

## Geraldton Residential College

# Term 1 2022 Newsletter

### A note from the College Manager



Dear Parents, Carers  
and Friends

Term 1 was certainly fast and furious, and I am proud of all that we have achieved as a College Community in such a changing and challenging environment.

We started the Term with myself, and another staff member delayed due to border closures. The team were resourceful, and they all pulled together to ensure our students and families received a warm welcome on Day 1, under the leadership of Mrs Wilson.

Our 2022 focus area is Student Wellbeing which I mentioned in my final Newsletter for 2021, and it incorporates many elements, with us particularly focusing on social, emotional, and physical wellbeing. The photos in this newsletter provide just a snapshot of how we are supporting the areas of student wellbeing. Our Positive Behaviour Support program (PBS) lead by Mr Pattenden has been well received by new and returning students with many students keeping an eye on the PBS Leader Board, the program also supports all elements of student wellbeing. In addition, we have introduced social leave 4 afternoons per week, to allow students up to 45 minutes of exercise, or perhaps a walk to the shops with friends from the College. This leave is in addition to the traditional town leave on

Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings, the students have thoroughly enjoyed the additional freedom with no students breaching the leave guidelines.

This week we received our order of Lego, so look out for some Lego challenges in Term 2 on our Facebook page. I am anticipating that this activity will be lots of fun and it will also support students' social and emotional wellbeing on indoor weekends or in the case of isolation requirements. You are never too old for Lego!



We remained COVID-19 free until Week 8 when our first case was identified, through strict protocols and procedures we managed a very small outbreak with no further cases identified, this result is testament to the commitment by both students and staff, so thank you. Thank you also to the many parents and carers that collected their children when asked which further reduced the risk of COVID -19 spreading at the College.

I take this opportunity to remind parents of their responsibility when their child cannot attend

school for an extended period, or in the case of an infectious disease that you will be asked to make arrangements to collect your child as outlined in our Handbook. Please read the letter you would have received in week 10 around COVID 19 guidelines in the school holidays and the parameters around children returning to the College on Monday afternoon 25 April 2022.

We had several power outages which did test our resourcefulness, but we managed with a smile and some fun too. Some students used the opportunity to attempt to sneak into areas where they were not allowed, oh to be young and fearless, don't worry parents we are always a step ahead with supervisors armed with torches and stationed across the College...please also be assured that the College electrical system is fully compliant and safe, and it meets Western Power compliance. A full power analysis is being conducted to identify any issues that may have caused the minor electrical incidents and any recommendations will be implemented.

With the uplift in our student enrolments this year we have been allocated additional staffing and a recruitment process is underway. In the meantime, Jason Driscoll has been appointed to role of Senior Supervisor and joins Anne-Marie Wilson in a leadership position. Once all permanent positions are filled, I will update you in our Term 2 newsletter.

I express a massive thank you to both the Ancillary and Supervisory Teams, and Mrs Edwards (administration & finance) who have gone above and beyond this Term to provide excellence in boarding care, I wish you all a wonderful and very restful break with your family and friends. Thank you also to our Partner Schools and staff for your ongoing support, along with our LINC Committee Members, who made themselves available 24/7.

To our wonderful students, congratulations on all that you have achieved this Term both personally and at school you are all exceptional young people, and we wish a wonderful holiday with your families. Happy Easter to all,

Kind regards,

Ms Davis

## Student Wellbeing Activities In Term 1

### Easter Egg Hunt

Nothing stops our students participating in the annual Easter Egg hunt, not even mask restrictions!





## Evening Surf Run

Surfs up for the boys whilst our Dellahale ladies were happy to chill out on the rocks enjoying the fresh air and sunset!



## Sunset Walk & Beach Swim

It was a glorious opportunity to take a stroll to the beach with our students one evening, where they enjoyed a swim and an ice cream treat on the way back to the college



## Pilates

The students enjoyed a Pilates session with Katarina – Pilates promotes physical, social, and emotional wellbeing.



## Snorkelling & Spearfishing

Our students enjoyed a spot of spearfishing and snorkelling on a Sunday afternoon - with Seth catching a nice flathead. We are so lucky to have the beautiful Batavia coastline just minutes away from the college.





## Art Therapy

Mrs Thompson has plenty of Art therapy planned for 2022.



## Busy Weekends

Our students enjoyed a wonderful weekend of "sunshine and salty hair who cares" and some inside activities too!



## Quiz Nights

Last night we held a super quiz night! Led by our quiz master, Andrew Driscoll. The winning team won a movie outing.



## Around The College

### Power Outages & COVID -19

Term 1 is always busy, but with good planning and procedures in place, staff responded with a smile and plenty of PPE.





## Renovations

We have been renovating our backyard at the College. We will be building a Yarning Circle under the tree canopy next term, the design will encompass the Southern, Northern and Coastal Yamatji people all meeting together.



## End of Term 1 Party

We finished off the term with gourmet platters of glorious food!



## Things to Note for Term 2

Event	Details
<b>In the dining room</b>  Lets be - Respectful, Responsible & Caring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure your technology is left in room/basket at mealtimes</li> <li>• Clear away dishes and push chairs in as you leave the table</li> <li>• Be responsible for picking up dropped items and cleaning up any spillages</li> <li>• Wear footwear in the dining room and kitchen</li> <li>• Practice good hand hygiene</li> <li>• Perform rostered duties without complaint</li> <li>• Show initiative to help each other</li> <li>• Reduce waste</li> <li>• Remove hat before entering dining room</li> </ul>
<b>Student Clothing</b>	Please label all your children's clothing especially their school uniform.  Please encourage your child to check the lost property on a regular basis
<b>Junk Food</b>	May we ask the parents to support us in educating your children to make healthy food choices and limit the amount of "junk food " they are consuming especially 2-minute noodles
<b>Prohibited Items</b>	Aerosol Cans, Energy Drinks, Caffeine Flavoured Milk, non-Eat Learn Thrive (ELT) cereals which are high in sugar content are all prohibited from the College
<b>Light's Out Policy</b>	The lights out policy is as follows Sunday to Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junior students 9:00 pm</li> <li>• Senior students 9:30 pm</li> </ul> Friday to Saturday Junior & Senior students 10:00 pm  Consideration will be given to Senior students who need to study outside of these times

## You lose your key...it creates a fee...

### Important Dates for Term 2

Event	Details
<b>GRC Opens for Term 2</b>	Monday 25 April 2022 @ 1:00 pm
<b>Long Weekend</b>	Saturday 4 to Monday 6 June 2022 for Western Australia Day  The college will remain open but it's a great opportunity for students to spend time with family and friends
<b>GRC Closes for Term 2</b>	Friday 1 July 2022 @ 5:00 pm



### From the Kitchen to the Table

Our College Chef Joy, Weekend Cook Maria and Team do an amazing job preparing healthy balanced and nutritious meals every day

