



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER | SEMESTER 2 2025

InSIDE News

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Sea S.
is in a class of her own.

Meet Leinster Community School's first graduate in 48 years.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

SIDE is honoured to serve community on the ancestral lands of our first Australians. We pay respect to Elders past and present. We recognise the unique and incomparable contribution the Aboriginal people have made, and continue to make, to our culture, our workplace, and community.



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A Message from the Principal

Hello Students, Parents, Caregivers, Staff and members of our school community, Here in the Perth metropolitan region, where I am writing this introduction, Birak, the Noongar season of first summer, has commenced and of course this coincides with the end of the school year and the final newsletter for 2026.

There were many achievements to recognise during Term 4, some of which are captured in this newsletter. One of the most significant events was the Leaver's Ceremony for the Class of 2025. This was a very moving celebration of the end of secondary schooling for the Year 12 cohort. The unique story behind each of our students was inspiring and highlighted the resilience and perseverance many of our Year 12's demonstrated to complete their schooling journey.

The amazing creativity of our Year 12 Art students made choosing the winner of the Principal's Art Award very challenging and after much consideration, Neve S. from North Albany Senior High School was the recipient of the prize.

Our Year 6 students were farewelled at their end of year ceremony to acknowledge the completion of their primary school time and I wish them well as they embark on their high school journey.

A much sadder farewell was to a valued member of our school's Hall of Fame, Gwenyth G., who passed away this term. Gwenyth was awarded the Order of Australia (AM) in 2005 "For service to the community, particularly Indigenous people, refugees and asylum seekers through a range of church and welfare organisations in Western Australia". Gwenyth attended our school during its correspondence days, way back in 1938! Her wonderful legacy lives on and her daughter Robin Williams is a teacher at SIDE! My sympathy and condolences are extended on behalf of our school to Gwenyth's family.

I would like to acknowledge our School Council members, who form a very diverse, vibrant and active representation for the parents/care givers in our school. The Council have one meeting per term, online and play a significant role in discussing and endorsing policy and strategic directions for the school.

The members of our School Council are: Susie Moir, metropolitan region parent and Chair, Jane Cunningham, community member, Tambellup, Deputy Chair, Andrea Myers, parent, Fitzroy Crossing, Minute Taker, Shaan O'Connor-Mitchell, community member, Kim Hansen, community member, Marmingee Hand, Fitzroy Valley District High School, community member, Chantelle Toni-Louise Saunders, metropolitan region parent, Nigel Wakefield, staff member, SIDE, Colleen Sokra, parent, Leinster, Amy Berson, metropolitan region parent, Amber Moffat, metropolitan region parent, Varinder Rikhraj, staff member, SIDE, Paul Mathews, Principal, SIDE.

If you are interested in joining the School Council next year, please let me know via email.

Finally, I thank you again for your connection with our school. To the families leaving us and following a new direction, I wish you all the best and to those continuing with us into 2026, I look forward to reconnecting with you when the school year starts.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a restful, safe and enjoyable break.

Warm regards,

Paul Mathews
Principal

Student Stories



“Joining the Monster Energy Yamaha Star Racing team is truly a dream come true. From a young age, I dreamed of racing in America, and I am fortunate enough that Star Racing has given me the opportunity to do so. I can't wait to get on track and start getting ready for the first race of the season.”

Success Stories from SIDE Alumni

SIDE values hearing about the incredible journeys students take after completing their studies. Recently, an inspiring update was received about two former students, Jordan and Kayden, who have both achieved remarkable success in their chosen paths.

Jordan worked hard to become a fully qualified Heavy Diesel Mechanic, a career that demands skill, dedication and perseverance. His achievement stands as a testament to his commitment and the strong foundation built during his time with SIDE.

Kayden pursued his passion for motocross on the world stage and now rides professionally with the prestigious Monster Energy Star Yamaha 250 Team in the USA. Living full-time in the United States, Kayden is thriving and carving out a bright future in the sport he loves.

Both Jordan and Kayden's stories highlight what is possible when determination meets opportunity, and SIDE is proud to have played a part in their journeys.





Year 12 graduate Sea S. in a class of her own at Leinster

Story originally written by Jarrod Lucas and published by ABC news.

A close-knit outback community has celebrated the graduation of its only Year 12 student.

Sea S. was born in New Zealand to Fijian parents and was just three years old when her family moved to Leinster, in 2011.

She was the only year 12 student enrolled at Leinster Community School, about 950 kilometres north-east of Perth in Western Australia's Northern Goldfields, and completed her studies online with the School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE).

Susan Cullen, Sea's SIDE English teacher says:

“She brought energy and insight to our English group. Her engagement and interest in our topics of study encouraged others to participate and get involved.”



SEA S. AT THE START AND END OF HER SCHOOLING

The 17-year-old's graduation this week came two years after her older brother Sherman Sokra'a, graduated in a class of just three students.

Staff believe Sea may be the only student in the school's 48-year history to complete her entire public school education, from kindergarten to year 12, at Leinster.

“I've grown up here my whole life... this feels like I've come into a full circle moment... I plan to get a job, study at uni or TAFE, get as many doors of opportunity open for me as I can,”

Sea S. told the ABC.

Sea attended the the SIDE Leavers event with other remote students in Perth in December.

2025 Leavers

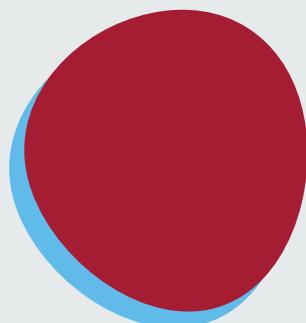
A. Abdirahman	G. Levi	P. Vicenzo
A. Hamza	G. Noah	P. Keira
A. Amna	G. Nadine	P. Taylah
A. Margareth	G. Amelia	Q. Jesse
A. Cassandra	G. Rhani	R. Lucia
A. Tara	G-I. Denika	R. Eamon
A. Ben	G-S. Daisy	R. Jordan
B-D. Malley	H. Hayley	R. Steven
B. Karen	H. Elizabeth	S. Joey
B. Tori	I. Niko	S. Chris
B. Anabelle	K. Sonnie	S. Safira
B. Emilee	K. Ruthvik	S. Evie
B. Arlen	L. Alain	S. Brandon
B. Halen	L. Alexander	S. Aleisha
B. Darcy	M. Daniela	S. Sea
B. Cameron	M. Rian	S. Alice
B. Imogen	M. Monika	S. Alyssa
C. Ethan	M. Amelia	S. Rawdon
C. Joel	M. Chelsea	T. Michael
C. Arianna	M. Oscar	V. Wyatt
C. Finn	M. Mia	V. Benjamin
D. Rodrigo Jr.	M. Carly	W. Lily
D. Jake	M. Helayna	W. Jameelah
D-C. Lillian	M. Thomas	W. Damon
E. Keely	M. Jacob	W. Eleanor
F-H. Charlotte	O. Charle	W. Jack
F. Amy	O. Ahmed	W. Hannah
F. Alira	O. Kealy	Y. Annie
G. Alexander	O. Beatrice	
G. Reon	P. Phoenix	

Take the
strengths of your time
with us that have assisted
you to complete Year 12,
stay grounded and keep your
sense of perspective. I wish
you all the very best of life
post Year 12.

Travel well.

Paul Mathews
Principal

Special Awards



Academic Dux

AWARDED TO THE HIGHEST ACHIEVING STUDENT IN ATAR COURSES.

NFP*

NFP* has completed his Year 12 studies with exceptional dedication and perseverance, undertaking the demanding challenge of six ATAR courses in his final year at SIDE. Throughout this time, he not only maintained excellent academic results, but he did so while travelling around Australia and to Thailand with his family.

Adapting his study schedule to manage time zone differences, NFP* demonstrated remarkable organisation, discipline and resilience. He aspires to study medicine and his outstanding achievements this year have set him firmly on the path towards that goal.



Vocational Dux

AWARDED TO THE HIGHEST ACHIEVING STUDENT IN A VOCATIONAL PATHWAY.

Annie Y.

Annie enrolled at SIDE after being accepted into Dynamic Performing Arts' full-time program. In addition to meeting all WACE requirements, Annie has completed a Certificate IV in Dance and a Diploma in Professional Dance (Elite Performance). Her talent and level of engagement in higher level qualifications has provided her with extensive travel opportunities within Australia and overseas for various competitions and workshops, as well as a summer Scholarship to attend the London Studio Centre.

Annie has successfully auditioned for the Transit Dance Full Time Program and will be moving to Melbourne. SIDE is extremely proud of Annie and all she has achieved. We are confident that her dedication and motivation will bring her continued success.

Certificate of Distinction

NFP*

Principal's Art Award
Partner School: North Albany Senior High School

Neve S.

Ampol Best Allrounder

Arianna C.

Certificate of Distinction

Amy F.

Australian Defence Force Future Innovators Award

NFP*

Sangora Education Foundation Post Secondary Education Award Nominees

Thomas M.
Tori B.

ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award

Ellie W.

NMERO Commitment to Excellence Award

Amy F.

Student Leadership Award
Patrick Gorman: Federal Member for Perth

Annie Y.

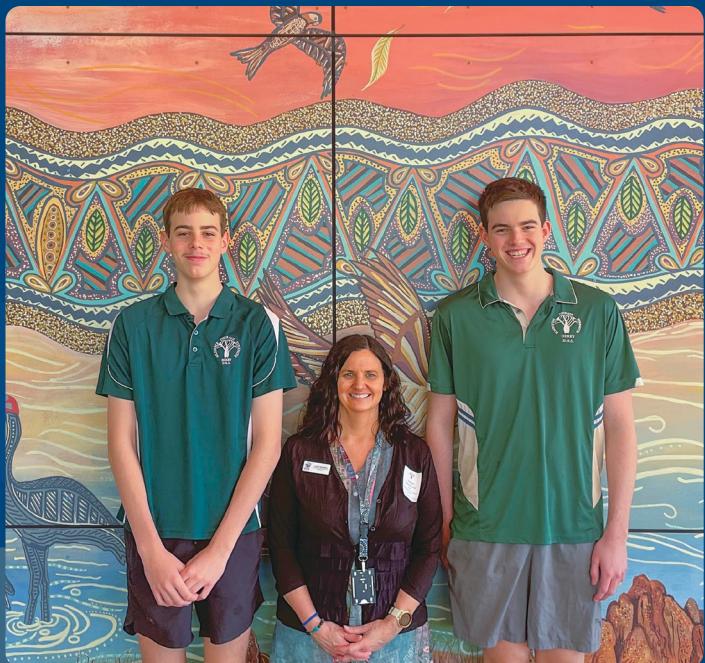
*NFP-Not for publication

Congratulations





2025 Leavers





Career and VET



Alira signed to the Perth Lynx!

Year 12 student, Alira, was signed to the Perth Lynx in the Women's National Basketball League on Tuesday, September 23rd.

As well as being a professional Basketball player, Alira is also a talented Australian rules footballer who plays for the South Fremantle in the WAFL Women's competition. This year Alira completed 4 units of the Elite Sports Endorsed program and was able to effectively juggle the workload of school, training and playing commitments.

The point guard said she's excited to take the next step with the Lynx.

Alira said.

"The Lynx has been amazing to me, and I've learned so much from the team. I'm still balancing basketball and footy, but right now I'm focused on making the most of this chance and continuing to grow as a player."

Perth Lynx head coach, Ryan Petrik, praised Fotu's development and character.

"Alira really left a mark on us last season. She's an outstanding athlete with an electric first step and can seemingly get her feet into the paint at will. She's loved amongst the playing group, and we're thrilled to have her step into a bigger role this season."



Congratulations Alira on completing Year 12 and your Lynx selection!

IMAGE AND QUOTE ORIGINALLY POSTED BY PERTH LYNX.



Student Spotlight: Cassandra from Halls Creek

Cassandra excelled in her Workplace Learning program. She managed two jobs along with a full SIDE program of courses achieving A and B grades. Her attitude to her schoolwork was mirrored by her Workplace commitment. She worked in childcare and cleaning while earning units toward her WACE. Cassandra is a natural with young children and her dedication to maintaining a safe, welcoming environment earned her high praise from her childcare placement – so much so that they offered her a school-based traineeship which she will continue into 2026.

