



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Exceptional schooling. Exceptional students.

NEWS
JAN 2022



Twelve Perth Modern School students achieved General Exhibitions. FROM LEFT: Ryan Jeong, Lawrence Nheu, Talisha Lee-Karuthiru, Erin Putri Leonardi, Elle Chentang, Caleb Adams, Keith Wong, Micah Sinclair, Saad Shah and Dylan Harvey. ABSENT FROM PHOTO: Annabelle Heyworth and Bridie Dempster.

Perth Modern is Top of the Table

The Class of 2021 Perth Modern School has blitzed the School Curriculum and Standards Authority WACE Awards with Lawrence Nheu achieving the Beazley Medal: WACE, 12 students achieving General Exhibitions and seven students achieving eight Subject Exhibitions. Five students—Isaac Teo, Ryan Jeong, Lawrence Nheu, Phillip Harvey and Saad Shah—achieved perfect ATAR scores of 99.95.

Seven students from the cohort achieved eight Subject Exhibitions, 65 students attained an ATAR of 99+, 38 students were awarded a Subject Certificate of Excellence and 64 students achieved a Certificate of Distinction.

High achiever Phillip Harvey told Bethany Hiatt at *The West Australian* he had been 'surprised' when he saw he had obtained a perfect ATAR of 99.95. Phillip, who will study Actuarial Science at Curtin University, said being pushed by other bright pupils at Perth Modern had been the biggest influence on his marks.

'I had so many group chats, talking about physics exams, sharing resources, helping each other along,' he said. 'At other schools you might always be at the top, but at Mod, in most cases, there's always someone above you. So there's always stuff to aim for.'

For the sixth year in a row, Perth Modern School topped the School Curriculum and Standards Authority academic table with the cohort achieving a median ATAR of 96.45—a fantastic team effort.

Interim Principal Mitchell Mackay said the Class of 2021 deserved to feel a real sense of collective achievement and should be very proud of their efforts.

'The Class of 2021 has produced some stellar results as a result of a lot of hard work and on behalf of all the staff at Perth Modern I wish them every success in their future endeavours,' Mr Mackay said.



Lawrence Nheu with his 2021 Beazley Medal: WACE.

...and Lawrence Nheu wins Beazley Medal

Perth Modern's dux Lawrence Nheu has been awarded the coveted Beazley Medal for achieving the highest exam marks in the Australian Tertiary Rank Admission exams.

See the story about Lawrence's award on page 4 ...

PHOTO BY JUSTIN BENSON-COOPER, 'THE WEST AUSTRALIAN'.

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From the Principal

I would like to acknowledge the incredibly warm welcome I have received from students, staff, parents and Modernians since joining Perth Modern as Interim Principal at the end of 2021. I have been made to feel very much at home and I have delighted in meeting with the wonderful staff and students here.

I greatly admire the incredible history and heritage of this school and recognise its importance in nurturing generations of students in WA who have made such an incredible difference to the local community and in many instances the nation and the world. As I wander the school's halls, seeing the names and faces of great Modernians who have shaped our State's history in a multitude of fields, I am grateful to have been offered the honour of steering Perth Modern School through these interesting times. I am very much looking forward to the year ahead.

Despite some uncertainty surrounding the current COVID-19 situation in WA and the challenges that must be navigated on a daily basis, the 2022 academic school year has commenced smoothly with students being enthusiastic to be at school, wearing their masks and displaying resilience. We will endeavour to continue with the school's programs and extracurricular activities as much as possible, however some Term 1 events will be postponed or modified in scope. I have tasked our new Associate Principal, Fiona Tholet, with managing the school's response to COVID-19 including communications. The Executive team will all be working towards making the safety and wellbeing of our students the absolute top priority.

I would like to thank our valued parents for the support, understanding, and trust in us as a school as we navigate these challenging times. We will always base our discussions on advice from the Chief Medical Officer and instructions from the government and the Education Department, and what is in the best interests of our students, staff, and the broader community. We will continue to communicate with parents as necessary regarding this ever-evolving situation and provide updates as we receive information.

The exceptional results of the **Class of 2021** in the WACE were incredibly inspiring and a fantastic collective effort. The school is very proud that our graduating class achieved 'top of the table' results in the ATAR examinations, placing first on the academic table based

on median ATAR for the sixth year in a row. School dux **Lawrence Nheu** was awarded the **Beazley Medal: WACE** for topping the examinations and five students, **Isaac Teo, Ryan Jeong, Lawrence Nheu, Phillip Harvey** and **Saad Shah** achieved a 'perfect' ATAR of 99.95. Twelve Subject Exhibitions were awarded, and seven students achieved eight Subject exhibitions. I wish to make special mention of **Chern Yue (Elizabeth) Khor** who achieved the ATAR Music Exhibition as a Year 10 student. I enjoyed meeting and congratulating the students who performed outstandingly when they visited the school the day just after finding out their results. There were also another 184 students who achieved amazing Year 12 ATAR results that gave them access to universities across all of Australia. I also pay tribute and give my thanks to the teachers and parents who helped them achieve these outstanding results.

I congratulate the following current and past students for their achievements at the end of 2021 and beginning of 2022:

- A number of students did exceptionally well in the **International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**, achieving medals for topping the State. Well done to Year 7 students **Aditi Rajput** – English, **Kieran Ho** – Mathematics, **Ethan Trinh** – Mathematics, **Jayden Yip** – Digital Technologies and **Brendan Daniel** – Science; Year 8: **Lodinu Kalugagale** – Digital Technologies; Year 9 students **Ethan Yap** – Mathematics, **Gary Wu**

– Science; Year 10 students **Isabella Henry** – English, **Chau Tran** – English, **Alex Zheng** – Science; Year 11 students **Harriet Keenan** – English, **Shan Yu Lim** – Mathematics, **Ethan Van Bruchem** – Mathematics, **Shen-Kit Hia** – Science; and Year 12 students **Sithum Somarathna** – Mathematics, **Lawrence Nheu** – Mathematics, **Keith Wong** – Mathematics and Science.

- **William Xu** and **Rishika Arora** both in Year 9 have been awarded scholarships for **The Santos Science Experience** by the Subiaco Rotary Club.
- A perfect score was achieved by **Anoushka Gupta** in Year 8 in the **Australian Maths Competition**.
- **Kshithij Chandrashekar** in Year 9 took out the **UN Voice Public Speaking Junior Championship** and **Rishika Arora** in Year 9 took out the **Senior Championship**—both will represent Western Australia in next year's Voice National Finals. **Mahek Aribenchi** in Year 9 was the Junior Runner-Up, and **Shermaine Chan** in Year 8 and **Andrew Gilleece** and **Mary McCusker** in Year 7 received highly commended awards by the judges.
- Several of our students were successful in the National History Award—**Freja Salt** in Year 10 was the WA and National winner of the 'Democracy Matters' category; **Oceana Oakley** in Year 7 was the WA winner of the 'Australian Wartime Experiences' category and **Andrew Gilleece, Jacob Heath** and **Nathan Luu** in Year 7 were



the WA winners of the 'Asia and Australia' category; **Dao Anh Le Ha** in Year 9 was the WA finalist in the 'Asia and Australia' category and **Neha Joshi** in Year 10 was the WA finalist in the 'Democracy Matters' category.

- **Atharva Sathe** in Year 9 has been selected as part of Australia's first ever **International Junior Science Olympiad** team to compete in the world's toughest science competition for junior high school students.
- **Geneve Kong** in Year 12 won the Senior Category division of the **Little Stories Big Ideas** competition.
- Year 12 students **Fatima Merchant** and **Stan Jolly** (Closing Government) were runner-up champions and **Ann Cao** and **Michelle Fernihough** (Opening Opposition) were named champions of the **British Parliamentary Debating Competition**. Michelle also received the best speaker award.
- **Nicholas Leendertse** and **Paxton Bennison** in Year 7 won the Tournament Champion award in the **Vex V5 Robotics Championships**. They also won the

Excellence Award and were the Skills Champions.

- **Joel Bariss, Atharva Sathe, John Peiris** and **Ethan Yap** came first in the **WA Junior Maths Olympiad**, with Ethan and Joel achieving perfect scores.
- **Anoushka Gupta** in Year 8 achieved a perfect score in the **Australian Maths Competition**, receiving the Cheryl Praeger Medal for most outstanding female in Year 8.
- **Joel Bariss** and **Atharva Sathe** achieved perfect scores in the **Australian Intermediate Maths Olympiad**.
- Year 10 student **Elizabeth (Chern Yue) Khor** won two first prizes in the **West Australian Pianists Competition (WAPC)**. She won first prize in the Open Solo Championship Recital and Age 18 and Under Recital section categories.
- Federal MP Celia Hammond read the speech written by Year 11 student **Anna Tokarev** in parliament that highlighted the importance of encouraging young girls to engage in STEM subjects. This was part of 'Youth Voice in Parliament Week.'
- **Lily Edgar** and **Hoang Trinh** in Year 12

have received **2021 Australian Olympic Change-Maker Awards**.

- **Luke Antenucci** in Year 7 has won the high school category of the **Bayswater Art Awards**.
- **Harrison Sartori** in Year 8 has been selected in the **WA State 16/U Beach Volleyball Squad**.
- **Jasmine Wu** in Year 8 has won the U13 and U15 Girls categories in the **WA State Table Tennis Open Championship**. She also won the Open Women's Doubles Gold and achieved third placed in the WA Open Women's Singles.
- **Liliana McGrath** in Year 8 was named the overall **State Champion** in the **U13 Girls Epee Division**.

Mitch Mackay, Principal



Vale John Duncan



John Duncan was a beloved teacher of Humanities and Social Sciences at Perth Modern School for almost 10 years. He was a specialist in Economics. He began his teaching career with the Department of Education in Dalwallinu in 1977, and made an invaluable contribution to secondary education through his role as a teacher and union representative in a range of sites, prior to his final appointment to Perth Modern School in 2012.

He played an important role working with the Schools' Curriculum and Standards Authority as a project officer for Professional Support and Examinations, as well as being involved in examination and marking panels.

John's relationship with students reflected his respect for young adults and their potential. He worked closely and effectively with a diverse range of students and was a keen advocate for students with special needs.

In sharing his passion for Economics and social justice, John encouraged the students to explore their intellectual interests and challenged them to critically evaluate everything they read



John Duncan with former Prime Minister of Australia and Modernian Bob Hawke.

and heard. This was always done whilst demonstrating kindness and care for the wellbeing of the students as individuals.

Mentoring and caring for staff was also a key aspect of John's career and demonstrated his genuine care for the wellbeing of his colleagues. He mentored many student teachers, graduates and teachers new to the staff. John's support of Economics teachers through the Economics Teachers' Association of Western Australia developed the talent of staff across all sectors. For this he was awarded Life Membership of ETAWA in recognition of his significant contribution to the Economics teaching community.

School Curriculum and Standards Authority Award Winners



Beazley medallist Lawrence Nheu is celebrated by some of his peers.

Lawrence scoops Beazley Medal: WACE

BETHANY HIATT, 'THE WEST AUSTRALIAN'

A Nintendo-loving teen from Perth Modern School has been named WA's best student.

Perth Modern's dux Lawrence Nheu has been awarded the coveted Beazley Medal for achieving the highest exam marks in the Australian Tertiary Rank Admission exams.

He won the State's most prestigious academic award after topping Year 12 results in two subjects—Economics and Physics—and picked up Subject Certificates of Excellence for Mathematics Specialist and Mathematics Methods.

