



WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

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winmalee-h.schools.nsw.gov.au  Winmalee High School - Official



Term 2 Week 10 Communication – Thursday 3 July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warami. As we reach the end of the term, we are still coming down from the high of the Musical. Please indulge us as we share the high praise of 'We Will Rock' You from our community. The vibe in the hall on closing night was energising. In the audience we had former students, parents, grandparents, family members, teachers both current and past, current students supporting their peers and general members of the community. As we all stomped and clapped in unison with the performers on stage, and the lyrics for We Will Rock You filled the hall, it was a moment of pure magic. Collectively we all felt the energy and knew we were part of something very special.

We would like to thank absolutely everyone who was involved in our Musical. It takes a big team, and our team worked together beautifully to make this happen. Staff, both teaching and non-teaching have worked hard to create this opportunity for our school. From costumes to canteen, so many hands made it a success. We are incredibly proud of all the students involved. From cast, dancers, orchestra, crew, sound, lighting, backstage, makeup, front of house, every student played a vital role in creating a show for us all to remember. Thank you to all our families who have supported us throughout, and for purchasing tickets to see the show. This community we have is very special.

Secretary for the Department of Education, Murat Dizdar gave Winmalee High a shout out on X, and Olivia Grey from the department's media team wrote a terrific article, [Winmalee High School wows with We Will Rock You](#). Parent, Mr Mal Hewitt (OAM) wrote a glowing letter which was published by the Gazette.

Impressive achievement

What's On (BMG 25.6.25) referred to Winmalee High's production of *We Will Rock You* as "a brilliant production, showcasing local young talent at its best." The audiences which have packed each performance obviously agreed, with their ecstatic response to the astounding achievements of the 80 students and 25 staff who presented a highly professional performance of the musical comprising Queen's greatest hits, with a storyline about the power of music to change the world. The standard of singing, acting and dancing was outstanding, especially from the principals, and the mostly student band was brilliant.

The technical challenges of sound, lighting and visual images in this show are huge, but teachers and students worked together to overcome those challenges.

My life in music education has revealed countless examples of young people whose lives have been changed for the better through involvement in musicals such as *We Will Rock You*, learning the importance of teamwork, co-operation, acknowledging excellence in others, and using that as a

benchmark to improve themselves. I salute the teachers of Winmalee High, who have worked tirelessly with students after school and at weekends, sharing their skills and knowledge so that students may experience the thrill of achieving what many would consider beyond the reach of those so young. Congratulations to all involved.

Mal Hewitt OAM, Faulconbridge.

BLUE MOUNTAINS
Gazette

Well done Winmalee High School for entertaining audiences young and old with your latest musical. After months of rehearsals, students have wowed their audiences across two weeks of performances of the jukebox musical *We Will Rock You*. <https://t.co/053u4KYu4U>



Murat Dizdar (@dizdarm)

x.com



Subject Selections – an enormous thank you to the many students and parents who braved the rain and wind on Tuesday night to attend Subject Selection evening. A reminder that **forms are due Term 3, Week 1, Friday 25 July.**

Recognition of Student Excellence (RoSE Breakfast) - Congratulations to students in Year 7-10 who were invited to the Semester One RoSE Breakfast events. Yesterday and today, we started the day celebrating student excellence with students and families. Thank you to our families for making the time to attend and being a supportive audience for students.



Year 7 RoSE Breakfast



Year 9 RoSE Breakfast



Year 8 RoSE Breakfast



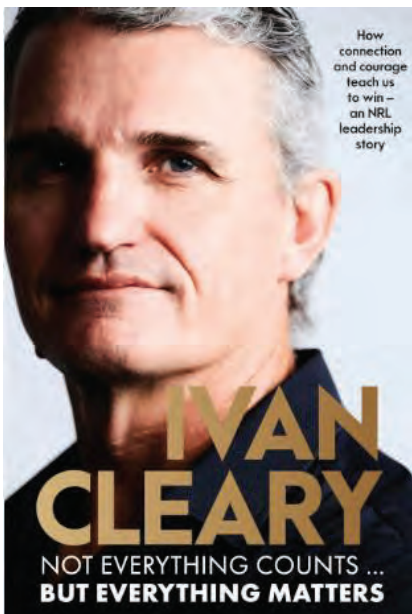
Year 10 RoSE Breakfast

Excellent Attendance Recognition – today and tomorrow, students with attendance at 95% or above will be enjoying a pizza lunch to acknowledge their commitment to attendance. This Semester, we have met our attendance rate target as part of our School Excellence Plan, and these students being rewarded have been a part of making this happen.

