

Clippings



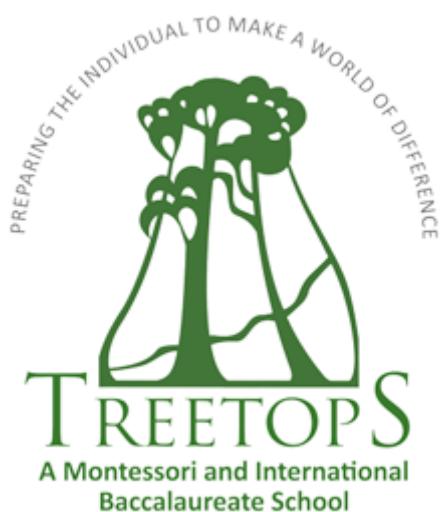
Newsletter for Treetops

UPCOMING DATES

EDITION 160

**Monday 26th September - Monday
10th October**
School Holidays

Tuesday 11th October
Students Commence Term 4



From the Principal

Dear Treetops Community,

Thank you to everyone that joined us for our Performing Arts Night on Friday 9th September. With each new year this event never ceases to impress me. This year, we re-introduced Secondary Dance, and for the first time had Primary and Secondary Drama items. Jamie from 'Schools Go Dance' once again partnered with Treetops to create these items. The evening also show-cased the amazing talent of our students who participate in the school's peripatetic and school-based Music programmes.

One of the great many highlights for me is seeing students who are otherwise quite shy or reserved, transform into someone else on stage. This was especially the case for our Secondary School items.

Having a parent item again was a delight. This is a very 'Treetops' thing to do that is not evident in many schools. The value to our students in seeing their parents, along with other adults, clearly enjoying performing is immeasurable. We have a great depth of creative talent in our parent body and their rendition of 'I'll Be There for You' by The Rembrandts was excellent.

This year we sold a record of 285 tickets for our Performing Arts Night, making good use of our venue's capacity. I am really encouraged by the strength of our Performing Arts Programme, and we can all look forward to seeing how it continues to thrive in the years to come.

Enjoy the school holidays, we look forward to seeing you all back next term.

Stuart Harris





School Holidays Office Hours

Over the school holidays, the school office will be closed/open on the following dates:

Week 1: Monday 26th - Friday 30th September - Closed

Week 2: Monday 3rd - Friday 7th October - Open 9am - 3pm

Staff PD Day: Monday 10th October - Open 9am - 3pm (school closed for students)

Should you need to contact us during the period that we are closed, please send an email to office@treetops.wa.edu.au and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Students will commence Term 4 on Tuesday 11th October.

Secondary School



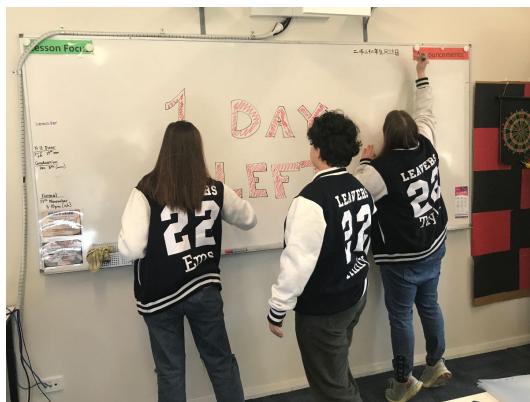
Congratulations Year 12's!

Congratulations and Best Wishes to our four Year 12 Leavers: Taylor, Emily, Georgia, and Rachel. Year 12s have been busy revising or completing final assessments (some even up to today!). So our class party today was a nice chance to reflect on how much has changed over the years at Treetops since these young people joined the community. We also got a chance to test our knowledge (or lack thereof) of cars, American football, and Disney movies.

Although this is their last regular day of school, you will still be seeing a fair bit of Taylor as she comes in to complete her mock IB exams in the term break and final exams during Term 4. There are also a few more chances to celebrate them between the combined Montessori formal (17th November), Year 12 Celebration Dinner (25th November) and of course, Graduation (8th December).

Thank you Year 12s, and best of luck in all your future endeavours.

