

# Parent Update

Term 4 | Week 10  
14th December 2023



**APPLECROSS**  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

## IN THIS EDITION

- [Update From the Principal](#)
- [Kai Caspelherr | Duke of Edinburgh](#)
- [Finance Reminders](#)
- [Year 10 CORE Program Funding Support/ Sponsorship](#)
- [Thank You from the AXSHS Canteen](#)
- [OLNA Year 9 2023](#)
- [Second Hand Uniform Shop](#)
- [School TV | Raising Girls](#)
- [2024 Timetables](#)
- [Leaving Applecross SHS in 2024](#)
- [Year 12 School Reports and Email Access](#)
- [Eyes on VET](#)
- [Hello From the Languages Department](#)
- [Community Notices](#)



## IMPORTANT DATES

### 14th December

- Last Day of Term 4

### 15th December

- School Development Day

### 12th January 2024

- Timetables available on SEQTA

### 24th January

- School Support Staff Commence

### 26th January

- Australia Day

### 29th - 30th January

- School Development Days (No Students)

### 31st January

- Term 1 Commences

### 31st January - 2nd February

- Year 7 Big Days In

### 1st - 2nd February

- Year 12 Work Placement Starts

### 5th February

- Year 12 Awards Assembly Period 2

### 8th - 9th February

- Year 11 Workplace Learning Starts

### 9th February

- Year 12 Ball

### 13th - 16th February

- Year 7 Tennis Camp

### 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,

### End of School Year

As we reach the end of the 2023 school year, I would like to thank parents and guardians for your crucial role in supporting the school and your child's learning throughout the year. I wish all members of the school community a safe and happy Christmas and an enjoyable and relaxing holiday. Parents of students in Years 7-10 should have received their School Reports on Monday 11th December. These reports provide students with an opportunity to reflect on their progress and achievement and to set goals for 2024. Access to 2024 student timetables will be available via SEQTA from Friday the 12th of January.

### Office Hours and Day 1 2024

- Reception closes at 3:30 pm on Friday, 15th December, for the school holidays
- The school administration will be open on **Wednesday, January 24th for general enquiries only via phone: 9314 9393 or email [axshs.email@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:axshs.email@education.wa.edu.au)** (limited staff available due to staff Professional Learning)
- For enrolments, staff will be available on the following dates for assistance: **Thursday, January 25th, Monday, January 29th, Tuesday, January 30th; Hours: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM**
- Teachers are required to attend on the 29th and 30th of January (School Development Days)
- Students return to school on Wednesday, 31st of January 2024.

The day will begin with a whole school assembly in the Agora, followed by their timetabled Period 1 class. Students are encouraged to wear hats and use sun protection cream while outside between 8:20 am – 8:45 am.

### End-of-Year Staff Movements

A number of staff members will be officially farewelled on the last day of the year. We are farewelling several very long-serving teaching staff members who are retiring. We would like to thank them for their service to the school and wish them all the best in their retirement pursuits.

Phil Samanek | Health & PE  
Angela Zaknich | Arts  
Stuart Shields | Science  
Caroline Crofton | HaSS  
Aniela Wooldridge | Science  
Stephanie Robinson | Science  
Lance Hinds | Health & PE  
Ji Hae Kim | Science  
Sue Alderdice | Administration  
Kristen Nairn | Health & PE  
Cheng Saw | Science  
James Hoyland | Science  
Jacqui Snyder | Home Economics  
Jessica Cole | Home Economics  
Matthew Dennis | Mathematics  
Cass Kitson | HaSS  
Tayla Nettleton | Health & PE

Liza Rebelo | Home Economics  
Jensine Datu | Art  
Andrea Hopkin | Health & PE  
Sacha Howarth | HaSS  
Isaac Huggins | Art  
Coline Marion | Languages  
Heather Mogridge | English  
Yu Sato | Languages  
Kirsty Sloan | Learning Support  
Susie Fox | English  
Christina Lau | Science  
Jessica Ford | Science  
Hayley Probert | HaSS  
Isobel Moroney | English  
Perri Reid | HaSS  
Peter Spicer-Wensley | Technologies

### Additional Items Added to School Uniform 2024

The Year 11 Student Council surveyed students and presented several additional items to be included in the school uniform for 2024 to keep the uniform contemporary and to ensure that it has the broad appeal of the student cohort.

