

Parent Update

Term 4 | Week 8
1st December 2023



APPLECROSS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

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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

4th December

- Second 2024 Year 7 Orientation Day

4th - 8th December

- Year 10 Work Experience
- Year 10 CORE Camp Regional and Metro

7th December

- School Board Meeting

13th December

- Year 7 - 8 Awards Assembly
- Year 9 - 10 Awards Assembly

14th December

- Last Day of Term 4

15th December

- Staff Development Day

24th January 2024

- 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

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/
YouTube [@applecrossshs5058](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqj8k5058)
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,

As we enter the final couple of weeks of the 2023 school year, it is wonderful to see that the vast majority of students are still attending school and engaged in important work in preparation for 2024. Our Year 11 students finished school for the year on Wednesday, and parents will receive their Semester 2 school reports via email today. Students in Years 7-10 will receive their school report in Week 10 (Monday, 11th December). These reports allow students to reflect on their progress and achievement and set goals for 2024.

Year 7-12 students have received their Yearbooks (Scimitar 2023), and hopefully, they will enjoy reading through the activities and events of 2023. Students who are absent will receive copies of the Yearbook at the beginning of the new school year.

2023 Art Exhibition

Congratulations to the students for the amazing artwork that they have created during the year (over 1500 individual pieces) and to the staff who managed to turn a teaching space into an exhibition space. Those who attended the opening night last Friday were treated to a student fashion show.

Year 12 Presentation Evening

Congratulations to our 260 Year 12 students who had their Presentation Evening at Optus Stadium on Monday evening. There were over 1000 guests in attendance, and everyone seemed to enjoy what was a fitting farewell to the Class of 2023. Thank you to the organising committee of Jenny Casserly, Lenni Cornejo, Toni Jones, Nicole Hinton and Marta Pitaro.



Welcome to the 2023 Year 7s

As we farewell our Year 12s, we also welcome our 2024 Year 7 students and their parents. Over 330 students and their parents attended Orientation Day activities either last week and will do so again on Monday, 4th December.



Change to Format of Parent-Teacher Meetings for 2024

Following extensive feedback from the school community, the School Board has endorsed a proposal for Applecross SHS to conduct whole-day closures (with no normal timetable operating) for two parent-teacher days – one Face-to-Face (Tuesday 30th April 10:30 am — 6:30 pm); and one online (Wednesday 8th May 10:30 am-5:00 pm). In 2023 Face-to-Face meetings were completely booked out and some families missed out on interviews altogether. The extended time for the new format of Parent-Teacher Meetings increases the number of meetings slots for parents.

The School Board has endorsed this proposal on the following basis:

- It maintains two different delivery methods (Face to Face and Webex).
- It increases both the timeframe and the number of available bookings for parents.
- A range of schools have been consulted on how they run interview days. The model adopted is similar to that at other large schools such as Rossmoyne, Willetton, and John Curtin.
- Concurrent parent information sessions will also be occurring in the Auditorium on the Face-to-Face meeting day.
- The teaching time lost on these two days is balanced out by the loss of teaching time due to public holidays and School Development Days on Mondays and Fridays.

More information about the 2024 Parent-Teacher Meetings will be distributed early in 2024.

[Continue on next page](#)

Update from the Principal Continued

Applecross SHS Board 2024

Thank you to our retiring members, Malar Jayaprakash (Community Representative for three years); Ben Kelly (Staff Representative for two years); Sienna Pettman and Theo Scagliotta (Student Representatives in 2023) . All four have brought important perspectives in their roles and been excellent contributors to the Board.

Congratulations to:

- David Chen who was elected by members of the school community to the position of Parent Representative for 2024-2026
- Andrew Dwyer, Geoff Cooper and Melissa Clark were reappointed for a second term as Community Representatives 2024-2026.
- Andrew Dwyer who was nominated and elected as Chair for 2024.
- Geoff Cooper who was nominated and elected as Secretary for 2024.

Director General's Visit

"After talking with student leaders from Applecross Senior High School [yesterday] I have never been more confident that our future is in good hands. Thank you to Principal Paul Leech and Associate Principal Rex Lilleyman for the opportunity to share my leadership journey and philosophy with your students. The questions I received during the session were incredibly informed and insightful." - Quote from Director General Lisa Rogers via LinkedIn.