Success at Exmouth High School

Workplace learning is giving Year 10 Exmouth students the chance to step into real-world environments, explore their passions, and build practical skills that will support their future careers. From childcare to plumbing to recreation, these students are thriving in diverse professions and making valuable contributions in their communities.



ILISH WITH SIDE TEACHER JESSAMY

Nurturing Young Minds: Illy's Journey in Childcare

Illy, a Year 10 student from Exmouth High School, is completing her work placement learning hours at One Tree Bernice McLeod Childcare centre. During her time there, she has been developing valuable skills that support her passion for working with children. Creative, energetic, and responsible, Illy is thoroughly enjoying the placement, and her positive, confident nature has made her a great asset to the team. The staff love her enthusiasm, and the children often run up to her with excitement when they see her arrive. Completing this placement through her SIDE work placement learning course, Illy is enjoying the blend of study and hands-on learning.



Building Skills for the Future Jacob at Jackson's Plumbing

Jacob is thriving during his work placement at Jackson's Plumbing. He has embraced every task with enthusiasm and is becoming a reliable part of the team. Jacob says that ADWPL lets him connect real-world experience with his studies. He is learning many practical skills that will help him in the future. Staff at Jackson's Plumbing are enjoying having him on board and appreciate his positive attitude.

Making a Splash Cooper's Experience at Exmouth Pool

Cooper is completing his work-placement at the Exmouth Pool. Through his time there he has been gaining valuable real-life skills that support both his personal growth and future career aspirations. As an outdoorsy and sporty student, Cooper is thoroughly enjoying the hands-on environment. His positive attitude and confidence have made him a strong contributor to the team at the pool. Completing this placement through his SIDE work-placement learning course helped by his teacher Jessamy Rumble, Cooper is enjoying the balance of study and real-world experience. He enjoyed the chance to meet Jessamy and show her around his workplace on a teacher visit recently.

PICTURE RIGHT: COOPER WITH SIDE TEACHER JESSAMY RUMBLE





ALICE WITH SIMON, HER SUPERVISOR

Switching On Skills Alice's Workplace Learning at Richmond

Year 10 student Alice is completing her workplace learning placement with Richmond Pty Ltd, gaining hands-on experience as an electrician.

Alice, a SIDE student travelling with her family, is undertaking a block placement in Welshpool while staying with relatives near Perth. She has quickly settled in and is enjoying the chance to learn in a real-world environment.

Working with a team fitting out a refurbished office space, she assists with installing electrical essentials under the guidance of qualified tradespeople, gaining valuable skills and knowledge. This experience has confirmed her interest in an electrical career, and she hopes to begin a school-based traineeship next year.

Erin Shines at Padbury Education and Childcare Centre

Year 11 student Erin began her work placement at Padbury Education and Childcare Centre in September 2025, where she quickly made an impression with her enthusiasm, kindness, insight and professionalism.

During a recent visit, it was clear that Erin has a natural flair for working with young children and a genuine passion for early childhood education.

Her workplace supervisor was so impressed with her performance that she has offered Erin a traineeship for 2026—a wonderful opportunity to continue developing her skills in the industry.

Congratulations, Erin, on this wonderful achievement! Your hard work and positive attitude have truly paid off.



Marks' Work Placement Success in Onslow

Year 11 student Marc has successfully completed four units of work placement across Years 10 and 11, gaining experience at Onslow Marine Support Base, Onslow Beach Resort, and the Onslow Shire IT Department.

Marc consistently produced work of a high standard and received excellent feedback from all employers. Due to his hard work and dedication in Year 11, Marc has freed up his timetable and added units towards his Year 12 WACE.

Reflecting on his experiences, Marc said:

"I haven't fully decided on my future job yet, but working at the shire showed me how local action creates real impact."

Congratulations, Marc, on your achievements and commitment to your future studies!



MARC WITH ONSLOW SHIRE MENTOR,
RYAN TANNER



LACEY WORKING AT ENVME AUTOSTYLING

Lacey's Workplace Learning Journey

Exploring Career Pathways Through Hands-On Experience

Lacey has been making the most of the Workplace Learning Program, gaining valuable skills and insights across two exciting industries. Her first placement was at Envme Styling. Lacey assisted with wrapping cars in stencils, shared creative design ideas, and had the chance to see some truly amazing vehicles up close. This experience allowed her to combine creativity with practical skills in a dynamic environment.

More recently, Lacey has been developing her retail expertise at Moore Clothes. She helps prepare stock for the store, assists with displays, and ensures everything is ready for customers. Lacey also participated in the Moore Clothes Annual Fashion Show, modelling some of the store's products for a fundraising event. Her confidence and professionalism on stage reflected her adaptability and willingness to embrace new challenges.

Both workplaces have praised Lacey for her strong work ethic, commitment, and teamwork. Lacey is a great example of how Workplace Learning can assist in making career decisions for the future while gaining valuable workplace skills.



LACEY AT MOORE CLOTHES ANNUAL FASHION SHOW,

Mini Industry Roadshow



Over 40 schools have embraced the Mini Industry Roadshow during second semester, with SIDE visiting and engaging with students across Western Australia's diverse and vibrant regions – including the Pilbara, Kimberley, Goldfields, Southwest, and Midwest.

SIDE'S professional trainers have delivered highly successful, hands-on workshops, sharing their expertise in a range of exciting career areas such as cabinetry, marine biology, medical research (in partnership with the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research), electrical engineering, rigging and construction, sky diving, engineering, accessible music, hospitality, entrepreneurship, plumbing, hairdressing, and public art development. These visits to regional and remote schools provided students with valuable insights into various trades and industries, creating and inspiring future career pathways.

Term 3 provided a highlight for the Mini Industry Roadshow team, when they had the privilege of spending two weeks in the Kimberley region, visiting Looma Remote Community School, Fitzroy Valley District High School, Wangkatjungka Remote Community School, Majali Studio School, Purnululu Aboriginal Independent School, and Kalumburu District High School. This trip marked the Roadshow's first-ever visit to Majali Studio School, proudly located on Bunuba Country.



EXMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PRACTICING MEDICAL RESEARCH

It was a special experience to visit Kalumburu, the northernmost settlement in Western Australia, where trainers were invited to engage in on-Country learning, an unforgettable experience on an inspiring journey through the region.

The Mini Industry Roadshow offers students real-world exposure to a range of industry fields and future careers, with hands-on workshops led by industry professionals like Nathan Kell from Cabinetry-In-Schools. As a qualified cabinetmaker, Nathan brings years of experience in crafting everything from custom furniture and kitchens to intricate finishing work – essentially, anything made from wood inside a home. His dynamic, fast-paced sessions give students a taste of the trade, while highlighting the wide variety of career opportunities within the sector. Through practical, project-based learning, students get to explore woodworking techniques, design principles, and engage in the practical application of mathematics – all while creating their own personalised, take-home piece.



STUDENTS AT JIGALONG REMOTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

“Your team is one of the only, if not the only careers driven groups that is willing to travel out to our school to work with the students on their home turf.

I don't think any of our students had ever considered that they could get a job in the medical industry before that particular workshop, and now they're coming up to me saying they'd like to be nurses, doctors and more.

I'd also like to thank you and your team for being so flexible, and willing to meet our students where they were at. It really does help them engage with the content, and connect with the trainers ”

TEACHER
PIA WADJARRI REMOTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Whenever the team hears feedback like this from Pia Wadjarri Remote Community School, it reaffirms the deep impact and importance of the Mini Industry Roadshow across Western Australia's schools.



LEARNING HOW TO HAIRDRESS AT CUE PRIMARY SCHOOL



STUDENT AT PIA WADJARRI REMOTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
LEARNING ABOUT PLUMBING



TRAINER AND STUDENT AT NANNUP DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL



STUDENTS AT JURIEN BAY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Curriculum Support

Semester Two has seen exciting changes across Curriculum Support as SIDE continues strengthening the learning pathways and success opportunities available to students.

This semester, Curriculum Support began offering a Secondary Literacy Intervention Program (LINT) for reading. The program provides additional literacy development for secondary students through the delivery of explicit, structured reading support and is aligned to the individual needs of students. With intervention sessions operating in addition to students' regular English classes, the program is set to provide opportunities for those needing foundational support with their reading. It has been wonderful seeing the positive impact the Literacy Intervention Program has had on students participating this year, and the team is looking forward to meeting those who join the program in next year.

The ASDAN cohorts also continue to thrive, with students building independence, personal capabilities, and practical life skills through structured, hands-on learning.

The strong engagement and achievements within these programs reflect the positive impact of personalised, flexible curriculum pathways and support for the diverse SIDE community.

This year, Curriculum Support supported over 25 successful course completions, which are dependent on student portfolios passing external moderation.

Congratulations to the successful students, and the supervisors who supported them!

Some of the ASDAN courses students took this year included:

- Workright
- Vocational Taster
- Using ICT
- Enterprise
- Animal Care
- Towards Independence
- Independent Living
- Silver Award
- Gold Award

Vocational Tasters

In 2025, SIDE offered two ASDAN Vocational Tasters in Hair and Beauty and Hospitality. These short courses give students a practical introduction to different career areas, helping them explore future pathways while developing useful skills for further study, training, or employment.

This term Rhani and Jameelah from Menzies Remote Community School enrolled in the Hair and Beauty Course. With the support of teacher Amy-Jo, both students have done an outstanding job completing modules in Customer Service, Nail Services and Hair Services. The girls were also able to visit a salon in Leonara to put their skills to practice.

The team looks forward to seeing Rhani and Jameelah next year, when they will complete the Safety Module and look at Facials and Skin care to finish the course.



“The skills they have developed have given the students the confidence glow with both inner beauty and great hair and nails”.

CRYSTELLE GREGORY
MENZIES REMOTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
SUPERVISOR



Visting Williesha

Williesha, a student from Broome, has been throwing herself into her literacy intervention lessons. She has been busy revising her phonics knowledge this year and is now confidently moving onto more complex spelling patterns. She has also been independently applying her skills developing lengthy passages of writing.

During a SIDE regional visit to Broome, Williesha and her nan, Nat, sat down and shared their reflections about the Literacy Intervention (LINT) program with SIDE teacher Michelle. Williesha said she enjoys the LINT program and that it has helped her with her reading and writing skills. She also expressed a desire to be able to write stories, so has started explicitly learning about parts of speech.

Williesha's nan, added that she has:

"Witnessed an increased confidence within Williesha in everyday life. For example, when out and about at places like the shops, Williesha is often standing there reading the labels and packages ... and she has started to help her younger primary school aged siblings with their literacy-related homework."

Williesha also took visiting SIDE staff to her favourite spot in Broome, where they sat on the rocks and reflected on the view whilst Williesha created a guided brainstorm and ideas for her poem entitled 'Noon at Gantheaume Point'. Williesha focused her descriptive writing skills to express herself about her special place.

She hopes you enjoy her poem and images.

Gantheaume Point

The blue salty waves crash heavily against the sand.
The slow-moving boats drive along the coastline.
The white, fluffy birds are looking for a feed, hungrily.
Hard, red and purple rocks balance on top of each other nicely.
And happy people are exploring along the beach.
Empty, shiny clam shells laying on the rocks.

Makes me feel like home!!

from williesha.lockyer

Design & Technologies



Design & Technology Orientation

The Design & Technology team recently visited partner primary schools for Year 6 orientation. To give students a taste of SIDE learning, teachers ran a workshop where each student designed and made a wooden pasta spoon.

Students learned to safely use tools such as the drill press, bobbin sander, and scroll saw – many for the first time – and enjoyed the creativity involved. The sessions also introduced them to their future SIDE teachers, helping build confidence and supporting the student transition into Year 7.

Fishing Lures at One Arm Point

Design & Technology teacher Dave Barbour and SIDE Principal Paul Mathews recently visited One Arm Point Remote Community School to run a hands-on fishing lure project with students. The session brought maths, design and local knowledge together in a highly engaging and relevant activity.

Students began by calculating resin volumes and mixing ratios to fill their silicone moulds accurately – applying real-world numeracy skills to ensure their lures cured correctly. Once cast, the lures were shaped, assembled, and finished with impressive airbrush artwork, showcasing the creativity and precision of the young designers.

Beyond the technical skills, the project provided an authentic opportunity to connect with students, build relationships, and share learning through hands-on fun.





