

Update from the Principal

Dear Parents / Guardians

It's hard to believe that there are now only four weeks remaining in the term, although we have just commenced the official beginning of winter. This time last year, we dealt with many students, staff, and community members who were either absent with COVID-19 or in isolation. I have been informed that some schools are currently experiencing similar rates of absenteeism due to the seasonal flu, which has now arrived in WA. It is believed that our immunity to the flu has been reduced over the past few years due to the absence of interstate and overseas travel and other measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19. For this reason, the state government is providing free flu vaccinations (extended until the end of June) to protect both individuals and limit the spread.

Volunteers Morning Tea

It was wonderful to see so many parent and community volunteers attend our [Thank You Morning Tea](#) on Saturday 27th May. The morning tea was part of National Volunteer Week and the annual P&C Day. The school is very fortunate to have so many wonderful volunteers who give their time freely to our various committees, parent support groups, the school canteen and a variety of other groups. Volunteers make an enormous contribution to our school community. They are a big part of the reason why we are able to offer so many additional resources and facilities to our students. Thank you to our volunteers and Cre Millar, who successfully applied for the grant money to provide the morning tea.

New shade structures

We recently installed three new shade sail structures around the school, courtesy of a \$50,000 grant from Mr Sam Lim (MP), our local Member for Tangney. Sam plans to visit the school soon to speak to some Political and Legal Studies students and inspect the new structures.



Delivery of Semester 1 report schedule

The Semester 1 student reports will be available to parents as listed below:

Year Group	Date Issued	Delivery
Year 11 and 12	16 June	via email
Year 10	20 June	available in SEQTA by close of business
Years 7 to 9	28 June	available in SEQTA by close of business

WA Student Council Representative

Congratulations to Darshyn Mannar, who has been selected as a member of the Western Australian Student Council for 2023–24. Darshyn is one of four students selected to represent the South Metropolitan region and one of 25 students overall in the council.

The WA Student Council has been established to provide public students with a platform to influence education policy. The student council's role is to:

- advise the Department of Education and the Minister for Education and Training on education policy and reform
- represent the interest of their educational regions
- represent the interests of all students in WA
- act as ambassadors for WA student leadership.

We wish Darshyn well in this exciting role.

Best wishes for an enjoyable long weekend.

Regards
Paul Leech
Principal



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May 2023 Board Meeting Update

by Geoff Cooper - Parent Representative

Our Board discussions featured updates on a relationship with a key local stakeholder and the potential for enrollment growth at the school.

The Board met with Westfield Booragoon Shopping Centre representative Muhammad Nazir. Westfield has recently invested heavily in a number of measures, including increased utilisation of CCTV systems, to help ensure the safety of customers, students and tenants during the 7.7 million annual visits to the centre.

There is a strong relationship between centre management and the Applecross SHS executive, which means that issues have been dealt with promptly and effectively.

Despite the significant number of students visiting the centre, we were pleased to hear that Applecross SHS students were generally not the instigators of antisocial behaviour at the centre.

There was also an update on the work of a subcommittee looking at future planning for enrollment growth, chaired by Andrew Dwyer. Some of the factors identified that are driving enrolments include:

- increasing densities in the catchment area of Applecross SHS;
- the strong ATAR outperformance of Applecross SHS versus 'Like' public and private schools in recent years;
- the ongoing desirability of the Applecross SHS zone as a near city location with access to transport and employment opportunities.

The consequences of these developments were also discussed:

- enrolment growth rate is increasing faster than in the previous decade.
- Applecross SHS enrolment growth is exceeding the wider City of Melville population growth rate.
- property values in the area are attracting a premium due to the Applecross SHS zoning.
- a continuation of the growing Applecross SHS enrolment trend of the last five years - of a 4.38% annual increase - will see an increase in enrolments of at least an extra 440 students over the next five years.
- there is pressure on the school's existing facilities (e.g., classrooms, outdoor space, parking).

Feel free to provide feedback to me (gcooper@iinet.net.au) or fellow [board members](#).

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Help Keep Your Child and the School Community Healthy this Cold and Flu Season

by Belinda Laing-Hughes - School Nurse

It's important to keep your child home if they're feeling unwell this cold and flu season. Assignments and tests missed due to illness can be made up at a later date. Upper school students must present a medical certificate, while lower school students usually have the option to sit the missed test on return. **If your child has tested positive for COVID-19, they must not be back at school until five days have passed and all symptoms have gone.**

[COVID-19 cases and contacts \(healthywa.wa.gov.au\)](https://healthywa.wa.gov.au)



