



# NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL

INNOVATION, EXCELLENCE, OPPORTUNITIES & SUCCESS

*Pakil kiya-thu ngini Ngurrampaa Wangaaypuwan wara-nha*

THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY, 2021

TERM 1 WEEK 5

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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*

**Friday 26th February & Monday 1st March - MID TERM BREAK**

**Tuesday 2nd March** - Youth Mental Health Leadership Forum Dubbo Convention Centre

**Tuesday 2nd March** - Opens Netball Dubbo Netball Courts

**Tuesday 2nd March** - Year 7 Vaccinations

**Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th March** - Lake Keepit Year 7 & Year 10 Peer Support Excursion

**Tuesday 9th March** - Merino Wether Challenge Dubbo TAFE

**Thursday 11th March** - GRIP Leadership Conference Dubbo

**Thursday 22nd April** - Tertiary Day Dubbo Senior Campus

## NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL

**"Integrity"**

*Nyang High School Swimming Age Champions  
2021*



**From L to R:**

**Back Row:** Abbie Smith 16yrs, Anastasia Walsh 17yrs, Rory Quarmby 17yrs, Max Montgomery 16yrs, Jasmine Bourke 15yrs, Victoria Walsh 14yrs, Riley Wood 15yrs

**Front Row:** Pranali Shukla 12yrs, Elizabeth Healey 13yrs, Hayden Burley 14yrs, Jayden Smith 12yrs, Jed Montgomery 13yrs



## Principal Report

We are proud of the numerous and ever increasing opportunities we give to our students at Nyngan High School, the access students have to a range of excursions, curriculum, activities and agencies is something we strive very hard to maintain and increase. In organising the logistics of all these opportunities, I ask the community as a whole to support the school in imploring your children, our students, to take the opportunity, access what is on offer and engage in the educational process on a deep and meaningful level. This engagement will lead to true post school opportunities in the future and a more holistic experience in the present. If you are unsure of what is on offer or how your child can access an opportunity, please get in contact and we can help make the connection for you.

Over the last fortnight our school has been humming along nicely, as we head towards the middle of Term 1 and our Mid-Term break. *A few highlights for me have been:*

- ◆ Seeing engaged classes across the whole school
- ◆ Having many teachers step into new leadership roles
- ◆ TAFE Automotive beginning for a large group of students in 2021
- ◆ A fantastic day at the swimming carnival last week
- ◆ The presentation of our Student Representative Council and Junior AECG for 2021 on Monday's assembly

We are trialling releasing newsletters in Week 5 and Week 10 and putting articles in the newspaper, on our Facebook page and on our website during 2021. I am interested in your feedback, and if this works how else you would like to be notified throughout the year.

### **Lifelong learners**

Evidence around the world shows that investing in leadership at all phases of a school leader's career will make a substantial difference to the quality of teaching and therefore the quality of student learning in our school. From the 18-19 February I had the pleasure of attending the SPC Principal conference in Mudgee. This conference provided engaging, relevant and significant professional learning. This included leading high quality teaching and learning across the school, enhancing student wellbeing strategies, and ensuring that in our school community every child is known, valued and cared for.

I was reminded of the importance of modelling lifelong learning to my staff and students. Conferences of this nature enable me to focus on quality teaching and leadership practices that have the greatest impact on teacher learning and therefore the outcomes of our students.

### **Yondr Pouch Implementation**

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, Nyngan High School will be refreshing our understanding and usage of Yondr pouches to make our school a phone-free space to improve teaching and learning. The Yondr Program employs a simple, lockable pouch that stores a mobile phone. Every student will secure their phone in their personally assigned Yondr pouch when they arrive at school each morning. They will maintain possession of their phones, and will not use them until they are unlocked at the end of the school day. Students are required to bring their Yondr pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for their pouch at all times. In an effort to best serve your child, we appreciate your full support in the adoption of the Yondr Program at our school.

### **Community support**

Further to Yondr pouches, we ask parents to communicate with their students during the day through the front office. We also ask that if you are intending on picking a student up early or giving permission for your student to leave that you record your reasons with the fantastic and helpful ladies in front office. We are also working through the logistics of running more activities at lunch to enable students to participate in activities that stimulate play and enjoyment during break times.