Kim Steimer





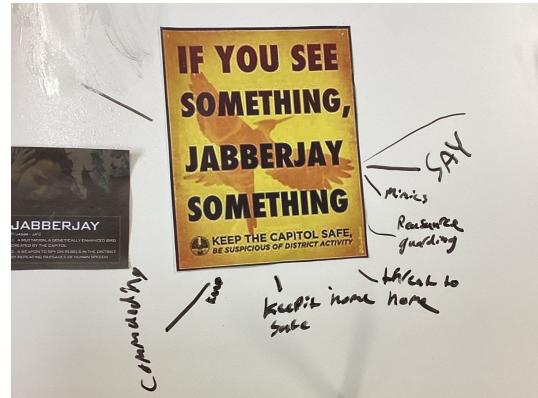
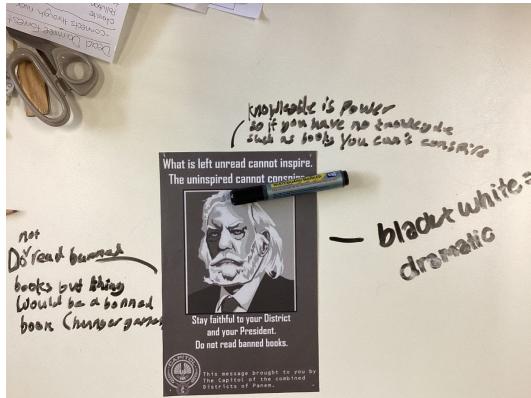
English and HaSS

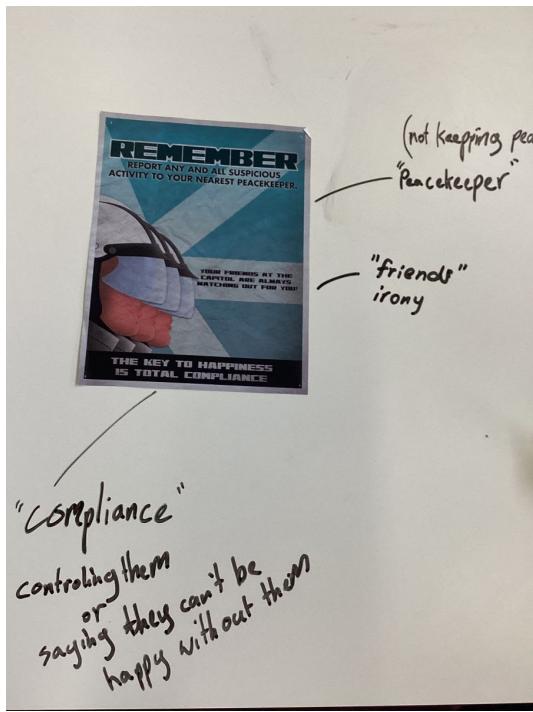
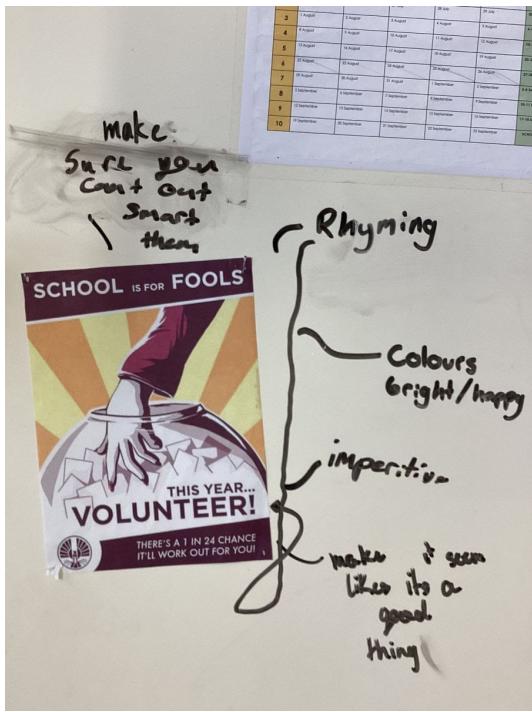
This term, Jarrah have been studying a play called 'Fast', about a group of young High School friends taking part in a 24-hour fast for charity...until two of them get a little too competitive. We explored different reasons why people around the world might fast, and the students created outlandish front page news articles about a scandalous event in the story!





