

# Parent Update

Term 4 | Week 6  
17th November 2023



**APPLECROSS**  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

## IN THIS EDITION

- [Update From the Principal](#)
- [Finance Reminders](#)
- [Talent versus Effort](#)
- [Become a School Board member](#)
- [Learning to Learn](#)
- [P&C Second Hand Uniform Shop Volunteers Needed](#)
- [COVID-19 Update](#)
- [Call for Second Hand Quality Uniforms](#)
- [Applecross Senior High School Annual Art Exhibition](#)
- [Eyes on VET](#)
- [Community Notices](#)

## Finalists

### Excellence in Teaching and Learning (Secondary)

Applecross Senior High School  
Ashdale Secondary College  
Manea Senior College  
Western Australian College of  
Agriculture Cunderdin

WA Education  
Awards 2023

## IMPORTANT DATES

### 17th November

- Music Department Under the Stars Picnic Concert 6:30 - 9:30pm

### 20th November

- End of Year P&C Sundowner

### 20th - 24th November

- Year 10 Exams

### 21st - 23rd November

- Year 7 Immunisations 2nd Round

### 22nd November

- Voting closes 5pm Parent School Board Member
- Year 11 Dinner Dance

### 23rd November

- School Board Meeting

### 24th November

- Annual Visual Arts Exhibition Opens 6pm

### 24th - 26th November

- Albury Tennis Nationals

### 27th November

- Year 12 Presentation Evening

### 28th November

- Year 10 River Cruise

### 29th November

- School Tour
- Year 11's last Day

### School Activities and Student Achievement

Keep up with all the exciting activities and student achievements that occur in the school by regularly checking our webpage, Facebook, Instagram or YouTube pages.

Website <https://applecross.wa.edu.au/>  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ApplecrossSeniorHighSchool/>  
Instagram [https://www.instagram.com/applecross\\_shs/](https://www.instagram.com/applecross_shs/)  
YouTube [@applecrossshs5058](https://www.youtube.com/@applecrossshs5058)  
School Calendar <https://applecross.wa.edu.au/parents/calendar/>  
Parent Update <https://applecross.wa.edu.au/parents/parent-update-newsletter/>

## Update from the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians

There are now less than four weeks left in the school year with students in Years 7-10 due to finish on Thursday 14th December. Most of our Year 12 students have now completed their WACE exams and are looking forward to their Presentation Evening on Monday 27th November. Year 11 students are now in the final stages of their exams and return to school on Wednesday 22nd November. Best wishes to Year 10 students who commence their exams next week.

We are reminding students in other year groups to work hard over the next few weeks to ensure that they consolidate their learning and finish the year strongly in the lead-up to the final Student Reports for 2023.

Reports will be available on SEQTA:

- Year 11 Week 8 Wednesday the 29th of November 2023
- Year 7-10 Week 10 Monday the 11th December 2023

Parents are encouraged to email teachers should they require more feedback or to set up a meeting with the teacher.

### WA Education Awards

Film crews from the Department of Education were in the school this week taking footage of a variety of lessons and interviewing a range of students about their learning experience at Applecross SHS. They were very impressed by the positivity of our students and the important role they play in providing feedback to the staff about how to continue to improve the school. The winners of the awards will be announced on 4th December.

### 2024 Premier's Anzac Student Tour

It has just been announced that Year 9 students Milla Lobik and Avery Flint have both been selected to attend the 2024 Premier's Anzac Student Tour to Singapore and other destinations in April 2024. Participation in this prestigious event is highly competitive and it is unusual that Year 9 students are selected and also very rare to have two students from the same school. The selection process involved writing a 1000 word essay followed by an interview with an external panel after they were short-listed. Both Milla and Avery impressed the judges with their knowledge of Australian History and understanding of the Anzac legacy. Congratulations to Milla and Avery and to their HaSS teacher [Ilsa Wallner](#).

<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/premiers-anzac-student-tour>

### Board Vacancies

A reminder that voting is currently underway for the position of Parent Representative on the School Board 2024-26. Voting closes on **Wednesday 22nd November at 5pm**. Best wishes to all nominees.

Click the following link to [vote](#)

A reminder that nominations are currently open for three Community representatives on the School Board. I encourage parents or members of the community to consider nominating for these important roles.

Those nominating have been asked to include a photo, together with some brief information about themselves. This will be collated and used in the voting process. The Community Representatives will be selected by the current School Board. While it is not necessary for the Community Representative to be a parent, it is permissible. If you know someone who is not a current parent, who might be interested in applying for these positions please pass the details on to them. Enquiries should be directed to the Principal, Mr Paul Leech on 9314 9393. The closing date for nominations for the Community member position is **3:00pm on Friday 17th November**. Please [click here](#) for the nomination forms which can be emailed to the following address: [amelia.tuck@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:amelia.tuck@education.wa.edu.au)

### P&C Sundowner/Final Meeting

The final P & C Meeting for the year will take place in the alfresco area outside the canteen on **Monday 20th November, from 6.00 pm**. The business part of this meeting will be relatively brief, and parents interested in the P & C are encouraged to attend and meet other parents.

