

# The Crest

School Magazine - Semester One 2025



### In this edition:

- 25th Anniversary reflections
- Celebrating student successes
- Sports carnival results
- Alumni news

## Save the date!

#### **Semester 2 Important Dates:**

#### July

- Monday 21 July Term 3 Commences
- Thursday 31 July to Saturday 2 August School Production 'Dare to Dream'

#### **August**

- Tuesday 12 August Secondary Inter-house Athletics Carnival
- Friday 15 August Peter Moyes Day
- Friday 22 August Upper Primary Inter-house Athletics Carnival
- Wednesday 27 August Book Week Parade
- Friday 29 August AngliSchools Piano Competition

#### **September**

- Monday 1 September to Friday 12 September Primary School Swimming Lessons
- Wednesday 3 September to Friday 5 September Year 9 Camp
- Friday 5 September Father's Day Stall
- Thursday 11 September R U OK Day
- Friday 12 September Primary School Instrumental Concert
- Thursday 18 September Secondary School Music Concert
- Friday 19 September Lower Primary Inter-house Athletics Carnival
- Thursday 25 September Term 3 Ends

## Save the date!

#### **October**

- Monday 13 October Term 4 Commences
- Monday 13 October to Wednesday 15 October Year 11 Camp
- Thursday 16 October Year 12 & Alumni Breakfast
- Friday 17 October Valedictory Chapel, Guard of Honour and Evening Ceremony
- Saturday 25 October P&F Y2K Bingo Night

#### **November**

- Wednesday 5 November to Friday 7 November Year 5 Camp
- Tuesday 11 November Remembrance Day
- Wednesday 12 November to Friday 14 November Year 4 Camp
- Friday 21 November Twilight Markets & Art Exhibition

#### **December**

- Tuesday 2 December Primary School Nativity & Carols
- Thursday 4 December Year 6 Graduation
- Friday 5 December Primary School Colour Run
- Tuesday 9 December Primary School Presentation Assembly
- Tuesday 9 December Secondary School Prize Giving Evening
- Tuesday 9 December Term 4 Ends

## **New faces at PMACS**

## Secondary



Mr Jon Field Head of Secondary



Ms Catherine Broughton Secondary Counsellor



Mrs Nicola Hastle Secondary Counsellor



Mrs Sarah Hardingham Head of Dance and Drama



Ms Karry Plummer Outdoor Education Coordinator



Ms Gemma Steinhof English Teacher



Ms Mia Swift HaSS Teacher



Ms Capri Jackson HaSS Teacher



Ms Irene de Bartolo Learning Diversity



Ms Karen Howie Learning Diversity

### **New faces at PMACS**

## Primary



Ms Nicola Farrow Library Assistant



Ibu Anggi Tyas Indonesian Teacher



Ms Zoe Blake Kindergarten Teacher



Ms Tammy Devitt Year 3 Teacher



Ms Lauren Young Education Assistant



Ms Michelle Walters Education Assistant



Ms Juliet Palethorpe Speech Pathologist



Ms Katie Burns Academic Extension

## From the Principal

Welcome to the first edition of The Crest for 2025!

This is a big year for our School as we mark the 25th anniversary of Peter Moyes Anglican Community School. It is a moment of deep pride and reflection for our entire School community as we celebrate not just the years that have passed, but the countless achievements, relationships and values that have shaped our journey.

From our humble beginnings in 2000, with a small group of dedicated staff and students, to the vibrant and thriving community we are today, Peter Moyes has remained steadfast in its mission to provide an inclusive, faith-based education where every student is known, valued and nurtured. The School has grown in size and in spirit, guided by our Anglican ethos and our commitment to developing within our students personal excellence with compassion for others.

Throughout this special anniversary year, we look forward to reconnecting with past students, families and staff whose contributions have left a lasting legacy. Their stories remind us that our School is more than buildings and classrooms — it is a living community, built on shared values, enduring friendships and a passion for learning. I am grateful to each member of our community — past and present — for your continued support and belief in what we stand for at Peter Moyes.

This jam-packed edition of The Crest showcases the many happenings at our school in its 25<sup>th</sup> year. You will find stories of student success, news from our Alumni and of course updates from members of the Executive Team. While there is much to be proud of, I would particularly like to highlight the following articles:

#### Staff Profile - Foundation Staff Member: Cynthia Starcevich

In this edition we profile an extra-special staff member, Cynthia Starcevich. Cynthia, or Cindi as she is more commonly known, has been at PMACS since day one, starting as an Education Assistant in the Primary School, before transitioning to the Health Centre and to her current role as a Receptionist and Archivist.

Cindi has made a significant contribution to our school, with a most remarkable ability to remember names, birthdays and anniversaries of both former and current staff and students. Thank you, Cindi, for all that you do to make our School a wonderful place to teach and to learn.



#### **World's Greatest Shave**

Parents may recall that in 2024, the School participated in the World's Greatest Shave for the first time. This was inspired by Year 12 (2024) student leader Dana Harrison, who worked closely with our School Counsellors to bring the event to life. This year, our School again supported the World's Greatest Shave, with students and staff coming together to raise funds and awareness for the Leukaemia Foundation. In a show of courage and compassion, several members of our community shaved, cut, or coloured their hair, helping to raise almost \$11,000 to support Australians facing blood cancer.

It was a powerful reminder of the impact we can make when we stand together for a cause beyond ourselves. I extend my sincere thanks to all those who set up and participated in the event, along with my apologies to those who let me have a go at cutting their hair!

#### **Year 12 Sunrise Reflection**

I recently attended the Year 12 Sunrise Reflection. This event is a reset for our Year 12s after the exam break and marks the beginning of their final chapter after 14 years of schooling. We were blessed with a beautiful, calm, and dry morning at Quinns Beach, for a short, but meaningful reflection on the importance of new beginnings, along with some encouragement on putting their best foot forward for their final days as PMACS students. It was wonderful to see the engagement of our students in this special event, even more so considering that most students had limited sleep after spending the night at school for our inaugural Year 12 Sleepover.

These three articles are just a few highlights from the latest edition of The Crest. I trust that you will enjoy the following stories and pictures that provide a snapshot of all that we offer at Peter Moyes Anglican Community School. There truly is something for everyone at PMACS.

Every Blessing.

Benjamin Lomas PRINCIPAL

## Diversity & Inclusion Week

Diversity & Inclusion Week is an annual celebration from Pre-K to 12. It is a time when our whole school comes together to embrace and appreciate the unique identities, cultures, and abilities that make our school community such a special place all year round!

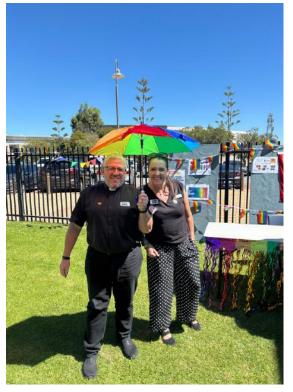
The week incorporated Harmony Day, celebrating our rich cultural diversity, Neurodiversity Celebration Week, honouring our unique ways of thinking, communicating, and learning, and Zero Discrimination Day which encompasses all aspects of Inclusivity, promoting kindness, acceptance and belonging for all.

The week was filled with a variety of activities for each year level that highlight the power of acceptance, further supporting our school's vision to be a caring, compassionate, and innovative learning community where everyone matters, and all are inspired to be their best.











## 25 Dears of Service

### **A Conversation with Cindi Starcevich**

As Peter Moyes Anglican Community School marks a milestone year, we sat down with one of our longest-serving staff members, Cindi Starcevich, to reflect on her remarkable journey since the School's foundation in 2000. From dusty classrooms to heartfelt moments in the First Aid office, Cindi's legacy is etched into the very fabric of our school.