Lawrence, who plans on following his older brother into medicine, also studied Chemistry and Literature.

Lawrence, who wore his Perth Modern leavers' jacket bearing the nickname 'Nheusance' on the back to the presentation ceremony at Government House, said perseverance was the key to acing exams.

'You have to do consistent study throughout the year,' he said. 'I think on weekdays I did about three hours a day and then the weekends I did about six.'

His tip for younger students was to start ramping up their study routine early.

'Start getting in more hours in Years 9 and 10,' he said. 'Once you get to Year 11 and 12, once you've already got that sort of schedule going for you it doesn't feel as bad because you've already worked up to it and you've got stamina.'

But it wasn't all study—on breaks he liked to play Super Smash Brothers on his Nintendo 64.

He is now tossing up whether to study medicine at the University of WA or interstate.

'I wouldn't want to go into surgery though, I'm a bit clumsy with my hands,' he laughed. 'I've got doctors' handwriting as well.'

His mother Jeannie said Lawrence was from an academic family. She went to university at the age of 14 in Adelaide and Lawrence's older brother Bertrand came fifth in the State two years ago.

'So Lawrence had a lot to live up to academically,' she said.

BEAZLEY MEDAL: WACE

The Beazley Medal is awarded to the student who achieves the highest exam marks in the Australian Tertiary Rank Admission exams.

Lawrence Nheu

99.95 CLUB

Congratulations to the following students who obtained a perfect ATAR OF 99.95:

Isaac Teo

Lawrence Nheu

Saad Shah

Ryan Jeong

Phillip Harvey

BELOW: High achievers Isaac Teo, Ryan Jeong, Lawrence Nheu, Phillip Harvey and Saad Shah attained ATARs of 99.95.

PHOTO BY SIMON SANTI, 'THE WEST AUSTRALIAN'.



99 CLUB

Congratulations to the following students who obtained an ATAR OF 99+ (this list does not include the students above who obtained 99.95)

Caleb Adams

Jade Alcock

Robert Beashel

Conor Bennett

Luke Bianchi

Ann Cao

Orson Chen

Elle Chentang

Bridie Dempster

Lily Edgar

Jordan Fisker

Allen Fu

Adam Giraudo

Luca Harrison

Dylan Harvey

Chathumi Hettiarachchi

Annabelle Heyworth

Loan Ho

Dinh Phuc Hoang

Guoyu Huang

Khang Huynh

Stanley Jolly

Utsav Kamal

Yunku Kang

Minjae Kim

Dhaarshna Krissnan Murithi

Imogen Lamb

Talisha Lee-Karuthiru

Erin Putri Leonardi

Zachary Loong

Keegan Loo

Anthony Luk

Ryan Lum

Christopher Manasseh

Adam McKenzie

Jing Heng Eddie Mei

Joseph Newman

Joshua Ong

Joel Peiris

Tommaso Puccini

Isindu Rajakaruna

Mariana Retamal Grandon

Carolyn Sam

Khushal Shah

Micah Sinclair

Henry Small

Sithum Somarathna

Arlyne Sony

Christopher Stuart

Isaac Tan

Haobing Tian

Kaitlyn Tjahyadi

Aaron Trawinski

Hoang Trinh

Charles Underwood

E Jen Wong

Keith Wong

Joshua Yang

Olivia Zhao



Students who achieved 99+ ATARS built good study habits.



GENERAL EXHIBITIONS

General Exhibitions are awarded to the 50 eligible students with the highest School Curriculum and Standards Authority WACE award scores based on the average of five scaled scores with at least two from each of the humanities/social science list and the mathematics/science list.

Lawrence Nheu
Keith Wong
Micah Sinclair
Elle Chentang
Saad Shah
Erin Putri Leonardi

Annabelle Heyworth
Talisha Lee-Karuthiru
Bridie Dempster
Dylan Harvey
Ryan Jeong
Caleb Adams

SUBJECT EXHIBITIONS

A Subject Exhibition is awarded to the top eligible student obtaining the highest combined mark in a WACE subject.

Shen-Kit Hia
Lawrence Nheu
Jessica Doan
Stanley Jolly
Keegan Loo
Chern Yue (Elizabeth) Khor
Dylan Harvey

Chemistry
Economics and Physics
Japanese: Second Language
Literature
Mathematics Methods
Music
Psychology



LEFT: Subject Exhibition winners Jessica Doan, Stanley Jolly, Keegan Loo, Dylan Harvey, Lawrence Nheu and Shen-Kit Hia.
ABSENT: Elizabeth Khor.

BELOW: Sixty-five students from the Class of 2021 achieved an ATAR rank of 99+.



SUBJECT CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

A Subject Certificate of Excellence is awarded to an eligible student who is in the top 0.5 percent of candidates in a WACE subject or the top two candidates (whichever is greater) in a WACE subject.

Biology	Amalina Gosper
Chemistry	Lucius Beh Shen-Kit Hia Gabriel Raharjo Sithum Somarathna Isaac Teo
Economics	Ann Cao Lawrence Nheu
English	Sophie Boyland Michelle Fernihough Loan Ho Stanley Jolly Stephanie Nichols Inbam Selvaganapathy Keith Wong Hilary Zhao
French: Second Language	Tommaso Puccini
Human Biology	Dylan Harvey
Italian: Second Language	Ruby Paterson (Year 11)
Japanese: Second Language	Jessica Doan Ryan Jeong
Literature	Stanley Jolly
Mathematics Applications	Adam Giraudo Emma Hillis
Mathematics Methods	Phillip Harvey Isaac Lee Keegan Loo Isindu Rajakaruna
Mathematics Specialist	Keegan Loo Lawrence Nheu
Music	Chern Yue (Elizabeth) Khor (Year 10)
Philosophy and Ethics	Luke Bianchi
Physics	Lawrence Nheu Saad Shah Isaac Teo
Politics and Law	Ann Cao
Psychology	Dylan Harvey



The Class of 2021 has produced some stellar results as a result of a lot of hard work...

Interim Principal Mitchell Mackay



CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTION

A Certificate of Distinction is awarded to each eligible student who, in their last three years of secondary WACE enrolment, achieved 190–200 points.

Caleb Adams	Keegan Loo
Jade Alcock	Zachary Loong
Nisani Alwis Wijesiri Gunawardhana	Anthony Luk
Robert Beashel	Christopher Manasseh
Rohan Berriman	Emily Mawle
Luke Bianchi	Adam McKenzie
Jessica Blakeley	Joseph Newman
Jack Blyth	Lawrence Nheu
Saiyatri Borude	Stephanie Nichols
Sophie Boyland	Darcy Oliver
Kelly Briggs	Conor O'Neill
Joel Brooker	Joshua Ong
Ann Cao	Mahi Patel
Victoria Chai	Joel Peiris
Orson Chen	Hannah Pemberton
Emily Cheng	Matthew Pfleger
Qinzhe (Elle) Chentang	Tommaso Puccini
Megan Chin	Isindu Rajakaruna
Pui Chee Chong	Mariana Retamal Grandon
Thomas Coates	Nina Angeli Roque
Jason Dean	Carolyn Sam
Bridie Dempster	Beau Scaddan
Kailai Dong	Isabella Setterfield
Lily Edgar	Khushal Shah
Jordan Fisker	Saad Shah
Allen Fu	Sara Shular
Adam Giraudo	Micah Sinclair
Wilson Ha	Henry Small
Luca Harrison	Sithum Somarathna
Dylan Harvey	Arlyne Sony
Phillip Harvey	Christopher Stuart
Bryn Hepworth	Andrea Tan
Chathumi Hettiarachchi	Samuel Tang
Annabelle Heyworth	Isaac Teo
Emma Hillis	Kaitlyn Tjahyadi
Loan Ho	Aaron Trawinski
Matthew Holmes	Hana Trinh
Guoyu Huang	Hoang Trinh
Ryan Jeong	Jasmine Trinh
Stanley Jolly	Stephanie Tsang Kwong Hong
Utsav Kamal	Phyu Tun
Yunku Kang	Charles Underwood
Sophie Kemp	Ethan Vong
Sophie Kirk	Hugo Watson
Geneve Kong	Zavier Wileman
Dhaarshna Krisshnan Murithi	E Jen Wong
Anuththara Kuruppu	Keith Wong
Imogen Lamb	Alliana Yang
Matilda Lane-Rose	Haoran Yang
Georgia Latawski	Joshua Yang
Talisha Lee-Karuthiru	Grace Zang
Erin Putri Leonardi	Olivia Zhao
Emily-Rose Lochore	

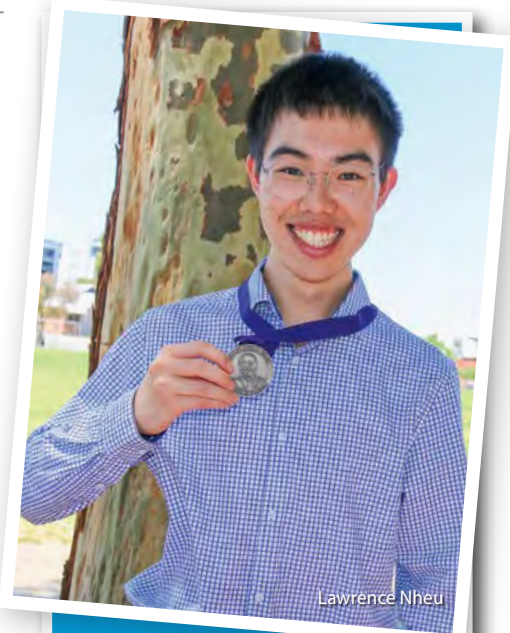
Lawrence says thanks for Beazley Medal success

Lawrence Nheu achieved the highest examination marks in the WACE exams and was awarded the Beazley Medal: WACE at a special ceremony at Government House.

'I would like to thank my parents, my brother Bertrand, all the dedicated teachers and staff at Mod and my wonderful cohort for their constant encouragement and clapping!' Lawrence said.

Lawrence's tips for WACE success:

- Less can be more! Accelerate one subject if possible and then do five (or at most, six) subjects in Year 12. Fewer subjects mean you will have more time to study each one thoroughly.
- Make the marking keys your best friends! Practise the past WACE papers under timed conditions and be painstaking in your marking.
- Year 12 is an avalanche and some rocks are bound to hit you! If you make dumb mistakes or run out of time (I've done both more than once), don't beat yourself up or obsess about it, just focus on the next assessment. Equally if you do brilliantly, don't be complacent, the next assessment is coming up!
- Stay focused, minimise distractions (like social media!) and use class time productively.



Lawrence Nheu



△ Kenny Huynh, Deputy Principal
Nicola Reilly and Keegan Loo.



△ The Class of 2021 achieved a median ATAR of 96.45, topping the state for the sixth consecutive year.



△ Many students formed study groups sharing resources and helping each other along.

▽ Students said being around like-minded peers helped them with their studies.

▽ Students were delighted to return to the school after finding out their results to congratulate one another.



Study tips from the top achievers

Quotes provided to 'The West Australian':

'Being surrounded by like-minded people in Year 11 and 12 to push you on.'

Phillip Harvey

'I didn't stick to a schedule because I felt like that added unnecessary stress.'

Saad Shah

'Take a day off once a week. You have to do what works for you.'

Ryan Jeong

'It's not really about being motivated all the time, it's about building good habits.'

Isaac Teo

'Aim to burn out by the end of the last exam, any earlier is a catastrophe—and any later means you haven't worked hard enough.'

