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Cover photo: Academic Dux, Amelia Pengelly and Principal, Paul Mathews



Year 6 Achievement Award Winner: Millie Cottey

“ online learning
innovation
excellence ”



Paul Mathews
Principal

Kaya.

Hello Students, Parents, Caregivers, Staff and members of the SIDE community.

As a very recent arrival to the SIDE team, having only been here since the beginning of Term 4, I am amazed at what I have discovered at SIDE so far and feel very privileged to be the new Principal.

My pathway to SIDE was certainly an unexpected direction, much like the unknown circumstances our world has faced this year. It would be fair to say that in January, I had no inkling of what was to unfold during 2020, which, by any measure, has been an extraordinary year.

From what started with a single case of COVID-19, the entire world was caught in the grip of a fierce virus. While WA was generally spared from a horrendous illness and death toll, the impact here was still profound and I can only marvel at the resilience of our community and I applaud the efforts of our students and staff to remain connected to education during the pandemic.

My work to support secondary schools during the COVID-19 period connected me with SIDE, which eventuated in my successful application for the role as principal.

I bring 15 years of principal experience to the SIDE role. Previously I have been a Principal at Kalgoorlie Boulder Community High School, Manea Senior College in Bunbury, Casuarina Senior College in Darwin and I was also a Principal Advisor with the WA Department of Education from 2018 through to arriving at SIDE.

I look forward to getting to know more of our wonderful community and continuing to learn about the ways SIDE supports so many students across not only WA, but nationally and internationally.

I would like to wish everyone a safe, relaxing and connected Christmas and look forward to a pandemic free year in 2021.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS CELEBRATE THE END OF PRIMARY SCHOOL



► NAIDOC WEEK AT SIDE

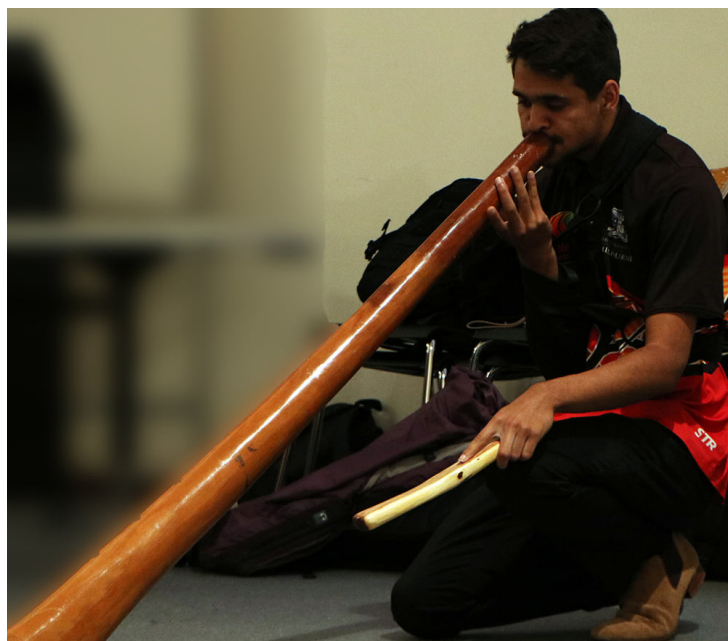
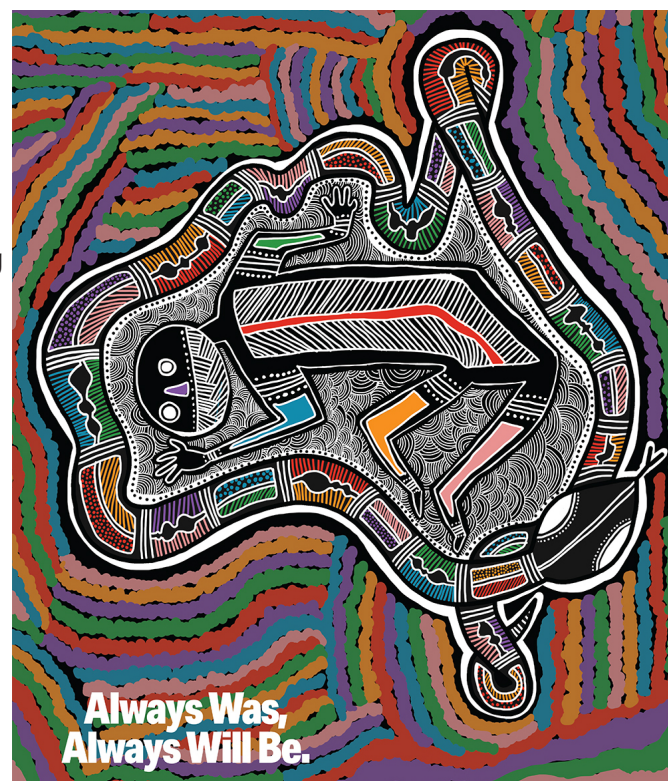
"Always Was, Always Will Be."

NAIDOC Week was celebrated at SIDE in various ways. The Resource Centre and the Primary teams share their activities in their sections of this newsletter. Below are two examples of other activities which occurred during NAIDOC Week.

JONATHAN GARLETT – WHOLE SCHOOL

SIDE Deputy Principal Shane Yardley invited Jonathan Garlett to talk with and perform for SIDE staff. Jonathan is originally from Geraldton. He is an elite athlete, excelling in high jump and triple jump at a National level. He was also a member of the National Championship winning WA 18s AFL team in 2019. Jonathan is a proud advocate for the culture and heritage of the Aboriginal people. Jonathan discussed his role as a leader within his family and his culture.

Jonathan performed at several significant venues during NAIDOC Week accompanying his family dance troupe. Not only did he perform at SIDE but also at Parliament House, Government House and the Annual Awards night for Netball West Coast Fever.



THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY - ARTS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Guest speaker, April Phillips, a Wiradjuri woman from the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra spoke with SIDE students and staff via Webex during NAIDOC week as part of the Gallery's NAIDOC Week program. SIDE Photography teacher, Pauline Abordi hosted the event. The Arts and Technologies teachers were joined by teachers from English.

April presented the SIDE audience with a range of portraits – all of which represented their subject, and which also implied a hidden story. She guided participants through the techniques each portrait used, and also the symbolic ways they each communicated the emotional life and context of each person.

Pauline Abordi was able to discuss the images with her photography classes during the week. Due to copyright requirements and respect for the subjects and artists, the images are not able to be reproduced in this article. Pauline recommends the following images from the [National Portrait Gallery's website \(www.portrait.gov.au\)](http://www.portrait.gov.au). Please note that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers are warned that this website contains images of deceased persons.

Click on the links to view and reflect on the images.

[Acc. No. 2003.13.5 Banduk Markia 1990 by Anne Zahalka](#)

[Acc. No. 2008.69 John Tjakamarra 1974 \(printed 2000\) by Jon Rhodes](#)

[Acc. No. 2017.137 Portrait of Jawoyn Elder, Margaret Katherine 2015 by John Gollings](#)

[Acc. No. 2013.61 Charles Perkins on Bus to Tranby Aboriginal College, Glebe c. 1964 \(printed 2003\) by Robert McFarlane](#)

[Acc. No. 2018.59 Jessica Mauboy 2018 by David Rosetzky](#)

[Acc. No. 2015.112 Adam \(Adam Goodes\) 2014 by Alan Jones](#)

The portraits invite us to reflect on what it is like to "Walk in two different worlds". As students of design we reflected on the symbolism in each of these images - this included body language and facial expressions.
(Pauline Abordi)

As well as the individual works, the photography classes discussed Gollings' work not only as an Environmental Portrait, but as a fine example of Architectural Photography. Students were asked to reflect on what this cave structure may have represented and its significance to Aboriginal Australians 28 000 years ago. Take a look at the images online of *Narwarla Gabarmung Rock Shelter in remote Arnhem Land*, which are featured in Gollings' portrait.

These NAIDOC week lessons triggered some very positive and powerful discussions in classes. Students opened their minds and hearts to the stories.

When asked to comment on 'What is more powerful: photography, the written word, or the spoken word?', Year 9 students responded:

There is power in the symbols and storytelling. Remi

The photograph can tell a powerful story and how the person is feeling. Mitch

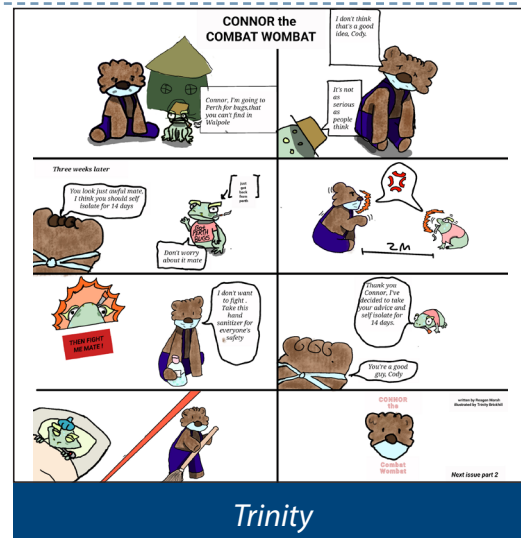
Photographs are more powerful, they don't need words to be powerful, you can look into a photograph and see what it is about. Jeb

► YEAR 11 GENERAL ART

Year 11 Trinity reflects on the creation of 'Connor the Combat Koala' during COVID which was published in her local newspaper.

I work at the Walpole Community Resource Centre. During COVID, I was working a lot more and a co-worker started talking about a wombat. My co-worker and I made a quick funny story line for this wombat in the time of COVID, and I did some character sketches. After some development in the characters we created our first comic.

The Walpole CRC also publishes the Walpole Weekly, a newspaper for our local community. I showed this comic to the manager and she thought it would be fun thing to read for kids during lock down. and so for the next seven weeks 'Connor the Combat Wombat' was born.



► LESTER PRIZE FOR YOUTH FINALISTS

This is the first year that SIDE ATAR Visual Arts students have entered the competition for exhibition in the Lester Prize for Youth. It is wonderful to see that SIDE's two entries were chosen as finalists among only ten finalists for Year 11-12. Year 11 Amara studied Art with SIDE while attending Manjimup Senior High School, and Jay was a Year 12 ATAR student at SIDE.

While neither Amara nor Jay won an award, we congratulate them on their artistic achievement in 2020. They attended a special event for finalists on 11 November at Brookfield Place in Perth, accompanied by their parents and SIDE Art teacher Richard Wu.

Go to SIDE Online News on our [website](#) to find out more about the event and Amara and Jay's work.



Amara



Amara and Jay



Jay

► THANKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

SIDE Business teachers would like to thank our students for participating in thought-provoking discussions on business and finance concepts this year.

Business ideas have ranged from establishing a local Uber-style taxi service in Tom Price, a hole in the wall café in Floreat and an exclusive range of local swimwear in Exmouth. Accounting, Certificate II Financial Skills, and Business Management and Enterprise students have been learning to keep financial records in order and striving to create successful businesses by analysing liquidity and profitability while considering current sustainability issues.