### What inspired you to join Peter Moyes Anglican Community School when it first opened in 2000?

At the time, I was ready for a full-time position after years as an EA and helping out in my children's schools. I saw an ad in the paper for a new school opening north of the river and thought, "Yes, I'll apply." It felt like the right time to take on something new.

### Can you describe what those early days at the school were like?

Challenging but exciting! There were just 24 staff and everything was being built around us. We were dusting constantly due to the open shutters and desert-like surroundings. But there was such a strong sense of camaraderie - setting up classrooms, meeting students and parents, and making endless learning resources. Everyone pitched in. It felt like a real family.

#### How has the school evolved since then?

It's grown immensely - physically and in student numbers. In 2004, we were even recognised as the fastest-growing school in Australia. I'm proud to have been part of its evolution and to see the vision come to life with facilities like the chapel and the Allan Shaw Centre.

### What motivated your shift from an EA role to First Aid Officer in 2018?

I stepped in temporarily to help when our First Aid Officer at the time sadly passed away. I had always been involved with First Aid - on camps, at sporting events, and outside school too.



It felt like the right time for a change, and I was ready for something different. The health centre felt like home to me - I felt like I was where I belonged.

#### What was the most rewarding part of that role?

Being a calm, comforting presence for students when they needed care. I hope they saw me as someone firm but nurturing. I especially remember a boy with a serious knee injury whose father later shared how impressed the hospital was with the first aid care. And then there were tougher moments - responding to severe anaphylaxis emergencies that really stayed with me. Some of the little ones called me "Mrs Starfish" instead of Starcevich. That always makes me smile.

### You're now working in the archives. What excites you most about preserving the school's history?

It's special to be part of the school's story - keeping its past alive. I've uncovered photo books, early newsletters, P&F memorabilia, and even work from students who graduated many years ago. Aside from the mountains of paperwork and bulldog clips, there's something meaningful about seeing where we started and how far we've come.

### Looking back on your 25 years here, what moments do you cherish most?

Too many to count. From witnessing a young girl with cerebral palsy beam with pride after not coming last in a race, to seeing another student, who struggled academically, blossom in art and say, "I'm finally good at something." Those are the moments that matter. That student made me some handmade gifts over the years and I've still got them on display at home to this day. I also treasure the chance I had to go on the Pilgrimage of Hope to India with staff and students in 2010. It was life-changing.

### If you could pass on one piece of wisdom to new staff or students, what would it be?

Don't judge a book by its cover. There's always more going on beneath the surface, and people - especially children - often act from a place of hurt or frustration. Take a moment to understand before you react.

### If you could choose one word to describe Peter Moyes Anglican Community School, what would it be?

"Evolving." It's always growing, shifting, and adapting. And I've been lucky to be part of that journey.

### Finally, what's something people might not know about you?

One fun fact about me is I come from a very large family — I'm the eldest of 9 children. I have five sisters, three brothers, three children, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Family life is big and busy!









#### A Warm and Welcoming Semester

What a wonderful start to the school year we've had! We were delighted to welcome 114 new students at the beginning of Term 1, and we've continued to greet new faces throughout the semester. It's a true blessing to have so many beautiful children and their families join our community.

#### **Highlights from Term 1**

The term began with vibrant energy and beautiful weather, creating the perfect backdrop for many memorable experiences. Our Year 6 students enjoyed their much anticipated camp at Point Walter, with highlights including kite making, a silent disco, and a lively quiz night hosted by our very own Quiz Master extraordinaire.

Our Inter-house Swimming Carnival debuted at a new venue with a refreshed format, both of which were

very well received. Congratulations to all who took part, and to those who progressed to represent our school at the NIPSSA Swimming Carnival. We concluded the term with our Easter services, a meaningful and reflective way to end a busy and joyful term.

### Connections and Community in Term 2

We began Term 2 with our Collaborative Learning Conversations, offering parents and caregivers the opportunity to discuss their child's learning journey and celebrate their progress.

In Week 1, students came together to honour those who have served during our ANZAC Day service.

Soon after, our Year 6 students joined eight other schools in the Pilgrimage of Hope Walk as part of the nationwide Anglican initiative, HOPE25. Walking between 6–10km over two days, they

reflected on hope with Bishop Hans Christiansen and Reverend Dr Eleanor O'Donnell, while raising funds for Trillion Trees Australia and Anglicare WA's upcoming School Sleepout.

#### **Learning Beyond the Classroom**

Our students continue to shine in a wide range of sporting events, including Inter-House, NIPSSA, and SSWA Cross Country. Year 6 students also took part in their Lightning Carnival, enjoying a variety of sports. We extend our sincere thanks to our staff for making these opportunities possible.

Learning experiences across the school have been rich and varied. Our Lower Primary students have been thrilled by visits from the farm and sea-life incursions, and a visit to the local shopping centre to explore the world around them. Year 2s have been getting their hands dirty in the garden and their aprons on in the kitchen,

budding horticulturists and chefs in the making!

### Welcoming and Celebrating Our Practicum Students

This semester, we were delighted to welcome a number of university practicum students to our School. Under the guidance of our dedicated and passionate educators, these pre-service teachers brought enthusiasm, fresh ideas, and a contagious passion for teaching that has enriched our school community.

A standout initiative this semester was led by two of our Year 4 pre-service teachers. Students explored how thoughtfully designed spaces can support emotional wellbeing, during their Design & Technologies unit. They were challenged to research, design, and construct a model of a calming wellness room for our school. Students worked independently to plan and sketch their calming capsule designs, carefully selecting features they believed would help someone feel safe, relaxed, and regulated. Their ideas were brought to life using recycled and craft materials with a gallery walk ensuring the classrooms were buzzing with excitement and creativity.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Ella, Olivia, Meg, Sasha, Emma and Leah for their contributions and commitment to their soon-to-be profession. We are deeply grateful for the energy and innovation our practicum students have shared with us and look forward to seeing their impact in classrooms of their own in the near future.

### Celebrations, Culture and Student Voice

The P&F Disco was a resounding success, filling the auditorium with music, laughter, and impressive dance moves. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this joyful event possible.

During Reconciliation Week, students engaged in meaningful classroom activities focused on National Sorry Day and the importance of reconciliation. A special highlight this term for our student leaders was the Moodjar Workshop with Professor Len Collard. Students learned about Noongar language conventions and participated in a naming session for areas around our school. The experience concluded with a filmed Acknowledgement of Country alongside Professor Len, which will be shared at an upcoming assembly.

Our Primary Captains have taken on their leadership roles with great enthusiasm, contributing actively to the Student Representative Committee. Their discussions are helping shape student experiences across the school, with uniform being a particularly hot topic!

#### **Community Connections**

Our weekly playgroup continues to thrive, with over 30 families attending each Wednesday. It's been heartwarming to welcome Alumni with their children, as well as younger siblings of current students. Run by our Deans, the playgroup is free for all families with children aged 0–4. For more information, please contact Linda Henn at Primary Reception.

We are also proud to introduce the EdConnect Australia program at our school. This initiative brings trained volunteers into classrooms to provide valuable mentoring and learning support for students who need a little extra help. It's a fantastic opportunity to harness the expertise within our wider community to support student growth and wellbeing.

