

Ashdale
Secondary College



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Special Edition, Annual Newsletter 2024



In this issue...



Ashdale Showcase
Page 4



Class of 2024
Page 6



Art Exhibition
Page 44



House Awards
Page 61

Contents

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	Page
Message from the Principal	3
Ashdale Showcase	4
Anzac Ceremony	5
Class of 2024	6
Year 12 Ball	8
Year 11 Dinner Dance	10
Student Leadership Team	12
Whole School and Cluster STEM	20
Learning Areas	
Science	26
Mathematics	27
Humanities and Social Science	29
English	34
Home Economics	36
Design and Technology	38
Information and Communication Technology	42
The Arts and Languages	46
Health and Physical Education	54
VET, WPL and Business	66
Houses	70
Student Support	74
Voluntary Contributions and Charges	79
P&C Association	80
Message from the Board	81



Message from the Principal

As we conclude yet another school Term and reflect on the past academic year, it is my pleasure to share some of the numerous highlights, events, and experiences that have unfolded at the College over the last ten weeks.

Our Term commenced with our inaugural participation in the Division 2 Interschool Athletics competition, following our successful promotion from Division 3 in 2023. The competition was intense, and our team demonstrated remarkable resilience, finishing in an admirable sixth place, with one of our students being honoured as the Year 9 Champion Boy. We take immense pride in our athletes and the dedicated staff who support their endeavours.

The following week brought forth the most significant event on our annual calendar: the Year 12 Graduation Evening. Held at HBF Arena Joondalup on 24 October, this occasion celebrated the achievements of our students over their six years of secondary education, particularly the rigorous efforts of their final year. The presence of special guests, parents, families, staff, and students created a joyous atmosphere as we honoured our remarkable Year 12 cohort. We even received a personalised video recording from the Federal Minister for Education, Jason Clare to celebrate our student's graduation. We eagerly await the outcomes of the students' examinations, and we are confident in the bright futures for ATAR, VET, and General Studies students.

This Term also featured international and interstate travel opportunities for some of our students. In early November, our Specialist Soccer Team journeyed to Singapore to compete in the Singa Cup, while our Specialist Netball Teams travelled to the Gold Coast, where they achieved significant success. Additionally, a group of Year 9 students had the privilege of visiting Canberra, immersing themselves in the rich history of our national capital.

Life at the College continues to flourish with various activities and events. Highlights include two House Award afternoons in both the Junior and Senior School and the annual Arts Exhibition and Showcase, which our local MLA, Margaret Quirk, opened for the last time before her retirement. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Margaret for her many years of advocacy and support on our behalf.

Our Duke of Edinburgh's Award program continues to expand, featuring a three-day adventurous camping journey in the Wheatbelt, while our final STEM Champions event for the year was met with great enthusiasm and success.

The College has made progress on the promised build program with a visit from State Education Minister Tony Buti confirming the funding for our new science, hospitality and, design and technology buildings. We anticipate work to begin in mid-April and continue into 2027. We will keep our community updated on the progress of the build. Although we anticipate some disruption to traffic and parking at the College, our teaching and learning programs will continue uninterrupted.

As we approach the end of the year, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the entire Ashdale community for their unwavering support of the College. I also extend my appreciation to our Board members, particularly the outgoing College Board Chair, Ian Brotherton, who will leave us at the end of 2024. Ian has been a wonderful leader of our board for the last eight years offering thoughtful advice, innovative thinking and strong advocacy for the College. Thank you too to our P&C volunteers, whose dedication is instrumental in helping us achieve our numerous milestones every year.

In closing, I would like to thank every member of the ASC staff. Our students benefit from the tireless efforts of our dedicated teachers and support staff, who are committed to ensuring optimal outcomes for all. At our College, pursuing best practices is not merely an aspiration; it is deeply embedded in our daily routines and the very fabric of our ethos. Our commitment to excellence in education yields exceptional results for our students, reinforcing our belief that every child can thrive when provided with a nurturing, supportive, and innovative environment. As always, life at the College is dynamic and engaging. As our staff and students embark on their holiday break, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks once again for your support and wish everyone a safe and joyful holiday. I look forward to welcoming you all back in 2025.

Jacquie Bogunovich
Principal



Ashdale Showcase

As the year drew to a close, the College hosted its annual Showcase, which brought together students, parents, and community members for an afternoon filled with excitement, learning, and fun. The ASC showcase kicked off with the official opening of the Art Exhibition. Students proudly displayed their masterpieces, ranging from vibrant paintings to intricate sculptures. The creativity and talent on display were truly inspiring, and the exhibition was a testament to our young artists' hard work and dedication.

The Ashdale Showcase celebrates our students' talents, creativity, and hard work. The overwhelming community engagement and support made it a memorable afternoon for everyone involved. We look forward to continuing this tradition and creating more opportunities for our students to shine. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this event a success!.

Hannah James
Deputy Principal





Anzac Ceremony

On Friday, 19 April, our Anzac Ceremony, thanks to the dedication of many, poignantly reminded us of the strength of community and the importance of remembrance. We were honoured to welcome esteemed guests, including Steve Sartain from DFES, Margaret Quirk MLA, Mayor Linda Aitken, Major Mayford Godfrey, Ian Brotherton (our College Board Chair), and Jonelle Carstens (our P&C President), whose unwavering commitment to our community is truly inspiring.

Special appreciation goes to Cpl. Dave Scott and Ppr. Capt Doug Gillespie for their service and for gracing us with their presence. Your dedication and sacrifice are a profound reminder of the enduring Anzac spirit.

We extend our gratitude to everyone who joined us in honouring our heroes and reflecting on their legacy. Your participation and reverence ensure that the flame of remembrance continues to burn bright. Lest we forget.

Jacquie Bogunovich
Principal





Class of 2024

We farewelled the Class of 2024 in style with a wonderful breakfast to start their final school day, followed by a dedicated whole school assembly to celebrate and mark their time spent at Ashdale Secondary College. Following the assembly, the Year 11 students and College staff formed a guard of honour to send them on their way.

The Year 12 graduation ceremony was held at HBF Arena Joondalup on Thursday, 24 October. Before the official ceremony, the students, dressed in their graduation gowns, sashes and caps in readiness for the ceremony, mingled with their families and friends in the pre-ceremony area.

Two hundred and seventy-two students received their graduation certificates on stage from Principal Mrs Jacque Bogunovich, witnessed by their families, VIPs, staff and guests.

A wide variety of community leaders, including Margaret Quirk MLA - Member for Landsdale, Natalie Herridge - Councillor, City of Wanneroo and Fred Marsh, Past Governor, Perth Rotary attended the graduation to witness the proceedings and present our Year 12s with special awards for community involvement, leadership and academic excellence.

The Year 12s have shown the College and the community their values of independence, cooperation and respect, allowing them to find success wherever they go in the future.

I wish all the students of the graduating Class of 2024 and their families all the best.