We have seen an impressive 94% qualification achievement rate from the Certificate II Business students – well done everyone!

We wish our Year 12 students well, particularly those who are pursuing a tertiary qualification in Business/Commerce next year.

► DRAGSTER CHALLENGE

Week 3 was a busy week for the D and T staff visiting Kellerberrin, Mukinbudin and Kulin District High Schools for the SIDE Dragster Challenge which is part of their woodwork program. Year 7 to 10 students designed and built their own custom-designed, compressed gas-powered dragster during the term. It was great to see the turnout as the whole school and community members watched and cheered. Parents and staff also participated in the heats as 'Celebrity racers' on the day, and the event was finished with a community sausage sizzle after the presentations.



Rikki and Archie

► DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Year 7 students have produced some great designs this term. Here are two examples.



Serviette holder by Sienna

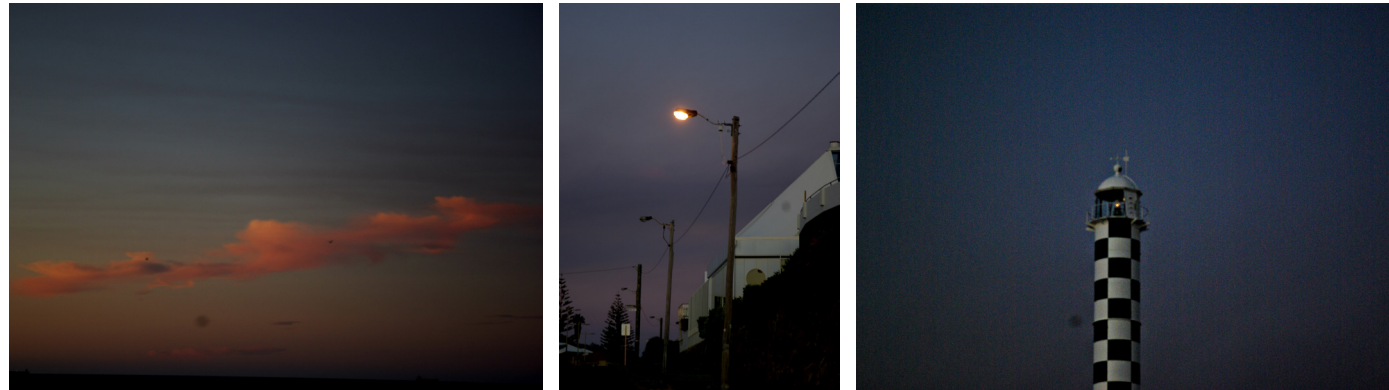


A steady hand game by Caitlyn

► PHOTOGRAPHY

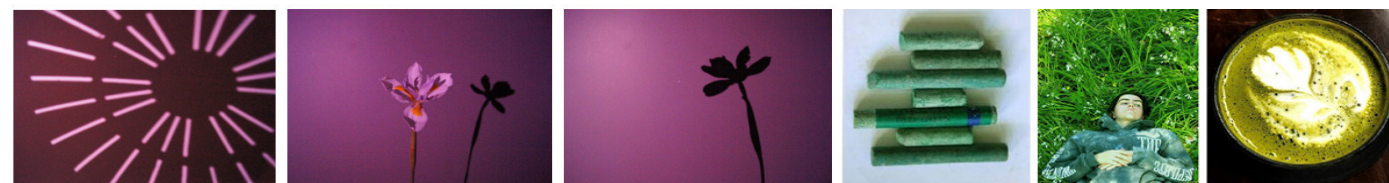
Year 10 Task 7: Who am I?

Donnybrook DHS students show wonderful creative expression in these photos.



Sinead's photos of the world around her are very atmospheric.

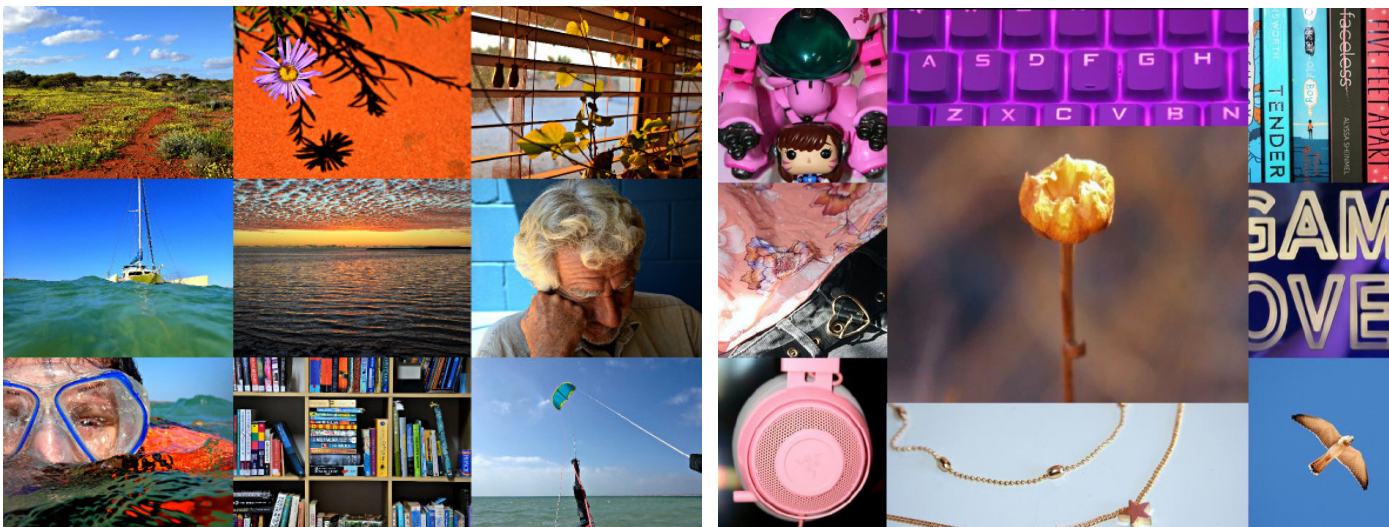
Racheal and Milly took photos of their favourite colours in the world around them.



Racheal

Milly

Students at Shark Bay School produced this fine series of nine photos to create a collage which reflects 'Who they are'.

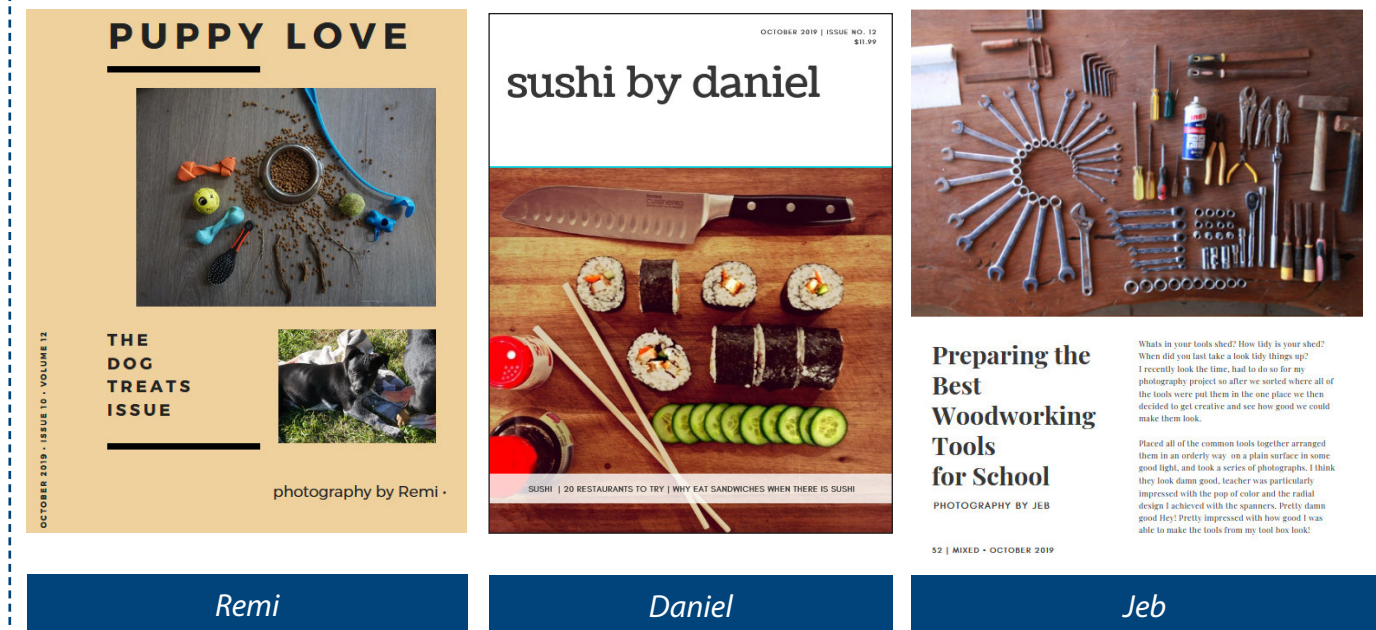


Catherine

Laylah

Year 9 Flat Lay

Flat Lay is a photo of objects arranged as a composition on a table. The photo is taken from above. Students were required to place their photos into a magazine layout.



Remi

Daniel

Jeb

Year 12 Design

Mia took a series of photographs (up to ten individual photos of rubbish, the park bench, the landscape and the tree) and digitally combined them to create a photomontage asking the residents of Broome not to 'Trash their Treasure'. This is a fine example of a photomontage!



In Term 4 students have been engaged in novel studies, critical analyses, oral presentations and of course working hard to prepare for end-of-year examinations. SIDE English teachers continue to enjoy strengthening connections with students, supervisors and school communities by travelling to regional and metropolitan partner schools across the state.

► SIDE ENGLISH TEACHERS OUT VISITING IN TERM 4

Shenton College – Deaf Education Centre

This term Donella Grieco visited her Year 11 Foundation English students at the Deaf Education Centre at Shenton College. The Year 11 Foundation English students have been working on their micro-teaching projects in which students used the inquiry process to answer essential questions about a topic of interest. Students then taught their teacher and classmates about their chosen topic.

There was such a range of topics selected which truly reflected the diverse range of interests of students in the class. Foundation teachers and students enjoyed learning all about the key features of communicating in Auslan, the history of deaf pilots in Australia, techniques for applying make up, techniques for drawing Manga comics, how to prepare for a fishing trip in Jarlmaradhang, and how to create a painting using the acrylic pouring method.



Shenton College Deaf Education Students with their micro-teaching project research compiled on sticky notes on A3 paper.



Kelly teaches her class the history of origami and how to make an origami crane.