Nicole Brown and Deb Martin PRIMARY SCHOOL DEANS









# Head of Primary



### **Devices, Distraction and Dysregulation:**

#### A Wake-Up Call for Parents in the Primary Years

As your Head of Primary, I have the privilege of seeing the joy, curiosity, and resilience that children bring to their learning each day. However, I also observe growing challenges and a trend, particularly among our youngest students, around emotional regulation, social interaction, and the ability to focus. In recent years, my staff have also observed a significant shift in how young children arrive at school, not just in what they know, but also in how they behave, focus, and interact with others. Increasingly, children are arriving in our classrooms dysregulated, distracted, and disconnected, and a major contributing factor is the early and ongoing overuse and exposure to and reliance on digital devices.

We live in a world where digital devices are part of everyday life. However, many children are now being raised on a steady diet of screen-based entertainment. Used as digital babysitters, devices have become a go-to strategy for keeping young children calm, quiet, or busy. While this might seem harmless or convenient in the moment, the long-term consequences are showing up clearly in classrooms across Australia.

Children who are overexposed to devices, particularly in the early years, are becoming increasingly reliant on high-intensity digital stimulation. The 'dopamine hits' they receive from fast-paced games, videos, and apps rewire their developing brains to expect constant novelty and instant reward. When they arrive at school, where tasks require focus, patience, and sustained effort, many struggle to engage. Without that same dopamine rush, they become restless, anxious, inattentive, and, in many cases, we find them to be often dysregulated.

As Maggie Dent, leading educator and parenting expert, explains: "When children become addicted to screens for comfort, calm or entertainment, we're removing opportunities for them to self-soothe, play imaginatively, and develop resilience. They need boredom. They need to learn how to cope without a screen in hand."

Research supports these concerns. The Australian eSafety Commissioner reports that children aged 4–5 years are averaging more than two hours of screen time per day, double the World Health Organisation's recommendation of no more than one hour. Additionally, studies such as those published in JAMA Paediatrics (Journal of American Medical Association) show early screen exposure is associated with later attention problems and reduced executive functioning.

The first 1,000 days of a child's life, from conception to age two, are widely recognised as the most critical for brain development. During this window, screen exposure should be minimal to non-existent. Instead, children need connection, conversation, touch, play, and exploration, all of which lay the neurological foundations for empathy, emotional regulation, and learning readiness.

When screens replace these experiences, children arrive at school with underdeveloped social and emotional skills. They may have difficulty waiting, playing cooperatively, listening to instructions, or coping with frustration. This is not a criticism of parents, but a call for reflection.

So, what can we do? It starts with awareness and small steps. As parents and educators, we must prioritise tech-free times and spaces for our children, especially in the early years. In supporting our children's well-being and learning, it is crucial to establish balanced screen time habits. This includes setting clear boundaries for device usage, encouraging outdoor play, fostering face-to-face interactions, and modelling healthy digital behaviours ourselves.

Our school is deeply committed to supporting families as we navigate these modern challenges. By working together, we can protect the wonder of childhood and ensure our children are given the best possible start, not just as learners, but as emotionally aware, connected, and resilient young people.

This challenge is significant for all schools, not just ours, across the nation and globally. We ask that our Peter Moyes family and community all partner with us. Let us help our children rediscover the joy of climbing a tree, building with blocks, creating from their imagination, and yes, learning to be bored at home as we navigate this new shift in how many children are presenting.

Because it is in those moments of stillness and discomfort that true growth begins."

Roderick Wood HEAD OF PRIMARY

## Gear 6 Camp

Our Year 6 camp this year was an unforgettable adventure at the beautiful Point Walter! We kicked things off with a 45 minute bus journey to the campgrounds, where we arrived ready for a fun-filled few days. After removing all our luggage from the bus, (with the help of our amazing parent helpers), we all gathered for lunch to fuel us for the action packed day ahead.

As soon as we finished, it was straight into the activities! We had so much fun, with something for everyone. That evening, we were treated to a delicious dinner of spaghetti bolognese and garlic bread. But the fun didn't stop there, we danced the night away at the silent disco, where everyone could groove to their favourite tunes in complete silence. It was a unique and memorable way to enjoy the night!

The next morning, we were up early and ready for action. Mr Wood led a fantastic morning fitness session, with a run down to the river and back, a great way to get our hearts pumping and start the day off right. After a delicious breakfast, we got straight into our activities again. The day was packed with exciting challenges, from kite making and pool games to team-building exercises, craft, archery, and even the flying fox. Everyone had a blast trying something new and pushing themselves to their limits.

Lunchtime saw us diving into some tasty burgers, giving us the energy we needed to keep going through the afternoon. After more activities, it was time for dinner, and we were in for a treat! The Mexican fiesta was a hit, with delicious food that everyone enjoyed. To finish off the night, Mrs Martin organised a fun quiz, where teams competed for the title of quiz champions. It was the perfect way to wind down and have some laughs together.

On our final morning, we set out for a walk along the beautiful Derbal Yerrigan and across the sandbar. It was the perfect way to reflect on our amazing time together at camp.

Throughout the camp, teachers, parents, and Year 6 students all worked together, challenging ourselves, having fun, and creating memories that will last a lifetime. The experience was not only about the activities, but also about the connections we made and the teamwork we shared. What an incredible adventure it was for everyone involved!

#### Michelle Gaensler YEAR 6 TEACHER

















On Monday 24 March, all Students in Years 3-6 competed in the annual Primary School Swim Carnival.

Due to the closure of Arena Joondalup, the event was once again held at a new venue, Craigie Leisure Centre, in the outdoor 50m pool. A new format was trialled with students in Years 3 and 5 competing in the morning and Years 4 and 6 competing in the afternoon. The day was a big success and the students' engagement and sportsmanship was a pleasure to see.

A huge thank you to the entire Peter Moyes Community (staff, parents and students) for making the day such a success. A particular mention to those parents who put themselves forward to get into the pool to provide support during the day we could not have done it without them.

Congratulations to overall Champion House, Hollows! The results were as follows:

1st Place: Hollows 603 pts 2nd Place: Lingiari 588 pts 3rd Place: Durack 583 pts 4th Place: Cuthbert 581 pts 5th Place: Florey 547 pts

Matt Senior
PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR





# Swimming Carnival Results

AGE	CHAMPION	RUNNER UP	
Year 3 Girls	Isla van der Schyff	Evelyn Storey	
Year 3 Boys	Jake Tilden	Liam Waddell	
Year 3 Sportsmanship Award	Yoan Bouchet		
Year 4 Girls	Aaliyah Thomson	Aurora Armstrong	
Year 4 Boys	Jasper Curtis	Luca Webster	
Year 4 Sportsmanship Award	Asher Goodall		
Year 5 Girls	Sofia Whelan	Matilda Stanfield	
Year 5 Boys	Marcus Fallan	Isaac Silsby	
Year 5 Sportsmanship Award	Kenna Duckett		
Year 6 Girls	Abigail van der Schyff	Olivia Wagstaff	
Year 6 Boys	Ethan Connell & Sebastian Joyce	Mason Wade	
Year 6 Sportsmanship Award	Kenzie Pedley		



The Primary School Inter-House Cross Country Carnival took place on Friday 9 May. The weather was glorious with the sun shining and hardly any wind, perfect for the occasion. The day began with the Year 1 and Year 2 Students who ran a short course to experience the event. Each year group then took turns at completing the course. The students performed extremely well, with many of the students pushing themselves to complete their races in the fastest possible times.

A special thank you to Mrs Goosen for all her help in the organisation and running of the day.



Well done to all involved!