Please register your attendance [here](#).

[Continue on next page](#)

## Update from the Principal Continued

### Biennial National School Surveys

Due to these surveys being postponed in many schools because of COVID-19 disruptions, the mandatory years have now changed from even to odd years. This means that schools that completed the surveys in 2022 (which includes Applecross SHS) will have to administer the survey again in 2023 to bring all schools back in line. The late notification of this change means that we will miss doing the survey with Year 12 students, but we request that other groups of stakeholders (staff, students, and parents) complete this survey over the next few weeks.

At Applecross SHS we believe that all feedback is valuable and we have tried to improve numerous aspects of the school based on the information provided by these surveys over the years. The surveys consist of 20 standard nationally consistent questions which should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

The National Surveys:

- Are mandated for every school in Australia every two years (since 2014).
- Are strictly anonymous with all individual information being strictly confidential.
- The school gets the overall data as well as the optional comments made by the staff, students, or parents in each school.
- Provides a good sense of how the school is going currently and also over time since 2014.

Please access the survey [here](#).

### COVID-19 Update

As you are no doubt aware, Australia is currently experiencing the 8th wave of COVID-19 infections with the rate of hospitalisations on the increase. Members of the school community are reminded to continue to be alert and to adopt the following practices:

- keeping rooms and offices well-ventilated; and using air purifiers where available;
- washing hands and being mindful of social distancing
- staying home if unwell

[Return to beginning](#)

## Finance Reminders

by Janine Jenkins | Business Support Officer

Thank you to all parents and caregivers who have paid the School Fees for 2023. If you have not made payment, your immediate attention is requested in finalising your account for 2023. Please contact the Finance Department at your earliest convenience if you wish to discuss payment of your children's school fees. Please be reminded that debt collectors are used for all outstanding school charges.

**\*\*Please note that if compulsory subject cost remains unpaid, students may be removed from high-cost subjects and timetabled into alternative lower-cost subjects.**

[Return to beginning](#)

## Talent versus Effort

by Paul Currie | Associate Principal

**How often do we equate success with talent? All the time.**

But the reality is, that success isn't created by talent alone. Just like we might see immense talent squandered, we also see unexpected overachievement. Here are 10 behaviours that we can always control that require zero talent yet have a huge impact on our success.

Try these 10 things (or just one!) and over time it will pay off.

<https://economics.virginia.edu/10-things-require-zero-talent>

### 10 THINGS THAT REQUIRE ZERO TALENT

1. BEING ON TIME
2. WORK ETHIC
3. EFFORT
4. BODY LANGUAGE
5. ENERGY
6. ATTITUDE
7. PASSION
8. BEING COACHABLE
9. DOING EXTRA
10. BEING PREPARED

[Return to beginning](#)

"Would you like to represent your community group within Applecross Senior High?

Would you like to learn more about the hard work that goes on 'in the background' to help educate and nurture your child?

Have you ever considered joining the School Board?"



Now is the time to step up, and nominate to become a Community Board Member.

The role of the Board is one of advisory and approval. You need to be open minded, solution focussed, and a team player. The Board does not intervene in the control or management of the school, but rather partners the school on their journey to deliver exceptional education.

Your commitment includes attending two Thursday night meetings each term from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm, along with the opportunity to attend school and community events to represent the Board.

What you can bring to the table through work and life experience, as well as connections to various industry and community groups, is always a value add.

To find out more, follow these links below for specific Board information.

[SCHOOL BOARD](#)

[ROLE OF THE BOARD](#)

If you are ready to apply, follow this link for an application pack.

[BOARD APPLICATION FORM](#)

COMMUNITY MEMBER

Voted by the Board

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

17/11/2023

## Learning to Learn

by Sue Kovacevic | Teaching and Learning

### High Engagement is Key

At Applecross SHS we know that if your children are actively participating in the classroom, they will not only learn more, but time will fly. Here are four ways we achieve high levels of classroom engagement:

1. Consistent lesson opening routines ensure that students know exactly what to do when they enter any classroom. In this way, we make every minute matter.
2. Varied learning activities create dynamic change and make time fly. For this same reason, we often use timers to brighten the lines between learning activities.
3. Strong student/teacher and peer relationship ensure students feel safe enough to take risks with their learning. A growth mindset is essential.
4. Requiring every student to be prepared to answer any question increases the likelihood that every student is thinking.



