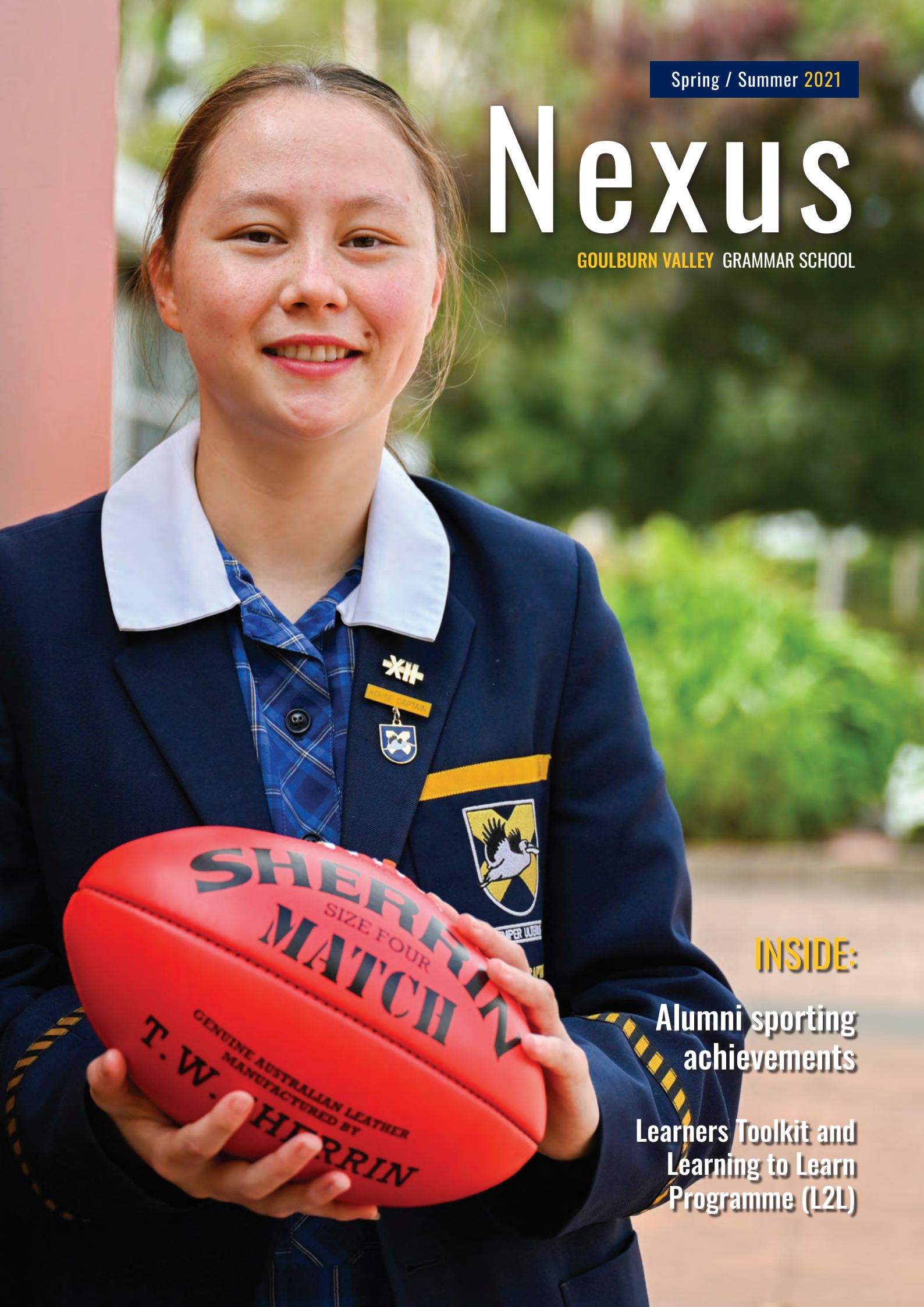


Spring / Summer 2021

Nexus

GOULBURN VALLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL



INSIDE:

Alumni sporting achievements

Learners Toolkit and Learning to Learn Programme (L2L)



From the Board Chair

On Friday 19th November, the School held the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner. It was wonderful to see the students, their parents and staff members. It was also a chance for me to walk around and thank many of them for their patience and dedication to their respective tasks over this school year. It was particularly great to meet up with the Year 12 students, finally, and wish them all the best. They are all aspirational young individuals with a positive outlook.

The relaxation of restrictions came at a great time to enable the School to have some chance to celebrate. Students, staff and our parents are dedicated members of the school community, as is the Board and its members. So celebrating was a good thing to do.

Congratulations to our school community. We are all hoping that 2022 will enable us to all come together during the year, whether it be at assemblies, concerts or

sporting events or even a chat in the car park.

I hope you all have some time off to relax and reflect but also celebrate your own achievements during this difficult time.

Semper Ulterius
Andrew Galbraith, Chair of the Board

From the Principal

Our Commitment to Child Safety

The last two years of the pandemic have underscored the critical role that schools have always played in promoting the wellbeing and development of young people. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of promoting positive mental health in.

Since the beginning of the Royal Commission into institutional abuse, Australia has learnt of the horrendous scale of abuse of children in institutions across Australia, including schools. Tragically these incidents have continued to emerge and to occur even today. The impact of this abuse has often been compounded by the treatment of survivors by institutions.

Our school community consistently describes caring as one of the most important qualities of our School's culture. One of the most fundamental expressions of caring is to ensure that we have a genuine commitment to child safety which minimises the risk of serious misconduct or abuse occurring.

