



NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL

INNOVATION, EXCELLENCE, OPPORTUNITIES & SUCCESS

THURSDAY 4TH JUNE, 2020

TERM 2 WEEK 6

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DATE/EVENTS

*Homework Centre Mondays 3.30pm to 5.00pm Weeks A & B
Thursdays Week A ONLY*

*Senior Study Evening 7.00pm to 9.00pm
Wednesdays*

Monday 8th June - Queen's Birthday
Holiday

Tuesday 9th June - All students return to
school

Tuesday 16th June - Year 10 Vaccinations

NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL

"Integrity"



We're here to help



Dear School community,

It was exciting to welcome all of our students back last week. Congratulations to all the students who were able to successfully work from home. We have seen many fantastic examples of student work completed during lockdown. A huge thankyou also to parents and caregivers who were able to help their children with working from home. I would like to again formally recognise the fantastic work during this time of all of our teaching and support staff. Their adaptability in changing the way they deliver learning and in learning new technology was fantastic. We are reviewing our practices as we are considering what parts of this new learning will continue into lesson delivery when we are through Covid-19.

We have decided on our revised procedures for Semester 1 reporting in line with departmental guidelines. Stage 4 and 5 reports will not feature A-E grades but will instead include outcomes covered, learning habits and a teacher comment based on evidence of work produced by students both at home and at school.

A few specific items I am asking for support in addressing:

- ◆ Students entering local shops are to leave bags out the front. I have reports of students not following community instructions while in school uniform and this is not good enough. All students are to be upstanding members of our community and to do the right thing.
- ◆ Winter has arrived. We have a specific jumper and long pants. All students are required to wear uniform. In the current economic climate, if you need support with providing these for your children, please let us help. We are more than happy to come to a support agreement.
- ◆ School starts at 8:40am. We have had too many students coming in late. Students are asked to try and get to school a little earlier to make sure you do not miss key messages for the day and DEAR.
- ◆ Swearing is not an appropriate form of communication. I understand we all have different levels of tolerance to this in society, however, at school it is not tolerated. I ask all students to use their manners when addressing each other, staff and having general conversations.
- ◆ Yondr pouches are to be brought to school, even when students are not using them. It is a part of our process and needs to continue to occur.

National Reconciliation Week

While normally recognised through active collective engagement and activities, this has not been possible this year. Instead, our students have all been reminded of the significance of this week through student discussions, a film and discussion session and a muster address.

National Reconciliation Week formally recognises the fact that Australia has an Aboriginal history. The first peoples of this island nation have been here for about 60,000 years and that is an extraordinarily long time by any estimation. Consider this; Western civilisation – the civilisation many of us enjoy in Australia – is less than 3,500 years old. Those same peoples were compelled by force to share their island home some 230 years ago.

National Sorry Day is a way for us all to acknowledge the fact that Australia's Aboriginal peoples have been subject to some truly terrible acts of racism, much of it institutional; that failed to recognise the inherent value that lies in all human beings. Through recognising the impact of the Stolen Generation we as a nation remember and reflect on the fact that generations of indigenous peoples were taken from their families for no other reason than the colour of their skin. We remember and reflect on the hurt that was inflicted on so many of our fellow Australians – a hurt that continues for a great many. We remember and reflect on events and actions that should never be forgotten.

To end Reconciliation week, on June 3rd Australians commemorate Mabo Day, marking the anniversary of the Mabo decision. Eddie Mabo of Mer island in the Torres Strait spent a decade seeking official recognition of his people's ownership of Mer and on 3 June 1992, the High Court of Australia agreed, rejecting the doctrine that Australia was terra nullius (land belonging to no-one) at the time of European settlement.

Being a student of history, we hope, will mean that we together can forge a better future for all Australians. I have spent this week challenging students and staff, and now you; to be a little bit better every day.

Kind regards,

Benn Wright
Principal

Deputy Principal News

We are now half way through Term 2 and the Semester is nearly finished. It has been an extremely interesting time and we are still working out how to cope after extended periods of isolation. Many of our students have struggled with the reintegration of regular life, and as life starts to return to normal this presents different challenges for our teenagers. If this is you or your child, please be reassured it is quite normal. There are many things we can do to support ourselves or our loved ones during this time. You could try:

- ◆ Keeping active
- ◆ Taking a breath or ten
- ◆ Connecting with mates
- ◆ Doing some cooking
- ◆ Taking a break from media and social media

Remember that...