#### Carnival Results:

1st Place: Durack 278 pts 2nd Place: Florey 270 pts 3rd Place: Hollows 254 pts 4th Place: Lingiari 196 pts 5th Place: Cuthbert 158 pts

Matt Senior

PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR



# Cross Country Carnival Results

AGE	CHAMPION	RUNNER UP	
Year 3 Girls	Isla van der Schyff	Harper Langlands	
Year 3 Boys	Tyler Poppleton	Ollie Grant	
Year 3 Sportsmanship Award	Zaia Sherlock		
Year 4 Girls	Lyla Gilhome	Paige Frerichs	
Year 4 Boys	Liam Dixon	Cowen Pitout	
Year 4 Sportsmanship Award	Isla Francis		
Year 5 Girls	Tylli loppolo	Amelia Gonzales	
Year 5 Boys	Liam van Zyl	Marcus Fallan	
Year 5 Sportsmanship Award	Ethan Nisbett		
Year 6 Girls	Kamika Pitout	Abigail van der Schyff	
Year 6 Boys	Mason Wade	Blake Waycott-Alalid	
Year 6 Sportsmanship Award	Emmett Wilson		



As Semester 1 draws to a close at Peter Moyes Anglican Community School, we take a moment to reflect on the energy, purpose, and commitment shown by our students and staff. This semester has been one of action, reflection, and growth—celebrating diversity, striving for excellence, and deepening our sense of belonging and community.

We began the year on a high note, celebrating the outstanding achievements of the 2024 graduate cohort. Their dedication and resilience led to our highest ever median ATAR, a testament to what can be accomplished through personal excellence, consistent effort, and compassion for others. Their success sets a powerful example for our current students, showing what is possible when we aim high and support one another.

This spirit of excellence has continued through our strong focus on behaviour for learning. We have invited students to reflect on how their behaviour influences their learning outcomes. Being on time, prepared, attentive, and respectful has formed the cornerstone of our collective expectations. Staff and

students alike have embraced this culture shift, and we are already seeing improved engagement and accountability in classrooms.

In the spirit of "Kindness in Action," our community came together for the World's Greatest Shave, raising over \$10,000 for the Leukemia Foundation. The sight of 20 Year 12 students and staff shaving or cutting their hair, cheered on by their peers, symbolised the compassion and courage that run deep in our school culture.

Our celebration of Neurodiversity and Inclusive Education Week reinforced the belief that "Everyone Belongs." Assemblies, cultural food, music, and vibrant displays reminded us that diversity is our strength and inclusion is not simply a policy—it our culture.

Beyond the classroom, students have engaged in rich learning experiences. From Drama and Dance workshops to snorkelling and field excursions in Science and HASS, these hands-on activities promote deeper understanding and create lasting memories. Senior students have

explored future pathways through University Open Days and incursion programs such as "Money Talks" and Evaluate Education's study skills workshops.

Faith and service also marked the semester, with students joining Bishop Hans for the Hope Walk Pilgrimage—a 20km coastal walk of of reflection, faith and shared perseverance, strength. Our collaboration with Moodjar (First Nations Learning and Engagement Team) empowered students to engage with truth-telling and reconciliation through the naming of key school locations in Noongar. A student-led Acknowledgement Country in traditional language will soon be shared at formal school events.

As our senior students reach driving age, we addressed road safety with powerful messages from the YOUCHOOSE program, delivered in partnership with Ngala and Rotary Mindarie. These sessions equipped students with the tools to make wise, informed decisions, both on the road and in life.

Equally important was the focus on digital wellbeing, a crucial aspect of student safety. Students in Years 7-9 participated in interactive incursions, developing confidence in responsible online behaviour while tackling cyberbullying. In line with our theme, Kindness in Action, the message was clear: kindness matters everywhere, including online.

We also celebrated the success of our Collaborative Learning Conversations, where families and staff united to support student growth, reinforce learning goals, and ensure that each learner feels seen and supported.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the Canberra Tour and continued academic and pastoral initiatives. With Subject Selections and Pathway Counselling underway, our students are planning their futures with guidance and confidence.

This semester has been a testament to what can be achieved when students are empowered to act with kindness, guided by hope, and inspired to strive for their best. To every student, family, and staff member—thank you for being part of this journey.

Together, we are shaping a community that values excellence, embraces diversity, and walks forward with purpose.

Lorrelle Fortune & Christine Hiotis SECONDARY SCHOOL DEANS





# Head of Secondary

As I near the completion of my first semester at PMACS, I am struck by how much happens here. I do not believe that this is because Schools are always busy places, but because it is clear that I have joined a community where the experience of the students is valued by the staff and where the students are eager to take part in all facets of what the School offers. In short, we are a community focused on participating.

Besides the extensive co-curricular and sporting programs as well as the academic and pastoral programs, which are at the heart of what we do, this semester has also provided a number of events which are aimed at influencing our students positively with regard to academic progress, attitudes and behaviours. It is participation in these opportunities which sets PMACS apart and creates a sense of belonging for our students.

Renowned Educational Psychologist, Andrew Fuller, identifies belonging as a crucial protective factor in adolescent development. He describes three core sources of belonging: connection to family, friendships across diverse social groups, and connections at school. According to Fuller, when students feel disconnected in any of these areas, they are more likely to experience mental health issues or engage in risk-taking behaviours. He also emphasizes that creating routines, group identities, and shared goals within school communities can significantly strengthen students' sense of belonging. It is through the myriad of opportunities and activities that we look to foster alignment with this philosophy.

Professor Donna Cross OAM - through her body of research - reinforces this notion with reference to a whole-school approach to create a place of safety in which students are supported (and feel supported) as a predictor of wellbeing and academic success.

It is not only from a mental health perspective that participation and connection are important. The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) reports that a sense of belonging is closely linked, not only to positive social and emotional outcomes, but also to academic success. AITSL also reports that positive student-teacher relationships are directly associated with improved student motivation and academic performance. According to the Australian Student Wellbeing Framework, schools that prioritise inclusion, safety, and connection see notable improvements in attendance and NAPLAN growth data.

International studies have shown that students with a strong sense of belonging demonstrate higher academic achievement, greater classroom engagement, and stronger motivation. According to PISA data, Australian students report a lower sense of school belonging than the OECD average. This means there is a significant opportunity for schools like ours to improve outcomes by actively building belonging across the whole school. In addition, a scoping review of 69 studies (Springer, 2024) from 2003 to 2023, found that students with a strong sense of belonging were more likely to persist in their studies and achieve higher grades.

It is for these reasons that PMACS remains committed to fostering connections with all the members of our community. This is very much at the heart of what we do and why I am excited to have joined this wonderful school.

I belong. Everyone matters. Together we achieve.

Jon Field HEAD OF SECONDARY

# World's Greatest Shave



In the final week of Term 1, our amazing Year 12 team raised an incredible \$10,787 for the Leukemia Foundation at The World's Greatest Shave!

Thank you to everyone who donated, supported, and most of all took part in a brilliant morning whether it was buying a cake, getting a quick trim or a full shave. Everyone should be so proud of themselves for supporting such an amazing foundation and smashing our original donation goal!









Students from Years 7 to 12 made quite a splash at this year's Secondary School Inter-house Swimming Carnival, showcasing their incredible swimming talents and team spirit.