Lawrence Nheu

2021 Presentation Awards



Presentation Awards are received at the Presentation Ceremony at the end of Year 12.

DUX OF PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Lawrence Nheu

RUNNER-UP DUX OF PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Dylan Harvey

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Ann Cao

Phillip Harvey

Ryan Jeong

Stanley Jolly

Saad Shah

Micah Sinclair

Sithum Somarathna

Keith Wong



Principal's Award for Academic Excellence: Saad Shah, Ryan Jeong, Stanley Jolly, Ann Cao, Phillip Harvey, Micah Sinclair, Sithum Somarathna and Keith Wong.

HOUSE AWARDS

Gold Badge

Ann Cao
Bridie Dempster
Jordan Fisker
Phillip Harvey
Matthew Holmes
Georgia Knights
Manudi Korallage
Zachary Loong
Isabella Setterfield
Hoang Trinh
Olivia Zhao

Gold Badge Previously Awarded

Caleb Adams
Joel Brooker
Arthur Caspelherr
Qinzhe (Elle) Chentang
Jason Dean
Angela Deng
Kailai Dong
Lily Edgar
Allen Fu
Dylan Harvey
Anthony Hicks
Loan Ho
Ryan Jeong
Sophie Kemp
Sophie Kirk
Carynne Koh
Anuththara Kuruppu
Erica Lee
Talisha Lee-Karuthiru
Erin Putri Leonardi

Annika Leunig
Nabila Leunig
Anthony Luk
Zoe Masson
Emily Mawle
Fatima Merchant
Joseph Newman
Lawrence Nheu
Joshua Ong
Tomasso Puccini
Carolyn Sam
Inbam Selvaganapathy
Khushal Shah
Micah Sinclair
Sithum Somarathna
Kaitlyn Tjahyadi
Aaron Trawinski
Hana Trinh
E Jen Wong
Keith Wong

Platinum Award

Arthur Caspelherr
Angela Deng
Ryan Jeong
Sophie Kemp
Annika Leunig
Micah Sinclair
Sithum Somarathna
Kaitlyn Tjahyadi
Keith Wong

Diamond Award

Kaitlyn Tjahyadi

SPHINX SOCIETY AWARDS

Six Semesters

Caleb Adams	Erin Putri Leonardi
Luke Bianchi	Conor O'Neill
Qinzhe (Elle) Chentang	Matthew Pfleger
Bridie Dempster	Carolyn Sam
Lily Edgar	Micah Sinclair
Allen Fu	Sithum Somarathna
Dylan Harvey	Arlyne Sony
Loan Ho	Aaron Trawinski
Ryan Jeong	Charles Underwood
Stanley Jolly	Zavier Wileman
Talisha Lee-Karuthiru	Keith Wong

YOUTH AMBASSADOR AWARDS

For those who have achieved 100+ hours of Community service

Jade Alcock	Erin Putri Leonardi
Leo Augustine	Zoe Masson
Emily Cheng	Grace Oakley
Angela Deng	Joel Peiris
Kailai Dong	Khushal Shah
Chathumi Hettiarachchi	Micah Sinclair
Manudi Koralage	Arlyne Sony
Carynne Koh	James Townshend
Hui En Claire Lee	Stephanie Tsang Kwong Hong

GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Caleb Adams	Anika Hird
Emily Cheng	James Townshend
Anthony Hicks	Hugo Watson

YEAR BOOK AWARD

Angela Deng

BETTY SAGAR SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Emily-Rose Lochore

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE LONG TAN LEADERSHIP & TEAMWORK AWARD

Caleb Adams

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE FUTURE INNOVATORS AWARD

Hoang Trinh

THE CLARE CASEY SERVICE AWARD

Kaitlyn Tjahyadi

THE AMPOL BEST ALL ROUNDER AWARD

Lily Edgar

SUBIACO SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

Jade Alcock

STAN PERRON AWARD (ROTARY AWARD)

Annika Leunig

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AWARD

Micah Sinclair



Mr Michael Dean presents the Betty Sagar Sustainability Award to Emily-Rose Lochore.



Dr Ken Michael presents the Clare Casey Service Award to Kaitlyn Tjahyadi.



△ David Forster from the WA Department of Education presents the Commitment to Excellence Award to Micah Sinclair.
 ▽ Mr David Musarra presents the Stan Perron Award (Rotary Award) to Annika Leunig.



LEADERSHIP TO SCHOOL AWARDS

Presented to Head Boy and Head Girl

Fatima Merchant
 Aaron Trawinski

And Presentation to Student Councillors

Dylan Harvey
 Annika Leunig
 Inbam Selvaganapathy
 Khushal Shah

Presented to the House Leaders

Brown: Yang An and Saiyatri Borude
 Downing: Tristian Chetty and Kaitlyn Tjahyadi
 Parsons: Hana Trinh and Hoang Trinh
 Sampson: Jessica Blakeley and Martin Evans



SUBJECT AWARDS

Arts and Technologies Awards

Computer Science	Robert Beashel
Design	Matilda Lane-Rose
Drama	Jessica Blakeley
Food Science and Technology	Bryn Hepworth
Visual Arts	Bridie Dempster

English Awards

Ella Mackay Award for English Literature	Stanley Jolly
	Stanley Jolly

Humanities and Social Science Awards

Accounting and Finance	Imogen Lamb
Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand Award for Most Outstanding Accounting and Finance student at Perth Modern School	Imogen Lamb
Barry Jones Award for Ancient History	Ann Cao
Economics	Lawrence Nheu
Mike McGinley Award for Modern History	Charles Underwood
Philosophy and Ethics	Luke Bianchi
Politics and Law	Ann Cao
Law Society of WA Politics and Law Certificate of Excellence for the top Politics and Law student at Perth Modern School	
	Ann Cao

Languages Awards

Chinese Background Language	Pui Chee Chong
Chinese (Second Language)	Tu (Jennifer) Le – Year 11
French (Second Language)	Fiara Augustin – Year 11
French (Second Language)	Stanley Jolly
Italian (Second Language)	Ruby Paterson – Year 11
Japanese (Second Language)	Jessica Doan – Year 11

Mathematics Awards

Mathematics Applications	Adam Giraudo
Mathematics Methods	Ryan Jeong
Mathematics Methods	Gabriel Raharjo – Year 11
Mathematics Methods	Joshua Soon – Year 11
Mathematics Methods	Andre Whitehead – Year 11
Mathematics Methods	Jake Wickham – Year 11
Mathematics Specialist	Lawrence Nheu

Music Awards

Music

Outstanding Instrumental Music Student

Dettman Music Scholarship

Irene Jolley Memorial Choral Award

John Peter Coles Memorial Award for Voice

William and Clarice Stabb Music Scholarship

Chern Yue (Elizabeth) Khor
– Year 10

Keith Wong

Joskun Arnold

Jason Dean

Shay Dowley

Sophie Kemp

Physical Education Awards

Physical Education Studies

Physical Education Studies

Sportsman of the Year

Sportswoman of the Year

Sports Citizen of the Year

Matthew Holmes

Lily Edgar

Hoang Trinh

Emily Mawle

Kaitlyn Tjahyadi

Lily Edgar

Science Awards

Biology

Chemistry

Engineering Studies

Human Biology

Physics

Psychology

“Engineers Australia” – Certificates for
Excellence in Engineering Studies

Sophie Kirk

Gabriel Raharjo – Year 11

Joseph Newman

Dylan Harvey

Lawrence Nheu

Dylan Harvey

Conor Bennett

Joseph Newman

Joel Peiris

“Engineers Australia” – Certificates for
Excellence in Science and Mathematics

Conor Bennett

Orson Chen

Qinzhe (Elle) Chentang

Kailai Dong

Phillip Harvey

Loan Ho

Dinh Phuc (Alan) Hoang

Ryan Jeong

Utsav Kamal

Yunku (Scott) Kang

Minjae Kim

Geneve Kong

Talisha Lee-Karuthiru

Keegan Loo

Zachary Loong

Ryan Lum

Christopher Manasseh

Jing Heng Eddie Mei

Joseph Newman

Lawrence Nheu

Joel Peiris

Isindu Rajakaruna

Saad Shah

Micah Sinclair

Sithum Somarathna

Isaac Tan

Isaac Teo

Aaron Trawinski

Keith Wong



△ Ms Philippa Roy presents the William and Clarice Stabb Music Scholarship to Sophie Kemp.

▽ Anne Coles and Steward Coles present the John Peter Coles Memorial Award for Voice to Shay Dowley.



▽ Ms Danae Brazier presents the Literature Award to Stanley Jolly.



Student accolades



Winners and finalists in the National History Challenge

The 2021 theme for the National History Challenge was *Significance: History Matters*. Congratulations to our students who went above and beyond the curriculum by submitting entries into the competition this year. Thousands of students across Australia from Years 1–12 participated and students from Perth Modern School were awarded prizes at both the State and national level.

Congratulations to Freja Salt in Year 10, who created a memory box titled 'The memories we won't have' that explored the significance of mass shootings in the USA and Australia and the issue of gun control. Freja's entry was a State and national winner in the Democracy Matters category.

Oceana Oakley in Year 7, was the WA winner in the 'Australian Wartime Experiences' category. Andrew Gilleece, Jacob Heath and Nathan Luu in Year 7 were WA winners in the 'Asia and Australia' category. Dao Anh Le Ha in Year 9 was a WA finalist in the 'Asia and Australia' category and Neha Joshi in Year 10 was a WA finalist in the 'Democracy Matters' category.

ABOVE LEFT: National History Challenge: Nathan Luu, Andrew Gilleece, Jacob Heath, Freja Salt, Dao Anh Le Ha, Oceana Oakley and Neha Joshi.

LEFT: Freja Salt's memory box.

Liliana is State U13 Girls Epee Fencing Champion

Liliana McGrath in Year 7 has been awarded overall State Champion in the U13 Girls Epee division at the Fencing WA Awards ceremony. This was an especially impressive achievement as she is still only 11 and this was her first year of competition.

Q&A with Liliana

What led to you taking up fencing?

I really liked swords so was excited when I found a sport where I could learn to use them properly. Once I started, I found out it was fun and I've made a lot of new friends, even if we have a healthy rivalry and like to stab each other.

What Club did you join?

Ellenbrook Fencing Club.

Are there a lot of rules you have to learn?

Yes, definitely! Most of the rules are about safety. It is a very technical sport, with specific footwork and safety gear.

How often do you train every week?

Twice per week—1.5 hours on Tuesday nights and 2 hours on Saturday mornings.

Would you recommend fencing to others your age, if yes, why?

I have recommended fencing to a lot of my friends and have even managed to get a couple of them to come to fencing with me. A lot of kids my age are into violent video games and I feel fencing is a much healthier way to channel those feelings and deal with emotions in a physical way.

What fencing goal are you currently aiming for?

Mostly I just go to have fun. At training, I would like to win consistently in my group as there are definitely a couple of other people I am trying to beat. In competitions it would be great to win the U13s again, but I will also be competing in U15s next year and it would be amazing to finish in the top five of that division.



Liliana McGrath

Little Stories Big Ideas: Geneve is a winner

Geneve Kong in Year 12 has won the Senior Category division of the Little Stories Big Ideas competition with her story, *Alien*.

Geneve Kong's *Alien* display image.



A table tennis winning streak for Jasmine

Our table tennis champ is at it again. Jasmine Wu in Year 8 was crowned State champion for both the under 13 and under 15 categories in the WA State Table Tennis Open Championships.