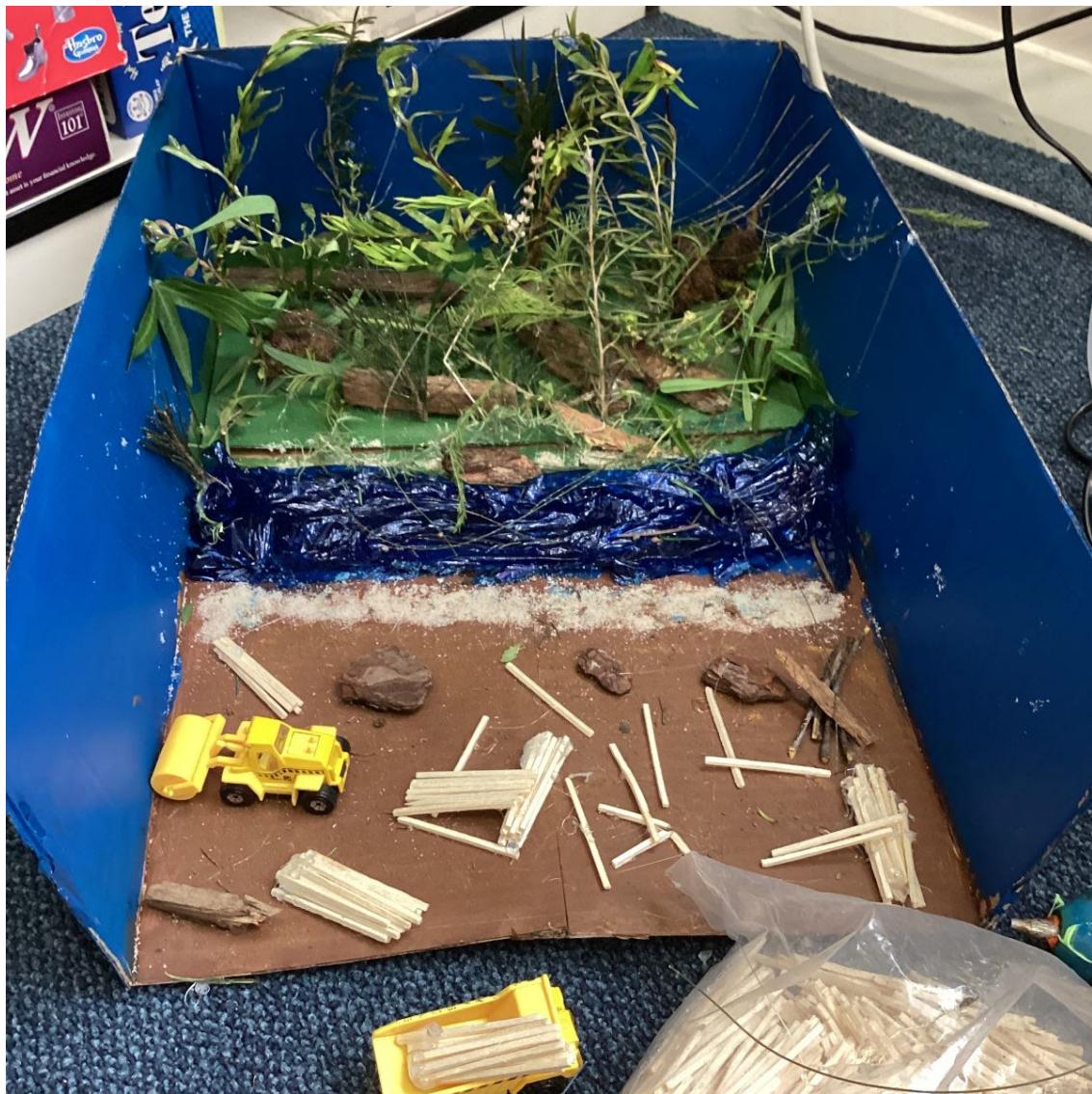
In English, Wando have spent Term 3 studying *The Hunger Games*. We explored conventions of the dystopian genre, and students annotated propaganda posters for the story ahead of making their own. They've also been challenged to write from the point of view of a couple of characters.





For Hass, Wandoo have been working hard at the end of the term to create a split diorama of an Australian biome of choice. Working in pairs, they are showing what the biome should look like alongside what it looks like with human impacts affecting it.