Simon and Lucy Brookes-Kenworthy

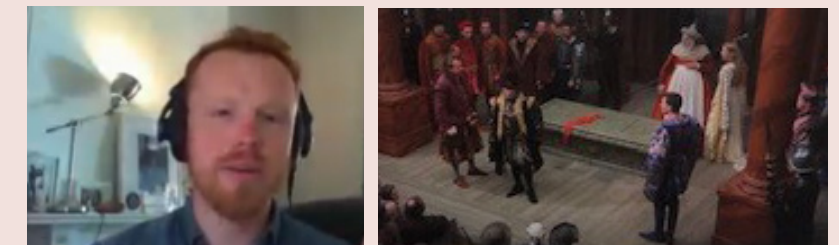
Newton Moore Senior High School

ATAR exams can be daunting, and Lucy Brookes-Kenworthy was thrilled to be able to meet with her EALD student Simon at Newton Moore Senior High School for some face-to-face revision for his Year 11 exams.

► YEAR 10 SHAKESPEARE EXPERIENCE

As part of the Year 10 English unit 'Sharing the Stage', experienced actor and performer Patrick Cullen presented a special workshop on the life and times of Shakespeare and the famous work *Romeo and Juliet*. Patrick provided a number of insights into Elizabethan theatre and students were able to participate in some online acting together.

It was wonderful to see students so engaged and then able to apply this learning to planning, developing and performing their own creative works.



Patrick Cullen presenting the Shakespeare workshop via Webex

► YEAR 10 DRAMATIC MONOLOGUES

Students were asked to draw on their study of *Romeo and Juliet* to create their own dramatic monologues based on the theme of Love and/or Hate. All monologues were recorded and many students demonstrated exceptional acting skills.

Sigh by Millie (Year 10)

Daily Life... the activities and experiences that constitute a person's normal existence. A definition as boring and unfulfilling as the exact word its describing. Yet, I didn't sign up for "normal". Normal is what I live in yet I'm not normal, I never have or wanted to be. But I think I settled; settled for comfort and security. He was that security I needed yet he unfortunately became a part of it. The daily life. That was the hardest thing to witness.

How boring. How lethargic and mundane life has turned out to be. 4 years of rinse and repeat, working for others, trying to get noticed and only now, after all that waiting and sacrifice, I achieved this ___ of a promotion. How is that worth it? How is that fair? The wait was too long; and I don't want to wait around with the daily life anymore.

No escape by Amity (Year 10)

I walk around with my head towards the floor because of you

Because of you I feel so scared that I may do something wrong

Something so wrong that everyone looks at me like I've got a bug on my face! (loud)

You make me feel so small as if I'm just a small speck on a rock,

You send me into elevators that suddenly break and stop, (fast)

The doors are closed and the space around me gets smaller and smaller, (fast)

I'm trapped, (breathe) and there is no escape.

I feel as if the weight of the world is crushing me, slowly but surely...

HaSS students and teachers continue to enjoy the opportunity to visit students in the regions. These visits significantly add value to the learning process.

In Term 4 Year 7-10 HaSS students studied a variety of topics and contexts which developed their Civics and Citizenship understandings and skills. Undoubtedly, the timing of the USA presidential election was a great motivator for some students as they were keen to share their insights in class.

In response to student requests, this year the HaSS staff developed a new senior secondary course, Year 11 General Politics and Law. This course will expand our Year 11 and 12 offerings and the Year 12 course will be developed next year for 2022. SIDE now offers engaging courses in ATAR Economics, and ATAR and General Courses in History, Geography, and Politics and Law. Year 10 HaSS students are encouraged to consider a senior secondary HaSS course next year.

We thank our Year 11 and 12 students for their good work and wish them success in their exams.

Next year, two of our teachers will take well-deserved leave. Lindy Precious will be away all year and Valda Puls will be away for Semester 1. We wish these highly valued staff members a fun-filled, well-earned holiday.

► AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

We would like to share some very exciting Geography news. Year 12, Sascha, participated in the Australian Geography Competition and was the top Western Australia student in this competition, competing against students from public and private schools.

In addition, the Year 11 and 12 SIDE students who participated achieved a high number of certificates at a high distinction, distinction and credit level. The senior school Geography teachers, Patti, Adele and Tracy have been very impressed by the commitment of all students to the competition especially given its postponement to later in the year due to the COVID epidemic. They look forward to the participation of SIDE students in the 2021 competition.

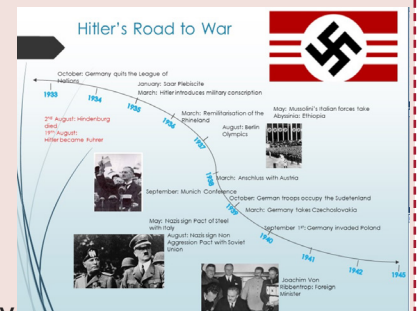


Tracy Sterling and Sascha

Australian Geography Competition Results

► MILITARY WEBEX LESSON

A number of the Year 11 Modern History students had the opportunity to attend a special Webex lesson on World War II military history. The lesson was hosted by Peter O'Neill, the SIDE military history expert. In this lesson, we examined the political and strategic consequences of the actions of the belligerents and discussed a host of interesting military facts. This extra lesson linked to content in course work on Nazi Germany and provided an opportunity to discuss historical contestability, an important Modern History skill. We also discussed how the Nazis' aims and ideology were reflected in their quest to conquer the world. Thanks to Peter and Ros for making this happen.



Nathan and Anton, East Kimberley College

► REGIONAL VISITS

NORTH ALBANY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Victoria Brolsma enjoyed a regional visit to North Albany Senior High School during Week 3 of this term. There is a particularly enthusiastic group of Year 11 Economics students at the school, and Victoria spent a half day of revision with them in preparation for the examination. She revisited the main concepts of economics studied in the course, and conducted a skills session about writing extended answers and interpreting graphs and statistics. The students have forged a cohesive group and work well together, helping each other out and providing support.

"I have been continually impressed during my first year at SIDE with the way SIDE students are able to self-motivate and achieve success without the teacher contact usually enjoyed by their peers. COVID-19 has certainly given us a lot to consider in this subject area, so we analysed what has happened over the course of this year and what the implications are for the students as they look forward to leaving full-time school education in 15 short months. They made a great start during Week 5 of this term, by all achieving success in their examination, proving that if you're willing to put in the work, you will be rewarded. I am looking forward to working with these students during their final year of schooling in 2021."

THE KIMBERLEY REGION

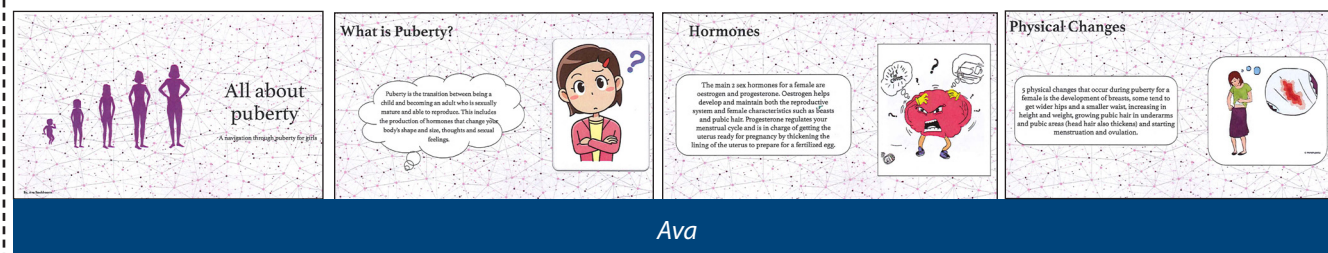
Valda Puls has also been busy this term visiting the Kimberley region.

"As a HaSS teacher I was particularly fortunate to be able to visit the Kimberley region for the first time in September. I travelled with Maths teacher, Ron Evans, to Bidyadanga south of Broome to visit students at La Grange Remote Community School. We spent two days at the school, working with, and getting to know the students and staff associated with the SIDE classroom. They have a dedicated classroom which is very well set up. We were looked after well, by the SIDE Supervisor, Nikki Glynn."

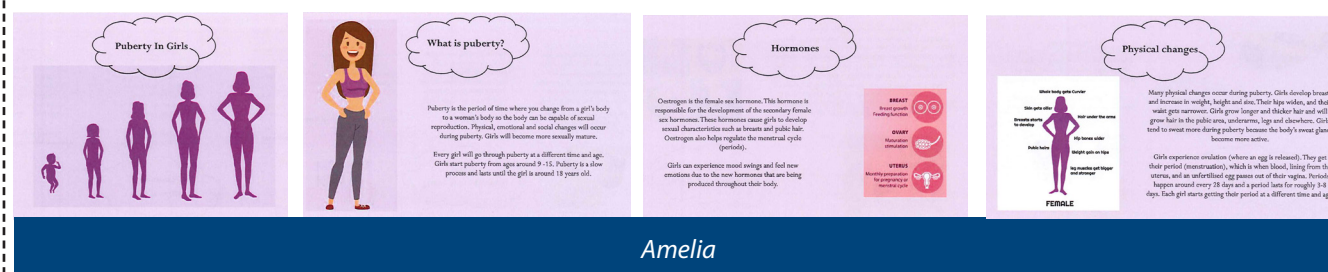
In Term 4, Maths teacher Carmel Rankin and myself finally managed the trip to Wyndham that had originally been scheduled for early Term 1. This visit had been postponed due to travel restrictions during the year. We arrived very early on a Monday morning to visit with the students and staff associated with the SIDE program. Wyndham District High School has a dedicated classroom similar to that at La Grange School. We were urged to have a good look around the local area before we left. It was a wonderful and enriching experience."

► LOWER SCHOOL HEALTH

Year 7 Dance students completed their unit of work on 'Respectful Relationships' and 'Transitions (Puberty)'. As always, it is a fun topic to teach, and for students to learn about as they approach the wonderful years of being a teenager. Students created an information pamphlet / booklet which outlined the physical/social and emotional changes during puberty, managing specific issues, eg menstruation, and where to go to seek help if required. The following pamphlets by Ava and Amelia were outstanding.



Ava



Amelia

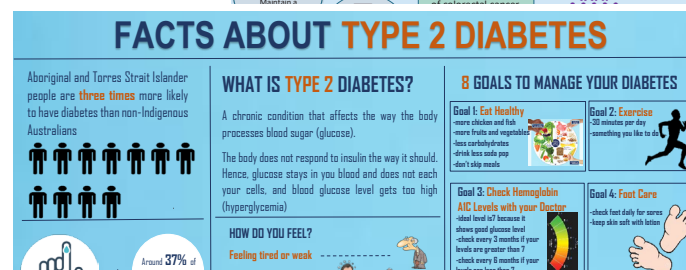
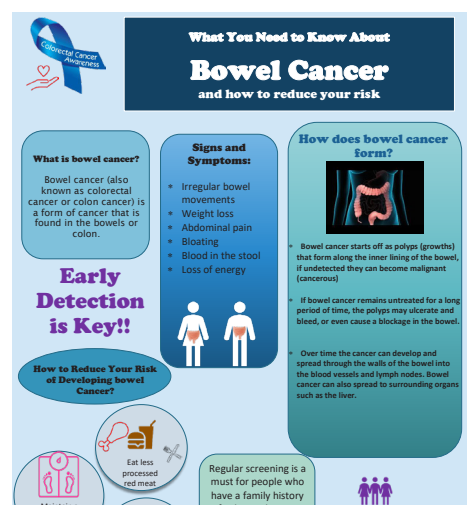
► SENIOR SCHOOL HEALTH STUDIES

Congratulations and well done to the Year 12 Health Studies ATAR and General students, on the completion of their final school year. The students were an absolute delight to teach and the HPE staff wish them all the best for whatever pathway they choose.

