the break, stay safe over the holidays, and come back in the new year ready for their final year wearing navy blue shirts!

**Angela Tsonis**  
House Coordinator - Brighton & Floreat



## Year 7 Report





# Year 8 Report

## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS FROM OUR YEAR 8 STUDENTS

### Interschool Athletics

This term our amazing Year 8 athletes in the interschool team got to represent Churchlands Chargers and brought the silver home. We came second again in A grade interschool for multiple years in a row. Some outstanding individual achievements included:

- Grace Lytle broke the 400m and 800m state records.
- Ali Plint broke the 200m school record.
- Ava Crosbie broke the school triple jump record.
- Ava Crosbie, Ali Plint and Grace Lytle all shared the interschool year 8 girl champion award.
- Matthew Tilmouth came runner up for year 8 Champion boy.



### Bike Rescue

Throughout Term 4, students participated in a series of workshops, recycling bike parts and repurposing them into new bikes. Students loved being a part of the program and learnt teamwork and practical skills. This program was run by Dismantle, a not for profit organisation that works with over 110 schools and, with Churchlands' students help, has donated more than 1000 bikes this year.



# Year 8 Report

### Cake Stall

Our Year 8 Student Leaders hosted another successful cake stall in Term 4, raising funds for Every Daughter Matters. With delicious treats and generous support from our school community, students helped contribute to vital programs that protect girls worldwide and promote safety, dignity and opportunity.

### Netball Competition

In Term 4, the Year 8 Student Leaders organised a netball competition that gained popularity among the cohort with 7 teams playing, and people coming up to the netball courts to spectate and support their friends.

Team 2 beat Team 4 in the big Grand Final in a very close game! All the games were played with good spirit, and we were supported by some Year 10 netball umpires which was great.



### Music Concerts

This term our Year 8 music students have started rehearsals and performances in their new ensembles. Students have performed at Kings Park in the Remembrance Day Service providing entertainment and support to the ceremony.

The music students also participated in the annual Christmas Concert to fundraise for Every Daughter Matters. Students dressed up in Christmas-themed attire adorned with lots of extra tinsel, Santa hats and Christmas lights. It was a lovely afternoon of music-making, community carol singing and Christmas festivities! The Music Parents Support Group had a stall selling fabulous Christmas snacks and gifts which was very popular with parents and students.

**Sam Wilson**  
*House Coordinator - Scarborough & Trigg*





# Year 9 Report

## LEADERSHIP, VOICE AND GROWTH

This term has had a strong focus on leadership and student voice. Late in Term 3, all Year 9 students completed a survey about school life. From this, 25 students volunteered to analyse the results and create proposals for positive change, with Charlize, Olivia H, Megan, Sam CZ and Jaxon presenting these to the School Board. It was fantastic to see students taking ownership and advocating for their peers. The key message was clear: students want to be heard. And student services want to listen. If staff don't know how you're feeling, we can't take action, so keep speaking up!



## Peer Mentoring and Student Leadership

At the end of Term 3, we also launched the Year 6 Peer Mentoring Program, where 40 Year 9s were selected to support our incoming Year 7s on their Orientation Day. The response was overwhelming, it's great to see so many students wanting to lead, support others, and give back. Those who missed out this round, keep an eye out for more opportunities next year.

We've also elected our 2026 Student Council and House Leaders, where 10% of the cohort nominated for positions so positions were elected by student vote. I'm looking forward to seeing our new leaders ideas and enthusiasm continue to shape the cohort in 2026.

## Career Tasters and Future Pathways

The final round of TAFE Career Tasters was another highlight. Students tried out everything from Thai cooking to Auslan, and even a Chocoholics course at the Joondalup campus, which I was lucky enough to attend. Students crafted incredible chocolate designs and learnt some new skills, while getting a real sense of what tertiary life can be like. These tasters are such a valuable way to explore potential career pathways before senior school.



Next year, Science classes will also be streamed, in addition to continued Maths streaming. These placements will help guide subject pathways through Years 10-12, so it's a great time to start thinking about future goals and interests.

Early next year, TAFE and university open days will also start appearing on calendars, keep an eye out for these dates! They're a fantastic way to see what's out there, meet people in different industries, and make more informed decisions about future study and careers. Talk to your teachers early because Year 11 subject selections are only 6 months away!

# Year 9 Report

## OLNA, Exams and Wellbeing

Many students sat their OLNA tests this term, which can feel stressful, and that's completely normal. OLNA is an important step toward achieving your WACE (Western Australian Certificate of Education) and graduating Year 12, but remember, there are six more opportunities to sit it before 2028. Keep practising, stay calm, and know that progress matters more than perfection.

It's also been the first time this cohort experienced formal exam conditions, including room changes and timed assessments. These experiences help build confidence for future years and are a big step towards developing study and time-management skills.

We know this time of year can feel overwhelming, especially as the workload increases and expectations grow. It's okay to feel that way, it means you care. What matters most is reaching out and asking for support when you need it. Your Student Services Team is always here to help, listen, and guide you through.



## Looking Ahead

Outside the classroom, music concerts, Outdoor Ed camps, and Battle of the Bands rehearsals have kept the energy high. As summer approaches, it's hard to believe Year 9s are already halfway through high school. The next few years will fly by, bringing new opportunities for growth, community service, and programs like the Duke of Edinburgh.

We'll finish the term with our Reward Day at the Swan Valley Adventure Centre, where students will be kayaking, abseiling, and celebrating their efforts this year.

Finally, we wish the very best to the Year 9 students heading off on the World Challenge expedition to South Africa over the holidays, what an incredible experience ahead!

**Clare Metcalfe**  
**House Coordinator - Brighton & Floreat**





# Year 10 Report

## PRISTINE WHITE SHIRTS

Our pristine white shirts are ironed and ready. We're raring to step into upper school!

As clichéd as it sounds, Year 10 really has been the crux at the crossroads. Which path will we take? And not just in terms of pathways and subject selection, though that has undeniably been a major focus, but also in shaping our school identity. What kind of Churchlands student do I want to be? What do I value most in the opportunities offered to me?

The choices are endless: academics, sport, community service, music, dance, the list goes on. This year has been about exploring those options and finding what resonates with us, with plenty of support along the way.

Of course, it hasn't all been serious decision-making. We've had time to let off steam too! Our last round-robin volleyball competition was a nail-biter. With 90s hip hop pumping through the speakers, TEN TEAMS battled it out for the ultimate prize, a coveted ice cream to beat the summer heat. The final showdown between Volleyball ABGs and Team Baby had everyone on edge, and in the end, Team Baby claimed victory!

We also wrapped up our Buddy Program this term, after a year of building strong connections with the Year 7s. Promoting No Bullying Week and RU OK Day through activities during form was meaningful, and we hope it helped the younger students feel they have older friends to turn to for support. Our final breakfast session, complete with Kahoots and Just Dance, was a fantastic way to finish the program. We'd love to see this tradition continue to strengthen our school community.

Another highlight was hearing from Federal Member for Curtin, Kate Chaney, who spoke about the importance of young people engaging in the political process and being active citizens. She shared insights on threats to democracy and how using your voice can make a real difference. Many of us left feeling inspired and grateful for the chance to ask questions and learn from her experience.

And then came our grand finale, the River Cruise! Dressed to impress, we danced to great tunes, competed for best dressed and best dancer, snapped selfies against the sparkling Swan River backdrop, and simply enjoyed each other's company. It was the perfect way to celebrate an epic year.

Now, as we look ahead to 2026, we know there are more adventures waiting for us, in those pristine white shirts, of course!

**Gemma Boyett**  
House Coordinator - Brighton & Floreat



# Year 10 Report



## Fogarty Futures Leadership Camp

This is an summary regarding my experience at the Fogarty Futures Leadership Camp 2025.

The Fogarty Futures Leadership camp was definitely the highlight of my school holidays and an unforgettable experience, where I got to meet and socialise with many other like-minded students that all had a clear goal: to change the world we live in for the better.