The School Board was impressed by the consultative approach of the student leaders and the quality of the business case they presented. They approved the following items to be incorporated into the school uniform on the basis that they will be phased in when they become available in 2024.

**Black undershirts:** For lower school students, a black undershirt is preferred as it will match better with the red shirts.

**Pleated skirt:** When surveyed, students preferred the pleats present on Melville Senior High School skirts due to the current skirt riding up in the back when walking as it catches under schoolbags. This new design will provide more coverage and comfort.

**School Shorts:** Lighter material has been requested for both the boys' and girls' shorts. The current shorts are thought to be too thick and uncomfortable. This will apply to both the sport and normal shorts. The school uniform shop has already been notified and has produced replica samples of what the material will ideally look like.

**Please note that students can continue to wear the old uniform items with the new items being optional during 2024.**

**Happy Holidays!**

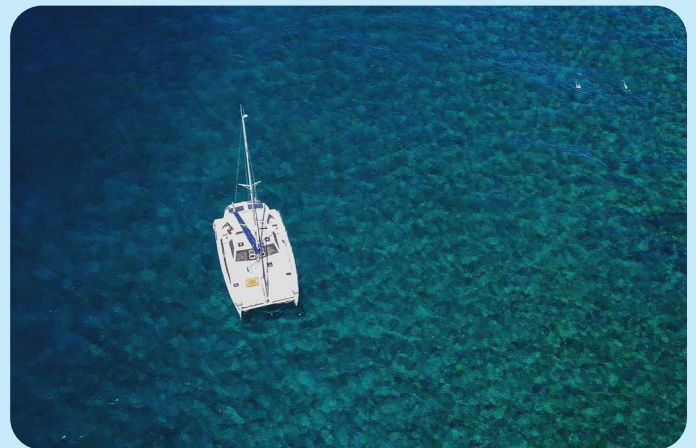
[Return to beginning](#)

## Kai Caspelherr | Duke of Edinburgh

by Charissa Efthymoulos | HaSS Teacher & Year 8 Coordinator

Earlier this year Kai Caspelherr was selected to participate as a research assistant in Moreton Bay Sea Grass Research in Queensland. The journey was organized by Science Under Sail Australia (SUSA) in collaboration with several marine research institutions. It's main goal was to survey aquatic habitat in the area. The team of four professional researchers and five research assistants - high school students from different parts of Australia - spent a week aboard sailing vessel Velella. They covered 70 nautical miles, collecting ocean floor sediment and seagrass samples and observed marine wildlife encountered.

"I believe that the research I participated in, plays a vital role in preserving the rich biodiversity of Moreton Bay... For me personally, it was also an excellent opportunity not only gather some new knowledge, but also improve my physical and mental skills, my stamina and teamwork skills. And, as a bonus, I got some great new friends along the way", - Kai said. This journey is constituting a part of Kai's Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award.



[Return to beginning](#)

## Finance Reminders

by Janine Jenkins | Business Support Officer

Please be reminded that QKR is now turned off for the remainder of 2023. It will re-open at 9am on 1 January 2024. Payments for the 2024 school year are due prior to the commencement of Term 1. Payment plans can be arranged by contacting Sheree in the Finance Office via email [sheree.strawbridge@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:sheree.strawbridge@education.wa.edu.au). Where needed, we encourage payment plans to be in place by the end of February.

[Return to beginning](#)



## Year 10 CORE Program Funding Support / Sponsorship

by Benjamin Kelly | HaSS Teacher & Year 9 Coordinator

Since 2017 we have offered a five day Challenging Outdoor Resilience Experience (CORE) program for our Year 10 students, during Term 4, Week 9. Starting with a group of 18 students and expanding to nearly 100 each year, including a Perth-based, Metro program, CORE has become an important program to develop student wellbeing and resilience. The cost to attend the program is between \$600 (CORE Metro) - \$1,000 (CORE South West) per student.