She also won the Open Women's doubles Gold and achieved third place in the WA Open Women's singles.

She has continued her winning streak with victory at the Kingsway Junior Cup this month, which is an annual state tournament for both boys and girls under 18 years old. Jasmine is the first female and youngest player to win the prestigious cup.

< Jasmine Wu

William and Rishika awarded Rotary scholarships to the Santos Science Experience

Rishika Arora and William Xu in Year 9 have received scholarships from the Subiaco Rotary Club for The Santos Science Experience.

The Santos Science Experience is a fun three or four days of science activities for Years 9 and 10 students. Each program is designed to provide students who have an interest in science with an opportunity to engage in a wide range of fascinating science activities under the guidance of scientists who love their work.

The program also provides information about further studies in science, technology and engineering. It highlights the wide range of careers that allow students to pursue their interest and abilities in the sciences.

After the experience, Rishika and William were invited to give a recap to Rotary.

Rishika Arora and William Xu.





Elizabeth wins two first prizes in top piano competition

During Term 4, Year 10 student Elizabeth (Chern Yue) Khor won two first prizes in the West Australian Pianists Competition (WAPC).

She won first prize in the Open Solo Championship Recital and Age 18 and Under Recital section categories. Additionally, Elizabeth is the WACE Award winner for Music, an incredible accolade for a Year 10 student.

< Elizabeth Khor



Luke brings home the Bayswater Art Award

Luke Antenucci in Year 7 is the award-winner of the high school category in the Bayswater Art Awards. Luke's entry was a copper plate etching and was his first ever etching. Even more impressive is that he taught himself the new skill of etching over the last school holidays.

Luke Antenucci >



Atharva to pit his science knowledge against world's best

Perth Modern School student Atharva Sathe has been selected as part of Australia's first ever International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO) team to compete in the world's toughest science competition for junior high school students.

The Year 9 student outperformed thousands of other students in qualifying exams and intensive training, all run remotely, to be selected in a team of six which included students from Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and Alstonville in NSW.

The training included five weeks of self-paced study, followed by an intensive training camp for a group of 24 students, who had been shortlisted based on their performance in the Junior Olympiad exam. They succeeded in learning a significant portion of Year 11 and Year 12 biology, chemistry and physics concepts in just one week.

Atharva said:

'It felt really exciting when I found out I had made the team; it was a great feeling after all the hard work I had put in over many months. It was also a relief.'



Atharva Sathe

'The process to make the team was intensive but incredibly rewarding, we put in a lot of work and learned a lot about science.'

'I enjoy everything about science, how everything fits together really nicely and how in science you always get an answer.'

Atharva said he had a lot of work coming up to prepare for the upcoming international Olympiad but said he enjoyed the 'rabbit holes' of learning about science topics.

'I would love to achieve an individual medal, a gold one in particular would be great and I hope the team can perform well for Australia,' he said.

The Australian participants will compete with other students from approximately 70 countries for gold, silver and bronze medals. The host is the United Arab Emirates with students competing remotely from their home countries.

Science explores beyond the classroom

Organic chemistry at Epichem

KATE HOLLAND, SCIENCE TEACHER

Specially elected students enjoyed a trip to Epichem to test their chemistry skills making the well-known medication, aspirin. Our foray into the world of organic chemistry in an industrial setting was an amazing experience.

The idea of conducting a practically applicable, industry-level experiment using disposable glass pipettes, a High Performing Liquid Chromatography machine and a magnetic stirrer still has its charms and signing three safety forms with our new Monty pens was the cherry on top.

Highlights of the day included Andre's attempt at pipetting into a tiny flask from five metres away, the collective use of around 25 gloves among six people and a failed vacuum filtration by the HR group providing much amusement.

We all learned a lot about the flexibility of the scientific method, discovering and making life-saving drugs from our hosts James and Mel.

Akaash Jarmale Arunkumar, Andre Whitehead, Gaius Gould, Raghav Ganapathy, Radinsa Dharmadasa, Huda Zaidi and Ms Kate Holland at the Epichem Centre in Bentley.



Energy Club WA Expo Day at ECU Joondalup

CHRIS RAPLEY AND BRODIE REID, SCIENCE TEACHERS



^ Katherine Martin, Jiaying Gu, Richard Wang, Jaslyn Fong, Jade Reid and Bahar Ravanbakhsh modelling the PPE ready to be deployed on an oil processing facility.



^ Henry Coates is in Virtual Reality mode checking out the simulated safety procedures on an oil platform.

✓ Students exploring the coding needed to control an autonomous vehicle deployed down well-heads or in subterranean or sub-sea operation.

Students from our Year 9 Science classes have been interacting with mentors from the Energy Industry in a series of school visits that highlighted the project life cycle of energy exploration as well as showcasing the diverse range of careers required to complete the project.

Industry mentors in diverse careers described to our students the varying disciplines needed to successfully complete major projects within the energy industry. Students were challenged to consider the impact on society of renewable energy developments, the future matrix of energy sources, how all the different energy sources work and the benefits of each energy source.

Students also had the opportunity to converse and interact with experts from the industry in a Q&A panel session to learn how they had progressed their learning and subsequent career journey within the energy industry. The mentors provided great insight into the diverse range of careers available, as well as the various paths taken to achieve them.

Representatives of our classes attended the Expo Day at ECU Joondalup where they experienced interactive displays, simulations and demonstrations that highlighted the application of their school learning in the everyday work-life of an employee in the energy industry. We are extremely appreciative of the enthusiasm and efforts of the ECWA, their sponsors, and the mentors for providing this enriching experience to our students.

✓ Science teachers Brodie Reid and Chris Rapley and the Year 9 students who represented Perth Modern School at the Energy Club WA Expo Day.



WA Junior Maths Olympiad win

MARK WHITE, HEAD OF MATHEMATICS



WA Junior Maths Olympiad

BACK ROW: Mr Isaac Kigodi, Micah Sinclair, Atharva Sathe, Ethan Yap, Dr Jack Bana, Joel Bariss, John Peiris and Mr Mark White. FRONT: Ms Lu Zhang and Max Judd.

In October we entered teams into the WA Junior Maths Olympiad held at UWA which is open to schools in all sectors. We won both the team and individual sections of the Olympiad, winning the Jack Bana Team award for winning first prize and also achieving a number of individual prizes. We were the only school to have students achieving a perfect score in the individual section.

First Prize team: Joel Bariss, Atharva Sathe, John Peiris and Ethan Yap.

Perfect scores: Ethan Yap and Joel Bariss.

Best performing Year 7 team: Rayden Oliveiro, Jayden Yip, Nivethiha Manoharan and Samuel Coulson.

Individual Merit awards: James Ji, Anoushka Gupta, Jayden Yip and Ishika Balram.

Special Maths Olympiad awards were given to Senior School students Micah Sinclair and Max Judd for their Gold results in the Australian Maths Olympiad earlier in the year.

Australian Maths Competition

We have also achieved fantastic results in the Australian Maths Competition. Perth Modern won 16 prizes, 118 High Distinctions, 314 Distinctions and 244 Credits. Anoushka Gupta achieved a perfect score winning the Cheryl Praeger medal for the most outstanding female applicant in Year 8. Our prize winners were Ethan Yap, Rayden Oliveiro, Caiyan Yu, Luke Antenucci, Ethan Trinh, Woo-Seok Jang, Ruhansi Abeywickrama, Liam Welfare, Atharva Sathe, Joel Bariss, Gary Wu, Max Judd, Shifan Ahmed, Rohan Sarda, Anoushka Gutpa and Micah Sinclair. To win a prize a student must score in the top 0.3 per cent of all participants.

Australian Intermediate Maths Olympiad

The Maths Department was delighted to find out that two of students—Joel Bariss and Atharva Sathe—achieved perfect scores in the Australian Intermediate Maths Olympiad. Our students also achieved two High Distinctions and four Distinctions.



Mr Glen McClelland, Ms Lu Zhang and Mr Khuan Chua have achieved Top 20 status on Mathspace.

In the top 20

Ms Lu Zhang from the Maths Department has been identified as one of the top 20 maths teachers using Mathspace in Australia. Well done to Ms Zhang.

Over the last three years, Perth Mod maths teachers have been listed in the national top 20 with Mr Khuan Chua in 2019 and Mr Glen McClelland in 2020. Students nominate teachers that have inspired them in their support and teaching of Mathematics.

HASS students shine in competitions

LOUISE SECKER, HEAD OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE



British Parliamentary Debating Competition

Three Perth Mod debating teams were involved in the British Parliamentary Debating Competition Grand final with one team in the Cygnet division and two in the Swans division.

The Cygnet team of Finn Bradfield and James Carroll in Year 8 debated well on the topic that 'This house would restrict screen time'.

The two Swan teams were part of the most engaging Swan Grand Final since the competition debuted, debating the topic that 'This house would abolish prisons.'

Year 12 students Fatima Merchant and Stan Jolly (Closing Government) were runner-up champions and Ann Cao and Michelle Fernihough (Opening Opposition) were named champions. Michelle also received the best speaker award.

Michelle Fernihough, Ann Cao, Stanley Jolly and Fatima Merchant.



2021 Voice Public Speaking Competition

2021 was another highly successful year for Perth Modern School in the UN Youth Voice Public Speaking Competition.

This year we had over 40 students represent the school in the Competition, with a record number of students progressing to the State Final.



Congratulations to Kshithij Chandrashekar in Year 8 who took out the Junior Championship and Rishika Arora in Year 9 who took out the Senior Championship—both will be invited to represent Western Australia in the 2022 Voice National Finals.

Mahek Aribenchi in Year 8 was the Junior Runner-Up, and Shermaine Chan in Year 8 and Andrew Gilleece and Mary McCusker in Year 7 received highly commended awards by the judges.

ABOVE: Kshithij Chandrashekar, Mary McCusker, Rishika Arora, Zara Nguyen, Shermaine Chan and Mahek Aribenchi.

Students presented speeches on topics such as improving Australia's educational standards, promoting reconciliation with Indigenous Australians, and improving healthcare access for people with disabilities.

Charity Day for MND WA



Student Councillors Rishita Sarkar and Emmanuel Foundas with Sarah Wilely from MND WA and Student Council Coordinator Alison Soraru.



A fun activity to end 2021 was our annual Charity Day with the beneficiary being MND WA (Motor Neurone Disease Association of WA).

The Charity Day stalls are run by students for the students, with an emphasis on finger licking delicious food and fun and inventive games and challenges that entice students to use their hard earned 'Charity Cash' dollars.

The 'ice bucket' challenge was a new activity for 2021, with brave students volunteering to be dumped with a bucket of icy water, all in the name of raising money for charity. Participating students agreed it was awesome to undertake the challenge on such a lovely, warm day!

The day ended with the Variety Concert, which provided Perth Modern performers the opportunity to shine on stage in an assortment of acts showing off their singing, dancing and comedy talents.

Charity Day coincided with Orientation Day for our incoming Year 7 students for 2022 who were able to join in the Charity Day events as their first official Perth Modern event.



Charity Day 2021 raised \$10,966 for MND WA.



Record turnouts for Perth Modecules talks

ORMONDE WATERS, PERTH MODECULES COORDINATOR

Attendance records were broken at the 2021 after-school science lecture series! Despite a hiatus in the middle of the year due to COVID, we had an average of 57 students staying back on Mondays to hear from researchers from a wide variety of scientific backgrounds, with 95 students filling the lecture theatre for one presentation—a new record!