Throughout the camp, we worked in groups and participated in many activities that ignited the confidence and speaking abilities within us, such as public speaking workshops and impromptu debates, as well as teaching us leadership qualities to make an impact in our society. The camp consisted of many teamwork-based activities, where we got to work with each other to come up with solutions to real-life problems, while also having some fun and getting out of our comfort zone with the Salsa dancing workshop! We also got to bond with the facilitators of the camp, which consisted of all 11 students who were awarded the Fogarty Scholarship at the University of Western Australia in 2025, along with other recipients from past years. They were all truly inspiring to us, and I look up to them a lot!

Our cohort also had the amazing opportunity to meet members of parliament, such as Hon. Hannah Beazley, Adam Hort MLA, Senator Fatima Payman and Kate Chaney MP, where I got to speak to them individually and asked them about topics that concerned me about the country we are living in. Lastly, we took a bus ride to St. Georges, where we got a whole campus tour from the amazing dining hall to the dorm rooms of the students, and a hearty lunch at their cafeteria, and later held a closing ceremony for the 4 day camp. It was quite the experience!

I am pleased to say that personally, I have definitely become more motivated and open minded to speak up about challenges within our society and to take initiative to make those changes by applying the skills I learnt in the leadership camp to real life situations.

**Tandin Zannngmo - Year 10**





# Year 11 Report

## YEAR FINISHES ON A HIGH

Term 4 for Year 11 is a super-quick experience! Three weeks of normal classes followed by exams and workplace-learning. The closure of the term was receiving results, handing in journals and getting prepped for the Dinner Dance in the city.

The Dinner Dance venue was Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre Ballroom, big enough to handle our 320 excited guests! The night started with a mocktail in the foyer overlooking the Swan River, photo booth pictures and with the smooth sounds of Anaya Manning singing and playing guitar! The big reveal was at 7pm when we moved into the Ballroom with its round tables of 10, colourful lighting and large stage and dancefloor. Our two rock bands had been in early with Mr Coumbe sound-checking their gear ready for later in the evening.

After a welcome from Mr Chapman and a game of Head and Tails, the DJ kicked things off, bringing us through to dinner at 8pm. The food was interesting let's say!! Not sure the students knew what to do with the huge slab of slow-cooked beef brisket!

The first band comprising Rhea, Dhivyaa, Putu and Marlee were on soon after the meal. Mr Coumbe encouraged the crowd to come up to the stage to support the band, and this helped get them off to a great start. I don't think these 4 girls will ever forget this gig, especially when the students started singing and dancing along!!

Next up was another DJ set where the dancing really got cranking, the highlight being Liam revving up the crowd with his moves and enthusiasm. After a short time the next band were up comprising Alyssa, Aidan, Bec, Bryn and Jack. These guys know how to take it to the next level and Alyssa did a great job getting everyone participating with her cries of "I can't hear you!"

The DJ finished the night off with a range of crowd-pleasers and hopefully the evening lived up to the hype !! As a warm-up to the Y12 Ball, this was surely a winner.

**Andy Chapman**  
**Head of Year 11**



# Year 11 Report





# Year 12 Report

## FAREWELL, BON VOYAGE!

It is with great pride and happiness, but also a fair bit of sadness, that we said goodbye this amazing cohort of students. We have had some amazing times together over the last six years at Churchlands. Within the first few weeks we had one of Churchlands' last Year 7 overnight Camps at Ern Halliday pre Covid. Where each house spent two days getting to know each other, their form teacher and their House Coordinator. Before we knew it these lovely students were Year 12s and had matured into wonderful members of the community.

To conclude Term 3, we farewelled many of our students, with General and Workplace students finishing with the Farewell Breakfast and final assembly on the last Friday. It was an enjoyable morning for all with students getting all their tie dye shirts signed by their best mates and favourite teachers. A huge thank you to all the staff that helped by giving their time and expertise to setup and cook the breakfast, with an extra special mention to the Home Economics staff.

The ATAR students returned for the first week of Term 4 for feedback on their Semester 2 examinations. They were also able to get some extra support from their teachers in preparation for the WACE Examinations starting later in the term. The Year 12 Presentation Ceremony was held on 22 October at HBF Stadium in Mount Claremont. This event was dedicated to a night of celebrating the hard work of our students over their secondary schooling. Photos were taken of students in their gowns and sashes before and after the award presentations to acknowledge their completion of high school.

The following night, the whole Year 12 cohort gathered back together for the Year 12 Dinner Dance, hosted at Fraser's event venue at Kings Park. The students who we first met in Year 6 for orientation were now coming together for the final time, many as adults. The students all looked outright stunning in their suits and dresses. Many tears were shed as the students departed after a wonderful evening of food, dancing and reminiscing over the Year 12 Graduation Video.

WACE examinations commenced on Wednesday 29 October for our ATAR students and ran until Thursday 20 November. Following their completion many students claimed their rite of passage by attending 'Leavers' week to let off steam and socialise with their peers. Some students started work, travelled and just took time to relax while considering future endeavours.

We look forward to hearing about your studies and adventures in the future. You have made your parents, teachers and the school proud you. Good luck and best wishes to all students for the future whatever it may hold for you.

*Mr Doug Cox - House Coordinator - Floreat Coordinator on behalf of the senior secondary team.*

### **Stella Squiers Awarded Ngala Kwop Biddi Brighter Futures Scholarship**

We are delighted to congratulate Stella Leanne Squiers on being awarded the prestigious Ngala Kwop Biddi Brighter Futures Scholarship from Murdoch University. Valued at \$12,000, this scholarship recognises Stella's outstanding leadership and her significant contributions to the community, particularly in promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Stella is excited to pursue a Bachelor of Agriculture at Murdoch University. The scholarship will assist her in achieving her academic goals, providing financial support throughout her studies while ensuring she is well-prepared for the challenges and opportunities of university life.

A special thank you to Mr McAlpine for his support during the scholarship application process.

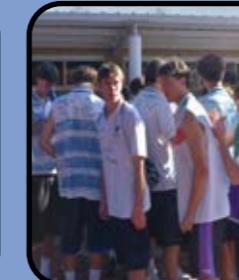
We are incredibly proud of Stella's achievements and look forward to seeing her continue to grow as a leader and make a positive impact in her chosen field. Congratulations, Stella!

*Iain McAlpine  
Careers Development Practitioner*



# Year 12 Report

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# Year 12 Presentation Ceremony

## YEAR 12 SUBJECT AWARD WINNERS

### Arts

Drama General	Samuel Anderson
Media Production & Analysis General	Josie Draper
Visual Arts General	Minh Chau Nguyen

### English

English ATAR	Lula Richter
English General	Jasmine San
EALD ATAR	Victor Salvattore Silveira de Macedo Crisafulli
EALD General	Angelia Adi Pramoko
Literature ATAR	Kimberley Koh

### HASS

Accounting & Finance General	Rea Khanna
Certificate IV Business	Daria Patton
Economics ATAR	James Martinovich
Geography ATAR	Hudson MacNeill
Modern History ATAR	Mackenzie Burling
Philosophy & Ethics ATAR	Toby Swart
Philosophy & Ethics General	Josie Draper
Politics and Law ATAR	Jordan Britz

### Health and Physical Education

Certificate II Sports Coaching	Otia Wynyard-Thompson
Health Studies ATAR	Sienna McLaren
Health Studies General	Lily-Ella Timmins
Physical Education Studies ATAR	Beau Katauskas
Physical Education Studies General	Jayden Lim

### Languages

French Second Language ATAR	Sophie Lenz
Japanese Second Language ATAR	Lula Richter

### Mathematics

Mathematics Applications ATAR	Bailey O'Rourke
Mathematics Essential General	Chloe Stump