We wish our students a happy and restful holiday and we will see everyone back for Term 3 on **Tuesday 22 July**.

What are you reading?

Mr McGown is reading.....



As a lifelong Panthers fan, reading *Not Everything Counts but Everything Matters* was more than just following a favourite coach's story. A powerful insight into leadership, resilience, and building something bigger than yourself.

Ivan Cleary writes with honesty, humility and grit, reminding us that success isn't about every moment being perfect, but about staying true to your values, your team, and your purpose.

The book highlights how small, consistent efforts, even when unnoticed, lay the foundation for something great. For students, it's a reminder that character matters more than talent alone, and that the way we carry ourselves in tough times defines who we become. Whether you're into footy or not, this book is a great read.



Year 9 support class enjoyed their last practical lesson of the term where they made a delicious caramel slice.



Pathways to Dreaming



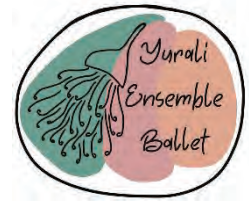
Last week Year 7 and 8 First Nations students attended an on-campus experience at Western Sydney University (WSU) as part of the Pathways to Dreaming mentoring program.

Throughout the day, students engaged in a range of workshops focused on Engineering, Design and the Built Environment, Education, Aspire, and Cultural Reflection. In Term 3, students will also take part in a cultural workshop with mentor Becky Chatfield, a proud Kamilaroi Yinarr woman.





During the school holidays Year 11 student, **Alice Pigram**, will be attending the Yurali Ensemble Ballet through The ELLA Foundation. This training program is designed to nurture and empower First Nations youth through the art of ballet. We wish Alice the very best and look forward to her bringing her skills and experiences back to school.



Congratulations to the following Winmalee High School students who have received news that they have been offered roles as Featured Dancers in this year's Schools Spectacular!

Kalarni Smoth - Year 12

- Featured Tap Ensemble
- Featured Contemporary Ensemble
- Featured Hip Hop Ensemble

Matilda Findley - Year 12

- Featured Hip Hop Ensemble

Zoe Nicolle - Year 12

- Featured Tap Ensemble

Emily Regent - Year 12

- Featured Hip Hop Ensemble

Josh Chapman - Year 10

- Featured Tap Ensemble
- Featured Contemporary Ensemble
- Featured Jazz Ensemble
- State Boys Ensemble

Winmalee High School students will also be participating in the Secondary Combined Dance segments.

Tickets for the *Remarkable* 2025 Schools Spectacular are on sale now! Visit the [Ticketek website](#) to secure your tickets. Selected areas of the venue will have an Early bird 10% discount applied if they are purchased before Friday 1 August 2025.

The performance dates and times are:

- Friday, 28 November 2025 — 11:00 am and 7:00 pm
- Saturday, 29 November 2025 — 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm



Beef Chow Mein – produced by Year 10's **Judah Schepel, Max Buchanan, Lucas Chapman** in their final Food Technology prac for the term as part of the Food Trends unit.