Joshua Popp
Deputy Principal



2024 Graduation Award Winners

ECU Academic Excellence ATAR Dux Award
 P&C General Dux Award
 Visual Arts Award
 Performing Arts Award
 Tracey Roberts MP Leadership Award
 City of Wanneroo Citizenship Award
 City of Wanneroo Citizenship Award
 NMEMO Commitment to Excellence Award
 ADF Long Tan Teamwork Award
 ADF Future Innovators Award
 Engineers Australia Certificate of Excellence
 - Science and Math
 - ATAR Engineering Studies
 - General Engineering Studies
 Ampol Best All Rounder Award
 Cluster Technology Award
 Ashdale Ambassador Award
 P&C Endeavour Award
 Stan Perron Award
 Sportsperson Award - Female
 Sportsperson Award - Male
 CERTIFICATE II Music
 CERTIFICATE II Dance
 GENERAL Visual Arts
 GENERAL Visual Arts
 ATAR Engineering Studies
 GENERAL Engineering Studies
 CERTIFICATE II Engineering
 CERTIFICATE III Aviation
 GENERAL Materials, Design & Technology: Metals
 GENERAL Materials, Design & Technology: Wood
 ATAR English
 ATAR English
 ATAR English
 GENERAL English
 ATAR Health Studies
 ATAR Health Studies
 ATAR Physical Education Studies
 CERTIFICATE II Sport and Recreation
 CERTIFICATE II Sport and Recreation
 CERTIFICATE II Sport and Recreation
 GENERAL Health Studies
 GENERAL Outdoor Education
 GENERAL Physical Education Studies
 CERTIFICATE II Hospitality
 GENERAL Children, Family and Community
 GENERAL Food Science and Technology
 ATAR Economics
 ATAR Modern History

Michael Rapley
 Quynh Tran
 Quynh Tran
 Charlee Benness
 Sophie Felton
 Anthony Italiano
 Mahek Pandya
 Jai Goodall
 Joshua Pedrazza
 Michael Rapley

 Michael Rapley
 Ethan O'Donnell
 Lakshya Aggarwal
 Abbey Thalhammer
 Joshua Pedrazza
 Ella Murphy
 Denzel Wright
 Harshil Khoosal
 Sophie Felton
 Jack Connolly
 Charlee Benness
 Huntah Larner
 Monika Jovceska
 Quynh Tran
 Ethan O'Donnell
 Lakshya Aggarwal
 Tyler Petersen
 Ethan O'Donnell
 Tyler Petersen
 Daniel Richardson
 Melissa Carstens
 Parfaite Kaneza
 Michael Rapley
 Lilah Stevenson
 Liam Schwartz
 Emilia Dimitrioska
 Dylan Fissioli
 Lucas Santich
 Lucas Santich
 Patrick Radetic
 Ashley Ang
 Daniel Crofskey
 Abbie Vincent
 Lilah Stevenson
 Milly Alessi
 Phoebe Nguyen
 Dharmadev Dabhi
 Khiran Jesani

GENERAL Career and Enterprise
 GENERAL Geography
 GENERAL Modern History
 GENERAL Modern History
 GENERAL Design: Photography
 GENERAL Design: Graphics
 ATAR Applied Information Technology
 ATAR Computer Science
 GENERAL Applied Information Technology
 ATAR Mathematics Applications
 ATAR Mathematics Applications
 ATAR Mathematics Methods
 ATAR Mathematics Methods
 ATAR Mathematics Specialist
 GENERAL Mathematics Essentials
 ATAR Earth and Environmental Science
 ATAR Psychology
 GENERAL Psychology
 ATAR Biology
 ATAR Biology
 ATAR Chemistry
 ATAR Human Biology
 ATAR Physics
 GENERAL Human Biology
 ATAR Business Management
 CERTIFICATE III Business
 GENERAL Business Management
 ECU Uni Prep

Milly Alessi
 Niv Patel
 Ken Phounsavath
 Kaiser Vann
 Niv Patel
 Natasha Gorlitsky
 Chloe Ross-Williams
 Joshua Pedrazza
 Natasha Gorlitsky
 Ali Al Marshadi
 Federer Tran
 Pruthvi Patel
 Michael Rapley
 Michael Rapley
 Joshua Knight
 Keisha Tognetti
 Leslie Jolin
 Allie Tran
 Joshua Pedrazza
 Melissa Carstens
 Michael Rapley
 Keisha Tognetti
 Michael Rapley
 Alexandra Pismiris
 Anthony Italiano
 Niv Patel
 Daniel Crofskey
 Alexandra Pismiris



General Dux - Quynh Tran



ATAR Dux - Michael Rapley



Year 12 Ball

The Year 12 Ball on Friday, 23 August, at The Westin Hotel was nothing short of spectacular! We were blown away by how our students outdid themselves, arriving in style and looking absolutely fantastic! The atmosphere was electric, with everyone on their best behaviour and ready to have an unforgettable night. The ballroom at The Westin was a sight to behold, a stunning space that perfectly matched the elegance of the Arabian Nights theme for the evening. The décor, with its twinkling lights and sophisticated arrangements, set the stage for an incredible evening.

The DJ played tunes that packed the dance floor from the first beat to the last, with students showing off their moves, singing their hearts out and enjoying every moment. Our 'Star Dancers', Deryl Tran and Alma Ceric, had everyone in awe with their incredible dancing skills, and that really got the party started. They definitely set the bar high! It was uplifting to watch our cohort let their hair down and live in the moment after a long year before heading into the completion of final assessments, exams, and the end of their schooling journey.

Our 'Stars of the Ball', who embodied charisma, kindness, elegance, and positivity, made them a standout and were fittingly awarded to Daniel Crowsley and Cassidy Jephtha. They truly exemplified these qualities, shining brightly throughout the night.

The photo booth was a huge hit! Students struck poses, pulled silly faces, and captured memories all night, which had us cracking up when we viewed the photos days later. By the end of the evening, with a sore feel everywhere, high heels were off, and phone batteries had succumbed after the endless stream of photos taken that will last a lifetime. But every moment was worth it for the memories created.

The night would not have been the same without the heartfelt speech from our College Captains, Ella Murphy and Anthony Italiano, who reminded us of the incredible journey you've been on together to get to this night.

The 2024 Ball was a night full of laughter, dancing, and unforgettable moments – the perfect way to celebrate the end of an era for our Year 12 students. Class of 2024, we're so proud of each and every one of you!

Ian Whitelaw and Candice Bell

Year 12 Coordinators





Stars of the Ball





Year 11 Dinner Dance

The Year 11 Dinner Dance on Thursday, 12 September, was an absolutely spectacular evening. The event was filled with laughter, dancing, and abundant joy, leaving everyone with memories to cherish for a long time. A heartfelt thank you goes to Mr. Esparon and Frances Antonio for their outstanding effort in organising such a flawless night. Their attention to detail and dedication made all the difference.

Joondalup Resort, with its picturesque ambience and breathtaking views, provided the perfect setting for the celebration. The evening began with refreshing sundowner mocktails as we watched the sun dip below the horizon, creating a magical atmosphere. This was followed by the more formal proceedings, including heartfelt speeches reflecting the students' journey so far, a delicious dinner, and, of course, plenty of dancing.

Seeing so many students mingle, enjoy themselves, and treat one another with kindness and respect was truly remarkable. The sense of community and camaraderie was palpable, and it was a pleasure to witness everyone coming together in such a positive and supportive way.

As the evening went on, the dance floor became the night's focal point, with students showcasing their best moves, laughing, and celebrating the special occasion. The music, the lights, and the high spirits created an unforgettable vibe, with everyone smiling from start to finish.

Overall, the Year 11 Dinner Dance was a resounding success, not just because of the fun and excitement, but because it reminded us of the importance of friendship, kindness, and creating lasting memories. A huge thank you to all the staff, students, and parents who made it possible. It truly was a night to remember!

Anaiya Dabasia
Year 11 Coordinator







Student Leadership

The students of Ashdale Secondary College are proudly represented by the Student Leadership Team (SLT) as they embody our student body's face, voice, and heart. The SLT continues seeking opportunities to improve the College's leadership capacity. This is evident in the continued interest in students vying to be House Captains, Lead House Captains, Lead Mentor Captains, and Mentor Captains.

Highlights of this year included the Youth Leadership Academy Australia (YLAA) conference and David Castelanelli's Ashdale Leader's Program (ALP). At the YLAA conference, Student Leaders built on a sense of empowerment and leadership development through interactive activities, passionate youth presenters, and reflective sessions that developed their personal agency and allowed them to network with like-minded leaders from schools around the state. With a holistic approach to leadership development, the ALP encourages a growth mindset, preparing students for success in and out of school.

We are constantly adding value to our leadership program. This year was no different with establishing a partnership with Central Midlands SHS and introducing *Un1ty* - Leading as One. Building a greater sense of belonging was the driving force behind a new branch of the Leadership Team: *Un1ty* - Leading as One. While it is essential that each individual team of leaders fulfil their separate roles as the face, voice or heart of the College, *Un1ty* will bring our leaders together to work as a unified team toward a common goal, creating a stronger sense of belonging even as the College continues to grow.