### **School Uniform**

Our school has always set a very high standard with the wearing of school uniform. It is a wonderful feature of Nyngan High School and is something that visitors to our school always make positive comments about.

I will remind everyone that in 2021 students who are consistently out of uniform, without explanation, will not be allowed to represent the school or attend some excursions. This is a high expectation and I make no apologies for that. Where families require financial support for some items of school clothing, I am happy to negotiate and support those needs.

*Kind regards,*

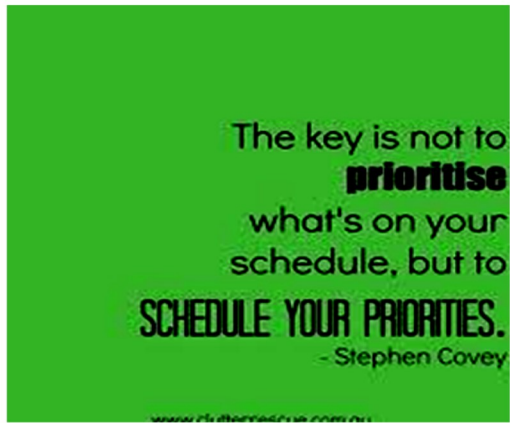
*Benn Wright, Principal*

## Deputy Principal News

Welcome back to 2021. The start of a new school year is always filled with optimism and enthusiasm, something we are witnessing a great deal with our students and staff.

Our first full week back at school together was exciting and we focused on relationships and empathy and specifically on the message our body language sends. It was a good time to question what it would be like to meet or experience yourself?

The following week saw us explore our meaning and purpose in our everyday activities, as a sense of purpose enables us to believe the many little things we do add up to make a positive difference. Putting the wellbeing of others as a key purpose in our life is one of the most effective ways to become the person you want to be.



This week we are aiming to discover what accomplishment and optimism feel like. By scheduling priorities purposefully into our day or week, it will be more likely to accomplish our goals. This is very timely for our Stage 6 students as they are in the process of receiving and submitting assessment tasks and their Nyngan High School diary is one tool which may assist this process.

Week 5 and beyond sees the resumption of incursions and excursions for our students and staff; it feels like Nyngan High School is making up for some opportunities which may have been lost during restrictions in 2020. Many students will be involved in the WW2 display, Youth Mental Health Leadership forum, Netball and Lake Keepit, just to name a few!

This week the HSLO (Home School Liaison Officers) visited our school. During this meeting a discussion occurs about the attendance of students and whether the reason provided by parents/caregivers is a justified absence. The Compulsory School Attendance – information for parents is provided in this newsletter and outlines areas such as parent legal responsibilities, the importance of arriving on time and what to do if your child needs to be away from school. When the HSLOs return on March 9<sup>th</sup> they will be talking to specific students who do not arrive to school on time.

### **Following is a little mindfulness puzzle to challenge and reward your brain:**

Find a common English word to place in each gap so that both when attached to the end of the first word and when attached to the start of the second word you end up with two more English words. For example, **birth** \_ \_ \_ **break** could be solved using **day**, making **birthday** and **daybreak**.

space \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ man

sigh \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ mill

free \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ cuffed

Enjoy your midterm break!

**Tanya Buchanan**  
**Relieving Deputy Principal**

\*\*\*\*\*

## P and C News

Our AGM is on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 5:00 pm, please bring \$2 with you to be able to vote and then we will have a general meeting. To our new parents/carers, please come along, our meetings are very informative and very open – if you wish to discuss a matter you are always welcome to do so.

**'Our Volunteers Brighten Lives'**

**Neralie Quarmby**  
**President**



## Wellbeing - Meet the Team

Nyngan High School are excited to announce we now have an official Wellbeing Team. The friendly faces students are used to working with will continue in a formal capacity in 2021. Raylene Weldon our Aboriginal Education Officer will be working to promote and organise cultural opportunities for our Aboriginal identifying students and their peers across a range of spaces. Raylene will continue to advise teachers on cultural protocols and work with Mr Casley leading SRC and junior AECG initiatives in the school. Richard Milligan will continue as a Chaplain and Youth Worker three days a week

and is taking on the Outdoor Education class as part of our Community Elective in Stage 5. Troy Richards will be working as a Community Liaison two days a week and continue to help students access opportunities, bridging any divides that may exist between home and school. He also regularly engages with Nyngan High School students through his role as a youth worker at Barnardos.