### Mathematics Methods ATAR

Rupert Small

### Mathematics Specialist ATAR

Rupert Small

### Music

#### Music ATAR

Sophie Lenz

#### Certificate III Music

Siella de Wit

### Science

#### Biology ATAR

Sophia Bell

#### Certificate II Conservation & Ecosystem Management

Izzy Corderoy

#### Chemistry ATAR

Rupert Small

#### Earth & Environmental Science ATAR

Sienna McLaren

#### Human Biology ATAR

Suzana Brankovic

#### Human Biology General

Morgan Ramsey

#### Physics ATAR

Thomasz Sobkowiak

#### Psychology ATAR

Caiti Murphy

#### Psychology General

Victor Salvattore Silveira de Macedo Crisafulli

### Technologies

#### Certificate II Automotive Preparation

Zan Soklevski

#### Certificate II Hospitality

Hayden Daffen

#### Certificate III Visual Arts CAD

Boyd Huxtable

#### Computer Science ATAR

Lachlan Roeterdink

#### Computer Science General

Thomasz Sobkowiak

#### Food Science & Technology General

Lachlan Roeterdink

#### Materials Design & Technology

#### Jewellery General

Annabella Powell

#### Materials Design & Technology

#### Metal General

Zan Soklevski

#### Materials Design & Technology

#### Textiles General

Angana Niravath

#### Materials Design and Technology

#### Wood General

Hallie Ceglinski-Andrews



# Year 12

# Student Award Winners

## YEAR 12 SPECIAL AWARDS

### ATAR Dux

Lula Richter



### Runner Up ATAR Dux

Thomasz Sobkowiak



### VET Dux

Ava Donoghue

### ADF Long Tan Leadership Award

Paige Pickford

### ADF Future Innovators Award

Brodie Boardman



### 2025 Sportswoman of the Year Award

Isobelle Herriot

### 2025 Sportsman of the Year Award

Jackson Muir

### Stan Perron Award

Sienna Van Maanen

### Community Service Award

Ruby Martinovich

### W.R. Liddelow Award for Chemistry

Lula Richter

### Certificate of Excellence for Science & Mathematics

Michal Varhol

Rupert Small

Yiyi Zhang

Michael Eskander



### NMERO Commitment to Excellence Award

Rupert Small

### Ampol All-Rounder

Claudia Gao

### Citizenship Award

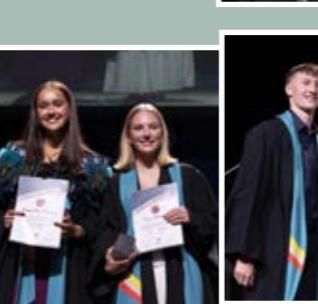
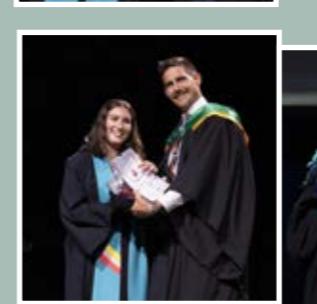
Sophia Bell

### Endeavour Award

Jessica Huynh

### Aboriginal Academic Excellence

Sienna McLaren



# Health and Physical Education Interschool Athletics

## INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS 2025

After selecting our 140+ team post carnivals, our dedicated athletes worked hard, training twice per week for six weeks before and after school. Our Relay Incursion saw sprinters embracing the Charger's secret baton change techniques, while the Practice Day was a huge success. Loads of improvements were made to athlete's times and distances and the opportunity to practice at the stadium prepared the team for the Interschool "A Division" Carnival. Athletes were rewarded for their efforts with snacks and new team members received their Charger's Athletics Team Shirts.

On 22 October, after a motivational team video, our team competed at the WA Athletics Stadium against the top nine schools in Western Australia, gaining a courageous second place. Leading the team were our Captains: Hudson MacNeill and Isobelle Herriot with Vice Captains: Gabby Maxton, Otia Wynyard-Thomson, Caitlin McNiff, Paige Pickford, Jackson Muir, Jayden Lim and Nick Whalan. Our team vowed to give their best, strive to improve and encourage each other with outstanding success. There were four Individual Champions (see opposite), 11 school records broken, two state records and many athletes improved their time or distance. Thank you to the staff, coaches, student helpers and Year 12s (who had already finished school!). Congratulations to all athletes on a tremendous athletics season!



### Individual Interschool Champions:

Year 8 Runner-Up Boy: Matthew Tilmouth

Year 8 Champion Girls (3-way tie!): Ava Crosbie, Ali Plint and Grace Lytle

### State Records:

Year 8 Grace Lytle: 400m (59.30sec) and 800m (2.16mins)

### School Records:

Year 7: Zach McNally: 1500m

Year 8: Grace Lytle: 400m, 800m, 1500m

Ali Plint: 100m, 200m

Ava Crosbie: Triple jump

Year 10: Lucia McCarthy: Triple jump

Year 11: Seb Lytle: 1500m

Jess McNally: 800m

Year 12: Isobelle Herriot: Discus

***Mrs Sasha Pomeroy***

***Health and Physical Education Teacher***



# Health and Physical Education Sand Volleyball

## SANDY SHENANIGANS

Year 11 General PE students finished the year with a very successful Sand Volleyball Tournament. Students were able to showcase knowledge gained from both practical and theory lessons. Team building and sports psychology were evident throughout the day with exceptional team planning going into team names, uniforms and strategic play. Congratulation goes to all involved with special mention to overall winners "Sand Volley". Thank you to the Year 11 teachers Shannon McLaren, Sam Marson and Rory McDonough for a great year.



## Runner Up: 6 7 Skib

Left to right: Kalani Hart, Chad Axford, Zac Beeson, Mike Twomey, Harry Eaton, Jeremy Pfammatter, Archie Elton



Best on court: Noah Blakeney and Jeremy Pfammatter



## Winning Team: Sand Volleys

Left to right: Jamie Dawkins, Lucas Aldridge, Finn Veerman, Jett Beale, Noah Blakeney, Lincoln Young, Iggy Jerrat.



Shannon McLaren  
Health and Physical Education  
Teacher

# Health and Physical Education Rottnest Swim through

## 1.6KM ANNUAL ROTTNEST SWIM THROUGH

On Saturday 6 December, 93 Churchlands Swimmers took to the turquoise waters of Rottnest Island to complete a long distance ocean swim. We had swimmers from Year 7 upwards, and even a few teachers!

The majority of the swimmers took on the 1.6km challenge, and we also had a handful in the 500m.

Conditions were perfect, all of our swimmers completed the swim, some sprinting up the boat ramp at the end, some staggering! All smiling.

Nic L won his category for the 500m swim, while Mollie E won her category for the 1.6km. Well done to these swimmers who faced some serious competition.

Toloa was the first Churchlands swimmer to finish with an epic swim, with Tom F and Lila T not far behind.

The rest of the day was spent eating ice cream, pies and subway. This was followed by a raucous game of beach cricket and some well earned downtime.

Thanks to staff who donated a long day on a Saturday to help make this happen, it obviously couldn't be done without you. Meg Howard, Hayley Wells, Toby Moore, Jakson Durham, Glenn Robinson, Andy Chapman and swim coach Maddie G.

**Chris Van Maanen / Tobias Moore**  
**Health and Physical Education Department**



# Languages Bento Boxes

## TRADITIONAL DISHES

Late last term, the Japanese Luncheon offered our Year 9 and 10 students a delightful taste of Japanese culture in a relaxed and festive setting. Students enjoyed an assortment of authentic bento boxes from JBento, filled with vibrant flavours and traditional dishes. What a memorable opportunity to immerse in Japanese culture while strengthening language learning and community connections!

**Christine Fontaine - Head of Department**



# Learning Support Valuable study skills

## STUDY SKILLS PROGRAM - YEAR 10

A study skills program presented by Autism WA was delivered to a small group of Year 10 students seeking practical strategies to support their learning as they prepare for Years 11 and 12. Over five sessions, students were coached and guided through topics including goal setting, prioritising and time management, planning, understanding their individual learning styles, and effective exam techniques. They were able to practise these skills during the sessions and discuss how to apply them to their own homework and study routines.

Each session began with an activity connected to the theme of the day. For example, when exploring the concept of prioritising, students were first asked to pick up as many pencils as possible within 30 seconds. In the second round, each pencil colour was assigned a point value, shifting the task from collecting the most pencils to selecting the most valuable ones. Students tallied their scores, and the highest scorer was the one who had prioritised effectively. This activity was then linked to assessment strategies, illustrating how students can focus on higher-value questions during tests and exams.



Students also identified barriers that may interfere with effective study, such as lack of motivation, stress, digital distractions, and uncertainty about what to study. They reflected on their "current reality" and considered what their "desired reality" might look like. Discussions focused on strategies to bridge this gap, including using daily planners, employing phone-restriction apps, incorporating exercise, and establishing consistent routines.