The Duke of Edinburgh International Award continues to challenge our students as a chance for them to see immense personal growth by taking them out of their comfort zones to reach their full potential. In 2024, we welcomed Lead Captains as participants and will continue to expand this opportunity to all eligible students in the *Un1ty* team in 2025. Our connection with Central Midlands SHS was further solidified by basing the Adventurous Journey in and around Moora and involving the school's leaders in the camp.

Our Leaders are to be commended for their outstanding efforts this year as they have exceeded the expectations of the roles they have fulfilled in 2024. We wish them a well-deserved rest with family and friends and look forward to all that 2025 has in store for us in the Leadership program at the College.

As the saying goes, all good things must come to an end, and so it is for me in the capacity of the Student Leadership Coordinator. For the past five years, it has been my privilege to support the leadership development of the incredibly determined, self-motivated, conscientious, enthusiastic, and kind-hearted students at Ashdale SC who have fulfilled the role of Student Leader during that time.

On a personal note, I'd like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the Student Leaders I have had the privilege of working with over the past five years as a Student Leadership Coordinator. Pursuing the ever-illusory work/life balance, it is time for me to take an official step back from this extra-curricular role with the confidence that the College is indeed in safe hands with these extraordinary young people leading the way.

Whether it was tackling the challenges of keeping quokkas out of our tents on the Rottne Island Adventurous Journey, standing by the side of a Rotary 4 Way Speaking Contest participant as they bravely faced a room full of strangers, or being the biggest kid of them all at every one of the end of year Team Building excursions, this role has been one full of joy and wonder, and I will never forget it. As Coordinators, we have always hoped to achieve a sense of belonging for this group, but it is the students who have taught me far more about that feeling than I could ever have taught them. Part of the joy that I have experienced in fulfilling this role has been knowing that I can be my true authentic self with these students, and in turn, I hope that they have always felt that they belong in this team in the truest sense of the word. If I could wish for anything for our Leaders, past and present, it would be that they could see themselves in the way that I see them. In the words of AA Milne, "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." Leaders, you possess humility and humanity beyond your years, and I thank you for letting me be a part of your leadership journey.

I would also like to say a very special thank you to my colleague, Chantelle Laurie, whose driving force and incredible passion for leadership have been instrumental in the growth of opportunities for Student Leadership across the College. Sharing such an important role with her has been an absolute pleasure.

Amy Rowland and Chantelle Laurie
Student Leadership Coordinators



Lead and Mentor Captains

The Lead and Mentor Captain program aims to strengthen the student body's voice, comprising over 65 Mentor Captains and five Lead Captains. Meeting twice each Term, the dedicated students collaborate to identify and implement strategies for improvement. These sessions focus on fostering a supportive and inclusive atmosphere, addressing student needs, and promoting academic engagement. Lead Captains joined the student leaders in upskilling through David Castelanelli's ALP. By working closely with The College Executive Team and their peers, the Lead and Mentor Captains play a crucial role in shaping a positive and thriving College Community.

Hannah James
Deputy Principal



House Captains

What an exciting year it's been for our Houses!

From friendly competitions to lunchtime games, our students have embraced the spirit of teamwork.

A huge thank you to our amazing House Captains for their leadership and enthusiasm in guiding their teams throughout the year!

Our House teams put their knowledge to the test in various fun and challenging quizzes, earning valuable House points along the way. Our infamous minute-to-win-it challenges have been a massive hit. Whether stacking cups or racing the clock, these fast-paced games brought out the best in every student, with plenty of laughs and House points up for grabs!

As we look back on this year's success, we're already excited for the new games and events planned for next year. Get ready for more fun, friendly competition, and plenty of House spirit as we aim for even more outstanding achievements in the year ahead!

Well done to all Houses – and see you next year!

Emma Kelly
Youth Engagement & Support Worker



Unlty - Leading as One

On Tuesday, 23 April, the Student Leadership Team, including Lead Captains and House Captains, came together on a momentous occasion to mark the beginning of the Un1ty leadership program at Ashdale Secondary College. The launch event, *Un1ty - Leading as One*, was a testament to the collective effort and dedication of our student leaders. It was a day filled with leadership games, group challenges, and a powerful speech from six-time NBL champion and former Perth Wildcats captain, Damian Martin. His journey from a regional high school student to a decorated athlete, with its emphasis on resilience, commitment, and discipline, served as a beacon of inspiration for our student leaders.

Un1ty's principle focus is to unite the whole student leadership team by working collaboratively and cohesively and providing a platform for students to engage in ideas and opportunities with the voice, face, and heart of the College available to them. In the coming years, *Un1ty* intends to serve the student body of Ashdale SC by promoting the unification of the Student Leadership opportunities hosted by the College and by building a system through which students can work together to maximise their impact as leaders of a positive future.

Jason
Student Leader - Year 7

Woody
Student Leader - Year 11



No Limits Fundraiser

The College held their annual No Limits Fundraiser from 16 to 26 July. Run by the *Un1ty* team, consisting of the Student Leaders, Lead Mentor Captains and House Captains, the fortnight of events consisted of different stalls, activities and various opportunities for students to contribute to the local charity to help members of the community in need.

The Fundraiser kicked off with a Kahoot to educate the students on our sponsored charity, No Limits, and introduce the exciting events that were to come. An early morning Breakfast BBQ followed this up before the Teacher vs Student basketball and volleyball games ran through both weeks. Unfortunately, the teachers dominated, winning all three games against each year group.

The final day of the Fundraiser featured the events everyone had been waiting for, including the Free Dress, Cupcake Sale, and the Photobooth. The Cupcake Sale consisted of cupcakes made by Ashdale's Year 12 Children, Family & Community students. The photo booth was incredibly successful, raising more than ever before thanks to a faster turnaround of prints.

In total, we raised nearly \$3,000 for No Limits. Our Student Leaders will return to the charity later in the year to volunteer and help coordinate the purchase of essential items to help those in need.

This amazing total would not have been possible without the support of our staff and students. Special thanks go to our incredible sponsors, who provided us with the resources necessary to make these past few weeks extraordinary. So, to everyone involved, we extend our sincerest thanks. You have truly made a difference to those in need.

Gabe and Isabelle

Student Leaders - Year 11



Ashdale Leaders Program

On Tuesday, 11 June, the Student Leadership Team successfully concluded the transformative Levitate Leaders Program, led by one of Australia's Top 100 Future Leaders, David Castelaneli. This Semester One program was a journey of self-improvement, enhancing leadership skills, and fostering a spirit of service among the students.

Several topics covered included sleep, habits and consistency, resilience, and the essential skill of public speaking. The Student Leadership Team learned a lot from the program, and here are some of our favourite takeaways:

1. **The Sleep Calculator** - Sleep is one of the most important things you can do; look to make the most of it.
1. **Be productive, not busy** - It's more important to be making progress, than just being occupied.
1. **Comfort is the enemy of growth** - You need to move outside of your comfort zone to make progress.

Some of the Student Leaders have been fortunate enough to have participated in the program multiple times, reaped the productive benefits of David's teaching, and now look to assist the less experienced leaders in making the same strides as they have. The Leadership Team is looking forward to using the tools David has taught them to help improve the College as a whole.

Cameron and Gabriel

Student Leaders - Year 11



Minister for Education and MP Visit College to Announce \$40 Million Upgrade

In Week 3 of Term 4, we were excited to welcome two very special guests to the College: Minister for Education, Dr Tony Buti and Member of Parliament Margaret Quirk MLA. Our Year 7 Student Leaders, Kriya and Ryan, had the honour of greeting them with a warm welcome. After arriving, Dr Buti and Ms Quirk completed a tour of the College and chatted with staff and students.

The purpose of the visit was to announce their continued commitment to the \$40 million upgrade of the College, which will commence in 2025. The upgrades will bring state-of-the-art facilities to our College, and construction is set to begin in March of next year. The build will include a new Design and Technology building, ready by mid-2026, and a brand-new two-storey building to be finished by late 2026.

We're extremely grateful to Minister Buti and Ms Quirk for their continued support of the College. This investment will help provide our students with fantastic new spaces in which to learn and succeed for many years to come.