We are seeking potential corporate or business sponsorship for the CORE program for 2024 and into the future in order to reduce costs for families. We invite parents to consider any recommendations or suggested businesses that may be in a position to sponsor the program. The business would be required to enter into a formal sponsorship agreement with the school in accordance with [The School Education Act 1999 \(Act\)](#) and [School Education Regulations 2000 \(Regulations\)](#)

For any further information or if you have any potential business recommendations / expressions of interest for CORE program sponsorship, please email [Mr Benjamin Kelly](#).

[Return to beginning](#)

## Thank You from the AXSHS Canteen

by Cre Millar | Applecross Senior High School Canteen

I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to anyone who has stood behind a service counter, made a cheesie or filled a drinks fridge, for their sustained support and hard work this year; we have had record sales and that means record quantities of food produced and sold so on behalf of all the full bellies in our school. We most certainly couldn't have done it without you all.

To all of our loyal customers; we wouldn't be here without your custom, so thank you for your hunger, trust in our menu and patience in our sometimes ridiculously long lines!

Additionally, I would like to thank our P&C and School Executive for their support and belief in our canteen; we couldn't run without you all and are extremely grateful for all your support.

Lastly, I would like to thank my staff, all of whom support your school and each other with voluntary hours and shift swapping when necessary, as well as being a very important support for me all of the time. We have loyal, long standing staff who go above and beyond with taking on catering, stepping up to fill in for me when needed and being so social and friendly with our volunteers!

Thank you all and have safe, happy and fun holidays.



[Return to beginning](#)

## OLNA Year 9 2023

by Donna Levar-Uppill | OLNA and NAPLAN Coordinator

The Year 9 Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA) results for 2023 will not be released by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) until the 25th of January 2024. Applecross Senior High School will formerly notify parents and release these results at the start of the school year. Wishing all families, the best for the festive season.



[Return to beginning](#)

## Second Hand Uniform Shop

by Applecross Senior High School P&C

The second hand uniform shop, which is located next to the canteen, will be open on the following dates and times

- Monday, 29th January 2024 - from 8:00am - 11:00am
- Tuesday, 6th February 2024 -from 8:00am-9:00am

[Return to beginning](#)

## School TV | Raising Girls

by Ebony Morrison | Year 7 & 8 Program Coordinator

It is no surprise that girls today are transitioning to puberty a lot earlier than they did a century ago. The physical, psychological and emotional changes that occur during this time can be challenging for girls, but also their parents.

Some parents and carers may feel uncertain about how best to support their daughter through the ups and downs of adolescence. With the rise of social media and technology, mental health difficulties in girls are increasing as often they are faced with online images that make it difficult to see themselves as acceptable.

Many are being exposed to porn, sexualisation and innuendo from a very young age. Girls need positive role models in their lives to step up and help them shine with self-respect and confidence.

[Raising Girls | Applecross Senior High School \(schooltv.me\)](#)



[Return to beginning](#)

## 2024 Timetables

by Jenna Jarvis | Manager Corporate Services

Access to students 2024 timetables will be available via SEQTA on Friday the 12th of January.



[Return to beginning](#)

## Leaving Applecross SHS in 2024

by Admin Computing

If your child is not returning to Applecross in 2024, please inform the school via the below link as soon as possible.

Your assistance in this matter is very much appreciated. Thank you!

[Click here](#) for the link.



[Return to beginning](#)

## Year 12 School Reports and Email Access

by Admin Computing

Once the school year concludes (16th December), Year 12 students and parents will no longer have access to school reports and their student email account.

We encourage students to download all school reports and transfer/save any information they require from their student email account prior to this date.