Raylene will continue to work from her office behind the English faculty, Ms Scott, Mr Milligan and Troy can be found in the new Wellbeing staffroom in Room 20 (next door to Science faculty). We are also working towards refurbishing Richard's old office into a new Wellbeing Hub (far corner near the Art room and container).

Ms Hughan, Mr Walsh, Neralie and Ms Rixon are also working on the Wellbeing Team as part of school planning meetings for Nyngan High School.

## Wellbeing initiatives

### Breakfast Club

For all new students and a reminder to returning students, Mr Milligan runs breakfast club every morning from 8am until the bell goes at 8.40. Students can make cereal, toast, milo, cups of tea or just pop in for a chat to start the day. All welcome and food provided by Nyngan High School.

## Attendance Strategy

As part of the new School's Excellence Framework, the team are working together to improve attendance initiatives at Nyngan High School. We have a few ideas in the pipeline to reward students who work hard to attend regularly and do the right thing and some strategies to target those who are habitually late or have problematic attendance.

### According to AITSL's Spotlight on Attendance;

- 25% of Australian school students attend less than 90% of school days – this equates to approximately 20 or more days absent in a school year
- Attendance rates tend to decline in secondary school, from Year 8 onwards
- There is a notable attendance gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, as well as between students from metropolitan and remote locations.



We understand last year was a difficult one and it certainly shows in our numbers, so we are asking parents to work with us to improve attendance rates across the school. Attendance at school and a strong routine are at the forefront of wellbeing and success in later life.



## Rural Youth Mental Health Leadership Forum

Next week Shannon Bourke, Malakye Cubby, Meg Meldrum and Shania Dutschke will be off to Dubbo Convention Centre to attend the first ever Rural Youth Mental Health Leadership Forum, run by Headspace and Batyr. Nyngan High School is excited to be a part of this new project that recognises the importance of upskilling young people to support each other in areas of mental health. The aim of the program is to create school-based leaders who are approachable, non-judgemental and confident talking to their peers and helping them access mental health services in their school and broader community. The forum will discuss the notion that mental health exists on a continuum and hopefully give young people the knowledge and skills to bring this information back to their peers. Our student representatives will engage in service mapping in the area and devise wellbeing programs for the Nyngan High School community. This is a very exciting initiative, watch this space.

### Support services available

There are a number of mental health support services that can be accessed through the Wellbeing Team at Nyngan High. Students are encouraged to seek advice from Year Advisors and trusted teachers if they are feeling as if they could use some extra support at school. *At the moment, the following support is available;*

### At School

- School Counsellor Lynda Pascoe is available at Nyngan High School each Wednesday.
- Year Advisor support is available for students needing a chat or wanting to know their options.
- The Learning Support Team, led by Ms Scott and Mr Walsh can help students access extra support and notify teachers of adjustments or support people that might assist students at school.

### External Agencies

- Rural Youth Mental Health Program* – run by youth worker Rebecca from Benevolent Society Orange, Rebecca visits each fortnight working on skills to build confidence, resilience and offers a new perspective outside the community.
- Headspace Dubbo* offers appointments via telehealth, these can be accessed through the Wellbeing Team. They can happen at school, or from the privacy of your home if you prefer.
- Barnardos Nyngan* offers youth worker support for individuals and family support in the community where needed
- Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)* is available in Dubbo for more urgent mental health matters

As I say to students all the time, mental health is real health – if you had a broken leg you wouldn't just hobble around on it. Do not suffer in silence; there are things you can access if you are not feeling your best self. I am looking forward to a great year ahead leading Nyngan High School's Wellbeing team and initiatives.

**Ms Bianca Scott**

**Head Teacher Wellbeing**





# Compulsory School Attendance

## Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

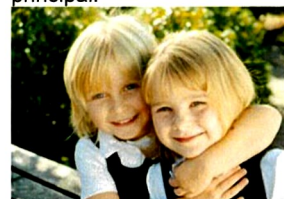
Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





**My child won't go to school.  
What should I do?**

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

**What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?**

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

**What age can my child leave school?**

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

**Working in Partnership**

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

**If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.**

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

**Policy, information and brochures:**

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

**The school leaving age:**

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

**Do you need an interpreter?**

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

[www.dec.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

## English / HSIE News

A belated welcome to 2021 to all. As the English/HSIE faculty gets into our rich and varied curriculum options, a trip around the grounds is an appropriate way to see what's going on in classrooms.

