

WILTJA WANGKANYI

Wiltja talk

Wiltja Secondary College Newsletter

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Wiltja Secondary College

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Principal's Report

I was very happy to be given the opportunity to lead Wiltja School as principal for the next 3 years. I would like to build a stronger relationship between Wiltja and the Anangu Lands communities and schools. I believe that Wiltja provides great experiences and opportunities for Anangu students and hope that many more Anangu young people will benefit from the Wiltja experience.

Community visits

Twice a term, I travel to Umuwa for the Anangu Lands Partnership Leaders' Meeting. I have made these trips into an opportunity to build a stronger connection between Wiltja and the Anangu Lands by visiting communities to speak with principals, teachers, students, AEWs and families. So far I have been able to visit Amata, Ernabella, Fregon, Indulkana, Kenmore Park and Mimili. I am aiming to head further out west to Murputja and Pipalyatjara, as well as to Yalata and Oak Valley on trips later in the year.

Coming to Wiltja

Adelaide has a lot to offer but it can be difficult for students to be so far from home. To help get students ready for Wiltja, we have Short Term and Transition visits before inviting students for long-term enrolment.

A Short Term visit is where an Anangu Lands teacher and AEW bring a group or students to Wiltja for 1 week. Students get to experience what it is like to live at Wiltja Boarding and learn at Wiltja School with the



support of staff that they know from their home school. Short Term visits are usually for year 6 and 7 students but older students can also join the group if they are interested in finding out more about Wiltja too.

In term 1, we had Short Term groups from Pipalyatjara, Yalata and Oak Valley. In term 2, we have had Murputja, Indulkana and Ernabella. For term 3, we have visits planned from Amata, Mimili and Fregon, and a second visit from Yalata.

If students do well during their Short Term visit, they will be invited for a 2-week independent Transition visit. Up to 3 student might come down together but without staff from their home school. This gives them a better idea about what it is like to be a regular Wiltja student. If this visit is successful, they will be invited as a Provisional long-term student.

School groups and families are always welcome to visit Wiltja when they come to Adelaide. You can have a tour of the school or have dinner with the students at Wiltja Boarding.

Farewell and Thank you...



Ashley



Kay



Mary



Tony



Jacqui



Michael

Welcome to Wiltja...



Sam



Nami



Jonathon



Allena

Staff

Wiltja has had a number of staff changes since the end of last year.

2016 saw the retirement of Ashley Dorr, Tony Shaw and Kay Sosnowski, and Mary Tyndale joined them at the end of term 1 this year. Ashley was at Wiltja for 19 years with 7 years as principal, Mary worked at the reception desk for 25 years and Kay taught at Wiltja for 20 years. Tony was a teacher at Wiltja for 2 separate periods with time in between as principal of Murputja School. We also said farewell to two long-serving staff members, Jacqui Ellis and Michael Morrison. We wish all of these staff members all the best in their futures.

At the start of this year, we welcomed Sam Matthews to the Wiltja team, joined by Allena Bishop and Jonathon Pritchard in term 2. Sam is helping to deliver our Certificate 1 and 2 in Conservation and Land Management and has experience working in this field on the APY Lands. He also teaches science to our year 9 and Transition classes. Allena will be providing administrative support to the Senior School team and Jonathon will help to support senior students in a range of SACE subjects while Greg Cousins is on Long Service Leave.

We also have the good fortune of adding Nami Kulyuru to our staff. Nami has a wealth of experience working as an AEW and Anangu teacher in Ernabella. She will be supporting our teaching of Anangu language and culture at Wiltja, as well as supporting our students and helping to strengthen our connection with Anangu families and communities.

Camp Coorong

Written by students in the Newsletter Workshop

This term, Wiltja boys and girls both went on camps to the Coorong with some youth workers to learn about the Murray River.

The weather was overcast but mostly hot. Darrel, who was the Ngarrindjeri elder, welcomed us to country.

We saw many different animals including dead crabs, pelicans, seals and bird nests. We went swimming, body surfing, learnt how to do basket weaving, walked through the Coorong and along the beach.

We learnt about how the lakes are getting saltier and this is killing the animals and damaging the environment.

At night we played games, played torch chasey, sang songs around the campfire and listened to Elijah play the guitar. We slept in cabins on mattresses.

The camp was fun and we are glad we went even though it was cold at night. It was a great experience and we are grateful.

Thank you.



Sports Day

By Wiltja Students at Woodville High School

On Monday, 6th March, 2017 all the Woodville High School students, including the Wiltja students, had fun at the school sports day. We needed seven buses to get everybody to Santos Stadium, just near the city. The carnival started after home group and finished at 2:00pm.