The School and the Board will continue to work hard to ensure that all staff and students understand the School's commitment to child safety. Our Child Safe Policy, Code of Conduct and

Reporting guidelines are available on the public website and the School Learning Management System (Agora) for current students. Our Student Safety Officers are available to speak with students who come forward with any safety issues. We also have stringent recruitment screening practices in place for all staff, volunteers and contractors. However, we would be naïve to believe that such incidents cannot occur today even with the best policies and protections in place.

Central to our prevention of abuse and protecting our students is to give confidence to individuals so that they can report concerns both past and present. It is vital that our School is an environment where all students, feel comfortable and safe in raising concerns particularly if there has been misconduct or abuse by a staff member, contractor, volunteer or student. Equally students need to know that they can report a matter externally to the local Centre Against Sexual Assault and or Police.

We also know that a recent study from the Australian Catholic University, suggests that a student being abused is more likely to confide in a peer or a family member.

The school is therefore also looking to provide "by stander" training so if a friend or peer suspects any abuse, they know their options and can come and speak with a Student Safety Officer and feel confident they will be listened to and supported.

It is equally important that our past students know and understand that the School of today is committed to listen, believe and support them if they have been affected by abuse or serious misconduct by staff.

The School makes a long-term commitment to promote a culture of child safety for past, current and future students. It is important that all staff, students, parents, alumni and everyone connected to our School can help our students of today be safe.

Should anyone wish to speak to me or any of our safety officers or welfare team about mental health issues or child safety issues please contact one of us.

<https://www.gvgs.vic.edu.au/about/child-safety/>

Semper Ulterius
Mark Torriero, Principal

Nexus is a GVGS school community publication largely brought together by members from within our community. It is published twice a year. We welcome submissions to **Nexus** from staff, students, alumni and those connected with the school community.
E: gvgs@gvgs.vic.edu.au

Contributing Writers for this edition:
Elizabeth Merlino (Class of 2012)
Samantha Schelling (Current Parent)
Clare Winter-Irving (Class of 2010)

Goulburn Valley Grammar School
Verney Road, PO Box 757,
Shepparton, Victoria, 3632.
Telephone: 03 5833 3300,
Email: gvgs@gvgs.vic.edu.au,
Web: www.gvgs.vic.edu.au.

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COVER PHOTO: Aurora Smith (Class of 2021) AFLW success, page 5.

Departing Board members

Mr Robert Waterson

When the school looks back on its 40-year history, many outstanding contributors come to mind. Mr. Rob Waterson is one such person and in 2021 he finished his period on the Board after over 30 years of service.

Rob joined the Board in 1990 when the School was a very different place to what it is now. The enrolment was 350 students and it was still a fledgling school, being less than 10 years old. Rob was asked to consider joining the Board by the Chair, Rod Miller and Board member, Lance Woodhouse. Rob recalls that both men were hard to say “no” to.

At the time Rob had a young family of three children, ran the very successful Redbyrne Potteries and was already on the Boards of Goulburn Valley Water and Tarcoola (now Shepparton Villages).

Rob has strong memories of it being “all hands on deck” at the School in the early 1990s, with multiple sub-committees, working bees and many fund raisers and appeals.

Rob quickly became involved in the buildings and grounds development of

the site. He led the planning, design and construction of the Maxwell Brown Science Centre, Peter Robertson Study Hall, Fairley Art Centre, Founders Hall, the indoor sports centre and the Ian and Robyn Rule Resource Centre. He also led landscaping planning and development, understanding the importance of attractive gardens and outdoor facilities for students. Throughout all of these projects, Rob worked tirelessly and generously giving his time and expertise.

Some of Rob’s strongest memories are of the Board evolving from a Management Committee, to a true Board of Directors. He was closely involved in the appointment of three Principals, Mr. David Prest in 1992, Mr. Ian Rule in 1997 and Mr. Mark Torriero in 2008. He feels David Prest’s appointment gave parents confidence in the School’s future and enrolments steadily increased. He also recalls the outstanding Board leadership of past Chairs and served as Vice-Chair to Mr. Frank Dawson and Mr. David Faram.

Rob has absolutely loved his involvement at the School and takes pride in chatting about the school to anyone in the community he comes into contact with. He sees the School as a vital asset of the Goulburn Valley and regularly brings visitors to show them the site. He loves the atmosphere and the professionalism of staff, plus of course the students. He has seen the School through some tough times in the early 1990s and gets much pleasure in seeing the mature, financially secure and high performing school that it is today.



Rob’s wife Dawn is also a strong supporter of the School and managed the annual fete for several years in the 1990s, generating much needed funds for the Parents and Friends Association. Rob and Dawn’s three children all attended the School; Nathan (Class of 1994), Joshua (Class of 1996) and Prue (Class of 2004).

In recent years Rob has brought valuable institutional memory to the Board as the longest serving continuous member. His children have moved on with their own careers and families, but Rob retains an infectious love and passion for the School. Rob’s dedication and long-term commitment have been truly remarkable and he leaves an outstanding legacy.



Mrs Linda Prentice

After completing eight years of service Linda Prentice concluded her time as a Board member during 2021.

Linda recalls being invited to consider Board membership in 2013 by Mrs Prue Dobson, the Board Chair at that time. Whilst initially reluctant, Linda agreed to join and now reflects how glad she was to be part of an exciting time in the School’s evolution. As a former teacher, she felt her professional education background would be of use, plus her underlying commitment to the School’s development.

