



WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

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Term 4 Week 4 Communication – Thursday 6 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warami. The **HSC exams** are almost over, with two final exams on tomorrow. We couldn't be prouder of Year 12. We wish students and their families a well-deserved rest as they start their weekends HSC free!

Tomorrow we will celebrate our **Year 11 High Academic Achievers** at the RoSE Breakfast. Congratulations to students for their hard work to maintain outstanding grades throughout the Year 11 course of study.

On Monday evening, we have our annual **Dance Showcase** at the Springwood Hub. See the following pages for more information and the booking link. It will be a spectacular event.

Student access to NSW EduChat –EduChat is a generative artificial intelligence tool owned and designed by the department. This tool has recently become available to students. As we learn more, we will work with students to use this tool to support learning. We have included a fact sheet about EduChat for your information.

Under-16s social media age restriction legislation - From 10 December 2025, many social media platforms will be required to prevent Australians under 16 from creating or maintaining accounts on certain age-restricted services. The changes aim to protect children from pressures and risks they can be exposed to while logged in to social media accounts.

The eSafety Commissioner is leading the implementation of the law. They are responsible for identifying platforms and supporting the community with information and resources.

Under-16s will still be able to see publicly available social media content that doesn't require logging into an account. There are no penalties for young people who use age-restricted platforms or for their parents and carers as the responsibility is with the platforms.

We encourage you to access eSafety's resources and support for families on their website and register for one of the upcoming [webinars](#) for parents and carers.

For a good overview of the changes, here is a [Video](#) you might find useful - *Mythbusting the new social media age restrictions with Kirra Pendergast and Maggie Dent.*

We have some wonderful student achievements to share this week, so please read on.



Blue Mountains Zonta – Vision for the Future Scholarship – Congratulations to Aurora Edwards (Year 10) for being selected for the 2026 Zonta scholarship. Aurora's application demonstrated her dedication and drive to achieve excellence in her learning. Congratulations, Aurora.

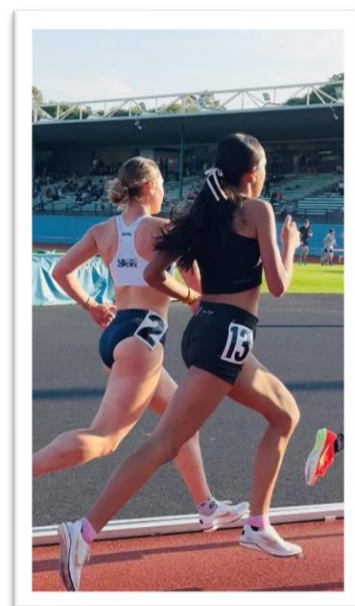
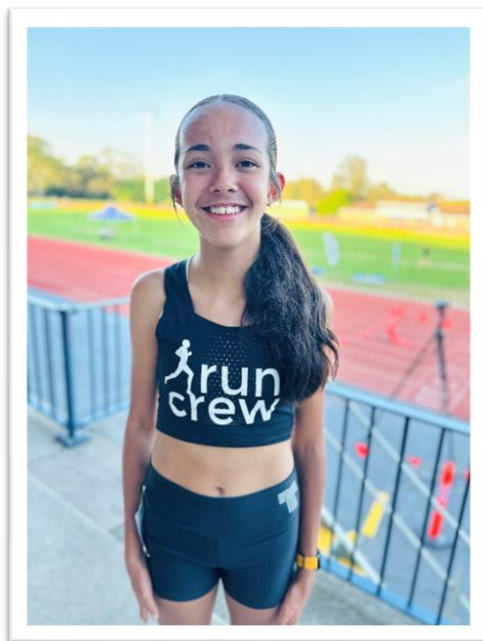
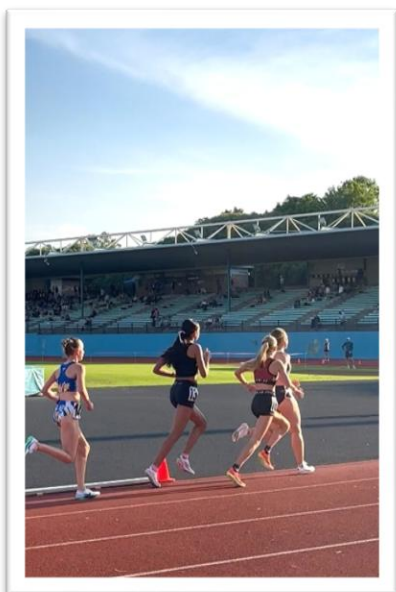
If you missed it, see this great article in the Blue Mountains Gazette [Winmalee High's cultural journey: Japan exchange trip](#)



Staff and students in front of the Tokyo Skytree and the Asahi

Last Saturday **Elyse Walker (Year 7)** raced at the NSW 3000m Championships held at E.S. Marks Athletics Field.

Elyse was chasing a 10 seconds PB to get a qualifying time (10:45.00) for nationals. She had a great race and got a 25 seconds PB (10:29.63) earning her first national qualifier for athletics! She is looking forward to race in Brisbane (April 2026).



Congratulations to **Logan Rintoul (Year 9)** for his performance at the Australian National Championships for Remote Control Car Racing.