*This too
shall pass*

This week is reconciliation week, an important time for all Australians. Our theme for this year is “In this Together.” It is such a pertinent topic in times such as COVID 19 and it is these hardships that show we are all just one race, the human race. With riots, protests and looting occurring in America after a black man was killed by police in custody it is important to look at our own statistics. 432 Indigenous Australians have died in custody in our country since 1991.

Black lives matter not just in America but in our own backyard. We must stand in solidarity with our indigenous Australians, especially during reconciliation week, to help stop more Aboriginal deaths in custody. We are in this journey together to become a fully reconciled nation.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Nyngan High School on their resilient behaviour during the last two weeks. We have seen a significant number of merits and it is very pleasing to see our students being respectful, safe and polite whilst striving for their best in these difficult times.

The staff are always working extremely hard in the background to ensure every opportunity for our students and I am grateful for their dedication. It is very rewarding to work in such a great school community. Thank you.

Angie Bush
Deputy Principal

TAS / PDHPE News

It is awesome to see the students back and teach face to face. While technology is great, it can never replace the smile on faces or the interaction that happens acknowledging ones understanding of the content just discussed. It has been a busy fortnight for us and we love sharing our success stories.

Mr Webb's Stage 5 Timber have been finishing up their Toolbox projects which look really impressive. The project saw the students increase their skills in both drawer making and timber lathing. I am thoroughly impressed with some of the fine examples of craftsmanship I have seen. Some of our students have finished construction well ahead of schedule and have begun working on their fold up picnic tables which should be ready by autumn.

Our Stage 5 Metal students are completing their sheet metal Tool Carrier project which taught them the value in making accurate measurements and markings to produce quality projects. I am pleased with the initiative our students have been taking and it has been pleasing to see their level of metalworking skills continue to increase throughout the semester. Students will shortly commence their next project which will be a fold up BBQ. These should also be ready when the weather warms up and we can hopefully enjoy gatherings in the outdoors once again!

Miss Stafford's and Mrs Smith's Stage 5 PDHPE classes have been catching up on some dearly missed practical lessons where students are participating in sports that adhere to social distancing and Covid-19 regulations (our new norm). Students have focussed on improving catching and throwing skills through Kick-Tennis and Boot Ball.

Stage 6 Community and Family Studies have been working on core modules, Individuals and Groups and Parenting and Caring. Here, students in Preliminary have been exploring the reasons for group formations and working on conflict resolution skills whilst students in the HSC course have been looking at the preparations needed to become a parent or carer. There have been some conversations that definitely opened our students' eyes, for example Katie, Saranna and Harley calculated the total cost of new furniture and belongings needed to successfully care for a newborn, with some staggering costs.

Mrs Smith's PASS class worked successfully on a task looking at Risk Assessments for sports and her Stage 6 PDHPE classes have been deep in thought learning about Sports policy and sports environments along with Anaerobic and Aerobic training programs.

My Stage 5 Agriculture class have been busy acknowledging how mathematical skills are used in farming and associated adventures. From calculating fencing cost to looking at the costs involved of spraying for a pest and calculating the economic threshold. It is very satisfying and refreshing to hear the students talk about the industry in such a positive way. The Stage 6 Primary Industries class as always are fantastic. They get in and get a job done and, in the process, demonstrate excellent teamwork skills.

Have a great week.

Mrs N Walsh
Head Teacher TAS/PDHPE/Careers

HAPPINESS is
seeing the
SMILE on a
child's **FACE** as
they **LEARN**

English/HSIE News

Classes in the English faculty have been learning about notions of reconciliation in Australia during Reconciliation Week this week. Given what is going on in the US, it is most pertinent to look at our own backyard and what reconciliation means in our context. The 'Australian Dream' documentary has had a good run and students have thoroughly enjoyed engaging with the themes and discussion points it brings forward. Students and staff have been respectful and open minded and for this they should be commended.