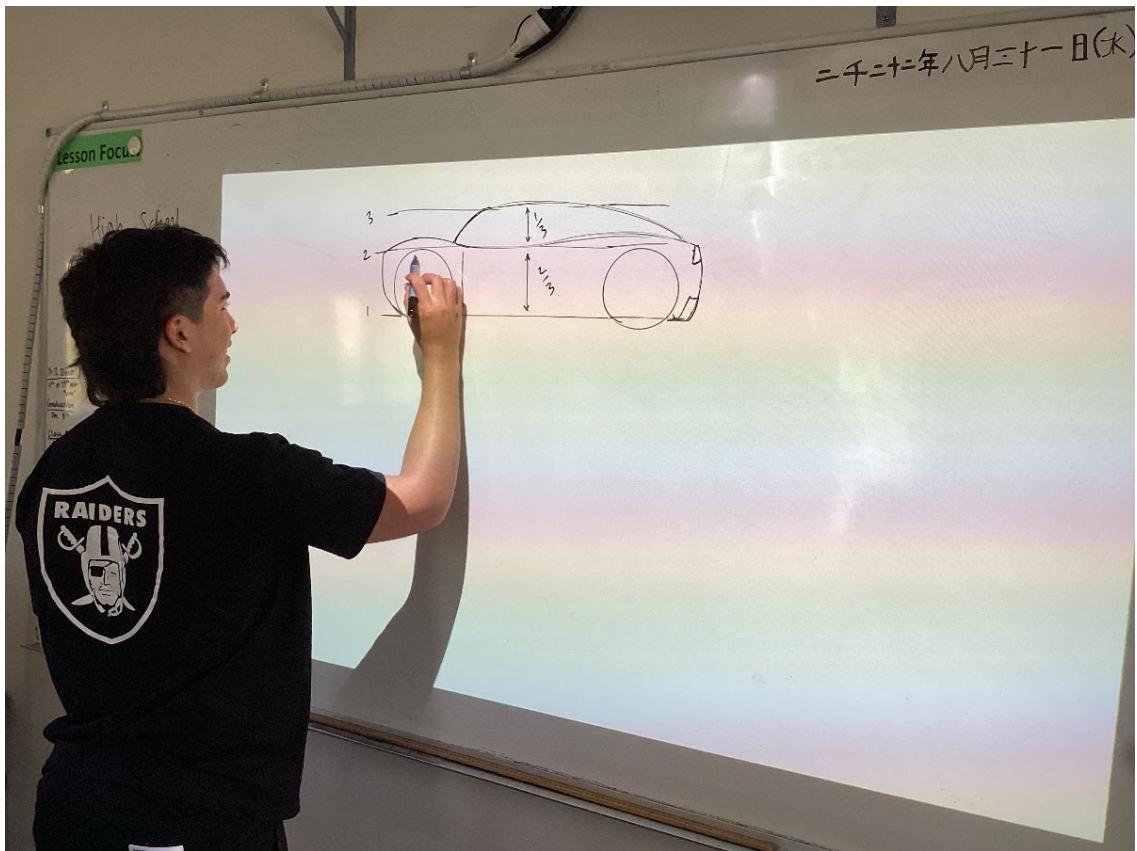




Tuart have been learning about Soft Skills, including collaboration and leadership skills. They demonstrated these through the spaghetti tower activity, and then by leading each other through a task in which each of them got to act as the 'teacher'.

Kasey Hayman





Science

Upper School Biology

It's been a busy term for Year 11&12s as they finish up their last projects and revise for upcoming exams. Year 12 Biology have been out in the field collecting and adding to community data on the impact of human development and invasive species in the local area. Year 11 Biology has been keeping it a bit closer to home by exploring how light impacts the number of stomata (pores on leaves that allow gases in and out) of the trees and bushes around Treetops.



Lower School Science

Since the Science Fair, our Jarrah cohort has been hard at work examining energy and heat. Using the LRRL framework, we took a deep dive into how Australia could use wind and solar energy to curtail some of the country's energy usage. The heat unit has been using pizza as our impetus to explore how colour impacts radiation, and determining the best material to use for insulation - we keep it cheesy in the Year 7&8 class!

Kim Steimer



Youth Choices Incursion

Year 7-10s participated in a 'Rapid Response' theatre incursion about mental health and wellbeing last Thursday. The group built the scenes around student suggestions and input. They also got to stop the performances a few times to work out some better ways of dealing with conflicts and to show how best to support each other. It was a great chance for lower Secondary to work together and see how different situations play out.

Kim Steimer



Specialist Subjects



Art

Year 12 Art students, Rachel and Emily, have been working hard to finish all of their projects this term, producing amazing results. Rachel has been developing her digital art skills up to a very high standard, continuously refining her techniques and learning new skills. Emily has been experimenting with acrylics this year to very successful results, after an in-depth exploration of watercolours last year. Both of these students will have work featured at the upcoming Darlington Arts Festival, along with many other Treetops students. Please ensure you stop by to see the great artwork!

Rachel and Emily are the first students I have taught entirely through their Secondary School journey at Treetops; it has been a privilege to see them grow from enthusiastic and inquisitive minds in Karri, to adults with the skills and mastery to pursue their creativity in further study, or on a professional level if they choose.

Peter Zylstra





Japanese

せんり みち いっぽ
千里の道も一歩から

Learning a language begins with one step, but requires dedication and commitment.

At Treetops, we are extremely fortunate to have continuity in our Languages program, with students able to study Japanese from Children's House through to Year 12.

In Senior Secondary, students can choose Japanese as part of the IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) or as a WACE General subject. Both pathways include content covering a variety of themes and topics, with students further developing their skills in writing, reading, speaking, and listening.

This week we see the culmination of our Year 12 students' Japanese language learning journey. While WACE General students have completed all assessment tasks, our IBDP student is gearing up for mock exams in the spring break, then final exams at the end of October. がんばってください。

Sharon Crossman



千里の道も一歩から

"A journey of a thousand miles
begins with a single step."

Music

Term 3 is quite possibly the most busy term for performing arts in the school year. This term has had its focus on Performing Arts Night, which was held 2 weeks ago. Our students performed wonderfully in music, dance, and drama items, and I was so impressed with the way they handled themselves on the evening.

Many of our students were performing on a stage for the first time, and all of them battled their nerves and excitement to perform wonderfully.