**Stage 4 English** has been investigating the experiences of children in World War 2 through a reading of the seminal Gleitzman novel 'Once'. By all reports the students are displaying a matured and considered approach to learning this topic and are building some crucial communication skills in the process.

**Stage 4 History** – Began their topic on Vikings in earnest and are developing their investigative and critical thinking skills looking at the lives of the Scandinavian plunderers. Mr Matheson's class used their understanding to create their own caricatures that look awesome on the back wall of Room 10.

First Nations texts are on the agenda for **Stage 5 English**, with a focus on Wayne Blair's excellent film *The Sapphires*. Students have hitherto been doing a context study, including guest speakers talking about life in missions and reserves for Aboriginal people. Again, the respect and maturity shown by the students has been a highlight for teachers.

World Wars are the topic for this term in **Stage 5 History** and the students got an opportunity to get a feel for life as a soldier in the Pacific during WWII on Wednesday.







**Year 12 English Studies and Standard** are wrapping up their study of Billy Elliot and have produced some outstanding work for their assessment tasks. **Year 11 English Advanced and Standard** are looking at a range of texts for the Reading to Write topic and Mr Partridge's **Extension 1** have started their deconstruction of post-colonial texts.

Mia Taylor is ploughing through the **Modern History** course and the Year 11s are getting into some source analysis, developing skills integral to their studies. Fallon McClelland, over in **Society and Culture**, is researching the impact of digital screens on 3-5 year olds for her PIP.

Our **Senior Drama** students plough on, developing ideas for their individual projects as Year 11 looks at theatrical styles via Theatre of the Absurd and Greek Theatre.

**Aboriginal Languages** have been looking at some context for a study of the Ngiyampaa language and Year 7 students new to the game have been very vocal in their contributions to discussions around the importance and significance of learning the local language.

Our school DEAR groups have settled brilliantly and it is heart-warming to see a school quietly reading every morning. Reading for pleasure is truly one of life's great joys.



*T Miles*  
*Head Teacher English/HSIE*



## Maths/CAPA News

### ASX Schools Sharegame

The Schools Sharegame Game 1 is on again for this semester. The game starts on 11th March, so start researching now for good companies. The game is currently open for students in Year 9, 10 or 11. If you are not in those years, but are interested in participating, see Mr Kunkel.

### Mathematics News

Students in **Year 7** sat for the Best Start test on Monday 22nd February. This test will inform teachers about the literacy and numeracy knowledge of the current Year 7 students, and areas where students need extra support. Year 8 students will also sit a Progressive Achievement test next week, when Year 7 are camping.

**Stage 4** have been working on fractions this term, and **Stage 5** have been working on Stage 4 numeracy skills, as well as working on Ratios, Rates, and Recurring Decimals topics.

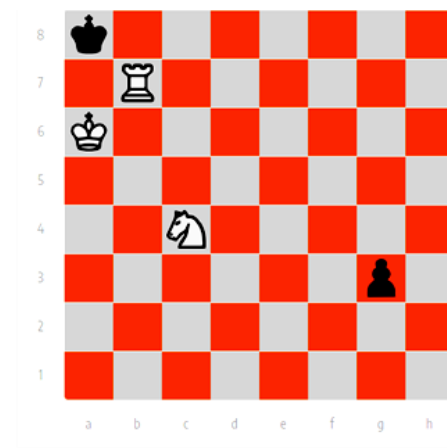
**Stage 6** Preliminary Mathematics Standard have been issued their first Assessment Task, which is due 8:40 am Friday 19th March 2021.

### Music News

Rock band has started for this year. It has been a great turnout for the first practice session. Well done to those students who are participating. You know who you are. Ms Collier.

**Chess Puzzle: Mate in one.** White to move.

The first person to give their written answer to Mr. Kunkel wins a Kit-Kat



## News From The Art Room

**Stage 4** have been using the elements of art to create portraits. So far they have learnt about shape and colour.

**Stage 5 Art** has been completing a drawing unit focusing on the restoration and disintegration of the natural environment. They drew en plein air style, sitting in the Aboriginal Garden and went on an excursion to the river to take source photographs for their drawings.