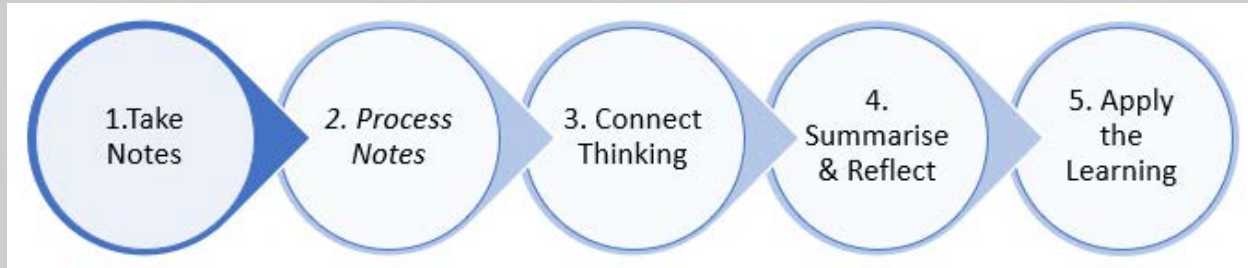
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Learning to Learn

by Sue Kovacevic - Teaching & Learning

Note-Taking

It sounds easy, but it's actually quite a complex skill that consists of the five phases below. We explicitly teach the note-taking process because it is so essential to learning. Over the next few months, I will provide a brief summary of each phase.



Phase 1: Taking Notes

We will teach our students to:

1. consider the purpose of their notes and select the best format accordingly. For example, if the purpose is to compare two things, the student might choose to take notes using a Venn diagram or two-column table
2. record ideas in the shortest way possible while keeping the original meaning
3. organise ideas in a way that recognises main and subordinate ideas.

Popular note-taking formats include: Cornell Notes, two and three-column tables, sketch notes, mind maps, one-pages, Venn diagrams and linear forms that use headings, sub-heading and dot points.

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Protecting Our Students: Important Tips to Discuss with Your Children Regarding Apps

by Paul Currie - Associate Principal Yers 7-9

Many of you would be aware of an article in the West Australian Newspaper last week discussing a new App used by many adolescents. This App encourages anonymous polling by teenagers on various (sometimes age-inappropriate) topics.

Applecross SHS is well aware of the negative effects on self-esteem and student development that such platforms can bring. We spend significant time educating our students on protecting themselves and keeping their data and personal information safe. We are very proud of our long-term association with Paul Litherland, cyber safety expert and WA State recipient Australian of the Year 2022.

We urge all parents to monitor technology use closely and be aware of the type and nature of the apps their children are using. Many of these apps make it easy for predators to join and access sensitive information about kids. The App in this article encouraged children to use their real names.

Please discuss this with your child:

- which Apps are they using
- are their Apps linked to each other? (some are gateways)
- whom they are interacting with online
- can they verify who they are, and also
- what information have they shared or linked to?

Additional help and advice can be found on our school website in the [SchoolTV](#) section.

The Department of Esafety also has a wide range of [resources](#) parents can access.

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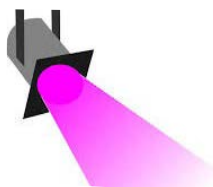
EYES on VET

by Melinda Kennington - VET Manager

Welcome to another edition of Eyes on VET!

On Wednesday, 24 May, at 3pm, VET Connect applications closed. A whopping 153 students collected application packages and we received 83 by the due date. We had 79 students who met all the criteria to gain an interview, which is the next stage of the application process. All students have now been interviewed. Although some students were nervous, most were well prepared and demonstrated their ability to be suitable for the VET Connect program. I have enjoyed interviewing all of the applicants over the past week and a half. All students who attended an interview will hear of the outcome in Week 8. In the meantime, I wish all Year 10 students best wishes for their exams.

Year 11 and 12 VET Connect students who did not have to attend any catch-up classes during the exam-free period had a few extra days off. I look forward to seeing all students back at school next week, refreshed and ready to complete the last 4 weeks of Term 2.



Spotlight on 'Apprenticeship Support Australia'

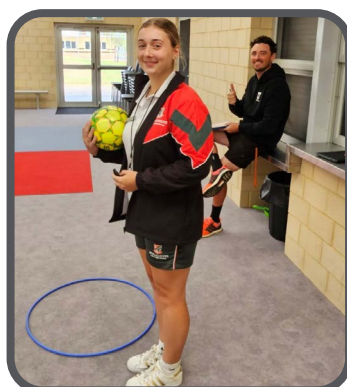
Apprenticeship Support Australia (ASA) offers a variety of apprenticeship and traineeship advice and resources. Please look at some of the services they provide below, as well as a link to their [WA Apprenticeship & Traineeship Intake Guide](#).

ASA's School-based Traineeship Advisory Service

Would you like to learn more about school-based apprenticeships and traineeships? Do you have questions about finding apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities? If so, please book a phone consultation with our School-based Traineeship Advisory Service: [Careers & Recruitment \(office365.com\)](https://careersandrecruitment.office365.com) or call 9365 7757 for further assistance.



Snapshots around the workplace...



Sienna Di Giacomo at North Harrisdale PS



Elijah Smith at Red Lips Media



Skye Saunders at Autobahn



Sienna Keefe at Active Gymnastics



...**India-Rose Knox (Year 11 ATAR Student)**, who completed a Certificate II in Retail Services through her School Based Traineeship at McDonald's

...to all **79 Year 10 students** who made it to the interview stage in the VET Connect application process.