A group of our very brave parents also performed and it was fantastic watching them sing and have fun, putting themselves in their children's shoes. It was an item that was colourful and full of life!

Our Dance and Drama teacher, Jaime, put together some fabulous items this year as was evidenced by the reaction from our wonderful and supportive audience. Our students really enjoyed their opportunity to have both Dance and Drama this year.

Next term we look forward to performing at The Darlington Arts Festival (November 5th and 6th), having our private music students perform in their Recital Morning (end of November), and performances from our class groups at the end of year Family Gathering (December).

Have a great break everyone. It's definitely well deserved!

Mary Pollard







Primary School



Karri

Last week, the Karri class had a great excursion. We spent the morning at Parliament House and the afternoon at the Electoral Education Centre. We had booked in on a 'Sitting Day' in order to observe Parliament at work. However, this was not the case due to State Parliament being suspended as a mark of respect for the passing of Her Majesty the Queen. Instead, we received an in-depth tour of Parliament House and learnt about its history, design, artwork, and significant Premiers of the state. The students also got to see inside the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council from the public gallery.

It was interesting to hear about some of the traditions that still take place in Parliament, such as the 'dragging' in of the speaker where new successful candidates are physically dragged to the Chair by other MPs! At the end of the tour, the students received badges, bookmarks, and a juice on behalf of their local members. Photography is strictly prohibited inside Parliament House so we were only able to take a quick photo on the steps before going inside.



After a quick lunch, we spent the afternoon doing activities at the Electoral Education Centre. The students reviewed their understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the three levels of government. To experience how voting is both a democratic right and a responsibility, the students engaged in a mock election whereby students cast a vote on their favourite chocolate bar. This gave students an insight into what happens on election day, including; polling places, ballot papers, the role of canvassers and scrutineers, the formality of votes, and the counting of votes.

Karri had an engaging and educational day which I am sure they learnt a lot from.

I hope everyone enjoys their holidays, and I trust I will see you back refreshed and ready for Term 4!

Katie Simpson



Marri

Over the term, Marri has researched the journey of Captain Arthur Phillip and the first fleet. The class has worked on timelines and maps of the journey. Along with this, Marri has explored the indigenous perspective of the first fleet and the effect the European settlers has on indigenous people of Australia.

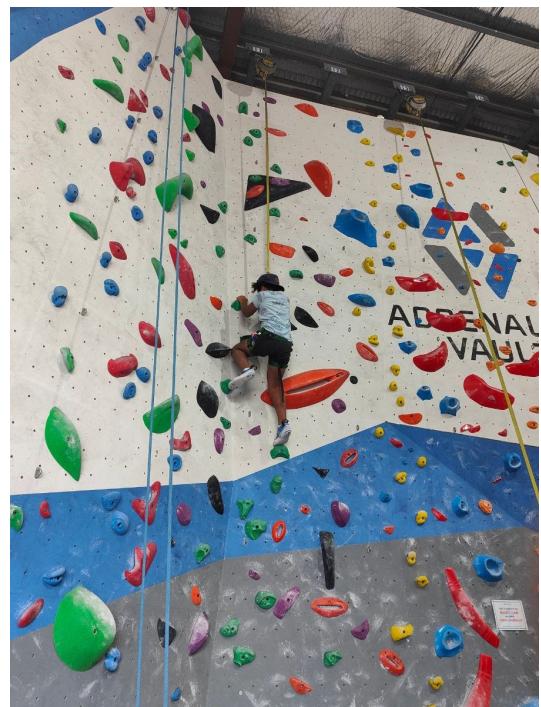
Marri continued with studying early Australian history by investigating the early penal colonies of Australia. The class researched the buildings of the time and their specific uses, along with how these buildings would differ today. The class investigated technology used, and how over time technology becomes obsolete, and what would replace the older technology. Many students were surprised at the horrible conditions of the hospitals compared to modern day medicine.

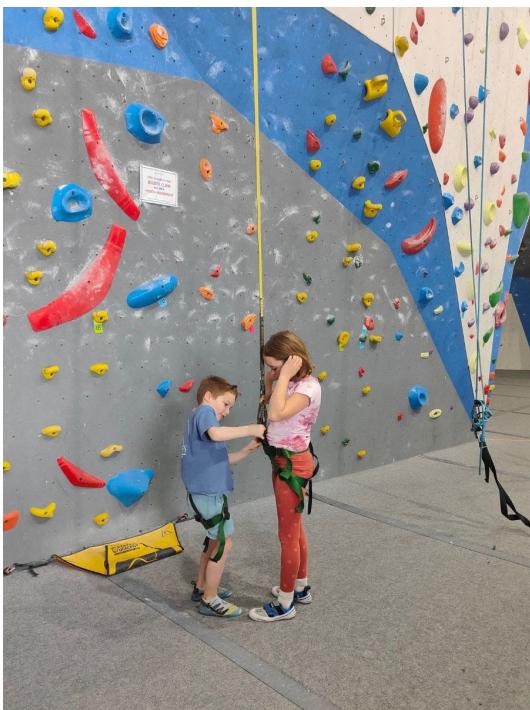
To expand on the Marri class's knowledge of procedure writing, students wrote a step-by-step instruction of how to make a peanut butter and jam sandwich - the catch was that I would create this sandwich following their exact steps. It was an incredibly messy experience, but also very worthwhile.