Linda particularly enjoyed the new perspective she gained during her involvement at a governance level, having previously been a parent and Tuckshop volunteer. She found the professional diversity of Board members particularly

valuable and enjoyed hearing the various perspectives that Board members brought to meetings. She felt there was a good cross section of viewpoints and found the gender mix valuable. Linda also reflects on how important the work of Board Sub Committees are in working through the detail prior to Board meetings.

The planning and construction of the W.B. Hunter Music Centre is one particular highlight for Linda, together with the broader master planning of the site and plans for future development.

As a parent to Sam (Class of 2006), Lucy (Class of 2007) and Georgina (Class of 2009), Linda felt that joining the Board was a way she could give back, having valued the education her children received.



School Captain profile

Akhil Gadde

For Akhil Gadde, being a student at Goulburn Valley Grammar School means you have a place and you belong.

Now, as he reaches Term 4 of being the 2021 School Captain, Akhil looks back on his time in the role with great fondness and as an opportunity he will cherish.

“Since my early days at GVGS I realised that becoming a Prefect or School Captain meant I could become both a better leader and contribute to something which everyone could benefit,” he said.

“The School encourages you to make your place through friendships, activities and the day-to-day of life. Everyone belongs here.”

The 18-year-old, with a keen interest in playing, watching and talking about sport, has a clear passion for GVGS and the students and teachers who he gets to learn alongside each day.

While Akhil initially had a list of achievements he was hoping to reach this year as School Captain, COVID-19 had other plans. As circumstances changed, Akhil said it became clear that the most important role for him as a School Captain was to fulfil his duties, support his peers

and fellow leaders, and preserve the GVGS culture.

Partnered up with Isabelle Trezise, Akhil said he couldn’t have asked for a better teammate to navigate the journey as School Captains.

While the pair have worked well to manage this year’s many challenges, Akhil admits the pandemic and home-schooling were difficult hurdles to overcome. Trying to lead the School while navigating the world of online learning, Akhil said he was amazed by the determination shown by each student to take charge of their schooling.

With some clever thinking by students and staff, several major events could still be celebrated this year including Valentine’s Day, Concert Under the Stars, the Autumn Concert and World’s Greatest Shave.

“The limited moments we shared as a year level and with our friends have still made this year special for me personally,” Akhil said.

“Concert Under the Stars at the beginning of the year would have to be my favourite event.”

Studying English, Math Methods, Specialist Maths, Physics, Chemistry and fast-tracking Indonesian, Akhil hopes to study

a Bachelor of Commerce next year. With a keen interest in business and finance he is even thinking about the prospect of running his own business one day.

Throughout his time at GVGS, Akhil managed to maintain an impressive list of extra-curricular activities, including badminton, soccer, several school ensembles and productions.

“I think I’ll miss the mornings before school the most – all the empty hallways and the peaceful grounds before people slowly begin to show up,” he said. “Then the hilarious conversations in our tute rooms or simply kicking a footy around in the yard.”

As for words of wisdom for next year’s Year 12’s, Akhil believes all they need is some determination and self-belief.

“You are all well prepared to handle anything 2022 can throw at you,” he said.

“Cherish the little moments and the big ones, work hard and listen to your teachers. Prove to yourself that you deserve to be where you are.”

PICTURED: School Caption, Akhil Gadde signing the Oath.



Student sporting achievement

Aurora Smith

From a young age, Aurora Smith saw herself doing big things with her footballing career. “You see the games played on TV when you are growing up and I knew I wanted to be a part of that one day,” she says. “I’ve always enjoyed team sports and being involved in working towards a shared goal.” Aurora has spent her life barracking for the Hawthorn Football Club and was even witness to the team’s grand final wins in both 2013 and 2015. “Being at the MCG, being surrounded by that energy of a big win, that made me want to be playing on that ground myself one day,” she says.

Aurora took up football at a young age, participating in Auskick when she was seven years old and competing in the under 12s and under 14s mixed football team for her hometown of Euroa in the years that followed. “I tried my best to keep up and I’m naturally quite a competitive person so that helped push me forward,” she says. “The boys play very quickly and so I had to try my best to match that.” After relocating to Shepparton, Aurora began playing for Shepparton United and the Murray Bushrangers in the All-Girls Football league. “I think I had an advantage over some of the other girls because I started playing when I was so young and with boys,” she says. “It meant I had to develop my fundamental skills very quickly so I could keep playing.”

Over time Aurora’s skills developed and she shone as an outstanding player with incredible endurance, leading her to her greatest sporting achievements yet. “I was really excited when I found out,” she says of being selected in the 2021 NAB AFLW U19 Championships All Australian Team and being recruited to the Western Bulldogs Football Club in the 2021 AFLW draft. “I didn’t really mind where I got drafted to, but from all the interviews I went to, the Western Bulldogs did stand out because they have been such a successful club recently.”



Aurora says she is looking forward to furthering her footballing career and will also be pursuing her tertiary studies at The University of Melbourne in 2022. “What I’m most looking forward to is becoming a better player and I think being in an elite environment will help me do that,” she says. “I’ve been to a few trainings so far and everyone has been really welcoming so I think it is going to be a great year next year”.



Pictured L-R: Zoe De Paola (Year 12), Hailey Moffatt (Year 11), Erin Hicks (Year 10) and Lila Plunkett (Year 6)

2021 Furphy Literary Award Winners

Literary Awards have recently been announced with short stories and poems from young people across the Goulburn Valley judged in this year's competition. Students from GVGS were shortlisted in three categories with two students winning their section.