PHOTO BY YEAR 11 STUDENT, ALEX



Photography

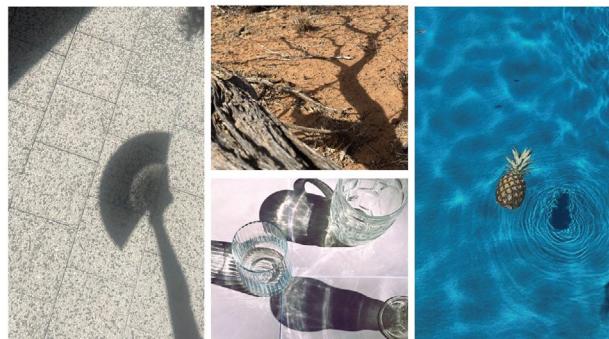
Senior Students Pushing Boundaries

The senior students continue to push the boundaries of creativity and technical skill. Year 11 student Alex produced a standout series of wildlife photographs, demonstrating exceptional timing, composition and patience. His images highlight not only strong camera control, but also a genuine passion for the natural environment and the stories it holds.

Creative Photography at SIDE

This term, Year 9 Photography students have been exploring the power of light and shadow, focusing on how these elements can create atmosphere, enhance storytelling, and capture the viewer's attention. Students were encouraged to closely observe their surroundings and use shadows in inventive ways to communicate meaning.

From personal objects to trees, glass and water, students experimented with a wide range of materials, producing imaginative and sometimes surprising images.



PHOTOS BY STUDENTS L TO R: AVA, BRIDIE, HENNALEE AND JIM



Community Food Bringing Learning to Life in the Kitchen

The Home Economics team has been busy developing the new Community Food course, an engaging and practical program designed to connect students with real-world food skills in a fun and meaningful way.

Throughout the course, students build confidence in the kitchen as they learn essential cooking techniques, explore nutritional information, and gain practical knowledge they can use at home and in their communities. From preparing ingredients to plating meals, every lesson blends education with hands-on creativity.

One of the standout features of the program is its strong visual appeal. The bright and modern SIDE teaching kitchen provides a vibrant and inviting space, where students can follow demonstrations clearly and feel immersed in the cooking experience. The visual layout, camera angles, and equipment setup all support students to learn online as if they were right there in the room.

And of course, after learning, creating, and experimenting, students get to enjoy the best part: eating the delicious dishes they have made.

Community Food is quickly becoming a favourite among students, offering both valuable life skills and a genuinely enjoyable learning journey.



Technical Graphics

Future Architects at Work

The Technical Graphics students have been showcasing their growing architectural talents through a series of contemporary home designs created using Autodesk Revit, an industry-standard architectural modelling program.

The project challenged students to think like real designers, considering layout, structure, materials and aesthetics while developing accurate 3D models.

Working through the design process, students produced impressive digital builds that highlight not only their technical skills, but also their creativity and eye for modern architecture. From open-plan living spaces to bold façades and sustainable design features, their work reflects a strong understanding of real-world architectural principles.

There may be future architects among the students, and the quality of their designs speaks for itself. Their achievements demonstrate the strength of the Tech Graphics program and the exciting opportunities it provides for students to explore design pathways.

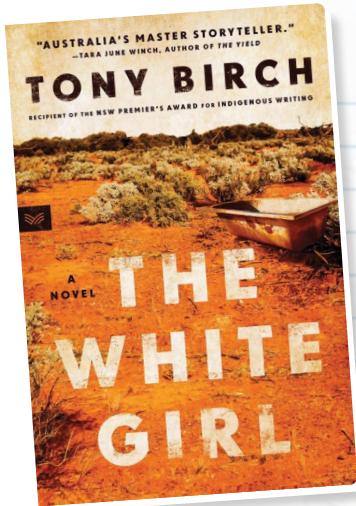


English



Year 12 Reflection

The Year 12 ATAR English students were asked to reflect on their reading this year. The purpose of English is to encourage students to be critical readers and consider how texts might challenge them. This is one powerful response from student Kai.



A text from the course which had the biggest impact on me was *The White Girl* by Tony Birch. It's a novel that I could see myself having, thinking, talking and valuing for a long time. At this current time it holds extreme importance to me.

The reason for this is because I grew up and still live in a very racist household.

So, reading this novel felt very foreign for me. I wasn't aware of the struggles, problems and lack of opportunities that Aboriginal people had in any time period. It was very strange reading about a novel through the point of view of a person and/or culture which I had grown up to have prejudice, hate and indifference towards.

Reading *The White Girl* and learning about the context and history it represents made me have this sense of freedom, awareness and empathy that I didn't have before. It was making me more aware of that Aboriginal people are just people like anyone else, who went through inhumane situations and cruelty during colonisation and for many decades to come. Aboriginal people went through so much but they shouldn't have had to.

I barely knew any of Aboriginal history or culture or anything about them that wasn't perceived in a negative light by the people I lived with and was taught by; so it was very refreshing and mind-blowing to learn about this new version of history and being confronted with it.

So it's very important to me because this book confronted me with the opposite views and values I grew up with and made me have to face that and become more aware of other cultures and the dark history of what happened and how Australia's first people were treated.

I have now learned to have an opinion of my own that didn't reflect what I grew up with. I had to converse with myself about what I had been taught but also what I was learning through this novel and figure out where I stood. I had to decide whether I was going to let go of this taught hate and embrace and feel empathy for the Aboriginal people.

So that's why it's very important to me and I could see myself still talking and reading about this novel for a long time because of the mind-opening impact it had on me.

Poetry in Year 9 English

In Term 3, Year 9 students studied a range of poetry and poetic techniques. They created their own bush ballad to communicate feelings and ideas about Australian life using stylistic and rhythmic use of words. Here are two ballads.

Bush Ballad

By Kai

*The orange soil is endless
And the shrubbery and bush rather scarce
Staring at the clear sky, mindless
Driving on through without any cares*

*No sight of civilization
Naught but a lone kangaroo
The outback's a beauty sensation
With a fantastical orange-ish hue*

*we rumble on to the next city
As we look for a place to stay warm
A miniature town 'Cocklebiddy'
It's residence hardly a swarm*

*Finally, we stop for the night
Sluggish and foolish and tired
from our odyssey
We must wake before morning light
So, we pack up and collapse rather drowsy*

Ballad of Coral Bay

By David

*Crystal blue water painting the sand
The hills around covered in moorland
As light dissipates the sun sets,
The shore being hit by wavelets*

*The smell of salt wafting in the air,
Just a hint of fish while in your sleepwear
The hills around smell like dried earth
A smell of animals swimming in a firth*

*You can hear a kookaburra laughing
The click of people photographing
The whispers of the undergrowth
It may be a lizard, or snake, or both*

*The takeout food is nonexistent
The nearest restaurant is distant
The food is nearly never sea related,
Unless you're a fisher and the fish is baited
on the beach you feel sand below your feet,
The sun gives you an overabundance of heat
The bark is rough beneath your hand
The surrounding area is an
abundance of heathland*

Kelly's Haiku

Jana H. is a Year 7 Mid-West student who resides in the Northampton Shire in Ajana, a town 61 km southwest of Kalbarri. Her family run a sheep station and it is clear that Jana herself, is very much involved in daily chores. For this English task, students were asked to build on one topic through a series of haiku. Jana has managed to summarise perfectly, this quintessentially Australian activity but also manage to make it incredibly personal, thanks to the inclusion of her muse: Kelly the kelpy. Enjoy!

*Kelly guides the sheep,
motorbikes yell rapidly,
yards wait anxiously.*

*Sheep jump the fences,
The drone is ready to fly,
Dogs leap off the ute.*

*The dog drives the sheep,
Dorpers are screaming loudly,
Sheep trot the right way.*

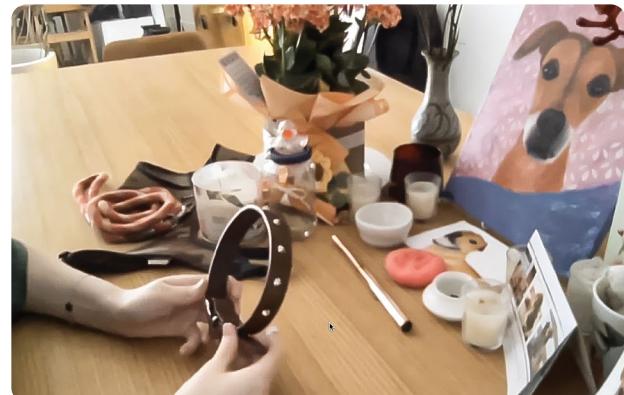
*A sigh of relief,
Kelly stitches up the flock,
Everything works out.*



JANA AND HER KELPY, KELLY.

Year 10 Dramatic Monologues

Year 10 English students have been writing and performing Dramatic Monologues. In her monologue, Milla, who is grieving the loss of her beloved dog, used the collar, flowers, candles and photos as her props, as she performed this powerful tribute to Tully.



My Wild Dog

(Sitting in front of a shrine dedicated to Tully, with flowers, collars, pictures and candles, a girl whispers)

Tully... Tullbot... From an outsider's perspective you were just another dog but to me you were much more.

A companion, a best friend and one of my closest family members. (Looks at picture)

You owned collars that you never wore, because you were my wild dog and wanted to be free. (Picks up collar)

Freedom always fitted you better. Freedom! (Sighs)

A word that to you wasn't just open fields or the beach but also the couch and bed that were your kingdom. (Smiles gently)

You were truly comfort, character and care in dog form...

A good girl. The best girl. The sweetest girl.

A gentle giant who patiently grew up with us through dress-ups and games of tag.

And you! With an underbite like a toddler, trying to look tough... though you had no-one fooled.

And your velvety ears that folded over so neatly and felt so soft.

You were the definition of warmth and unconditional love.

Nana gave us flowers to plant in your special spot. (touching flowers in pot) Your sunny spot under my window.

And the Vet gave us wildflower seeds, so we can plant them. Everywhere. (picking up wildflower seeds packet)

Wild flowers for my wild dog. Tully.

EAL/D

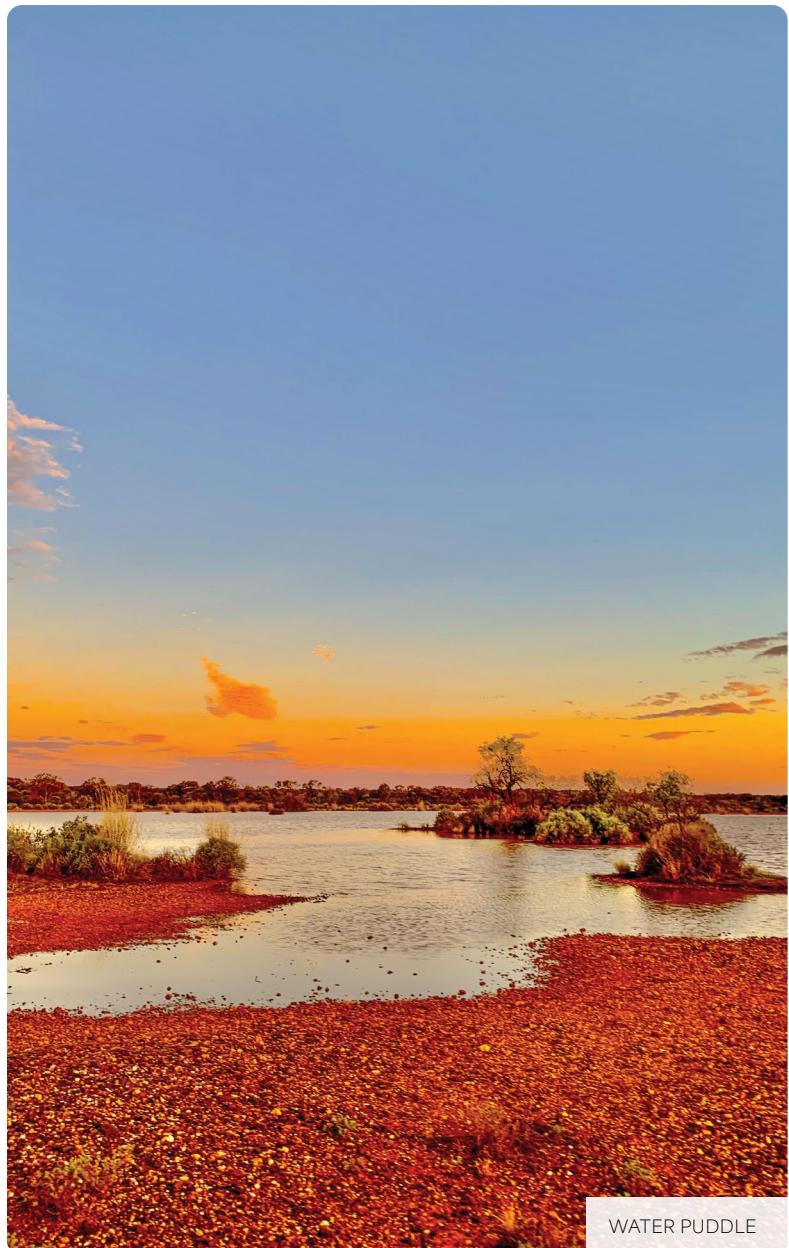
This term, students created an oral production where they shared their expertise on a topic they are knowledgeable about with their classmates and teacher. This was part of their Microteaching Project.

