



WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

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

Term 2 Week 8 Communication – Thursday 19 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warami.

It has been impressive watching the musical progressing as students and staff have been working hard during all the rehearsals. To be able to witness the magic happening behind the scenes really makes one appreciate the intense process of feedback and practise to perfect the show. Today our primary school students came to see the show and they loved it! We hope to see many of you at the shows over the next couple of weeks.

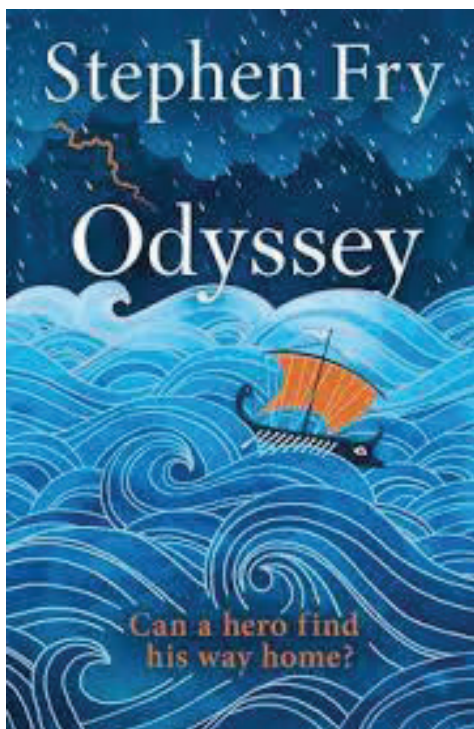
Nominations are open for 2026 Senior Student Leadership positions, and we are encouraging Year 11 students to self nominate for Captain and Prefect positions. These roles are about school service and representing the school in the broader community. If your child is reliable, enjoys contributing to the school, and works well as part of a team, please talk to them about considering applying. It takes courage to be a student leader and sometimes those who would do well in the role just need a bit of encouragement.

The end of term is fast approaching; Year 7-10 reports are being finalised and RoSE Breakfast (Recognition of Student Excellence) invites will be sent out shortly. Keep an eye out for those invitations. It was terrific to see so many parents attend the senior parent teacher evening. Booking information for the junior parent teacher evening will be sent to families shortly in preparation for the evening on Tuesday 29 July.

Also, a thank you to parents and carers for your support with uniform. There has been a marked improvement, and students are enjoying the Fit Check awards on assembly. The school appreciates the effort that the majority of students make to wear full school uniform everyday.

What are you reading?

Ms Charman from HSIE is reading:



The Odyssey was written thousands of years ago by the Greek poet Homer (no relation to Simpson) and has been cleverly retold by Stephen Fry. It details the extraordinary journey of a man trying to get back home after a 20-year war but is frequently interrupted by sirens, cyclops and storms. The twists and turns of the story kept me on the edge of my seat the entire time. This is the fourth and final book in a series of Greek heroic stories written by Fry over the last ten years, but the previous books aren't necessary to read in order to enjoy this. For anyone who enjoys fantasy, warfare or a bit of mystery, The Odyssey is an excellent book to sink your teeth into.

**We Will Rock You –
OPENING NIGHT TOMORROW!**

A fist-pumping, foot-stomping anthem to individuality!

We Will Rock You is a high-energy rock musical set in a future where music is banned, and conformity rules. But a group of rebels, the Bohemians, refuse to be silenced. With the help of two young outsiders, Galileo and Scaramouche, they rise up against the ruthless Killer Queen and her empire, fighting to bring back real rock 'n' roll. Packed with electrifying performances and Queen's greatest hits, this show is an epic battle for freedom, individuality, and the power of music to change the world!

Performances dates:

- ★ Friday 20 June 7.00pm
- ★ Saturday 21 June 1.30pm & 7.00pm
- ★ Friday 27 June 7.00pm
- ★ Saturday 28 June 7.00pm

Click on the below link to purchase tickets or scan the QR code on the poster!

<https://www.trybooking.com/DAMMR>

Poster designed by **Lexie Firth (Year 10)**.

Please support our Canteen too, menu below!



WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS
WE WILL ROCK YOU
SCHOOL EDITION

By O

FRIDAY 20TH JUNE
SATURDAY 21ST JUNE – 1:30pm / 7:00pm
FRIDAY 27TH JUNE – 7:00pm
SATURDAY 28TH JUNE – 7:00pm

BOOK NOW

By Arrangement with David Spicer Productions www.davidspicer.com.au



WE WILL ROCK YOU
SCHOOL EDITION

CANTEEN MENU

The Winmalee High School Canteen will be open 45 minutes prior to the start of each show, as well as at Intermission.

ITEMS AVAILABLE

- Coffee
- Tea
- Hot Chocolate
- Warm Sticky Date Pudding
- Warm Chocolate Mud Cake

Cash and EFTPOS accepted

YUM!



Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Focus: Respecting Personal Space

This week, our PBL focus is on **Respecting Personal Space**. Teaching students to maintain appropriate boundaries helps create a safe and supportive school environment where everyone feels comfortable and valued.

