

From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back to the school year and a special welcome to Year 7, other new students and families to Wingham High School.

I would like to congratulate the Year 12 of 2024 for the well-deserved results in their HSC. I am pleased to announce that Hannah Beard received the highest ATAR for the cohort.

Several improvements to the school occurred over the holiday period.

- Air conditioning in the learning spaces of A and B Block were installed.
- A Wellbeing Hub was developed. Staff in the Hub include, Luke Gardiner (HT Wellbeing), Heidi Anderson (Student Support Officer), Kellie Connolly (School Counsellor), Kelly Holden (Aboriginal Education Officer) and Donna White (Job Coach)
- Upgrades to TAS Workshops

Our staff began the year with four dedicated School Development Days, focusing on Formative Assessment, Daily Reviews, use of ATOMI, embedding literacy into lessons and generally preparing for the year. Executive staff and aspiring leaders took part on Day 2 of the HT Essentials Professional Learning.

Lifting Our Standards in 2025

Our continued focus for this year is on raising expectations and standards across the school. This includes:

- Students having pride in their learning by being on time to class, having the correct equipment, completing tasks to the best of their ability and ensuring their phone is off and away.
- Wearing the correct uniform daily. Wearing our uniform not only makes it easy for staff to identify who should be on our site, but also indicates you are proud of our school.

We understand that financial difficulties can sometimes impact students' ability to have the correct uniform or equipment. If this is the case, please contact the front office so we can provide support.

A positive Start to the Year

The atmosphere in the playground has been particularly calm and friendly, which is a credit to our students for embracing our school expectations. The sense of community at Wingham High School is stronger than ever, and we are looking forward to a productive and successful year ahead.

A key to a successful school is to have strong relationships with parents and the local community; a focus for me this year is to build upon the relationships developed last year to ensure our students receive a quality education with a sense of community responsibility.

Turning to 2025, our current Year 12, organising assessment tasks and major projects early in the year is critical to reduce last-minute stress. Maintaining momentum throughout the year is key to success. Please remember to reach out to your teachers and the students services team including your Year Advisor, Mrs Abbott, if you need support.

New Staff

Deputy Principal – Alan Bowen
 Head Teacher Maths - Matt Whight
 Head Teacher Wellbeing – Luke Gardiner
 Classroom Teachers – Ruth Praeger (Science), Josie Mays (Supported Learning),
 Kathrine Silcock (Science)
 Caren Buckley – School Administration Manager (SAM)

Paul Rosenbaum

Relieving Principal

Dates to Remember

**Year 10 Taree Universities
VR Career Experience**

Wednesday 5 March

Minimum Standards / NAPLAN

11-19 March

Wingham Show

Thursday 6 February 2025

ANZAC Assembly

April 9 2025

Last day of Term 1

Friday 11 April

Wednesday 12 February

P&C AGM Meeting

Thursday 6 March

6pm WHS Front Office

Staff Profile: Mrs Sharynne Battiston, Relieving Deputy

Name: Sharynne Battiston

Where did you grow up? Dubbo, Scotts Head and Coffs Harbour

What Primary and High Schools did you attend? Dubbo South, Scotts Head PS, Macksville HS and Coffs Harbour Senior College.

Have you always been a teacher? No. I worked in radio after my first degree (Austereo Network and Australian Radio Network). Then I DJed for 2.5 years to fund my way through my second degree. I also spent the last 4 years in a Secondary Specialist role where I worked across the state with a variety of schools and teaching networks for 'Student Growth and Attainment' in the Teaching Quality & Impact Directorate.

Why did you become a teacher? I wanted a meaningful career where I could be a valuable contribution to young lives and contribute positively to society.

Which University did you do your Teacher training at? UoN and UNSW.

Interests and Hobbies? Pilates, yoga, beaching, gardening, motorbike riding, firetwirling, hiking, relaxing, bingeing true crime.

Do you follow a sporting team? If so, who? NRL - Go the bunnies !

Who is your favourite author? Wilbur Smith, Dan Brown, Matthew Reilly

What is your favourite series/podcast? I'm a true crime addict, so that gets me to and from work every day.

An interesting fact about yourself. I can't pick a favourite colour, or a favourite music genre and I have an eclectic dress style that can change from day to day, so I had to rewrite these questions because I couldn't answer them all!

What is your first impression of Wingham HS? Incredibly friendly and welcoming (students and staff). Staff here want what is best for students, so our values align. I'm really enjoying my time at WHS.