In the Junior Short Story section, there were 49 entrants. Lila Plunkett (Year 6) was awarded 1st Prize for her story, 'Ash and Embers'. In a remarkable double, Lila was also awarded 3rd Prize for another of her stories, 'Pearls'.

In the Youth Short Story section, there were 44 entrants. Erin Hicks (Year 10) was awarded 2nd Prize for her story, 'A precious Gift'.

In the Youth Poetry section, there were 17 entrants. Zoe De Paola (Year 12) was

awarded 1st Prize for her poem, 'Fading'. Hailey Moffatt (Year 11) was awarded 2nd prize for her poem, 'Dead City'.

Senior English Department Co-ordinator, Mr Sean Templeton, believes reading through these pieces reveals some of the vivid imaginations and diverse experiences of our student cohort. "It is pleasing to see some of the pieces entered began as classroom activities, while many others were initiated by our creative students. These students should be commended on their willingness to share their work with a wide audience and in such a prestigious competition. In another year marred by isolation and distancing, writing offers a chance for students to form connections with others and to develop their skills and imagination".

Simpson Prize

Year 11 student Anna Howell is the Victorian Winner of the 2020-2021 Simpson Prize.

The Simpson Prize is a national competition for students that focuses on the service of Australians in World War I. In her essay, Anna explored the role of the 'lesser-known' heroes of the war, including: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander soldiers, including Alfred Jackson Coombs, a Wergaia man; the important role of stretcher-bearers such as John Charles Goodchild; and the record keepers and archivists who worked in the Central Registry, collating the records, from which he have learnt so much from about the war.

Submitting an entry into such a competition requires dedication and an unwavering commitment to the processes of research, drafting and refinement. Winning this award is testament to the extraordinary effort that Anna put into her essay.



Queens Guide Award Zoe De Paola

Recently, Zoe was awarded the Queen's Guide Award, which is the peak achievement award for youth members of Girl Guides Australia. "I've made a lot of incredible friends along the way, it's been an amazing experience," she says. The syllabus comprises of two parts – 'Gold Endeavour' and 'Interest and Focus' and took Zoe 18 months to complete. For Zoe, this included activities such as assisting local support service FamilyCare in facilitating their 2019 Christmas Appeal, volunteering with community group People Supporting People at their weekly fundraiser BBQs and working closely with the Shepparton parkrun event organisers to connect people in the Goulburn Valley with free sporting opportunities. Zoe also attended the Girl Guides Victoria Youth forum, which encourages young women to build connections and advocate for issues they're passionate about and undertook the Swinburne Early Leaders program as part of her Queen's Guide Award. "Unfortunately guiding participant numbers tend to drop off after 14 years of age, but that's very much when you start getting the most out of the opportunities presented to you," Zoe says. "What you learn in Guides in a practical sense complements what you learn at school academically, so yes I would encourage anyone who is interested to get involved."



Australian Geography Competition

Congratulations to students Martha McKellar and Molly McLennan on achieving a result in the top 1% of the Australian Geography Competition held in May.

Pictured L-R: Year 7 students Martha McKellar and Molly McLennan



Indonesian Senior Speaking Competition

To celebrate the 76th Indonesian Independence Day the Indonesian Embassy recently announced the winners of the 2021 Senior Speaking Competition. The theme was Indonesian-Australia relations and VCE students recorded their speech and submitted it to the Embassy. With entries open to students from across Australia it was very pleasing to receive notification that two students were awarded prizes. Morgan Williamson (Year 12) was awarded 2nd place and Anna Howell (Year 11) 3rd place.

Pictured L-R: Morgan Williamson and Anna Howell



State Champions Australian History Competition

Year 8 students Alice Bouchier and Elizabeth Ford have been awarded State Champions in the 2021 Australian History Competition.

Pictured L-R: Year 8 students Alice Bouchier and Elizabeth Ford



ADF Future Innovators Award

Hugh Loffler (Year 10) and Dhruv Chauhan (Year 12) were presented with this award which recognises students that demonstrate motivation and innovation in the areas of STEM within the School.

Pictured L-R: Hugh Loffler (Year10) and Dhruv Chauhan (Year 12)



Monash Scholars Program 2021- 2023

Monash Scholars Program is for high achieving secondary school students to give them a unique head-start into university life. Run by Monash University, the program is aimed at allowing high-achieving secondary students the opportunity to explore and pinpoint passions; develop a broad suite of study skills and gain the confidence to make course and career choices. Students Layla O'Callaghan, Xavier Schmedje and Heidi Smith were selected into the Monash Scholars Program 2021 – 2023.

Pictured L-R: Year 10 students Layla O'Callaghan, Xavier Schmedje and Heidi Smith



Students represent GVGS - School Sport Victoria

Year 9 students Tom Evans, Jye Fitzsimmons, Jack Whitlock and Matt Whitlock have all been selected in the School Sports Victoria Team Victoria 15 Years and Under Boys Australian Football State Team for 2021.

Pictured L-R: Year 9 students Tom Evans, Jye Fitzsimmons, Jack Whitlock and Matt Whitlock



ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award

Nicholas Grant (Year 10) and Hayden Reynolds (Year 12) were presented with the 2021 ADF Long Tan award which recognises students who demonstrate leadership and teamwork within the School and the community.