Dr Jemma Berry presented to our students on forensic science and epigenetics, Dr Aaron Cavosie on planetary geology, Professor Jingbo Wang on quantum computing, Assoc. Prof. Debbie Silvester-Dean on ionic sensing, Dr Ramesh Bhat on pulsars and fast transients, and Associate Professor Cathryn Trott gave a lecture on the hunt for the first stars.

As always, our speakers were very impressed by the behaviour and level of questions they received from the students. Our sincere gratitude to all of the presenters who gave so generously of their time.



^ The Perth Molecules Lecture series was really popular in 2021.

Remembrance Day

Perth Modern School raised the Australian flag for Remembrance Day. Every year, we remember those brave souls who gave their lives so we may live ours. Lest we forget.

The raising of the flag outside the Beasley Building.



Dancing up a storm to end the year

Students enjoyed a final end-of-year dance concert to showcase their ever-growing dance skills to parents and other guests. Putting on a full show for the first time in the Cyril Tyler Auditorium was a great experience for dance students and Dancing teacher, Melanie Wilcock.

RIGHT FROM TOP: Luvenia Yeo, Liliana McGrath and Kira Annells; and Elaina Roy and Sophie Nham.



Joshua Vong, Oliver Nguyen, Hank Zhang, Moosa Kazim (front), Jaze Rayner and Aarnav Negi.



Sylvia Lach and Ava van Dommelen.



Year 10 Focus Day

Students in Year 10 enjoyed a Focus Day to help them set their mind on their academic and personal goals for Years 11 and 12. Students engaged in wellness and team building activities and also enjoyed tours to Curtin University and UWA.

FROM TOP LEFT: Angelica Kinney and Amelia Waldron at Curtin University. Wil Filmer, Ian Lewis, Shifan Ahmed, Chelsea Lee and Charlotte Rasto. Christina Barnes and Sachi Elliot. Anna Burbidge and Andrei Manescu.



Robotics a rewarding pastime

Robotics continues to be an area of interest for many Perth Modern School students and we have participated in the Robocup Junior competition and First Lego League with great success. It is fabulous to see so many girls getting involved!

Two teams of Perth Modern students from Years 7 and 8 recently competed in the First Lego League regional round, taking out first and second, earning both teams a place in the national competition. Both teams say they have learnt loads through the process and are looking forward to competing at the national championships against the very best.

Anna Pedersen, Year 11

LEFT FROM TOP: Winners are grinners: Perth Modern School students took out first and second places in the First Lego League regional round; and Anna Pedersen and Parmis Delavarpour working on the Lego robots.

2021 Pin and Presentation Ceremonies

An important tradition at Perth Modern School are the Pin and Presentation ceremonies for incoming and leaving students.



ABOVE: Incoming students enjoying refreshments after the ceremony.

LEFT: Brodie Reid, Huda Zaidi, Monica Franz and Dean Winarto were pivotal to the success of the Presentation Ceremony, organising all the awards backstage; and Tiesha Arfah and Vivian Wang volunteered to help with refreshments.

RIGHT: Sophie Kemp with her proud parents at the Presentation Ceremony.





Student Councillors Aidan Jang and Sean Norman and Deputy Chair of the School Board and President of the Sphinx Foundation, Peter Farr.



Student Councillors Ellie Malonzo, Mary McCusker, Shermaine Chan and Meena Srinivasan bring the food over for service.

2021 Volunteers Morning Tea

Staff and volunteers enjoyed catching up and mingling at the 2021 Volunteers Morning Tea. Delicious finger food was prepared by Food Technology and Science teachers and students and Student Councillors helped with the service.

Perth Modern School is very grateful to be supported by many volunteers who give their time and energy to the school in a myriad of ways to benefit the students and help create a wonderful, vibrant school community.

Perth Modern School staff and volunteers mingle at the morning tea.



Staff night out at lawn bowls

Staff had a special Friday night out playing lawn bowls. It was a beautiful balmy night with some amazing skills on display. Even the staff who had not played lawn bowls enjoyed the activity—with many comments from staff about how they plan to take up the sport in their retirement.



ABOVE: Aaron Bell, Mark Temov and Jan Sondo-Sorenson unwind after a busy teaching week at Mod.



FROM TOP: Scott Marshall, Sarah Lightfoot, Alice Pearce and Brodie Reid; and Mel Wilcock in action.

House Day: Sampson wins 2021 House Trophy

Well, that's a wrap for another year. Students in Years 7–10 enjoyed a day of fun House activities including paper plane throwing competitions, Lego making, fashion designing using newspaper and sports themed games.

At the final assembly for 2021, Sampson was named the overall winning House for the year... again! Well done Sampson, enjoy the win and Parsons, Brown and Downing best get your act together for 2022! Sampson is ready for some serious competition.

> House Leader Francesca Candaten with House Representatives for Sampson Harrison Sartori, Ananya Sachidanandan, Jasmine Whitely, Joel Bariss and Jaun Yum.



Languages students keep busy out and about



Year 10 Chinese Food and Culture excursion

FEI FEI LAN, YEAR 10

It was hard to ignore the presence of the Year 10 Chinese language students when we visited Juicy Bao Bao! We crowded the tables, making an order of almost every dish on offer, ranging from dumplings to noodles. Everyone swept the food from their bowls, and we almost became dumplings ourselves.

Afterwards we made a visit to Presotea where we challenged the craftsmanship of a single bubble tea worker to supply 20 bubble teas! For some of us, we were brought back to the joys of our childhoods when we walked through the aisles of VHT Perth, buying snacks and discovering the location of the infamous Lao Gan Ma.

RIGHT: Year 10 students enjoying their Chinese Food and Culture excursion.

BELOW: Students exploring the VHT supermarket.



Year 11 Chinese Food and Culture excursion

NYAH GRAY AND STELLA MORGAN, YEAR 11

Spicy food and a typical Perth heatwave saw the Year 11 students dining at Chilli Panda in Northbridge. There we tried foods from around China including the Hunan province. Following bubble tea at Teamorrow, we went to Ms Liu's supermarket of choice, VHT Perth, to browse and test our language skills.

We were all sweating, both from the spicy food and the heat. On the way back to school, we were all so full and collapsed on the CAT bus. It was truly an excursion to remember, and we were very grateful for the opportunity.

< Year 11 Chinese Language students dining at Chilli Panda.

Hyogo Prefectural Cultural Centre

HENRY BUI AND ANTHONY DU, YEAR 9

'Amazing' would be the one word to describe the Hyogo Prefectural Cultural Centre where students learnt about Japanese food culture. We were given a short presentation about bento meals, which anyone can eat at any time of the day, before we chose our groups based on the five ingredients of a typical bento.

After a few activities, the most anticipated activity arrived—eating! Saliva was practically dripping out of our mouths as we all utilised our prior learning of the Japanese language to order a bento, which was 'very good'.

We wrapped up our excursion by designing our own bento, making sure that it was nutritionally balanced, delicious, and most importantly, made with love. Once made, we needed to advertise it to the judges. Some students choreographed a unique dance, exclaiming 'irasshaimase', welcoming the judges to their 'stalls'. The winning group managed to get all the judges' votes, winning a stuffed toy phoenix which is the mascot of Hyogo, Japan and a Japanese display folder. Congratulations to them!

In the end we returned to school, content. Moral of the trip? Japanese food is brilliant! Thanks to all the staff who organised this event.



Hannah Jia, Elizabeth Lu, Jasper Kennea, Nicholas Lai, Kah Whye Chong and Tedd Lei.



Andy Shi, Janaiah Misamen, Aurora Kristianto, Henry Bui and Anthony Du.



Students on their visit with Nicolò Constantini, the Italian Consul of Perth.

A visit to the Italian Consul

RHEANNON LAZAR, YEAR 11

Meeting Nicolò Constantini, the Italian Consul of Perth, was the highlight of the Year 11 Italian class visit to the Consul. We were delighted to meet with an official Italian diplomat, who explained to us the role of the consulate.

Considering the Youth Climate Summit in Milan, and our interest in environmental issues, we discussed issues including pollution, as well as the steps that Italy has taken to mitigate its carbon footprint. Overall, it was an extremely engaging and worthwhile experience.

Italian Immigrant Community excursion

VYOM PATOLYA, YEAR 11

A revelation made by the Year 12 students that Perth's short history has been influenced by the Italian immigrant community over time. Students visited La Delizia Latticini, where we experienced the authentic Italian cheese-making process and were given a few delicious samples to taste, and the general sentiment being that they would never eat supermarket cheese again! Then over to Pietro's Gelateria to indulge in some mouth-watering gelato.

By lunchtime, students travelled to Italian stores in the city and stopped for gourmet pizza by the slice. We then walked along a few streets to arrive at the Re family supermarket and café, where we could find many Italian snacks, items, and appliances.

Afterwards, we travelled to the National Archives to perform research on the Re family and other influential Italian immigrant families, where we were greeted by wonderful staff and guided through almost 100-year-old records of Italian immigration. We thoroughly enjoyed our journey through Perth's rich Italian heritage.

Darcey Weber, Harriet Keenan and Germaine Phoon learning from a representative of the National Archives.

Esteban Bravo and Vyom Patoliya enjoy a gelato.



Italian Film Festival

ISHIKA BALRAM AND
YASMINA CAVOSIE-PIETSCH, YEAR 8

Fluent Italian, our Year 8 students have it covered. After almost a year of learning Italian we were off to Palace Cinemas to watch an Italian movie, *Glassboy*. Many of us anxiously asked Ms De Gregoriis whether there were going to be subtitles, and to our relief there was. We had learned a lot of Italian this year, but we weren't sure we would be able to follow the nuanced and fast paced vocabulary in a film.

Once we had received our tickets there was a stampede to reach the candy bar and buy as much food as we could carry. There were many other schools who were also here to see the film. We seated ourselves comfortably in our luxurious reclining seats and eagerly waited for the film to start.

It was a touching tale about a boy called Pino who wishes for a freer life filled with courage and excitement but suffers from haemophilia and is forced to stay at home to be safe. The movie follows Pino and his friend as he goes on an unforgettable, life-changing adventure. It was fair to say that our eyes were glued to the screen the whole time, excitedly anticipating each turn of events.



Jett Patterson, Seth Shaw, Elijah Swartzentruber and Lewis Giles.

Sushi making a delicious classroom treat

VENUJA SILVA AND RAINIER WU, YEAR 11

During our Japanese double lessons, Chionh Sensei organised the opportunity for us to make our own sushi. Before we made the sushi, we watched a documentary and learnt about the many types of sushi in Japan. The different kinds of sushi are makizushi (which was what we made), nigirizushi and chirashizushi. Makizushi is the type of sushi popular in Australia, with seaweed wrapped around rice with various fillings inside.

We worked in groups to create the sushi, putting the rice and the fillings on the seaweed before wrapping it up tightly and cutting it. The best part about the experience was being able to see the process of making it and the sushi was also quite tasty.

A huge thanks to the assistant teachers Satomi Sensei and Tomomi Sensei who helped us.

Inaugural Year 9 Rottnest Camp

LEXIE KENT, YEAR 9



↓

The Year 9 Camp to Rottnest was a fantastic experience, with everything from stargazing on night walks to practically flying on the adventure boats. The island's scenery was beautiful, with the lush bush and the clear blue waters. Apart from our excessive trips to the store, it was a relaxing time just hanging out and lounging on beaches.

We did everything from chasing rays while snorkelling, finding little islands on the beach, and chasing snack-stealing quokkas out of our tents. It was awesome that we got to welcome the students new to our year group on camp too. Overall, it was a well-needed break for most of our cohort, an amazing time filled with friends, fun and marvellous memories!