A shout out also to our Year 11 ATAR and General students who are coming to the end of year as we write this newsletter; a big high five for making it. We look forward to you all returning in 2021.

Highlights for teachers were the regional visits to Port Hedland Senior High School, Eaton Community College and Champion Bay Senior High School.

The Year 12 General and ATAR students finished off the year creating health promotion campaign material linked to a chronic condition experienced in Australia. Keera and Sophia are to be commended for the high standard of work produced for this task.



► CHAMPION BAY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Three SIDE teachers visited Champion Bay Senior High School this term to work with their Year 11 ATAR students. Health teacher Kirsty O'Halloran, Mathematics teacher Giang Nguyen and Physics teacher Alex Berentzen made the trip to Geraldton. After a flight delay, they arrived safe and sound to a windy Geraldton. The trip enabled the students in the Health Studies course to have a full day of small group study. Reports from the students and school supervisor Timothy Collier were positive about the value of the trip. More regional visits will be a priority in 2021.



► COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARENESS

Think about the health events below and take action in 2021.



Movember is now an annual event held throughout the month of November to raise awareness of men's health issues, including, prostate cancer, testicular cancer and male suicide. Find out more about the event or get involved, maybe by growing a moustache. au.movember.com

If you are interested in developing a better understanding of mental health and the stigma which prevents males all around Australia seeking help, view the following recommended documentary [Man-up Documentary](#) on ABC iview or go to the [Man-Up](#) website.

16 Days in WA

The 16 Days in WA to Stop Violence Against Women initiative began in 2017, led by the McGowan Government.

For 16 days in November and December, the community was invited to take a part in a major effort to encourage change to stop violence against women. The annual 16 Days in WA – Stop Violence Against Women campaign takes place from 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, to 10 December, which is Human Rights Day. Now in its fourth year, 16 Days in WA draws inspiration from the global movement for 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence to drive a change in culture, behaviour and attitudes that lead to violence against women and their children. Go to the 16 days in WA [website](#) for activities, resources and key contact information.



Term 4 has been another busy one for the Languages Department. A number of school visits have taken place and these include visits to Gairdner Primary School, Pingrup Primary School and Cranbrook Primary School.

Indonesian

Students enjoyed learning about Indonesian dance and performance and made some colourful masks.



Gairdner Primary School



Japanese

Students at Ongerup Primary School have been enjoying learning their Hiragana script and have been using Playdoh to create their characters.



Ongerup Primary School

French

A number of our primary French students entered a sticker creation spelling completion. Congratulations to Brooke and Jimmy from Binu Primary School and Isabelle from Cascade Primary School who were all winners.



This year we have been fortunate to have four language assistants at SIDE. We are excited to welcome most of them back to SIDE next year. We would like to thank Riza Suryandari for her amazing work this year with our students and wish her all the very best as she moves to Geraldton for 2021.

As the year draws to an end we wish to congratulate all our Year 12 language students on a wonderful year of language learning and wish them all the very best for their future endeavours.

For our students returning in 2021, we hope you have a great break and look forward to saying "konnichi wa", "bonjour", "selamat siang" and "ciao" to you all very soon.

Term 4 has been a very productive term for all our staff and students as we finished off a rather extraordinary year and started preparation for next year. Teachers have been busy finalising their teaching and learning programs, culminating in the writing of student reports. Given this strange year, every student is to be congratulated on their wonderful effort with their learning programs. We are all looking forward to next year and hoping it will be disruption free!

Teachers in Learning Support have continued to visit students in regional areas this term. Visiting students and schools is an essential component of our programs and gives us all an opportunity to develop stronger relationships. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

We thank every member of the Learning Support team for another wonderful year, all the teachers in our partner schools for their amazing support and importantly, all the students, for striving to do their best in a challenging year. We wish everyone a wonderful and safe Christmas break and look forward to seeing you all in 2021.

► REGIONAL VISIT TO SHARK BAY

Robin Williams visited her Year 10 students at Shark Bay this term. Robin said, *"It was great to meet Loki and Kyle in person, to get to know them and the Shark Bay staff, and to see their work environment and the beautiful environment in which they live. Thank you Shark Bay School for our enjoyable visit!"*

Robin worked on some tasks with students and while there they read their novel together. Stacey (SIDE Student Coordinator) and Robin discussed options and goals for 2021.



Kyle and Robin Williams

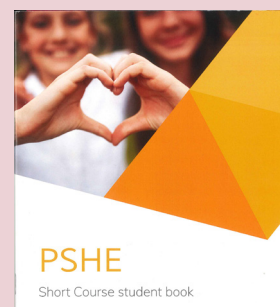


Loki and Robin Williams

► NEW ASDAN COURSES FOR 2021

Due to the success of our ASDAN courses we will be adding a new short course in 2021 and three new courses to the Towards Independence courses: The three new courses are Geography, E-Safety and History which will be ready for Semester 2 in 2021.

The PSHE (Personal, social, health and economic education) short course will cover topics such as emotional wellbeing, keeping safe and healthy, social media, alcohol, tobacco and drugs, sexual health and respectful relationships.



► YEAR 8 SCIENCE

Year 8 students grew their own sugar crystals this term. Students needed to produce a saturated solution (a solution that contains as much solute [sugar, in our investigation] that can possibly be dissolved at a set temperature). Students were provided with a step-by-step process, including an equipment checklist and possible hazards/ safety risks. Storm from Shark Bay School successfully completed the task. Storm's photos clearly show the sugar crystals forming inside the glass. A superb effort Storm!



► ASDAN CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to the following students who completed their ASDAN portfolios, achieved moderation and received their certificates in 2020.

Short Courses & Vocational Tasters

- Daniel
- Amy
- Laura

Workright

- Brandy
- Daniel
- Gavin
- Amy

Towards Independence

- Gary
- Kyla
- Leesharnie
- Lori
- Gavin
- Wesley
- Wyatt
- Kirra

Transition Challenge

- Riley
- Domonic
- Joseph
- Jasmine

► YEAR 9 POETRY

Year 9 students studied poetry this semester as part of their English course. In one of their tasks, they had to create a poem using similes.

Bronson created a poem about his home town Kellerberrin.

Home Town

Water as cold as ice.
Trees as tall as giraffes.
Cooking as good as a god.
Grass as green as a lizard.
Wheat as dry as the desert.
A hill as big as a mountain.
Weather as clear as the ocean.
Dogs as smart as an alien.

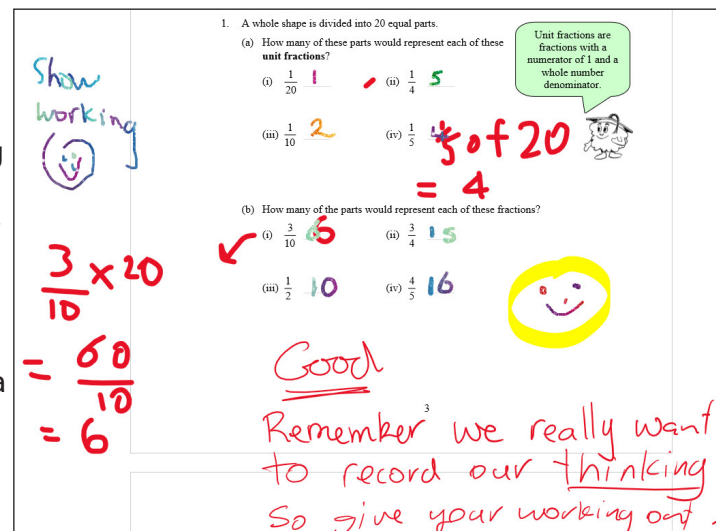
This sonnet was written by William.

Fishing

Fishing is my greatest love it's true
in my chair I'll sit all day
and listen to the cockatoos
while I'm enjoying my day away.
My troubles at home they can wait
for now only fishing is on my mind
fish or not my time is great
and the biggest fish I will find.
In the heat I'll fish on the sand
and I'll wait for a fish to take my line
while I hold my reel in my hand
the fish takes my line and I know its time.
Fishing is worth the strife
because it's my way of life.

As the 20th year of the 3rd millennium comes to a close, 2020 for many has been the 'worst year in living memory' or, as one famous lady said, my "annus horribilis". For the first-time Head of Learning Area (HOLA), Ron Evans, it was a challenging year as well, but he hopes, as the whole world is hoping, next year is an annus mirabilis!

For the Mathematics Learning Area this year brought about challenges both known and unknown. In Year 7, 8 and 9 new explicit teaching resources were developed by SIDE Maths teachers. The resources used a model of a weekly Webex lesson accompanied by three structured lessons. A strength of this new resource is the teacher feedback provided via OneNote or uploaded to Moodle. Some teachers also began a second weekly Webex support lesson, which the Mathematics learning area hopes to expand in 2021.



Teachers visited some of our Mathematics students across the State, with regular visits to Western Australian schools such as Belmont City College, Newman Senior High School, Hedland Senior High School, La Grange Remote Community School, Shenton College Deaf Education Centre and many others. These support visits were complemented by our collaboration with the Regional Learning Specialists (RLS team) Barry Cotter and Noemi Coffey who also visited schools and offered Year 11-12 Mathematics support for students, teachers and parents.

While new Mathematics materials were being created for SIDE students, the SIDE Maths Department was integral to the development of the WA Department of Education's COVID-19 Mathematics resources for the Connected Learning Hub, enabling students who were unable to attend a regular school to work from home.

► AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to our exceptional award winners:

- Year 7: Ella Ricetti, Year 8: Isabella Lockyer, Year 9: Helena Harris, Year 10: Jane Kotsoglo
- Year 11: Maths Foundation – James Perez, Maths Essential – Emily Moore, Maths Applications – Olivia Devine, Maths Methods – Kiana Andrews, and Maths Specialist – Benjamin Foster
- Year 12: Maths Foundation – Eva Baksh, Maths Essential – Chloe Ransom, Maths Applications – Jack Choate, Maths Methods – Hudson Slack, and Maths Specialist – Max Ritchie.