Kriya

Student Leader - Year 7

Duke of Edinburgh - Adventurous Journey

On Wednesday, 6 November, the Student Leader and Lead Captain team members embarked on their three-day Adventurous Journey to Moora as part of their Bronze Level of the Duke of Edinburgh International Award. The team was tasked with planning the food and shelter for the trip, not just for ourselves but also for our teachers.



In the week prior, we completed our Practice Journey. We completed activities such as bushwalking, practising administering first aid and setting up tents. Although it was a struggle at times, we had plenty of laughs throughout the process.

Once arriving in Moora, our first stop was the bakery, which turned out to be one of our favourites. Next, we headed to Central Midlands Senior High School (CMSHS). At CMSHS, we met with the Student Leaders from their school and discussed the positives and challenges of attending a country school. Then Mrs Lewis, from the Moora Historical Society, took us on a tour and shared some of the history of Moora, which was interesting, though it felt like forever walking up and down the street. On Day 2, we met a local Indigenous elder named Uncle Fred. Fred shared with us what life was like for Indigenous people in Moora during the 1950s. He took us on a tour of the area where he grew up and showed us a project he created in partnership with the Moora Catchment Council. The area showcased the story of the Yued people, with paintings made by Fred's wife.

Around 2 pm, we set off to visit Mrs Keefe's farm. Mrs Keefe, a Home Economics teacher at CMSHS, and her family are primarily wheat and sheep farmers. They were in the process of harvesting their wheat. Mrs Keefe's son, Tim, took time out of his busy day to show us a combine harvester (or "header"), one of the largest machines we had ever seen. We each took turns riding along in the driver's cab while the harvest was completed. It was amazing to see the technology involved—almost like playing on a PlayStation 5! This was definitely one of the best parts of our trip, and we didn't want to leave, but we had more to do that day.

Later that night, we walked across town to Moora Residential College, attached to CMSHS. Students who live too far away attend the "Resi College," as it's known, giving them the opportunity for face-to-face education while being cared for outside of school hours by the wonderful staff. On the oval, a telescope was set up by Moora local Donna from Startrack Astro Events. We each took a turn looking through the telescope to see one of the clearest images of the moon we'd ever seen. Unfortunately, the weather was overcast that night, so we couldn't see any stars, but we toured the residential college. We were amazed by the facilities,



including ping pong tables, a 50-inch TV, basketball courts, and a pool. We finished the night by listening to Donna give a presentation on space. Our second day was long but very fun and informative.

On Day 3, after breakfast, we planned to observe what happens to wheat after harvest. At 9 am, we visited Cooperative Bulk Handling (CBH) and stayed for an hour. During that time, we heard from the Area Manager, Luke, about the Co-op's operations and observed how they sampled, cleaned and stored the grain. We also learned about the value of the grain once harvested, and we were all surprised at how much it was worth! No wonder Weetbix costs what it does!

After our visit to CBH, we returned to camp and finished packing our tents, but it started to rain. We quickly moved everything inside to the camp kitchen. It began to hail, and while Riley kept dry in the camp kitchen, Liam and Anthony got stuck on the bus packing. They decided to party on and wait out the hail before continuing further. Thankfully, the hail didn't last long, and we finished packing just in time to head to CMSHS for our final activity. We toured the school and participated in a cooking class, where we met some amazing students and staff and cooked a lemon curd cake.

We then said our goodbyes to Mrs Keefe and thanked her for everything she had done to support our Adventurous Journey. It was a jam-packed adventure, and we couldn't have done it without the support of Mr Jones (aka bus driver, supervisor, card king and s'mores specialist), Mr Doherty (aka Mrs Laurie, navigator, comedian and keychain maker), Mrs Laurie (planner and networker), and Mrs James (supporter and enthusiast). They each helped in different ways to ensure we had the best possible time.

Anthony and Riley
Student Leaders - Year 10

Liam
Lead Captain - Year 9





Duke of Edinburgh

In 2023, the Year 10 Student Leaders began the College's inaugural journey of the Duke of Edinburgh International Award. These students worked towards completing the Bronze level of the Award in addition to their school studies and extra-curricular activities. The College was delighted to present Cameron, Woody, Charlotte, Kaiya, Arwyn and Isabelle – six (6) of the Duke of Edinburgh participants - with their Bronze Level certificates during assemblies held throughout the year to acknowledge their completion of the first level of the Award.

We congratulate these students for their commitment to participating and completing this opportunity to develop their personal and leadership skills.

Amy Rowland and Chantelle Laurie
Student Leadership Coordinators

Central Midlands SHS (CMSHS) Partnership

The opportunity to network with other like-minded leaders occurred in Term 2 when the Student Leadership Team hosted the CMSHS Student Leaders to discuss our leadership experiences in such different locations. CMSHS is a rural high school located north of Perth, with only 178 students compared to our 1,800 students. We shared how leadership works in each of our schools via a presentation to the group and then discussed ideas for improvements we could make after learning how the other school works. We maintained contact throughout the year via online meetings to maintain and build on our developing partnership. Our Year 10s, who are completing their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Level, visited CMSHS as part of their 'Adventurous Journey'. Overall, the experience was an exciting and fun way to showcase our leadership skills whilst learning new ways to improve our school.

Isabella
Student Leaders - Year 8

Eva
Student Leaders - Year 7





Helping our Community

College Christmas Appeal

At Ashdale Secondary College, community is one of our core values. Our continuing partnership with *No Limits* is an excellent opportunity for students and staff to give back to their community, particularly those in need, especially during the holiday season.

Each year, the Student Leaders coordinate Ashdale's 'College Christmas Appeal', which supports *No Limits* and the City of Wanneroo Mayor's Christmas Appeal'. Between 12 - 21 November, staff, students and community members were encouraged to donate items in the spirit of themed collections, including Toiletry Tuesday, Festive Food Friday, Toy Tuesday, and Tin Thursday.

As always, we've been overwhelmed by generous donations from staff, students, and the wider community this year. Donations were shared between the Mayor's Christmas Appeal and *No Limits*. A representative from the City of Wanneroo collected their donation bin full of assorted goods and shared their gratitude. The donations from the community and purchases from fundraising activities carried out throughout the year were hand-delivered to *No Limits* when students attended their Student Leader Reward Team Building excursion. We helped replenish stock and packed Christmas essentials in bags for distribution to those doing it tough this holiday season. The team at *No Limits* was extremely grateful for the kind contributions they received from the College and for our part in helping those in need this year.

Thank you very much to everyone who donated and made this year's Christmas Appeal a resounding success. Your donations will be immensely appreciated by people in our community this Christmas.

Charlotte

Student Leader - Year 11

Team-Building Day

On Monday, 25 November, the 2024 Student Leader team and the future Student Leaders for 2025 embarked on an excursion to *No Limits*, a local charity based in Wangara that provides essential support to the community.

Upon arrival, we were warmly greeted by the friendly staff at *No Limits*, who were speechless at the truckload of items we had delivered through our year-long fundraising efforts. The generosity of staff, students, and families in supporting our many fundraisers, including the College's annual Christmas Appeal, made this possible. We immediately began sorting the food, toiletries, toys, and other essentials, placing them on shelves and tables. We then prepared boxes and bags for distribution. The *No Limits* staff were astonished by the amount of effort and planning that had gone into sourcing all the donations. The Student Leaders worked hard, and before long, we had completed our task of giving back to the community. We were grateful to the *No Limits* staff for allowing us to contribute to their worthy cause.

Later, the team headed to the Hijinx Hotel in Karrinyup for a team-building session. We split into groups and participated in ten challenge rooms to promote teamwork, communication, and leadership skills. The groups worked collaboratively to meet each challenge and had a lot of fun doing it.

It was a busy day, and the leaders were grateful for the opportunity to support *No Limits* and the wider community. We also had a great time during the team-building exercises. It was bittersweet to say goodbye to the leaders who are leaving the group, but we are excited to warmly welcome the new leaders joining the team. We can't wait to see what next year brings.