Overall, the students reported that they found the program engaging and valuable. They have gained practical strategies that they plan to apply in the upcoming Year 10 exams and carry forward into Years 11 and 12.

**Claire Shoebridge - Learning support**



# HASS

## Canberra / Sydney Civics Tour

### YEAR 10 AEP HASS CIVICS TOUR 2025

Fifty-four excited Year 10 Academic Extension students headed East to start their seven-day parliamentary tour to Canberra and Sydney in Week 10 of Term 3. The Civics Tour is designed to focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy to offer an academic enrichment activity for AEP students.

We flew Qantas to Canberra who were amazing and thought the same of us, sending us off with a heap of gifts for the students. The tour group enjoyed the experience of visiting many attractions and venues including old Parliament House, the High Court, the Australian Institute of Sport, the National Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery, Questacon, the Royal Mint and the Australian War Museum. We even had time for bicycle ride around Lake Burley Griffen, a look in at the acclaimed Floriade Flower Show and a spot of mini golf where each hole represented a symbol of Canberra. It was fabulous!

The Australian War Memorial was also an unforgettable experience, where students were saddened on visiting the engraved names of thousands of soldiers who fought and gave their lives in world wars. Unfortunately, with renovations underway we could not spend the time there to thoroughly take in all it had to offer; however we had the opportunity to be present for the daily last post ceremony. CSHS was welcomed over the speaker, and many in the audience were surprised to see a school from Perth visiting. Sara Lenz and Nick Person were invited to represent the school and lay a wreath with family members of the 19 year old fallen soldier.

After four very busy days of quite chilly weather in Canberra it was time for the group to depart and move on to the amazing and sunny Sydney, staying at the Song Hotel just near Hyde Park. One evening we walked down to the Opera House Precinct to see this magnificent icon alongside the Harbour Bridge on show, while on another evening we headed to Paddy's Markets and China Town for dinner. We all had a fabulous time sightseeing the many famous iconic attractions including the Sydney Opera House, the Jewish Museum, Australian Institute of Sport, a cruise on the harbour and a visit to Taronga Zoo. Some of the girls were happy to find 'I Sydney' tee-shirts to match Mr Carr's, while Evan

K was very happy when he was finally allowed to shop and purchase a pair of sneakers at the iconic QV II shopping centre. The music kids were happy to find a piano on one of the four floors and confidently entertained the passing crowds. Mr Sauer was happy to check out every bird at Taronga Zoo, while Ms Manifis was happy with a selfie with all-time Australian rocker Jimmy Barnes!

To bring the tour to an end, we made a stop at the world-famous Bondi Beach on the Friday morning, but alas, Mr Carr said he didn't have enough time to have a swim which disappointed the kids! Everyone enjoyed the time to relax, enjoy the weather and scenery before preparing for the plane flight home.

Many thanks to teachers John Carr, Ben Sauer and Head of Year 10 Megan Lebihan for making up the supervisory team. Without the volunteering of significant amounts of time by the staff, these tours would not go ahead. The students and supervising teachers were exhausted on their return home, however, report this interstate HASS experience as a most memorable one.

#### Student thoughts:

"This was a great trip and a really good opportunity. Thank you for taking us", Minke Adendorff

"I loved the tour, seeing all of the attractions and learning about Australia", Jessica Bourgalt

"It was a fun and engaging opportunity that really allowed me to learn about Australia", Ari Vickery

"I thought this trip was very interesting and educational. I also loved spending time with my friends", Zoe Banks

"I felt honoured to be able to listen to a WWII holocaust survivor", Jonah Cunningham

"Best school tour I have been on. Everything was amazing", Fabian Eddy

*Leeana Manifis-Gott  
2IC HASS Department*

# HASS

## A time for reflection...

### AN HONOUR AND A PRIVILEGE

Whilst on tour in Sydney, the Year 10 Academic Extension Program HASS group had the honour and privilege of listening to a presentation by 97-year-old Jack Mesiter (OAM) a holocaust survivor at the Sydney Jewish Museum. The group spoke so fondly after listening to Jack and his amazing recollection of survival during the holocaust. It made them really think about what they had, their life and making the most of their lives after hearing Jack's story.

Jack was 11 years old when the Nazis came. He spoke to the group of war, of ghettos, forced labour, separation from his family, loss of his childhood, gruelling journeys in cattle cars, of Auschwitz and a death march to Buchenwald. He showed his tattoo B488 to the group, saying he has kept it as it is part of him and part of his life.

In April 1945, Jack was liberated by American soldiers. They came into the camps and gave the people lots of food and drink. An American soldier gave him some chocolate and a change of clothes. He took his picture, then came back the next day and gave it to him. Jack still had the picture to this day of his death and was proud to show it.

After the war Jack spent years in a Swiss children's home for orphan survivors. As one of the older kids, he mentored the younger ones. But he had learning to do himself: to re-learn basic table manners, how to eat with a knife and fork, hygiene, household

chores. He had missed so many formative years. Eventually the time came to leave Switzerland. Like many survivors who came to Australia, he wanted distance from the horrors of Europe so was taken in by a family in Sydney, later marrying in 1951.

Unfortunately, we learnt of the sad passing of this most humble holocaust survivor, in mid-November. Jack made the most out of life and was able to live a very long and happy life with his daughter, grandchildren and great grandchildren around him. He was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for his service to the Jewish community of Sydney in 2023.

On behalf of Churchlands Senior High School, I extended our sincere sympathies to the Jewish Community and Jack's family on the loss of this strong and most admirable man. We have shared the news with our students, and they also experienced sadness, yet feel lucky to have had the opportunity to meet Jack in person and take on his positive feedback about living and loving life.

I received an appreciative response from his daughter and thanks to the students for listening so respectfully to her father as he was always quite nervous talking in front of students, which he did every Thursday at the museum, to thousands of students.

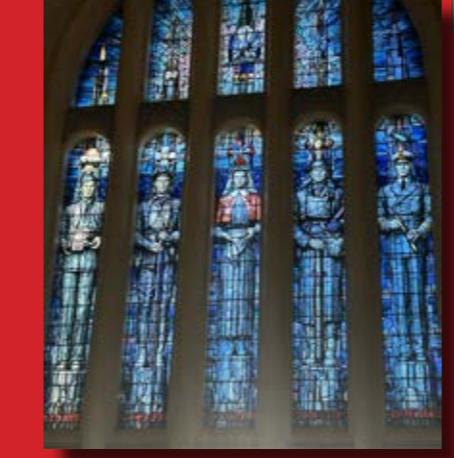
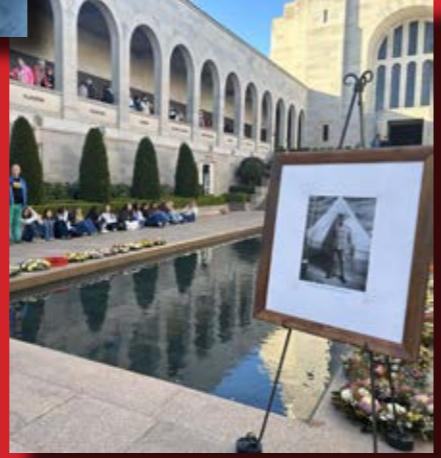
*Leeana Manifis-Gott  
HASS 2IC*



**Jack Meister 1928-2025**

# HASS

## Civics Tour snap shots



# HASS Year 7 Civics

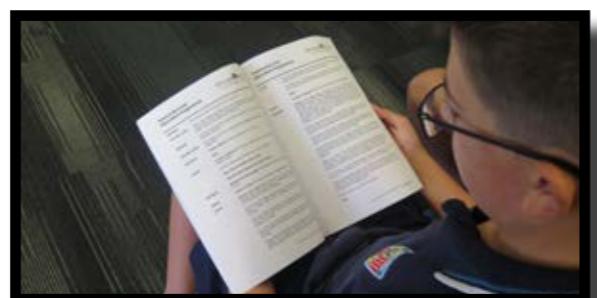
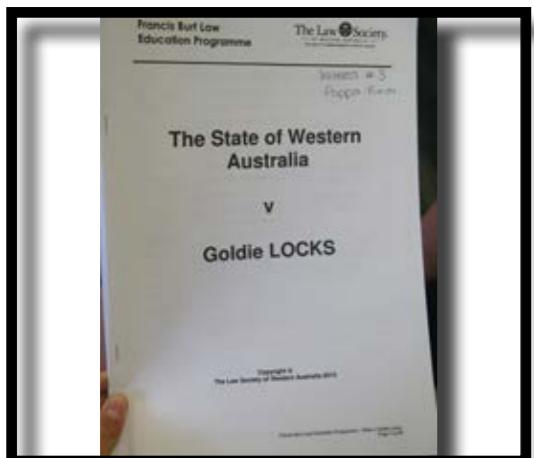
## YEAR 7 CIVICS

### Civics - courtroom role-play

Our Year 7 Civics students recently stepped into the shoes of lawyers, witnesses, and jurors as they re-enacted the fascinating case of The State of Western Australia vs. Goldilocks. This engaging role-play gave students a hands-on opportunity to explore how the justice system works, understand the roles within a courtroom, and consider key legal concepts such as evidence, fairness, and the presumption of innocence.