Lachae lives in Mount Margaret, a small community 30km out of Laverton and 330km northeast of Kalgoorlie. She is a self-taught photographer, and she especially enjoys taking pictures of the bush and sunsets in Mount Margaret. For her Microteaching Project, Lachae created a multimodal photobook of her original photography, from which she shared insights into life in Mount Margaret and beyond. Here are some of her beautiful photographs.

Lachae said:

"I especially enjoy taking photographs of the bush and sunsets in Mount Margaret."

Here are some of Lachae's beautiful pictures:



Humanities & Social Sciences

WA Youth Parliament

During the mid-year break, Year 11 Politics and Law student Lei from St Mary's College in Broome participated in the WA Youth Parliament.

The Youth Parliament brings together young people aged 15 to 25 to debate issues they are passionate about. Students represent the interests of their electorate. Lei was involved in debating a bill aimed at improving regional ambulance services.



WA Schools Constitutional Convention SIDE Students Participate Online

On the 18th September, Year 11 Politics and Law Students participated in the WA Schools Constitutional Convention (WASCC).

Traditionally the event has been difficult for regional students to attend, but this year SIDE was able to increase regional participation with 17 SIDE students joining the convention online, alongside around 100 metropolitan students.

The convention provides students with an opportunity to engage with additional learning about how the Australian Constitution shapes the political and legal system. Students debated the issue of how Australia could make the Governor General more accountable to the Australian people.

Students were given an address by the Western Australia Governor, as well as a special video message from the Governor General. Several SIDE Students attending the WASCC also took the opportunity to apply to attend the National Convention next year. Two of SIDE's regional students have been awarded the opportunity to attend.

Stay tuned for an update next year.

Ex-SIDE Students becoming teachers

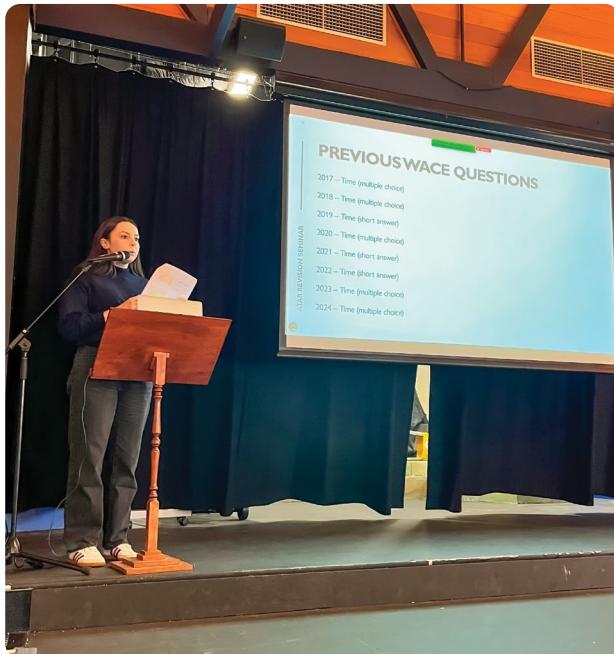
SIDE produces a lot excellent teachers who often like to get in touch with those who taught them. Recently, Jack New, visited the Leederville Campus to catch up with Modern History Teacher, Ros Keron.

Jack was enrolled as a Year 12 student in 2023 with three other classmates from Rockingham Senior High School. Now studying teaching at Curtin University, Jack reached out for some resources and Ros was only too happy to help.

On Jack's recent visit to SIDE, he discussed how being a SIDE student set him up for university as he was able to work independently and work online as he did when enrolled at SIDE.



TEACHING STUDENT JACK WITH HIS PREVIOUS TEACHER, ROS KERON



Geography Students across WA tune in for Term 4 ATAR Revision Seminar

In Term 4, SIDE Geography teacher and committee member of the Geographical Association of Western Australia (GAWA), Tracy Sterling, helped lead a special Year 12 ATAR Geography Revision Seminar. Held at Aquinas College and streamed live across the state, the event brought together students from all corners of WA, both in person and online.

The seminar focused on key Unit 4 topics, including depth studies, mapping skills, and practical strategies to tackle exam questions with confidence. With a team of experienced Geography teachers guiding the session, students left feeling more prepared and supported ahead of their final exams.

It was a fantastic opportunity for students to connect, revise, and sharpen their skills in a relaxed and encouraging environment.

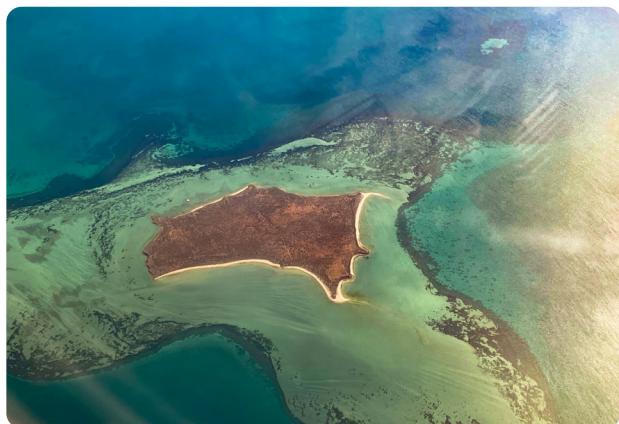
Shark Bay Visit

It was an absolute pleasure for teacher Kim Briggs to visit the Year 9, 10, and 11 students at Shark Bay School in Term 4.

A range of topics were covered, including poverty and food insecurity (Year 9), land degradation across the globe (Year 10), and the evolution of a peaceful Japan in the 1600–1868 Edo Period (Year 11). With all the theory behind them, the students were keen to display their respective SIDE ‘acknowledgment of hard work’ certificates.



Kim also found themselves on the losing side of a 2v2 basketball game where both opposition players could ‘dunk’ the ball with regularity. The day concluded on the tennis courts, where a random emu and several potential snakes had to be navigated between points. All in all, Shark Bay proved to be a productive and receptive school striving for the best outcomes possible.



SIDE students contributing to Telethon

One of SIDE's amazing Year 10 HASS students has made his contribution to the world-renowned Telethon, which occurred on the 18th and 19th of October this year. Lachie C. teamed up with Busselton's own Dusty Rule who was ‘unearthed’ by Triple J recently.

Lachie is a highly talented musician who plays several different instruments (including vocals). For those who are visiting the southwest of WA you may want to keep a look out for one of Lachie's night time gigs.



Health & Physical Education

Coastrek

SIDE Health & PE teachers Bron, Kate, and Paula completed the 20 km Coastrek from Cape Naturalist to Dunsborough, raising funds for Beyond Blue. The hike promoted physical activity, wellbeing, and community involvement – key ideas in health promotion.

In Australia, around 5 million people are living with anxiety or depression, and nearly half of us will experience a mental health condition in our lifetime.

In the WA Year 9 and 10 Health curriculum, students learn about factors that influence health, strategies to enhance personal wellbeing, and how health promotion campaigns encourage positive choices. Coastrek demonstrated these concepts in action: being active, connecting with nature, supporting mental health, and contributing to the community.

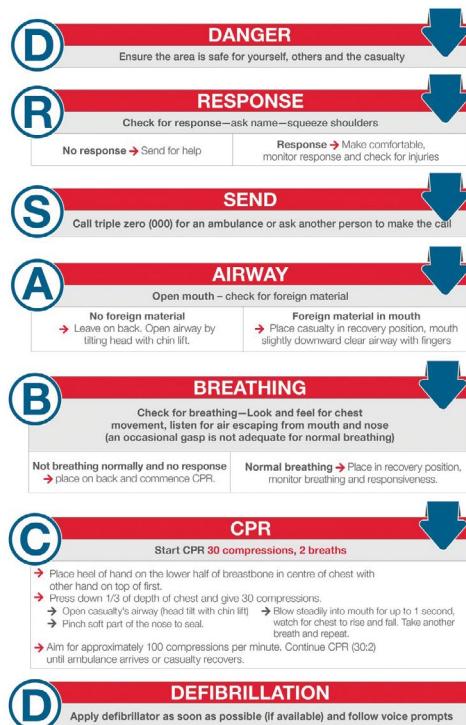
Even with rain on the second half, the team enjoyed the scenery and a strong sense of achievement!



IMAGE COURTESY OF COASTREK

DRSABCD Action Plan

In an emergency call **triple zero (000)**



Year 7 Health

This term, Year 7 Health students are learning about sun safety, water safety, and first aid – key areas for protecting themselves and others. Students explore strategies like wearing hats and sunscreen, seeking shade, staying hydrated, and swimming in supervised areas with a buddy. They also practice basic first aid skills, including the DRSABCD action plan for emergencies.

These lessons align with the WA Year 7 Health curriculum, helping students develop practical safety skills, responsible decision-making, and strategies to maintain personal wellbeing.

Languages



Apa kabar?

Speaking Success Maggie Wins Top Honour

Congratulations to Maggie from Borden Primary School for earning a Certificate of Distinction – the highest honour – in the inaugural Speaking My Language competition.

This exciting new contest challenged students to learn and record a short speech in Indonesian, showcasing their language skills and cultural appreciation.

Maggie's achievement is a testament to her dedication and enthusiasm for learning.

SIDE students win big at the inaugural CLTAWA Student Awards

Five SIDE students studying Chinese this year have been recognised for their hard work and dedication at the Chinese Language Teachers' Association of WA (CLTAWA) Student Awards.

Award categories included Excellent Achievement in Chinese, Outstanding Effort and Improvement in Chinese, and Cultural Appreciation and Engagement in Chinese.

Among the winners was Austin C., a Year 6 student at Beacon Primary School, who received the award for Outstanding Effort and Improvement in Chinese. He was joined by fellow award recipients and enthusiastic travellers Fizza S. (Year 5) and Alexander O. (Year 8), who both received awards for Academic Excellence in Chinese.