On behalf of the Year 9 students who attended, I'd just like to thank our Head of Year, Mr O'Loughlin, and all the staff and parents that made this possible.

^ Adventure boat fun!

✓ Students rode their bikes around the Island; and Mr Scott Marshall enjoying the delicious café food.



^ Walking to the lighthouse.

> School Chaplain Ms Natalie Fergusson makes a quokka friend.

✓ Divyansh Gaur, Zhimin Liu, Timmur Seyyar, Aidan Nguyen, Matthew Chin, Yashdeep Banwala, Savraj Sandhu and Daniel von Perger.





^ Omal Deeyagaha Waduge attempts a quokka selfie.

√ Sandra Joseph, Joshua Nguyen, Elizabeth Lu, Mai Lan Hoang and Angela Lodis.



√ Swara Mali and Nadita Ashok.



Ayesha Chopra, Claire den Hollander and Sophie Harris.



Visual Art @ Rottnest

RIAN WOODARD AND HANNAH SYMONS, YEAR 9

The art activity that some of us did at the Rottnest Camp was really fun! We spent most of our time at the Basin, which had a lovely view of the ocean. Truly, it was a magnificent view.

We did a lot of art, as you would probably expect. We even had two quokkas who joined in with our activities, whom we named 'Dennis the Menace' and 'Quentin'. Dennis, as you can expect, was a menace. He tried to eat the hot chips and the oil pastels (keyword: tried, he didn't get any). Quentin was a nice little guy, never causing any issues, apart from when he tried to get into people's backpacks for food. We ended up using him as a model for drawings, and he fitted in very well!

Ms Chin was very cool to hang around, and she let us dip our feet in the water on the shore. Her demonstrations for our activities were really good, and thanks to her we had a wonderful time.

Overall, it was a great trip. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen. We really appreciate all of your hard work. Special thanks to Mr. O'Loughlin for organising this great camp!

Ms Katie Chin does a quokka selfie.



ABOVE: Students making friends with a quokka.

LEFT: Jaslyn Fong and Parvati Dinesh.

BELOW LEFT: Verity Hughes.

BELOW: Visual Art activity students enjoying the view.



Year 9 students discover crystal clear waters at Ningaloo

DR ORMONDE WATERS, TOUR LEADER

↓

Fifty Year 9 students enjoyed near-perfect weather conditions at our annual Marine Studies/SCUBA Camp to Ningaloo Reef Marine Park in October.

The only hiccup on the way up was that the 440 Roadhouse in Geraldton was completely closed due to being refurbished. The rather smaller roadhouse in Northampton—which is still showing the damage of Cyclone Seroja from April—enjoyed a large boost to their business for the day from 50 hungry students.

Once we arrived, we marvelled at the crystal-clear water along with skies in Coral Bay, which made snorkelling visibility fabulous. There seemed to be turtles everywhere we looked, along with octopus, rays, sharks, fish, and, dare I say it, coral. The SCUBA students were a bit chilled by the wind on the first day but proved very resilient. The instructors enjoyed what appears to be a new tradition of SCUBA students singing the school song while doing their five minutes of treading water!

We ended up with another batch of students completing their PADI Open Water Diver certificate. The evenings were filled with activities including Dr Frazer McGregor's annual talk about the ecology of Ningaloo Reef with a focus on Manta Rays.

Sarah Eve led the early morning Yoga sessions and organised a large canvas for students to artfully re-create the biodiversity of Coral Bay. This sensational artwork is now gracing the upper level of Andrews building. Many thanks to the teachers who helped to make this such a memorable trip—Sarah Eve, Kate Holland and Brodie Reid, and also to Kane and all the staff at Coral Bay for keeping everyone well fed, active and safe.





FROM TOP: Students working on the Coral Bay biodiversity mural; and the finished mural.



Concerts provide wonderful performance opportunities

PHILIPPA ROY, HEAD OF MUSIC



What a wonderful and busy Term 4 we had, with a variety of performance opportunities for instrumental students and ensembles.

We started the term with our newly auditioned bands and orchestras for 2022.

The Summer Concert featured both the Year 7 choirs, Year 7 Guitar Ensemble, Junior Contemporary Ensemble, Junior Percussion Ensemble, Year 8 Choir and Ripieno. What a wonderful way to finish the year and a great opportunity for the students to watch each other in performance.



Year 7 Guitar Ensemble.
Ripieno.



Year 7 Choir.



Year 7 Choir.





The senior students concluded their year with a performance as part of the Christmas Concert.

The Contemporary and Jazz Bands performed for the public on the concourse and in Parsons, with Symphony Orchestra, Senior Wind Orchestra and Chorale performing in the Cyril Tyler Auditorium, with some audience involvement!



Symphony Orchestra with soloist Isaac Lee.



Chorale.



Senior Wind Orchestra with soloist Tae Geddes.



Symphony Orchestra.



Senior Wind Orchestra.



The newly formed Middle Years ensembles for 2022 came together to perform for each other at the end of the year as an open rehearsal. This featured Wind Band 3, Sinfonia, Wind Band 2 and Concertino.

FROM TOP: Wind Band 3, Wind Band 2 and Sinfonia.



This year was marked by the student's eagerness to perform for others in the community.

The Music Advocacy in Term 4 performed at Royal Perth Hospital and as part of the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Central Office, and Wind Quintet performed carols for the public. All the students are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Wind Quintet.



A brilliant Year 11 Design Camp

FIARA AUGUSTIN, YEAR 11



As our time as Year 11's dissipated in the rear-view mirror, Design ATAR students heralded this final era of our high school years with a brilliant five-day camp down south. Though meant to be an educational journey, the trip was also a remarkable series of gustatory experiences, meetings with countless canine friends, and frankly, lots of rocks.

First up was a visit to Christian Fletcher's gallery which stoked inspiration in many. His anecdotes allowed us to glean how his passion for the environment and photography as an art form manifests stunningly in his spectacular mastery of his craft. A tour of Cape Naturaliste offered us both picturesque views and fascinating insight into the minutiae of everyday life for European settlers, and a tour of Cape Mentelle winery presented us with a glimpse into the world of wine-making.

The breathtaking land formations that we photographed were awe-inspiring

sights, be it the ebbing and flowing tide at Honeycombs Beach or the phenomenal scene of Sugarloaf Rock cloaked in the low-hanging light of the sunrise. It was a stellar opportunity to reimagine the region from alternate angles and novel heights as we experimented with aerial drone photography and the vast collection of photography equipment.

We fine-tuned our restaurant etiquette at a plethora of lovely cafés and dining spots scattered throughout the locality. From breakfast bites at the beachfront White Elephant Café or the charming Meelup



LEFT: Visiting Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse.

ABOVE FROM TOP: Flying drones at Conto's; and students having breakfast after an early morning photoshoot.

Farmhouse to delicious dinner and lunch venues including Occy's and Caves House, the food never disappointed.

Many thanks to teachers Mark Temov and Melanie Wilcock for their leadership, organisation, tolerance, and patience. With wholehearted certainty, we had an absolute blast, parting ways with an abundance of gratitude, a compilation of cherished memories, and naturally, masses of Christian Fletcher merchandise.

BELOW FROM LEFT: Dusk photoshoot at Wyadup Rocks; and early morning at Sugarloaf Rock.



GT Online: A sense of community is key

SARAH MIRCO, GT ONLINE PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Thanks to the use of innovative technology, regional students can access the Gifted and Talented Selective Academic Program Online (GT Online) from their home school. The program for Years 7–10 students delivers differentiated curriculum within an online learning community of like-minded peers who enjoy being challenged and connecting with each other.

Building community is an important part of the GT Online Program's success. Along with regular communication between the student, parent, home school and GT Online Coordinator, students travel to Perth twice a year to participate in two activity filled camps that offer:

- enrichment and extension activities, and practical based core curriculum tasks
- opportunities to build social connection among students and promote positive interaction with like-minded peers
- positive teacher-student interactions; maximising educational outcomes of participation in the program.

The most recent camp was held at Point Peron Camp School in November and included two days of workshops at Perth Modern School. The 92 students who attended live in a range of locations, from Christmas Island to Cape Naturaliste, Kununurra to Katanning, and Exmouth to Esperance.



Below is a brief recount from Year 9 student Sarah Lines from Narembeen District High School.

'To anyone who is unfamiliar with the camp experience, it is a sensational week. The family you find is truly exceptional, and I for one know we have all made bonds for life. Everyone is so welcoming and there is something and someone for everyone. Camps lay the foundation for a certain type of chemistry unachievable anywhere else. The teachers, facilities and activities are all amazing and make for a great week away.

To start the week, we had team games and icebreakers which rekindled past relationships and helped build new ones between current and future students, followed by a fun games night.

On Tuesday, there was a focus on Maths and English studies, which included fascinating workshops run by Bell Shakespeare and poet Carol Millner. On Tuesday night, fire alarms rang, and we were all sent to the oval. The phrase 'building character' was thrown around a lot! Wednesday held a trip to beautiful Penguin Island, followed by some free time, yoga and mindfulness.

On Thursday, HASS exams and science experiments were sat before heading to Siena's restaurant for a graduation dinner. The history and atmosphere of Beazley Hall provided the venue for a celebratory GT Online graduation ceremony on Thursday evening.

On a personal note, whether it was playing cricket with play doh or simply travelling on a bus; every moment on camp was fun. Despite the intense scheduling, you can never truly anticipate what your day will hold.

Camp was the best.'



GT Online

Connecting bright minds across WA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The GT Online website
gtonline.wa.edu.au
provides information and updates
about this program.

Parents of students with exceptional academic potential in regional areas are encouraged to consider the opportunity of applying.

Promotional material is available in schools, informing parents of the need to lodge an application when their child is nearing the end of Year 5 for entry into Year 7 in 2023. Students entering Years 9, 10 and 11 in 2023 are also able to apply.

All applications are online, and students are not required to travel to Perth for testing as they will be allocated a testing venue within their education region.

Year 8 Camp lives up to expectations

SOPHIE NHAM, YEAR 8



For our first ever Perth Modern camp, and some people's first camp ever, Year 8 Camp definitely lived up to our expectations. From the incredibly early mornings to the late nights that blended back into mornings, almost every second was packed with fun, excitement and laughter.

It barely felt real as we shoved our overpacked bags into the buses and found seats for the journey there, and waved goodbye to our slightly concerned parents. But as we arrived at Swan Valley Adventure Centre, reality set in. We were finally on camp.

After a quick assembly and snack, we began our first activities. These included riding the 100-metre-long flying fox, playing a round of frisbee golf, and relaxing in the Chaplain's Circle. Over the day, we familiarised ourselves with the grounds, dorms, and incredibly large servings of chips at lunch, all while hanging out with our friends and not having to do trigonometry. Soon enough, it was time for a highlight of camp, the disco. Led by DJ Nas, we danced all night to the likes of Carly Rae Jepsen, Drake, and more. A special mention goes out to Ms Rimando for doing a handstand and a bunch of boys for dressing up as tradies.

The next day started bright and early for most, with far too many 5.30am showers and games for our already tired dorm teachers. The focus of the day was on working together, so, after a quick breakfast, we split into groups to complete a variety of team building challenges designed to improve our communication and collaboration skills. Completing these challenges earned us building materials, which

were used in the final catapult building competition. We had to build a catapult from scratch, with the aim to launch an egg the furthest. Some eggs soared well over thirty metres, but most cracked under the pressure and could not get their eggs to fly further than 30 centimetres. Along with this, many groups tried the army-style commando course, which very quickly turned into a massive sponge fight. Then, severely tired, we changed into our comfiest pyjamas, or matching onesies, and laughed as the fantastical escapades of Ferris Bueller and his friends played out on the big screen.