The activity was a fun and memorable way for students to deepen their understanding of the law and the importance of due process, and to discover that even fairy tales can raise real legal questions!

**Leeana Manifis-Gott**  
2IC HASS Department



# HASS Year 10 Civics

## YEAR 10 CIVICS

This term our Year 10 students studied Civics and Citizenship so we invited the Federal Member for Curtin, Kate Chaney to speak to the cohort about the importance of young people being involved in the political process and being active citizens. Ms Chaney also spoke about threats to democracy and how being an active citizen and using your voice can be a way to strengthen democracy and make a difference to the community and the world.

Many students commented after the presentation that they felt inspired by her talk and appreciated being able to ask questions at the end. Some left with the intention of emailing the Teal Independent other questions they had.

We thank HASS teacher Renee Passell for organising this valuable incursion for the students to enjoy.



# Maths Maths Week

## MATHS WEEK

Maths Week at Churchlands, held in Week 4, was once again a fantastic celebration of problem-solving, creativity and mathematical thinking! Students from all year groups got involved in a range of fun and competitive activities, with plenty of chocolate up for grabs for our winners.

The week featured three major challenges. First up was the paper airplane competition, where students put their design skills to the test. This year's winner was Fabian Eddy, whose plane soared an impressive 25 metres to take out first place.

Following on, the always-popular Mintie Wrapper Challenge, where students carefully tore their Mintie wrappers to see who could create the longest continuous strip. Mia Koehn claimed victory with a remarkable 120.4 cm wrapper, an effort requiring both precision and patience!

The final event of the week was the Tangram Challenge, where students raced to complete geometric puzzles using classic tangram pieces. Competition was fierce, and this event ended in a three-way tie, with all winners taking home a well-earned block of chocolate.

To wrap up the week, staff enjoyed a special Friday morning tea, adding a warm sense of community to the celebrations.

A big thank you to all students and staff who participated and helped make Maths Week such an enjoyable and energetic event.

We look forward to even more mathematical fun next year!

**Jarrod Carlson**  
**Maths Teacher**



# English Young writers

## YEAR 7 AND 8 AEP YOUNG WRITERS COLLECTIVE INCURSION

On 10 November, the last of four Young Writers Collective incursions took place. This was a chance for us, the Year 7 and 8 English AEP students, to go to a workshop meant to enhance our writing and storytelling skills, by listening to an author and completing some activities surrounding their teachings.

This term, said author was graphic novelist and ex-quantum physicist: Áska (Pronounced: A-sh-ka). Áska talked to us about some of her works before we jumped straight into the first activity. No pencils, pen only so we couldn't erase. We started with a small comic strip of three panels. First, we needed a character: a bean, as it was simple and expressive. By adding some features to the bean, we could change and manipulate how it was viewed. We swapped pieces of paper, and someone else would draw the second panel of our story and by the end, it was nothing like what we had in mind!

Once we had the basic idea of how to make the beans work, we made some more comic strips, but this time we worked on making the panels look better. We did this by changing the text's font, the layout of each panel, even by drawing close-ups! We edited the panels by drawing on a sticky note to stick on top of the former panel, so we could see how much better we did the second time round and solidify our glory.

Áska also taught us how to make a miniature book (no glue, no sticky tape: just one sheet of paper and some scissors!) to draw a comic in. We linked this to the importance of sharing our work with a comment about how we could easily photocopy it. Along with doing the practical work, Áska also provided some knowledge, such as when you read a comic or graphic novel, when you look at the pictures and can see the character, you form an emotional attachment to them faster than in written novels and texts.

Another task we did in the workshop was some 'jamming'. We started by drawing the last panel of the comic, the passing it to someone else who would then draw the previous panel. No information was provided other than what happens next. This went on until we had four complete panels, and a silly little story. Overall, the whole experience was a blast and taught us a lot about storytelling with words AND pictures.

**By Mieke Basson and Talitha Walker - Year 7**



# Science Year 11's lead the way

## FROM YEAR 11 WISDOM TO YEAR 9 WINS: EXAM TIPS THAT ACTUALLY WORK

What better way to support our Year 9 students as they prepare for their very first exams than to hear timely advice from those who have just conquered the challenge themselves? On their final day of school, our Year 11 class generously offered their time, and their tried-and-tested study tools, to guide the Year 9s through the exam-prep journey.

What unfolded was both inspiring and affirming: a room of motivated senior students eager to share what genuinely helped them succeed, and a room of younger learners keen to understand how to begin.

### Real Strategies From Real Students

Our Year 11s brought samples of their revision materials and openly discussed the strategies that helped turn a year's worth of learning into confident exam performance. They showcased:

- Exercise book consolidation
- Cornell note-taking
- Colour-coded summaries
- Labelled diagrams and visual cues
- Flow charts to map processes
- Tables to compare and contrast concepts
- Mind maps for identifying relationships
- Palm cards, Quizlet sets, and PowerPoint decks for spaced repetition

Research supports these methods: studies consistently show that active learning strategies, such as self-testing, elaboration, and visual organisation, significantly improve retention and understanding (Dunlosky et al., 2013). Likewise, spaced repetition has been demonstrated across decades of cognitive science to strengthen long-term memory far more effectively than cramming.

The Year 9 students quickly noticed that not every strategy suits every learner, and that's the point. Year 9 is the perfect time to experiment, trial, and discover what kind of study methods will best support them in the years ahead.

### Cross-Age Tutoring: Why It Works

The session also highlighted the powerful benefits of cross-age tutoring. Research shows that when older students teach younger ones, both groups experience academic and motivational gains. Older students consolidate their knowledge by explaining it (a phenomenon known as the "protégé effect"), while younger students often feel safer asking questions and more motivated to engage when learning from relatable peers (Topping, 2015).

The dynamic was evident in the room: the Year 11s were patient, honest, and practical. The Year 9s were attentive and comfortable, assured that the advice they were receiving was authentic and doable.

### Wisdom Worth Hearing

One message resounded through the Year 11 reflections:

"I wish I'd been more disciplined and reviewed my work consistently throughout the year."

A simple truth, echoed by learning research, which shows that distributed practice, small, regular review sessions, outperforms every other revision method for long-term achievement.

Year 11s also shared thoughtful advice on involving parents in a positive way: using them as "accountability buddies," asking them to quiz key terms, or simply letting them know when encouragement is needed.

### The Take-Home Message

The emphasis from the Year 11s was clear:

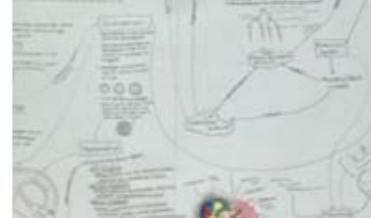
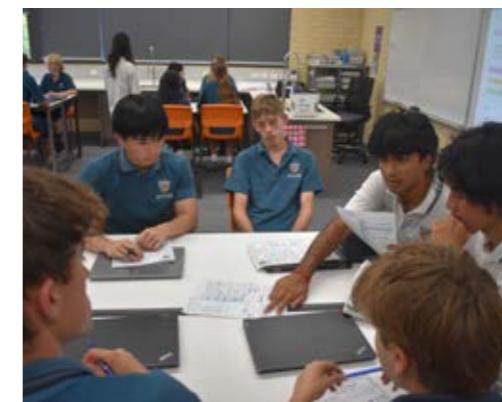
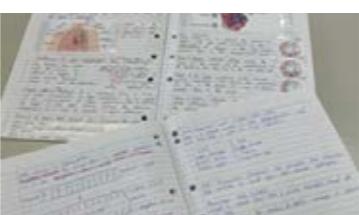
Just get started.