Aside from civil rights, here's what some classes have been up to:

Victory English have been creating some excellent pieces of creative writing about things they enjoy doing, most notably pig hunting. An interesting opening from Brendan Waterhouse:

Jack and I were out pigging in the thick scrub. Suddenly, the dog jumped off the ute and into the luscious green grass and was soon on a big hairy boar that was laid up under a tall Wilga tree.

and Isac Drady:

Me and dad had the two dogs Spud and Jesse poking through the Wilga scrub at Mullengudgery. The dogs seemed keen and when they leapt from the ute we knew we'd found something. There he was: a big, black, hairy, tusky boar over on the stubble.

Stage 4 LOTE have been exploring the meaning and history of Reconciliation Week. Collectively, the three classes have been making a collage of feet to symbolise walking the Reconciliation path every day. They have also been researching and copying quotes from prominent Australians about Reconciliation to place on the collage. – **Mr Partridge**

Mr Matheson:

4O are about to dive headfirst into the picture book "Gorilla", having already looked at picture book conventions, language and structure. They also mocked up a cover of their own picture book creations with Blair Quinton's "The Wandering Hot Dog" a real standout.

5A are looking at gender, recently looking at the different ways women and men have traditionally been portrayed through mainstream media whilst also gaining a growing appreciation of how women have been disadvantaged throughout history. Bailey Ryder and Toby Palmer made real rock-solid contributions last week which I hope continues.



5O are really vibing on 'Pop Culture' and are currently learning about the changes in Australia (and the world) following WWII. Entertainment, employment and hobbies have been a key focus, whilst exposure to classic pop music from the time period has also been high on the agenda.

Miss Boyden:

Stage 5 Drama are currently doing workshops based on the elements of Drama. They absolutely smashed the voice workshop, creating short scenes where they used their voice acting skills to create character and meaning. They have also just finished performing their political theatre monologues. Jack Buchanan had his debut performance in **Stage 5 Drama** with a monologue he wrote about Australian politics. There were lots of belly laughs that lesson!

Year 12 Drama have gotten stuck into their Individual Projects for their HSC. All four boys have chosen to do an individual performance for their final project, choosing monologues and working on them throughout the term to create something spectacular! **Year 11** are going to get a taste of what it is like to be a **Year 12 Drama** student pretty soon! They are also doing mini workshops that enhance their skills! Props to Bailey and Naite who ran their own activities for Year 11 during a movement workshop this week.

Miss Scott:

Year 12 Standard are continuing with their close study of 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time'. It's an excellent novel with a unique voice, leading to some wonderful conversations around mental health, Autism Spectrum Disorders and building empathy for those around us that may see and navigate the world a little differently. As Christopher says "everyone has learning difficulties because learning to speak French or understanding Relativity is difficult, and also everyone has special needs, like Father who has to carry a little packet of artificial sweetening tablets around with him to put in his coffee to stop him getting fat, or Mrs Peters who wears a beige-coloured hearing aid, or Siobhan who has glasses so thick they give you a headache if you borrow them, and none of these people are Special Needs, even if they have special needs."

T Miles

Head Teacher English/HSIE

Maths/CAPA News

Welcome back after what may feel like an undeserved mid-term break but a much needed one for some. The Maths/CAPA faculty are in full swing with senior assessments looming and junior reports being written.

This fortnight in **music** it is performance central! Stage 4 have begun to learn about key differences between 80's and 90's Pop music as well as begin learning their parts for their performance for the end of the term. They are very impressive as a whole in how quickly they are learning their parts.

In Stage 5, they are hard at work learning about pentatonic scales, improvisation skills and practicing their performance pieces, and **Stage 6** are continuing with their practice for their performance pieces and upcoming viva voce.

*Kind regards,
Miss Collier*

Year 12 are busy creating their body of works which are now due on the **14th of September**. They have been given a two week extension due to Covid 19. **Year 11** are evoking a sense of place by making landscape paintings of a place which has special meaning to them.

Photography students have been exploring the art of taking selfies, by researching self-portrait and selfie conventions.

All students are reminded that they need to return completed work and theory assessment tasks. They are also to bring their canvases and paints to use at school to limit the sharing of equipment.