Congratulations to all the participants and thank you to our staff for organising such a big day. We were blown away by some amazing performances in the pool, with three records broken:

#### Year 8 Female — Talyse Sofele

50m Freestyle – 29.77 50m Backstroke – 35.23

#### Year 9 Girls – Lingiari

4 x 50m Relay - 2.07.68

Stella Herring, Isabella Thomson, Lily Massey & Amelia Lissett

#### **Overall Champion House Points**

1st Place: Hollows 1188 pts 2nd Place: Lingiari 817 pts 3rd Place: Durack 785 pts 4th Place: Cuthbert 617 pts 5th Place: Florey 552 pts

Mr Cameron Fannon

HEAD OF HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION





# Swimming Carnival Results

AGE	CHAMPION	1ST RUNNER UP	2ND RUNNER UP
Year 7 Girls	Mia Cahill	Imogen Gilhome	Charlotte Willers
Year 7 Boys	Marcus Tenni	Edward McCartney	Harry Duckett
Year 8 Girls	Talyse Sofele	Nakita Grant	Erin Oberholzer
Year 8 Boys	Connor Young	Harrison Stanfield	Thomas Fallan
Year 9 Girls	Amelia Lissett	Lily Massey	Freya Weir
Year 9 Boys	Matthew Brownrigg	Coby Whitehead	Lewis Wagstaff
Year 10 Girls	Molly Colgan	Grace Wallace	Chanel Martin
Year 10 Boys	Corey Harrison	Ethan Oberholzer	Toby Bailey
Year 11 Girls	Olivia Chapman	Isabelle Curtis	Kenzie Douglas
Year 11 Boys	Logan Grant	Dylan Best	Jacob Hicks
Year 12 Girls	Megan Brierley	Amelia Hinton	Gina Latimer
Year 12 Boys	Michael Northmore	Hudson Rampling	Lachlan Crombie









The Year 12 Ball was such a fantastic evening! For the first time, we held the Ball at Fraser's, Kings Park, and what a truly beautiful location this was. The Year 12s were lucky enough to have the backdrop of Perth City in their photos, and the blue skies did not disappoint. The atmosphere was magical from the moment the students arrived. Sylvia (Year 11) welcomed the Year 12s during mocktail hour by playing the piano beautifully, and everyone was blown away by her musical talents.

It was hard for the staff to believe that these were the same people who had arrived at PMACS as little Year 7s only five years prior, now looking like adults in their suits and dresses. Every single person looked phenomenal — the hair, makeup, shoes, corsages — every little detail was perfect. Blue was definitely the most popular colour of the evening, but the rainbow of dresses was a personal highlight.

Fraser's is such a stunning venue, and the Year 12s were treated to a fine dining experience from the moment they stepped in the room. Everyone can agree that the food was amazing — calamari, scotch fillet, gnocchi, salads galore! There was something for everyone. Once dinner and dessert were finished, the Year 12s made their way onto the dance floor to showcase the moves they had learned during Ballroom Dancing in Year 11, but the dance floor wasn't big enough for our moves! It was so heartwarming to see everyone come together though. Congratulations to Owen and Melissa for walking away with 'Prom King' and 'Prom Queen'!

A special thank you to the staff who attended, and an even bigger thank you to the Year 12s for making this such a night to remember. You all looked beautiful, and it was the best way to kickstart our final year together.

Kira Lawrence HEAD OF YEAR 12













A huge well done to all the students and staff who took part in this year's Interhouse Cross Country and to everyone who cheered on their friends!

From the 3km race to thrilling challenges like Niagara Falls, Archery Tag, and Braveheart, it was a day filled with determination, teamwork, and school spirit.

A massive congratulations to all our winners and runners-up, and a special shoutout to Lingiari for taking home the overall House Champion title!

#### **Overall Champion House Points**

1st Place: Lingiari 1070 pts 2nd Place: Cuthbert 989 pts 3rd Place: Durack 828 pts 4th Place: Hollows 826 pts 5th Place: Florey 582 pts

Cameron Fannon
HEAD OF HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION





# Cross Country Carnival

AGE	CHAMPION	1ST RUNNER UP	2ND RUNNER UP
Year 7 Girls	Mia Cahill	Zoe Collins	Holly Stanton
Year 7 Boys	Atticus Gallen	Zach Marsden	Malakai Simumba
Year 8 Girls	Adianca Brummer	Talyse Sofele	Adela James
Year 8 Boys	Thomas Fallan	Connor Young	Archie Hicks
Year 9 Girls	Payton Wade	Maisie Findlay	Shannon Dyer
Year 9 Boys	Sonny Lord	Kingston Lord	James Murray
Year 10 Girls	Olivia Britten	Imogen Richardson	Tahlia Manning
Year 10 Boys	Ryder White	Tristan Whitson	Joseph Kabwere
Year 11 Girls	Celeste Mullarkey	Isabelle Curtis	Philippa Holding
Year 11 Boys	Logan Grant	Patrick Gornell	Marley McDougall
Year 12 Girls	Jade Blane	Melissa Olivier	Megan Brierley
Year 12 Boys	Owen Basnett	Riley Hay	Max Harwood



In Term One, Our Year 7 students were fortunate to be able to attend their first Secondary School Camp at Swan Valley Adventure Centre. This was a great opportunity for students to get to know their peers and challenge themselves to face their fears (especially if they had a fear of heights)!

We began the Camp with a Scavenger Hunt where students explored the grounds hunting for specific objects or information. After lunch, the organised activities commenced which were run by the Adventure Centre staff. There were lots of fun activities including the Flying Fox, Crate Stack and Archery Tag. Students also had the opportunity to work together when tackling problem solving challenges in the Team Building Activity.

We were met with warm, sunny weather which resulted in the inclusion of a pool swim which was a great way to freshen up after a hot day in the sun. Students were given the opportunity to explore the Swan River while canoeing and also attempted to cross the river in rafts they had built themselves (with varying degrees of success)! In the evenings, students enjoyed a variety of activities including board games, sports and movies.

This was a great opportunity for the kids to develop new friendships and meet new people who were not necessarily in their Connect group at school. The students showed bravery, not only when facing challenges in the coordinated activities, but when facing the challenge of spending multiple evenings away from home.

We applaud all the Year 7 students for stepping out of their comfort zone and having a go at new challenges. It was great to see so many smiling (and exhausted) faces when we returned from Camp after three days of action-packed adventure, and we hope everyone had a great time.

Lisa Thomas
SECONDARY SCHOOL MATHEMATICS TEACHER

















## Marine & Maritime Studies

This year marked the exciting launch of our new Year 11 Marine and Maritime Studies course. With a strong focus on snorkelling, Term 1 was all about developing students' water skills, confidence, and appreciation for the marine environment.

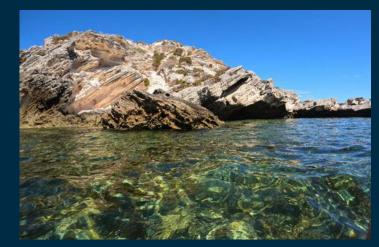
We began the term at the Marmion Snorkel and Dive Trail, giving students the chance to explore an artificial reef system and practise basic snorkelling techniques in a deeper water setting. This was followed by a visit to Mettams Pool, where students refined their skills in a more sheltered environment and built confidence in managing their gear and observing marine life.

The term culminated in a full-day excursion to Rottnest Island, where students snorkelled in some of WA's most vibrant reef environments. Across these excursions, students encountered a range of local marine life, including western talma, blue-lined goatfish, moonlighters, as well as nudibranchs, sea urchins, jellyfish, and even an octopus. These experiences not only supported their understanding of marine biodiversity but also strengthened their water safety awareness and ocean observation skills.

This term's snorkelling program also serves as essential preparation for scuba diving in Term 4. By building strong foundations in buoyancy control, mask clearing, and situational awareness underwater, students will be better equipped to safely and confidently take on their open water diver certification later in the year.

Jake Rowlands SECONDARY SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER









## Indonesian Makan-Makan

At the end of Term 1, students from Years 9 to 12 who are currently studying Indonesian gathered in the staffroom for a special "Makan-Makan" (feast) event. The lunchtime celebration was a chance for students to connect over their shared interest in the Indonesian language and culture.