► THE MATHEMATICS TEAM

Next year Ron will resume his teaching duties as Jim O'Neill returns from a well-deserved year off. Jim's plans for his year off changed due to the COVID epidemic, and he was recruited to the Department's COVID response, preparing learning resources for the Connected Learning Hub.



Seated L-R: Karen Loreck, Harry May, Ying Sturma, Kim Winton
Standing L-R: Giang Nguyen, Tim Travis, Kym Grange, Carmel Rankin, Ron Evans, Andrew Grieve, Greg Piggott, Angus Hogan
Absent: Tori Brotsma, Lorraine Backhouse, Cindy Gold, Anne Paull, Mikka Rautavirta

► HOLIDAY TIME

School holidays are a great opportunity to apply your understandings of Mathematics and keep your brain synapses firing! Here are some fun Maths riddles you may like to share with your friends and family while on holiday:

1. Nicholas has a box of ornaments that he uses to decorate his tree each year. All of them are blue, except for six. All of them are green, except for six. All of them are red, except for six. How many of each coloured ornament does Nicholas have?
2. Ron and Jim were both born on Christmas Eve. When Ron was 6 years old, Jim was half his age. If Ron turns 100 years old this Christmas Eve, how old is Jim going to be?
3. If a hen and a half lay an egg and a half in a day and a half, how many eggs will half a dozen hens lay in half a dozen days?



Answers
1. Nick has 9 ornaments in total: 3 blue, 3 green and 3 red.
2. When Ron is 100, Jim will be 97.
3. Two dozen. If you increase both the number of hens and the amount of time available four-fold, the number of eggs increases 16 times. $16 \times 1.5 = 24$.

We would like to start by thanking all students, supervisors and parents for all their hard work this year. Being organised and maintaining regular contact with teachers helps students succeed at SIDE. Major developments in our Moodle and Webex delivery platforms are also enabling some of the hurdles of distance learning to be overcome.

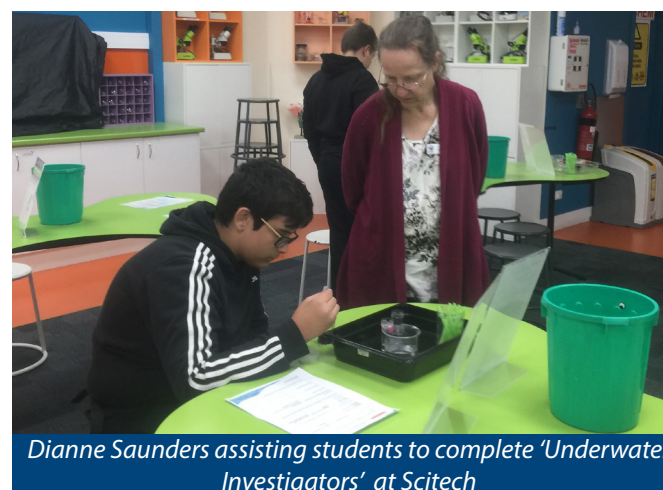
► STUDENT VISITS 2020

It is always great to have the opportunity to work with your teacher face to face and SIDE offers opportunities for that to happen. SIDE Science teachers have been able to visit students in all regions of Western Australia this year as well working with students on site at SIDE during student visits.

Here are some highlights



Dianne Saunders, Dianna Tomazos and the Bidyadanga students at Scitech



Dianne Saunders assisting students to complete 'Underwater Investigators' at Scitech



Dianna Tomazos, Alex Berentzen with Adele Clark



Gerry Nolan and Year 10 Ballet students explore sunspots at SIDE



Chevron students exploring careers in the oil & gas industry at RAC arena



Jim Marshall with Year 12 students Maria and Casey from the Elite Performance Program

► THANK YOU AND SEE YOU NEXT YEAR

We would like to conclude by thanking the hard-working teachers of Science for all their work this year.

For those students finishing with SIDE this year we wish you all the best for the future. To returning students have a great break and we will see you back ready to work hard in 2021.



PAUL TOURNAY one of our lower school Science and Human Biology specialist teachers, retires at the end of 2020. Paul has been with us for over 20 years and has worked with many students over that time. We wish him a safe and happy retirement.

► STAYING SAFE ONLINE

On holidays? You probably spend more time online, right? Having fun online is a great holiday pastime – gaming with friends, watching cool videos... what's not to love? But, what do you do when things go wrong? How much time should you spend online? How do you handle unwanted contact or cyberbullying?



Find out answers to these questions (and more) by accessing the resources on the eSafety Commissioner's website, which has tailored, age appropriate information for kids, young people and parents.

eSafetykids

For kids, visit [eSafetykids](https://www.esafety.gov.au/kids)

eSafetyyoung people

For young people, visit [eSafetyyoung people](https://www.esafety.gov.au/youngpeople)

eSafetyparents

For parents, visit [eSafetyparents](https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents)

Need to check out the suitability of an app or online game?

Use [The eSafety Guide](https://www.esafety.gov.au/guide)



Image from Pixabay

► MANAGING YOUR MOBILE

There's no doubt that mobile phones are an incredible technology. In the palm of our hand we have access to unlimited information, entertainment, and online social networking. However, digital addiction is real. Being constantly glued to our phones can contribute to mental health issues such as stress, insomnia and depression, and there are studies to prove it. If you think you might be addicted to your phone and need to detox, try these simple tips.

Turn off notifications – Constant beeps and pops only distract you and make you reach for your phone when you really don't need to. Turn off as many notifications as you can, so that you can better focus on what you are doing.

Go without – Start small with this one. Try leaving your phone for a short time, for example, when you stop for lunch. This allows you to be more present with what is happening in the world around you.

Fade to grey – Part of what makes phones so addictive are the bright colours constantly on display. In settings, turn your phone to greyscale. Suddenly apps will lose their appeal when they appear in black and white.

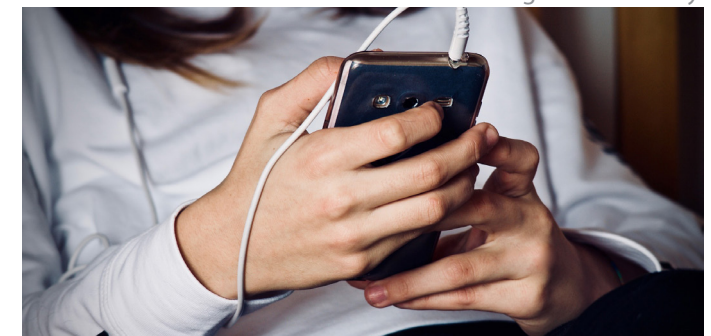


Image from Pixabay

► STUDENT USE OF ONLINE SOFTWARE: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CHANGES



Image from Pixabay

Much of the software we use on in our daily lives doesn't live on our computers. We live in an age of online applications, with everything from word processing to video editing available in the web browser. The benefits for distance education are obvious. In many cases, our students no longer need to download and install large software programs. Digital teaching and learning has moved from the CD-ROMs of 15 years ago (remember them?) to the web app. Along with the benefits comes a need for sensible caution.

As part of the Department of Education's ongoing efforts to educate and protect students from exposure to inappropriate online material and activities, new procedures for student use of third party online services will commence in 2021. Third party services mostly consist of online applications used in teaching and learning, such as *Mathletics* and *Reading Eggs*, along with some systems used for productivity and school operations, such as the *OverDrive* e-book lending platform.

The Department is conducting risk assessments of web applications. Teachers will not be able to use online applications with their students if they are deemed to pose an unacceptable risk to privacy and personal information. Parents and caregivers will be notified of what is being used, and in cases where students are required to create online accounts, consent forms will be issued and need to be returned. This process should be conducted electronically, and we're currently working hard to have things ready for the commencement of Term 1 next year.

The end of the year is fast approaching and what a year we've had! Despite COVID-19 restricting our travelling families and forced lockdowns for many, accompanied by the stress of separation from extended families and friends, our students have shown resilience and have made huge strides in their learning. Working together has brought about the best possible results for students.

A big thank you to our families for their hard work and support through this challenging year.

Here at SIDE we were also part of the COVID response team for the at-risk students who could not attend school.

► EARLY CHILDHOOD

A big thank you to all our home tutors who have worked tirelessly to assist in delivering the SIDE program and for ensuring work is completed and submitted on time. The videos and photos sent in to support the schoolwork have been amazing this year! We have thoroughly enjoyed working with our home tutors. We wish you all the very best for the remainder of the year and let's all look forward to 2021. Here are some highlights of the term.



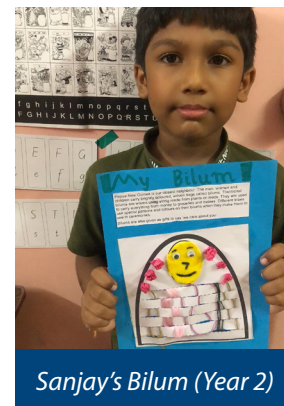
Leeheng (Year 1) car with moving parts



Emma (PP) using 3D recycled material



Gabriel's Bilum (Year 2)



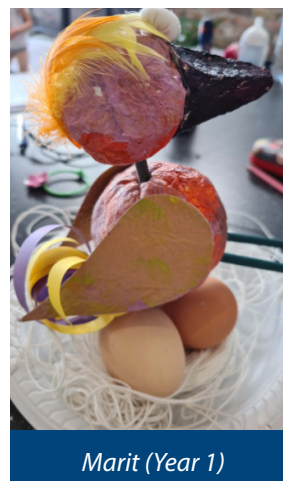
Sanjay's Bilum (Year 2)



A typical day at school for Emily (Year 2)



Hamish (K) makes 3D reptiles



Marit (Year 1)



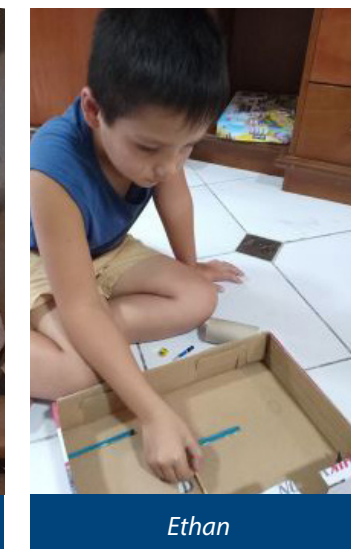
Aram showcases his 3D fire engine (Year 1)

► MIDDLE PRIMARY

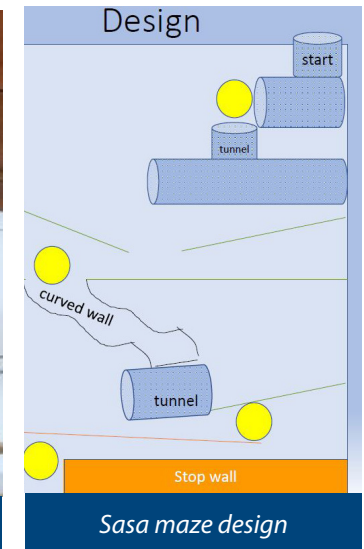
This term the Year 4 students have been looking at the properties of materials for Science, in particular the strength of materials for packaging. They have also designed and made marble maze games, with consideration of the smoothness of materials, the strength of the obstacles and the level of difficulty.