Pictured L-R: Nicholas Grant (Year10) and Hayden Reynolds (Year 12)



Learning initiative

Learners Toolkit and Learning to Learn Programme (L2L)

**By James Sach
(Learning Leader),
Mr Tim James
(Director of Learning
- Middle Years) &
Brooke McLeod
(Learning Leader)**

The demand to create a whole-school Learner's Toolkit and Learning to Learn Programme (L2L) for our students came about through identifying several factors:

- Ineffective student study habits
- The lack of a common language between teachers, students and parents
- The need to promote long-term learning for students in a way that is efficient, effective and allows them to be able to learn independently

The Learner's Toolkit and L2L draw on six key strategies well-evidenced in the literature that promote durable learning for a variety of learners and contexts (Dunlosky, Rawson, Marsh, Nathan, & Willingham, 2013; Sumeracki, 2019). These strategies include:

- Spaced Practice - spreading out repeated exposures
- Interleaving - mixing together repetitions of different concepts or skills
- Retrieval - deliberately recalling information from memory
- Concrete examples - these are easier to remember than abstract information
- Elaboration - asking "how" and "why" questions about a specific topic and then trying to find the answers to those questions

- Dual coding - combining verbal representations of information (words) with visual representations of information (pictures/diagrams)

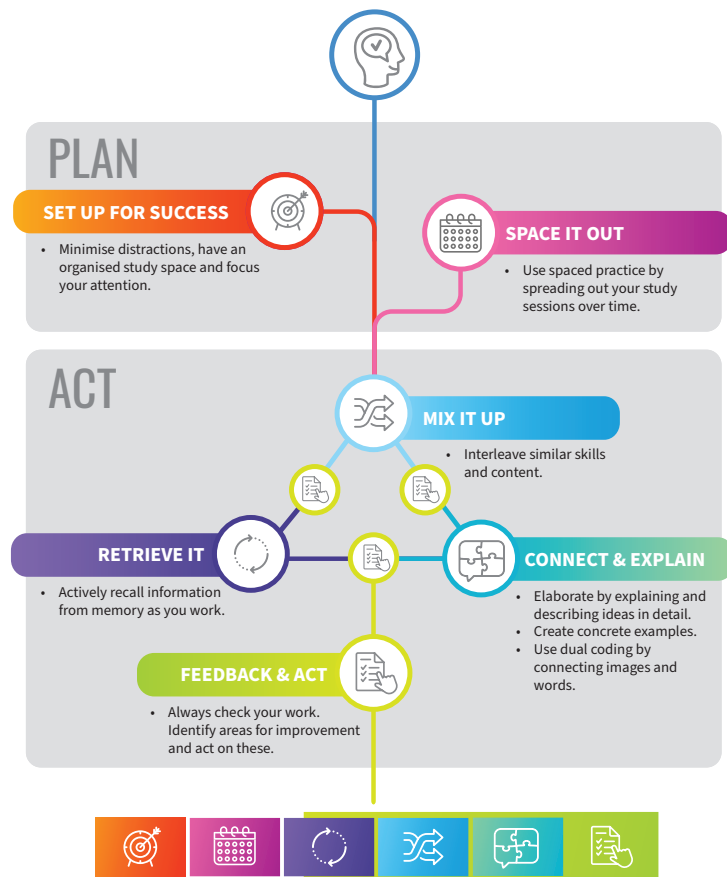
Along with the various readings that we engaged with, our school was fortunate to secure the services of Dr. Sean Kang (Senior Lecturer, Science of Learning, University of Melbourne) and Dr. Jared Cooney Horvath (neuroscientist, educator and author of Stop Talking, Start Influencing). Both Sean and Jared presented to our teachers about various research and its relevance for promoting long-term learning.

For GVGS, the goal of engaging with the research was so that we could teach our students "how to guide their learning of content using effective strategies that will allow them to successfully learn throughout their lifetime" (Dunlosky, 2013, p. 21).

To achieve our aim, we decided to develop a common language of what effective revision looks like; a language to be shared by students, teachers and parents that would connect with our existing Model for Teaching & Learning. This resulted in the development of our Learner's Toolkit.



GVGS LEARNER'S TOOLKIT



We also knew that student adoption of these strategies would require a thorough implementation process. Consequently, we decided to introduce a programme for our Year 7 students that would explicitly teach these strategies and how they could be used to support each student's learning – L2L.

In conjunction with our partners The University of Queensland (UQ) and as part of their Science of Learning Research Centre (SLRC) Partnership, we developed a pre and post-test which involved students responding to two scenario-based questions. Pleasingly, the results demonstrated an increase in knowledge of effective learning strategies in each of the four classes.

We are aware that knowledge of a strategy does not necessarily translate to its use in the classroom. As Dunlosky (2013, p. 21) found, “using the learning strategies can increase student understanding and achievement, but they are only effective if students are motivated to use them correctly.” This reinforced to us the need for any intervention like this to be properly embedded in lessons across the School.

Teacher observations early this year suggested that staff are witnessing a more widespread adoption of effective learning strategies when students are revising independently. Developing a tool to measure whether this is the case has been the focus of our partnership this year with The University of Queensland.

Engaging in research has been beneficial in evaluating L2L and to observe the positive impact it is having on student learning. It has enabled us to translate theory into practice by providing meaningful opportunities for teaching staff to engage with research that is relevant and connected to our school context.

Unfortunately, our efforts in delivering the L2L Programme and embedding the Learner's Toolkit in all subjects has been somewhat hampered by the long periods of remote learning in 2020 and 2021. However, next year we look forward to building on the learning that has already taken place for students, teachers and parents.