There were four teams: Mercury, Sirius, Jupiter and Neptune. We competed with students on other teams in all kinds of track and field events. The longest race was the 1500 meters run, and the shortest race was 100 meters sprint. Some of the other events included the javelin, relay and high jump.

Many Wiltja students won ribbons:

Billy Cooley – 2nd under 15 javelin

Tyrell Martin – 2nd under 14 javelin; 3rd under 14 relay

Tyrone Hart – 1st Open javelin, 2nd 100 metre open sprint

Kiara Lambourne – 2nd under 15 javelin

Natalie Watson – 1st 100 metres relay, 1st tug of war

Kane Kunoth – Under 15 tug of war

Priangyka Fielding - 1st 400 meters run

Priayangka Fielding also broke the school record for the under 15 girls 400m. She also represented Woodville High School at the Interschool Athletics carnival, where she came 3rd in her race.

Well done to all the Wiltja Students who participated in a great day.



English Focus – Fables

In term 1 our writing focus was Fables – stories about animals which teach important life lessons. This story by year 9 student Billy Cooley (Amata) tells a story about what can happen if you are too greedy!

Echidna and the Honey Ants

One day echidna saw the fattest honey ant in the world climbing around on the green acacia tree. It was a very sunny day so echidna found a shady tree so that he could lie and eat that fat juicy honey ant. The echidna saw another honey ant and he ate that honey ant too. He kept on eating and eating until he got very full. His tummy was as round as a basketball. He couldn't get up because he was very tired. Every time he lifted his foot he got stuck to the hot ground.

The echidna was laying on the hot ground fat and sticky and tired. As the sun was going down echidna saw a dark shadow. That dark shadow came closer and closer with really soft footsteps. Echidna still couldn't get up from the ground and then he saw the feral cat and the feral cat said, "I smell honey." The echidna was struggling to get up from the ground. Then he quickly got up from the ground and he ran as far as he could. He ran up the hill and found a small cave. He was hiding in that small cave and he fell asleep.

All of a sudden the echidna woke up quickly and frightened because he heard footsteps. He looked up and saw a silhouette at the mouth of the cave. "Mmm," said the Feral cat.

The echidna was looking for a way to get out of the little cave. He found a small hole in the back of the cave, but he got stuck to the wall because he was covered in honey. The feral cat came running when he saw echidna stuck to the rock. The feral cat killed the echidna with a swipe of his paw. Then the feral cat dragged him back to his family and they feasted on him.



Year 10 CLM Camp – Roxby Downs

As part of the year 10 Wiltja Conservation and Land Management course students travelled to Roxby Downs Arid Recovery. On the way we visited the Arid Lands Botanic Gardens and had a tour of their nursery to learn about different methods of growing Australian plants. At Arid Recovery students took part in a range of activities to learn real life land management skills and contribute to scientific monitoring at the reserve.

Students went on a treasure hunt to learn about using GPS. They also undertook scientific surveys using tracking and remote cameras. Later, students operated radio trackers like those used to locate radio collared animals. A highlight of the trip was undertaking trapping of animals, being able to measure and record details of the animals and then watch them happily hop away when they were released. The trip was a success and everyone had a great time.



Dan-ku Iti Ngaringu

Our Deputy Principal Dan Bleby took some time off at the end of term 1 to get to know his new daughter.

Freya Wren Bleby was born on March 26th. Her Pitjantjatjara name is Makinti, after one of her grandmothers – a strong Anangu woman passionate about education.

Dan and Anna are looking forward to introducing her to the Wiltja community and her Pitjantjatjara family soon!

Palyau!



Mamanya nyanganyi!



Makintinya munu palumpa ngunytju xox



Kuru pulka!

The A to Z of Wiltja in Term 1

- A** Arid Recovery Camp to Roxby Downs
- B** BBQ with families and teachers at Wiltja Boarding
- C** Camp Coorong
- D** Dance workshops at Kururu
- E** Eggs from the chooks
- F** Family visits to Adelaide make us happy
- G** Got lots of ribbons at Sports Day
- H** Helping new students settle in
- I** Investigations
- J** Journey to Victor Harbor in the Wiltja Bus
- K** Kangaroo tails
- L** Lots of learning
- M** Movie night – the boys went to the cinema, and the girls had a cinema night at Wiltja
- N** Nunga Tag for Year 10s
- O** off- site excursions
- P** Pizza making with the Yalata students
- Q** Quizzes on Kahoot!
- R** Respect each other
- S** Short-term visits by Ernabella, Fregon, Indulkana, Murputja, Pipalyatjara and Yalata
- T** Touch rugby
- U** Upstairs, downstairs (at Woodville High)
- V** Visit from Kenmore Park
- W** Wiltja open day BBQ
- X** NAPLAN eXams
- Y** Yalata students came to Adelaide and went to Mount Lofty Lookout
- Z** Zoo animals living down the road