Before long, we had reached the final day of camp. The morning was a hive of activity, as we rushed to find and pack up all the items that we had only unpacked two short days ago. Soon, everything was packed, and the dorms almost seemed as if we had never been there in the first place. After a quick breakfast, we began the last activities at camp. For many groups, this involved trekking down to the nearby Swan River and either building a raft or going on a canoe ride. While some were successful and stayed dry, quite a few students, and even some teachers, managed to add an unexpected swim to the itinerary as well. Soon after, we shoved our luggage into the ridiculously small cargo holds, boarded the buses, and waved goodbye to Swan Valley Adventure Centre.

For our first and last ever whole year group camp, Year 8 camp could not have been much better. From the activities to the dorms, to the excessive number of cookies, it was an experience we will all remember, and we all can't wait for Year 9 and beyond.



Year 7 students enjoy sailing on the Swan



A wonderful evening was had by all students and staff in attendance at the Year 7 River cruise on the Swan. It was a fantastic way to end the year, with students having fun unwinding with their peers as they danced away to some classic and modern tunes.

ABOVE FROM LEFT: Arielle Ang, Screenidhi Vaidhyanathan, Emily Gan and Nivethiha Manoharan; Astha Patel, Yujin Kim and Avani Rooprai.

RIGHT: Emily Liu, Dory Chen, Kavinima Mallawa Thantrige, Zara Nguyen and Yiraan Ge.

BELOW FROM LEFT: Fareen Raina, Joey Yuan and Kira Annells; Jenny Wang, Diya Abhilash and Manik Baddeliyange Don.



ABOVE FROM LEFT: Eric Cao; Isla Durbin, Levi Kichin and Anushka Suraj; Jet Lee, Junehee Lee, Toby Nham, Thanos Limnio and Eric Cao.

RIGHT: Raff Kusumo, Kiefer Yuen and Ky-An Tran.

BELOW: Jencie Wan, Lila Sims, Izabel Tolhurst and Katrina Yang.



ABOVE: Staff members Aaron Bell, Ormonde Waters, Richard Herrmann, Sarah Eve and Phoebe Grech.

LEFT: Susanna von Perger, Senara Galhenage, Stella Anthony and Hannah Shaddick.

Girl Who Cried Wolf: a student-centred production

WESLEY SIMKIN, DIRECTOR



In a dark, dark world, there are dark, dark, secrets. The most popular girl in Pleasant Lakes has disappeared, leaving fear and hysteria in her wake. The key to her whereabouts lies in a lonely young poet, an outsider to this soporific suburb. This suburban fairy-tale takes a darkly humorous look at love, loneliness, lies, and the power of human connection, in a coming-of-age story inspired by media reports surrounding a girl who faked her own abduction. Set against a claustrophobic housing estate, our characters live, laugh, love, and lie as the rain uncovers secrets they hoped would never surface.

During our first reading of Angel Betzien's *Girl Who Cried Wolf*, students offered invaluable insights into lies and deception and the impact this has on their own lives and relationships. These discussions informed our rehearsal processes with auditions soon being held and students allocated performance and production roles. Everything about this performance was student-driven, including the set design, sound, lighting, costuming and marketing materials.

Over a couple of months, the Year 11 Drama students worked tirelessly to bring this quintessentially Australian play to an audience. Not only did they oversee the performance side of this production, but they have also established their own directorial vision and worked together to execute a range of design and marketing roles. This was entirely their work. I am so proud of how far these young people have come and was so excited to share their efforts. It was a true team effort!

The cast of
Girl Who Cried Wolf.



Arthur Brown



Daniel Brown and
Arshad Sami Wibawa-Barranco.



Natasha Robinson and Lana Jordan.



ABOVE FROM LEFT: Stirling Wittber and Charley Vukojevich; Ida Saeidi and Emanuel Foundas; Tae Geddes; and Toby Murday and Oliver Wakely.

FROM LEFT: Oscar Gates, Carmea Visser and Emanuel Foundas; Yin-Wen Lim and Lana Jordan.



ELLA MCNEILL

PMS student 2002–2006

Singer Ella Therese on making music, backing herself and why a song can change the world

KATHERINE FLEMING, STM MAGAZINE

Looking at Ella McNeill now, it is hard to imagine this vibrant, confident singer only plucked up the courage to perform five years ago.

But even though McNeill, who performs as Ella Therese, has always backed herself in just about every other aspect of her life, for a long time, singing in public was the one thing she couldn't bring herself to do.

She loved music: she went to a music high school in Perth Modern, but didn't study it, then to the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts to do arts management, which became her career. In her spare time, she was in her room, playing guitar and singing only to herself.

'I was surrounded by people doing music, but I was doing it privately, thinking, 'They're good, though, and I'm not good';' she remembers.

But then, in her late 20s, McNeill had an epiphany: life is too short to care what people will think. She sang first to her friends, then she did some covers at an open mic night. Her father heard her sing for the first time at his 60th birthday.

Now, with two singles in 12 months, a music video, numerous gigs under her belt and an EP in the works, the genie is well and truly out of the bottle. 'It's just been so nice to finally find my voice in these past five years,' she says.

Ironically, McNeill says, being immersed in the arts world likely contributed to her reluctance to take the leap. She's worked for Perth Festival and the WA Youth Jazz Orchestra, among others, and has done a six-month internship with the Lincoln Centre for Performing Arts in New York, before moving to Sydney and Melbourne.

'When I found arts management, I thought, 'I can still work in the industry and be around all these creatives and just facilitate their professional art';' she says.

'But it was like, they had made it and I was still just playing songs in my room. It's been interesting to reflect on that, as I've gotten

older, and why I didn't put myself out there, because it was the industry I worked in.'

At 23, while living in Melbourne, McNeill got a major break when she was appointed to run a human rights art and film festival.

'That was a big deal because I do think arts can change the world. All the things that changed me, all those songs that made me care about the world, I loved seeing that in film,' says McNeill, who has three 'super inspiring' sisters, including well-known journalist and human rights advocate Sophie McNeill.

It was towards the end of that period that McNeill felt herself change, too.

'I was surrounded by people and friends who were just giving things a crack. And usually, I love to put myself in uncomfortable situations. I'm so good at backing myself and just thinking, 'I'll work it out'. But not with music,' she says.

'I just started singing for fun. I went to a singing teacher for the first time ever and she was just really encouraging. She said, 'you have this really great range, you should definitely pursue this'. And that was actually all I really needed.'

But if she was going to do it, she was going to do it right. McNeill applied to do a diploma of classical voice at her old stomping ground at WAAPA, where she had watched others perform from the sidelines all those years ago.

'I love that when you put something out into the world, it happens. So, I thought, I am doing a course in this, I have to tell everyone I'm singing ... and that was a big leap for me,' she says.

She was accepted, moved home to Perth and threw herself into the unfamiliar world of classical singing. McNeill jokes that she was the oldest in her class by far— 'late to the party and trying to catch up', she laughs—but was fascinated with the rigorous training on how to use her body and voice.



Ella McNeill

PHOTO: JOHN KOH, 'THE WEST AUSTRALIAN'

Meanwhile, she got herself a PA system and would do gigs at places including her local sailing club, bringing her friends down for support. 'It was such a big step at the time, whereas now I think of it and kinda giggle,' she laughs.

But performing covers is not where her heart lay. McNeill wanted to compose her own songs, to delve into her life and experiences and share her perspective. She started working—she jokes that she adhered to the rule where 'you have to write out all your bad songs to get to the good ones'—until she had enough for a set.

McNeill followed a trajectory familiar to many performers: she started with open mic night, particularly at Mojo's in North Fremantle, working her way up to a Tuesday night slot, then a Thursday night slot.

'The music scene is so great in Perth, so welcoming and everyone is so supportive of each other,' she says. 'You meet other bands and they ask you to support them; I've supported Felicity Groom and Grace Barbe, for example.'

Her first gig was in February 2020 and she quickly booked five more that month, including a show at The Gasometer Hotel in Melbourne, Mojo's and the Aardvark in Fremantle. She then flew to Scotland for an artistic residency, overlooking a beautiful loch, and wrote and wrote for two weeks.

With a taste for playing live and a bunch of new material burning a hole in her pocket, McNeill flew back to Perth on March 15—straight into COVID.

'At least I got to finish the songs in quarantine,' she says with a wry laugh.

But the fuse, once lit, could not be extinguished, even by a global pandemic. As WA managed to avoid the worst of COVID and gigs started again, McNeill released her first single, *Feelings*, in October 2020, then a second, *Confusion*, in September 2021.

It's been a steep learning curve, including the intricacies of music production; she works with experienced co-producers and has relished building a network of other women with the expertise.

'Success is a slow burn. *Feelings* 'didn't do much... it was more about just having it out there, so if people look you up after a gig, there is something for them,' McNeill explains, although it was included on the soundtrack for ABC kids' series, *Itch*. *Confusion*, which she also shot a music video for, got more press and was played on Triple J radio.

McNeill is now deep in writing mode on an EP, which she hopes will be released in the first half of this year. It's often difficult to balance the creative process with a busy career, but McNeill says writing songs has taught her valuable lessons.

'I go between the two modes of being in the world; one is very outcome orientated, goal driven, get lots done, which is great for work and other hobbies. But I've found with music, I have had to learn how to really just focus on the process, where it is not about the outcome.

'It's been a challenge to be OK with that process but now I think it helps in all aspects of life, although, a lot of the time, I'll write a song and literally think, 'Who wrote this?' It's bizarre,' McNeill says, laughing.

And for a performer who was shaped by protest songs—she cites *Strange Fruit* by Billie Holiday and *Ignorance* by Kasey Chambers as formative—these tumultuous times are, sadly, providing rich fodder.

'I want to write songs that make a difference and there is a lot to be angry about in the world at the moment,' McNeill says. 'It's been a huge period for making art, even though the industry has been



Ella McNeill, who performs as Ella Therese, in the STM studios.
PHOTO: ROSS SWANBOROUGH, 'THE WEST AUSTRALIAN'.

decimated by COVID—it's the first hit and the last to recover and it's the most challenging time to sustain an artistic career.

'It's one of the hardest times to be a creative and while it has shown everyone how much we rely on creative and cultural outlets to understand the world and to be entertained, at the same time you will have a mass exodus of creatives who can't sustain themselves.

'The best cities around the world, anywhere you want to live or travel, that cultural life is top of the list. We can forget that sometimes, and just expect it to be there.

'Mine is unpaid, I just spend all my money on it, which is fine for me and that is my choice. You do it because it is your practice, and you love it and you wouldn't do anything else. But then it's that thing: if everyone else gets joy from something and loves it, then it's not just for the artist. If people love the arts, it is worth contributing to.'

Ella Therese's single *Confusion* is out now.



Creativity and imagination shining in Visual Art



Hannah in *Masked*

SARAH EVE, VISUAL ART TEACHER

Year 12 student Hannah Pemberton was sought out by the Central Gallery and asked to be a contributing artist for their exhibition *Masked*. In these unusual times, the mask has become a symbol of both survival and resistance.

In Perth we have had only a few weeks where we have been required to wear masks, but the crisis still looms for us, what's coming next and are we ready? We may be safe now behind this closed border but for how long?