The event welcomed four PMACS Year 12 students as special guests: Sophie Ashurst, Evie Sullivan, Beth Kilgallon, Gabriel Robinson—graduates of the 2024 Accelerated Indonesian course. They shared valuable insights into their learning journey, including both the challenges they faced and the highlights they enjoyed. Their stories served as an inspiration to younger students, encouraging them to continue pursuing Indonesian studies.

It was a fantastic opportunity for past and present Indonesian students to exchange experiences and pick up helpful tips from those who recently completed their ATAR course. Guests were treated to a delicious spread of traditional Indonesian food, including fried rice, noodles, fried chicken, and tofu curry—enjoyed by all who attended.

Ibu Maya Swailes, who led the event, emphasized that the gathering aimed not only to thank the students for choosing to study Indonesian but also to recognize the dedication of the Indonesian language teachers. Their engaging lessons and tireless efforts help foster a love for language learning at PMACS.

Students are encouraged to explore the variety of Indonesian language pathways available at the school, including the accelerated, general, and certificate courses. These opportunities not only deepen intercultural understanding but also open doors to future possibilities.

Ibu Maya Swailes HEAD OF LANGUAGES







# Student Wellbeing - Online

In Term 1, students participated in two incursions focused on social media, mental health, and online safety. The sessions were presented by Helping Minds and Paul Litherland from Surfing Online Safely, both providing valuable insights into the impact of social media on young people.

Helping Minds explored the connection between social media use and mental health, highlighting strategies to support wellbeing, including:

- Reducing social media usage, particularly at night.
- Applying a blue light filter if devices are used at night.
- Implementing parental controls to monitor and manage content.
- Understanding the effects of social media on mental health, including FOMO (fear of missing out) and the need for validation through likes.
- The upcoming Social Media Ban for under 16-year-olds, coming into effect in late November.

Paul Litherland addressed the risks and dangers associated with social media. He stressed the importance of:

- Adjusting privacy settings to prevent public access to personal information and photos.
- Denying friend requests from strangers.
- Speaking up when friends or younger family members are exposed to inappropriate content, particularly on TikTok and Snapchat.

These incursions provided an excellent opportunity for students to reflect on their social media habits and online safety.

Jordan West HFAD OF YFAR 8







## ASC Rock Concert

In Term 2, PMACS hosted the AngliSchools Rock Concert 2025 for the 9th consecutive year!

21 bands from 5 schools performed, namely St James', St George's, Swan Valley, John Septimus Roe and Peter Moyes.

Students were enthusiastic and very supportive of each other, clapping and singing along to the many well known songs from Beatles, Fleetwood Mac, Oasis, Green Day, Blink 182 and many more!

A huge thanks to the students and staff from the schools, supportive parents, PMACS technical staff and crew for a fantastic day!

Justin Tonti HEAD OF MUSIC









## Gear 12 Sleepover & Sunrise

On Friday 13 June, the Year 12 cohort arrived at school a little later than usual — at 6pm! The Year 12 Student Leaders advocated for the opportunity to replicate their Year 3 Sleepover by having a Year 12 Sleepover at PMACS! After the two week examination break, it was lovely to see the cohort back together again, especially as we know that this time is slowly but surely coming to a close.

The evening consisted of games, activities and watching videos from Year 7 - 11. In the late hours of the night/early hours of the morning, most of the Year 12s drifted off to sleep after keeping their teachers awake. Revenge is sweet though – they were woken up at 5:15am with Mr Davies' rendition of 'Delilah'!

The Year 12 Sleepover was partnered with the ongoing tradition of the Year 12 Sunrise Reflection. Once everyone was up and ready, we made our way to Quinns Beach for an opportunity to reflect, celebrate and just be. We were blessed with perfect weather and the most beautiful mix of pinks, oranges and blues in the sky.

Reverend JP, Mr Lomas and Mrs Lawrence offered many words of wisdom, centring around the significance of a sunrise – it marks a new day and symbolises the start of a new chapter. As the Year 12s near the end of their schooling years and prepare to step into adulthood, the sunrise reflects new opportunities.

As Mrs Lawrence said to the Year 12s, 'as the sun rises on the horizon of our next chapter, may we carry with us the light of hope, the warmth of resilience and the promise of new beginnings'.

This was such a special opportunity for the Year 12s, and with only four months to go, we wish them every blessing.













## Gear 10 Dinner Dance

On Friday, 20th June 2025, the Year 10s lit up the evening at their spectacular Dinner Dance.

Students were welcomed with delicious mocktails before stepping into a magical, Enchanted Forest-themed venue. The night was filled with laughter, full plates, and countless photo opportunities as memories were made. The DJ kept the energy high with a playlist curated by the students themselves, ensuring the dance floor stayed alive from start to finish.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the dedicated Dinner Dance Committee for their planning and creativity. The Year 10s would also like to extend their gratitude to the staff who generously gave up their evening to support the event.

Special thanks to Ms Worthington for her stunning table centrepieces and to Ms Goldstraw for her outstanding organisation behind the scenes.



















# Sydney-Canberra Tour

On Thursday 26 June, a group of 31 students from Years 9 to 11 will be flying off to take part in the Sydney-Canberra Tour, where they will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage, and democracy.

Highlights of the tour will include a visit to the Opera House, climbing the Sydney Harbour Bridge, skiing at Perisher, and visiting key institutions such as the Australian War Memorial, Australian Parliament House and the Australian Institute of Sport. These experiences, among many others planned throughout the trip, aim to deepen students' understanding of Australian society and governance.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government is contributing funding to our school in the amount of \$510 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program. This rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.



## Award Winners

### **Primary Term 1**

- Honour Awards: Oliver Wimhurst and Carla Tenni
- School Values Awards: River Freeman, Darcey McNab, Esther Silsby, Jazzluka Makloo, Sophia Crisp, Ben Lewkowski, Leia Daugherty

## **Primary Term 2**

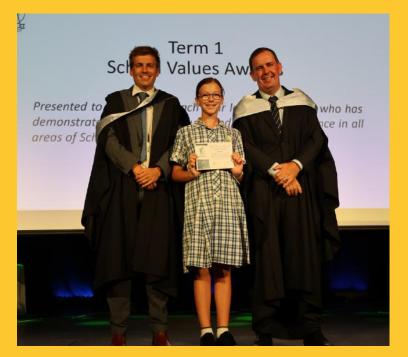
- Honour Awards: Emmett Wilson and Indie Slade
- School Values Awards: Edward Poroa, Toby Fowler, Lindy Swart, Lennox Blane, Abigail O'Sullivan, James Sturgeon, Koby Dixon

## **Secondary Term 1**

- Honour Awards: Imogen Gilhome, Talyse Sofele,
   Devin George, Eve Hume, Lily Gillett, Amber Lister
- School Values Awards: Estelle West, Thomas Ashhurst, Casper Coetsee, Sophie Kremer, Marco Nel, Matthew Neervoort

## **Secondary Term 2**

- Honour Awards: Mia Cahill, Lola Vines, Ava Jeavons-Anderson, Zoya Modarrisi, Rayne Maldero, Jade Blane
- School Values Awards: Daniel Lawton, Ellie Kapitola, Aiden Siemens, Owen Korff, Shayana Torney, Evelyn Sullivan





# Student Spotlight



The school is incredibly proud of Year 11 student, Isabelle, who received the Yanchep Two Rocks Community & Recreation Youth of The Year Award earlier this year for her academic, sporting & volunteering achievements.

Congratulations on this well deserved award, Isabelle. You're an inspiration to many!

In February, Year 9 student, Lewis, performed at the Symphony Under the Stars event hosted by the City of Wanneroo.

Lewis delivered an incredible performance and captivated the audience with two songs, including this stunning rendition of 'A Million Dreams.'

