



ISSUE 27

TERM 2 2023

## From the Principal's Desk

Another term in the books! It has been a busy one, filled with excursions, activities and an abundance of learning. Students pushed themselves to try new things and stretch out of their comfort zones through surfing, rock climbing, and hiking. Indoors, students also demonstrated a growth mindset as they sat NAPLAN and OLNA, dabbled with their creativity, engaged in cooking and woodwork classes, and built their skills in literacy and numeracy.

We have welcomed some new faces, including Donna, our new Admin officer. Donna will likely be the voice at the end of the phone if you ring the school's number to notify absences or make inquiries. She has slotted seamlessly into the hive of activity in the office and has provided much needed support to Mandy and myself.

At the end of the term, we will also say 'good-bye' and 'see you later' to a few of our staff. Gary, our VET coordinator, is moving back east to be with family. We managed to entice him out of retirement to help build the work experience programme and he leaves it in a strong position, with many of our students working throughout Fairbridge Village. Linda, our cooking teacher/trainer and 'all-rounder' will be taking a leave of absence until next year. She has been absolute magic with the students and will be missed by all. And, finally, we bid *adieu* to Lisa Wells, who has been with the College since its early days. This one is personally very hard for many of us because Lisa has been a mentor and friend. All the best, Lisa!

With change, comes new opportunities. We are working to fill the positions left vacant; however, it is proving difficult to find the 'right' people for the jobs. In the meantime, I will be taking over Lisa's class. I am looking forward to the challenge and ask for patience as I find my feet and balance teaching with my leadership role. Work experience will still take place, with teachers looking after their individual students and monitoring their progress.

Finally, I am encouraging any interested students in Years 10-12 to consider applying for the VET Delivered in Secondary Schools (VDSS) scheme. Applications will close at the end of August. VDSS allows students to pursue a certificate course at TAFE while staying enrolled and supported by the school. Our current VDSS students are doing very well and flourishing.



Until next time, I hope you all have a safe and relaxing winter break!

Dr. Jen

## Lisa's Lovelies

Term two has been as busy as ever with lots of outings and huge amounts of work being completed by the students.

In HaSS we tackled the theme of Government and Politics and visited Parliament House with Mad-die's class which was a great outing and allowed the students to get up close and personal with the running of parliamentarian process. The class watched and discussed the movie *Antz* which has great examples of different government systems and allowed them to compare authoritarian, democratic and monarch systems in action.

Science has been Biology focused with the students learning about animal classification and completing a project on one of the five classes as well as investigating one particular animal within that class. These investigations were presented in a pamphlet which will be added to their exhibition folders at the end of the year. We were also lucky enough to visit the Reptile Park in Armadale which was a great experience where the students were able to touch some of the animals and glean some interesting information from the educators there.

During our sport time the students went surfing. The participation was fantastic even in the cold weather and it was great that the students were able to have an instructor to help them along. Jess braved the waves and learnt some new skills too.

In other news ,this will be my last newsletter as I am leaving Fairbridge to embark upon a new ad-venture with Montessori. I have been with Fairbridge College for nearly 8 years, coming on board in 2016. It has been an amazing journey filled with challenges and so much personal growth as well as professional learning. I am very grateful for the opportunities that I have had and the wonderful team that I have had the privilege to work with over this time. So many students have been part of my journey and I am grateful for each of them and the opportunities for growth that they have presented me with. I will miss everyone, but I am excited to be entering a new challenging area too.

A huge thankyou to everyone who has been part of my story here.

Signing off,

*Lisa*



## Shane's World

Students have been working tirelessly across multiple projects this term. Our year 10 group have all put in a tremendous effort in completing OLNAs for the first time, results will be out next term and hopefully people are rewarded for their hard work.

In Literacy students studied one of Shaun Tan's famous books, *The Island*. We explored various conventions used in this picture book that is targeted at young adults. This allowed us to create a mindset of community and culture which led into a documentary around refugees. Students have become a little more aware of their actions and how they can be welcoming towards their peers in our community.