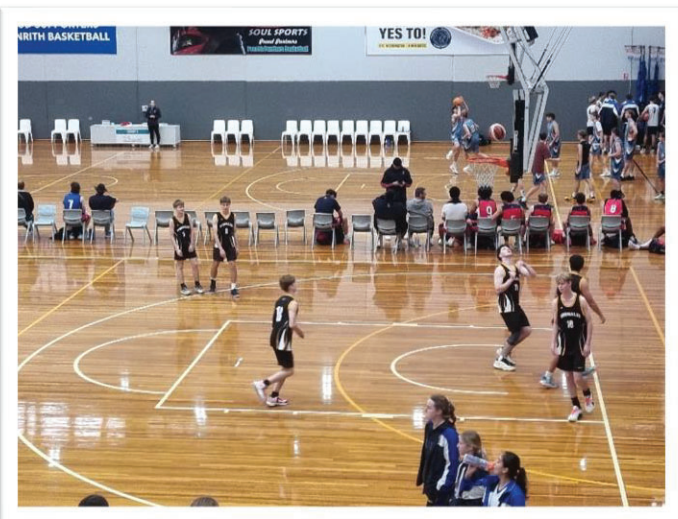
Respecting personal space means keeping hands and feet to ourselves, using kind words, and following playground rules — especially during sports games on the oval. This includes our important “no tackling” rule, which helps prevent injuries and ensures everyone can enjoy the playground safely.

Please help us reinforce the importance of this message to your children. This could include discussing why it's important and how respecting others' space helps everyone feel safe, as well as acknowledging when your child uses respectful behaviours, both at home and at school.



Last month, the Boys Basketball squad sent a team who competed in the Basketball NSW Opens State Championships at Cambridge Park. They qualified for this level by winning the Penrith Region Division 3 tournament.

Our boys had three tight games against Killarney Heights High, St Joseph's, Lochinvar and McAuley College, Tumut and worked to the buzzer each time.



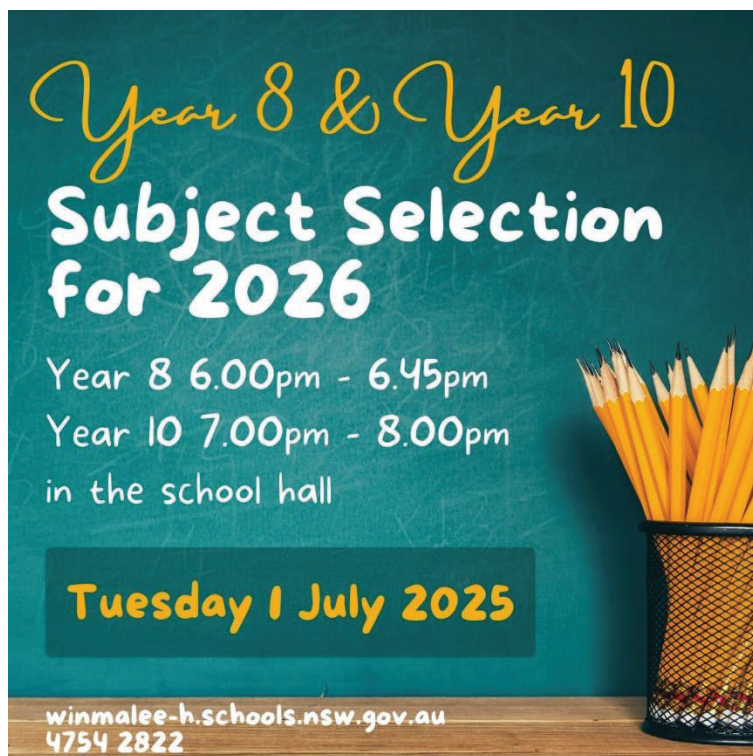
This was an Opens (U19s) competition, but all of our boys were 16 or younger, with many eligible for the U15s Knockout in the next few weeks. We are grateful to Mr Dutton, Mrs Faber and Mr Bradshaw for taking the team over the two days.



On Tuesday, 15 of our First Nations students attended the **Sydney Zoo**, which was funded by the **Ted Noffs Deadly Dreaming** program. They participated in a range of cultural activities that showcased their creative skills and our students' amazing confidence in front of other schools. Bailey Griffiths of Year 7 demonstrated his exceptional didgeridoo playing ability.



Subject Selection Evening



can refer to it on the night.

On the evening, information will be provided about the curriculum pattern for 2026 and the process of selecting subjects. Staff from each faculty will be available to answer questions about the courses being offered.

Subject Selection forms **will be provided on the evening** and must be returned by Term 3, Week 1 - **Friday, 25 July 2025**.

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

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 on Thursday, 3 July until 4:00pm on Monday, 28 July 2025.

We will release more detailed information about booking Parent-Teacher Interviews prior to bookings opening.

WHS Alumni Spotlight: Molly Holland (Class of 2019)

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 **Molly Holland** shares her reflections on her time at Winmalee High and where life has taken her since.

Check out Molly'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.