Congratulations and well done Lewis!





Congratulations to Year 7 student Zara, who has been selected to perform with the Australian Girls Choir at the prestigious 7NEWS Young Achiever Awards Gala on Friday 27 June 2025, held at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Perth!

Zara also took to the stage at the AGC Winter Showcase Concert on Saturday 21 June, where she performed a solo with her Camerata-level choir, along with several ensemble pieces.

On top of this, she has entered the North of Perth Music Competition, where she'll perform the classic 'Hallelujah'.

Congratulations Zara!



During Term 1, Year 9 student Henry competed with the Quinns Mindarie Surf club at the Australian Surf Life Saving Competition in Queensland. Henry was also selected to represent WA in the Western Suns State team at the Interstate Pathway Championship competition, also in Queensland.

This is a fantastic achievement placing him in the top 10 of Australia for all his events.

Australian Surf Life Saving Competition results: U14 Male beach sprints - 10th U14 Make beach flags - 10th

Interstate Pathway Championship competition:

Henry came 4th in the sprints, 6th in the flags and 3rd in the mixed relay team sprint. These events contribute points to the team result with the WA team coming 3rd overall!

Well done Henry!

Congratulations to Year 10 student, Dylan, who travelled to Adelaide for the Cricket National Championships. The WA team played brilliantly, taking third place for a Bronze Medal!

Dylan was also selected for the All Australian Team for 2025. Dylan secured his place out of the 105 participants from various states and territories over the week of play.

Congratulations Dylan!





Congratulations Year 6 student, Kamika, who had an amazing few days at the Australia Athletics Championship!

Kamika competed in the 800m heats and went through to finals where she finished 6<sup>th</sup> and achieved a 4 second PB.

Kamika then ran the 1500m straight final and finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, with another PB! Well done Kamika!



Year 10 student Brady was awarded the U14/U15 Surf Life Saving WA Lifesaver of the Year in May! An incredible achievement, and even more special as the award was presented by the Governor of Western Australia, Chris Dawson.

Congratulations Brady!

During the WA Surf Life Saving Championships in May, Year 5 student Marcus achieved three gold medals for Sprints, 1km Beach Run and Flags!

Following this success, Marcus was invited to the Surf Life Saving WA Nippers & Youth Awards, which recognises and celebrates the outstanding achievements of Nipper and Youth surf club members across Western Australia. Out of 8,000 participants, he was one of five Finalists in the State up for 2025 Athlete of the Year and won the Surf Sports WA U10 Male Age Champion.

Congratulations Marcus!

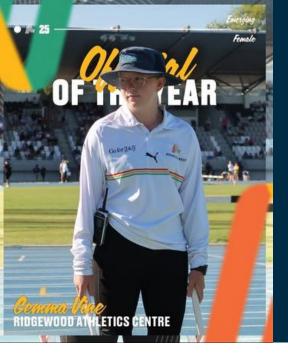




Huge congratulations to Year 6 pupil Ava, who came 2nd at the Fremantle Eisteddfod Music Concert in May!

Ava showed skill and confidence, standing out among a field of talented young musicians.

We're incredibly proud of her hard work, dedication, and representation of our school!



Year 12 student, Gemma, has been awarded the Emerging Official of the Year Award for 2025. This award recognises an individual who has made an outstanding contribution throughout the season as a Key Official at Athletics West events and is within their first 7 years of officiating.

Gemma has been officiating for several seasons, volunteering countless hours of her time. Gemma received her National Athletics Referee qualification (NAR) earlier in the year and was appointed as a technical to the Australian National Championships (National) and the Perth Track Classic (International).

Year 11 student, Blake, competed in the Australian National Baseball Championship Tournament in May in Geelong with his team having success and winning Gold.

In doing so, they are now off to represent Australia at the Senior League World Series in Easley South Carolina, USA in late July.

Well Done Blake!

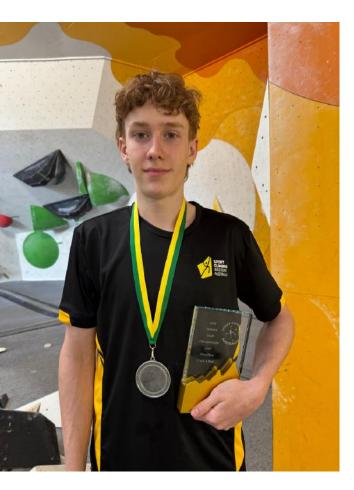




Year 7 student, Guilianna, recently competed in the 2025 Australian Artistic Swimming Championships, held from Saturday 12 April to Thursday 17 April at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre. The event brought together 285 athletes from 12 Australian clubs and 11 international clubs.

Guilianna competed in a solo routine and placed 3rd in her event—earning her the title of 3rd in Australia in the 12/under Solo Girls category! Her team also placed 1st in the Mixed Team event.

Congratulations Guilianna!



At the end of July 2025, Year 12 student Cohen , will be heading to Helsinki, Finland, to represent Australia at the World Youth Climbing Championships. This incredible opportunity follows a series of impressive achievements in recent climbing competitions.

Earlier this year, Cohen competed in the Queensland State Open Men's Boulder competition, where he placed an impressive 3rd. Cohen then participated in the Australian Youth National Boulder & Lead Sport Climbing Championships in Ballina, New South Wales. Cohen secured the Gold Medal in the Under-19 Lead Climbing category and the Silver Medal in the Under-19 Bouldering discipline.

As a direct result of these exceptional performances, Cohen was selected for the Australian Youth Team in the Under-19 Male category. This selection means he will compete in both the Lead and Bouldering disciplines at the 2025 World Youth Climbing Championships, where he will face off against some of the best young climbers from across the globe.

Congratulations Cohen!

Congratulations to Year 4 student Harry, who has been offered a Child Artist role in the upcoming West Australian Ballet production of Alice (in Wonderland).

The production will take place at Crown Perth during the July school holidays.

Well Done Harry!



# Stabb Spotlight

## **Roderick Wood - Head of Primary**

We are proud to share that our Head of Primary, Mr Roderick Wood, recently took part in a significant educational forum with Stephen Gniel, CEO of the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) in Perth.

The forum brought together representatives from Western Australia's peak principals' associations, including Independent Schools, Catholic Education, and the Department of Education, to provide valuable insights into the current priorities and challenges facing school leaders in our state.

Mr Wood was invited to represent Independent Primary Principals across WA, offering perspectives on the national curriculum, assessment, and reporting from the primary education context. The discussion was focused on how ACARA can better support schools and ensure national initiatives are both practical and relevant across diverse educational settings.

This opportunity underscores Mr Wood's commitment to advocacy and thought leadership in education, as well as our school's ongoing contribution to shaping a high-quality learning environment not only for our own students but for children across Australia.

We congratulate Mr Wood for his role in this important conversation and thank him for his continued leadership.





#### **Brooke Toney - HASS Teacher**

On Monday 31 March HASS Teacher, Brooke Tonev, delivered professional development to a range of teachers from Government, AngliSchools, and Independent schools.

Hosted by Carine Senior High School, it was the first of two days of professional development on Differentiation in HASS classrooms. Brooke delivered this training on behalf of Growing up Greatness, a renowned organisation specialising in training teachers in the areas of Differentiation and Gifted Education.

## **Maya Swailes - Head of Languages**

Our Head of Languages, Maya Swailes, celebrated International Women's Day with the WA Consular Corps held at the Indonesian Consulate General in Perth.

The event was opened by the Indonesian Consul General, Ibu Listiana Operananta, who joined from Jakarta as she prepares for her next post as Ambassador to Bulgaria.