In History, students studied our political system from understanding their beliefs to what makes and Aussie "aussie". This was a great opportunity for students to challenge and push their beliefs and understandings of themselves and of the people around them. This led into a project where students created political parties, created campaigns and then rallied to get votes to become the "school leaders".

In other activities students completed the Keys for Life program, looking at becoming safer and more aware drivers for the near future. This has finished with some students passing their learners test, thus getting them ready for their next step in the driving adventure. Students also took the ring with Danny where we had a focus around movement and enjoying the company of others, all while having gloves on our hands. We went to Fighter Fit in Mandurah where students pushed themselves each lesson to get the best out of themselves in a healthy and active manner.

I am really impressed of how much each individual has pushed themselves this term academically and socially. I hope to continue this trend of growth and improvement into next term.

Reminder to year 10s to look into the VETDSS courses on offer so that we can apply for them next term.

Shane



## Room 1 with Ross

This term the students have been learning in HASS, Civics and citizenship. The topic included learning what is a democracy and democracy in Australia. The students have learned about the freedoms we have in Australia, such as, freedom of speech, association, assembly, religion, and movement. A visit and tour of parliament House in Perth gave the students an insight into the workings of state parliament and the responsibilities of being an Australian citizen.

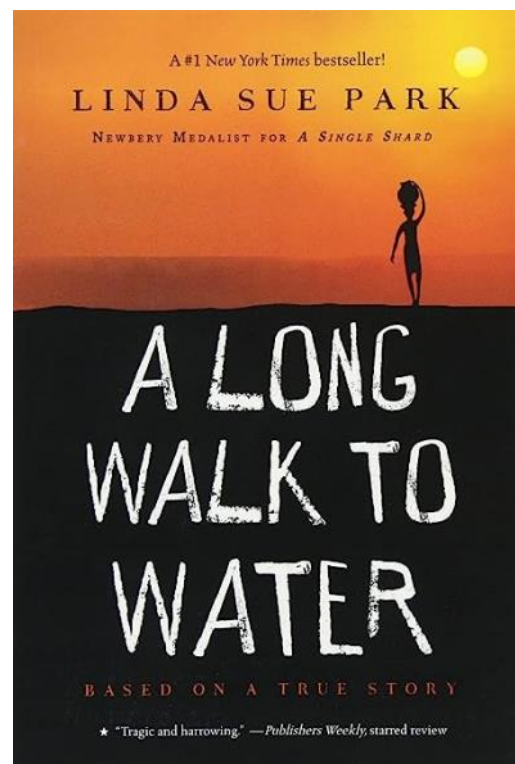
In STEM the students have been learning about the ground they stand on, the air they breathe, and the oceans of the Earth are all mixtures. Air is a mixture of many gases, ocean water is a mixture of pure water and many other substances, and fresh water in lakes and rivers is not pure and contains small amounts of other substances. The students had fun using some techniques to try and separate some mixtures.

In Literacy the students have been reading the story *A Long Walk to Water*, by Linda Sue Park. The students enjoyed this book and were very inquisitive. The book blends the true story of Salva Dut whose story is based in 1985, a part of the Dinka tribe and a Sudanese lost boy, and the fictional story of Nya whose story is based in 2008, a young village girl that was a part of the Nuer tribe. Park used this book as a platform to support Dut's organization, Water for South Sudan. It is a powerful work of fiction that is based on a true story, chronicling the journeys of two young children who are struggling to survive in war-torn Sudan.

The students have also been on many excursions, including a visit to Parliament House and SciTech in Perth.

It has been a busy term, one with lots of topics covered and some great learning. I wish all my students a happy and a safe holiday. See you all next term.

*Ross, Jackie, and Dave*



## Maddi's Marvelous Mayhem

This term was hit with winter, the cold, sickness, and lots of independent work, however we survived and welcomed two new class members: Ezra and Ruby.