Miss Hughan

A reminder about upcoming Stage 6 assessment tasks:

- ◆ Year 12 Mathematics Standard 2 is due on **Wednesday 10th June**.
- ◆ Year 12 Mathematics Standard 1 is due on **Friday 12th June**.
- ◆ Year 12 Mathematics Advanced is due on **Friday 5th June**.
- ◆

Stage 4 Mathematics are working on Number and Indices; they have explored prime and composite numbers and will shortly delve into divisibility tests. A small in class test will occur during Week 7 or 8 before the start on the topic Patterns and Algebra.

Stage 5 Achievement and Opportunity have continued their work on Linear and non-linear relationships. They can graph straight lines using a variety of techniques and have started exploring the gradients of parallel and perpendicular lines. In the coming periods they will learn about parabolas, exponentials and circles in more detail.

Stage 5 Victory have continued with the 'Build, make and create' topic. They decided to replace the recycling crate in the Maths/CAPA staffroom and have drawn sketches of their design and understood the concept of similarity in the process.

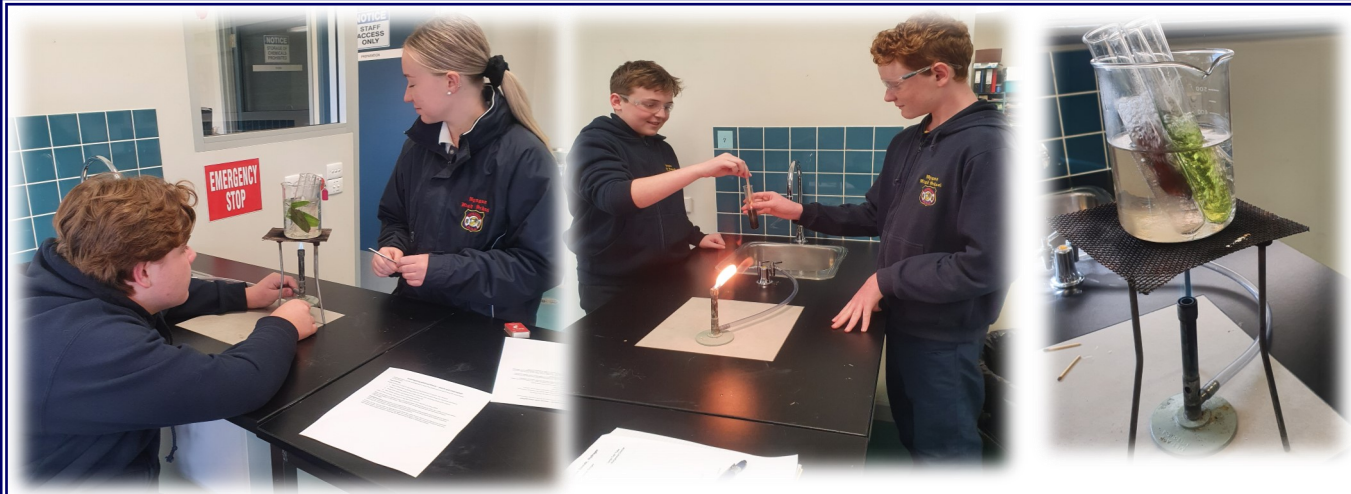
Year 11 Advanced Mathematics (aka Fira) are studying the topic of Trigonometry and working on an assessment task creating an outdoor concert venue with many trigonometric calculations involved.

Year 12 Advanced Mathematics are studying Statistics and have their last assessment task before the **Trials on Friday 5.6.20**.

Mathematics Standard 1 are nearing the end of Investments, currently looking at Appreciation and Depreciation. They also have an assessment task due next Friday where they are to ascertain the best method of investing a mysterious inheritance using the compound interest formula in conjunction with Microsoft Excel.