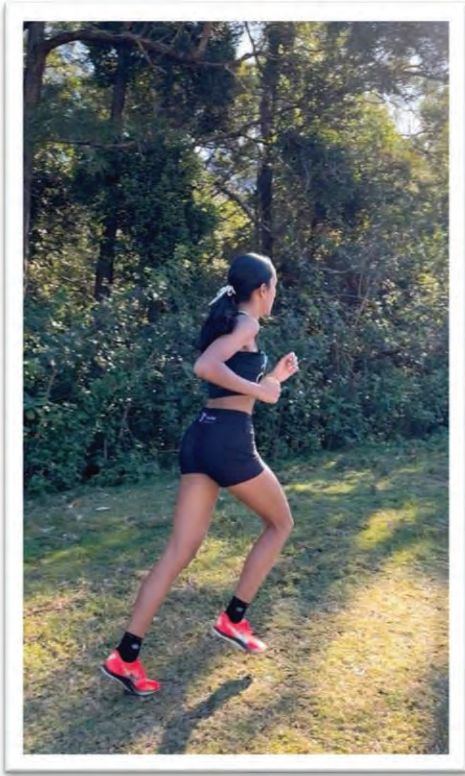
Deadly Dreaming



Year 7 and 8 First Nations students have been working closely with mentor Aliccia throughout the term to create a mural that reflects their cultural identity. Students were supported by fellow mob members and leaders Robbie Pigram, Leah Vasiliev, Cassie Pigram and Amalia Tredoux.

We're proud to share that their artwork has been selected for display at the Street University's Deadly Dreaming Festival, in celebration of NAIDOC Week. The event will take place on Tuesday, 8th July at Penrith City Park. We encourage you to come along and support this free community event! Deadly Dreaming will return in term 3.





Congratulations and well done to **Elyse Walker (Year 7)** who recently participated in the NSW Cross Country Championships.

She finished in the Top 8 (NSW) with a qualifying time for Nationals, securing her spot as an official representative for the NSW team. She is looking forward to competing at the Australian Cross Country Championships in Ballarat, Victoria.

Open Girls Netball – Sydney West Quarter Finals

On Monday 30th June, the Open Girls Netball Team travelled to Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium to compete in the Sydney West Quarter Finals.

The team had to win three consecutive knockout matches to progress, defeating Springwood High School, Jamison High School, and a tightly contested game against Doonside High School. These wins earned them a place among the top eight schools in the region.

On the day of the finals, Winmalee faced strong competition from the other top seven teams in Sydney West. Most games were closely fought battles against highly experienced opposition. The girls showed determination and teamwork throughout, securing two impressive wins and finishing 6th overall in the Sydney West Region—a fantastic achievement.



A special thank you goes to Year 12 students **Addison Down** and **Holly Clark**, who played their final netball knockout games for the school, and to former student **Abby Hogan**, who kindly volunteered her time to umpire on the day.

Well done to all players for their outstanding effort and sportsmanship!

Team in picture - Left to right. **Pippa Mein, Jules Rozyn, Charlotte Hughes, Emiliana Hart, Erin Kenn, Larissa Atkins, Abby Bain, Ebony Richards, Addison Down & Holly Clark**

Year 10 Fundraising – Car Wash Initiative

Well done to our **Year 10 students** who have been actively washing staff cars to raise funds to support their peers in attending the **Year 10 Formal in Term 4**.

Year Adviser Ms Doyle was particularly impressed by the **leadership, initiative, and teamwork** shown by the students as they worked to support one another. She also commended the **professional standard** of the cleaning—both exterior and interior—of her own car!

A big congratulations to all involved for their efforts in building a caring and inclusive year group.



YEAR 7-9
PARENT-TEACHER
INTERVIEWS
TUESDAY 29 JULY
3.30PM - 7.30PM
BOOK
via Sentral Parent Portal

BOOKINGS OPEN
4.00PM THURSDAY
3 JULY

The logo for Sentral Parents, featuring a stylized 'S' inside a blue square with the word 'PARENTS' below it.

Our **Year 7-9 Parent-Teacher Interviews** are scheduled for **Tuesday, 29 July 2025 from 3:30pm-7:30pm** in the school hall.

This year, the **online booking system** will again be through the **Sentral Parent Portal**. If you haven't yet registered for access to the portal, we encourage you to register and activate your account prior to interview bookings opening.

Please contact the school via phone or email if you require an activation key for the portal: 02 4754 2822 or winmalee-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

Interview bookings will be open from 4:00pm TODAY Thursday, 3 July until 4:00pm on Monday, 28 July 2025.



🎓 WHS Alumni Spotlight: Ciara Sheehy (Class of 2018)

We're thrilled to share the stories of our former students with the school and wider community, highlighting their experiences at WHS and the diverse journeys they've taken since graduating.

