



## WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

High School Drive Winmalee NSW 2777

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[winmalee-h.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://winmalee-h.schools.nsw.gov.au) f Winmalee High School - Official

### Term 3 Week 5 Communication – Thursday 21 August 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warami. Congratulations to all Year 12 students for completing their trial HSC examinations with dedication and hard work. Society and Culture students have submitted their PIPs to NESA and Dance students have completed their HSC Practical Assessment. Bit by bit, students are ticking off due dates as they inch closer to their HSC Exams next term. A reminder that **Year 12 Graduation is on Tuesday 23 September** at the school (details on the following pages). There are no reserved places or a limit on the number of family members that can attend. The more the merrier!

Next Friday is **Wear it Purple Day**, and all students and staff are welcome to wear purple accessories on the day. This day aims to foster supportive and inclusive environments for LGBTQAI+ students and allies. There will be prizes for best accessories for students and staff.

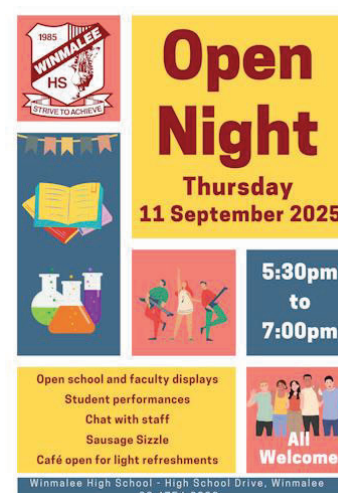


In our Week 8 Assembly, we have Stacey Sheather, from the **ACCC** (Australian Competition & Consumer Commission) presenting to our students on the topic of Scams. Stacey is not only Assistant Director of the First Nations Team, but she is also one of our parents (and a former student!). In light of her upcoming presentation, she has shared information on an upcoming workshop on **27 August 2025** titled: **Scam aware, cyber smart: Supporting young people in a digital world**. This event will explore practical strategies for educators, parents, and youth advocates to help young people navigate online risks with confidence.

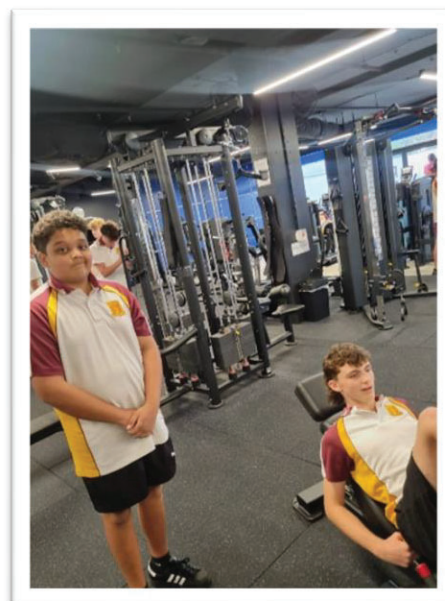
You can book tickets for this event. With AI allowing scams to become even more prevalent in our daily lives, this is a very relevant workshop.

**Bushfire Season** – With all this rain of late, bushfire season may be the furthest from our minds. However, as we prepare for the upcoming season, we would like to bring to your attention the letter attached to this week's communication informing you of our emergency management arrangements for the upcoming bushfire danger period. As we are a Category 1 school, this letter outlines how we will communicate with you if our school temporarily ceases operations. We are preparing early and will be leading students through our 'shelter in place' drills next week in readiness for the bushfire danger period which commences in our local area on 1 September 2025. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

In a few weeks, we have our **Open Night** (see the flyer attached for details). **Please share this event with any families who might be interested in enrolling at Winmalee High in the future.** It is a great opportunity to look at our facilities, meet staff and students and see student performances and work. We are a proud public education school and all are welcome.



## Plus Fitness



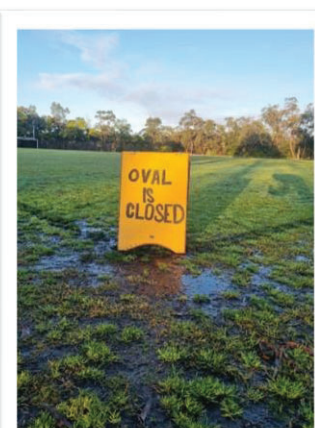
As part of their resistance training unit, the Year 11SLR class recently spent a lesson at Plus Fitness Winmalee. The students were able to walk to the gym and use the new equipment within their normal Period, all in preparation for their upcoming assessment task. We are also thankful to Plus Fitness for taking on a Wednesday Recreational Sport group in 2025. Each term, at Sport Selections, the option of Plus Fitness is one of the first and most popular choices that gets filled by our Year 9 and 10 students.

## Open Boys Rugby League

Last Wednesday, our Open Boys Rugby League team travelled to Colo High for the Opening Round of the Hawkesbury Shield. The team skipped out to a 16-6 team, before the hosts came back with energy and reinforcements, making a tight contest. In the end our boys went down by one try but it was a courageous effort with only 14 players due sickness, HSC Trials and other impacts. The Round 2 fixture against Windsor has been postponed due to rain, with Round 3 in early September.



## Rain



A quick thank you to students for their flexibility with all the wet weather. They have respected the ovals being closed, worked well with PE teachers doing different activities and been compliant with required changes to Wednesday Sport. While it is disappointing when gala days and plans have to change, we are hopeful to be back to normal programming soon.