**Year 11 art** have been studying Picasso using the four frames; subjective, cultural, structural and postmodern. They have also learnt about the artmaking practice of Frank Auerback who strives to get perfection in his artworks by rubbing out or scraping back his pieces time and time again.

**Year 12** are working on a case study "Art from the Past" while continuing to create their Body of Works.

Photography students have been learning to use manual camera operations focusing on obtaining correct exposure and compositional techniques.

*V Kunkel*

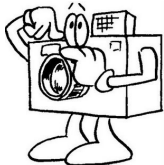
*Maths/CAPA*



**Stage 5**  
**Photography**



*The lengths you have to go through to get 'that shot' !!*



## Science/Special Ed

Welcome to 2021! Firstly I would like to introduce Mrs Julie Shilling to the team, she is teaching in our MC classes and comes to us from Narooma and welcome back to Mr Michael Walsh, also working in the MC classes and in the position of Learning and Support Teacher. Mr Walsh returns to us after a year of traveling and teaching overseas, it's lovely to have him back! Continuing in their previous roles in the faculty are, Mrs Cora Milligan in the MC classes, Mr Jarred Casley in Science, IT and Student Voice Co-ordinator, Mr David Arnall, who teaches Science and Maths and is the Year 7 Year Advisor and Mrs Partridge continues in her role as Head Teacher Science/Special Ed and teaching Science.

We have had a great start to the year, welcoming our new Year 7's to school. They are settling into their new routines well and are learning their way around the laboratories. Congratulations to all our students who achieved their Bunsen Burner licences last week! **Stage 4** have been learning about Scientific Methods, which is a great introduction topic for our new students to Science, while also allowing our returning students to brush up on their Science skills.

**Stage 5** have returned to school full of energy, so in an attempt to focus their enthusiasm, they have been learning about Energy Transfer and are moving into Waves and the Electromagnetic Spectrum. They have definitely hit the ground running and are enjoying all the practical activities associated with this topic. Stage 5 can expect their first assessment task after mid-term break, which will be due at the end of term.

**In Stage 6**, we now have all three mainstream Sciences up and running, Mr Arnall has a Year 11 Physics class, which is great to see after a couple of years of Physics not running at Nyngan High School. I have already heard students commenting on how much they are enjoying the course! Mr Casley is teaching Year 11 and 12 Chemistry and Mrs Partridge Year 11 and 12 Biology.

**The MC classrooms** have continued with their room upgrades and facelift from last year, making Rooms 1 & 2 an inviting, comfortable and productive place for our MC students to learn and develop according to their individual needs. Students in Rooms 1 & 2 follow set timetables as do their mainstream peers, following a mix of mainstream and life skills outcomes according to each individual students' particular requirements. It pleasing to see some of our Stage 5 & 6 students doing work placement this year to assist in their transition from School to Work and a massive thank you to those employers who have taken on and are supporting our students.

**Stage 5** students this year are involved in a Working in the Community project. I have the pleasure of accompanying the Year 10 each Thursday to the Museum and the Shearing Shed. The students are working in a number of different areas, assisting the volunteers in restoration and research tasks, depending on the student's various interests. These young ladies have jumped straight into this project and have been outstanding and even having the confidence to make their own suggestions of things which could be done to enhance the displays within the Museum. If anyone has any photo albums and rags which they would like to donate, the girls would greatly appreciate them for a task they are working on.

Looking for to a big year ahead and may it be much less disrupted than the last!