### English and HASS

This term we learnt about Australia's law and politics. We learnt about the Magna Carta and how this caused the creation of the constitution, the Westminster System we borrowed from England, how Australia's democracy works, how bills are turned into laws, the two houses within parliament, the role of the court in civil and criminal law and even a little bit about what customary law is. To accompany this unit, students were divided into two novel study groups and were allocated a dystopian novel related to politics out of *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins and *The Enemy* by Charlie Higson. A highlight was a group activity where students had to discuss which 6 out of 15 items, they would choose to carry with them in the event of a hypothetical zombie apocalypse. Without even realizing, students demonstrated a responsible government (democracy) at work in the way they justified their perspectives, listened to one another, and collaboratively decided on each item.

### Excursion to Parliament House

Our class along with Lisa and Ross' classes visited Parliament house and got to visit both the Upper and Lower houses and act out a day in the life of state parliament.

### Sexuality and Relationships

This term we began learning about sexuality and relationships. We discussed what we were already familiar with and what we felt we needed to learn. We then used a mix of materials such as pipe cleaners, cups, ping pong balls, string, etc. to create the male and female reproductive systems, labeling each part. This enabled us to demonstrate our current understanding and also learn more about these systems.

### Science and SciTech

This term we planned to go to the theatre to see *Black Sun/Blood Moon*, a play about Climate Change. We analyzed an image from the play, discussed our understanding of climate change, watched some music videos featuring students who were striking for climate change, learnt a bit about Greta Thunberg, what inspired her to start the School Strike for Climate. We also watched and discussed *An Inconvenient Truth* and *David Attenborough's Life on Our Planet*. Unfortunately, the production was cancelled due to actor injury/sickness but we learnt some valuable information about how we can limit our impact on climate change. These methods included: having less children, eating less meat, using renewable sources of energy, ensuring our freshwater bodies and oceans are kept healthy and safeguarding our forests and replanting more trees. We were also lucky enough to visit Sci-Tech and watch two shows there as well as explore all the new equipment and activities on offer. In one of the shows, we learnt about how the universe came to be and how we aren't so different from stars!



# JP's Juniors

JP's class at has embraced an incredible term of learning and growth as part of the Creative Schools Program. Throughout these past few months, we have delved into the five essential habits of learning: resilient, imaginative, cooperative, disciplined, and inquisitive.

One of the standout experiences for our class was our visit to the FORM Art Gallery in Claremont. This eye-opening excursion allowed us to explore the world of curation and gain a deeper understanding of how art can shape our perspectives. The exhibition we had the privilege to witness was "Storm the Gods and Shake the Universe," an inspiring showcase of artistic expression.

In addition to the art gallery visit, we had the opportunity to embark on an educational tour of Optus Stadium. We learned about the stadium's rich history, its game day areas, and the incredible events that take place there. It was a fascinating exploration of our local sports culture and the importance of community spaces.

Our class has also been actively involved in an ongoing project for the Creative Schools Program, which will culminate in an exhibit at Council House in Perth. This project has allowed us to delve into environmental awareness and the impact we have on our surroundings. Currently, we are engaged in designing and constructing a machine aimed at reducing the impact of invasive species on our native animals in local lakes and ponds. This hands-on approach to problem-solving and innovation has been an invaluable experience for all of us.

As a testament to our learning journey, we are now in the process of building a pond and a tree that symbolize the five habits of learning we incorporate into our daily lessons. This visually captivating representation will serve as a reminder of our commitment to growth and our unwavering pursuit of knowledge.

*JP & Gill*



## Sports with Craig

What do you get if you mix football and the ocean?

A lot of happy students!

A big thanks to the team at Mandurah Surf Lessons and the coaches that took our students out surfing during the first half of the term. The students displayed our school value 'grit' as they bounced back after being dumped in the ocean. They paddled back out and caught waves back in with huge smiles.

With winter comes footy season as well and footy fever has hit Fairbridge. The daily contest in the gym to see who will be king of the pack and some new indoor goal posts thanks to our sporting schools funding.

Students attended Optus Stadium and got to see what it is like behind the scenes, coaching, playing, commentating, and working at Optus Stadium. There was some debate about who is the better team, Eagles or Dockers.

In week 10 we finished our football program with an AFL 9's game in the school gym including staff and students.