Please keep your **EYES on VET** in the next Parent Update.

Best wishes
Melinda Kennington - VET Manager 😊

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Celebrating Staff Success

We would like to extend congratulations to our staff member, Christina Lau, for her success at the recent School of Education Awards night at Curtin University. Christina was honored to be the recipient of two awards: the Science Teachers Association of Western Australia Pre-Service Teacher Award for Secondary Science, as well as the Miles Medal for Excellence in Education. We would like to congratulate her on this remarkable achievement.



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The Push-Up Challenge

by Ebony Morrison - Program Coordinator Year 7-8

The Push-Up Challenge is an annual event which aims to put a spotlight on the mental health issues affecting everyday Australians and help reduce the stigma. The goal is to complete 3,144 push-ups from 1 to 23 June.

The Push Up Challenge runs a Student Ambassador Program for schools, which develops and mentors future leaders and promotes student's voice. Two of our awesome Year 12s signed up to be ambassadors for Applecross Senior High School this year, leading the way in raising mental health awareness and supporting a sense of community across the school!

Deputy School Captain Aaron Bollman and Dylan Wong have set up a community page on The Push Up Challenge website where students - and teachers! - can sign up to be part of the fun. Each year group has a page so we can compete - year group vs year group!

We want to get as many Applecross SHS students signed up as possible. Please use the link below!

<https://www.thepushupchallenge.com.au/fundraisers/ApplecrossSeniorHighSchool>



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Applecross SHS Volunteer Morning Tea

by Cre Millar - Canteen Manager

Saturday, 27th May, was our Volunteer's Morning Tea - the time to celebrate, thank and reward every person who contributes to our school community. Our Principal Paul Leech and P&C Vice President Jarred Scagliotta were on hand to personally thank and share stories of our amazing volunteers and to hand out thank you gifts! This humble event was made extra special with the help of a grant from VolunteeringWA and Lotterywest - a huge thank you to them!



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P&C Liaison Officer Needed

The AXSHS P&C Assoc. Inc seeks an enthusiastic person to promote the P&C and its activities to the wider school community. This role would suit an organised and enthusiastic person who has a public relations flair.

This is a new role we have created within the P&C, and we are looking for someone to act as a liaison between the P&C committee and the school community.

Your main role will be to assist with marketing events and activities undertaken by the P&C. The P&C has a number of activities each term and requires a dedicated person to market these events via the school newsletter and the school's Facebook page.

If you are interested in this fun new role within the P&C, please contact the P&C President, Kerri Gur, or the Secretary, Narelle Pearce, at axshspsc@gmail.com.

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Social Media Highlights



Recycling at Applecross



Principal's Cup



WA Law Society Mock Trial Competition



Year 9 Theatresports



SSWA Interschool Cross Country



3 x 3 Basketball



Visit our social media sites or the school website pages to read about the achievements and events/activities held over the last couple of weeks.



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Community Notices

The Story Club

by Taya Reid


Creative writing and storytelling for kids & teens
Beaconsfield Primary School, Western Australia

JUNIOR STORYTELLER \$65
Year 3 - 4
Wednesday 5th July 2023
9:30am-3pm

CREATIVE STORYTELLER \$65
Year 5 - 6
Thursday 6th July 2023
9:30am-3pm

STORY MASTERCLASS \$120
Year 7 - 9
Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th July 2023 (2 day masterclass)
9:30am-3pm

What to Expect



Story Club aims to build an inclusive, interactive community of young, creative minds. Participants will learn how to stretch their storytelling muscles to write and produce with energy, freedom and originality.

Employing word play, prompt cards, photography, group challenges, theatre sports, art and music, the workshop is a fully immersive experience with no creative limits, supported by plenty of practical skills.

Perfect for budding poets, playwrights, authors, actors, songwriters, journalists, artists and performers.

About Taya


Taya Reid is a photographer and award winning writer based on Whadjuk Noongar Boodja. In 2023 she completed her first novel manuscript under a fellowship with the Centre for Stories, and her short fiction has most recently been published in this year's Sydney Hammond anthology, Water Under The Bridge. Taya is a regular contributor to Tales & Trails magazine and margaretriver.com and runs creative workshops for children and adults. Taya lives near the beach with her partner and eight year old daughter.




Bookings & Enquiries
taya@tayar Reid.com / 0448 844 540
www.tayar Reid.com

Contact

2023 July Holiday Skills Development Courses Years 7 - 10



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- Essay Writing**
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- English**
Revise English concepts and improve your child's writing and comprehension skills. This course will boost your child's confidence, address gaps in understanding and extend knowledge.
- Learning Skills**
Gain study techniques and learn how to spend less time studying. Improve your child's time management, develop homework strategies that work and many more skills to improve schoolwork.
- Maths**
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- ✓ Get top tips and strategies to boost your marks in your exams
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Study Skills: Learn how to study effectively and spend less time studying. Improve your time management, goal setting, reading strategies, exam and stress management techniques.

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