Staff Profile: Mr Alan Bowen, Relieving Deputy

Name: Alan Bowen

Where did you grow up? Runaway Bay on the Gold Coast

What Primary and High Schools did you attend? (staff) Biggera Waters Primary School, Coombabah State High School

Have you always been a teacher? Pretty much except for a few years where I worked at Dreamworld

Why did you become a teacher? Young people are our future and I want our future to look as bright as possible as that's where my kids are going to live as well.

Which University did you do your Teacher training at? Bachelor of Science in Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics at Griffith University, Nathan, Brisbane then a Graduate Diploma of Education at Southern Cross Lismore.

Interests and Hobbies? Surfing, Mountain Biking, Basketball, Chilling out

Do you follow a sporting team? Yes If so, who? Broncos and Queensland in NRL, Wallabies

What is your favourite singer / band? Hard to narrow down but alternative stuff from the 90's - Pearl Jam, Nirvana, Rage Against the Machine, Metallica plus a lot of newer stuff as well.

What is your favourite song at the moment - Stuck on "Creedence Clearwater Revival" at the moment for some reason - love the raw sound of the vocals.

An interesting fact about yourself? I spent 4 years living and working overseas as a teacher in Thailand and England

What is your first impressions of Wingham HS? Pretty relaxed environment with friendly students.



Student Profile: Emily Prior, School Captain 2025

Name: Emily Prior

Have you always lived in Wingham? If no, where else have you lived? No, I lived in Raymond Terrace as a baby and moved to Wingham to be with family shortly after.

What Primary school did you attend? I went to St Joseph's Wingham for all seven years of Primary.

What are your goals for the year? My goals as School Captain are to make Wingham High School a more inviting and welcoming place to be. I want to do this by having fun SRC events and being an approachable person.

What are your career aspirations? My future career ideas seem to switch weekly, but the one thing that stays constant is to be ridiculously educated. I think I also want to go down the History or Law path as well.

Interests and Hobbies? I have a lot of creative hobbies that I do like painting, sewing, crocheting or writing, but I also love running and amateur gymnastics (doing walk outs in the backyard).

Do you follow a sporting team? If so, who? I don't, no, but I enjoy watching the Matildas and the Gymnastics team.

What is your favourite singer/band? I can't choose just one, but I love indie and rock bands/singers.

What is your favourite song at the moment? It ain't me – Bob Dylan.

An interesting fact about yourself? Performed with/for the NSW Government's Arts Units as part of the State Drama Ensemble and State Drama Camp.



Student Profile: Will Border, School Captain 2025

Name: Will Border

Have you always lived in Wingham? If no, where else have you lived? I have lived in Wingham most of my life.

I grew up in Taree on a street called Boyd Street.

What Primary school did you attend? Wingham Public School.

What are your goals for the year? Get into Uni at CSU, get an 85 ATAR and set up a STEM club for the future.

What are your career aspirations? Project manager, Civil engineering

Interests and Hobbies? Stem, Xbox, History/Politics, Farming

Do you follow a sporting team? If so, who? Newcastle Knights because my grandfather supports them.

What is your favourite singer/band? Kodak Black, Bobin Maintenance Crew, Flight

What is your favourite song at the moment? Tweaker

An interesting fact about yourself? I run a STEM club.





Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Combined University Roadshow 2025

On Thursday 13th February, Year 12 was visited by the Combined University Roadshow to discuss all things university. Representatives from Charles Sturt University, Southern Cross University, University of Newcastle, University of New England and Taree Universities Campus spoke to students about a variety of topics, including how to apply to university, scholarships, accommodation and university life. Students also had the opportunity to participate in a mini expo, where they asked further questions, spoke individually to university representatives and received resources. Year 12 were excellent participants and gained valuable insights from the presentation in the lead up to university applications.



Taree Universities Campus



**Charles Sturt
University**



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

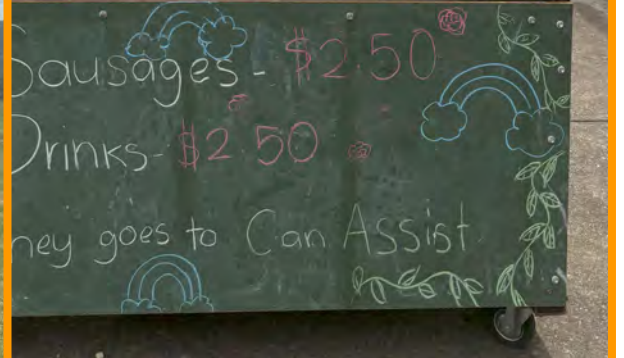


**Southern Cross
University**

une

University of
New England

Spirit Day 2025



Wingham High School Newsletter



Swimming Carnival

Staff and students of Wingham High were out in force for our annual Swimming Carnival on 11 February. Thank you to volunteers and Wingham Pool for hosting us on the day. Congratulations to all participants.