**Access to  
Reports  
Online**

[Return to beginning](#)



# eyes on VET

by Melinda Kennington - VET Manager

## Welcome to the final edition of Eyes on VET for the year!

What another incredible year of success in the VET program! ...the number of students in the VET Connect program and P2C continues to grow, along with all the achievements and success stories! Our new Green Apple Café in the North wing finally came to fruition at the start of this year and it has been wonderful to see the students use the café to gain lots of service hours for the Certificate II in Hospitality.

In Week 9, 172 Year 10 students spent a week out on work experience. Students had a fabulous opportunity to gain a snapshot about work in an industry area. Feedback from employers, the students and visiting staff and has been excellent. Thank you to all the employers and staff who kindly support our students in our work experience program.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of Eyes on VET.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting our VET programs.

I wish you all a very  
**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year!**



## Spotlight on the Year 9 Careers Day Taster

Twentyfive Year 9 students took up the opportunity to attend a Careers Day Taster at South Metro TAFE in Thornlie. Students gained information about a range of careers and enjoyed a sausage sizzle for lunch. We received lovely feedback from South Metro TAFE, indicating that the students were a wonderful group who enthusiastically took part in all of the day's activities. Keep a look out for more Year 9 Tasters to be advertised next year.

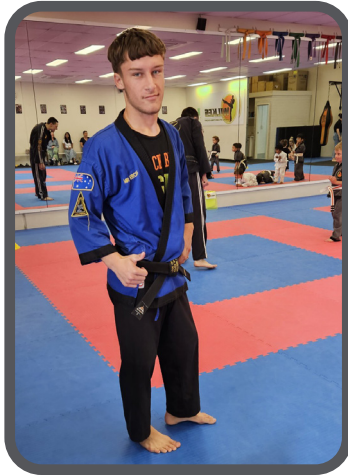


# eyes on VET

by Melinda Kennington - VET Manager



## Snapshots around the workplace....



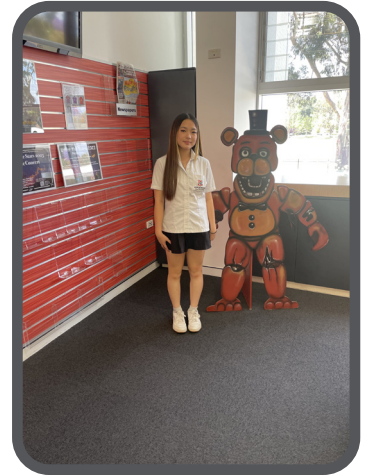
Jai Christophersen at Wilkes Martial Arts Academy



Jellian Villarino at Happy Tone Children Wonderland



Jessie Garcia at Opal Healthcare



Vivian Tanamal at AXSHS Library



## Congratulations

...to Year 9 students who attended the Careers Day Taster at South Metro TAFE

...to Year 10 work experience students who went out of their comfort zones to work for a week in an industry area of their choice.

...to Angus Scott (Year 10) who gained a full-time apprenticeship at National Lintels after having a successful week of work experience.

...to Eric Huang (Year 11), who completed a Certificate II in Retail Services through a School-Based Traineeship at McDonald's.

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

Best wishes  
Melinda Kennington - VET Manager 😊





## ...from the Languages Department!

Kaya!

Welcome to Term 4 edition of *Hello from the Languages Department!*

What another fabulous term of fun and learning in Languages. I hope you enjoy reading about the highlights outlined in this Parent Update.

Our Language Assistants, Coline Marion (French) and Yu Sato (Japanese), will be leaving us at the end of this term. Coline will be travelling to New Zealand for another Language Assistant position, and Yu will be returning to his home country. Thank you to both assistants for helping and supporting our language students and sharing their language knowledge in class. I wish all the language teachers and students a restful holiday. I would like to take the opportunity to wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs Melinda Kennington  
HoLA Languages



### Kon'nichiwa!

Term 4 is always an enjoyable one in our Japanese classes.

### Year 12 Japanese Dinner

Year 12 students went to Tansawa Japanese Restaurant to celebrate their hard work and achievements in Japanese over the past six years. Students enjoyed eating a beautiful Japanese banquet dinner together with their Japanese teachers and native speaking tutors.