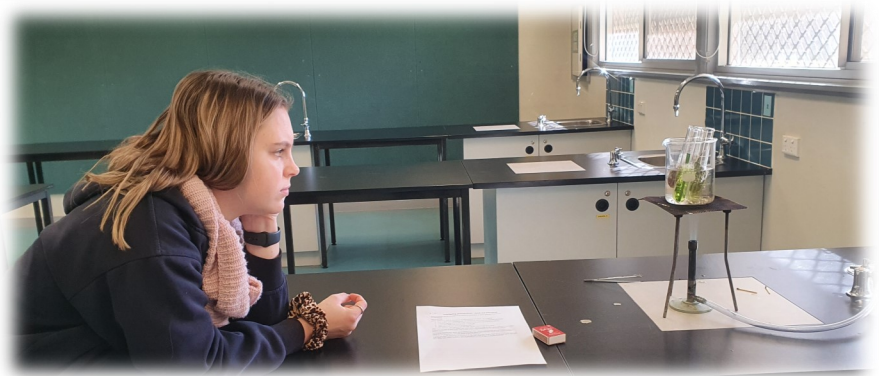
Mathematics Standard 2 are finishing up their topic on financial maths which involved interest, loans, depreciation and the share market. There has been some quality discussion in regards to the current financial state of the national and global economy. Although our students may have been too young to remember the GFC this was a hot topic which sparked some interest. We may have some economists or future investors in the mix.

Fun fact: 6 is called a *perfect number* because the sum of all of its factors (other than itself) is equal to 6, ie $1 + 2 + 3 = 6$ and 1, 2 and 3 are the factors of 6. If you can tell me another perfect number (with calculations included) I will give you a chocolate. Congratulations to Xander Wood who worked out the area of the rectangle was 20 m^2 .



Science Happenings

Oh, the concentration is real !!!



Science/Special Ed

Like I said in the last newsletter, it is still so great to have the kids back in the classroom. They are getting back into good learning routines and we have been making the most of our time by catching up on lots of the practical activities which the students were unable to do in their learning from home activities. We can never under estimate the value of skills to aid and enhance learning.

Some highlights from around the faculty include iSTEM working with the ozbot kits, working on their coding and programming skills.

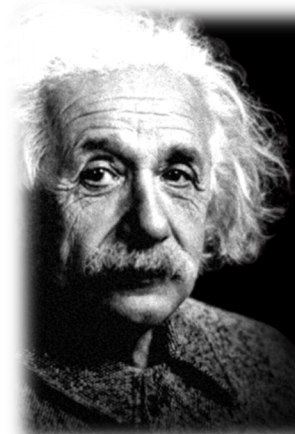
Stage 4 Science have been enjoying looking at the difference between physical changes and chemical changes in chemistry, while also learning the different gas tests to establish what has been produced in a reaction producing gas.

Stage 5 Science are continuing to learn about co-ordination and control. Their highlight this week has been dissecting eye-balls.

Year 11 Biology have been looking at transport in plants, which also involved lots of first hand investigation, while Year 12 Biology continue to investigate infectious diseases, which of course is very topical at this time!

We hope you enjoy our photos around Science, till next time keep questioning!