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved Age Champion at our Swimming Carnival for 2025.

<i>Tegan McCallum</i>	<i>Reuby Sheather</i>	<i>Lara McAuliffe</i>	<i>Halle Ward</i>	<i>Eva Greenaway</i>
<i>Mitchell Lyon</i>	<i>Noah Cross</i>	<i>Connor Singe</i>	<i>Sean Hurst</i>	<i>Jack McAuliffe</i>



OnStage Drama Excursion



On the 13th and 14th of February students from years 10 and 12 travelled to Sydney to attend OnStage 2025. Onstage is the showcase of the best HSC performances and projects from the previous year's HSC and students must achieve a Band 6 to be nominated, before auditioning to be accepted. Students were able to experience a wide range of Individual and group performances, Short films and moved readings of original scripts. They also had the chance to see a variety of high-quality costume, set, promotion and marketing and lighting design projects, and the final projects from students who had completed a directorial folio, critical analysis or theatrical review. Students also participated in a number of practical activities, including a backstage tour of Sydney Theatre Company, a Directorial Artist's talk and a Group devising workshop at Belvoir Street Theatre. This was an extremely valuable experience for all students who attended and they displayed exemplary behaviour while there, representing Wingham High at the highest level. Students should be congratulated on their enthusiasm and respectful behaviour.



Rugby League donation

Wingham High students have been presented with 3 new sets of rugby league kits for use by our teams during competitive sport. The kits will be used by all teams including boys and girls tackle and league tag. The kits have been very generously donated by Wingham Junior Rugby League and Wingham High School P&C. Thank you to Craig Hailes from Wingham Junior Rugby League, who attended our Assembly to formally present the kits to our school.





increased patrols

Council rangers out and about

Council is responding to community request for increased monitoring and enforcement of parking rules. Please follow street signage and NSW parking rules. This increases safety and helps everyone share parking spaces. To dispute a fine, contact Revenue NSW directly on 1300 138 118. Council doesn't have any control over a fine once it is issued.

midcoast.nsw.gov.au



For more information scan the QR code.



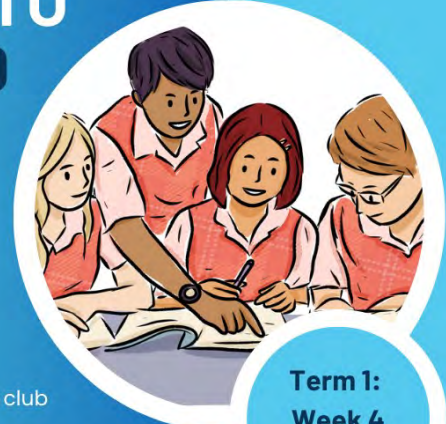
PREPARE TO SUCCEED

When and where?

- Learning Hub
- Wednesday 3:15 until 4:15

Who and What?

- All students welcome
- Study Space and homework club
- Students should bring their own work to focus on



Term 1:
Week 4
to week 11

STUDY WITHOUT STRESS

TERM 1

YEAR 12 - MONDAYS P1
YEAR 11 - TUESDAYS 2:45PM
IN THE LEARNING HUB WITH MRS AUSTIN

WE WILL COVER:

- Managing stressful thoughts
- Study/life balance
- Tips to deal with work avoidance & building good study habits

See Mrs Austin for more information.



Wingham
Presbyterian
Youth Group

Rock

Friday evenings
fun + fellowship
for high schoolers
7-9pm



Wingham Presbyterian Church
32 Moon St, Wingham

Wingham High
School P&C

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025



Thursday 6/3/25



6pm

Held in the front office
All welcome



ONLINE ORDERING

- Available 24/7
- Convenient for parents
- Removes paper orders and cash
- FREE registration

Online ordering is more convenient, providing a 24/7 payment and ordering system that can be accessed from home, work or a mobile device.

No more fumbling around for coins in the morning or sending kids to school with excess cash, online orders are faster and more accurate giving parents peace of mind that their order and payment is received accurately at the school.

Registration is free and only takes a few minutes.



EASY, ONLINE REGISTRATION

- Go to www.flexischools.com.au
- Click REGISTER NOW
- Enter your email
- You will be emailed a link to an online form - follow the link
- Choose a username and password and complete the form
- Add each student and their class
- Top-up the account - VISA or Mastercard preferred.



Place lunch orders from your iPhone or iPad! Find us in the App Store.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

All you need is a free Volunteers Working with Children's Check and one simple form for you to enjoy a free morning tea and lunch and a good laugh with our fabulous canteen team. However, most importantly you are helping our students receive nutritious, NSW Government approved meals. You won't have to serve or handle money.