### Onigiri Making for World Food Day

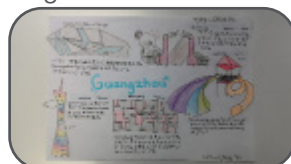
In honour of World Food Day, Year 7 Japanese students at our school embarked on a culinary adventure, learning to make onigiri, traditional Japanese rice balls, inspired by the Japanese fairy tale, OMUSUBI KORORIN'. These budding chefs worked together with their teachers to create delicious onigiri, supporting Table for Two's mission to provide over 1,000,000 healthy meals to school children in East Africa and Southeast Asia.

The students also had the opportunity to try the unique flavours of traditional Japanese rice balls, including the pickled plum known as 'umeboshi'. To commemorate their culinary adventure, each student proudly posed with their creations, which can be seen in the photos here.



### Poster Making

Year 7 and Year 9 students created a poster based on their learning topics. Year 7 students studied what's around a city of their choice, how to describe the facilities, and what they do in the facilities. Year 9 students studied restaurants and shopping this semester. They used their new knowledge to create attractive food or product advertisements.



Ms Sumika Nishikawa  
Teacher in Charge – Japanese

[Continue on Next Page](#)





## ...from the Languages Department! (continued)



### Bonjour!

In addition to the new learning taking place in the French classrooms, there were some extra special events during Term 4.

#### French Hosting Program 2023

Our school hosted 16 French visitors in October for two weeks. They packed in many wonderful experiences, new friendships and precious memories into this short time. This hosting program provided our visitors with the privilege of learning a great deal about the Australian culture and way of life. However, the most powerful impact, and precious memory, is the wonderful kindness and hospitality shown by their host families.



#### French Exchange 2024

A group of 23 students and teachers will go to Amiens, France from Saturday 23rd March to Friday 5th April. Applecross SHS students will do a home stay during their time in Amiens and the teachers will stay in close proximity. The group will visit Paris, Amiens and the surrounding district. The students will attend school with their host brother or sister for 2-3 days. As a group we will also participate in a number of interesting cultural activities.

#### Year 12 French Dinner

The Year 12 students of French have celebrated their hard work at the famous French restaurant "Chez Pierre". The excursion gave the students a chance to order their food in French, enjoy gourmet food, socialise with their teachers and Native Speaker Tutors and enjoy the art of socialisation in the French culture.



#### Language Assistant Farewell Party

The Languages Learning Area was very privileged to have their own language assistant, Ms Coline Marion AKA Coco, and Yu Sato from the Department of Education. They worked across all years and with students of all abilities. Ms Valerie attended the Language Assistant Farewell Party last Friday where they received an appreciation certificate each. We wish them good luck for next year and thank them for their hard work.



#### Ms Charisma Valerie Teacher in Charge - French

# Community Notices



## CALLING ALL YOUNG LEADERS!

Do you have a passion for developing:

- A greater understanding of yourself
- Personal leadership skills
- Mental and physical resilience
- Knowledge around mental health & suicide prevention

Camp Hero is a **FREE** leadership program available to the most inspiring students from across WA, equipping you with the necessary skills to be a mental health leader within your community.

**Who:** Students aged 15 - 18 years

**Where:** Nanga Bush Camp, Dwellingup

**When:** 1st April - 5th April 2024 &  
8th April - 12th April 2024

Apply online at [www.zero2hero.com.au](http://www.zero2hero.com.au)  
or by scanning the QR code.



YOUTH BALLET WA & CHARLESWORTH BALLET  
PRESENT THE ONE HOUR FAIRYTALE CLASSIC

*Cinderella*

EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC

DECEMBER 20-21, 2023  
PERTH CONCERT HALL



## Keep safe this Summer Holidays

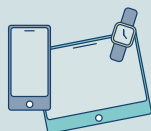
PBF would like all students and their families to stay safe during the Christmas holidays. By staying safe on the roads, at play, at home and at work means that we will see you all in the new year.

