

WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

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Term 3 Week 9 Communication – Thursday 18 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warami. Thank you for attending our Open Night last week. A sincere thanks to the students who supported the evening. The performances and work samples were spectacular, showcasing the talents of our students.

Congratulations to Year 12 for completing all HSC Practical assessments and project submission. Following the HSC Drama Practical Examination, the following students have been nominated for possible inclusion in OnSTAGE. Having students **nominated** for an HSC Showcase is an incredible achievement. Congratulations to the following students:



Individual Performances nominated for possible inclusion in OnSTAGE:

Madison Maher – Boot Tahlia McGown – red Kalarni Smoth - Bombshells

The **Group Performance nominated** for possible inclusion in OnSTAGE.

Max Campaner Maddison Maher Tully McGrouther Claudia Thomas





State Dance Festival – on Monday evening I had the pleasure of attending Elevate, the State Dance Festival at the Seymour Centre.

The WHS Dance Company blew the audience away on with their powerful and fierce dance. This is a true testament to their commitment to the Winmalee HS Dance Program and opportunities we provide for our amazing students.

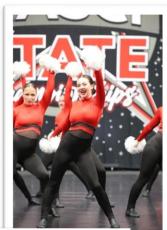




WHS Pom Team



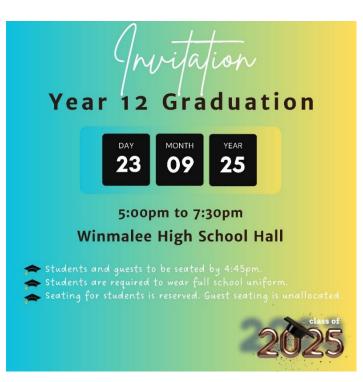
The first ever WHS Competition Pom team performed at the AASCF (Australian All Star Cheerleading Federation) State Championships on Saturday at Sydney Olympic Park. In a large and highly competitive section, the Winmalee Wildcats placed SECOND in the High School Pom Division!



Students were presented with their medals in assembly yesterday, and the trophy was presented to Ms Facas to display in the office.

A massive congratulations to all of our dancers for the State Dance Festival and the POM competition. And heartfelt thanks to our teachers who lead these groups, Ms Howlett, Mrs Brokman and Mrs Byrnes.





A reminder that our **Year 12 Graduation Ceremony** is on next Tuesday 23 September from 5.00pm – 7.30pm in the school hall.

Guests and students are to be **seated by 4.45pm** for a 5.00pm start.

We look forward to seeing parents, carers, family and friends on the evening to celebrate our Graduating Class of 2025!





Ruby (Year 8) and Lucy (Year 9) Gleeson Frater continue their success, competing at State Trampolining last week:

Ruby won gold in Tumbling, single mini tramp, trampoline and a silver medal in Double mini tramp.

She was the U13 champion and then competed in the Champion of champions, in which she won the silver medal.

Lucy won gold in tumbling, single mini tramp, double mini and competed well in trampoline.

She came second to the U15 champion and missed out on the champion of champions.

C.H.S.

The efforts of the girls helped Sydney West place 2nd overall and Winmalee High placed 3rd in the school division. Congratulations!



Angus Weir

Congratulations to the strong group of WHS students who competed at **the NSW CHS State Athletics Championships** from Wednesday to Friday last week. Well done to **Angus Weir (Year 9)** who came 3rd in his 200m MC event, **Amelia Peake (Year 11) and Luke Chapman (Year 8)** who raced throughout heats and finals well. Special mention to **Elyse Walker (Year 7)**, for her 3rd in 1500m (12 sec PB) and 5th in the 3000m.

Annabella Sciberras had a busy week of high performance. This humble and hardworking Year 10 student secured bronze in the 1500m and was

state champion (1st) in the 800 metres. Annabella followed it up over the weekend by being part of the U16 Western Sydney Wanderers team who won their NPL1 grand final on Sunday.



Elyse Walker



Sciberras



Ms Bailey and Mrs Wheadon-Davis from the Wellbeing Faculty

The Wellbeing Faculty wants to know 'Are you ok?'