2024 Voluntary Contributions and Compulsory Charges

We are mindful of the current economic conditions and have attempted to keep costs as low as possible for parents in 2024. While there have been some cost increases in line with inflation, our overall cost structure for Voluntary Contributions and Charges has been maintained with costs at or below the CPI (Consumer Price Index) for the past five years. We have been able to achieve this due to the fact that nearly 100% of our parents pay these costs in full. By now you should have received your child's 2024 Voluntary Contributions and Compulsory Charges Statement in the post. Please send an email to janine.jenkins@education.wa.edu.au to advise if you have not received your statement. [Personal Items Lists](#), [Secondary Assistance claim forms](#) and all the relevant back to school information can be found on the [school website](#).

Biennial National School Surveys

We are reminding parents that the Biennial National School Surveys are now due. The surveys are mandatory for all schools in Australia and are conducted every two years. The surveys are strictly anonymous and confidential.

Please take **5 minutes** to complete the survey [here](#)

Your feedback is valuable and will help us to improve our school.

Paul Leech
Principal

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Charges and Contributions

by Janine Jenkins | Business Support Officer

The Charges and Contributions statements for 2024 have now been sent to your listed email address. If you have not received this (please check your junk folder) contact Janine Jenkins via email janine.jenkins@education.wa.edu.au as a matter of urgency. Financial Assistance claim forms will be available on the School website in the New Year. QKR has now been turned off for 2023. For any further payments for 2023, please contact the Finance Office on 9314 9368.

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End of Semester Reporting Cycle

by Paul Currie | Associate Principal

Please be advised of the timing and nature of our second semester reports.

- Year 11 reports will be emailed out Friday the 1st December 2023
 - Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 reports will be emailed on Monday the 11th December 2023
1. Any queries regarding the delivery of reports, please email melinda.najjar@education.wa.edu.au.
 2. Any queries regarding a grade or comment in your student's report can be addressed to the teacher directly.

These reports are summative and a record of your child's achievements during Semester 2 of 2023. They will include a generic comment on the content studied and the student's relative progress against the expected standard.

May I remind all parents and guardians to continue checking the Marksbook section in SEQTA and to liaise with teachers for 'formative feedback' such as the types listed below?

- Verbal feedback directly to the student in class
- Written feedback and annotations on students' completed work
- Marks shared with parents/carers and students on SEQTA
- Attendance in lessons shared with parents/carers and students on SEQTA
- Written feedback on SEQTA
- Parent/carer contact by email and phone
- Parent/Teacher interviews when needed
- Parent/Teacher interviews formal
- Rubric-style feedback on a variety of assessments
- Course Progress Reports
- Online homework completion and progress emails
- Contact from HoLAs and Academic Performance Managers



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School Board Report | November Meeting

by Katie Kumasaka | School Board Community Representative

Our last formal Board meeting for the year was held on Thursday the 23rd November. We welcomed Ms Ebony Morrison to the meeting who presented the feedback from the parent community regarding the Parent – Teacher interviews held earlier this year. Some improvements to the format and extension of the time between interviews was proposed and endorsed by the Board to be implemented in 2024. Ms Ebony Morrison will also be joining the School Board as a Staff Representative from next year.

As always, we discussed the Financial Report and were pleased to hear the school's financial position is sound. The Board also reviewed the completed First Aid policy. The Board endorsed this new First Aid policy and thanked all who worked at developing this.

The Board was happy to hear that three parent volunteers will be assisting with the running of the Second Hand Uniform shop soon to open at the school. Anyone willing to donate any pre-loved uniforms to the shop can hand them to Student Services, who will redistribute to the shop.

The School Board elections have been completed and we are pleased to welcome David Chen to the Board for 2024, who was appointed as our new Parent Representative. Andrew Dwyer, Melissa Clarke and Geoff Cooper were also reappointed as Community Representatives, while Andrew was reappointed as Board Chair and Geoff as Secretary. As the end of the year approaches, it's timely to thank all who have volunteered their time and areas of expertise to the School Board this year and we look forward to further positive collaborative work that lies ahead in 2024.

If you have any feedback or would like to raise any issues with members of the School Board, you can find Board members' details on the school website.

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Second Hand Uniform Shop

by Applecross Senior High School P&C

The Second Hand Uniform shop, which is located next to the canteen, will open for the last two Tuesday mornings of the year.

Opening hours are:

Tuesday 5th December 2023 - from 8:00am - 8:30am

Tuesday 12th December 2023 - from 8:00am - 8:30am

More opening times will be arranged in the new year.