Academic Excellence in Chinese
Awarded to Fizza S. (Year 5)



Academic Excellence in Chinese
Awarded to Alexander O. (Year 8)



Outstanding Effort & Improvement in Chinese
Awarded to Austin C. (Year 6)

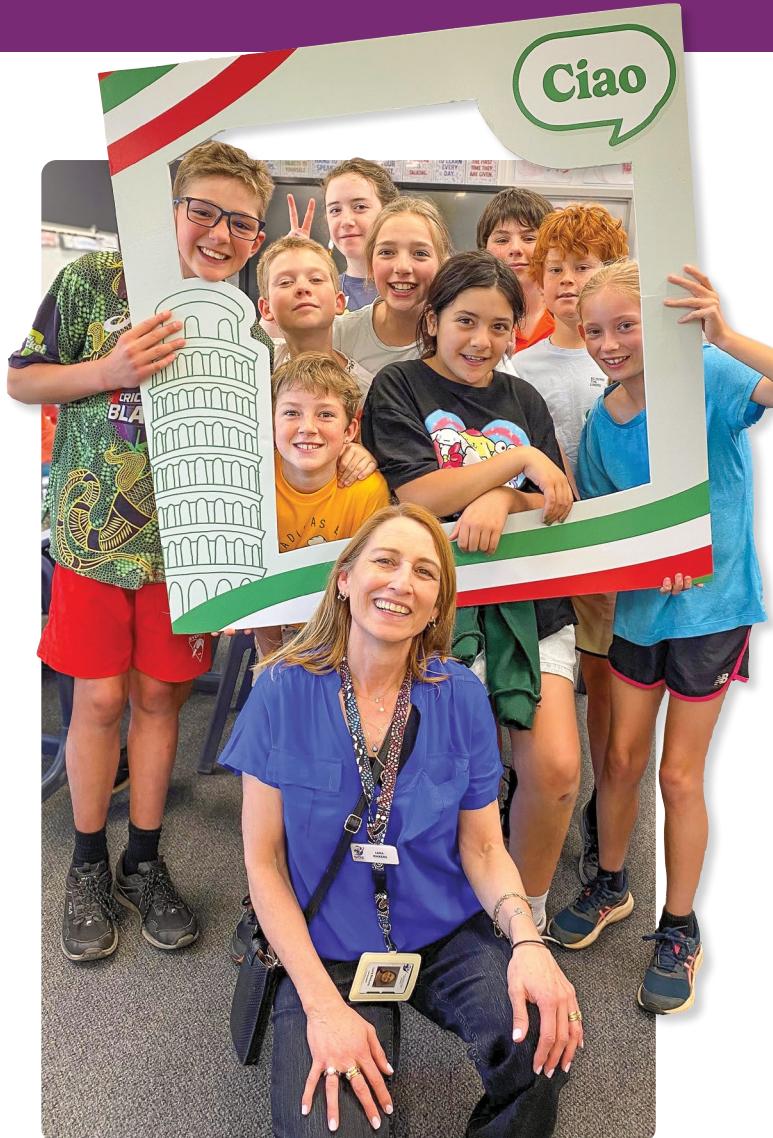


STUDENT AUSTIN PRESENTED WITH OUTSTANDING EFFORT AND IMPROVED CHIENSE AWARD

Buongiorno A Tutti!

The students at Kukerin Primary School celebrated the last day of term 3 with una giornata italiana. The class started with a song about Italy and a tarantella dance.

The students then explored the cities and food by making a pasta map, doing some fact finding and making some delicious ricotta gnocchi.



From Bali to Java: Suara's Dances Transport Students Across the Archipelago

Students from across the state joined live for the SIDE Online Indonesian Incursion with the incredible Suara Indonesian Dance Company.

Students enthusiastically explored Indonesian culture through rhythm, music, and movement, immersing themselves in rich cultural traditions in a fun and interactive way. A heartfelt thank you to Suara for sharing their talent and energy, and to all the schools and students who participated via Webex!





Library Resource Centre

Book Week 2025

The Children's Book Council of Australia once again wrapped up the Book of the Year Awards in spectacular style, with National Children's Book Week 2025 a standout celebration of reading and books!

From the 16th to the 23rd of August, the SIDE community near and far 'Booked an Adventure' and explored their favourite stories.

On Tuesday, the SIDE Library was taken over by Tooth Fairies in their best uniforms, and many of the on-site students chose to join in for a cozy pyjama day with oodies, uggs and gold coins (chocolate of course!). Students from Wongan Hills District High School and Dalwallinu District High School were on-site for a camp, allowing them to join in on the festivities across the week! They dressed up, joined in the all-school photo and got to join their teachers in some literary fun.

Throughout the week the various SIDE 'Campus' were home to magical creatures, superhero's and multitudes of other beloved children's characters. From Student Services representing the Folk of the Magic Faraway Tree to the Primary team with enough pirates to crew the Jolly Roger, much fun and frivolity was had by all.

Leederville was not the only place filled with literary love. Many of SIDE's partner schools participated, as well as home-based students. Australia's National Children's Book Week was celebrated all over the world, with students from as far away as Indonesia, America, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia all joining in for a wonderful week celebrating stories.

**BOOK AN
Adventure**



Term 3: The Sweetness Between Us with Sarah Winifred

In Week 6 SIDE hosted Sarah Winifred Searle as a visiting Author Online. Sarah's book *"The Sweetness Between Us"* was a 2025 CBCA Book of the Year-Notable, in the Older Readers category.

Sarah presented two sessions for Years 7-12 and talked about how they got started creating comics, with the encouragement of their teachers in high school.

Much of their work has an autobiographical element, with characters and storylines based on Sarah's own life and experiences. Sarah has also written non-fiction books, like *"Who was the Girl Warrior of France?: Joan of Arc"*. During the sessions, Sarah pointed out that comics don't need elaborately detailed or "perfect" drawings. Some of Sarah's favourite comics and graphic novels have very simple pictures-often "wobbly" and quirky. There's no right or wrong with comic making!

Students also participated in a drawing activity, creating a picture of themselves (or other character) and using four panels to highlight certain areas. These panels give the impression of time; in this way, one picture can portray movement, rather than just a static moment in time. It was a wonderfully creative session, and lovely to see some of the student's phenomenal comics.



Term 4: Big Trouble with Lachlann Carter

Term 4's Author Online was Lachlann Carter, who joined from Cairns to present two sessions for SIDE students on the 13th of November. In each session, he talked about his riotously funny series **BIG TROUBLE** and led students through a creative activity.

Lachlan shared how he finds stories all around him, from moments in his life to even the very furniture he sits on. He also shared tips on activating creativity and how important it is to just give things a go, even if it isn't perfect.

The Primary School students were guided through creating a cartoon face and attaching it to an item in their house-much like the angry chairs in Lachlann's first novel! They then shared the story behind their new character, including a candle with burnout and a water bottle with dreams of exploring the ocean.

The Secondary students were walked through a squiggle drawing activity, where they were encouraged to spin their line drawing until they saw a character. They then shared their characters backstory with the group.

It was a fabulous morning, and students went away buzzing about creating new stories with the characters!



Mathematics



It's been a busy year in the SIDE Mathematics department with lots of new students enrolling and lots of new teachers joining them. New to the maths staff this year are Alexis Goff, Andrew Smith, Catherine Mason, Jillian Cowie, Robert Poulter, Robin Williams and Jennifer Jones. The teachers are conducting their lessons from the five campuses across the Metro and Southwest regions.

Here are some of their favourite moments from the year.

Edna Pivetta

"In Semester 2 we visited two regional schools, the WA College of Agriculture Cunderdin and Kalbarri District High School.

While there, we taught a series of sessions targeting key concepts from the Mathematical Applications courses.

The sessions included exam-style problem solving, study and revision strategies, and guidance on avoiding common errors in extended-response questions. Students were able to work closely with us, ask clarifying questions, and receive personalised feedback on their approach to complex problems. They were also given plenty of guidance and practice time to use their ClassPads in their studies.

Their teachers reported that the visit strengthened students' understanding of challenging content and helped boost their confidence heading into assessments.

I'm really excited to see more of our regional students in 2026! These visits highlighted to me how important it is to continue these partnerships and ensure students have access to the same high-quality teaching available to their city peers"



TEACHER EDNA AND CRAIG WITH KALBARRI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



TEACHER EDNA WITH CUNDERIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE STUDENTS

Narelle Torrance

"I enjoyed my time working with our year 10 students on site at Leederville. In Term 4 our dance students measured the circumference of various circular objects to discover the relationship between a circle's circumference and its diameter. Working with string, they recorded the circumference and diameter of a few of the circles and used that to approximate π .

It's always nice to be able to spend some time doing some hands-on measurement and pattern recognition with the students, and seeing them gain an intuitive understanding the formula $C = \pi D$ "





STUDENT ASHTON FROM CENTRAL MIDLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

Andrew Grieve

"In Term 3 I was able to visit Ashton at Central Midlands Senior High School and helped him build three dimensional objects using hands-on materials. We spent some time learning about orthogonal drawings and how sketches can change depending on the perspective of the viewer. Ashton moved about the object, stopping to sketch the view as he did. Being there as he gained a hands-on understanding of how orthogonal perspectives look in the real world was really rewarding and showed how visits like this can help students to see our maths in practice"

These regional visits were invigorating for the teachers and students alike. They helped form a stronger relationship both with the class and our schools. We look forward to getting back on the road next year."

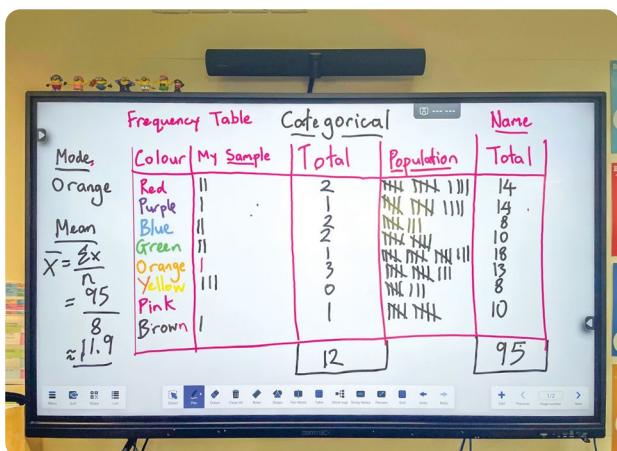
Andrew Smith

"In Week 3 of Term 3 I had the opportunity to travel to Onslow on a regional visit to the local school alongside Gavin Chadwick from HASS.

The trip was a fantastic chance to engage with students in person, beginning with supervising Year 11s as they completed an important assessment, assisting them with their understanding of our current topic of rates and ratios and then running a fun, interactive Statistics and Probability lesson with the Year 7s and 8s.

Beyond the classroom work, the visit was invaluable for relationship building and strengthening rapport with students, connecting with local supervisors, and gaining a deeper understanding of how things operate on the "other side of the screen." Seeing the regional learning environment firsthand added real depth to my perspective as an online teacher.

A big thank you to Gavin and the school SIDE supervisors Mercedes Ralph and Jakob Zarb for their wonderful support throughout the trip. Their guidance made the experience both very productive and enjoyable"



Primary School

Kindy & Pre-Primary

Semester 2 is always a busy time in the early childhood education classrooms. In Term 3, the students celebrated National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day. During the Webex lessons, they engaged with short stories and video clips that focused on community, ceremonies, and the importance of storytelling as a way of staying connected to family and friends.



Within the integrated program, children explored how to care for country through the topic 'Our Special Place'. They reflected on what makes places special, why they need to be looked after, and how First Nations people have been caring for country for thousands of years.

SIDE staff also enjoy welcoming students for visits. Two wonderful primary students, Mateo (Year 3) and Kaia (Pre-primary), recently caught up with their teachers, Kristyn Oldfield and Anita Daws.

Year 1 & 2

Student Work Highlights

Students in Years 1 and 2 have been busily engaging in a variety of exciting learning areas this semester.

Ronan (Year 1) has been exploring the topic Frogs and Toads, learning about what makes a healthy environment for these fascinating amphibians. Pictured is Ronan's impressive diorama showcasing a thriving frog habitat.



RONAN'S POND

Raghad (Year 1) has been investigating Creepy Crawlies and has designed and created an ant home to observe their behaviour over time – a wonderful hands-on science project!

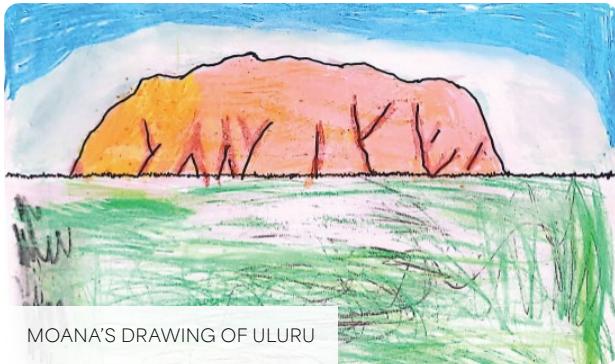


RAGHAD'S ANT HOME

Claire (Year 2) has been delving into A World of Colour and Sound. Here she is in New Zealand with her creative rock band instrument, crafted from natural materials such as bamboo and pebbles.



CLAIRE'S INSTRUMENT



MOANA'S DRAWING OF ULURU

Year 3

Australian Landmarks

This semester, our Year 3 students have been learning about the world around them, focusing on places, environments, and how people interact with them. We have been exploring natural and constructed Australian landmarks. Here are some of our impressive creations!