Subject Selection information sessions for current **Year 8 and Year 10 students** will be held on **Tuesday, 1 July 2025** in the school hall. **They will be held on the same evening, with different start and finish times.**

Year 8 - Subject Selection Information Evening for Year 8 into Year 9, 2026
6:00pm – 6:45pm

Year 10 - Subject Selection Information Evening for Year 10 into Year 11, 2026
HSC Preliminary Course (Year 11 RoSA)
7:00pm – 8:00pm

Subject selection booklets which include detailed information about the subjects being offered for study in 2026 are available on the Parent Portal. This will allow students and their families to view the subjects and discuss suitable choices. Some paper copies of the booklet will be available on the evening, but as it is a one-use document, we will not be issuing printed copies for all students. Please download a copy of the booklet to your device so you





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](#).

Blue Mountains Community Drug Action Team (BMCC, MYST, The Street Uni and Headspace Katoomba) has organised a **free July school holiday event for Year 7 and 8 students - The Great Escape** – to be held at The Y Camp, Yarramundi on **Friday 11 July, 9am – 5pm**.

The Great Escape is designed to link young people to local youth support services and to provide information and support around drug and alcohol consumption. Registration is voluntary.

The GREAT ESCAPE

Free Day of Adventure Activities for Years 7 & 8

The Great Escape is a free school holiday program for young people in Years 7 – 8 (aged 12 – 14) designed to enhance wellbeing and healthy choices.

When & Where:
Friday 11 July 2025
9am - 5pm
The Y Camp,
Yarramundi
(transport available)

Register by:
9am, 30 June 2025
(Limited places)

Includes:

- Creative workshops
- Adventure activities
- Lunch & snacks
- Risks and healthy choices information sessions

For more information or to register
bmcc.nsw.gov.au/whats-on/great-escape



Save the Date...

Year 12 Graduation

DAY MONTH YEAR
23 09 25

This year, our Year 12 Graduation Ceremony will be held at 5pm on Tuesday, 23 September in the Winmalee High School Hall.

More information will be shared later but for now, please add this important date to your calendars.

Winmalee High School



Computational Creativity

Music and Art in the Age of AI



Prof. Oliver Bown
University of New South Wales

29 JUNE @ 2:00 PM
Springwood Sports Club (Bowlo)
www.scienceatthelocal.org



The Power of Numbers

Using Mathematics for Social Impact



Dr. Katie Buchorn, Mathematician
ARC Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
Monash University

29 JUNE @ 2:00 PM
Springwood Sports Club (Bowlo)
www.scienceatthelocal.org



Best wishes,

Winmalee High School

WHS ALUMNI Q&A



Molly Holland '19

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE GRADUATING FROM WHS?

I had a Gap Year straight out of school in 2020, which was meant for international travel, but of course due to covid and lockdowns this didn't happen, so I saved hard working in a supermarket and bought my first car. I started a Bachelor of Fine Arts at UNSW Art and Design in Paddington in 2021. My uni experience was far from perfect, with the first two years marred by long commutes, covid lockdowns, mental health struggles and lots of questioning what I was doing. But once I took ceramics as an elective at the end of my second year, I found my passion. Moving to Surry Hills at the beginning of 2023 was one of the best things I have ever done, that is when I really found myself and my independence. I did an Honours year in 2024 which I loved and now miss very much. I had a studio at uni shared with one of my best friends and was making art almost everyday. It was not easy, especially adapting to feedback and trying to put my making thoughts into words for my thesis. But I was so happy with the work that came out of that year and the connections and drive that it gave me. I plan to do a masters, but not yet. I want to experience the world first. I have been accepted to an artists residency in Greece later this year and I had my first solo exhibition at an artist run initiative in Sydney earlier this year. I am always applying for studio residencies and exhibitions as the opportunities arise, I'm often unsuccessful, but that's just how it works. Right now I work full time in a management position at Petbarn. I just want to make art all the time, but at the moment working full-time in a role that allows me to support my team and earn money to support my art practice is the best thing for me to do.

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

The art faculty, with a special shoutout to Mr Bond, allowed me to really be myself, experiment and unwind and discover my passion for art and making.

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

My high school friends and I had some really good laughs.

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

www.mollyhollandartist.com or
[@mollyhollandartist](https://www.instagram.com/mollyhollandartist) on instgram

WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE YOU INVOLVED IN AT SCHOOL?

Debating

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES OUR SCHOOL SPECIAL?

I think Winmalee really embraced uniqueness of students, and I think there is a teacher/s there for everyone who will understand you and take you under their wing.



Hawkesbury NAIDOC Party

Join Merana for the first ever Youth
NAIDOC Party → Following the Family Ball

→ ages 12 - 17 years
↳ don't worry
there's activities for
everyone

north
richmond
panthers

9 - 11:30pm

19th july

drug +
alcohol
free
event

only
\$10 a
ticket
*additional
online fees*

food provided

interested in
joining the
planning
committee?
follow and
message our
instagram



how to buy
tickets:

→ admin@merana.org.au
or (02) 4588 5144



@hawkesburynaidoc