Kriya

Student Leader - Year 7





Whole School and Cluster STEM

STEM is an integral part of ensuring our students achieve a positive future. Ashdale Secondary College and the Ashdale Cluster have placed STEM as a priority providing the essential future-ready skills of critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, innovation, communication and collaboration across all learning areas. The College offers a wide variety of STEM subject choices and activities for all students to engage and learn. It has been a massive year for all involved with even more exciting STEM activities planned for 2025.

Crazy Good Tech Challenge

During Term 3, Years 7-10 students from our Approved Specialist Classes participated in a one-day accelerated design sprint, creating innovative solutions for living well with technology. The Crazy Good Tech Challenge (CGTC), a collaboration between IBM and Crazy Ideas College (CIC), provided a platform for our students to voice their ideas on tech topics that truly matter.

Our students, along with over 1,000 students across Australia, participated in this design sprint to generate bold and inspired ideas.

During the CIC-facilitated workshop, students worked in small teams to tackle four key questions:

1. How do we use tech to boost learning and skills?
2. How do we help people stay safe online?
3. How do we help people build healthy habits for using phones and other technology?
4. How might we show up as the best version of ourselves online?

Guided through exploration, idea generation, prototyping, testing, and promoting their concepts, our students showcased their creativity and ingenuity. A distinguished panel of judges will select four winning ideas, including Kate Kirwin from She Codes, Rosie Thomas OAM from Project Rocket, Janet Searle from CSIRO, and Jade Moffat from IBM.

Kieran Murrphy, Founding Director at CIC, highlighted the importance of the Challenge: "We all benefit when we unlock the ingenuity, resourcefulness, and optimism of young people. We harness their wisdom and creativity to solve complex tech challenges by engaging them in conversations about technology. The CGTC will generate solutions to help us all live with and use tech well."

We are proud of our students' participation and look forward to seeing the innovative ideas they've developed posted on CICBeyond.com. Schools across QLD, ACT, and VIC also participate in this incredible Challenge, creating a wave of creativity and innovation across Australia.

Steve Warwick

Teacher - Design and Technology (Engineering)



Fun for Young and Old

After a successful launch last year, the Community Tech Team returned to College Park Retirement Village this Term. Nine students from Years 9 and 10 signed up for the intergenerational program, with two students and several residents deciding to participate again. Over four weeks, students visited the residents every Thursday afternoon for an hour after school. The students taught the residents about cyber safety and helped them with their computers and mobile phones, while the residents taught the students how to write a job application and read a street directory. On the last day, we celebrated the conversations and friendships formed with a show and told by the residents of some of their most treasured possessions, party food, and games.

Rachel Farnay

Head of Learning Area - ICT



STEM Educator of the Year

We were thrilled that our very own Steve Warwick has won the Premier's Award for STEM Educator of the Year - Schools (Primary and Secondary)!

The Premier's Science Awards recognise and celebrate outstanding scientific research and engagement in Western Australia each year, and Steve's dedication to inspiring students in STEM has truly shone through. His innovative teaching methods and passion for science have made a lasting impact on the College's community.



Hikone Higashi High School

In July, we had the pleasure of welcoming 15 exchange students from Hikone Higashi High School in Japan. This cultural exchange marked the first international visit since the COVID-19 pandemic, making it a particularly meaningful occasion for the visiting students and the Ashdale community. The exchange provided a unique opportunity for both groups to learn from each other, build lasting friendships, and gain a deeper appreciation of each other's cultures.

Throughout the week-long visit, our students went above and beyond to support their Japanese peers, hosting them in their homes and introducing them to Australian culture. Together, they explored various activities, from Australian cooking and learning about our unique fauna and flora to creating boomerangs and diving into robotics. The exchange students also had the chance to experience life at an Australian school, gaining insight into our educational system.

One of the highlights of the visit was a day trip to Whiteman Park, where the students enjoyed exploring various attractions. They had the opportunity to interact with native Australian animals at the Caversham Wildlife Park, including kangaroos and koalas. They took an underwater journey at AQWA, discovering the stunning marine life along the state's coastline.

Back at Ashdale, the visiting students participated in a series of STEM challenges designed to foster creativity and problem-solving skills. Working alongside Ashdale students, they tackled projects such as building boomerangs and participating in robotics challenges, encouraging teamwork and cross-cultural collaboration.

In return, the Hikone Higashi students shared aspects of Japanese culture with their Australian peers, including calligraphy, origami, spinning tops, and the traditional card game karuta, among other activities. This exchange provided a rich learning experience for both groups, strengthening the bonds between our two communities.

The visit culminated in a farewell ceremony, where students reflected on their experiences and expressed their gratitude. The success of this exchange program left both the Japanese and Australian students with cherished memories and a greater understanding of one another's cultures. We are excited to continue this enriching partnership and look forward to future exchanges. Thank you to all the host families, teachers, and students who contributed to making this visit such a memorable experience. We can't wait to see what's next in this exciting cultural exchange journey!

Tyson Wilkie

Teacher - Japanese





STEM Careers Afternoon Tea

As Term 2 wrapped up, 90 students from Years 9 and 10 enjoyed a fabulous afternoon tea at the annual STEM Careers Afternoon Tea. The students then had the opportunity to meet with a wide range of incredible industry mentors from fields such as aviation, medicine, IT, construction, biology, forensics and design. Seeing the students so engaged and motivated by the mentors' career stories was inspiring. A massive thank you to Steve Sartain, our keynote speaker, and our other amazing mentors for sharing their STEM journeys. Your contributions made the event truly memorable for our students.

Steve Warwick and Rachel Farnay
STEM Coordinators



Ngalang Koort Conversations

In the last week of August, Mrs Yates facilitated a unique and exclusive opportunity for four of our Year 10 students - Dhruv, Riley, Jovana and Tinell - to engage with Katherine Bennell-Pegg at the WA Museum Boola Bardip for Nagalang Koort Conversations.

For those who might know, Katherine Bennell-Pegg is Australia's first astronaut under the Australian flag and a leading Space Systems Engineer. Her journey to becoming an astronaut is nothing short of inspiring.

At the event, Katherine shared fascinating insights into becoming an astronaut, the myriad STEM careers in the space industry, and why space exploration is crucial for Australia's future. Her talk sparked our students' curiosity and passion about the possibilities in space and STEM fields.

A heartfelt thank you to Margaret Quirk MLA for generously donating the tickets that made this extraordinary experience possible for our students. Your support has truly made a difference and provided our students with a unique and inspiring opportunity!

Rachel Farnay
Head of Learning Area – ICT





Sci-Fi Scitech

In the last week of Term 2, 60 students from the Year 7 ICT ASP course spent a fantastic day at Scitech enjoying their new exhibits. A highlight was the latest exhibition, Human Potential, where students could test their pace against a Paralympian sprinter, try on an exoskeleton to lift things, fly a jet pack, use their mind to control a ball, crawl through a sensory deprivation maze, test their hearing and much more. We also watched a fantastic film about the billions of galaxies the extraordinary James Webb Space Telescope is exploring before watching a science performance that was a little bit of magic. As always, Scitech put on an excellent day for us.

Rachel Farnay

Head of Learning Area - ICT



Science



Science Week

Science Week at Ashdale Secondary College was a vibrant and engaging celebration of scientific curiosity and hands-on learning. The week kicked off on Monday, 12 August, with a series of captivating chemistry demonstrations very much enjoyed by the students. Ms Tull, Ms Macoboy, Ms Kim, and Ms Hu led the charge with exciting experiments that brought chemistry to life in front of the students' eyes.



One of the highlights was the creation of foggy bubbles, which danced in the air, captivating everyone with their ethereal beauty. The excitement continued with hydrogen balloons, where students learned about the properties of gases and were thrilled by the controlled explosions that rattled the windows. The ever-popular "elephants' toothpaste" experiment was another hit, producing an enormous, foamy reaction that vividly demonstrated the rapid decomposition of hydrogen peroxide. To cap it off, liquid nitrogen made an appearance, showcasing its chilling effects and leaving students fascinated by the possibilities of extreme temperatures.

An interactive escape room challenge with the theme of "Survival of the Species" was a brilliant way to engage students in problem-solving and critical thinking as they navigated puzzles and clues while learning about the importance of adaptation and survival in the natural world.