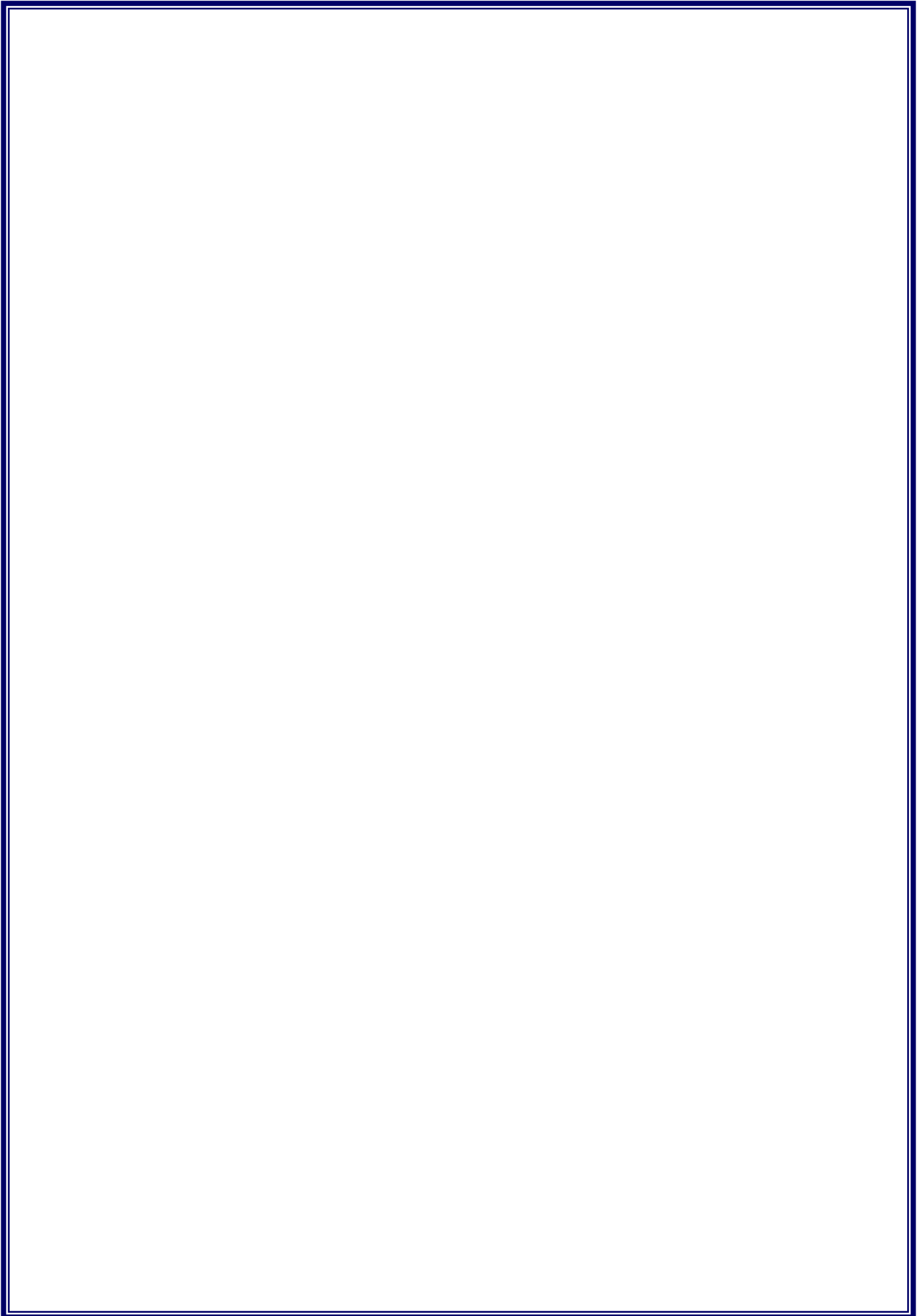
Emma Partridge
Science/Special Ed Head Teacher



Learn from yesterday,
 live for today, hope for
 tomorrow.

The important thing is
 not to stop questioning.

– Albert Einstein

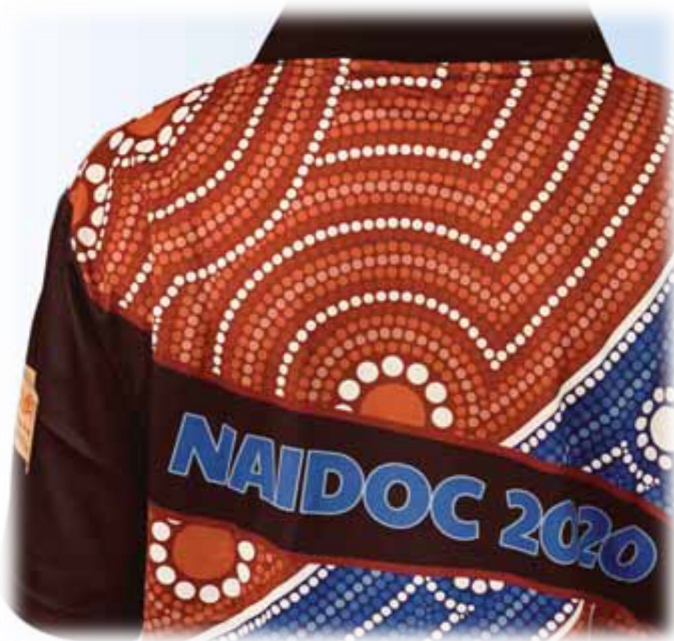


Koori Kids NAIDOC Shirt Order 2020

Opportunity to purchase a NAIDOC Shirt for 2020 at a cost of \$20.00

Orders can be placed at Nyngan High School Front Office and payment must be accompanied with order.