Marri enjoyed an excursion to Adrenaline Vault recently. The students were challenged with bouldering and rock-climbing puzzles. The class threw themselves into the activities and became adept climbers quickly, with some students outperforming the adults. It was a great experience for all involved.

Lastly, a huge shout out to our parent liaison Julia Cameron, she has done a superb job organising Special Lunch for Marri, and thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to help with Special Lunch. Enjoy your holidays.

Hylton Hayes





Wattle

Thank you to everyone who has supported Wattle over Term 3. Thank you to all the families who found the time to engage in a Parent Activity on a Monday afternoon. The students thoroughly enjoyed the return of this experience. Thank you to everyone who supplied Special Lunch, another wonderful treat that everyone enjoys. Thank you to those families who helped with the laundry this term, Marri will take over doing the laundry in Term 4. Thank you for all the supportive words and smiles of thanks for all that Sandy and I create for the students. We both get a lot of joy from our day-to-day learning interactions with the students.

A highlight from Wattle this term was the return of the Wattle Morning Tea. Family members were invited to a special breakfast and to engage in activities with their children. Flower crowns were a popular activity, as well as portrait drawing. These are special moments that can never be recreated.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious breakfast of child-baked delights such as honey joys, banana bread muffins, and an egg and bacon extravaganza. The photos tell the stories. Enjoy the holidays and return revived for an exciting Term 4!!!

Natalie Boyd-Ratcliff



Early Years



Children's House

Peace Education

Peace education is an integral part of a Montessori classroom. Our classroom has a peace corner, to which a child can go to calm down and feel peaceful. This is where our light table is situated, as well as books, sand timers, small cuddle toys, and sensory tools. Children can choose to go to the peace corner on their own at any time when they are seeking a moment of serenity.



We also start each day by saying the Kindness Pledge, where we promise to be kind to our friends and to ourselves.



The children are taught to resolve their conflicts with the use of a peace rose. The children involved in the conflict stand opposite each other, facing one another. Whoever is holding the peace rose gets to speak. They listen respectfully and without interruption. Then the rose is passed to the other child, and it is their turn to speak. They end by saying "we declare peace" and give one another a smile.



This week we talked about what peace means to them. This is what the children had to say:

Peace is...

- When my Mum *and* Dad tuck me into bed it gives me a lot of happiness.
- I feel peaceful when I am going on a walk.
- When I hear birds chirping and I can even hear their wings flutter.
- When Daddy is drawing animals with me.
- When I am playing with my sisters in a peaceful way.
- When Mumma and Dadda play with all of us.
- My big brother is not good at being peaceful, but my little brother is, and we play nicely together.
- Looking at the stars makes me feel peaceful.

Saying the Kindness Pledge every morning.

- Loving our families.
- Being outside with trees and nature.
- Being quiet and looking at books.
- Bedtime stories.
- When I am alone with Mummy, I feel peaceful.
- Going on a bike ride with Mum.
- I feel happy and peaceful when my Dad and brother go on adventures together to an abandoned treehouse.
- I feel peaceful when I play alone with my sea animals.

Peace can be as simple as a quiet moment or three deep breaths...

Activities like watering plants, tiding up after themselves, and placing the equipment back in the correct place encourages children to interact with their environment. Holding the door open for each other, greeting others sincerely with good eye contact, helping others to tidy away or clean, and listening while others are talking, teaches love and respect for others.

Getting nearer to nature helps us feel more relaxed. Urban environments require what Psychologists call *directed attention*, which forces us to ignore distractions and exhausts our brains. In natural environments, children can practice an effortless type of attention known as *soft fascination* that creates feelings of pleasure and calmness, not fatigue.





Reading together. Not only is the act of reading peaceful itself, but many books also do a great job of teaching concepts of peace. Reading together also has the bonus of encouraging your child's love of learning, as well as providing some quality snuggle opportunities.

Books about Peace – many of these are available through the Boya Library.