Start small, start now, and keep going, chunk by chunk.

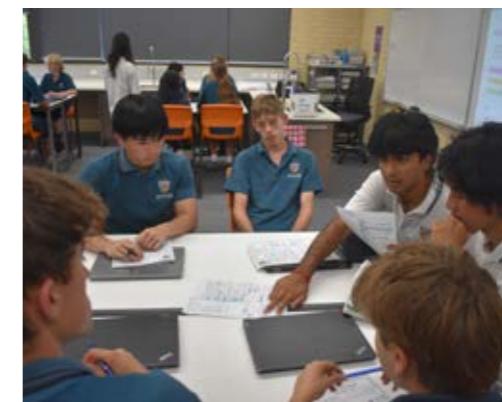
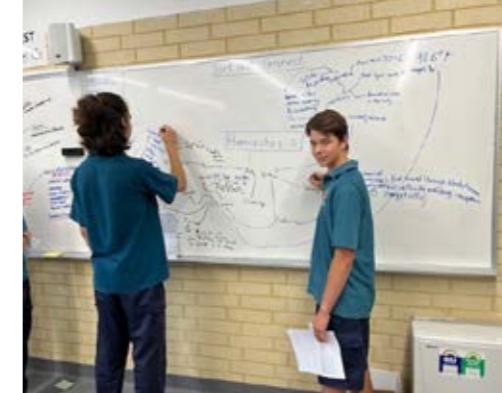
To our Year 9s: you've taken the first step by listening. Now it's time to try, test, explore, and build your own toolkit for success.

Good luck as you prepare for your first exams, we believe in you!

*Carole Elliot - Science Teacher*



# Science Exam preparation



# Technologies Home Economics

## PRACTICAL SKILLS SHINE

### Hands-On Learning in Home Economics

It's been a busy and creative term in the Home Economics department, with students across Years 8-12 showcasing impressive skills and enthusiasm in their practical projects.

In Textiles, our Year 9 students have just completed their stylish Peter Alexander inspired pyjamas, each set accompanied by a matching PJ bag, both practical and beautifully presented. Meanwhile, our Year 12 Textiles students have taken their creativity to the next level, designing and producing costumes. The attention to detail and craftsmanship in these pieces have been truly outstanding.

Year 10 Beauty and Wellness students have recently finished their hair and makeup practical assessments, demonstrating confidence and competence in the skills they've developed, including techniques learned from guest speakers who visited earlier in the term.

In Year 9 Food around the World, the students have been cooking dishes to showcase popular European Foods.

In Year 10 Celebration Foods, the BBQs are about to be fired up for a gourmet barbecue cooking unit, with students set to experiment with flavour, presentation, and outdoor cooking skills.

Our herb garden continues to thrive under the green thumb of our Home Economics Assistant, Ryan, providing fresh produce and plenty of learning opportunities for students across the department.

We hope that many of the students' projects are making their way home, whether that's in the form of a delicious meal, a creative sewing piece, or a confident new skill, so families can share in the results of their hard work.

Looking ahead, we're excited to host the Year 8 Parent Morning Tea next month, offering parents the opportunity to visit the school, meet others in the community, and learn more about the courses available in Years 9 to 12.

There's always plenty happening in Home Economics and with the end of the year fast approaching, it's sure to be a busy and rewarding finish to 2025!

**The Technology Staff**



# Technologies Fresh herbs and kebabs on the grill



# Community Service Program

## STUDENTS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

*"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."* Winston Churchill.

Over the last couple of terms, many of our students have generously contributed their time and energy to supporting both the school and the wider community. One of these events was the "City to Surf," where students from Years 10, 11 and 12 volunteered at the finish line, giving up their weekend to lend a helping hand.

Most of us staffed the water station in the finishing precinct at City Beach Oval, while a smaller group, who believed they had drawn the lucky assignment, distributed Fruit nearby. Regardless of which liquid or fruit they were offering, both teams worked tirelessly from 8:00 a.m. until after 1:00 p.m. I am proud to say that we left our entire area spotless. Students collected thousands of discarded bottles, and countless crushed paper cups. Our section stood out as a patch of green in an otherwise litter-strewn landscape.

The students were fantastic, even if thoroughly exhausted by the time they headed home. Since the event, I have received a very complimentary email from the volunteer coordinator, acknowledging and praising the efforts of all Churchlands students involved. Many students have added another T-shirt to their growing collection, although one student did remark they might not be a first-choice fashion statement! Our stats for 2025 Year 12 = 22,623.7 hours from 378 students. Average = 59.9%

### Gold Duke of Edinburgh 2025

It was a privilege once again to be invited to Government house to watch these students receive their Gold Award

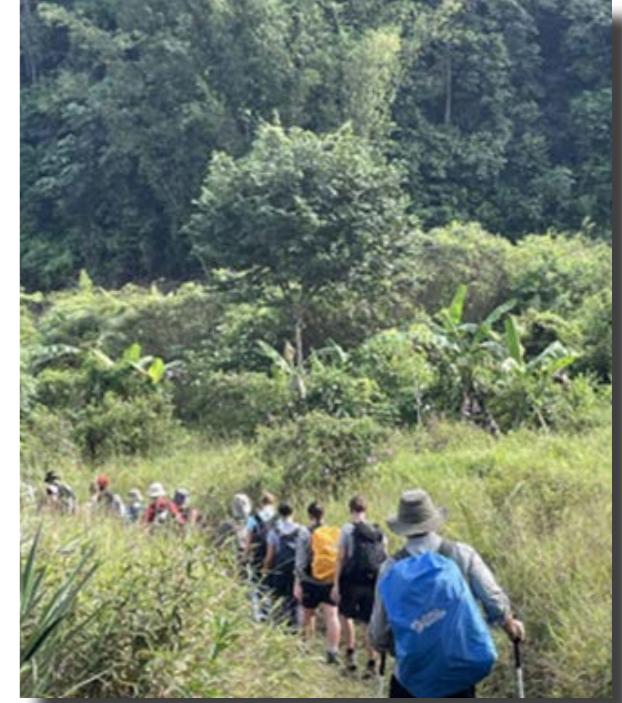


# Community Service Program

## WORLD CHALLENGE BORNEO EXPEDITION

In early January 2025, a group of 25 Churchlands students, accompanied by two teachers and a guide, embarked on a World Challenge expedition to Borneo, organized into two teams. Their journey included the Pahu Trail trek, offering a remarkable contrast between Borneo's culture and daily life and that of Australia. This once-in-a-lifetime experience challenged the students, revealing just how capable they are, while providing eye-opening insights and unforgettable encounters. The expedition spanned 15 days, from 6 to 20 January.

**Ms Christina Kolodij**  
Community Service Coordinator



# Workplace Learning Term 4 Placements

## THAT'S A WRAP FOR OUR YEAR 11 AND 12 WORKPLACE LEARNING STUDENTS

It has been a rewarding year for our Year 11 and 12 Workplace Learning students, many of whom completed 110 hours or more of unpaid voluntary work across a variety of industries.

As part of the curriculum, students also had the opportunity to hear from a range of guest speakers, representing - The Australian Defence Force, The Australian Federal Police, The Apprenticeship Community (Busy at Work), The Hotel School Australia Association, and North Metro TAFE. These presentations provided valuable insights into possible future career pathways and assisted with their overall learning experience.

Staff have really enjoyed visiting and seeing our students thrive in real-world environments as they completed voluntary work in industries of their choice. Their placements spanned a wide range of fields, including building and construction, mining and civil, aged care, local government, automotive, education, hospitality, beauty and salon services, architecture, and many more.