Tuesday brought the wild wonders of the animal kingdom to

Ashdale with an incursion from the Perth Reptile Company. This event was a unique opportunity for students to get up close and personal with various reptiles, including snakes, lizards, and turtles. The knowledgeable team from Perth Reptile Company allowed students to handle these fascinating creatures.



It provided in-depth information about their habitats, behaviours, and their role in the ecosystem. The hands-on experience helped demystify reptiles and sparked a newfound appreciation for these often misunderstood animals.

Thursday was all about bubbles, a sheer delight for the students. There was great excitement as students had the chance to create bubbles as big as themselves. This seemingly simple activity turned into a lesson on surface tension, the chemistry of soap, and the science behind what makes bubbles form and float. The joy of making giant bubbles was matched by the thrill of seeing them drift and shimmer in the air, reflecting rainbows of colour.

Overall, Science Week at Ashdale Secondary College was a resounding success, full of a wide variety of activities that not only entertained but also educated. The diverse range of events ensured that there was something for everyone, and the hands-on nature of the activities meant that students were fully engaged throughout the week. Science was not just a subject to be studied but an exciting, dynamic world to be explored, and the week's events certainly ignited a spark of curiosity in all who participated.

John Mirco
Senior Teacher - Science





Mathematics

Numeracy Week

This year's Numeracy Week was an absolute math-sterpiece, filled with sum-tastic events that got everyone geared up for some number crunching and problem-solving! From shooting hoops to solving Rubik's Cubes faster than you can say "Pythagoras," our students put their numeracy skills to the ultimate test. Here's a quick recap-tivating look at all the action-packed activities.

Basketball Shooting Hoops Competition

The gymnasium transformed into a hoop haven as students teamed up and shot for glory! The challenge was simple: shoot as many shots in 30 seconds, scoring 1 point close to the ring, 2 points in the circle, and 3 points from the free-throw line. It was a slam-dunk of a competition!

Congratulations to our sharp-shooting winners:

- Year 7: Will T
- Year 8: Luke M
- Year 10: Kareem H
- Year 12: Blake W



Rubik's Cube Speed Competition

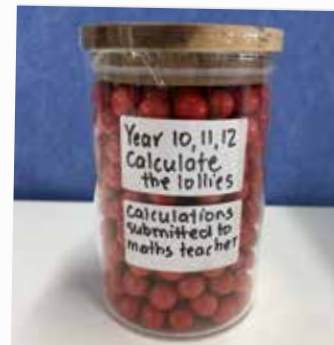
It was a twist-erific time as students and staff became speed solvers! The Maths and Executive Teams cheered as students blitzed their way to personal bests.

Cube-lations to our top solvers:

- Janav S (Year 10) – 12.33 seconds
- Henry P (Year 12) – 15.02 seconds
- Federer T (Year 12) – 18.63 seconds
- Harshil K (Year 12) – 30.66 seconds

Guess the Lolly Jar

Estimation was the name of the game as students used their acute sense of judgment to guess the number of lollies in the jar. With a sweet prize of 134 lollies up for grabs won by Year 12 Khushal Dabasia, it was an addictive challenge that tested their numeracy nerves!



Calculate the Lollies Jar (Junior and Senior School)

The Calculate the Lollies Jar competition required students to go beyond basic math and dive into volume calculations and estimations! Junior School students worked their percentages off, and Year 8 Nishtha Patel won 64 chocolate-coated honeycomb cubes, while the Senior School mathematicians figured out the winning equation with Year 11 Alesha Eastlake taking home 347 Jaffas!

Numeracy Team Spirit

Our dedicated Maths Teams came together, rocking their coolest Numeracy T-shirts and spreading their fraction-tastic enthusiasm throughout the school. It was truly integral to see such team spirit!

Thanks to everyone who participated and made Numeracy Week an exponential success! Remember, whether you're calculating the area of a circle or just counting your lucky stars, numeracy is always adding up to something special!

Tracey Rutter

Numeracy Coordinator

Year 7 and 8 Students Rock the OZ ROCKS Tournament!

In Week 5 of Term 4, our Year 7 and 8 Maths classes participated in the exciting Times Tables Rockstars program and participated in the OZ ROCKS TOURNAMENT. Over three days, students tested their speed and accuracy with times tables, competing against peers nationwide.

The tournament was a fun and engaging way to develop key mathematical skills, and we are proud to announce the top performers from each year group:

TOP 3 YEAR 7 STUDENTS:

	Name	Points	Nationally out of 1,189 secondary students
1	Kriya Garara	5,383	15th
2	Peyton Adams	5,268	17th
3	Patrick Plaskota	2,266	

TOP 3 YEAR 8 STUDENTS:

	Name	Points
1	Sartaj Singh	2,579
2	Peyton Adams	1,283
3	Patrick Plaskota	1,154

Congratulations to these students for their outstanding efforts and impressive results!

Best of all, the Times Tables Rockstars program is still available for all students, so they can continue to build on their skills and challenge themselves further. We encourage all students to keep rocking their times tables and aim for even greater success in the future!

Sara Perryman

Teacher - Mathematics



Kriya and Peyton (Year 7)



Cracking the Code

In Term 4, some Year 4 and 5 students from our Cluster Primary Schools transformed into eager detectives for the much-anticipated STEM Champions Mystery Maths Event. With their thinking caps firmly on, they embarked on a high-stakes mission to crack the case of the missing \$1m and the tied-up security guard at the local bank.

Armed with their sharpest mathematical skills, students worked through challenging clues to eliminate suspects from the list of eight potential culprits. Each solved problem brought them closer to identifying the guilty party and unlocking a secret code. The ultimate reward? A locked box containing a well-earned tasty treat!

It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm, problem-solving, and teamwork, with many parents joining in to support their young detectives. Events like this showcase the exciting opportunities available in the mathematics learning area at Ashdale, sparking curiosity and confidence in our budding mathematicians.

We look forward to next year's STEM adventures!

Tracey Rutter and Adam Rains

Mathematics



Humanities and Social Science

Mock Law Trials Showcase Ashdale Secondary College's Legal Talent

This year, 19 enthusiastic Years 10, 11, and 12 Humanities and Social Sciences (HaSS) students showcased their legal skills and teamwork in an engaging Mock Trials competition against other Western Australian schools in Semester 1. The competition, held by the WA Law Society and run through the HaSS Learning Area, was held over three challenging rounds and offered students the opportunity to step into roles that brought the courtroom to life.

Each participant took on a specific role, ranging from barristers and witnesses to court orderly and judge's associate. The barristers worked diligently to craft compelling arguments, cross-examine witnesses, and deliver persuasive closing statements. Meanwhile, the witnesses provided credible and well-prepared testimony, bringing their characters to life under intense questioning. The judge's associate played a crucial role in maintaining courtroom decorum, while the court orderly ensured proceedings flowed smoothly.

The competition tested their understanding of legal principles and teamwork, critical thinking, and public speaking skills. Each round became progressively more demanding, with students navigating complex criminal and civil legal scenarios against tough opponents. Judges commended their professionalism, noting the students' poise and confidence under pressure.

By the final round, the team had grown in skill and solidarity, demonstrating a keen understanding of courtroom dynamics. The experience left participants inspired, with many expressing newfound interest in pursuing legal careers. The event was a success, and promptly celebrated the students' talent and dedication. This would not have been possible without the support of the HaSS Learning Area and funding from the P&C Board. The HaSS Department has participated successfully in the Mock Trials competition for almost a decade, and expressions of interest will open again in Term 1 2025 for any Year 10, 11 or 12 student who is interested in participating in this fantastic WACE-endorsed competition.

Ian Whitelaw

Teacher - Humanities and Social Science





2024 Canberra Tour

In Week 9 of Term 4, HaSS facilitated a tour of Canberra and Sydney. HaSS, as a subject, is about creating informed, active, and responsible citizens who will contribute to a positive future for our society. Therefore, 70 Year 9 students applied, and 30 were chosen to participate in this unique trip. Deputy Principal Deborah Doyle, Year 9 Year Coordinator Nathan Crabb and I joined these students.