Young people are concerned about their education and social lives being disrupted. Others worry about friends and family in lockdown and not being able to travel to connect with them.

The *Masked* exhibition 'celebrates' what has become a modern-day icon. Congratulations to Hannah for being asked to be a part of this exhibit.

The artwork that Hannah Pemberton submitted for the *Masked* exhibition.



Art as Activism

SARAH EVE, VISUAL ART TEACHER

Activist Art and art awareness were the focus for the Year 10 students. Using the lino medium as a platform each voiced their opinion on a global topic, confronting viewers to consider and take action.

Students have a variety of topics they are passionate about, including global warming, racism, sexism, animal rights, pollution and politics to name a few.



Annika Carleton



Amalie White



Alisa McDonnell



Chau Tran



Huimin Liu



Year 11 Art Day

IRIS REED, YEAR 11

Once settled into our day after breakfast at Hylin Cafe, Ms Eve conducted a short sketching activity in which we had to draw the faces of our peers without looking down at the work itself. Gallery 360 was next on the agenda, where we explored various artworks on display and began drawing three of our favourite works as practice.

Inspired by the surrounding nature and lush greenery of Harold Boas Gardens we spent time sketching four scenes onto watercolour paper. Later, we met with artist Jacinda Bayne, who specialises in watercolours and oil painting. After her demonstration, we discussed the techniques and stories that inspired her artworks.

We were then sent off to apply watercolours in the previously sketched scenes of the Harold Boas Gardens—receiving advice and tips from Jacinda as time passed.

Upon returning to the art rooms, the last hour of school consisted of us finishing off our pieces in various media. A fantastic day, this excursion was a highlight and a treat for the end of the year.



TOP: At Gallery 360.

ABOVE: Iris Reed receiving some tips from visiting artist, Jacinda Bayne; and watercolour sketching.

BELOW: Year 11 Visual Art students enjoying being outside for their Art Day.





Visual Arts Exhibition

SARAH EVE, VISUAL ART TEACHER

Artwork, drawings, paintings, digital art, sculptures and wearable art installations were the highlight of the 2021 Visual Art Exhibition. It was a fantastic night celebrating the creative talents of our students with the Mills Gallery adorned with creative and inspiring art installations. The exhibition also featured artwork by some of our future students, showcasing the talents of the students joining us in 2022.

The halls were filled with the sound of four talented guitarists, as students, proud parents, staff, Modernians and the wider community enjoyed viewing the works on display.

Local artist Jacinda Bayne gave the Artist Opening address, sharing with the crowd her personal journey of becoming an artist and highlighting the importance of creativity for students. She emphasised the importance of continuing to be creative in and out of school, no matter what career path they choose.

Different subject areas from across the school were asked to select an award winner for a prize. Linton and Kay Gallery Manager Miranda Brown, along with Head of Learning Area staff, had the difficult task of judging an array of awards for each year group.

A big congratulations to all students that exhibited their work.

Award Winners List

Year	Award	Student
Year 7	Fibonacci Award	Liliana McGrath
Year 7	da Vinci Convinci Award	Avery Barton
Year 8	Nature. Be In It Award	Iroha Greenhalgh
Year 8	One Planet Award	Chloe Christiansen
Year 9	Visual Poetry Award	Rachael Ho
Year 9	Discovery Award	Angela Lodis
Year 10	Globetrotter Award	Riley Smith
Year 10	Dynamic Award	Aaron Yong
Years 7-10	Storyteller Award	Leah Augustine
Year 11	Highly Commended	Susanna Che
Year 11	Outstanding	Tae Geddes
Year 12	Highly Commended	Edie Simpson
Year 12	Outstanding	Sherry Zeng
Year 12	School Acquisition	Sophie Kirk
Year 12	Packers Prize	Bridie Dempster
Year 11	Overall Landscape Prize	Darcey Weber

Visual Art exhibition attendees perusing some of the amazing artwork that was on display.

INSET: Darcey Weber with artist Jacinda Bayne.

RIGHT: *Hello Ruby* by incoming student Angela Suizu; and Visual Art teachers Katie Chin and Sarah Eve.



Parsons delivers the House Drama Trophy



For the first time—in living memory at least—Parsons has won the House Drama trophy! Their winning play was centred around wonderful, character driven performances and was set in World War II where every character is a possible spy. The costumes and the set design also set Parsons apart.

The other House plays were fantastic too and all writers, directors and actors deserve much kudos for keeping the crowd so entertained. Bravo to all involved and bravo to Mr Simkin and Ms Paccecca for coordinating the day's performances!

The winning House Drama team from Parsons.



Three cheers for the Cheerleading Club

SENARA GALHENAGE, YEAR 7



Cheerleading is one of many clubs at Perth Modern School. Every Monday after school, the Cheer team meet up to practice, improve and learn skills that would help them while being coached by Rachel from TNT All Stars. We learn a range of cheer skills including lifts, jumps, motions, tumblers and dance steps.

In Term 4, the Cheer team went to the TNT gym for our training sessions. We were able to improve our skills on the trampolines and Air Tracks and rehearse our Cheer routine on a sprung floor. We were excited to perform at the end of year dance concert. The Cheer team's item was first up, and we performed a fantastic routine showcasing the skills we had learnt over the duration of the year.

The Cheer team were also invited to attend the dance excursion to see *Sleeping Beauty* which was performed by the West Australian Ballet.

Quotes by the Year 7 Cheer Squad members:

'Thank you everyone for contributing to this amazing cheerleading club.'
Antonina Levichkina

'Allstars cheerleaders do not have pom poms.'

Arielle Ang

'Kira, your shoes smell like strawberries.'

Bronte Brown

'The end of year performance was really fun as were our visits to TNT.'
Edith Johnson

'At first I thought cheerleading was going to be pom poms and stuff but it's actually really fun.'

Emily Gan

'Cheerleading is really fun, but we aren't even going to talk about how many times Emily, Antonina and Arielle have dropped me.'
Senara Galhenage

'Cheerleading is really fun except that rolling the mat up is just like hell.'
Raani Ge



Cheerleading Club team members working on their cheer skills.



A rainy but fun day for the School Sport Athletics Carnival

MARK MUIR, HEAD OF HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Our Athletics squad competed in the SSWA Division B Athletics Carnival on the wettest WA Athletics Stadium that most people have seen. Our third placing, just 28 points behind Mt Lawley SHS, with Melville SHS placing first, meant we just missed out on promotion to A Division.

It was a terrific team effort especially given the wet conditions. Congratulations to Megan McCaffrey who was named Champion Year 10 Girl, Kirsten Petterson who was Runner Up Year 9 Girl, Adeoluwa Adebayo who was Runner Up Year 8 Boy and to Rosanne Arul Raja, Shan Yu Lim and Tommaso Puccini, who all placed third in their respective individual age groups.

< Megan McCaffrey was named Year 10 Champion Girl.

✓ Washout: Despite the rain, students still enjoyed a day of athletics competition at the SSWA Division B Athletics Carnival.



Modernian Cassia Boglio to bicycle race professionally in Europe

Modernian Cassia Boglio has been selected in the NXTG Racing team for 2022. Cassia graduated in 2018.

Cassia will be making the move to the Netherlands and will be participating in the European UCI circuit.

'I am so excited to join NXTG Racing in 2022!' Cassia told ARA Pro Racing. 'I have spent the last year training in Australia but there has been limited racing here, so I am really excited to move over to Europe and take my cycling to the next level.'

'My ambitions for next year are to learn as much as possible from the other girls on the team and to contribute to the team's successes.'

'NXTG offers a supportive environment for me to develop and find my way in the European peloton. I can't wait to fly over [in 2022] to meet the team and go all in.'

> Cassia in a bicycle race.



< Cassia Boglio is heading to the Netherlands to race professionally.



Acknowledgment: This story originally featured on the ARA Pro Racing website.

Sphinx Society Membership

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS OBTAINED SPHINX SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP IN SEMESTER 2, 2021.



YEAR 12

Caleb Adams	Jordan Fisker	Talisha Lee-Karuthiru	Hannah Pemberton	Aaron Trawinski
Jade Alcock	Allen Fu	Erin Putri Leonardi	Matthew Pflieger	Charles Underwood
Robert Beashel	Dylan Harvey	Chen Xu Lim	Carolyn Sam	Zavier Wileman
Luke Bianchi	Phillip Harvey	Emily-Rose Lochore	Isabella Setterfield	Keith Wong
Victoria Chai	Annabelle Heyworth	Christopher Manasseh	Khushal Shah	
Orson Chen	Loan Ho	Joseph Newman	Micah Sinclair	
Qinzhe (Elle) Chentang	Guoyu (Rongrong) Huang	Lawrence Nheu	Sithum Somarathna	
Bridie Dempster	Ryan Jeong	Conor O'Neill	Arlyne Sony	
Lily Edgar	Stanley Jolly	Joel Peiris	Isaac Teo	

YEAR 11

Christopher (Evander) Agung	Nico Garcia	Shan Yu Lim	Juliet Roux	Hannah Waldron
Alana Bannerman	Anushree Gogulakrishnan	Parth Maheshwari	Dhruv Sajani	Ethan Wang
Felicity Bayne	Amalina Gosper	Kiran McLernon	Shreya Salunkhay	Xiaofu Wang
Lucius Beh	Madhav Gupta	Lucy Ming	Yuika Sato	Zouruhong (Vivian) Wang
Danny Cao	Shen-Kit Hia	Stella Morgan	Michael Shum	Dean Winarto
Ethan Chai	Adam Holton	Thanishka Nanthavarman	Lachlan Smith	Noah West
Kristy Chau	Akaash Jarmale Arunkumar	Alexander Neal	Joshua Soon	Ruixian Wu
Susanna Che	Sandalu Kanapeddala Gamage	Muditha Pallewela	Dona Sithuli Suraweera	Haoqi (Richard) Ying
Kalp Chhangani	Navaneeth Kannan	Kwai Chin (Jeans) Pang	Asher Tan	Huda Zaidi
Hao Cui	Param Kanpariya	Ruby Paterson	Chengchao (Tom) Tang	Yixuan Zhang
Keira Cullen	Reuben Kopec	Vyom Patoliya	Brooke Taylor	Zhi Wei (Delia) Zhou
Jessica Doan	Alice Law	Helena Phillips	Anna Tokarev	Lirong (Lucy) Zhu
Michael Flint	Rheannon Lazar	Morgan Porter	Heer Umaretiya	
Ella Fung	Tu (Jennifer) Le	Gabriel Raharjo	Neo Ung	
Raghav Ganapathy	Isaac Lee	Krosby Readhead	Ethan Van Bruchem	

YEAR 10

Adib Ahmed	Rafael Effendi	Chelsea Lee	Chelsea Ong	Timothy Tan
Hadiel Ahmed	Sachi Elliott	Claire Levey	Anakin Lee Oxford	Cassandra Tonkin
Shifan Ahmed	Sidney Eric	Minxuan (Max) Li	Sainuja Pather	Chau Tran
Anjitha Antony	Albert Eyssautier	Huimin Liu	Christian Philander	Isabeau van der Kooy
Fiona Antony	Ally Firth	Kenichi Makita	Oliver Porter	Amelia Waldron
Mila Arthur	Emanuel Foundas	Matthew Maliszewski	Isla Purse	Bryan Wee
Aanchal Asundi	Karen Harvey	Nirmanee Mallawa Thanthrige	Anais Richard	Benedict Widjaja
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