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Dog Kennels For Sale

by Simon Entwistle | HoLA Technologies

Just in time for Christmas, our Year 12 Construction students recently fabricated three dog kennels, which are ready for sale and perfect for small to medium sized dogs.

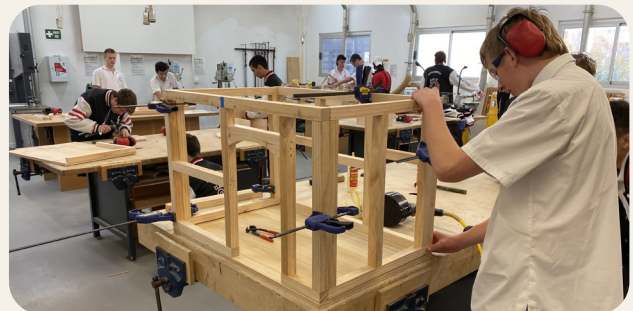
These are incredibly robust kennels. Stud wall frame construction is at the foundation of product strength and is externally lined with feature cladding. The roof is detachable to facilitate cleaning and is covered with Colorbond mini flute sheeting. The bargeboard timber is Spotted Gum and finished with an exterior grade varnish to complement the exterior acrylic colour scheme.

Kennel accessibility is easy via the side door opening, and good air circulation prevents odour buildup and maintains a healthy environment.

Finishing touches include:

- Colorbond roof and wall flashings.
- A hardwood door sill.
- Rubber internal matting for comfort and cleaning.
- Timber feet elevate the kennel and maximise airflow.

At \$250, this is a competitive price. To see if one is right for you, head into the school's administration building for viewing, enquiries or sales.



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School TV | Online Gaming

By Ebony Morrison | Year 7 & 8 Program Coordinator

Young people might have a lot of fun playing online games, but parents and carers need to make sure they empower their child to make wise decisions and help them manage the risks.

Numerous games can help your child become more coordinated, adept at problem solving and multitasking, and help them develop social skills through online interaction with other players. However, it's also critical to comprehend what may go wrong and what might be harmful to your child.

Carers need to play an active role in understanding and being aware of what their young person is playing online and who they are interacting with.

[Online Gaming | Applecross Senior High School \(schooltv.me\)](https://schooltv.me)



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2023 Annual Art Exhibition

by Jo Sweetman | Arts Teacher

This year's Annual Art exhibition showcased over 1500 artworks and was attended by a large audience of over 350 guests. During the evening we enjoyed a beautiful warm sunset, listening to musical performance, watched the student fashion walks and light refreshments. The formal presentations included the announcement of the 2023 Principal Prize by Paul Leech. Several amazing works were also recognised through the following 2023 Art Awards:

Principal Prize

Winner – Chelsea Wang Year 10

2D Art Award

Winner – Giorgina Pitchen Year 11

Highly Commended – Molly Rovis-Hermann Year 11

3D Art Award

Winner – Isla Hodgskin Year 9

Highly Commended – Maisie Kidd Year 8

4D Art Award

Winner – Catherine Majer Year 11

Highly Commended – Kester Sunkar Year 11

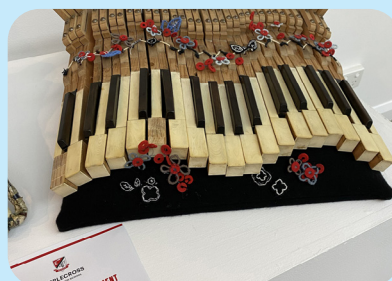
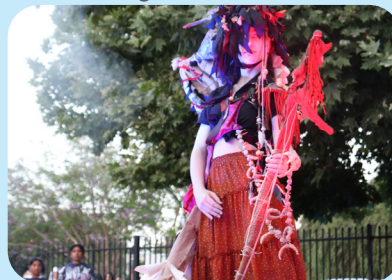
Packing Room Prize

Winner - Diba Dastyar Year 10

People's Choice Award

Joint Winner - Giorgina Pitchen Year 11

Joint Winner – Chelsea Wang Year 10



Thank you to Applecross Principal Paul Leech, GATE Coordinator Fleur Cason and GATE Tutor Jo Bowman for their support in the presentations. Thank you to Tim Stapleton, Christine Stapleton, Clare Talbot and Jacob Jenson for their tireless contributions to the evening's performances and fashion walk.