We look forward to next term and trying some new activities including gymnastics, mountain biking, ten pin bowling and horse riding.

*Craig*



## Music Musings with Dave & Ben

The music program at Fairbridge High School continues to inspire and nurture the talents of its students, as evidenced by a recent class excursion to the esteemed Leederville Tafe music department. During the visit, students were exposed to various sectors of the music industry, including live performance, sound engineering, management, recording, and production, creating a rich and immersive learning experience.

The excursion aimed to broaden the horizons of the budding musicians, allowing them to explore the multifaceted world of music beyond the confines of their classroom. The students were captivated by the dynamic environment at Leederville Tafe, which provided them with valuable insights into different aspects of the music industry.

One notable outcome of the program has been the remarkable improvement in guitar skills and knowledge among the participating students. Their dedication and commitment to learning have resulted in impressive growth, enabling them to tackle more challenging pieces and expand their repertoire. The dedicated band members have reveled in the opportunity to refine their skills and create renditions of popular songs by acclaimed bands.

Among the band's cover song selections are the energetic hits "Go with the Flow" and "Little Sister" by Queens of the Stone Age, as well as the timeless classic "Everlong" by the Foo Fighters. With the addition of some new talent to their ranks, the band has also incorporated songs from Kings of Leon and Tears for Fears into their practice line-up, breathing fresh life into their performances.

One standout student, Charlotte Watson, has been the talk of the music program, leaving everyone awe-struck with her powerful and pitch-perfect vocals. Her remarkable talent has been a source of inspiration for her peers, motivating them to push their own boundaries and reach new heights.

With such passionate and dedicated individuals involved in the program, the future of music at Fairbridge High School looks brighter than ever. As the students continue to hone their skills, explore new genres, and embrace fresh talent, there is no doubt that they will make a lasting impact in the world of music.

Fairbridge High School's music program continues to inspire and empower its students, ensuring that the next generation of musicians is well-equipped to take on the challenges and opportunities of the ever-evolving music industry.

*Dave & Ben*





## Senior Secondary News

### Helen's View...

Our class has been busy this term working through their Certificate I in General Education for Adults. Many students are making great progress and we love to see them improving their math and English skills as they work through the course. We have also been reading the novel, *The Outsiders*, which is keeping the students entranced wondering what will happen next. You can hear a pin drop when it's story time.

We have also been out on a few excursions. We joined with the other VET classes for a beautiful walk at Serpentine Falls. Some students were even brave enough to get into the cold water for a swim. We also had an outing to a career expo where the students had a chance to talk to several organisations about what opportunities are available. Some students joined us on a mountain bike trail ride on the outskirts of the Village which was enjoyed by all. Important lessons were learned about why layering clothes for exercise is a good idea.

In our Bee Keeping class we have had a look in the hive to make sure the bees are set up for winter and recently have started learning how to make candles with bees wax. Some students have been very creative with the candle shapes they have made. As a class, we are learning how to perfect our new candle making skills and we look forward to getting back into the hives next term to harvest some honey. In the meantime we are learning more about how bees live, how they are important to our environment and what diseases threaten them.

*Helen*



## Senior Secondary News

### From the Workshop

Greetings Woodwork Enthusiasts!

I am delighted to share the exciting developments in the Fairbridge Woodwork Class as we gear up for an eventful semester two. With an array of captivating projects and a talented group of students, this semester promises to be a feast for the eyes and a testament to the power of craftsmanship.



One of the highlights of the semester was the construction of art easels, Shane and Lisa's classes embarked on a journey to create functional and aesthetically pleasing art easels using hand tools. These structures will not only enhance the artistic pursuits here at Fairbridge but also serve as a testament to their growing mastery of woodworking techniques.

Another exciting project from semester one was the creation of end grain chopping boards. Students reveled in the intricate process of designing and constructing these durable and visually striking kitchen essentials. Through this project, they developed a keen eye for wood selection, precision cutting, and expert craftsmanship, ensuring the longevity and functionality of their creations.