Ethan



Ethan



Sasa maze design

Online learning Maths

The Year 3s and 4s continue to be amazing. They live in many different places around the world. It is always wonderful to hear what is happening in their lives and their part of the world. This term the Year 3s have worked with 2D and 3D shapes as well as looking at the language of chance. We have also been working with analogue and digital time and the different language we use for both. The Year 4s have been working with 3D shapes including the properties of different prisms and pyramids. They have also investigated nets for shapes. The standard units of the metric measurement system have been investigated to help judge size, capacity and mass. Phew! Lots to learn and practise but usually we find time to finish our online sessions with a Mathematics game which we all enjoy!

a) Mark reads for 15 minutes each weekday. How much time does he read over one week?
b) He reads for one and a half hours each weekend day. What is the total amount of reading he does each week?

Weekdays are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. 45 min

$15 \times 5 = 75 \text{ minutes}$ $1 + 1 = 2$ $\text{half} + \text{half} = 1$ $2 + 1 = 3 \text{ hours}$ 3 hours and 75 minutes 4 hours and 15 minutes	$15 \text{ times } 5 = 75 \text{ mins}$ $1 + 1 = 2$ $30 + 30 = 1$ $2 + 1 = 3 \text{ hours}$	75 m 3 h $75 \text{ m } 3 \text{ h}$
75 mins 3 hours $3 \text{ hours and } 75 \text{ mins}$ 250 mins	$15 \times 5 = 75 \text{ min}$ $14 \text{ h } 15 \text{ min}$ $1 \text{ h} + 1 \text{ h} = 2 \text{ h}$ $\text{half} + \text{half} = 1$ $2 \text{ h} + 1 \text{ h} = 3 \text{ h}$	75 minutes $3 \text{ hours} + 1 + 15 \text{ minutes}$ $4 \text{ hours and } 15 \text{ minutes}$

Year 3 Maths

Geography

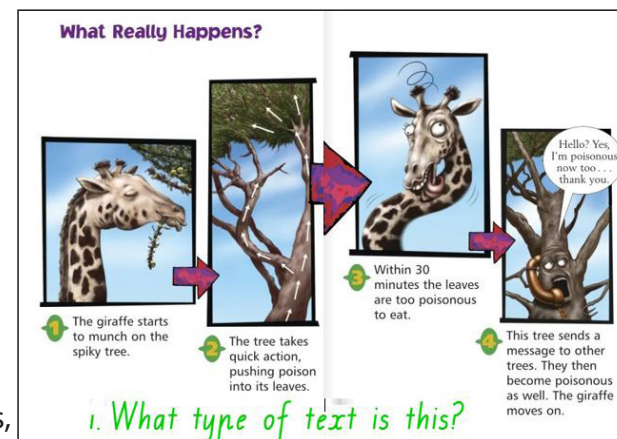
Each Monday the Year 3 and 4 Webex children have spent time getting to know one another a little better by sharing and listening to news. These opportunities have given the students time to chat with others of their own age in a secure environment, especially for those who have been isolated in different countries and situations. From this, friendships have developed outside of the Webex classroom which is great to see.

This term they have delved into the topic of natural resources provided by the environment, specifically water, timber, coal and cotton. They have discussed the importance of these resources and how they can be used sustainably. They understand the importance of environments to animals and people and can express their views on how environments can be protected. We have had some interesting discussions this term.

Literacy

The class has been reading and viewing different texts to link and sequence ideas, write and create different texts, and become independent readers.

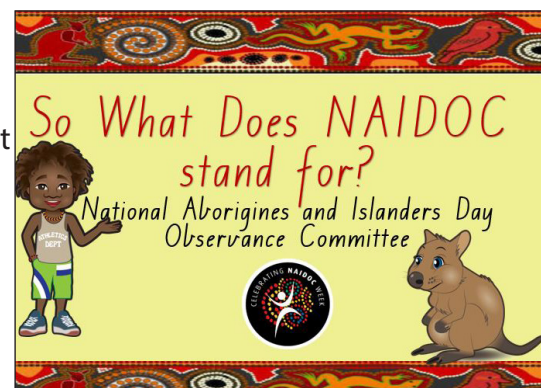
We have looked at some very interesting fiction and non-fiction texts, looking at sentence structures and the range of punctuation conventions. One of our favourite reads was 'Carnivorous Plants', where we learned that plants send messages to each other in many different ways, even by producing poison. Reading different texts also helped us to identify literal and implied meaning which created some very curious, and stimulating discussions on the texts that we read.



NAIDOC Week

The Year 3s and 4s have been learning about the culture and history of the Aboriginal people. Our online literacy lessons have lead up to NAIDOC Week, 2020. This year's theme "Always Was, Always Will Be", has allowed our classes to discuss what this theme means to the Aboriginal people. It was fantastic to hear the range of prior knowledge our Year 3s and 4s had about one of the oldest cultures in the world.

We have also been very lucky to have the SIDE Resource Centre provide us with a special NAIDOC Webex lesson, about Aboriginal authors and books. It was wonderful to see the range of books in our Resource Centre. We would also like to thank Liz Allen, for all of her efforts in putting this lesson together for our K-Yr 4 students.



UPPER PRIMARY

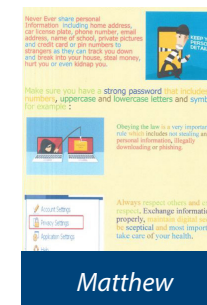
Webex

The sessions continued to cover English, Mathematics, HaSS and Science. Digital Technologies lessons were also included where students learned about the importance of having a balanced approach to using their devices and to be discerning consumers of the digital content they find on the internet.

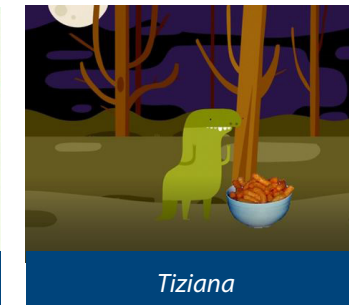
Student work

Year 5 students have been learning about Digital Technologies and what it means to be a responsible digital citizen. They learned coding skills which enabled them to design their own chase games and had fun playing these with friends and family.

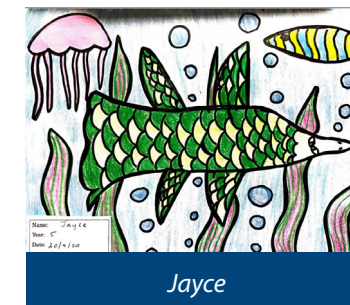
'Flying High', the Visual Arts unit enabled the students to develop their sketching skills and use different painting techniques to design and decorate the Japanese kites they made. As well as the beautiful designs, their construction and sewing skills were also excellent.



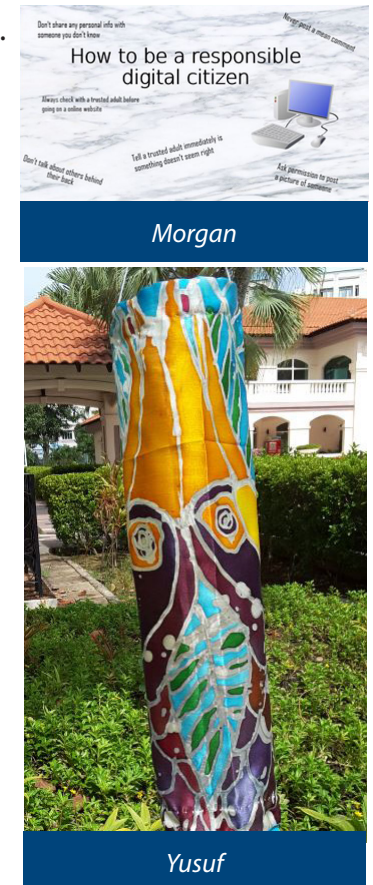
Matthew



Tiziana



Jayce



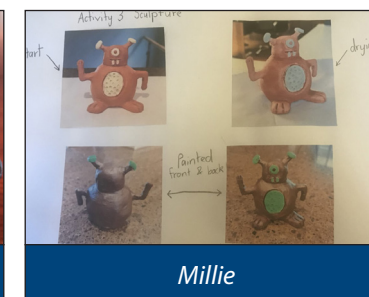
Yusuf

Year 6 students have been learning about the costs and benefits of owning a pet. They learned about the joy of having a pet as well as the ongoing costs to keep a pet happy and healthy. Students studied 'The Great Pet Debate' creating mind maps of the pets presented and also their own choice pet. A final presentation was submitted outlining the costs and benefits of their chosen pet.

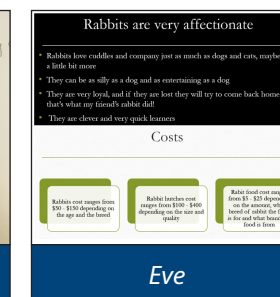
In Visual Arts students developed original ideas and creativity through the creation of an imaginary creature. They developed skills and techniques of contour drawing and 3D modelling. Student reflection and responses indicated a sound knowledge of simple terminology to describe and discuss key features of their art.



Matilda



Millie



Eve

► CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA BOOK WEEK 2020



Children's Book Council of Australia's Book Week took place in Week 2 this term. The theme was 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds' – [check out the SIDE LRC blog](#) to see photos of our displays and find out all about what we got up to.

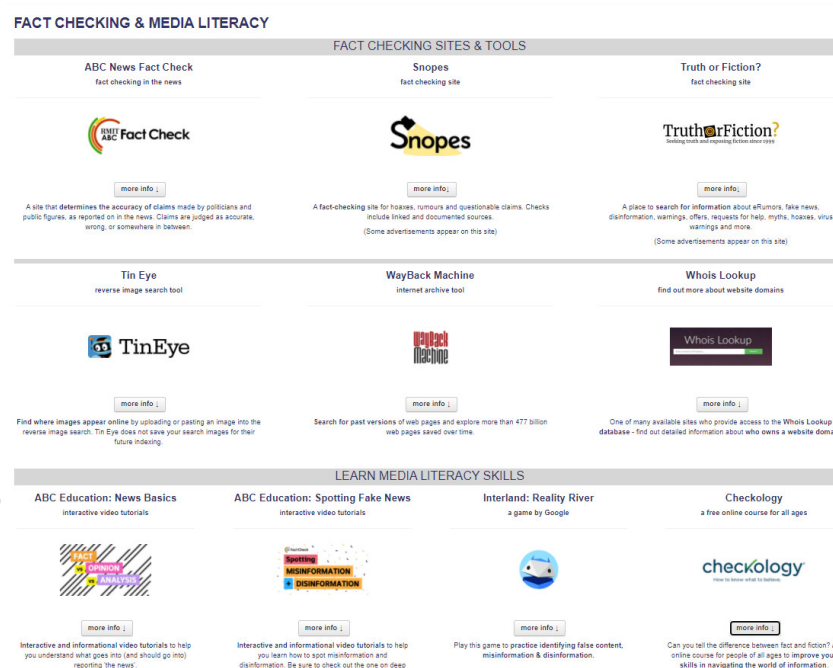
A highlight was the Year 5 and 6 session with Amy and Harry where students explored the CBCA Book of the Year Award shortlist for Younger Readers and found out who the winning and honour books were. Some students even dressed up for the session as their favourite book character. Go to the Resource Online LearnPath guides to find out more about this year's [CBCA Book Week](#) and [Book of the Year Awards](#).