A final huge thank you to Stephen Armitstead and the Applecross Arts Staff, GATE tutors, GATE parent committee and Sue Alderdice for your combined efforts for this evening and throughout the year to ensure showcasing the success of our students.

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Chevron Focus Environment Photography Competition

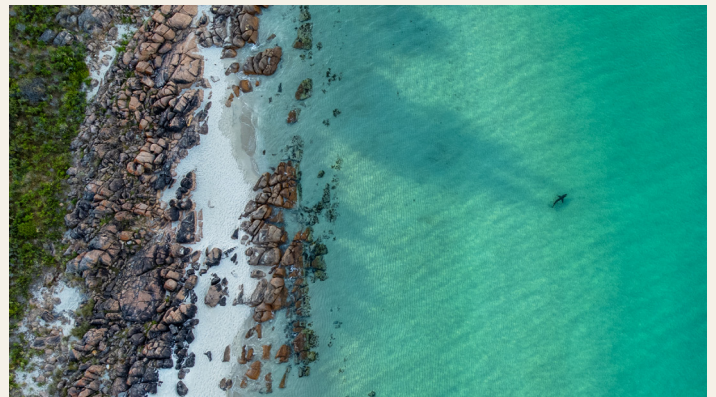
by Nicole Ryan | Visual Arts and Design Teacher

The winners for the 2023 Chevron Focus Environment photography competition were announced on November 13th at Chevron in Perth. Almost 1000 entries were received, and we are very proud to announce that Year 11 student Mikayla Caporn received a prize for each of her three entries:

- 1st place - Year 11 - 12, Focus on Sustainability in WA
- 1st place - Year 11 & 12, Focus on WA's Habitats and Ecosystems
- 3rd place - Year 11 & 12, Focus on WA's Habitats and Ecosystems

Mikayla also had winning entries for this competition in 2022.

Congratulations Mikayla - this is an awesome achievement !!



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AFL SportsReady Year 12 Graduate Traineeship

by Jadon Gielingh | HoLA Health and Physical Education

Applecross SHS is excited to offer a current year 12 graduate the opportunity to complete a traineeship in 2024 through AFL SportsReady. The successful applicant will be based at Applecross SHS in 2024 in the Health and Physical Education Learning Area. Included in the Traineeship is a Certificate IV in Sport and Recreation. Please see the document [here](#) for further details.

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EYES on VET

by Melinda Kennington - VET Manager

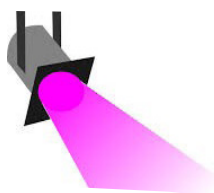
Welcome to a bumper edition of Eyes on VET!

Congratulations to our Year 11 students who have now finished for the year. I wish all students a wonderful break and look forward to seeing them all refreshed next year for their final year of school.

The Year 10 VET Connect students have almost completed their Work Readiness program and should now have all their work placements secured for next year, so that they can be deemed 'work ready' for the VET Connect program next year.

I am delighted that 172 Year 10 students are taking up the opportunity to go out on work experience in Week 9. These students have been fabulous in following up with employers to chase placements and complete the huge amount of paperwork that goes with it! I look forward to hearing their stories when they are back from their placements. Enjoy the week of work experience Year 10s!

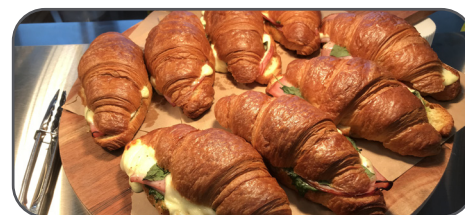
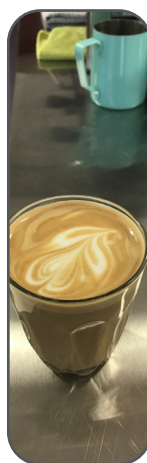
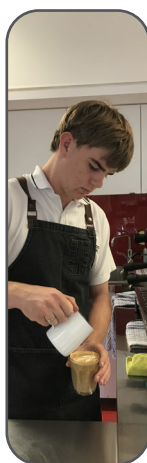
It was wonderful to see the Year 12 students and all their wonderful achievements at the recent Presentation Night. Congratulations to all students, and extra **special congratulations to our VET Dux for 2023, Chloe Davies.**



Spotlight on our Employer Acknowledgement Breakfast

Applecross SHS held its annual Employer Acknowledgement event to welcome our valued Workplace Learning Employers to our school and show our appreciation for all they do to support our students in the Workplace Learning program. There is a lot of paperwork for employers to complete behind the scenes and much effort is needed to ensure that our students have meaningful training at the workplace. We are truly grateful for their support.