AYAH'S DRAWING



JACK'S DRAWING OF ULURU



JORDANA'S SCULPTURE

Year 4

Exploring Earth's Environments

This semester, our Year 4 students have been exploring the rich diversity of Earth's environments, learning about the different biomes that make up our planet. Students investigated how the environments such as deserts, forests and tundra have unique climates, vegetation, animals, and natural features.

To bring their learning to life, students created biome dioramas that beautifully showcase the characteristics of each environment. They then presented their dioramas with a short speech. These photos highlight their creativity and understanding of how living things are connected to the places they inhabit.



KAMERON'S AUSTRALIAN DESERT BIOME DIORAMA



GRACE'S POLAR BIOME DIORAMA

Year 5 & 6

The Year 5 and Year 6 students have had a very busy and productive Semester Two. They attended the online event, Be an eSafe Kid hosted by the eSafety Commissioner, and students were lucky enough to join Scitech-Mission : Space, during Science Week to learn more about Puzzling Physics and Enigmatic Earth and Space. The Upper Primary students, both in WA and around the world, also dressed up in some fabulous costumes based on their favourite story or book character for book week.

Year 5 Poetry

Year 5 students have been working on writing Poetry in our Webex lessons. They did a study on Metaphors and students had to create their own metaphors for the Moon, Stars and Sea, with very pleasing results.

The stars are eyes of the world, staring into our souls while we walk on the side path. *Raiishya T*

The ocean looks like water trying to find its best friend. *Parisa R*

The moon is treasures of gold. *Javi S*

Galaxy of beauty. The golden compass. *Niall H*

The wave is hot soup the wave is a fluffy cat the stars are paint splotches on. *Fizza S*

The starry night sky is a painting with tiny dots in a black canvas. *Nikola B*



SIERRA TESTING HER PIN HOLE CAMERA

Physical Science

Year 5 students also created a colour wheel in Physical Science to see how white light is formed. They researched the camera obscura and made their own pinhole cameras to see how images appear flipped, or upside down.

Sweet Creatures

Year 6 students have had a focus on Visual Arts- Sweet Creatures. Students developed original ideas and creativity through the creation of an imaginary creature. They developed skills and techniques of contour drawing and 3-D modelling. Students had a lot of fun and produced some amazing artworks.



ELISE'S SWEET CREATURE



CALLUM'S SWEET CREATURE

Multi-Age Group Support

The MAGS Math and Science team continues to support small regional schools with multi-age group settings. This semester, the program has continued to grow. The team is now connected to 20 regional schools, with 137 students participating in Science twice per week, and 85 students participating in daily Math classes. The team now teaches 86 Webex lessons a week, and they love it!



Year 4 Science students have been exploring different scientific concepts through hands-on investigations. Students at Munglinup, Tambellup, and Lake King designed toys as part of the unit on the properties of materials. At Cascade, students investigated Force and Motion, while at Useless Loop, they tested the friction of their shoe soles.

In Term 3, Belinda, Emily, and Teresa joined the French team from Languages for a two-day visit to Esperance, participating in the Mallee Schools Swim Week Camp. They spent time with Math and Science students from Scaddan, Salmon Gums, Cascade, and Munglinup. All of the students were so excited to see their online teachers in real life, and the feeling was mutual.

In Term 4, Peta and Teresa visited Cue, Yalgo, and Eneabba primary schools, where they met enthusiastic students and teachers engaged in their SIDE courses. With the students, they built harmonicas and guitars using everyday classroom items, played sound games, and explored the science behind it all.

At Eneabba, the students surprised their SIDE teachers with a beautiful handmade card to celebrate World Teachers' Day.



EAL/D Primary Outreach

The EAL/D program has grown significantly, from supporting one school with three students in February 2025 to 17 schools with 56 students in Term 4. It is incredibly rewarding to provide such a valuable and much-needed program to regional schools, supporting students' English development and engagement in their learning.

EAL/D Regional Visit to Geraldton Term 4

It was a pleasure for the SIDE team to visit the EAL/D students at Geraldton Primary School and Allendale Primary School. The SIDE Primary EAL/D program currently supports 10 students across both schools, providing online intensive English lessons twice a week. It was wonderful for the team to see the students' progress in person and connect with them in their local learning environments. Such fun!



Remote Regional Teaching Team

Laverton Students Lead the Way in Virtual Reality Storytelling

In Term 4, Laverton's lower school students explored immersive storytelling through virtual reality (VR) during their weekly Digital Technologies class with SIDE's Remote and Regional Teaching Team. During NAIDOC Week, students captured community events using 360° cameras, filming school tours, cultural celebrations, and the Junior Football Carnival

Students developed key skills from the Years 7-9 Digital Technologies curriculum. They planned digital products for real audiences, explored how data is captured and managed in digital systems, and designed interactive, user-friendly VR experiences. These immersive projects reflected students' personal connections to place, showcasing everything from bike repair workshops to VR training on location in Laverton.

Students demonstrated creative and critical thinking while working collaboratively, troubleshooting, and refining their projects, drawing on community knowledge. These place-based projects were more than technical tasks; they celebrated culture, identity and voice through modern tools. To top off the term, six student projects were selected to be showcased at the It Takes a Spark STEM Conference at Frederick Irwin Anglican School in Mandurah. Laverton students presented their work in the STEM Expo room alongside high-profile government and industry projects. They received outstanding feedback from educators, community leaders and STEM professionals, many of whom were deeply impressed by the cultural depth and technical quality of the students' work.

This project reflects SIDE's and Laverton School's collaborative efforts and commitment to equity, innovation and culturally responsive learning in remote WA. Through blending Digital technologies and local perspectives, Laverton students are gaining the digital capabilities, confidence and pride they need for future-focused learning.





Mullewa Visits

This year has been filled with connection, creativity, and collaboration at Mullewa District High School, as the Regional and Remote Teaching Team (RRTT) continued to build strong learning partnerships through a series of visits across 2025.

Each trip brought fresh energy, new ideas, and plenty of smiles as SIDE staff worked alongside local teachers, students, and community members to strengthen learning in Maths, English, Science, and Community courses.

In Term 3, Mel Shariat joined Ron and Tony for Community Cooking and English support, helping students prepare and sell treats through a pop-up community shop. During Term 3's NAIDOC celebrations, the school came alive with bush medicine stalls, weaving, clay bowls, face painting, and kangaroo stew – raising over \$250 for community projects. It was a celebration of Two-Way learning, teamwork, and cultural pride.

The final visit in Term 4 will see Mullewa host a multi-school moderation day with Cue, Yalgoo, and Pia Wadjari schools. Teachers will collaborate on common assessment tasks and shared marking, strengthening consistency and professional learning across the region.

From cardboard babies to kangaroo stew, RRTT's 2025 visits to Mullewa have been a joyful reminder that when we connect culture, curiosity, and community, everyone learns together.

SIDE's Registered Training Organisation (RTO)



Meet the Conservation Student of 2025.

Year 12 Conservation and Ecosystem Management student, Finn, has recently achieved an outstanding milestone by completing his Certificate II qualification. Finn's trainer and assessor, Angela, was delighted to share the exciting news that he has been named SIDE RTO Conservation Student of the Year 2025.

Finn said he has appreciated the flexibility that studying with SIDE RTO has provided and is eager to apply the knowledge and skills he's gained – especially those related to native plants and animals. Finn is now working towards his Coxswain's Grade 1 licence in Broome and plans to pursue his goal of becoming a fishing tour guide in the Kimberley region by the end of the year.

Congratulations, Finn, on your outstanding achievement!

Celebrating Achievement: Congratulations to Zack and Darcy

SIDE is proud to celebrate Zack L. and Darcy W., who have successfully completed their third qualification through the SIDE RTO!

This incredible achievement is the result of many hours of dedication, resilience, and perseverance – supported by their Education Assistants, Mount Barker Community College staff, and trainers Matt Dixon, Sue Coffey, and Wayne Wilson.

Zack, who lives with Autism and Anxiety, is especially proud of his progress. Throughout his studies, he developed valuable skills in communication, problem-solving, time management, and workplace safety – building a strong foundation for future work and volunteering opportunities.

"Being patient was hard at times, but I enjoyed chatting with my supervisors – especially with Susan about The Legend of Zelda. I've learned lots of useful things for my future,"

Zack shared.

Darcy, who lives with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and Autism, also celebrates this outstanding accomplishment. With support from Mrs. Davies, who provided clear, visual, and practical instruction, Darcy strengthened his communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

"Some of the work was hard, but Mrs. Davies helped. I liked talking with Matt about Minecraft, Susan about Lego, and Wayne with his funny jokes,"

said Darcy.

The SIDE RTO team congratulates Zack and Darcy on their hard work and success, and we wish them all the very best in their future endeavors!



PARTICIPANTS L:R BACK:
ALLIRA SCOTT, ROSIE MARALTADJ, CAROLYN POLKINGHORNE, CARMEL SMILER, LISA GILEWSKI, KYRAH DRUMMOND,
CENTRE: NIKIESHA RYAN, REBECCA COX,
MEL SAYLOR, MICHELLE MARTIN, DEB DONATION
FRONT: SERINA NARKLE,
MEKHI YARRAN,
SHANTELL HANSEN,
KOBI MORRISON, BRITLEE EADES, TAMIEKA LUSTED,
JAYGO LAWENCE

First Cohort Commences Accredited Aboriginal Languages Teaching Qualification

The first group of participants has commenced training in the newly accredited 52897 WA Certificate III in Teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages. Formerly known as the Aboriginal Languages Teacher Trainer course, this qualification has been accredited through a partnership between SIDE RTO and the Quality Teaching Branch. The accreditation ensures graduates receive a nationally recognised qualification, strengthening their professional profile and enhancing future employment opportunities.

Teaching Aboriginal languages in schools plays a vital role in language revitalisation and preservation. It also supports Aboriginal student wellbeing and engagement, while fostering culturally inclusive learning environments.

Here is what some of the current participants had to say about their experience so far:

Learning to teach my traditional language of Gija is one of the most important ways that we can stay connected to our culture, country and ancestors.

MICHELLE MARTIN

It is important to appreciate the beauty of one of the oldest languages in the world and to learn to teach it to give students of the futures, something I never had growing up

JAYGO LAWRENCE

I always knew our languages were endangered. But seeing the statistics has given me a deeper understanding.... and more drive to teach students about history, language and culture for generations to come

SHANTELL HANSEN

Exciting Developments 2026

SIDE RTO is currently in the process of applying to TAC to add the necessary units to their scope, paving the way to deliver the SIDE Supervisor course in 2026.

If approved, the course will include a skillset of three units from the CHC30221 Certificate III in School Based Education Support, giving schools greater flexibility in selecting qualified staff for the SIDE Supervisor role. This initiative aims to help schools identify, train, and retain individuals with strong connections to their local community, ensuring this important role is filled by capable and committed people.

Interested schools are encouraged to get in touch to learn more.

Online Teaching Learning



Exciting News: Moodle Upgrades to Version 4.5 for 2026!

The Online Teaching and Learning (OTL) team is excited to announce that SIDE's Moodle platform will be upgraded from version 4.1 to 4.5 in preparation for the 2026 school year. This upgrade brings a friendlier interface, and a suite of new features and improvements that will enhance both teaching and learning experiences across SIDE's virtual classrooms. While the navigation has changed, the overall function of the content has remained the same.

Why This Matters for Students

These upgrades are all about making learning more intuitive, engaging, and supportive. Whether it is through better course layouts or timely reminders, Moodle 4.5 is designed to help students succeed.

The OTL team looks forward to supporting staff and students as they transition to this exciting new version.

