

Albany Residential College Newsletter

Respect • Belonging • Independence

Term 2 - 2026

Term 2 Activities Overview

Activities Supervisor – This term, Courtney T has worked hard to plan activities to keep students engaged and give them new experiences. A special thank you for all her hard work and we look forward to the great things planned for Term 3.

Reconciliation Week Activities

Noongar Cultural Day – Seven students and two staff attended the Cultural Day at the Noongar Centre, which was very successful. Several ARC students including Delilah, Ena, Talen, Kayla and Sitara had various artworks displayed. Delilah was very popular with people admiring her large



collaborative art piece. The students enjoyed mingling with Elders and community members sharing yarns. We participated in a Welcome to Country, basket weaving and listened to talks with Jessikah Woods and Aunty Lynette Knapp. We shared an afternoon tea with everyone, while the students further networked with Elders and Community.



DreSean B's mum judged the winners of our Reconciliation Colouring In Competition:

- Lower School Boys: No completed entries
- Lower School Girls: Ena KG
- Upper School Boys: DreSean B
- Upper School Girls: Delilah KG
- Staff: Courtney T

Walpole Wilderness Excursion

Students and staff shared an adventure out to the Walpole Wilderness on beautiful Menang and Pibelmen (Bibbulmun) Noongar Boodja during the WA Day long weekend.

We started the morning off at Walpole Eco Cruises, boating down the Walpole Inlet and hearing stories from Gary Muir about the science and history of the place. We learnt about 1080 poison, quokkas and many more scientific and nature facts. It was interesting to hear about the Muir's connection to the Murrum Noongar family group who his family grew up alongside. The students enjoyed looking for fish, stingrays and other sea creatures as well as the beautiful views. We stopped at the Walpole Inlet Jetty where the students learnt about Eco-Conservation, the spread of dieback plant disease and how plastics travel along the currents to beaches in Walpole. We went on a short hike over the hill to Coronation Beach before sharing a lovely morning tea.



In the afternoon we ventured to the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk to see the magnificent Tingle Trees. All of the students and staff braved the high bridge to walk amongst the treetops. We then did the ground walk at the base of the trees, walking through the Tingles and finding all the little hidden creatures along the way.

On the journey back to the college, we stopped in at the Denmark Fresh Food Factory on Mr Y's recommendation to see the peacocks and grab a small scoop of ice cream.



Chinese Themed Dinner Night

The Chinese-themed dinner transformed the college dining room into a welcoming cozy restaurant. Our cook, Geraldine, prepared a delicious selection of Chinese-inspired dishes, including sweet and sour pork, homemade fried rice, and crispy prawn crackers.

Special effort was put into the deserts with a homemade watermelon peacock and traditional citrus jelly cups.

To finish the meal, each student received a fortune cookie, adding a fun touch. Imagine if the fortunes encouraged everyone to study a little harder and ace their exams - maybe we'll arrange that for next time!

The dining room was decorated, and the soft lighting and the background music created a warm and inviting atmosphere which encouraged some good conversations and socialising.

We are looking forward to our next themed dinner event - **Christmas in July** - which includes a festive menu with all the trimmings.



Connecting Generations

Students enjoyed a fun afternoon mingling with the Senior Citizens from the Eureka Village. They enjoyed chatting, arts and crafts and even patting the pet dog and cat. Afterwards, afternoon tea of a delicious carrot cake and fresh fruit was eagerly enjoyed by all.



ARC Staffing Update for Term 3

Farewell to Matthew H – Matt has been filling in for us as senior supervisor this term. He has brought valuable experience from City Beach Residential College to help us make the college a better place for students and help improve our operations. A special thank you to Matt for his contributions this term.



Senior Supervisor Appointment – We are pleased to announce that we have appointed a new male senior supervisor. Brenton R will be starting next term and work mainly on the boy's side of the college. He comes with experience working as a supervisor at Denmark Ag, Great Southern Grammar and Harvey Ag. Along the way, he has gained leadership experience as an Acting Head of Residence and Head of Boarding House.

Art Tutor – Peta W will be our new art tutor for Term 3. She will be doing art with students on Tuesday afternoon's from 4-6pm.

Key Information for Term 3 Onward

We are constantly looking at our policies and procedures to ensure we are compliant with department policies with an emphasis on duty of care for students. We are making the following changes to our systems starting in Term 2:

Leave – Anytime the student is not at the college for a reason other than attending school, this will need to be entered as leave. There are three main categories for this:

- **Approved Leave** – this type of leave requires a parent-approved host with contact details in REACH.
- **Excursion** – this type of leave is for offsite supervised excursions and are leaves that are generally pre-approved by parents either through the Annual Informed Consent Form or through parents approving a one-off excursion through REACH.
- **Extracurricular** – this leave type requires parent consent and are unsupervised such as entertainment, appointments and recreational classes. They may be reoccurring such as work or sport.

Next term, students will be required to enter their leave at least 24 hours in advance. Staff will reserve the right to decline leave requests if this requirement is not met. It is also important that they provide adequate details in the notes section to ensure we are aware of their movements.

Student Device Management – We are currently working with the Director of Agriculture and Residential Colleges to review the management of student device storage overnight. There will be further consultation to take place next term. New changes are due to start in Term 4.

Student Driving Policy – Students with licences will be able to drive their own vehicles to the college. Parameters will be put in place around how this is managed. More information will be provided at the start of Term 3.

Parent and Student Reminders for Term 3

Student Lunches – Since the start of Term 2, students have been responsible for making their own lunches to take to school. This has been a success and has reinforced one of our PBS values of independence. It is important that they come down during breakfast to ensure they have time to complete this. Please continue to encourage your student to ensure they have a balanced lunch for the school day.

Devices at Mealtimes – Students will continue to either leave their mobile phone in their room or place the phone on a table outside the dining room at mealtimes. No devices are to be used during mealtime and failure to comply with this rule may result in device confiscation for a period.

Student Laundry – We have started the process of upgrading the machines in student laundries with commercial machines that are more reliable. These will be in place for two of our laundries at the start of Term 3.

Students who use the student laundries will need to be organised and expect the laundry rooms to close at 8:30pm every night. Our night supervisor will no longer complete this work for students, and they will be expected to time the washing and drying cycles correctly.

If they cannot meet these expectations, they have the option to use the laundry service that is available every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Student Medication – A reminder to parents that any medication that students require need to be in Webster packs for easy distribution. This is a Department of Education requirement.

Tutoring – Our new tutor, Rachel H, will be starting with us in Term 3. She is a maths specialist. She will be available to all students every Monday and Thursday from 5:00pm to 8:30pm.

College Psychologist Support – Our college psychologist, Laura F, is here to support students at the college. They will need to be referred to her by a supervisor. If you feel your student would benefit from this support, please contact the college and we will assess this on your behalf.

Key Dates for Term 3

- **College Re-Opens for ASHS, NASHS, ACC, WACoA**
Sunday 19 July at 3:00pm
- **College Re-Opens for SJC**
Monday 20 July at 3:00pm
- **Census Day**
Tuesday 11 August
- **Presentation Night 2026**
Thursday 17 September at 4:00pm