Of course... modern woodworking wouldn't be complete without the integration of power tools. Throughout the semester, students learnt safe operating procedures and best practices for working with power tools. This invaluable knowledge will enable them to handle tools such as circular saws, routers, and drills with confidence and precision, opening up endless possibilities for their future woodworking endeavours.

(continued...)

## Senior Secondary News

(continued) Moreover, we are thrilled to introduce Laser cutter projects next semester. Our students will have the opportunity to explore the intersection of technology and woodworking by designing and creating geometric art pieces and mini flatpack joinery.



By leveraging the precision and versatility of the laser cutter, they will push the boundaries of their creativity and produce remarkable pieces that seamlessly blend craftsmanship with modern innovation.

We must applaud the dedication and passion exhibited by our devoted students, Donovan, Isabelle, Charlotte, Oscar, Ethan, Alex, Joel, Shane's class, and Lisa's class. Their unwavering commitment to excellence and their eagerness to explore new techniques are an inspiration to us all. We cannot wait to witness their growth and see the extraordinary projects they will bring to life in semester two.

Stay tuned as we showcase the remarkable achievements of the “wood-be” carpenters and craftspeople. The future of woodworking looks brighter than ever! *Ben*

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### Woz's World

Wow, how fast does time fly at Fairbridge? How much can be packed into 10 weeks?

As the class has settled into the daily routines and the students continue to grow in confidence, most are well on their way to achieving their CGEA. Cole, Ethan and Oskar have taken up the opportunity to undertake work experience one day a week in Com Ed with the amazing chef Linda. Between working hard in the classroom, the students have had numerous opportunities to work as a team. From rebuilding the nursery after falling trees destroyed it, to bonding over more than a few games of Bocce.



The physical and mental abilities of the students have also been tested with a hike up Baldwins Bluff in the Serpentine National Park, rock climbing at Oakley Dam, exploring the mountain bike trails behind Fairbridge, participating in Archery sessions and indoor rock climbing at the Point Peron Camp School. Unfortunately, bad weather stopped us canoeing down the Serpentine River. I guess we need to leave something to do in Term

3! *Woz*

## Cooking with Linda

Well, that was a very quick term. It was lovely to see you all settle into Com Ed over the last 10 weeks. We definitely have a lot more tiny feet in the building since Term 1. The most incredible part of the term was seeing new students being helped with love and care by the biggest personalities we have. It has been a term of laughs for cooking, we went down the experiment road this term not only did we have a laugh we had real engagement from everyone. Even those who preferred to wait outside last term. We look forward to welcoming you all back for Term 3. Lorraine and I wish you a fun and safe school holidays. Thank you for a fantastic term.

A special mention to the two apprentices, Eve and Cole. Maturity shined for you both this term. The work increased along with the listening. I am super proud of your effort and achievements over the last ten weeks. You are an excellent example for the younger students to follow.

Lots of love,

*Linda and Lorraine*



## Work Experience, Trainees, & Apprentices

Our students, trainees and apprentices have continued to gain experience and achieve success in vocational education and training this term.

### Work Experience

Ethan, Cole and Oskar are learning skills and gaining knowledge in their work experience placements in Hospitality. Brendan extended his time with work experience in Grounds Maintenance at Fairbridge Village. Oskar showed his commitment to work experience by continuing with his placement in Housekeeping, in addition to his work in Hospitality.

The process is underway to extend the program in Term 3 by making additional placements.

Ella is aiming to work as an assistant in the Riding for the Disabled (RDA) facility at Fairbridge Village. This volunteer organisation provides horse riding lessons for young people with special needs. Isabelle and Leweni have applied for work experience in Outdoor Recreation, where they will be assisting the trainers who deliver outdoor activities to visiting students across a wide range of ages and backgrounds. These activities will be conducted at both Fairbridge Village and Point Peron. Donny has gained a placement in Painting and Decorating. He will work with the maintenance team to repair and renovate the many heritage buildings on site. Myhlie has applied for a placement with the Housekeeping team in Fairbridge Village. Layla's positive studies in Hospitality prompted her to apply for and gain a work experience placement in that area. Blake has recently started a work experience placement at a local service station / roadhouse.