[Return to beginning](#)

## P&C Second Hand Uniform Shop Volunteers Needed

by Kerri Gur | P&C President

The P&C are opening a second-hand uniform shop at the school and to get the shop operational we are seeking the help of parents/caregivers to **volunteer**. If you are interested in volunteering, we are happy to discuss days and times that are suitable for you, so if you can spare a few hours to support the uniform needs of our school community please contact the AXSHS P&C Association at [axshspc@gmail.com](mailto:axshspc@gmail.com)

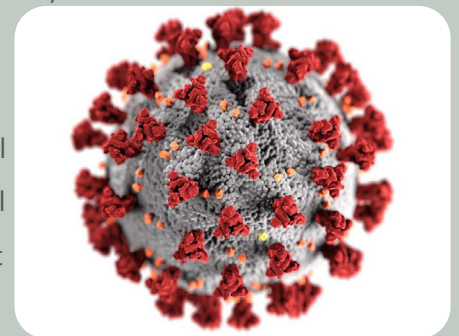
[Return to beginning](#)

## COVID-19 Update

by Adela Simich | Health, Safety and Wellbeing Officer

While we are swiftly moving into summer, it has become evident that there is yet another wave of COVID-19. Many staff and students at Applecross appear to have been affected this term. Please be mindful of the additional processes below that are in place to ensure everyone's health and safety at the school:

- If your child presents to the Health Centre with flu-like symptoms or is confirmed positive, they will be required to go home. Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately and will be required to arrange their child's travel home in a timely manner.
- If your child has COVID-19, please ensure they do not return to school until they are asymptomatic.
- If your child presents to the Health Centre with flu-like symptoms, they will be required to wear a mask at school.
- Should your child have flu-like symptoms in the morning, please try to test them for COVID-19 before they arrive at school.



Along with COVID-19, there has also been an increase in students presenting with gastrointestinal symptoms, including vomiting. As a general reminder, please keep your child home if they are unwell with any symptoms, including days that your child has an assessment.

[Return to beginning](#)

## Call for Second Hand Quality Uniforms

By Kerri Gur | P&C President

We are opening our second hand uniform shop onsite and are urgently looking for donations, mostly **lower school uniforms** and **tennis uniforms** if possible. Through the donation of your child's second-hand uniform you can help another parent to purchase a uniform at an affordable price. Donations can be made at reception and Student Services. Thank you for your support.

[Return to beginning](#)

### SPECIALIST TENNIS FEMALE



### SPECIALIST TENNIS MALE



## Applecross Senior High School Annual Art Exhibition

by Joanna Sweetman | Arts Teacher

We invite you to attend the annual exhibition of creative arts by our GATE and General Year 7 to 11 Visual Arts, Design & Media Students.

**Where:** A Block Applecross SHS. Enter via Ardesie Street, Ardross

**Exhibition Opening:** Friday 24th November

**6:00 pm** Community Gathering, Performance Art & Musicians

**6:45 pm** Presentations of Awards and Exhibition Opens

**PLEASE NOTE THIS YEAR, WE WILL BE OPENING EXHIBITION DOORS AFTER THE AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS**

This will give families time to enjoy some refreshments, socialise in our courtyard, see the performance art and buy raffle tickets from 6 pm or for busy families to time their arrival by approx. 6.30pm in time for awards at 6.45pm

#### Viewing Times:

25 November 10:00 am - 4:00 pm (Saturday)  
26 November 10:00 am - 4:00 pm (Sunday)  
27 November 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (Monday)



Artist : Catheline Majer - Year 11

**AX**  
**2023**  
APPLECROSS SHS  
Annual Art Exhibition

You are invited to our

#### Annual Art Exhibition 2023

an exhibition of creative artworks by our  
Gifted and Talented and General Year 7 - 11  
Visual Arts, Design and Media students.

#### Exhibition Opening

Friday 24th November  
6pm | Community Gathering, Performance Art & Musicians  
6.45pm | Presentations and Awards, Exhibition Opens

#### Viewing Times

Saturday 25th November | 10am - 4pm  
Sunday 26th November | 10am - 4pm  
Monday 27th November | 9am - 4pm

#### Venue

Applecross Senior High School

Artist : Csongor Horvath - Year 10



[Return to beginning](#)



# EYES on VET

by Melinda Kennington - VET Manager

## Welcome to another edition of Eyes on VET!

I cannot believe that as I write this update we are halfway through Term 4... and what a busy one it is with lots happening in the VET space.

A quick reminder that Year 11 VET Connect students need to make decisions about their Workplace Learning plans for next year... students have all been given an Employer Details Form which they need to return to the VET Office by **Wednesday, 22 November (Week 7)**. I wish all Year 11 students the best for their last few weeks of term.