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2021 AFL All Australian Team success

In August GVGS celebrated the success of two past students, Oliver Wines (Class of 2012) and Clayton Oliver (Class of 2015) as they were selected in the 2021 AFL All Australian Team. The team, consisting of 22 honorary players, represents the best performing Australian Football League players during the 2021 season.



Oliver Wines (Class of 2012)

Oliver Wines' footballing career has been star-studded to say the least. Oliver received a nomination for the AFL Rising Star award in his 2013 debut match, served as Port Adelaide Co-Captain in the 2019 season, was selected in the 2021 AFL All Australian Team and recently was awarded for his standout 2021 season with a Brownlow Medal, achieving a record-tying vote tally of 36.

Director Co-curricular, Mr Shane McDonald is unsurprised by Oliver's overwhelming success, saying he always gave his best to the co-curricular aspect of his schooling and was a natural leader in team sports. "His competitive nature ensured that Oliver always gave his best when representing his school house, Dunlop," Mr McDonald says. "He's a high-quality sportsman and his Brownlow Medal win is a fitting highlight to his outstanding career at Port Adelaide to date."

Year 12 Coordinator, Mrs Chelsea Pohlner says amongst Oliver's sporting highlights, his academic achievements should not be overlooked. "When he accelerated Year 12 PE, it was Ollie who set the academic standard for many of the other Year 12 students," Mrs Pohlner says. "Ollie's ability during his senior years to successfully balance life in Echuca with schooling in Shepparton and football in Bendigo was outstanding, managing it quietly with little fuss."

Clayton Oliver (Class of 2015)

A keen Brisbane Lions supporter growing up, Clayton Oliver (Class of 2015) spent many years fine-tuning his football skills before debuting with the Melbourne Football Club in 2016. Clayton was selected in the 2021 AFL All Australian Team and can now add 'premiership player' to his list of sporting achievements after his team defeated the Western Bulldogs in the 2021 AFL Grand Final.

Alumni Relations Coordinator and teacher, Mr Glen Edwards says Clayton's drive to succeed on the sporting field was obvious from a young age as he thrived in both the junior and senior GVGS footy teams. "I remember him lifting the junior footy side to our one and only win over Notre Dame College's full strength Year 7/8 team, so it was no surprise to me that he was drafted," Mr Edwards says. "He has a good footy brain and playing for Mooroopna Football Club seniors in Year 11 definitely put him in good stead for his current AFL career."

Director Co-curricular, Mr Shane McDonald says Clayton's on-field leadership has been exemplary throughout his football career and credits his life-long involvement with an array of regional clubs, including the Bendigo Pioneers and Murray Bushrangers. "Although Clayton suffered injury during his final year of the TAC Cup, he was selected very early in the National Draft due to his domination in his junior years," Mr McDonald says. "Clayton has always had a commitment to succeeding at an AFL level and 2021 has been his best year to date."



2021 AFL Grand Final for three GVGS Alumni

This year's AFL grand final included three GVGS alumni, with Alex Keath (Class of 2009) and Josh Schache (Class of 2015) playing for the Western Bulldogs and Clayton Oliver (Class of 2015) taking home the AFL Premiership Cup playing for Melbourne.

Alumni Relations Coordinator and teacher, Mr Glen Edwards says, as a student at GVGS, Alex was always keen to learn and proudly followed his professional sporting development over recent years as he moved from cricket to the AFL. "Alex had tremendous leadership qualities and all his classmates looked up to him, so when representing the School in junior cricket and football he was able to lead from the front," Mr Edwards says. "He is such a wonderful person and understandably everyone in AFL circles speaks so highly of him. He is certainly playing tremendous football for the Western Bulldogs and has been a terrific addition to their backline." Year 12 Coordinator, Mrs Chelsea Pohlner says the support and encouragement

Clayton and Josh provided each other in their final year of school was obvious and their strong friendship aided both of them in achieving their goals. "Year 12 Physical Education was the only subject that they were in together and they would always sit with each other, particularly after a weekend, to unpack the most recent game's performances," Mrs Pohlner says. "It was great to see how they both approached their studies and football throughout the year and navigated what ended up being an exciting development when they were both drafted that year at draft pick number 2 and 4."

Director Co-curricular, Mr Shane McDonald says the entire GVGS community is so proud of Alex, Josh and Clayton's achievements and notes that each of them are a testament to the School's values. "It was quite extraordinary to have three GVGS alumni contesting for an AFL Premiership this year and I would like to acknowledge the immense contributions of their junior coaches, junior clubs and current teams



in getting them to where they are today," Mr McDonald says. "Our school motto is Semper Ulterius which translates to 'Always Further' and all three have definitely accomplished this in 2021."

VFL / AFL / AFLW SUCCESS FOR ALUMNI

Name	Years at GVGS	Class of	Year Drafted	Pick No	VFL/AFL/AFLW Club	Senior Games	Career	Brownlow Medal	Premiership
Dean Adams	1982-1983		1987	65	Carlton	nil	1988 U/19		
Simon Eastaugh	1985-1991	1991	1989 1997	61 68	Richmond Essendon Fremantle	nil	1992-95 1998-99 2000-01		
Brett Warburton	1987-1991		1997	RD 51	Carlton Collingwood Geelong	nil nil nil	1996 1997 1998		
Luke Lowden	2003-2007		2008	63	Hawthorn Adelaide	1 0	2009-14 2015-16		
Alex Keath	2004-2006		2009 2016	RD 58	Gold Coast Adelaide Western Bulldogs	0 30 41-	2009 list 2016-19 2020-		
Ollie Wines	2007-2012	2012	2012	7	Port Adelaide	182-	2013-	2021	
Patrick Wearden	2009-2011	2011	2011	47	Brisbane Lions	0	2012-14		
Clayton Oliver	2010-2015	2015	2015	4	Melbourne	123-	2016-		2021
Jordon Butts	2013-2018	2018	2019	RD 39	Adelaide		2020-		
Joshua Schache	2014-2015	2015	2015	2	Brisbane Lions Western Bulldogs	27 38-	2016-		
Aurora Smith	2016-2021	2021	2021	25	Western Bulldogs				

Georgia Hicks

Rewards born from hard work

Working in the Northern Territory in maternal and child health promotion has so many rewards for Georgia Hicks (Class of 2013).