- I am Peace by Susan Verde and Peter Reynolds – (one of our favourite stories)
See the YouTube video sung by Emily Arrow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqkPdljjSF1>
- Bizz Buzz Bozz by Natalie Mckinnon
- The Smeds and The Smoos by Julia Donaldson
- Mopoke by Philip Bunting
- Giraffe in the Bath by Russell Punter
- Peace is an Offering by Barbara Kerley
- Peace – a beautiful poem by Baptiste and Miranda Paul
- What Does Peace Feel Like? by Vladimir Radunsky

Anene Lamb

Special Events



Children's House/Wattle Sleepover

On Friday 16th September, there was a buzz among the Pre-Primary and Year 1 and 2 students (there was also an anticipatory buzz among the families!). Around 6pm, all students excitedly returned to school. Wattle students quickly set up their beds then headed down to Children's House, where they could see a beautifully set long table and could smell delicious home-prepared food being cooked. The students all aimed to sit beside a new friend as they enjoyed a variety of pasta dishes, followed by slow-cooked apples and ice cream for dessert.



Captain Clean-Up with his very important water saving messages was a big hit after dinner. A few select students were chosen to be Superhero Water Warriors. The first chosen was Emily. She was Superhero Vet. Superhero Vet was an advocate for 4-minute showers with a water-saving showerhead! Zane was the second superhero, named Superhero Ummmmm! He advocated to make sure everyone fixes leaking sprinklers. Berenice was Superhero Ahhhhh, advocating for less watering time. All reticulation timers should have their watering time reduced by 2 minutes. Henrique was Superhero Dee. Possibly the most valuable superhero. Superhero Dee was searching for chocolate sliders and using the (toilet) brush to remove all chocolate sliders (the adults were struggling to control their delight at this point!). The event ended with all students taking an oath and being named very important Water Warriors!



Soon it was time for Wattle to head out on their spotlight walk and for Children's House to set up their beds. Wattle students were lucky enough to spot a Perameles (quenda) and a Rattus fuscipes this year. Previous years it has mainly been invertebrates that were spotted.

Children's House enjoyed watching Finding Nemo before settling down to sleep. Wattle enjoyed watching part of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang before sleep. Students were interested to learn that Dick Van Dyke (Caractacus Potts) is the same age as Queen Elizabeth II, but still alive, and that the movie was set just over 100 years ago.

Students went quickly to sleep in both Children's House and Wattle, although Wattle students were early to rise. All students enjoyed many treats for a delicious breakfast before an outside play whilst waiting for families to collect them. Another very successful sleepover was enjoyed by everyone!!!

Natalie Boyd-Ratcliff and Anene Lamb





United Nations Peace Day Celebrations

Treetops was once again honoured to present 'Light a Candle for Peace' at the United Nations Peace Day celebration in Darlington on Sunday.

Peace education is a key part of a Montessori school. From the beginning at Treetops, our students learn about different cultures to help them to gain an understanding of people from different backgrounds. They are taught grace and courtesy towards others. They also practise conflict resolution, starting with the use of the peace rose in Children's House.

Students who are in conflict take turns to hold the rose and explain their point of view so that those involved can understand what the person they were in conflict with might be thinking or feeling. Students at Montessori schools are also actively involved in learning responsibility for themselves, for their choices, for others and for the environment.

In 2009, Shelley Murley wrote the song Light a Candle for Peace and it was sung in succession by Montessori schools around the world. Each international region was given a time zone for singing. The unified hope for peace was shared and expressed for a full 24 hours of singing on that day. On Sunday, as we have now for several years, we kept the song tradition alive and did so again at school on Wednesday 21st September, the actual UN Peace Day.

At the Peace celebration on Sunday we enjoyed listening to a huge diversity of guest performances, including Tibetan Singing Bowls, Swan Harmony Singers, two ex-students performing 'Shaping a Peace: A Family Practice', Playground conflict, and more, and listened with interest to the speech by Randhir Amoganathan, the representative of the United Nations Association of WA, who spoke about the bilateral cause of war and the need for multilateral thinking and action for solutions.

Our group also took part in a singing circle and a circle dance called the Elm Dance.

Jayne Simpson



Community News



Transperth Service Changes

The school has received information about the opening of the Airport line on 10 October. This will coincide with changes to the Transperth bus network in Perth's eastern suburbs. These changes may impact on how your children travel to school and you are encouraged to visit the Transperth website ahead of Term 4 to ensure you are familiar with any impact of these changes. Below is a link to the summary of the changes that Transperth have identified may affect our school. If there are any concerns about these changes, contact Transperth, either through the website or the call centre 13 62 13.

<https://www.transperth.wa.gov.au/JourneyPlanner/Airport-Line/Airport-Line-Service-Changes>





UPCOMING EVENTS

Supporting Montessori Parents

REGISTER NOW



Sunday, October 2, 2022 7:00 PM

Intro to Positive Discipline Tools to Raise Capable Young People (online)

[Register here](#)

Health Information for Students

Scoliosis

Scoliosis is an abnormal sideways curvature of the spine. It can be detected by a simple examination of the back. The normal spine has three curves – one in the neck, one in the upper back and one in the lower back. These curves can be seen from the side, but when you look from behind the spine should appear straight. If the spine has a sideways curve, this is scoliosis.