*Emma Partridge*

*Head Teacher Science/Special Ed*



Stage 5

Museum

Activities

## Student Leaders 2021

Congratulations to the following Junior AECG and SRC students for 2021:

### Junior AECG

Jamaal Simpson

Linkon Sinclair

Brandee - Mae Doyle

Ella Rose

Reagan Stanley

Jedd Healey (President)



### SRC

Kate Partridge

Elizabeth Healey

Pranali Shukla

Seth Hancock

Brook Cadrakilagi

Shania Dutschke

Samuel Milligan

Jasmine Bourke

Kayne Taylor

Meg Meldrum

Elle Montgomery

Connor Burley

Angela Tang

Millie Smith

Jack Buchanan

Shannon Bourke

Anastasia Walsh

Tsitsi Dhedheya

Bailee Griffiths

Lilly Meldrum

Fira Tresnawati



### TAS/PDHPE Faculty News

This year we welcomed Estelle Strachan and David Warburton to the team. Miss Strachan is a former Nyngan High School student and is already making friends with her culinary delights being made in the Hospitality room. Mr Warburton is highly experienced and comes to us with many skills in the industrial technology workshop which is great for our keen students.

In PDHPE we have Mrs Waterhouse and Mrs Smith. Both ladies are experienced and know our students very well having high expectations of all of them.

I am working in the school farm with our Primary Industries students who have a busy term ahead of them as we are participating in the School Merino Wether Challenge.

It is great to see sport back on the calendar and this begins with the Opens Netball team off to Dubbo next Tuesday. Good Luck girls.

Careers events are back also with Year 12 attending a Tertiary Awareness Day in Dubbo in April and Year 9 a Future Moves event at Charles Sturt University at Dubbo Campus in May.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest appreciation of the awesome community of Nyngan that we live in. As a careers advisor I have first hand experience dealing with local businesses and the support continues to grow.

This year we said goodbye to over 20 students from Years 10-12 who moved in to traineeships and apprentices with local businesses. This is in addition to a number of students who also moved into permanent jobs.

The world of work is changing and we are all lifelong learners. I encourage and look forward to hearing from any businesses who would like to be a part of our growing program or would just like to hear more about what we do.

Kind regards

*Noelene Walsh*

*Head Teacher TAS/PDHPE/Careers*



## SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The 2021 Nyngan High School swimming carnival was held last Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> of February. While the weather was mild the effort from our swimmers was anything but. There were some fantastic swims throughout the day with several records getting a scare. I would like to congratulate everyone who competed on the day, your participation made this carnival the great event that it was.

### *The results were as follows:*

<b>12 years Age Champions</b>	Pranali Shukra and Jayden Smith
<b>13 years Age Champions</b>	Elizabeth Healey and Jed Montgomery
<b>14 years Age Champions</b>	Victoria Walsh and Hayden Burley
<b>15 years Age Champions</b>	Jasmine Bourke and Riley Wood
<b>16 years Age Champions</b>	Abbie Smith and Max Montgomery
<b>17+ years Age Champions</b>	Anastasia Walsh and Rory Quarmby

The race to become the Champion House for 2021 was fiercely contested with numerous lead changes throughout the day. However, in the end it was a very rare result with both Mitchell and Bogan tying for first place.

I would like to thank all the Nyngan High staff for helping to make the day run smoothly, with a special shout out to Alistair (Egg) Quarmby for giving up his time to be our starter. I would also like to extend our thanks to St Joseph's Parish School for allowing us to use their starting pistol for the event.

Congratulations and good luck to all the swimmers who have qualified for the Western Championships which will be held in Dubbo on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March.

***Catherine Smith***  
***PDHPE***





NYNGAN HIGH  
SCHOOL  
SWIMMING  
CARNIVAL  
2021





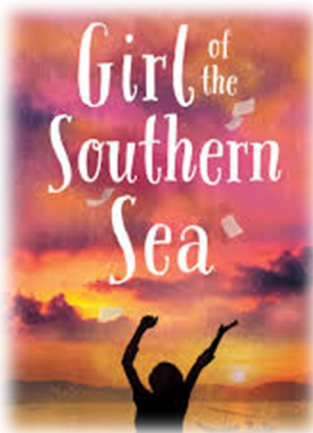
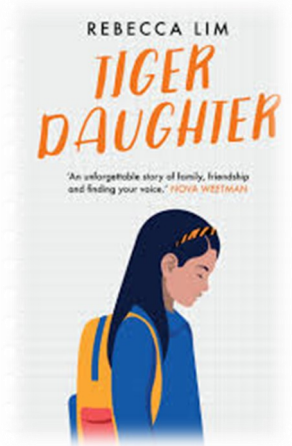


# Checking in with the Chook,

## Fabulous new books from ASO!

### **Tiger Daughter by Rebecca Lim**

Wen Zhou is the daughter and only child of Chinese immigrants whose move to the lucky country has proven to be not so lucky. Wen and her friend, Henry Xiao—whose mum and dad are also poor immigrants—both dream of escape from their unhappy circumstances, and they form a plan to sit an entrance exam to a selective high school far from home. But when tragedy strikes, it will take all of Wen's resilience and resourcefulness to get herself and Henry through the storm that follows.