Unsure of what she wanted to do, Georgia had preferences from health to construction management. After graduating with a double degree in midwifery and nursing from Deakin in Geelong, Georgia worked for two years at the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne, then COVID-19 hit.

"I worked through the first COVID lockdown, but I've always wanted to come up to the Northern Territory. So four girlfriends and I, who are all in health care, came up this year. I initially worked as a midwife in the Royal Darwin Hospital, then a few months ago, I was offered a job as a health promotion specialist with a maternal and child health organisation called Children's Ground, working in communities within Darwin and one in West Arnhem Land, called Markkwo.

"Children's Ground is a 25-year strategy aimed to create lasting change for First Nations people. It's designed by First Nations people, promoting and supporting cultural practices and knowledge in parallel with Western practices, integrating the two to achieve better health outcomes. We do lots of learning on Country and promote and support traditional practices and knowledge pre, during and post-pregnancy, while supporting families with current medical knowledge and education."

Georgia says learning the cultural ways with the Indigenous families has been a highlight, particularly spending time in West Arnhem Land. "I've always wanted to work with First Nations people, and I love education in health. It was very exciting to get this job.



"Some of my favourite memories are Outdoor Ed camps in Year 11 with Mr Harrison. Year 12 holds so many fond memories for me. Ms Sleeth got me through English – she was like gold, nothing was too hard and Mrs Mathers, who was my Legal teacher, was a gem."

Georgia says GVGS helped shape her as a person by instilling "a massive work ethic" that she took to her university and work life. "GVGS had a huge influence on the way I applied myself towards my studies and my career, and allowed me to recognise my self-worth and my own potential. Coming from another school, I noticed how much I was surrounded by like-minded teachers and students, people were always positive.

"GVGS defined me as a very well-rounded person, I think it gave me a massive head start in life with a well-rounded education and has allowed me to get me to where I am today, opening a lot of doors and opportunities.

"GVGS made me value friendship a lot too, I am still in contact with a lot of people from my year level. I'm very grateful for my time at GVGS."

Jessica Rothwell

Olympic Games from a different aspect

While most of us were glued to our television screens to take in all the action from the recent Tokyo Olympic Games, Goulburn Valley Grammar School alumni Jessica Rothwell was experiencing it firsthand.

For Jessica, a Dietitian with the Australian Athletics Team while running her own private practice, attending the Tokyo Olympics was all in a day's work, however, she admits it was a role that was more magical than most.

Having always had an interest in food and health, the Class of 2007 alumni was unsure what she wanted to do when finishing school yet it is clear she fell into the right path.

After plenty of hard work, Jessica soon found herself immersed in the world of Olympic athletics.

"I started in the National High Performance Nutrition Lead role with Athletics Australia in January 2020, this came about after travelling with our World Champs team to Doha in 2019," she said.

"This was a combined role of team management and nutrition support which was well received and thus, was fortunate to be part of our team supporting our Olympic and Paralympic campaigns."

Jessica was based in Sapporo, Japan for the Tokyo Olympics with the endurance athletes, those competing in marathons and endurance walks, along with their coaches and other support staff including physios, doctors and massage therapists.

While supporting the Australian athletes through one of the hottest Olympic Games on record, Jessica was also responsible for team management, planning and



implementing food and sports nutrition services, fine tuning performance nutrition interventions and working alongside coaches and team staff.

"It was a privilege to be part of such a unique Olympic Games and great teamwork really shone," she said. "I've never felt the level of responsibility in a role like this before, supporting team management and sports nutrition responsibilities within such unique circumstances."

Given the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on this year's Olympic Games, Jessica said the experience was extremely different to previous years.

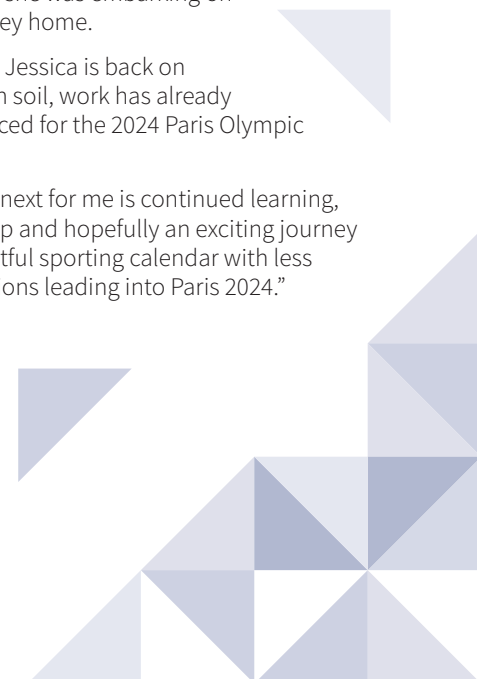
Her role involved high level Covid safety planning, contingency planning and athlete support. She was also subject to rigorous testing including pre-departure testing, daily

saliva tests, temperature checks, COVID-19 hygiene practices, extensive planning in case of an outbreak within the hotel and continuous Covid safety procedures.