► FACT CHECKING AND MEDIA LITERACY

A NEW PAGE IN THE RESOURCE CENTRE ONLINE

To celebrate [Global Media and Information Literacy Week](#) this year, we created a brand new page within the Resource Centre Online's 'Research' section: [Fact Checking & Media Literacy](#).

Can you tell fact from fiction when it comes to social media and the news? This new page contains a collection of some of our favourite fact checking sites and tools, as well as some places you can go to improve your media literacy skills. You can explore interactive video tutorials to test your skill at spotting deep fake images and videos, play a game by Google and even complete a free online course.



► FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

Did you know the SIDE Library Resource Centre has its own Instagram account?

Come on over and give us a follow. See book recommendations from students and staff, special events, displays, special story readings and more! (@side_libraryrc)



► A PRACTICUM STUDENT AND A NEW GRAPHIC NOVEL COLLECTION!

This term we were excited to host student Jessica Gibbs for her library studies practicum. Jessica undertook a Graduate Diploma in Information and Library Studies at Curtin University this year, and the three-week practicum with us marked the completion of her studies.

As part of her work with us, Jessica took on a small project (which turned out to be quite large!), to separate all of the graphic novels in our library's collection into an area just for themselves. Our collection includes over 300 titles across more than 20 genres and topics; including but not limited to sci-fi, adventure, comedy, horror, crime and high school. We have created a [LearnPath guide](#) where you can explore our collection.

- Check out the vast collection of subjects and art styles. There really is something for everyone.
- Browse and search both our physical and ebook graphic novels.
- Request and borrow titles
- Read reviews.

If you're on site, please come in and check out the collection in person!



New Graphic Novel Collection

► NAIDOC WEEK

As part of our NAIDOC Week celebrations focussing on this year's theme "Always Was, Always Will Be", the Library Resource Centre and Primary teachers collaborated on a Webex event for Pre-Primary–Year 4 students where we:

- talked about the features of NAIDOC Week
- discussed a range of stories by Aboriginal authors and illustrators
- shared *My Country* by Ezekiel Kwaymullina and Sally Morgan
- looked at suitable stories that could be loaned from the print and ebook library collections.

The students shared their interest and enthusiasm and particularly enjoyed discussing some of the amazing art work. Since NAIDOC Week, it has been exciting to hear that Professor Helen Milroy has been announced as the 2021 WA Australian of the Year. We had looked at her books *Backyard Birds*, *Willy-willy Wagtail* and *Wombat, Mudlark and Other Stories*. Another well-deserved award went to WA publisher Magabala Books, based in Broome which published *Young Dark Emu* by Bruce Pascoe. It won the 2020 Children's Book Council of Australia Eve Pownall Award for Information Books.



SIDE provides a range of support services and resources which students, families and schools are encouraged to use. Student Coordinators, in the secondary Student Services team, are a key contact and link between the student and/or school and SIDE teachers/parents/caregivers.

► TALK TO YOUR STUDENT COORDINATOR

SIDE students are allocated to regions which are related to their geographical location or circumstances. The Student Coordinator (SC) attached to each region is responsible for establishing and supporting all aspects of student enrolment. Access more information on the SIDE website under [Student Coordinators](#).

Where to find information?

The SIDE website <https://www.side.wa.edu.au/> contains important information about eligibility and enrolment as well as other general information such as supervision, support, attendance, charges, booklists and financial assistance. Parents and supervisors are encouraged to read as much information as possible with the recommended starting point the 7-12 ENROLMENT tab and the following two links below.

K-6 PRIMARY ▾

7-12 ENROLMENT ▾

7-12 CURRICULUM ▾

- **Fast Track to SIDE** – An introduction to SIDE for new students, parents/caregivers and supervisors <https://www.side.wa.edu.au/7-12-enrolment/student-support/fast-track-to-side.html>
- **Supervisor Support** – Support for parents/caregivers and school-based supervisors <https://www.side.wa.edu.au/7-12-enrolment/student-support/supervisor-support.html>

► CONGRATULATIONS

Year 11 student, Enya, has been accepted to participate in Scitech's Future Health Professionals program in Perth in January 2021. The program provides Year 11 and 12 students with the exclusive opportunity to get hands-on experience in allied health, with a five-day intensive series of talks and practical workshops.

Enya's impressive application resulted in her selection as one of thirty students in the annual program. She will have opportunities to network with and learn from a variety of health care professionals, explore allied health career pathways, gain experience at one of Australia's leading teaching tertiary hospitals (Charles Gardiner), and participate in simulated medical procedures.

Sessions may include: surgical techniques such as scrubbing and suturing, clinical skills such as IV insertion and plastering, nursing and midwifery, emergency and paramedicine, pathology, medical imaging, anatomy, facility tours, career pathways and networking.

Congratulations Enya!

► GETTING STARTED AT SIDE

New to SIDE students: Students should look for the *Getting Started at SIDE* email (received in January 2021), read the information and follow instructions.

Continuing at SIDE students: You should log in to Moodle at the start of the 2021 school year using your 2021 username and password.

FAST TRACK TO SIDE 2021

GUIDELINES TO GETTING STUDENTS STARTED IN OUR ONLINE ENVIRONMENT

Getting Started

Students at SIDE are assigned a Student Coordinator, who is a key contact and will provide support to get students started.

In 2021 all students will use their DoE username and password to access Moodle. Students are required to use their DoE email.

New SIDE students will be emailed information about how to commence their study including the student's DoE username and password. The information is sent to the email address provided as part of the enrolment process.

The email is sent before the start of the school year or immediately after enrolment.

The subject of the email is, **Getting Started at SIDE**. Students currently enrolled at SIDE will not receive an email and should use their DoE username and password for all SIDE purposes (eg. Moodle, DoE email, etc).

All student communication after enrolment will be sent to the student's DoE email address.

Required texts and resources

Senior Secondary students are required to purchase SIDE texts and materials as soon as possible after enrolment. Detailed information is on the SIDE website (7-12 Enrolment > Costs > Booklist).

Setting Up

Establish a suitable work area

- computer (desktop or laptop) with internet connection
- storage area for your materials
- pinup board or wall to display important information
- desk, chair
- stationery supplies
- access to a telephone
- work area needs to be:
 - in a quiet location
 - well-ventilated
 - suitably lit.

164-194 Oxford Street
Leederville WA 6007
(08) 9311 1400
[side.wa.edu.au](https://www.side.wa.edu.au)
SIDE
SCHOOL OF ISOLATED & DISTANCE EDUCATION



► SCHOOL UNIFORMS 2021

SIDE has introduced two optional school uniform items. A school polo shirt and a jacket. The uniforms must be ordered and paid for online and will be managed by our uniform partner ID Athletic.

There will be two opportunities to order uniform items each year. Our first round of orders for 2021 must be completed online by **5pm Friday 5 March**. Orders will take approximately four weeks to arrive and will be distributed from SIDE.



School of Isolated and Distance Education
SIDE - Sublimated Polo



School of Isolated and Distance Education
SIDE - Softshell Jacket

To order your uniform item please visit our SIDE uniform partner's [online shop](#).

► LEAVERS JACKETS 2021

Year 11 students may now order their 2021 Year 12 Leavers Jacket. Round 1 orders can be made until **15 January for delivery in March 2021**. Students should check their Moodle Essentials notices for instructions.

Visit website <https://www.westwear.com.au/> and use this password: **SIDELEAVERS2021** to view the jacket.

If you have questions contact your Student Coordinator before placing your order for school uniforms or Leavers jackets.



SIDE 2021 LEAVERS
JACKET

► SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs.

The allowance consists of two components:

- \$115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian or the school.
- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school to reduce the contributions and charges payable by the parent/guardian.

Applications for the scheme need to be completed by the parent or guardian for student/s enrolled in Years 7-12.

To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold one of the following cards:

- Centrelink Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card. Please Note: The only Veterans' Affairs Card that meets the criteria is a blue card that is issued annually and expires in December each year. This card is income means tested.

The parent/guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid some time during first term. The only exception to this is when a student holds a health care card and has been declared independent by Centrelink (e.g. living away from home). In this instance, a letter of confirmation from Centrelink needs to accompany the application.

The allowance is paid up to and including the year the student turns 18 years of age i.e. students born in 2002 or before are ineligible for 2021.

Application forms are to be completed at the school during Term 1 and close Thursday 1st April 2021.

For more information please contact the Business Support Officer on 08 9311 1423 or discuss with the student coordinator at the time of enrolment.

► IMPORTANT DATES 2020/2021

- Friday 4 December – Year 11 reports issued
- Friday 11 December – SIDE Orientation Day for new students in 2021
- Monday 14 December – Years 7 - 10 reports issued
- Wednesday 16 December – End of Term 4 (students)
- Monday 21 December – WA 2020 WACE results and Universities Admission Advice Letters online
- Saturday 19 December 2020 to Sunday 31 January 2021 – School Holidays
- Monday 1 February 2021 – Term 1 2021 commences

► HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

The Student Services team acknowledges that 2020 has been a particularly challenging year. The pandemic has meant that all schools had to respond to the various challenges served up by COVID-19. As the end of the 2020 school year approaches, the Student Services team would like to thank all students, parents, caregivers, supervisors and teachers for their hard work and support throughout this unique year. Have a very happy festive season and holiday and stay safe and well!