Social Media Age Restrictions

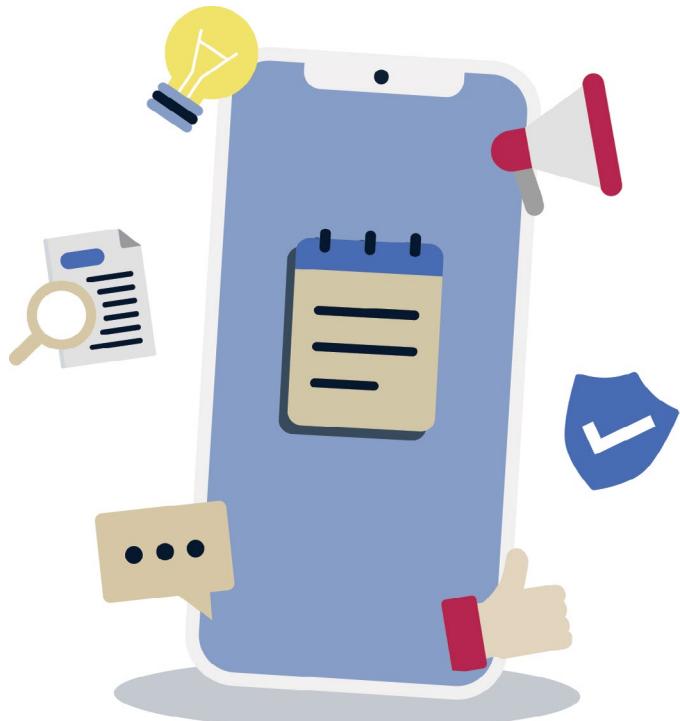
New national social media restrictions have been introduced in Australia to support the safety and wellbeing of young people online.

SIDE supports these changes and practices to ensure the school is aligned. While the school generally uses resources hosted within its own platforms or through approved educational providers, there are times when high-quality, curriculum-aligned explanations are only available through YouTube.

In these cases, teachers may share YouTube videos with students either during Webex classes or embedded in the Learning Management System, Moodle. Students are able to view these videos without needing a YouTube account, and they are not asked to post, comment, or interact in any way on the YouTube platform. The priority remains providing safe, engaging, and carefully selected learning experiences for every student.

For more information on social media age restrictions, please visit eSafety Commissioner website:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/about-us/industry-regulation/social-media-age-restrictions-hub>



Science



A Visit to Albany

Mount Barker Community College recently welcomed teacher Alix Smith for an engaging series of revision sessions with Year 11 ATAR Psychology students. The visit focused on preparing students for their upcoming exams, but it wasn't all about textbooks and note-taking – Ms Smith also brought creativity into the classroom.

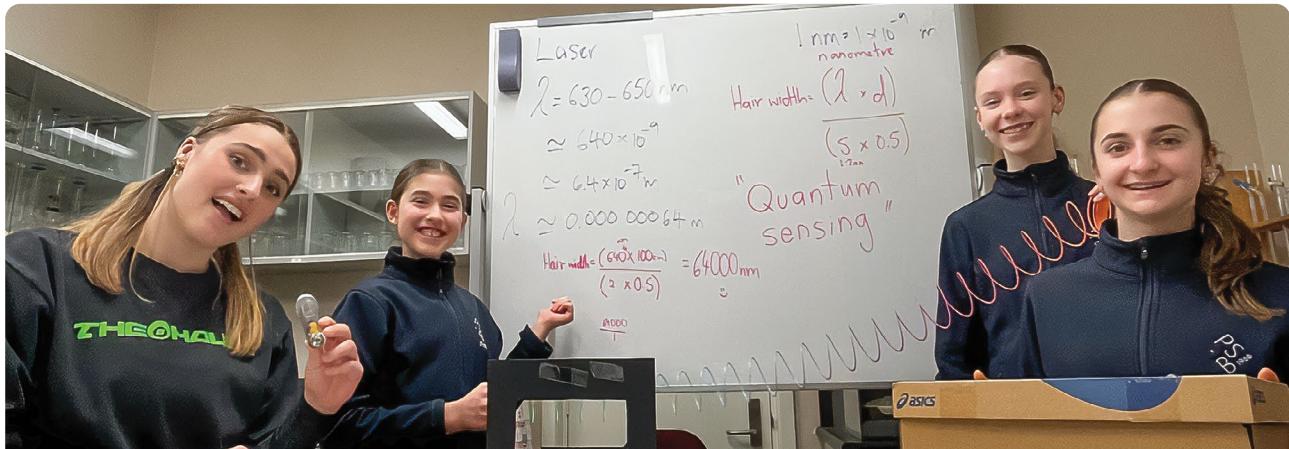
As a well-deserved "brain break" from hours of memorisation and study, students constructed colourful brain hats to map out the different regions of the brain. Each section was labelled with its name and key functions, helping students to visualise how the brain's parts work together. The activity transformed complex neurological concepts into something hands-on and memorable.

Students reported that the exercise not only made learning more enjoyable (at least for those who enjoy crafts!), but also strengthened their recall of important material – a crucial skill for their ATAR exams. By connecting creativity with content, Ms Smith helped students deepen their understanding of psychology in a fun, interactive way.

The visit highlighted the value of active learning in senior classes, showing that even in the most rigorous subjects, curiosity and imagination can enhance academic success. The colourful brain hats were proof that sometimes, the best way to learn is to think outside the box – or, in this case, inside the brain!

national science week 2025

National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of all things science and technology. Held from Saturday 9th to Sunday 17th August 2025, National Science Week featured more than 1,000 events across Australia. The school theme for 2025 was 'Decoding the Universe- Exploring the unknown with nature's hidden language'.



YEAR 9 SCIENCE, ON-SITE DANCE STUDENTS, L-R: LACEY, POPPY, ALYSSA AND JENNALEE

Year 9 Science Week in Leederville

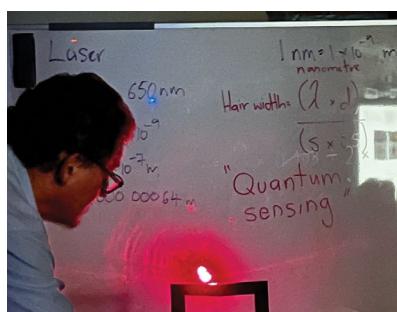
During Science Week, Year 9 students took part in a fascinating hands-on experiment about how light behaves. Using a simple setup with a red laser beam, students shone light past a single strand of human hair and watched as the light spread out to form a pattern of bright and dark bands on a screen.

By measuring the distance between these bands, students were able to apply geometry and physics equations to work out how thick the hair was. This clever experiment helped them see how light waves can overlap – sometimes adding together and sometimes cancelling each other out – to create patterns we can measure.

The activity helped students connect what they've learned in class about waves and light to a real-world example. It also encouraged them to think carefully, record data, and draw conclusions, just like real scientists do.

More than just a Science Week project, this experiment showed students how science helps us understand even the smallest details of the

world around us – and that learning can be both exciting and enlightening!



LASER DIFFRACTION PATTERNS WITH TEACHER ALEX



Science Week at Shark Bay

Year 7 and 8 Science students at Shark Bay took part in an exciting virtual escape room during Science Week. The activity based on the theme 'Destination Moon,' created by digital learning platform STILE, turned the classroom into a NASA-style mission control centre, where students had just 45 minutes to save a stranded astronaut in space.

Through a video story, students learned that a fictional astronaut was stuck in a failing spacecraft. Working together as NASA ground controllers, they had to solve ten challenges to bring the astronaut safely home. Each challenge tested their knowledge about the Moon, space exploration, and even real-world science, including the upcoming Lunaria One mission – an Australian project planning to grow plants on the Moon in 2026.

The fast-paced activity encouraged teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving, all while sparking students' curiosity about space science. By combining storytelling with hands-on learning, the virtual escape room helped students see how science connects to real missions and discoveries happening today.

The Shark Bay students rose to the challenge – proving that with teamwork, creativity, and a bit of scientific thinking, even the toughest space problems can be solved!



YEAR 8'S GLORIA, TEACHER JONEEN, DARNELL & FARRAN



YEAR 7'S AMBER, LILLY, CONNOR & BAILEY

Student Services



Wiluna NAIDOC Ball A Night to Remember

◆ This year's NAIDOC Ball in Wiluna was a wonderful celebration of culture, community, and connection – and our staff were proud to be part of the event. Deputy Principal Rachael MacFarlane and Teacher Serena Davie attended this fabulous event.

The evening was filled with colour, music, and joy, as families, community members, and visitors came together to honour the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. From the dazzling outfits to the crowning of Mr and Miss NAIDOC, the night truly showcased the pride and spirit of the Wiluna community.

SIDE staff enjoyed the chance to connect with local families in such a festive setting and were inspired by the strong sense of pride and togetherness that filled the hall. Events like the NAIDOC Ball are an important reminder of the resilience and richness of culture, and why NAIDOC Week is such a vital part of our national story.

We thank the Wiluna community for their warm welcome and congratulate the organisers for such a successful evening.



IMAGES COURTESY OF WILUNA REMOTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Congratulations

Celebrating Year 12s: Connection, Reflection, and Farewell

Dylan Reid, Wheatbelt Regional Coordinator, joined Wongan Hills and Dalwallinu staff for a special graduation lunch in Joondalup, celebrating their Year 12 students during a recent camp visit to Perth. The event was filled with laughter, connection, and heartfelt tributes, as Year 11 students shared memories and acknowledged the impact of their graduating peers.

Life in the Fast Lane

Year 11 SIDE student, Nicolas S., made his car racing debut in 2023 with AGI Sport in Formula 4 South East Asia, where he claimed a race victory. He went on to finish as runner-up in both the 2024 United States and Australian F4 Championships. Nicolas has rapidly risen through the open-wheel racing ranks, gaining valuable experience in Formula Regional competitions across Oceania and the Americas, including a podium finish at Indianapolis. Alongside his growing motorsport career, Nicolas continues his full-time studies through SIDE in the Sports/Arts program, successfully managing his academic commitments while training and competing internationally.

On October 15, 2025, it was announced that Nicolas will step up to the INDY NXT Series with HMD-Cusick Morgan Motorsports for the 2026 season. His first INDY NXT race is scheduled for March 1, 2026, on the streets of St. Petersburg, Florida, USA.

With 21 Year 12s and 17 Year 11s in attendance, all completing a full SIDE program, the lunch highlighted the strong bond between the two schools. Dylan expressed her joy in supporting this cohort and wished the graduates every success as they move on to university, work, travel, or further training. Congratulations to all!



IMAGES COURTESY OF INDYCAR



Youth Grand Prix Sydney Regional Final Student Achievements

Between the 11th and 18th of September, hundreds of the finest young dancers from across Australia, New Zealand, and the Asia-Pacific region competed in the Youth Grand Prix (YPG) Sydney Regional Final.

Throughout this prestigious event, students showcased their classical and contemporary variations and participated in numerous master classes led by esteemed directors from internationally renowned ballet and contemporary dance companies.

Their hard work, dedication, and artistry were truly inspiring. Congratulations to all who participated and represented their dance schools with excellence!