We flew out on Sunday, 1 December, from Perth Airport and arrived in Canberra, and despite some slight delays, students were excited and ready for their trip. Each day, we visited more than four venues relating to the HaSS disciplines of Economics, Geography, History, Civics and Citizenship, plus some additional locations for fun! Highlights of the tour included; witnessing a High Court case in action (relating directly to the Year 9 curriculum on miscarriages of justice!), debating free university degrees at the Federal Parliament of Australia, hearing moving stories of bravery and mateship at the Australian War Memorial, and having the incredible opportunity to play the \$250,000 grand piano at Government House. We also deepened our learning of politics by visiting the Museum of Democracy, where we roleplayed the pivotal damming of the Franklin River debate and simulated a national election at the Parliamentary Education Office.

Other notable stops included Questacon, where we explored scientific principles through play and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), where we observed some of Australia's top athletes train. We played glow-in-the-dark mini golf, and students competed in multiple games of beach volleyball at the accommodation! We finished the tour with a bang in Sydney. We arrived at



the scenic Taronga Zoo via ferry. We had a fantastic afternoon with the animals before sightseeing at important landmarks such as the Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Bridge. This tour would not have been possible without the funding provided by the government through the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER), which made it affordable for a school from WA to travel to the east coast. By providing \$510 per student who travelled, the PACER rebate assisted families in facilitating this fantastic experience. Thank you to the parents and community who funded the rest and lent us their children for the week! Even more so, it would not have been possible without the outstanding educators who volunteered to be away from their families and give up their time to be on duty 24/7 for six days. Thank you to Mrs Doyle and Mr Crabb for all of their help and expertise throughout the trip.

We are incredibly proud of the students who participated in the 2024 HaSS Canberra Tour. They embodied the schools' values of respect, independence, and cooperation in the way they interacted with each other, the educational staff, and the public. We were approached by the educational tour veterans of prestigious institutions such as the War Memorial, Parliament House, Government House, and the Royal Australian Mint to commend the College on how impressive our young adults were, and we couldn't agree more.

2024 has been a fantastic year for HaSS, and the conduct of our students on this tour has proven once more that the values the College instills are indeed contributing to creating a positive future.

Jodie Ryan

2iC for Humanities and Social Sciences
Teacher in Charge of the HaSS Canberra Tour



Kings Park Excursion

Our Year 11 ATAR and Year 12 General Geography excursion to Kings Park on Tuesday, 19 March, was quite successful! Engaging students in hands-on activities can be a fantastic way to reinforce classroom learning and make the subject more tangible and memorable.

Activities included:

- **Drawing sketch maps** is a valuable skill for geographers. It helps students visually represent geographic features and spatial relationships.
- **Measuring and collecting data** to determine fire ratings as understanding fire risk and spatial distribution is crucial in geography. By measuring and collecting data, students likely gained practical experience in assessing factors contributing to fire risk, such as vegetation type, slope, and proximity to urban areas.
- **Data analysis** - analysing collected data is a fundamental aspect of geographical inquiry. Through this activity, students likely had the opportunity to apply statistical techniques and spatial analysis methods to interpret their findings and draw conclusions about fire ratings in different areas of Kings Park.

Overall, the excursion provided valuable hands-on experience for students, allowing them to apply classroom knowledge to real-world situations and meaningfully engage with geographical concepts. Such experiential learning opportunities are essential for fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the subject.

Bree-Anna Leopold

Teacher - Humanities and Social Science





Geography Students Dive into the World of Wine

In an enriching series of events, our Year 11 and 12 Geography students recently explored the fascinating globalisation of wine through both classroom learning and hands-on fieldwork.

On Thursday, 18 July, students participated in an insightful incursion in the auditorium. They were introduced to the complex topic of the globalisation of wine by a guest speaker who discussed how technological advancements in transport and telecommunication have significantly influenced the spatial distribution of wine worldwide.

Following this engaging session, students took their studies out of the classroom and into the field with an excursion to Upper Reach Winery on Tuesday, 23 July. This visit provided them with the opportunity to engage in practical geographical fieldwork. They investigated various aspects of the geography of wine, including production processes, management strategies, and marketing techniques. Despite the rainy weather, the students thoroughly enjoyed the immersive experience and gained valuable insights into the wine industry.

These activities enhanced their understanding of geographical concepts and allowed them to apply their knowledge in real-world contexts

Bree-Anna Leopold

Teacher - Humanities and Social Science



Year 11 ATAR Geography Wraps Up with Exciting Activities

To conclude Year 11 ATAR Geography, students participated in a series of interactive and engaging activities. One of the highlights was the Northam Mapping Challenge Game, where students worked in teams to tackle various mapping practical questions, aiming to earn the highest number of points possible.

The game was a hit, especially with the inclusion of 'wild card' questions, which added an element of surprise by awarding a random number of points when completed. This added twist made the competition even more thrilling and kept students on their toes.

It was a fun and educational way to end the year, giving students the opportunity to showcase their skills and teamwork while enjoying some friendly competition.

Bree-Anna Leopold

Teacher - Humanities and Social Science





English

Book Week 2024: Celebrating the Magic of Reading

Magic was in the air at Ashdale SC for this year's CBCA Book Week with the theme 'Reading is Magic' casting a spell across the College through a myriad of activities. Students and staff embraced the joy of reading all week in what felt like a celebration of imagination and creativity.

Abracadabra! The week kicked off on Monday with our much-anticipated Dress Up Day, where both students and staff showcased their creativity and love for literature through vibrant, magical costumes. This year, English took inspiration from Alice in Wonderland, adding an extra whimsical touch in costumes straight out of Lewis Carroll's classic. From Mad Hatters to the Queen of Hearts, the Learning Area truly embraced the theme. As always, the other departments across the College embraced the opportunity to also transform into many other classic tales and astounded us with their enthusiasm and creativity for this event.

Notable costumes came from across the College, with Lachlan J (Junior School) and Marram A (Senior School) taking top honours among the students. Among staff, Mr Mo Iqbal was an incredible Scarecrow from The Wizard of Oz, while Mrs Jean Murray lit up as Ms Frizzle from The Magic School Bus.

The library was a hive of activity throughout the week, transformed into an enchanted space where students immersed themselves in books and got creative by making origami bookmarks.

Other magical activities included a Bananagrams tournament, the always competitive Junior and Senior School Spelling Bees, and a Book Quiz during Mentor sessions. These fun and interactive challenges kept the literary energy high, reminding us of the magic found in words and stories.

As Book Week came to a close, it was clear that Ashdale SC had once again created a week full of wonder, creativity, and connection — showing us all that in the world of books, magic is always just a page away.

Amy Rowland
Teacher – English



Year 9 English Students Gain Insight into Noongar Culture with Guest Speaker Mrs. Elisha Yarran-Roper

Some of our Year 9 English classes were lucky enough to hear from Mrs Elisha Yarran-Roper today. Mrs Yarran-Roper is a Noongar woman who teaches English at Carine Senior High School. Students were delighted with stories about her family history, her connections to the Stolen Generations, and her culture. They were also entertained by her family's 'horror' stories about Noongar myths and legends.

The students are currently studying a unit on Aboriginal culture and connection to Country with a focus on storytelling and how stories reflect values and beliefs. This unit has two assessments. The students are working towards comprehension of an Aboriginal short story and will also write a narrative passage that explores their connection to the Country.

Thank you, Mrs Yarran-Roper, for taking time out of your teaching schedule to share stories and knowledge with our students.

Suzy Coull

Teacher - English



Second Edition of Harvest: An Anthology

The second edition of Harvest was officially launched at the Ashdale Showcase evening in Week 9 of Term 4.

Harvest is a creative writing anthology featuring the best work from Ashdale's talented young writers. This edition was launched by Mrs Bogunovich (Principal), Mrs McSweeney (English HOLA) and Ms Doust (Editor) on the quadrangle stage. Public readings were performed by some of our esteemed entrants, including Melissa Carstens, Caleb Williams and Woody Wood.