This week **Ciara Sheehy** shares her reflections on her time at Winmalee High and where life has taken her since.

Check out Ciara's Q&A at the end of the Newsletter and stay tuned as we continue celebrating the amazing paths our alumni are forging!

We would love to hear from as many former students as possible across a wide range of years and pathways for our Alumni Spotlight feature. Former students can go to [WHS Alumni Q & A](#) to fill out the form and share their experiences with us.

Best wishes,

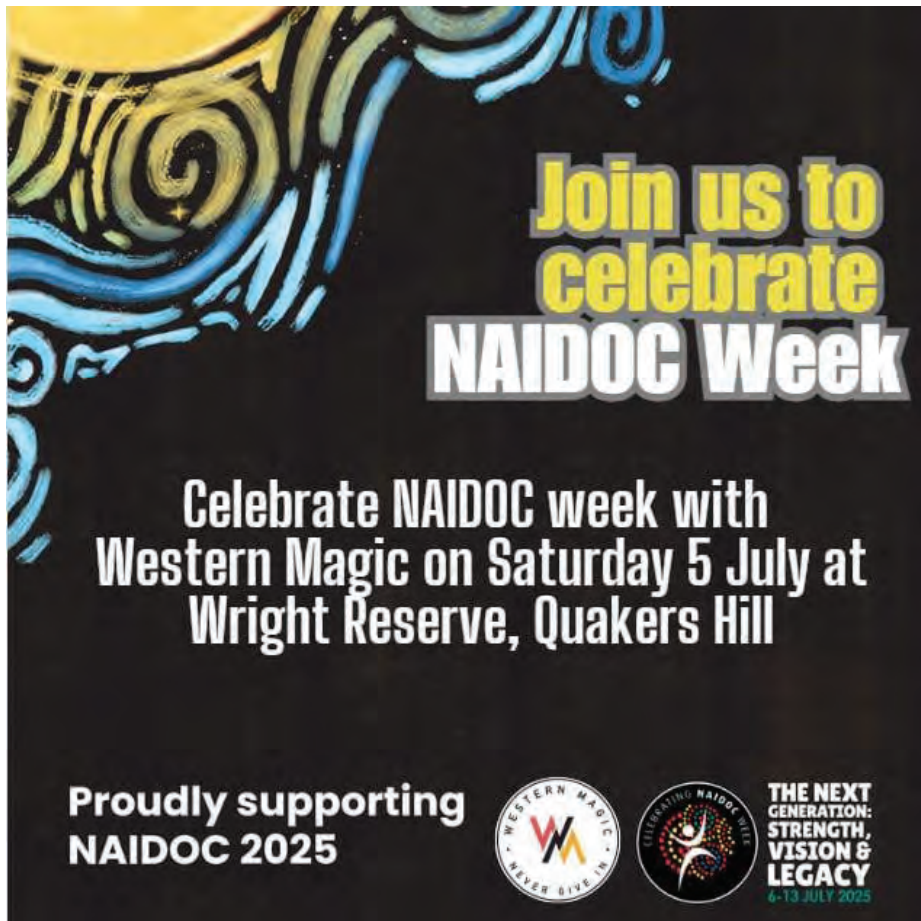
Winmalee High School



CAREERS NOTICEBOARD

For student career opportunities, please see the Careers Google Classroom.
Code: yr6hpo2



More information is also available on the school website [Careers page](#).



Join us to celebrate NAIDOC Week

Celebrate NAIDOC week with Western Magic on Saturday 5 July at Wright Reserve, Quakers Hill

Proudly supporting NAIDOC 2025



THE NEXT GENERATION: STRENGTH, VISION & LEGACY
6-13 JULY 2025


Thank you!

To the Winmalee High School staff,
Thank you for your assistance in the production of the 2025 Musical 'We Will Rock You'. Teaching staff from all faculties played a major role in the show before, during and after production weeks. We are also deeply grateful to the non-teaching staff and community members for their help in the running of and support of the show.

It could not have been possible without that help and the students thank you for your work. There are far more helpers than those pictured below, and apologies if your photo does not appear, but know your contribution is appreciated just as much.



WHS ALUMNI Q&A



Ciara Sheehy class of **18**

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE GRADUATING FROM WHS?