These invaluable opportunities would not be possible without the generosity and ongoing support of our host employers. We extend our sincere thanks for welcoming our students, mentoring them, and providing meaningful experiences that extend beyond the classroom.

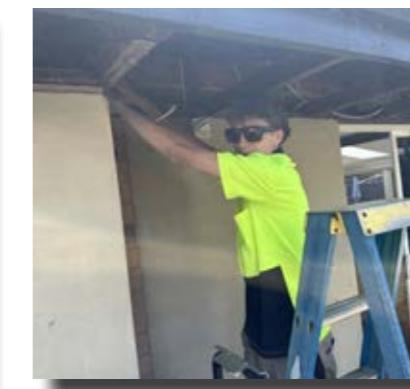
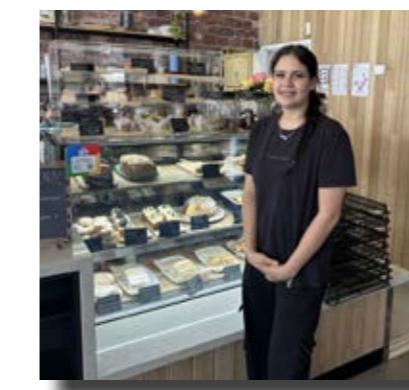
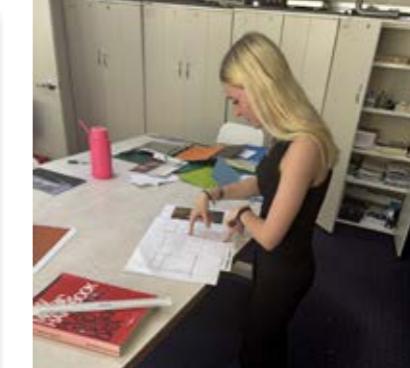
The Workplace Learning Program has also played an essential role, with helping students undertaking certificate courses to complete their required practical hours and achieve unit competencies. Most importantly, it has helped guide and educate students about future career pathways, both those they are eager to pursue and those they have discovered may not be the right fit. Throughout the program, students have developed confidence, gained independence, and built strong connections within the broader community.

We are incredibly proud to share that many students excelled during their placements, with several being offered casual employment or apprenticeships because of their hard work and professionalism. We also look forward to welcoming our Year 10 students into the program next year.

If you are interested in hosting one of our Churchlands SHS students in the future, we would love to hear from you.

Well done to all our Year 11 and 12 students!

**Rosa Taylor**  
**Workplace Learning Team**



# Library Loving the library space...

## LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

Our students have recently been sharing why they love the library, and their comments say it all: a safe space, great books, welcoming staff, creative themes, quiet corners to study or think, and a place where everyone belongs. These reflections remind us how important it is for a school to have a well-resourced library with dedicated staff and we're proud to be getting so much of it right.

This term we welcomed back our Makerspace sessions. Each Monday offered a new hands-on activity, from poppy printing for our Remembrance display to jigsaws, cornhole, and Lego to help ease exam stress. Watching students from different year levels interact, create, and enjoy the space together was a real highlight.

Our library displays continued to inspire curiosity and encourage reading, with themes that invited students to think, explore, and discover new stories. Book Club and Homework Club remained strong favourites, offering students a welcoming place to



2025 West Australian Young Readers' Book Award Winners!

connect, read, learn, and feel supported.

Students also took part in two major reading initiatives this year: the Premier's Reading Challenge and the West Australian Young Readers' Book Awards (WAYRBA). Both programs helped spark conversations about books, encouraged reading for enjoyment, and connected students with a wider community of young readers.

However, the very best part of our day is the simplest one: chatting with students during break times, hearing their laughter, and seeing their smiles. Those everyday moments remind us why the library matters so much.

So, ask yourself: Is the library everything it could be?

We think so and we'll keep working to make it even better.

**Sally Morris**  
Teacher Librarian



# Library Displays, competitions, reading



# STEM Busiest year ever...

## STEM BUILDING OPENS NEW OPPORTUNITIES

STEM has seen its busiest year ever, with several new projects up and running! Our Pedal Prix team managed 4 races with its fleet of trikes, finishing with an overnight camp and 6-hour race along Busselton Foreshore.

During Term 3 every year we run the Churchlands STEM Challenge with a record number of teams participating in some of our most difficult tasks ranging from 3D printing and cybersecurity to a spaghetti engineering task! congratulations to all the students for their dedication over the several weeks.

The end of the year saw our STEM Specialist course students showing off their projects to their peers. What wonderful, creative, and technically challenging projects, including video game development, robotics, 3D modelling and laser cutting.

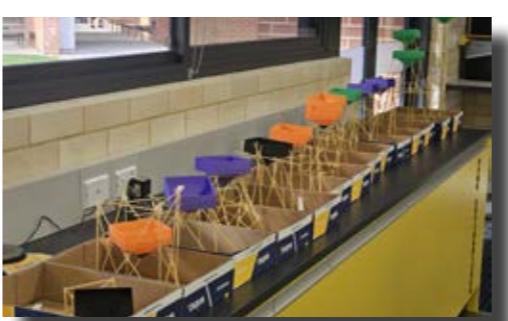
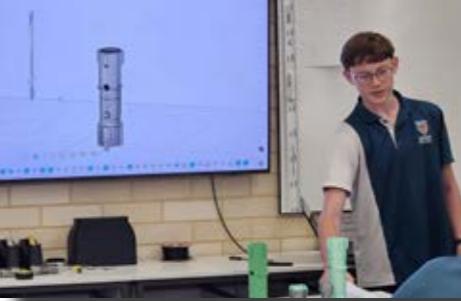
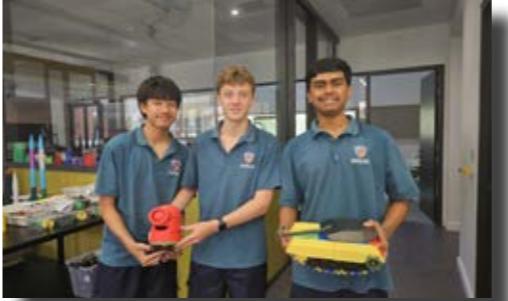
Our BinarX students also presented their impressive prototypes to industry experts at Curtin University, presenting their payloads to the engineers for a 2026 launch! The students have also built a ground-station (actually, two!) at Churchlands so that we can monitor the data streaming from satellites as they pass overhead, winning the inaugural BinarX "Gold Yagi" trophy for the most data captures. Congratulations to all involved!

With a selection of new equipment some innovative staff on board, 2026 is set to be a big one. We have a set menu of fun activities for our newest Club members as well as fresh activities for the regulars. For more information, visit <http://stem.puseyscience.com>

**Dr Grant Pusey**  
**STEM**  
**Coordinator**



# STEM Student dedication



# Family and Community Engagement Formative Assessment

# Family and Community Engagement Formative Assessment

## Normalising Mistakes

### Why Summer Is the Perfect Time for Low-Stakes Learning

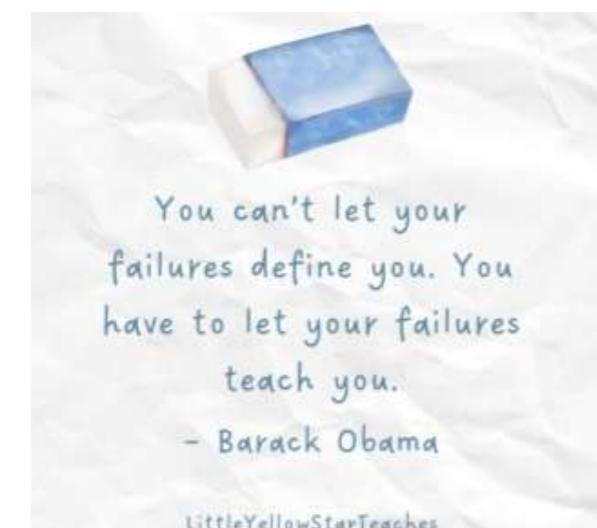
As we reach the end of the school year, many families look forward to a well-earned break and a chance to slow down. The summer holidays also bring something uniquely valuable for students: opportunities to learn, grow, and experiment without the pressure of marks, deadlines, or assessments.