The Year 10 VET Connect students are busy completing all the requirements of the Work Readiness program, finalising external courses for next year, and finding an employer who will take them on for Workplace Learning in Year 11. Students must return their Employer Details Form to the VET Office by the **end of Week 8** to ensure that their place in VET Connect remains theirs for next year.

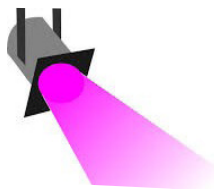
I was delighted to receive the fabulous news last week that our former VET Connect student and Deputy School Captain, Gabriel Halden, completed his Initial Entry Training in the Navy, as a Recruit Marine Technician. He was also awarded a Gold Personal Qualities Award in recognition of the commendable effort he displayed during his training, as a member of Blackhorse Class, Shipp Division General Entry 418. Gabriel was honoured for his qualities which capture the Shipp Division motto of 'Get the Bloody Job Done'.

Gabriel is an outstanding ambassador of the VET Connect program at Applecross SHS. Through the program, Gabriel completed work experience with the Navy and gained knowledge and skills through his Workplace Learning placement as a technician at Intelligence Homes. On completion of Year 12, Gabriel gained full-time employment with his WPL employer. These experiences, together with Gabriel's dedication, excellent work ethic and commitment to self-development, assisted him in being offered a place in the Navy. We are all very proud of you, Gabriel! Congratulations!



## Spotlight on Try-a-Trades

Try-a-Trades are a fantastic way to 'have a go' at the sort of work that takes place in different trades. Participation in these activities demonstrates a willingness to try something new and is great to be able to include in student Resumes, VET Connect applications, TAFE and job applications. They are also very helpful in assisting students in making decisions on future pathways. Try-a-Trade opportunities in Civil Construction, Bricklaying, Painting, Plumbing, Carpentry and Joinery are advertised on Connect, at assemblies and on the VET Office Notice Board. Many students have taken up this opportunity this year... please take a look at some of the photos of students in action below.



# eyes on VET

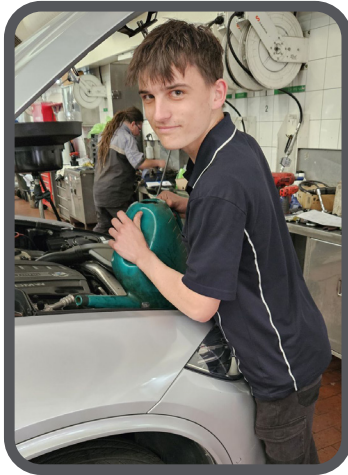
by Melinda Kennington - VET Manager



## Snapshots around the workplace...



Arena Liew at AXSHS Library



Kobi Treversh at BMW Auto Classic



Lachie Caddy at Penjet



NJ Caruso at MSP Photography



APPLECROSS  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

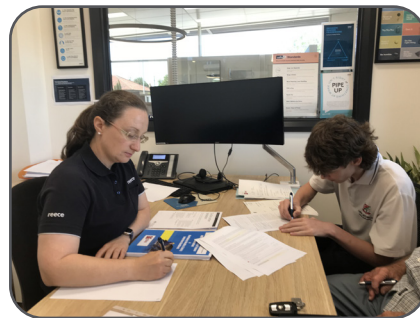
Auto Classic



...to all our Year 10 and 11 students (VET Connect and P2C) who were successful in gaining a place in an external course for next year

...to Gabriel Halden (Former 2022 Year 12 VET Connect student), on the successful completion of his Initial Entry Training in the Navy, as a Recruit Marine Technician.

...to Liam McGuigan (Year 10 VET Connect), on his recent sign-up for a School Based Traineeship with Reece Plumbing in South Fremantle, where he will complete a Certificate II in Supply Chain Operations. Liam also just gained a place in the VET Connect program. Welcome to the VET family, Liam!



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

Best wishes  
Melinda Kennington - VET Manager 😊

[Return to beginning](#)



# Community Notices



**Early Bird SAVE 10%**  
Enrol with full payment by  
Monday 11th Dec' 23  
and save 10% !

January Head Start Courses Yrs 11- 12  
Get a Head Start to Year 11 & 12  
and start the school year with Confidence  
@ [ACADEMICGROUP.COM.AU](https://academicgroup.com.au) **Enrol Today**



**Early Bird SAVE 10%**  
Enrol with full payment by  
Monday 11th Dec' 23  
and save 10% !

January Head Start Courses Yrs 7-10  
Get a Head Start on the year  
and start the school year with Confidence  
@ [ACADEMICGROUP.COM.AU](https://academicgroup.com.au) **Enrol Today**