Since graduating I have been lucky to travel overseas multiple times. I was fortunate to travel through Europe for three months in 2019 where I met amazing people and fell in love with discovering and learning about new countries and cultures. Returning from that trip sparked my interest in the travel industry and I have been working as a travel agent for three years now, which gives me fantastic opportunities to discover even more of the world.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE MEMORIES FROM YOUR TIME AT WHS?

My favorite memories from school would be doing the musicals and being a part of the dance and drama Ensembles. My top memories would be travelling to the UK with the school and getting to explore new countries with my best friends. Also getting to perform at Schools Spectacular in front of hundreds of people.

HOW DID YOUR TIME AT WHS INFLUENCE OR HELP YOU DISCOVER YOUR PASSIONS AND INTERESTS?

My time at WHS really helped me discover what I'm passionate about. Drama, Dance and Hospitality showed me how much I enjoy being creative and working with others. Being involved in the school community allowed me to travel overseas with the school on three occasions which helped me grow more confident and explore what I enjoyed doing.

WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE YOU INVOLVED IN AT SCHOOL?

Drama and dance ensembles, musicals, Hospo cafe, NSW State Dance Ensemble, Schools Spectacular.

DO YOU HAVE AN BUSINESS INSTAGRAM OR WEBSITE THAT YOU WOULD BE HAPPY FOR US TO SHARE?

<https://www.instagram.com/helloworld.glenbrook/>

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES OUR SCHOOL SPECIAL?

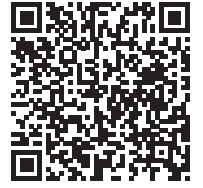
There were always opportunities to get involved, which made the school feel more like a community. The staff were always available to support you, and that sense of encouragement made it easier to take risks and try new things. It was a place where you could explore your interests and feel supported every step of the way.



July School Holidays

Workshops and Events

Book into one of our workshops, or come to a drop-in event, these school holidays. More workshops are listed over the page. To book, visit our website or your local library branch. library.bmcc.nsw.gov.au



Awesome Portraits with Naomi Oliver

10 to 11am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6

Monday 7th July, Katoomba Library.

Monday 14th July, Springwood Hub, Mtg Rm 1.

Let's bring your favorite animal to life in 3D! We'll use cardboard, egg cartons, and colorful POSCA pens to build a wild and wonderful animal face that pops right off the page! What creature will you create?



Pendant Cabochon with Naomi Oliver

12 to 1pm | Year 5 - Year 12 | \$6

Monday 7th July, Katoomba Library.

Monday 14th July, Springwood Hub, Mtg Rm 1.

Use your collage, drawing and design skills to create a one-of-a-kind pendant.

Let's Draw an Adventure-Mobile! with Bill Hope.

10 to 11am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6

Thursday 10th July, Katoomba Library.

How will you go on your adventure? By car? By Boat? By Plane? By jet-powered, supersonic, banana-shaped spaceship?



Draw a See-Through Self-Portrait, with Bill Hope.

12 to 1pm | Year 5 - Year 12 | \$6

Thursday 10th July, Katoomba Library.

What's inside your head? A control centre filled with screens and buttons? Dreams of being a star? The same song over and over again?

Draw a portrait of the inside of your head, whatever you might find in there.

Science Fair & Hub Picnic Day

Springwood Hub, Meeting Room 1 & Hub Forecourt
Tuesday 15th July | 11am to 2pm | Free - Drop-in

Blue Mountains Library is hosting our Science Fair during the Hub Picnic Day. Pairing with the Hub's show, *You are A Doughnut*, we will be focusing many of our science displays on the human body. Gross facts, cool models and fabulous books and resources. We will be joined by BMCC Waterways & Community Teams who will bring awesome displays and craft. Bring a picnic, hang out at the library's Science Fair and join in with fun, science based activities and craft.