At Churchlands, one of our Teaching and Learning focuses is providing strategies, routines, and learning conditions that support the development of self-regulated learners. Self-regulated learners monitor their progress, select strategies that help them move forward, reflect on what works, and adjust their approach in response to challenges. A key part of this process is understanding that mistakes aren't a setback, they are an essential part of learning.

In both formative assessment and self-regulated learning, students are constantly encouraged to try a strategy, see what happened, use feedback, make an adjustment, and try again. This cycle strengthens confidence, independence, and resilience, and it happens most naturally in low-stakes environments like the long summer break.

### Why Mistakes Matter for Learning

When students are free to try things without worrying about being 'right', they begin to see themselves as capable problem-solvers. Mistakes help them evaluate thinking, refine strategies, build persistence, and become more comfortable with challenge and uncertainty.



### Encouraging Low-Stakes Learning at Home

You don't need to know the content your child is learning to support them. What matters most is engaging with the process. Here are some simple ways families can normalise mistakes:

- Try a new recipe.
- Get creative with art.
- Grow something.
- Try solving puzzles or playing strategy games.
- Take on a small DIY challenge.
- Learn a short dance.

## Conversation Starters to Build Reflection Skill

- What surprised you today?
- What did you try, and what happened?
- What would you change next time?
- Which strategy helped you the most?
- What did you learn about yourself?
- What challenged you today, and how did you respond?



### Looking Ahead to 2026

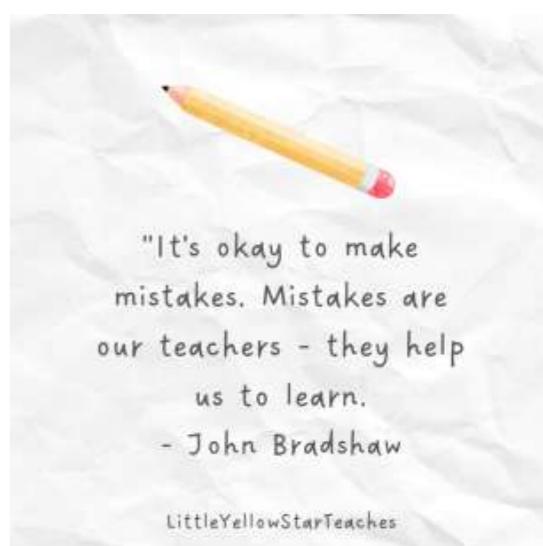
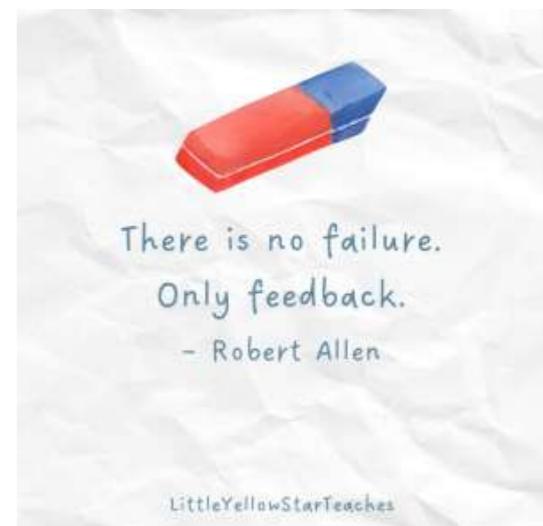
Normalising mistakes helps students return to school with stronger learning habits and a willingness to engage with feedback. Summer provides a rich environment for curiosity, resilience, and reflection, all skills at the heart of formative assessment and self-regulated learning.

### Helping Students Transfer Summer Learning Back to School

When students try something new over the holidays, whether it's a recipe that didn't work the first time, a puzzle that took a few attempts, or a project that needed fixing, it can be powerful to connect these moments to their learning at school. You don't need to have a long conversation each time. It can be just as effective to file these examples away in your memory so you can gently remind your child later, when they're back at school and facing a challenge:

- *"Remember when that recipe didn't work the first time and you tried again?"*
- *"You stuck with that Lego build even when it got tricky—this is the same feeling."*
- *"You solved that problem by trying a different strategy—what could you try here?"*

These reminders help students *transfer* their summer learning habits into the classroom. This is exactly the kind of thinking that strengthens self-regulated learning, supports formative assessment cycles, and builds confidence for the year ahead.



# Academic Extension Program 2026

## Testing 21 February

# 2026 Contributions and Charge

## Win win win...



**CHURCHLANDS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

# ACADEMIC EXTENSION PROGRAM

## Year 7 2027

**TESTING**  
**Saturday 21 February**  
**at 9.00am**

**APPLICATIONS close**  
**Thursday 5 February 2026**

If your child is going into Year 7 2027 you can apply for selection into our school based Academic Extension Program (AEP). Testing will take place at Churchlands Senior High School, 20 Lucca Street, Churchlands on **Saturday 21 February 2026 at 9.00am**. To apply, an online application is available via our website: <https://www.churchlands.wa.edu.au/learning/academic-extension-program>

We welcome all prospective students from within our intake area. We may also accept a limited number of students residing outside our catchment area and we encourage academically gifted students to apply.

Further information:  
**T: 9441 1700** **W: churchlands.wa.edu.au**  
Connect with us on:  
  /Churchlands.SHS



# Win...Win...Win...

*Pay your amount listed on the bottom of your contribution and charges by **Friday, 12 April 2026** and go into a draw to win back your payment!*

**6 Winners**  
One for each year level  
- Year 7  
- Year 9  
- Year 11  
- Year 8  
- Year 10  
- Year 12



**Paperly will be active from the end of January 2026 to pay your contributions and charges**

**Go to the Finances tab on our website and progress to Payments**

# Student Social media use



CHURCHLANDS  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

## Upcoming Social Media Age Restrictions for Under-16s

Churchlands Senior High School would like to inform students and families about an important change announced by the Australian Government. From **10 December 2025**, major social media platforms will be required to restrict account access for users under the age of 16.

This initiative is designed to safeguard young Australians from a range of online risks — including exposure to harmful content, excessive screen time, digital manipulation, and other inappropriate online behaviours. Importantly, this is not a ban but rather a **delay in account eligibility** until a child turns 16.

### What You Need to Know

- Platforms affected include **Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter), and YouTube**.
- Children **under the age of 16 will no longer be able to create or maintain accounts** on these services.
- **Public content** may still be accessible without logging in.
- **Messaging apps and online gaming services** are not covered by these restrictions and may still be used if permitted by the app's terms and parental guidance.

### Support and Resources

Families and students are encouraged to stay informed and take advantage of the helpful resources available:

- [eSafety Commissioner – Get-Ready Guide for Under-16s](#) , [Social media age restrictions hub](#)
- [Churchlands Senior High School- Student Welbeing](#)
- [WA Department of Education – Cyber Safety Hub](#)

Churchlands SHS is committed to supporting a safe, inclusive, and digitally responsible learning environment. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact our ICT Team via the school website:

[churchlands.wa.edu.au/my-churchlands/ict/ict-help-and-advice-1](http://churchlands.wa.edu.au/my-churchlands/ict/ict-help-and-advice-1)

# Changes to accounts for U16's



For more details go to [eSafety.gov.au](http://esafety.gov.au)



Australian Government



Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra

# UNIFORM SHOP

## Trading Hours Jan 2026

### 2026 January School Holiday

#### Trading Hours

**Tuesday 27 January 9.00am - 1.00pm**

**Thursday 29 January 12.00pm - 5.00pm**

**Friday 30 January 9.00am - 1.00pm**

**Saturday 31 January 9.00am - 1.00pm**

**Monday 2 February 8.30am - 4.00pm**

**(First Day of School)**

**Tuesday 3rd February 8.30am - 4.00pm**

**Thursday 5th February 12.30pm - 5.00pm**

**Return to regular trading from Week 2.**

**Just to remind current Year 8 and Year 10 parents that their son/daughter will need a change of polo colour for next year.**

**Year 8s will go into teal, and Year 10s into white.**



**Year  
7 & 8  
(Junior)**

**Year  
9 & 10  
(Middle)**

**Year  
11 & 12  
(Senior)**