Student Services Coordinators



SIDE AWARD POINTS

★★ BRONZE ★★

Chayce A	Salina T
Katelyn L	Krystal T
Laura S	Jameelah W
Patricia S	Dominic S
Remi O	Leonie R
Rylee O	Kahteecia K
Casey M	Daniel O
Javaise M	Brenton N
Bridgett K	Connor Mc
Ismail J	Katelyn L
Rhani G	Abigail G
Kiara F	Hayley F
Dominic B	Karl BS
Erzulie B	

★★ SILVER ★★

Oliver B	Joe V
Loki M	Santiago WR
Storm M	Shanelle W
Phoenix H	Mitchell HS
Angie H	Brandy B
Christian A	

★★ GOLD ★★

Jack C	Lori H
Keeshahree K	Leesharnie P
Wesley P	Chad R
Bronson M	

★★ PLATINUM ★★

Kyle D
Paige G
Wyatt G

“ **Workplace Learning (WPL)**
Choosing the right career pathway as part of secondary schooling can make a substantial difference to students looking for a direct transition from school into full-time ongoing employment. ”

WORKPLACE LEARNING VISITS THIS TERM

GOLDFIELDS

Kalgoorlie, Kambalda
Laverton, Leinster, Leonora
Menzies

METROPOLITAN

MIDWEST

PILBARA

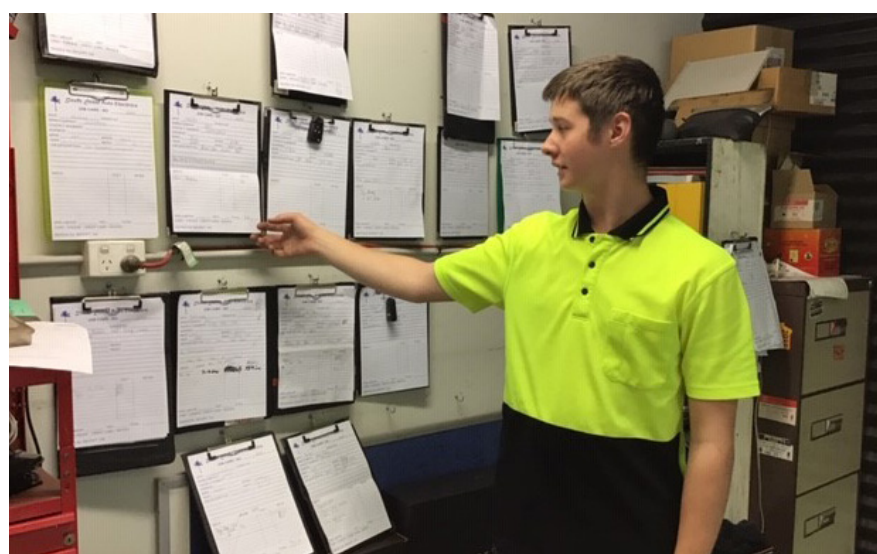
Tom Price

SOUTH WEST

Walpole

WHEATBELT

Dalwallinu



Bevan checking jobs board at his work place



Bevan checking the air-conditioning in a vehicle



Keiran with PPE, Perth



Jack - smiling customer service in Fremantle



Laura at Reading Cinemas, Perth



Ben farming in Dalwallinu



Skyla in retail, Perth

LEAVERS CELEBRATION



ABOUT JARED FITZCLARENCE

Jared attended SIDE for four years from Year 9-12 studying from home. His family moved around the Kimberley region while his mother was the Director of the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service. He graduated from SIDE in 2005 and enrolled at UWA to study a Bachelor of Mechatronics Engineering. After leaving university he worked at an engineering company in Perth but wanted to return to rural WA. He bought a small engineering company in Karratha and has been there ever since. In 2019 he was one of Business News WA Top40under40 young business achievers.



Jared delivered his speech from Karratha via Webex. He has given SIDE permission to reprint it in the newsletter.

SPEECH

Thank you so much for inviting me to speak to you today.

I have very fond memories of my own SIDE graduation, which I can't believe was 15 years ago, where I met all bar one of my classmates for the very first time. So, I know just how special and exciting this day must be for you all.

You made it!!!

Congratulations!!!

Parents you must be so excited, your sentence is almost over....

In all seriousness though, 2020 must be one of the toughest years in the past 75, at least, to be completing what for many of you will be the most stressful period of your life. To combine that with the added challenges of studying externally is something very few people can appreciate.

To be where you are now though, graduating today, is a testament to a level of dedication, hard work and resilience that will prepare you for a lifetime of success.

As mentioned earlier, I was fortunate enough to have studied with SIDE for four years, from Years 9-12. I count this as one of the luckiest things to have ever happened to me. I was really not good

in a classroom environment, I found most classrooms boring and kept up with the content with extraordinarily little effort. This meant that I had far too much time on my hands and led me to all kinds of trouble. In my two years of schooling prior to SIDE I was expelled and suspended on multiple occasions and was at serious risk of jeopardising my future.

Thankfully we moved from Perth to the Kimberley and my life took a turn for the better. I loved SIDE, I was lazy, but fast, and the SIDE way of learning really matched my needs. I still drove my teachers nuts but they were firm with me, knocked me down a few pegs and I am so glad they did. This way of learning didn't suit my little brother and sister however, and the challenges and angst of distance learning became a foundational feature of my teenage years.

I didn't know it when I started but I needed serious help in my own learning process. SIDE taught me to plan, prioritise, schedule and focus in a way that I never would have learnt at school. With both my parents working and the three of us left largely unsupervised for a large portion of the day, we had to learn to grow up and be responsible for ourselves. Particularly for me, that meant running the household budget, doing the shopping, submitting monthly expense reports, juggling the demands of a part-time job, school, studying at TAFE, community activities and household duties.

What a blessing!

Legal or not, at 14 years old I wired our house with 12 built-in data points so that we could access the internet from our desks, the lounge room, bedroom etc in a time before WiFi. This made it much easier to connect with our teachers but at the same time taught me to plan a project, prepare material lists, shop for components and do practical hands-on electrical work. The movies in bed were a nice added bonus.

This idea of working it out for yourself, properly planning a task and thinking things through has become a feature of my success in life.

You should not stop learning today! A full and rewarding life requires the constant stretching and challenging of your mental capabilities. It really is a muscle just like any other in your body. Work it out and make it strong.

I think of completing high school as having successfully finished putting on your underwear. You now have a myriad of options to choose from about what 'clothes' you are going to put on. Will you pursue a trade, or study at University, or become a self-taught entrepreneur? What is your style?

I have tried all of these options, studying Mechatronics Engineering at UWA, starting my own metal fabrication and engineering business when I had never welded before in my life, and then teaching myself how to do it, growing that business over the past 10 years to the biggest metal products manufacturing business in the Pilbara region. At the same time I was studying and completing my boilermaker trade course, went back to University for graduate qualifications in Project Management Studies, then private industry training to become an international welding specialist. I have even enrolled in the mystical school of how to be a good husband (no idea how far along I am on this one, it is so confusing). There is no right or wrong pathway, you just have to remember to keep learning, growing and to stay on the path.

There has never been a time when you had more options when finishing school and this must be so daunting. I know there are pressures from family, friends, teachers, and your social circle to push you in one direction or another. They are not trying to stress you out. They just love you. They see in you a seedling that could grow into a beautiful tree; it just needs the right conditions and attention. They are terrified that you will stagnate and do nothing, like a roo in the spotlights.

I have a secret for you though.

You are so young, and that is an amazing thing you will only ever have once. You can afford to make a mistake; you can afford to take a risk. It might seem that everything is make or break right now and that an incorrect decision will ruin your life, and to some extent that idea may have merit but, if you are honest with yourself, pick yourself a challenge, set some goals and give it your honest to goodness, deep down in your heart 'best go', I promise you, you will achieve amazing things.

You just have to pick a scale of amazing that resonates with you. Not everyone wants a scale to be zero = Macca's checkout, 100 = Prime Minister. Your scale might be 0 = dead orchid in the kitchen to 100 = restoring an old growth rain forest. Find your scale and think on it often, this is your key to a happy life.

Trying hard with all you have, pushing yourself, and continuing to learn in a connected life of friends and family is the vehicle that will drive you along.

I am sure that your teachers and parents have done their utmost to help you build foundational tools for success:

- a strong work ethic
- the ability to think
- practicality
- a positive attitude
- planning and time management
- resilience
- money/financial literacy
- and one of the rarest, the ability to be alone at times and be to OK with that.

Now it is up to you what you will do with those tools.

I challenge each of you to build a pyramid of your life; a firm, strong and wide foundation with gracefully growing complexity, personality and nuance. I so hope that one glorious day in the future you will be able to lay that radiant golden capstone of success. A success on your scale, a success that speaks to the beautiful and unique impact your life has had on this world and a crowning glory that will bring a tear of pride to the eyes of your future generations as they remember you and the meaning and fulfilment you brought to their lives.

I wish you the absolute best for your future. I hope your lives are exhilarating, exciting, sometimes a bit scary but always filled with the love of family, friends, and community. However and wherever you go, remember that you have the independence and skills to succeed and that your life really matters.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



MATTEA TAYLOR graduated from SIDE with WACE in 2010. Mattea completed all her primary school through Kimberley School of the Air and all high school through SIDE.

What did you do after finishing school?

After being accepted into university, I took a gap year to study at a one-year bible college on the Sunshine Coast. I then went to Queensland where I stayed with my grandfather while completing my Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science double degree majoring in Journalism,

Indonesian Language, and Environment and Sustainability. This was followed by an Honours degree in Science researching yellow-footed rock-wallabies in remote western Queensland. I returned home to a small Aboriginal community where I grew up, to work in the community store and look for jobs related to my studies while enjoying time with my family.

What are you doing now?

I have just finished eighteen months working as an Assistant Warden at the Broome Bird Observatory. This place and position and the people involved provided me with many new skills and opportunities and grew my love and knowledge of birds, especially the migratory shorebirds which feed in Roebuck Bay and fly to Russia and other areas to breed. Fittingly, I have just been offered a PhD studying the movement of migratory shorebirds in estuaries in the Hunter Valley, New South Wales, through the University of Newcastle. I am very excited about this new chapter in my life.

How did SIDE prepare you for life after school?

SIDE prepared me for life after school in many ways. While interactions through the online classroom were great, the opportunities I had to attend school camps in person over my time with SIDE, eg subject camps like Biology camps in Years 11 and 12, sport camp like Country Week or revision seminars, gave me the chance to meet, interact and work together with other students my age from different backgrounds. Being naturally shy and living remotely with few people my age, I feel these interactions better prepared me for attending university, undertaking internships and working with others. SIDE also instilled in me a love of learning and a commitment to continually improve myself in all aspects of life. This was particularly through the inspiration of my SIDE teachers and coordinators who I discovered never stopped learning and continued to strive for excellence in their lives and careers. SIDE taught me that learning doesn't stop in the classroom or even in the university.

PhD student at University of Newcastle

SIDE

2021 TERM 1 CALENDAR

28-29 JANUARY

**TERM 1 BEGINS - TEACHERS
SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY**

1 FEBRUARY

TERM 1 BEGINS - STUDENTS

MARCH

SIDE OLNA

1 APRIL

TERM 1 ENDS

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

you may be eligible for up to:

\$350

towards school expenses

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs.

For more information please contact the Business Support Officer on 08 9311 1423 or discuss with the Student Coordinator at the time of enrolment.



SCHOOL OF ISOLATED & DISTANCE EDUCATION

Office: 164-194 Oxford Street Leederville WA 6007

Postal Address: PO Box 455 Leederville WA 6903

Website: www.side.wa.edu.au



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