A group of our Year 11 Hospitality students hosted a breakfast in the Green Apple Café and I can't express how proud I was of these students, as were all our guests. The employers who attended were so impressed with the wonderful food and beverages served with a smile by the students, some of whom were their Workplace Learning students. Well done and thank you to all the students who assisted in catering for this special event. Special thanks to our Jacqui Snyder and Liz Morgan (Hospitality trainers) and Melissa Button (Home Economics Assistant) for all their hard work in supporting this event.

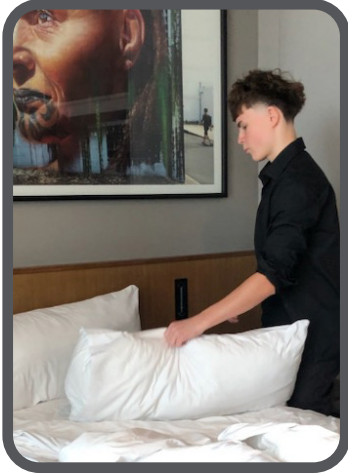


EYES on VET

by Melinda Kennington - VET Manager



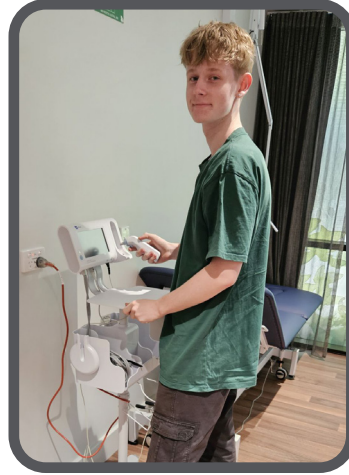
Snapshots around the workplace....



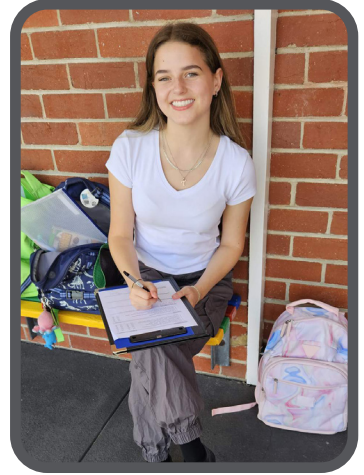
Caleb Carr at The Adnate Hotel



Jesse Garcia at Applecross Shore Care Community



Mark Rogan at Applecross Shore Care Community



Taya Jensen at Mount Pleasant Primary School

[THE ADNATE]



...to the Year 11 Hospitality Students who catered at the Employer Acknowledgement breakfast

...to **Nessa Dowling (Year 10)** and **Ella Turner (Year 10 VET Connect)** on their recent sign-up for a School Based Traineeship with Salsa's Booragoon, where they will complete a Certificate II in Retail Services

...to **Morgan Naylor (Year 11 VET Connect)** on successfully completing a Certificate III in Animal Care Services at Health Science Hub (HSH). Morgan was recognised for her outstanding work by being awarded the High Achievement Award at the HSH Graduation. She is currently working towards completion of a Certificate IV in Preparation for Health and Nursing Studies at HSH's Summer Series, where she attends 4 days per week and will achieve the qualification by 22 December.

...to **Year 11 Construction Pathways Students** and **2 Year 10 VET Connect Students** who completed White Card training at our school recently with a trainer from Skill Hire.



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

Best wishes
Melinda Kennington - VET Manager 😊

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
or by scanning the QR code.



**HEY
LET'S
CHAT
ABOUT
OUR
FUTURE
MELVILLE**

Help shape our City's future
for your chance to win 1 of 10
\$100 VISA gift cards!

We're reviewing our Strategic Community Plan which guides everything we do at Melville over the next ten years. There are many ways to get involved, from sharing ideas online to attending workshops.

Choose your own adventure and let's shape our future Melville together.

For more information visit
melvillecity.com.au/ourfuturemelville

City of Melville

Shaping tomorrow today



Keep safe this Summer Holidays

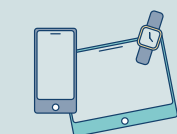
PBF would like all students and their families to stay safe during the Christmas holidays. By staying safe on the roads, at play, at home and at work means that we will see you all in the new year.

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



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