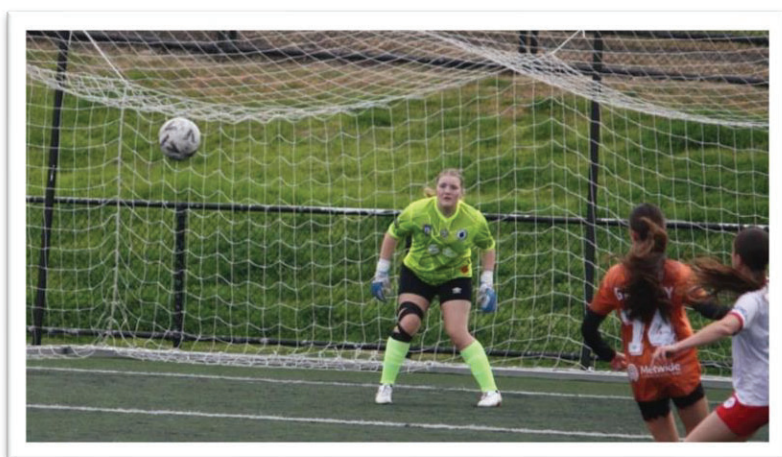


## Exciting Countdown to Japan!



In just over 5 weeks, 14 students and four staff from Winmalee High will be setting off on an amazing adventure to visit our sister school, Arima High School, in Japan! This will be our first trip back since 2018, due to COVID, and the excitement is really building. Recently, our host students and their classmates sent us beautifully written information cards, filled with details about the delicious local cuisine and must-see sights. These special cards are now proudly displayed in our Japanese classroom for everyone to enjoy and learn from.

Looking ahead, we're also excited to announce there is a strong possibility that Arima High will be coming back to Winmalee in 2026—an incredible chance to host a Japanese student and share our culture, create lifelong friendships, and return the warm hospitality we'll experience in Japan.



Congratulations to **Ryenne Long (Year 10)** who has been selected to represent Australia in the Fiji Soccer Cup this December. This is a fantastic opportunity for her to compete internationally, develop her skills, and proudly represent our country.

[Find out more and support Ryenne!](#)



Learn more about **Australian Defence Force (ADF)** roles available in the Navy, Army and Air Force by attending the upcoming information session happening on:

- **Date: Thursday 11 September 2025**
- **Time: 6pm to 8pm approx.**
- **Venue: Springwood Sports Club, 83 Macquarie Road, Springwood NSW 2777**

This information session will be hosted by current serving military personnel who understand the Defence application process and can answer your questions. If you would like to attend and learn more about the ADF and the 200+ roles on offer please follow the link and register your interest [ADF Careers - Springwood Defence Careers Information Session](#)

# Invitation

## Year 12 Graduation

DAY

**23**

MONTH

**09**

YEAR

**25**

**5:00pm to 7:30pm**

**Winmalee High School Hall**

- 🎓 Students and guests to be seated by 4:45pm.
- 🎓 Students are required to wear full school uniform.
- 🎓 Seating for students is reserved. Guest seating is unallocated.

class of  
**2025**



## **WHS Alumni Spotlight: Courtney Slender (Class of 2013)**

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 Courtney Slender shares her reflections on her time at Winmalee High and where life has taken her since.

Check out Courtney'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](#).



# WHS ALUMNI Q&A



## WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE GRADUATING FROM WHS?

Working full time.

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

The support from specific teachers allowed me to keep focused on my goals and achieving my dreams.

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

Camps, friendships, sport.

## WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE YOU INVOLVED IN AT SCHOOL?

Duke of Ed, multiple sports.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES OUR SCHOOL SPECIAL?

The teachers and support.





# Open Night

**Thursday**  
**11 September 2025**



**5:30pm**  
**to**  
**7:00pm**

**Open school and faculty displays**  
**Student performances**  
**Chat with staff**  
**Sausage Sizzle**  
**Café open for light refreshments**



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### Emergency Management Arrangements for the Upcoming Bushfire Danger Period

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you of our emergency management arrangements for the upcoming bushfire danger period.

Our school is in a bushfire prone area and is identified as Category 1 on the NSW Department of Education's bushfire risk register.

This means our school will be non-operational, when the NSW Rural Fire Service declares catastrophic fire danger ratings for our local area or as directed by the NSW Department of Education in consultation with emergency services due to local bushfire activity or in higher risk conditions. The measure is proactive to ensure staff, students and the community remain safe.

Fire danger ratings do not mean there will be a bushfire, but rather the weather conditions pose a high risk if a fire were to start in the area.

We will inform the school community after 4 pm if there is a change to the operational status of the school for the following day. **To assist us contacting all families in an emergency, please ensure you have updated your contact details with the school.**

Up-to-date information is also available on our [School website](#) or [School operational status](#).

We also recommend you stay up to date with bushfire and grassfire activity by using the [Hazards Near Me app](#) (set a watch zone for our school area) and by monitoring local media.

To continue to support student learning on these days, our school will provide information for learning from home.

We recommend all our families follow the NSW Rural Fire Service advice and ensure your family knows what to do if there is a fire. Develop a fire plan and discuss it with your family using [MyFirePlan](#).

Please contact the school on (02) 4754 2822 to update your contact details or if you would like any further information about this matter.

Yours sincerely

**Ms Voula Facas**

20 August 2025