



## WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

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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 7 Communication – Thursday 4 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warami. Thank you to students and staff who helped to celebrate **Wear it Purple Day** last Friday. We loved the creative ways students and staff incorporated purple into the day.

This week we had **Winmalee Public School students visit** and work with our **Year 10 PASS students**. Our students led netball, volleyball, softball and touch football games. Observing their kind and welcoming leadership was wonderful. This coaching program will continue for the next few weeks. Thank you to Winmalee Public School staff, Mr Meyers and Mr Bonora, for supporting this program. And a big shout out to Year 10 PASS students and Winmalee Public students for their excellent participation and cooperation.



**Stacey Sheather, Assistant Director, First Nations Team Consumer Compliance Strategies, from the ACCC (Australian Competition and Consumer Commission)** visited our school assembly to present on scams. Stacey is also an Alumni of Winmalee and parent to four children, who are current and past students at our school. It was generous of Stacey to take time out to visit our school and talk to students. Students viewed [this video](#) about AI generated videos, before listening to Stacey's presentation. It was engaging and so relevant to all of us. Take a look at [this short video](#), it is alarming how sophisticated AI videos have become. Stacey has encouraged us all to talk more about scams and to show one another suspicious emails and texts we receive, so we can all together become more aware of scams that could impact us.



Last night, the **Year 12 Visual Arts HSC Showcase** was well attended by students, staff and families. Year 12 Music students also performed some of their pieces during the evening. The quality and the range of works was inspiring. All who attended were blown away by the talent and hard work and moved by the students' artist statements. Congratulations to all students and their teachers, Mrs Douglas, Ms Roots and Ms Zakhariiev. All artworks have been submitted for HSC Marking, and it was a wonderful opportunity to see them on display before works are sent to the marking centre.



## Southern Stars 2025 ✨



Last weekend, Winmalee High School was represented at Southern Stars in Wollongong!

🎤 **Tahlia McGown** (Year 12) shone as both a featured and backing vocalist.

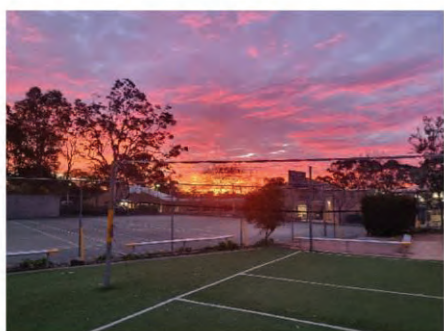
🎺 **Kieran O'Brien** (Year 7)

performed in the Sousaphone section of the NSW Public Schools Millennium Marching Band.

🎻 **Mrs Smith** showcased her talent as the lead violinist in the orchestra.

A huge congratulations to our incredible performers, and to everyone involved in making this spectacular event such a success. We are so proud of you!

**Year 8 Camp** – well done to Year 8 students and all accompanying staff for a successful camp experience. Mrs Chapman and Mr Bonora are very proud of students for their participation. The camp provided excellent activities for students throughout.





## Rain Gardens to Recycled Water – Students Explore Sustainability

A group of Year 8 students took part in *Aqua Innovate* – an on-site learning experience at Sydney Water's Quakers Hill Purified Recycled Water (PRW) Discovery Centre. During the excursion, students explored the cutting-edge technologies behind purified recycled water and investigated the challenges of water scarcity and resiliency. They also gained insight into how water resources are sourced and managed, both locally and around the world.

After Sydney Water's PRW Discovery Centre, students were given a tour of local biofilters and rain gardens, led by Will Goodwin and Sophia Joyner from Blue Mountains City Council. This allowed students to see practical, real-world examples of sustainable water management in action.



The excursion was a valuable experience, deepening students' understanding of water as a precious resource and inspiring them to think critically about future solutions for sustainability.

Thank you to Mr Jospeh for coordinating this experience for students.





## Teamwork in Health



In Health this week, our students from 7G put their teamwork skills to the test with a Lego tower challenge! Each group had the same goal—build the tallest tower possible—but quickly discovered that working together can be just as tricky as balancing the blocks themselves. There were a few wobbly towers, and plenty of creative ideas shared amongst the teams. In the end, the

activity

showed how important listening, patience, and cooperation are when working as a team. And of course, the tallest towers weren't just built with Lego—they were built with teamwork!



**The 2025 – 2026 HSC Textbook list** has been distributed to **Year 11** students this week. Copies are available on the Sentral Parent Portal and the [school website](#).

Orders should be placed through The Turning Page Bookshop in Springwood. To ensure textbooks are available at the start of Term 4, please submit your orders by **Friday 26 September**.

Full payment is required at the time of ordering. Please note that orders placed after Monday 6 October 2025 will incur a \$10 late fee.