R U OK? Day is a national day encouraging people to check in on each other's wellbeing. It promotes open conversations about mental health and reminds us to ask, "Are you OK?" to support those who may be struggling.





A reminder to parents and carers of **Year 11 students** about **HSC textbook ordering** from The Turning Page Bookshop:



Please order by Friday, 26 September 2025 to ensure textbooks are available for the start of Term 4.



Orders received after Monday, 6 October 2025 will attract a \$10 late fee per order and will NOT arrive before the start of Term 4.



Full payment required upon ordering at The Turning Page Bookshop.

The textbook list is available on the Sentral Parent Portal and school website.



From this week, the Uniform Shop has resumed normal trading hours, open Tuesdays and Fridays from 8.00am to 11.00am.

The 20% off sale continues until the last day of term, next Friday 26 September.

WHS Alumni Spotlight: Erika Sammut (Baudinet) (Class of 2011)

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 Erika Sammut (Baudinet) shares her reflections on her time at Winmalee High and where life has taken her since.

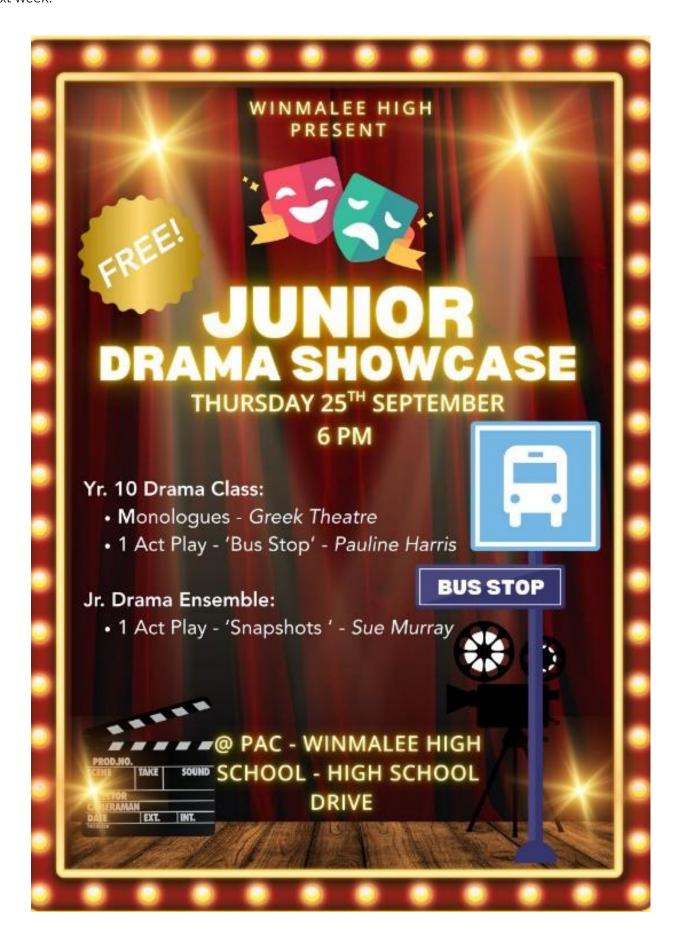
Check out Erika's Q&A at the end of the Newsletter and stay tuned as we continue celebrating the amazing paths our alumni are forging!

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 $\underline{\text{WHS Alumni Q \& A}}$ to fill out the form and share their experiences with us.

Best wishes,

Winmalee High School









WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE GRADUATING FROM WHS?

I studied a Bachelor of Teaching/ Bachelor of Arts (Technology) at ACU. Currently Head of TAS at St Paul's Grammar School and currently studying a Masters of Educational Leadership at UNSW. Married in 2023 and have a 9 month old baby, Sienna.

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

TAS teaching staff, namely Julie Sherden, Narelle Brown and Annette Murray had a massive impact on my study choices after leaving school.

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

Extra-curricular activities offered. I played netball and NRL for the school, and attended the Ski trips as well as G'Day USA.

WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE YOU INVOLVED IN AT SCHOOL?

I played netball and NRL for the school, and attended the Ski trips as well as G'Day USA. I helped with makeup and costumes for the school musicals.



WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES OUR SCHOOL SPECIAL?

The care of the teaching staff, and the activities offered, all students could find their place at WHS. I loved the pastoral system. Geoff Booth was our grade coordinator and looking back having one teacher follow a year group the whole way through allowed trust and rapport to be built.

Spring 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**



Woven Butterflies with Naomi Oliver 10 to 11am | Kindy - Year 4 | \$6

Monday 29th September, Springwood Hub, Mtg Rm 1. Tuesday 7th October, Katoomba Library.

Come and make your own colourful butterfly! We'll use popsicle sticks, beads and wool to weave wings and bring your bright and cheerful butterflies to life.





Popstick Wall Hanging with Naomi Oliver
12 to 1pm | Year 4 - Year 8 | \$6

Monday 29th September, Springwood Hub, Mtg Rm 1.
Tuesday 7th October, Katoomba Library.

Create a colourful wall hanging using popsicle sticks and yarn. We'll play with patterns, wrapping and weaving the yarn around the sticks to build your own unique, decorated piece to take home!

Zine Workshop with Estee Sarsfield.

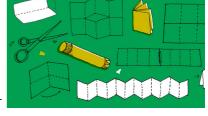
10 to 11am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6

Thursday 9th October, Katoomba Library.

Fri 10th October, Springwood Hub, Dining Room.

Snip snip! Make a Zine! Zines are small handmade books that can be about anything and

everything. There are no rules! Stamp, cut, colour and glue to create your own zine, and learn everything you need to know to keep making zines at home.





Teen Zine Workshop with Estee Sarsfield.

12 to 1pm | Yrs7 - 12 Highschool Students | \$6

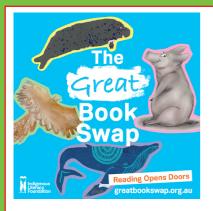
Thursday 9th October, Katoomba Library.

Fri 10th October, Springwood Hub, Dining Room.

Get your scissors ready! Zines are small handmade books that can be filled with writing, art, collage, poems, politics or anything at all. Explore the endless possibilities of what a zine can be and everything you need to know to make your own.







Hub Picnic Day & Great Book Swap (Children & Young Adult Books)

Springwood Hub Tuesday 30th September 11am to 2pm | Free - Drop-in

Our Hub Picnic Day is on again, pairing our theme with the Springwood Hub's children's theatre show, Imagine, based on the Alison Lester book. We will have craft inspired by the book's themes & will be joined by BMCC Waterways Team &

Springwood Neighbourhood Centre. Come and enjoy the fun & craft.

During Hub Picnic Day, BM Library, Belong Blue Mountains and Paint the Blue REaD are hosting our Great Book Swap, a fundraiser for the Indigneous Literacy Foundation. For a gold coin donation, (or using our unique QR code to the ILF donation page), swap some good quality books & help raise funds for communities in need.

Come, join in the fun and help us welcome in Spring!



Wonderful Wildflowers Collaborative Creations

All Blue Mountains Library Branches

Saturday 27th September - Sunday 12th October | Free - Drop-in

Spring into your library branch and celebrate the wonderful wildflowers of the Blue Mountains. Learn about our local endemic species and colour the designs to bring our wildflower scenes to life, creating a unique landscape piece in each library branch.





Join our team this spring for some exciting school holiday activities.



Bush Alive



Junior Rangers



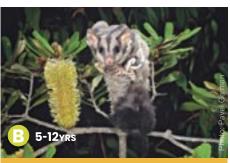
Navigation, Mapping and Orienteering

Tuesday 30 September · Blackheath



Bee Adventure

Wednesday 1 October · Blackheath



Spotlight!

Thursday 2 October · Katoomba





Bee Adventure

Wednesday 8 October · Blackheath



Spotlight!

Thursday 9 October · Katoomba





Holiday activities \$20 per person. Most activities are onsite at Blackheath 10am–12pm. Spotlight is held at Katoomba 7.30–9.30pm. Grand Cliff Top Walk is held at Wentworth Falls. Meet 15 mins before activity start time. T 02 4784 7301 E BlueMtns.Education@environment.nsw.gov.au