Please read through the [scoliosis information](#) provided by Raising Children Network and check your child for scoliosis as described. If you have any concerns, please contact your General Practitioner or Community Health Nurse, Louise Thompson on 0404 824 403

Colour Blindness

Children who are colour blind can see as clearly as other people but can't tell the difference between some colours or see colours differently from other people. Very few people who are colour blind are 'blind' to all colours – most often they see red and green as very similar.

It's good to know if a child is colour blind because they may have difficulty at school with activities that use colours, such as drawing and sorting blocks, and with computers. Please read through information on [colour blindness](#) provided by Raising Children Network.

If you have any concerns, colour vision testing can be performed by some General Practitioners (GP), eye specialists or optometrist. You can also contact your local Community Health Nurse, Louise Thompson on 0404 824 403.



 **MIDVALE HUB
PARENTING SERVICE
PERTH NORTH EAST**

Tuning in to Kids

For parents and carers who reside in the local government areas of Mundaring, Swan, Bassendean & Bayswater.

A parenting program for parents of children aged 3 - 10yrs

Tuning in to Kids is a 6 session evidence based program for parents, with children aged 3 to 10 years. The program explores ways that parents can help their children develop emotional intelligence and increase the emotional connection between parents and children. Learn more about:

- developing emotion coaching skills to help children understand and regulate their own feelings and emotions
- promoting co-operative behaviour in young children
- developing parent's own emotional awareness
- managing emotions such as anger and anxiety

For more information and to register, please contact:
Midvale Hub Parenting Service (Perth North East)
Telephone: (08) 9290 6827
Email: parentingservice@mundaring.wa.gov.au



Brockman Community House
181 Alton Road, Beechboro

Tuesdays - 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 November & 6 December, 2022
(must be able to attend all sessions)

9.30am - 11.30am

FREE - Registration is essential

Crèche - Limited places, bookings essential, \$7 per session. Contact: Brockman House (08) 9279 1588.



The Midvale Hub Parenting Service Perth (North East) is provided by Midvale Hub (Shire of Mundaring) and funded by the State Government through the Department of Communities.

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Telephone: (08) 9290 6827
Email: parentingservice@mundaring.wa.gov.au



Parkerville Baptist Church
910 Seaborne Street, Parkerville

Thursdays 27 October, 3, 10, 17, 24 November & 1 December 2022
Participants must be able to attend all sessions

9.30am - 11.30am

FREE - Registration is essential

Crèche - Not available for this program



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 **MIDVALE HUB
PARENTING SERVICE
PERTH NORTH EAST**

Let's Talk Mindfulness & Self-care

For parents and carers who reside in the local government areas of Mundaring, Swan, Bassendean & Bayswater

This workshop is for parents of children aged 0 - 18 years and aims to explore simple ways to practice mindfulness and self-care. This interactive session highlights the importance of taking care of ourselves as a parent which helps support family wellbeing.

Learn more about:

- what is self-care really?
- why self-care is important for parents
- barriers to self-care and how to overcome them
- the benefits of practicing self-care and mindfulness practices
- self care planning

For more information and to register, please contact:
Midvale Hub Parenting Service (Perth North East)
Telephone: (08) 9290 6827
Email: parentingservice@mundaring.wa.gov.au



Brockman Community House
181 Alton Road, Beechboro

Tuesday - 25 October , 2022

9.30am - 11.00am

FREE - Registration is essential

Crèche - Limited places, bookings essential, \$7 for the session
Contact Brockman House (08) 9279 1588.



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 **MIDVALE HUB
PARENTING SERVICE
PERTH NORTH EAST**

Circle of Security Parenting

For parents and carers who reside in the local government areas of Mundaring, Swan, Bassendean & Bayswater

Circle of Security Parenting is an international evidence based 8 session program for parents, with children aged 4 months to 6 years. The program is designed to enhance the bond and sense of security for both parents and their children. Learn more about:

- understanding children and their emotional development
- understanding parenting influences
- helping children to feel safe in their world
- identifying and enhancing parenting strengths

For more information and to register, please contact:
Midvale Hub Parenting Service (Perth North East)
Telephone: (08) 9290 6827
Email: parentingservice@mundaring.wa.gov.au



Maylands Public Library
28 Eight Ave, Maylands

Wednesdays 19, 26 October, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 November & 7 December 2022
*Participants must be able to attend all sessions

9.30am - 11.30am

FREE - Registration is essential
Crèche - Bookings essential. Limited places available at 'The RISE'. For a minimal fee. Please enrol at www.bayswaterrecreation.com.au/the-rise-creche and follow the booking instructions.
Online bookings can be made up to 7 days in advance. Phone: 9208 2414 during Crèche hours







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