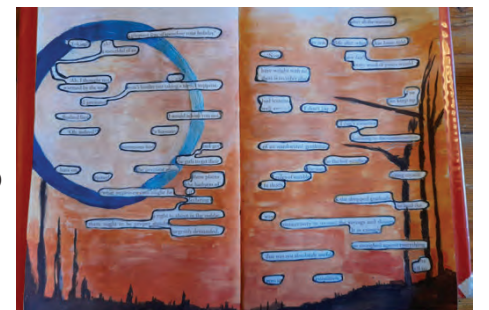
Re-imagine Waste Workshop: Altered Books, Robots, Pet Portraits

Friday 18th July | 10 to 11.30am

Planetary Health Meeting Room 1 Acacia St Katoomba
Families / Teens | Free - Bookings Essential

Join BMCC's Community, Library & Waste Teams for fun and creative reuse at our Re-imagine Waste Workshop. We will have discarded books, common plastics and metal recycling, collage and art materials to use and re-use!

Book a place for your family or small (max 4/ per booking) group of friends.



Winter Warmers - Collaborative Creations

All Blue Mountains Library Branches

Saturday 5th July - Sunday 20th July |
Free - Drop-in

Cosy up in your library branch this winter school holidays and hang your design by the fireplace.

Colour your winter woollies design, crochet a heart, or leave a heart-warming message or yummy favourite recipe to warm the hearts of others.





THE NEXT GENERATION: STRENGTH, VISION & LEGACY

Western Sydney NAIDOC Calendar

This calendar was created by **Kimberwalli** to showcase the events and programs across Western Sydney for community to celebrate NAIDOC *together*.

SAT 5TH JULY

Canterbury Bankstown NAIDOC Family Fun Day

📍 Paul Keating Park,
Bankstown

🕒 10AM - 3PM

SUN 6TH JULY

Hawkesbury NAIDOC Concert

📍 Richmond Park, Richmond

🕒 10AM - 3PM

Yenu Allowah NAIDOC Curry Cook Off

📍 1 Luxford Road, Mount Druitt

🕒 11AM - 3PM

MON 7TH JULY

Deerubbin Land Council & Marrin Weejali NAIDOC

📍 79-81 Jersey Road, Blackett

🕒 1PM - 4PM

Campbelltown NAIDOC

📍 Billabong Parklands,
Bradbury

🕒 11AM - 3PM

TUE 8TH JULY

Greater Western Aboriginal Health Service NAIDOC

📍 87 Mount Druitt Road,
Mount Druitt

🕒 10AM - 2PM

TUE 8TH JULY

Camden Council NAIDOC

📍 70 Central Ave, Oran Park

🕒 10AM - 2PM

Riverstone NAIDOC

📍 9 Park Street, Riverstone

🕒 11AM - 2PM

WED 9TH JULY

Doonside NAIDOC

📍 Bert Saunders Reserve,
Doonside

🕒 10AM - 2PM

Liverpool NAIDOC

📍 Edwin Wheeler Reserve,
Sadleir

🕒 10AM - 3PM

THU 10TH JULY

Baabayn NAIDOC

📍 Whalan Reserve, Whalan

🕒 10AM - 3PM

NAIDOC Yarn at the Farm

📍 Bella Vista Farm,
Bella Vista

🕒 10AM - 2PM

FRI 11TH JULY

Penrith NAIDOC

📍 Jamison Park, Penrith

🕒 9AM - 2PM

SAT 12TH JULY

Burrumbidgee NAIDOC

📍 Parramatta Park

🕒 11AM - 3PM

SUN 13TH JULY

Blacktown City NAIDOC Concert

📍 Blacktown Showgrounds

🕒 11AM - 2PM

WED 16TH JULY

Villawood NAIDOC Day

📍 Villawood Hub - Urana
Street, Villawood

🕒 11AM - 2PM

THU 17TH JULY

Tharawal NAIDOC

📍 Campelltown Sports
Stadium

🕒 10AM - 2PM

FRI 18TH JULY

Willmot NAIDOC

📍 Willmot Hub, Willmot

🕒 10:30AM - 2PM



kimberwalli



NSW
GOVERNMENT



WARRIMOO OVAL
FRIDAYS: U6-U12
THURSDAYS: U14-U18
JOIN THE FUN

DREAM BIG

OUR JUNIOR TOUCH COMP IS WHERE LEGENDS ARE CREATED!

REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 1