  
**The Turning Page  
BOOKSHOP**  
*Books For The Community*

### 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](#).




# 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**




**All  
Welcome**

Winmalee High School - High School Drive, Winmalee  
02 4754 2822




**FREE!**



## JUNIOR DRAMA SHOWCASE

**THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
6 PM**




**BUS STOP**

**Yr. 10 Drama Class:**

- Monologues - *Greek Theatre*
- 1 Act Play - 'Bus Stop' - *Pauline Harris*

**Jr. Drama Ensemble:**

- 1 Act Play - 'Snapshots' - *Sue Murray*



**@ PAC - WINMALEE HIGH  
SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL  
DRIVE**

### **WHS Alumni Spotlight: Matthew Brown (Class of 2005)**

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 Matthew Brown shares his reflections on his time at Winmalee High and where life has taken him since.

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

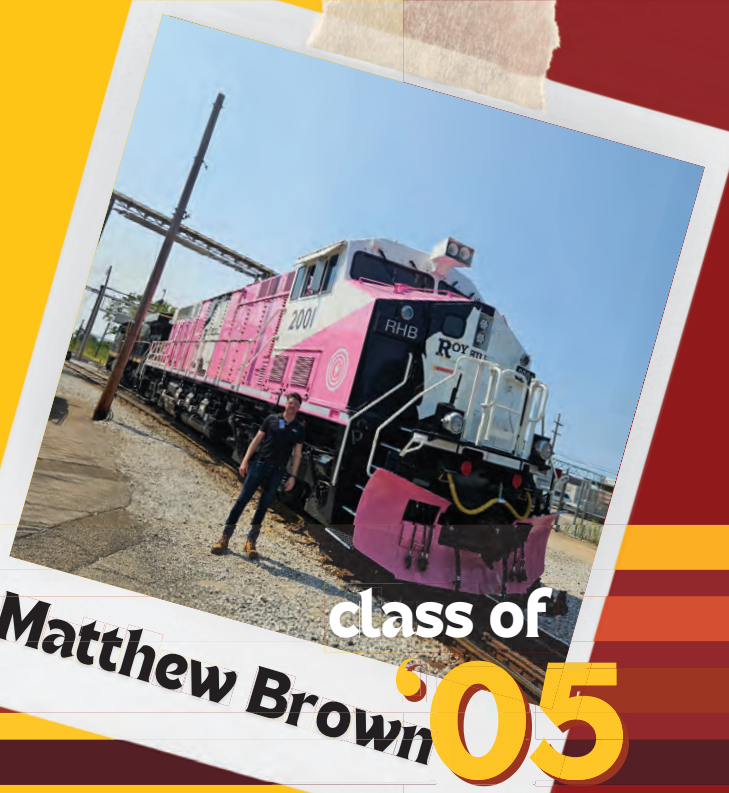
We would love to hear from as many former students as possible across a wide range of years and pathways for our Alumni Spotlight feature. Former students can go to [WHS Alumni Q & A](#) to fill out the form and share their experiences with us.

Best wishes,

Winmalee High School



# WHS ALUMNI Q&A



class of  
**Matthew Brown 05**

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

I have been working in the electrical industry, after high school I completed an electrical trade then moved to Newcastle NSW for 10 years then onto Western Australia for a further 5 years, I now specialise in zero emissions heavy haul rail vehicles operating in mining and freight businesses in different parts of the world.

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

Year 12 Final projects, metal work. A whole class designing and building projects in class.

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

The industrial arts department namely Mr Booth along with engineering studies + construction Mr Honeysett and Physics Mr White all played a part in influencing my decision to pursue an electrical trade. The skills learnt in those early years at high school allowed me to easily fit straight into my chosen line of work.

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

Duke of Edinburgh - a "must do" for all WHS students. Highly recommend.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES OUR SCHOOL SPECIAL?

The teachers, always willing to go above and beyond.





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# **WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP**

**OPEN NIGHT  
THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 2025**

The Uniform Shop will be open between 5:00pm and 6:30pm for students to attend, view and try on Uniforms.

<https://www.daylightschoolwear.au/winmalee>





A photograph of four teenagers sitting on a wooden bench. From left to right: a person in a green shirt and blue jeans, a person in a green shirt and grey pants, a person in a yellow shirt and blue jeans, and a person in a red shirt and patterned shorts. They are all looking down at their phones.

# Tuning in to Teens

**6 week parenting program that supports you to help your adolescent develop emotional intelligence.**



**Term 4  
2025**

**ONLINE**

This 6 week program helps parents/ carers teach their teenage children (10-18 yrs) to understand, control and express their emotions in healthy ways.

The program offers tools to recognise, understand and respond to teenage emotions and help parents manage their own emotional responses.

## The program will cover:

- Foundations of emotion coaching
- Connecting and emotional acceptance
- Building connection and showing empathy
- Dealing with teen worry, sadness & anger
- Emotion coaching now and in the future

**REGISTRATIONS CLOSE:** 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025

**REGISTER NOW** 



## Program details

**Where:** Online via ZOOM

**When:** Thursdays  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct- 4<sup>th</sup> Dec  
7:00pm - 8:30pm

**Cost:** FREE for residents of  
Penrith & Blue Mtns LGA

## Enquiries and registration:

**Phone:** 4720 6500

**Email:** [groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au](mailto:groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au)

**Web:** [www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au](http://www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au)



We acknowledge and respect the Traditional knowledge holders and custodians of the land on which we work, the Darug and Gundungurra people.