The discussion panel also featured an impressive lineup including:

Ms. Maria Rennie, Consul General of the United Kingdom

Ms. Eleni Georgopoulou, Consul of Greece

Ms. Peta Arbuckle MVO, Executive Director, Defence West

Her Honour Judge Hayley Cormann, District Court of WA

Moderated by Ms. Sally Dawkins, WA State Director, DFAT



Maya said "Events like these are always a fantastic opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, in particular with WA's newly appointed Minister of Education, Hon Sabine Winton MLA. It was also to good to catch up with past AIYA president Anastasia Koo 潘 韵竹, who is soon embarking on an academic journey in Indonesia with the New Colombo Plan."

"The ever-dynamic Agata Dharma, representing the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce, never fails to inspire and energize me! It was also wonderful to chat with Rosario Choquenaira Florez, HC of Peru.A huge thank you to the incredible staff at the Indonesian Consulate General — their hospitality was exceptional!"

## Alumni News

#### **Kerr Hutchinson- Class of 2020**

We were thrilled to welcome back Alumni Kerr Hutchinson (Class of 2020) to present to Years 10-12 students on Study Skills and Preparing for Exams

Students engaged in meaningful ways to effectively study and get the most out of their preparation for assessments.

Kerr is in his final year of University and now presents to numerous schools across Perth in the space of Study Skills.



## **Lucy Oosterhoff - Class of 2024**

Congratulations to 2024 PMACS graduate Lucy Oosterhoff, who has recently received the Painting Award at the 2025 City of Wanneroo Community Art Awards, receiving \$1,400 in prize money.

Lucy submitted one of her outstanding Year 12 artworks and was selected from a highly competitive field of local artists. The judges praised Lucy's exceptional understanding of materials and composition, recognising her as a standout emerging talent.

The 2025 Wanneroo Art Award Exhibition is open to the public until 26 July at the Wanneroo Regional Gallery, located within the Wanneroo Library and Cultural Centre. If you would like to see Lucy's award-winning piece in person, we highly encourage you to visit.



Mitch Byrne and Connor Futter at the 2024 Twilight Markets



Lucas Quarrell and Connor Futter in the Allan Shaw Centre

## **Lucas Quarrell and Connor Futter - Class of 2024**

I would like to congratulate two of our Year 12 Backstage Academy students who have been accepted into the prestigious Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) for Live Production in 2025.

Lucas Quarrell and Connor Futter started their journey in 2020 as foundation students of the Backstage Academy program, a group which has since grown to 13 students across Secondary School.

Over the past five years, these students have dedicated their time to attending weekly afternoon sessions, learning a variety of key skills in technical production. It wasn't long before they discovered their areas of passion, with Lucas focusing on lighting and Connor exploring sound.

As their knowledge broadened, so too did their skill sets, through exposure to a diverse range of school and external client events hosted within the Allan Shaw Centre. This exposure enabled them to apply their skills and gain industry experience through events including dance concerts, gala dinners, large orchestral performances, presentation ceremonies, and musical productions.

While completing the final two years of their schooling, these students engaged in work placements with a range of production companies across Perth, further broadening their skill sets and experience. It was phenomenal to see them bring back a wealth of new skills and apply them to the events held at PMACS.

I would like to thank all our 2024 Year 12 Backstage Academy students — Lucas, Connor, and Krystal Sherman (who has chosen to pursue her passion for nursing) — for their significant contributions to the Auditorium and events team throughout their time at PMACS. Not only has their contribution been impactful, but they have also been inspiring role models for our younger student technicians, whom they have mentored terrifically.

I wish this extremely diligent, driven, and talented group of individuals every success as they continue their studies in 2025.

Mitch Byrne

CLASS OF 2020 and ALLAN SHAW CENTRE MANAGER 2022 - 2024

## Mia Bushell - Class of 2023





Congratulations to Mia Bushell (Class of 2023) on her outstanding achievements at the 2025 Indoor Netball Australian Championships, held in Perth this February.

Mia proudly captained the 18s team, with her team winning both a gold and silver medal.

Mia's stellar performance did not go unnoticed, earning her selection into the prestigious 18s Australian All-Star team. This recognition is a testament to her talent and dedication to the sport.

We are incredibly proud of Mia and can't wait to see where her sporting journey takes her next. Go Mia!

## **Rachel Salmon - Class of 2008**

We were delighted to hear from Rachel Salmon earlier this year, with an update on her career!

Rachel said, "In my last year of high school I told an English teacher that I wanted to be a journalist and she reiterated that she thought it was a great choice for me! I went on to study Journalism and Film at Curtin University and have since had a pretty successful career as a travel photographer and writer.

My work has been very fast paced and diverse. I've worked as a photographer, videographer, writer and as an on-screen presenter. Five years ago I landed an ambassadorship with Fujifilm Australia - and last year I was very humbled to be the global ambassador for the first Australian 'X-Summit'. Alongside the Fujifilm Japan team, I launched the new X-T50 to an audience of thousands.



During my career, I have maintained a pretty 'old school' dream - which is that one day I might have one of my images make the front cover of a magazine. This month, that dream came true when the April-June issue of International Traveller magazine was published with my image on the cover (see next page). A big career goal that still feels very surreal!

When it came to maths, science and anything that required patience in school, I definitely fell behind! I'd eventually get diagnosed with ADHD as an adult, which explained a lot! There wasn't a lot of recognition for ADHD in girls when I was at school, so I slipped through the cracks a little.

Luckily for me - I had a whole arsenal of Art teachers, Drama teachers and English teachers that saw potential and nourished something that turned into a very successful career in media.

I'm super grateful for the teachers that didn't leave me behind!

I don't know if my story is of any relevance - but hopefully it can inspire a few future photographers and writers to chase their dreams."



## PET President's Report

The P&F Committee was pleased to welcome existing and new members at our first meeting of the year. The members of the 2025 Committee are:

President: Kylie Roemermann

Vice Presidents: Jessie Kapitola and Riona Naicker

General Committee Members: Gemma Romano, Quintin Brummer, Lejaun Holmes, Lisa Hickey, and Lauren Wellington

Our first event of the year was the Mother's Day Paint & Sip with Kelly from iCreated Studio. Masterpieces were created whilst the ladies sipped on drinks and enjoyed the nibblies platters. If the feedback received for this evening is anything to go by, there is already demand for us to run more events like this.

To continue with the Mother's Day celebrations, all students were given the opportunity to purchase gifts for their Mum and special people at our annual Mother's Day stall. With great care and thoughtfulness, they selected the perfect gifts to celebrate and honour their loved ones for this special occasion.

Despite the wet and cold weather outside, the atmosphere in the Allan Shaw Centre was buzzing with energy as students gathered for the Primary School Disco. The night was filled with non-stop dance moves to great music provided by the fabulous DJs from Glass Slipper Entertainment. The glow stick products were also a huge hit with the kids.

We have more fun events planned for the second half of the year, including:

- · Drinks & snacks stall for the Snapshot Youth Theatre Company's upcoming Disney's Dare to Dream JR performances
- · Senior School Quiz Night (Years 10 to 12) on Friday 8 August
- · Y2K Bingo Night to celebrate the school's 25th anniversary on Saturday 25 October (noting this is an 18+ event)

The P&F requires members and volunteers to enable us to organise and staff events, and we welcome and encourage parents and guardians to help with P&F events — as the saying goes, many hands make light work! If you would like to become more involved in the P&F and the school community, you are welcome to come along to our meetings. These meetings will be advertised on the School's socials and in the School App. You are also welcome to reach out to me directly at pmacspf@gmail.com.

Kylie Roemermann
P&F ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT











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# Happy Snaps





































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