### **Girl of the Southern Sea by Michelle Kadarusman**

A gifted student, Nia longs to attend high school so she can follow her dream and become a writer. She has notebooks filled with stories she's created about the mythological Dewi Kadita, Princess of the Southern Sea. But her family has barely enough money for food, let alone education, so Nia's days are spent running their food cart and raising her younger brother. Following a miraculous escape from a bus accident, Nia is gifted with good-luck magic. Or at least that's what everyone is saying. Soon the family business is booming and might even be enough money for school. But how long can her luck last? When a secret promise threatens everything she's hoped for, Nia must find a way to break the mould and write her own future.



### **Growing Up Disabled in Australia edited by Carly Finlay**

'My body and its place in the world seemed quite normal to me.'

I didn't grow up disabled, I grew up with a problem. A problem those around me wanted to fix.'

'Don't fear the labels.'

Growing up disabled in Australia is the fifth book in the highly acclaimed Growing Up series. It includes interview with prominent Australians such as Senator Jordon Stelle-John and Paralympian Isis Holt, poetry and graphic art, as well as more than 40 original pieces by writers with a disability or chronic illness.

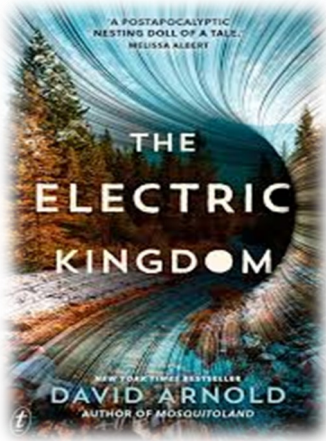
Yr 8 up

### **STEAM girls group get's going!**

I'm thrilled that the first session of the group will be happening this Thursday. The girls will make the first steps on their combined journey to design, build, decorate, furnish, wire, and document the creation of a large doll's house. The group will be using digital technology purchased with the generous Smartygrant we won last year, including CAD, 3D resin printers, laser cutters, Coding kits, plus a film kit to make the documentary. This is a very exciting project which has great potential, for this group of girls initially but for the greater school community in the future.

Please get behind them as they travel this journey of learning.





### **The Electric Kingdom by David Arnold**

A deadly flue has swept the globe, leaving a shell of the world that once was. Among the survivors are eighteen-year-old Nico and her dog, who are on a journey devised by Nico's father to find a mythical 'portal' a young artist named Kit, who knows almost nothing of the world outside the old abandoned cinema he was raised in; and the enigmatic Deliverer, who lives life in an attempt to put the world back together.

Yr 9 up

### **A Secret of Birds and Bone by Kiran Millwood Hargrave**

In an Italian city ravaged by plague, Sofia's mother carves beautiful mementoes from the bones of loved ones.

But one day she doesn't return home. Did her work lead her into danger? Sofia and her little brother Ermin are sent to the convent orphanage but soon escape led by the enigmatic new friend and their pet crow, Corvith. Together they cross the city underground, following clues in bones, up to the towers of Siena, where, circled by magpies—the children find the terrible truth!



### **The Ghost Squad by Sophie Masson**

Imagine a world where all seems normal and yet nothing is—a world very much like our own, yet jarringly unlike. A world where two clandestine organisations, the Ghost Squad and the Base, are engaged in a secret battle for control of information so dangerous it could literally change life as humans have always known it...

Yr 8 up.

### **Born Into This by Adam Thompson**

The stories in this anthology are inspired by the author's life and work within the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. They represent shards of history that span a while range of common Aboriginal experiences. While the experiences of racism, heritage destruction and identity challenges are universal to Australia's First People, the power is in the specificity" each general experience is explored through a particular character's personal story.

Stage 6 only

Chook's note; These stories are uncompromising and heartfelt. Adam Thompson pulls no punches, there is emotion, grit, and humour. Read it!