So come in and lend a hand as much or as little time as you like - and you don't have to have a child at this school to help!

Please call Judy on 6553 5488.



OPEN
From 8am every day

Wingham High School - Summer Canteen Menu

REMEMBER to ORDER before 9am
ORDER on-line with FLEXISCHOOLS



For any special requirements please call in & have a chat with Judy.
Payment by cash or card only

Check the blackboard for daily specials

HOT FOOD	
Fish Piece	\$3.50
Vege Spring Rolls	\$3.00
Chicken Fingers	\$4.00
Chicken Chilli Wrap	\$4.00
Sausage Roll	\$4.00
Ham and Cheese Pocket	\$3.50
Toasted Sandwich (your choice)	\$3.50
Garlic Bread	\$3.00
Cheese Burgers	\$5.00
Hamburgers	\$6.00
Chicken Burgers	\$5.50
Fish Burger	\$5.50
Pizza, BBQ Chicken or Hawaiian	\$6.00
Macaroni Cheese	\$5.00
Potato Bake	\$4.50
Spaghetti Bolognaise	\$5.00
Lasagne	\$5.00
Roast Chicken Meal	\$6.50

Many Gluten Free Options Available
Wraps, sandwiches, Pizzas & Pies.
Please Order

COLD FOOD	
Salad Roll (white or wholemeal)	\$4.50
All Sandwiches (white or wholemeal)	\$3.50
Salad	
Egg & lettuce	
Ham, cheese & tomato	
Ham and cheese	
Chicken & lettuce and mayo	
Corned beef & pickles	
Salad Wrap	\$5.50
Salad Wrap with Chicken or Ham	\$6.00
Salad Box with Egg, Chicken or Ham	\$6.00
Chicken Caesar Salad	\$6.50
Half Wraps	\$3.50
Chicken, Cheese and BBQ Sauce roll	\$4.50
Ham, Cheese and Pineapple roll	\$4.50

Salads consist of lettuce, tomato, beetroot, onion, cucumber, carrot & low fat cheese.

Vegetarian	
Spinach & Cheese Roll	\$3.50
Caesar Salad	\$4.00
Vege Mornay Pie	\$5.00
Vege Burger	\$5.00

Vegetarian meals available every day
Please Order

ICE CONFECTIONS	
Paddle Pops (2 flavours)	\$2.50
TNT's	\$1.00
Sour snaps	\$1.50
Twisted Frozen Yoghurt (2 flavours)	\$2.50
Frozen fruit	\$1.50
Frozen Fruit Poles	\$1.50
Frozen Juice Cups	\$1.50
Frozen Fruit Smoothies	\$1.00
Moosies	\$2.00
Sour Snaps	\$1.50
Choc malt low fat icecream	\$1.50
Mini Calippos	\$2.00
Beri Sticks	.50c
Juices	\$1.50

MISCELLANEOUS	
Aprons - Blue or White	\$10
W.H.S Packs (apron, goggles, ear plugs, dust mask)	\$20
Visual Arts Diaries	\$7

SNACKS	
Fruit Muffin	\$2.00
Fresh Fruit, whole or pieces	\$1.50
Fresh Fruit Salad	\$4.00
Yoghurt Fruit Custard Cup	\$3.00
Fruit & yoghurt cups	\$2.00
Popcorn	\$2.00
Chips 28gm	\$2.00
Grain Waves	\$2.00
Noodle Snacks	\$1.50

DRINKS	
All Juices (4 flavours)	\$2.50
Flavoured Milk (large)	\$4.00
Flavoured Milk (small)	\$3.00
Just Natural Flavoured Milk	\$4.00
Plain Milk	\$3.50
Up & Go (small)	\$3.00
600ml Water	\$2.50
Juice Bombs	\$2.50
Sparkling Water	\$2.50
G's No Sugar	\$4.00
G;Active No Sugar	\$3.50
Chill Iced Teas	\$3.50

Please note:
NO Heating up of food not purchased through the canteen.
NO hot water will be given out.
NO Students in the canteen. Talk to Judy at front counter.

Gluten Free Options
Now available by order



Payments for excursions etc,
can be made online at
www.winghamh.schools.nsw.edu.au



Find us on
Facebook

Newsletters are published in weeks 3, 6 and 9.

Are available online at:
www.winghamh.schools.nsw.edu.au

Are emailed to:

- all students @education emails
- parents/carers with registered email accounts.

To receive a copy via email:

Contact the school and update your email address
Or

Hard copies are available from the front office and the library.