Orders are due by Thursday 11th June, 2020.



Checking in with the Chook,

From the National Reconciliation Week website;

‘Our theme for #NRW2020 – **In this together** – is now resonating in ways we could not have foreseen when we announced it last year, but it reminds us whether in a crisis or in reconciliation we are all in this together.

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians – as individuals, families, communities, organisations and importantly as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures.’

Students at Nyngan High School will be learning more about how Aboriginal peoples reconcile living a life between two cultures during this week by watching a documentary called In My Blood It Runs and then participating in reflective discussions around identity, places that help us grow, and being heard.



Australian Standing Orders latest books.

The End of the World is Bigger than Love by Davina Bell

Identical twin sisters Summer and Winter live on a remote island that separates them from the remains of a damaged earth.

But the arrival of Edward, a boy/bear, upsets the balance of their relationship, to their home and to each other.

Winter’s relationship with Edward sees her blossom into someone less afraid and guarded, someone who trusts and falls in love. On the flip side, Summer becomes paranoid and sullen, obsessed with protecting the secrets hidden on the island and saving her sister.

As the line between metaphor and reality is blurred and the girl’s earlier trauma is brought to the surface, both of the twins start to crumble beneath the weight of their secrets, shame, and fear.

In the end, only the ultimate sacrifice will mend their broken bond and set them free.

Yr 9 and up

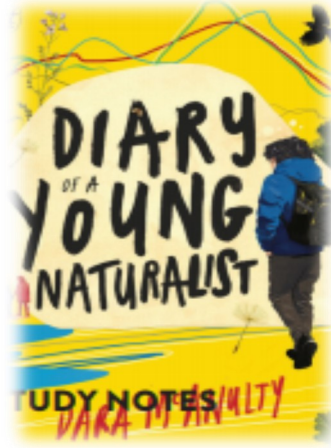


Diary of a Young Naturalist by Dara McNulty

‘In sharing this journey my hope is that people of all generations will not only understand Autism a little more but also appreciate a child’s eye view on our delicate and changing biosphere.’

Through a year in his home patch of Northern Ireland, 15-year-old Dara spent the seasons writing his perspective as a teenager juggling exams and friendships alongside a life of campaigning. These vivid, evocative and moving diary entries chronicling the turning of Dara’s world and his connection to wildlife are raw in their telling.

All years



The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes by Suzanne Collins

Ambition will fuel him. Competition will drive him. But power has its price.

It is the morning of the reaping that will kick off the tenth annual Hunger Games. In the Capitol, 18-year-old Coriolanus Snow is preparing for his one shot at glory as a mentor in the Games. The once mighty house of Snow has fallen on hard times, its fate hanging on the slender chance that Coriolanus will be able to out charm, outwit, and outmanoeuvre his fellow students to mentor the winning tribute.

The odds are against him. He’s been given the humiliating task of mentoring the female tribute from district 12, the lowest of the low. Their fates are now completely intertwined—every choice he makes could lead to favour or failure. Inside the arena, it will be a fight to the death. Outside the arena, Coriolanus starts to feel for his doomed tribute, and must weigh his need to follow the rules against his desire to survive no matter what it takes.

All years



The Dark Tide by Alicia Jasinska

Every year on St. Walpurga’s Eve, Caldella’s Witch Queen lures a boy to her palace. An innocent life to be sacrificed on the full moon to keep the island city from sinking.

Convinced her handsome brother is going to be taken this year, Lina Kirk enlists the help of the mysterious Thomas Lin, her secret crush, and the only boy to ever escape from the palace after winning the love of a queen.

Queen Eva cast away her heart when her sister died to save the boy she loved. Now as queen, she won’t make the same mistake. When Thomas is chosen as sacrifice, Lina takes his place and the two girls are forced to spend time together as they wait for the full moon.

Against their will, they find themselves falling for each other. As water floods the streets looking for its dark sacrifice the girls must decide to save themselves or the city relying on them both.

Yr 9 and up.



The Giant and the Sea by Trent Jamieson.

‘The sea is rising,’ the giant said. ‘The sea is rising.’

A giant stands on the shore watching the sea.

She never moves, never speaks, till the day she shares an important message. But will the people listen?