We are incredibly proud to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of our students who advanced to the Final Round of this prestigious competition:

Representing the Perth School of Ballet:

Shay S. (Year 8)

- Top 12 Junior Women Classical
- Awarded a short term scholarship to the San Francisco Ballet School
- Awarded a short term scholarship to the Alberta Ballet School
- Accepted into the European School of Ballet Winter Program

Thomas C. (Year 11)

- Accepted into Nashville Summer Program

Alyssa L. (Year 9)

- Accepted into the YGP Dance Lab Summer Program

Shelby M. (Year 8)

- Top 12 Junior Women Contemporary
- Final Round Junior Women Classical
- Winter School Scholarship to the European School of Ballet

Representing Perth Classical and Contemporary Coaching

Haruku H. (Year 9)

- 2nd Place Senior Men Contemporary
- Top 6 Senior Men Classical
- Offered a full-time place at the Australian Ballet School
- Short Term Scholarship to K-Ballet Academy, Japan
- Summer Scholarship to YGP Dance Lab

Naomi H. (Year 9)

- 1st Place Senior Women Contemporary
- Final Round Senior Women Classical
- Summer School Scholarship to the San Francisco Ballet School
- Invitation to participate in ICE (International Contemporary Youth Ensemble)

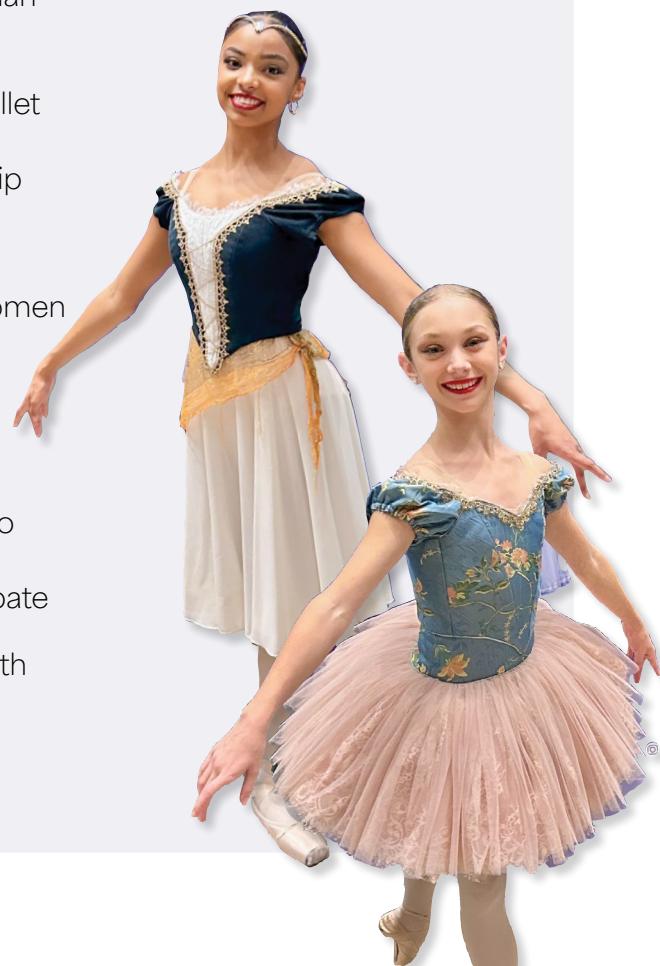
Representing The Graduate College of Dance:

Emelie W. (Year 10)

- Accepted into Australian Ballet School 2026

Morgan W. (Year 10)

- Accepted into Australian Ballet School 2026



Pilbara Students on Camp

SIDE was delighted to welcome four students and two staff from Nullagine Remote Community School to SIDE Leederville for a week-long camp.

The students spent time reconnecting with their teachers and getting a taste of different learning experiences. In the Design & Technology room, they created their own key rings and cups and were excited to see the laser cutter in action. A highlight was visiting a metropolitan school that regularly travels to Nullagine – a special chance to catch up and strengthen their connection.

Exploring future opportunities was also a big focus. The group visited further education providers, giving students



the chance to think about different pathways once they leave school.

While at SIDE, the students enjoyed spending time in the school garden. They especially liked reading the plaques on the tables, which share stories about the many regions across WA where SIDE students live and learn.

Another special moment was meeting a fellow SIDE student from Kandiwal, which gave them a sense of the wide and connected SIDE community.

It was a wonderful week of learning, connection, and exploration, and we look forward to welcoming the Nullagine students back again in the future.



Breaking Records on the Ice

Hana B. (Year 10) is a student in SIDE's Sports/Arts program.

Earlier this year, Hana placed in the top 10 at the World Junior Figure Skating Championships, breaking multiple Australian records – including the highest score, the first triple axel, the first triple axel in combination, and the highest international placing. More recently, she won silver at an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, finishing just behind the current Junior World Champion. This marks the first Australian podium finish at such an event in nearly 25 years, and makes Hana the first Australian to win silver. Remarkably, she is also only the second junior woman in history to land a triple axel-triple toe combination at an ISU event.

Balancing her elite training and international competition schedule, Hana continues to succeed in her studies through SIDE, demonstrating remarkable dedication both on and off the ice.

The Arts



Media Arts



JOSHUA SPEAKING AT THE STATE OF AI IN WA

SIDE Student Brings Regional Perspective to AI Panel

This semester, SIDE was prominently represented at the State of AI in WA Schools forum, hosted by the Fogarty Foundation and the Beyond Boundaries Institute. The event brought together educators from across WA to explore the evolving role of artificial intelligence in learning, with an emphasis on regional and online schooling.

Year 12 student Joshua P. delivered the introduction to an AI panel featuring SIDE's Head of Learning Area for Arts, Mr Brad Minchin. His remarks centred student experience and reminded the audience of the technologies' purpose.

Joshua studies Mathematics Applications through Northam Senior High School with SIDE support from teacher Angus Hogan. Described as exceptionally capable, he spoke candidly about isolation in Northam, challenges of regional education and his role as a full-time carer for his sister. He also shared insights on AI's potential to improve access, connection and personalised learning for students in similar circumstances. His contribution resonated with the audience and highlighted the diverse experiences of SIDE learners.

Joshua is well known for his active LinkedIn presence, where he shares insights on learning, youth leadership and distance education. The forum was highly successful, attended by Department of Education staff, and showcased SIDE's leadership in online learning and the calibre of its students.



Exceptional Media Works from SIDE's ATAR Students

Semester 2 was an exceptional period for ATAR Media Production and Analysis at SIDE, with students across Western Australia producing thoughtful, technically evolving and deeply personal media works that reflected the diversity of the isolated and distance-education context. Films emerged from locations including Broome, Christmas Island, Kalgoorlie, Kununurra, Merredin and metropolitan centres, each shaped by the student's environment, culture and lived experience.

The Year 11 cohort demonstrated strong maturity in their documentary productions. The Year 12 art film productions showed impressive creativity and aesthetic risk-taking.

Year 11 ATAR films



AYASHA B.
BROOME

Poignant documentary exploring the relationship between mental health and music, with honesty and a strong sense of place.

SHIAU WEI C.
CHRISTMAS ISLAND

Examination of Christmas Island life, blending observational footage, interviews and symbolic imagery for a unique perspective

CASSIDY A.
KALGOORLIE

Emerging relationship between art and AI with curiosity and heart, producing a documentary that showed conceptual understanding and authentic voice



FOCUS
CASSIE C. | ELLENBROOK

Post-modern satire blending 1990s sitcom conventions with unsettling undertones to critique representation and nostalgia.

DE-TAINTION
BENNY T. | KUNUNNARRA

Surreal and metaphorical exploration of schooling, self-perception and mental entrapment

CLOCKWORK ANXIETY
JAKE B. | MERREDIN

Visualising the cyclic nature of procrastination, stress and personal unravelling.



Year 12 ATAR films

Both *Focus* and *De-Taintion* have been selected as SIDE's submissions for Statewide Media Perspectives. Cassie and Benny are wished the best of luck in being chosen for the screening showcase at select cinemas around WA in 2026.



PICTURE OF CLOCKWORK ANXIETY BY JAKE

Visual Art

A Year of Artistic Triumph: Celebrating Visual Arts at SIDE in 2025

SIDE takes immense pride in reflecting on the exceptional creative output and dedicated talent demonstrated by our Visual Art students in 2025. The year was significantly marked by the outstanding efforts of the Year 12 ATAR cohort. Their commitment set a high standard, culminating in impressive portfolios that exemplify the depth of artistic inquiry nurtured here.

The sheer breadth of creativity we witnessed has been truly vast and inspiring for the entire SIDE community. Below, we spotlight just a few of the many notable students and their exceptional artworks that contributed to a truly memorable year in Visual Arts.

Year 11 ATAR Art: Identity dealing with growing up

Tahlia M. (Manjimup Senior High School)
 "Time Bomb" is rendered in coloured pencils and explores the transition from childhood innocence to the weight of responsibility, using three portraits – a central, colourful younger self and flanking monochromatic older selves – to depict this emotional explosion.



CARMELA'S ARTWORK

Year 9 Art

Carmela B., a truly talented and prolific artist from Leinster Community School, has demonstrated exceptional dedication and creative versatility by enthusiastically embracing every Visual Arts project this year. Her magnificent manga project, sampled above, is a testament to her technical skill and imaginative prowess, solidifying her status one of the standout students in the program.



'TIME BOMB' BY TAHLIA

Year 12 General Art Illustration and Printmaking

Ethan C. BRUCE ROCK

Ethan has shown outstanding commitment to his art, driving from Bruce Rock to the Leederville campus on several occasions. His journey reflects a fantastic effort to personally engage with the printing process and finalise his unique designs. A truly commendable display of passion!

Joey S. WONGAN HILLS

Joey produced some truly marvellous designs through her printmaking efforts. SIDE was delighted to welcome her to the Leederville campus to utilise the facilities. The team also enjoyed seeing her creative side shine when she dressed up for Book Week.

Eliza B. EAST KIMBERLY

Eliza delivered a fantastic body of work this year. She excelled across multiple projects, demonstrating impressive technical skill and creative flair in both the challenging areas of illustration and printmaking.



ETHAN LINO PRINTING AT SIDE LEEDEVILLE CAMPUS



ETHAN'S LINO PRINTS



JOEY'S CHINE COLLE
PRINTS WITH LINO



JOEY SCREEN PRINTING AT SIDE
LEEDERVILLE CAMPUS



ELIZA'S ILLUSTRATION

Principal's Art Award

Special congratulations to the recipient of the prestigious SIDE Principal's Art Awards; Neve, and the highly commended, Ashley.

Neve's work, 'Runway to Ruin" received a near perfect score of 97% in the ATAR Visual Arts course and has been featured in the Albany Advertiser.

Runway to Ruin

NEVE SCHOOF
NORTH ALBANY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Fashion both unites and divides our globalised world: it brings joy and beauty but creates pollution and exploitation. Walking the beaches of Cocos Keeling Island, Christmas Island and Thailand, I saw discarded garments and children playing beside heaps of fabric-evidence of fast fashion's human and environmental cost. Inspired by Hung Liu and Sommar Roman, I used post-consumer materials and fabric manipulation to expose these injustices. My sculpture places a pristine mannequin-Western consumerism-above a resilient garment worker who represents all exploited garment workers. On the legs of the mannequin, I collaged tragedies like the Rana Plaza collapse.

On the back of the gown cascading rosettes made out of thrifted materials symbolise oceans and waterways dissolving into tattered pollution. The mannequin extends a mirrored ball towards the viewer, demanding us as an audience to take accountability and re-evaluate our consumer choices.



The Dividing Line

ASHLEY S.
KENNEDY BAPTIST COLLEGE

My artwork, "The Dividing Line," is an exploration of the profound communication breakdown between social classes and cultures, particularly between the West and African communities. As an immigrant from Zimbabwe, I challenge the stereotype of helplessness by highlighting the resilience, joy, and spiritual wealth often overlooked by Western media.

The core of the piece features two portraits on white doors: a boy from a Zimbabwean orphanage radiating strength, juxtaposed with my brother, who symbolizes Western isolation amidst material comfort. Tangled telephone cords physically link them, representing the poverty line and broken global dialogue. A key detail suggests that the well-being of African communities depends on the willingness of Western society to engage. Ultimately, this work uses contrasting lives to emphasize shared humanity and demand global accountability.



Music



Semester 2 Music

Semester 2 has been dynamic and impactful for SIDE's Music program, driven by the outstanding work of music teacher Mr Simon Bartlett, whose travelling classroom has brought creativity and joy to students across regional WA. His commitment to visiting remote communities and delivering high-quality arts education has strengthened SIDE's presence in schools with limited access to specialist subjects.

Simon travelled extensively, delivering face-to-face music sessions at Mount Magnet District High School, Mullewa District High School, and One Arm Point Community School. Each visit was tailored to the cultural and learning needs of the community, with his warm and engaging teaching style resonating with students and staff. This work enriched the arts curriculum and strengthened relationships with partner schools.

Central to SIDE Music is its bespoke, multi-year course for students from primary to Year 10, focused on rock band learning and hands-on experience with drums, guitars, keyboards and ensemble performance. Designed for accessibility, enjoyment and creativity, the program encourages students to experiment, collaborate and develop confidence.



SIDE Music classes fill a significant arts education gap, as many regional schools have limited access to specialist teachers. Feedback shows these sessions positively impact engagement, with some classes reporting improved attendance and enthusiasm on music days.

Simon's hands-on approach and willingness to travel long distances have made a lasting impression. His cool, quirky and personable teaching style creates a safe space for artistic exploration, whether supporting a shy student or building group confidence.

SIDE is proud to recognise Simon's contribution this semester, enriching students' musical skills, building community confidence, strengthening cultural engagement and demonstrating the value of arts learning across Western Australia.



Vision

To enhance and expand learning opportunities for Western Australian students, regardless of their circumstances, through high quality, inclusive and culturally responsive educational programs in a blended learning environment.

SCHOOL OF ISOLATED & DISTANCE EDUCATION
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