Around **400 spinal cord injuries** happen in Australia every year and **Summertime** is when most spinal cord injuries occur. We don't want you to become a statistic.

For more information:  
[www.pbf.asn.au](http://www.pbf.asn.au)



### Ways you can stay safe:



Avoid using your mobile phone in the car



Don't drive tired



Stick to the speed limit



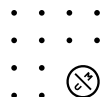
Wear your seatbelt



Don't drink or take drugs & drive



# Community Notices



## After School Program in Mathematics and Physical Sciences for students age 10 and up

### Physics Primer

Mondays 4:30 - 6:30pm

\$225 per student each term

Students perform calculations to solve problems of motion, including gravity and then other forces in the universe. Students may also train for the Australian Science Olympiads in Physics and/or the Open Universities Australia units *General Physics* and/or *Principles of Physics*.

### Chemistry Primer

Thursdays 4:30 - 6:30pm

\$225 per student each term

Students perform calculations to learn about atoms, molecules, elements and compounds and progress to calculations in topics such as gases, specific heat and chemical solutions. Students may also train for the Australian Science Olympiads in Chemistry and/or the Open Universities Australia unit *Fundamentals of Chemistry*.

### Mathematics Primer

Fridays 4:30 - 6:30pm

\$225 per student each term

Students consolidate their Arithmetic and will be introduced to Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry followed by Calculus and other areas when required. Mathematical topics are taught at each student's pace and students learn mathematical conventions and techniques.

All sessions are at Murdoch University, South Street Campus, Building 450, Floor 3, Room 001. Parking available in carpark 4.

Sessions are tailored to each individual student and students may begin at any time during the term. Refund will only be given if course is cancelled by our Program.

Sessions commence the second week of each school term and do not run on public holidays. All subjects require pen or pencil and notebook, and require a scientific calculator. Bottled water is permitted in classrooms and students should bring a healthy snack.

To obtain enrolment forms provide the age of the student and email:

[AfterSchoolProgram@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:AfterSchoolProgram@murdoch.edu.au)

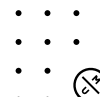
or phone 0427 864 740 (afternoons and evenings).

Payment may be made online:  
[payments.murdoch.edu.au/PrepCourses](https://payments.murdoch.edu.au/PrepCourses)



Free your think

PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM/ALISTAIR FROST/100000000



## After School Program in Mathematics and Physical Sciences

### Study Skills Primer for School Students

For students age 10 and up

Fridays 4:30 - 6:30pm

\$225 per student each term

Students attend sessions on Fridays beginning in the second week of school term. Through analysing written material and writing reports and essays students develop scientific comprehension and critical thinking skills for present and future studies.

Places are limited. Enrolments are required as soon as possible. Course will only run if sufficient students enrol by the Friday of Week 2.

Email [AfterSchoolProgram@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:AfterSchoolProgram@murdoch.edu.au) for information.

Parking is available in carpark 4.  
Building 450, Floor 3 (one floor up from entry), Room 001,

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Free your think

PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM/ALISTAIR FROST/100000000

# Community Notices



## January 2024 [Holiday Workshops:](#)

- ✓ Available for Year 11 and 12 ATAR Maths Methods/English/Chemistry
- ✓ Covers Term 1 & 2 content + Semester 1 Exam Preparation
- ✓ Ample past exam questions are practiced, and notes provided.



## 2024 [During Term Workshops:](#)

- ✓ Year 5-12 Maths, English and Science
- ✓ ATAR Maths Specialist, Maths Methods, Maths Applications
- ✓ ATAR Chemistry and Physics
- ✓ ATAR English/Literature
- ✓ Expert tutors
- ✓ Targeted test and exam preparation
- ✓ Accelerated Learning

*'Under the guidance of Academis, I achieved a 99.80 ATAR and my journey through year 11 and 12 became much easier'*

[www.academis.com.au](http://www.academis.com.au)

Located in Mt. Pleasant. Limited spots available.

Contact: 0425894868 or [m.khan@academis.com.au](mailto:m.khan@academis.com.au) to discuss the best options for your child.