Held this year in Perth, Logan, competing in an Open Age group, with competitors from teens to 75 years old, came 1st in Australia for his 1/10th scale 21.5 rcmaker remote control car and he also came in 2nd for his 1/12th scale 13.5 car. This follows Logan winning the ACT, VIC, TAS and SA titles earlier this year.





Following on from the recent news that (L to R) **Oliver Cusack, Liam Boys (Year 10) and Archie Ballard (Year 8)** successfully auditioned for Pulse Alive 2026, they have also been nominated to attend a Pulse Alive tour to Moree in May 2026!



Year 10 Careers were studying employability skills this week. The challenge was to build the tallest structure with a marshmallow on top – emphasising teamwork, problem solving and communication skills.





Year 11 Ancient History visited the Chau Chak Wing Museum at the University of Sydney last week. Our students examined objects over 3000 years old and were able to see artefacts relating to their HSC topics of Pompeii, Greece and Egypt. They were incredibly respectful, and the guides commented on the depth of knowledge shown by Year 11. Thanks to Miss Devile and Miss Charman for providing a practical experience to start the HSC. For more photos, please see our [Facebook page](#).



Recently, a group of Junior SRC students took part in a virtual workshop titled ***Bystander Intervention for Youth: How to Stand Up for Others.***

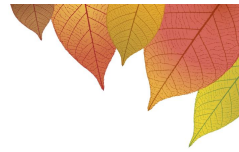
Our young leaders learned valuable strategies based on the 5Ds — *Distract, Delegate, Document, Delay, and Direct* — to effectively support those who have experienced harassment. The students left the workshop equipped with practical skills to help others and a strong, clear message that harassment is not acceptable and will not be tolerated in our community.

MONDAY!

Winmalee High School's annual **Dance Showcase** is on **next Monday 10 November** at 6.30pm at Blue Mountains Theatre.

Tickets are now on sale from Blue Mountains Theatre - www.bluemountainstheatre.com.au/what-s-on/season-2025/winmalee-hs-2025/





WHS Alumni Spotlight: Jake Scaramuzzi (Class of 2014)

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.

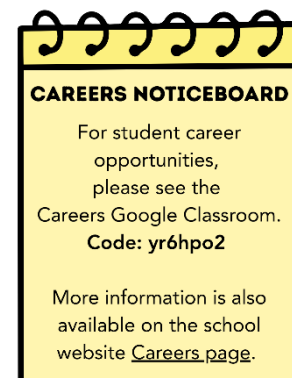
This week Jake Scaramuzzi shares his reflections on his time at Winmalee High and where life has taken him since.

Check out Jake'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



Jake Scaramuzzi class of '14

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE GRADUATING FROM WHS?

Started an electrical apprenticeship in 2015 and have been in the industry ever since. Have been self employed since the beginning of 2023.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/share/171a36WHwM/>

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

The industrial arts faculty, particularly TVET metal fabrication with Geoff Booth helped me to realise I enjoyed practical tasks rather than theory based. Geoff's previous industry experience was priceless when providing students with real life experiences in a way that could not be done by a career teacher.

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

The numerous ski camps and leadership camp have to be at the top of the list. I also often think back on electronics classes with Herbert Honeysett. Herb was good at not being too serious and keeping the class fun. Business studies with Di Redfern and Engineering studies with Herb and David MacCormick both gave me great base knowledge which has been helpful in my life so far.

WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE YOU INVOLVED IN AT SCHOOL?

Ski camps and leadership camps, intermediate band, numerous sporting teams, Duke of Ed, most school camps that were on offer.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES OUR SCHOOL SPECIAL?

The extracurricular camps at the time were second to none. The additional effort by some teachers was exceptional. I really hope these programs are still happening by the time my 1 year old son is ready to start high school. However I had heard from some that it is not as great as it used to be.





Student access to NSWEdUChat

Information for parents and carers

NSWEduChat is a generative artificial intelligence tool owned and designed by the NSW Department of Education. It is designed to be safe, educational, secure and private.

Student access to NSWEdUChat

Students in Year 5 to Year 12 will gain access to NSWEdUChat in Term 4, 2025.

Safety of students using NSWEdUChat

NSWEduChat data is secured. All data stays within the department. This means that students can input their work and personal identifying information safely into NSWEdUChat.

Educational design of NSWEdUChat

NSWEduChat does not simply provide the full answers to questions. It responds to students by asking open-ended questions. This encourages students to explore and share their thoughts and reasoning.

NSWEduChat only uses text. This means it cannot produce media such as pictures, video or music.

Using NSWEdUChat for help with homework and assessment tasks

If schools advise that NSWEdUChat can be used for homework or assessments, students should notify their teachers if they have used NSWEdUChat in completing tasks. This includes using NSWEdUChat for tasks such as, but not limited to, summarising study notes, definition of key terms or structuring text. Schools should communicate the ways in which students can reasonably notify their teachers.

Access to NSWEdUChat at home

Students can access NSWEdUChat at home through:

- the student portal at <https://portal.education.nsw.gov.au/>
- directly via chat.education.nsw.gov.au

Students will need to log in using their NSW Department of Education login. Only the student who logged in should use NSWEdUChat.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this tool, please contact the principal.



For more information and access to the NSWEdUChat parental privacy notice, visit: [Student use of NSWEdUChat](#).