Being based in Sapporo, Jessica admits she missed out on experiencing the true sparkle of the Tokyo Olympic Village. Despite this, she did manage to spend one night in the village as she was embarking on her journey home.

Now that Jessica is back on Australian soil, work has already commenced for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

"What is next for me is continued learning, leadership and hopefully an exciting journey and eventful sporting calendar with less interruptions leading into Paris 2024."





Felicity Kennedy (nee Finn, Class of 2002) and husband Bernie welcomed identical twins Grace and Genevieve on June 18, 2020. The Kennedy family lives in Murrumungee.



Prue Jones (nee Waterson, Class of 2004) and husband Brandon welcomed Marley Anne on December 10, 2020. Marley is a sister for Winter (3).



Jasper John is the first child of Alexandra Quayle (Class of 2004) and partner Brad. Jasper was born on August 5, 2021.



Oliver (Ollie) Adam Sampson was born August 31, 2021 to Imogen Randall (Class of 2005) and partner Ben. Oliver is a brother for Harry (2) and the family are living in Cairns.



Archer William Walter is the first child of Jessie Duff and partner Michael. Archer was born on August 13, 2021.



Harriet Eden is the second child of GVGS staff member. Monika Pearce and husband Luke. Harriet was born on September 12, 2021 and a sister for Isaac.



Harriet Emma is the first child of GVGS staff member Tim James and wife Kate. Harriet was born on August 15, 2021.



Andrew Starritt (Class of 1995) and partner Jessica Steele welcomed Jack Graham on August 21, 2021.



Lucas Jack Cassidy was born on 7 September and is the third child of GVGS staff member Danielle Cassidy and husband Mark. Lucas is a brother to Beau (8) and Austin (6).



Josh Hunter (Class of 1999) and Kate welcomed Elsie Mae on May 11, 2021. A sister for Maisie (5) and Ned (3).



Amy Whitten (Class of 2011) married Nathan Oman on 16th October, 2021 at Tindarra in Moama. Planned in a week due to lockdowns caused by the pandemic, they shared the day with close family and friends.



Amy McCurdy (Class of 2010) married Charlie Hodge on 26th March, 2021 at Mitchelton Winery in Nagambie



Vale - Lance Woodhouse OAM

The school was saddened to learn of the passing of Lance Woodhouse OAM on 4 June 2021.

Lance was one of the key founders of Goulburn Valley Grammar School and was a member of the Interim Council from 1979 to 1981. He was particularly involved in acquiring the land, planning the initial buildings and recruiting the first Principal. Lance then

served as a Director on the School Board from 1981 to 1992. He made a particular contribution in the development of the school site, along with financial oversight during some challenging times. He contributed his legal expertise and was a quiet but passionate supporter of the School in the wider community.

Lance was a humble man, never seeking the limelight. He was an elder statesman and saw Goulburn Valley Grammar School as a key component of the local economy and vital for the long-term development of the region.

Our condolences to Lance's wife Wilma, his family and wide circle of colleagues and friends.



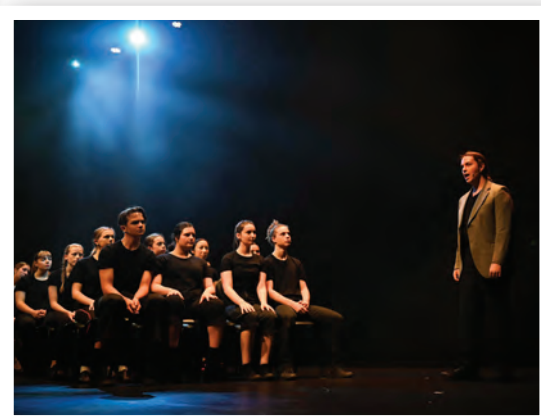
Vale - Marcus Cassidy (Class of 2007)

Marcus commenced in Year 7 in 2002 and completed Year 12 in 2007. During his time at GVGS, Marcus maintained positive relationships with his peers and his teachers through his ever considerate and quietly helpful manner. A keen sportsman Marcus was an active and enthusiastic representative

of Ryall House and the school in Athletics, Swimming, Football and Cross Country. Marcus went on to complete a Commerce Degree at Deakin University and was employed at La Trobe Financial in Melbourne as a Commercial Credit Analyst. We extend our deepest sympathies to parents Mark and Karen and siblings, Christopher (Cl. 2005), Jonathan (Cl. 2011) and Amelia (Cl. 2013).

Return to the Stage

Return to the Stage was a revue style Production performed in May which included compositions from productions such as Guys and Dolls, Moulin Rouge and Matilda. Performances included chorus, small group and solo singing as well as dance sequences. With minimalist set design the focus was on lighting, costumes, makeup and props to set the scene. The cast and crew gave a high quality performance.



An Animated Adventure

Despite the obstacles created by the pandemic, our Middle Years Production Team brought "An Animated Adventure" to the stage in August. The students sang and danced their way through fourteen popular songs from musicals.

The students worked through many challenges during the rehearsal period. The cast performed with energy, enthusiasm and positivity to provide high quality performances.

Congratulations to all students and staff involved in the Production Team. Special thanks to Director of both Production's, Mrs Helen Janke, for her outstanding tuition and leadership.



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