Joel continues his work experience with a building and construction company. He applies himself to his school studies with the aim of gaining entry to a TAFE course in this field of work. Zach has completed his work experience at a music store in Mandurah, where he learned about the workings of a retail shop that sells and services musical equipment and instruments.

### VET Delivered to Secondary Students

The four students who are currently studying TAFE courses through the Vocational Education and Training Delivered to Secondary Students (VETDSS) program are continuing to achieve. Maddie (childcare), Caitlin (hair salon), Tex (carpentry business) and Oscar (carpentry traineeship at Fairbridge) are working well in their chosen fields. All four students gained positive progress reports on their studies in their TAFE courses.

### Traineeships and Apprenticeships

It is important to recognize Alcoa for their sponsorship of some of our traineeships. This support is a significant contribution to the training and development of young people in our local community.

Oscar (carpentry) and Brooklyn (painting and decorating) are making good progress in their Fairbridge traineeships. Brooklyn has gained a place in the Certificate II course in Painting and Decorating at Mandurah TAFE. He will study three days per week in Semester 2 this year. Completion of this course provides credit towards the Certificate III course in this field of work. Eve (hospitality) and Kyle (conservation and ecosystems management) continue to achieve with their traineeships at Fairbridge and in their studies in their Certificate III courses. Ashton continues as an apprentice within the village maintenance team and is on track with his studies in a Certificate III Carpentry course at TAFE. Alcoa's support for Ashton's apprenticeship also is much appreciated.



### Achievement and Progress

It is very pleasing to see over twenty students learning and developing skills and knowledge through work experience, traineeships and apprenticeships at Fairbridge and beyond. Well done to everyone and may more students join you on these pathways to a positive future!

*Gary*

## Wellbeing Team



### Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday and over 5 years with Fairbridge College Dug the Dog!

This past term saw Dug turn 10 (we don't know the exact date, he was found abandoned in the bush). Dug is a valued asset to the Wellbeing Team at Fairbridge, having first started out as Jayne's sidekick when she joined the college in 2018. Dug is a natural with people. He genuinely loves everyone and has always run to meet anyone as they arrive at Pinjarra, or is a cute addition on camera when we video-call with Kalgoorlie campus. As you can see, Dug "gets around" Fairbridge, and we can't thank him enough for the joy and love he brings to our service.

Mandy Smith, admin officer at Fairbridge since long before the Jayne, Dug and the Wellbeing Team were created, has joined us part time and will be helping Bridget and Jayne manage our growing area of work and support. We think the world of Mandy, and appreciate her contribution – always kind, compassionate and clever!

We mentioned last newsletter that we were planning groups to tackle learning the skills of self-care, resilience and wellbeing. Absences due to some devastating illnesses that are going around have caused the groups to evolve much slower than we hoped, but we're pleased to say that a few groups that have started have been enjoyed and have been enriching so far. We have some "rules" or guidelines -

We have this on our Wellbeing Space wall, and at the start of each session refer you to the "rules" so that we can relax and learn and grow together. We will continue to invite students into a small group (maybe 2 or 3 others) and continue this positive trend toward self-determination.

Thanks everyone for always supporting our Wellbeing Team here at Fairbridge. Have a great winter break!

Thanks everyone for always supporting our Wellbeing Team here at Fairbridge. Have a great winter break!

*Kate, Bridget, Jayne, "Dug the Dog" & Gal*

**\*What is said here STAYS here**

**\*Validate each other - assume the best, be less judgy**

**\*Put-Up's NOT put-downs**

**\*Willingness to accept help or ask for help**

**\*Practice when you leave**



# Important Dates and INFORMATION

Monday 17th July	Term 3 Starts
Monday 18th September	Term 3 Ends

## Attendance Stars

These students had attendance of **90% or above**:

- Charlotte Watson
- Taylan Cook
- Kyle Wooldridge-Chilvers
- Alexander Burnett
- Ezra Tingey

- Isabelle Malone
- Donavan McMaster
- Steel Reeves
- Jack White



## SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep up to date with things at Fairbridge College!