This year featured a themed competition on the topic of 'Connections.' After much deliberation from the judging panel, we were delighted to announce the Harvest Competition winners. The Junior School prizes were awarded to Ajany Abracia and Ben Callaghan, with their pieces 'Reminiscing You' and 'Martha,' respectively. Caleb Williams and Melissa Carstens took out the Senior School prizes with their pieces '1 John 4:8' and 'Vox Populi, Vox Dei.'

Attendees were invited to the After Party to grab their copy of Harvest and get it signed by the incredible authors whose work was featured in the volume. Keep an eye out for the 2025 Call for Submissions, and don't forget to ask your English teacher for updates about the next edition... coming December 2025!

Richelle McSweeney

Head of Learning Area - English





Home Economics

International Women's Day Breakfast

Ashdale Secondary College hosted a heartwarming long-table breakfast for International Women's Day on 8 March. We were truly honoured to welcome the incredible Janine Wood from No Limits Perth as our esteemed guest speaker.

Janine, a long-time friend and advocate for our College, graced us with her inspiring presence and shared words of wisdom that empowered everyone. Her commitment to positively impacting our community is commendable, and we are beyond grateful for her unwavering support.

The breakfast attendees were treated to a delicious spread prepared by our talented Hospitality team, who worked tirelessly from dawn to ensure a memorable morning. A heartfelt thank you to them for their dedication and passion.

Janine's message resonated deeply, urging us all to spread nothing but kindness. Let's take this inspiration and turn it into action, creating a world where every woman is celebrated, supported, and empowered.



Celebrations in the Kitchen

In Term 4, Home Economics focussed on celebrations, with our students demonstrating creativity, culinary skills, and teamwork in a series of exciting projects. Here's a glimpse of what each class has been up to:

Year 9 Food: Cakes and Hampers

Our Year 9 students embraced the festive spirit by crafting decorated cakes showcasing artistic flair and baking expertise. Each student designed and executed a cake with unique themes, ranging from floral patterns to seasonal celebrations. In addition to their cakes, the students prepared and assembled gift hampers filled with homemade treats and thoughtful presentations, perfect for sharing with family and friends during special occasions.

Year 9 Childcare: Christmas-based activities for children

The Year 9 Childcare students learnt the skills needed to work in an Early Years setting through a Christmas party for toddlers. The students planned, created a demonstration item and organised a collection of activity stations to engage toddlers. Stations included making reindeer food, decorating biscuits and personalised Christmas bags and a personalised decoration and photo frame. The toddlers enjoyed the hour immensely, including their visit from Father Christmas himself.

Year 10 Food: Festive Baking Masterpieces

Year 10 Food students explored the art of baking and preservation. Their highlight was creating a cheese and sun-dried tomato pastry wreath, a centrepiece-worthy dish ideal for gatherings.

They also experimented with making ingredients from scratch, such as cream cheese, paired with chilli jam and lavosh crackers, demonstrating their understanding of the science and artistry behind homemade products. These skills provided insight into the joy and practicality of creating festive foods from scratch.

Year 10 Hospitality: Gingerbread Creativity

The Year 10 Hospitality students took on the challenge of making and decorating mini gingerbread houses. Their attention to detail and precision turned these delicious constructions into delightful edible art pieces. These projects enhanced their decorating skills and gave them experience in producing high-quality items for a festive occasion—a valuable skill for future catering and hospitality opportunities.

A group of Year 10 students were eager to demonstrate their hospitality skills during the opening night of this year's Art Exhibition. They served an array of tasty finger foods to the guests as they mingled through the theatre to admire the artistic talents of ASC students.

Donna Brigden

Teacher in Charge – Home Economics





Design and Technology

Engineering in Action: Virtual Babies Experience for Year 11 ATAR Engineering Studies

On Friday, 8 November, the Year 11 ATAR Engineering Studies class had the unique opportunity to get hands-on with a real-world solution designed to address teen pregnancy—through the lens of engineering. The class explored the engineering behind the College’s Virtual Babies, a simulation used to give young people a taste of the intense responsibilities involved in parenting.

During the lesson, students interacted with these remarkable babies, equipped with sensors and systems to simulate the demanding nature of caring for an infant. The class quickly discovered the complexity of the inputs and outputs these devices rely on to mimic real-life challenges, helping them understand the engineering principles behind the technology.

Though it was a challenging experience that pushed many out of their comfort zones, the students gained valuable insights into how the Virtual Baby system has been successfully used around the world to educate teens. They also explored how they could apply similar engineering concepts and problem-solving skills to their own projects in Year 12. A big thank you to Mrs. Naik and Mrs. Burke for bringing the Virtual Babies to the lesson and providing such an engaging, educational experience for our students!

We look forward to seeing how the class will apply these new perspectives to future engineering endeavours.

Steve Warwick

Teacher - Design and Technology



ATAR Engineering Studies: A Year of Innovation and Achievement

The students in our ATAR Engineering Studies program have excelled throughout 2024, tackling complex problems and developing impressive solutions. In Year 11, students faced the challenge of material sorting, designing and building systems to raise, load, and sort marbles. They worked tirelessly all year to develop functional, innovative solutions that showcased their engineering skills.

The Year 12 students, meanwhile, focused on real-world problems they identified in their own lives or global issues. Their projects included solutions for parcel delivery systems, drones, pressure sensor devices for pool gates, binary disc reading, oil pressure sensing, and much more. The 2024 Year 12 group was the highest-performing class in Engineering Studies to date, achieving a class average of 65%, reflecting their dedication and creativity.

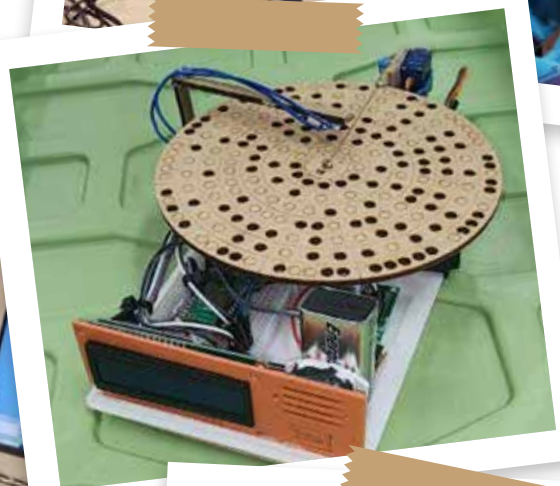
Students could experience engineering in the real world to further enrich their learning. They toured the ECU School of Engineering and participated in hands-on workshops, gaining valuable insights into the practical applications of their studies.

Looking ahead, 2025 promises to be another exciting year, with both Year 11 and Year 12 students exploring the challenges of Mars exploration. They will investigate and develop Mars rovers to navigate a simulated Mars environment, pushing the boundaries of their engineering knowledge.

We can't wait to see what our next group of engineers will come up with!

Steve Warwick

Teacher - Design and Technology (Engineering)



2024: A Landmark Year for the Ashdale Robotics Team

The Ashdale Robotics Team has had its most successful year to date in 2024, marking a significant milestone as the team competed for the first time as an official FIRST Robotics Team. The team's journey began in early January, during the school holidays, with students diving into the design, prototyping, and building of their robot, Lil' Timmy, for the 2024 competition game Crescendo.

Determined to succeed, students dedicated their time throughout the holidays and after school throughout Term 1, preparing for the Southern Cross Regional competition in Sydney. In March, a team of 9 students, alongside 1 former student, travelled to Sydney to compete against 46 teams from around the globe. Their hard work paid off as they secured an impressive 16th place, ranking as the top public school team in the competition.

After returning from Sydney, the team shifted their focus to the WA Robotics Playoffs. With an influx of new members bringing the total team count to 27, Ashdale Robotics expanded for the first time, creating a second team. Students split their time between Lil' Timmy and their new robot, Big Billy, working during after-school sessions, the July school holidays, and Curtin preparation days.

In August, the teams competed at the WA Robotics Playoffs, with Ashdale placing 3rd and 5th in a highly competitive field. With these achievements under their belt, 2025 promises to be another exciting year for the team. Both teams are already preparing for the WA Robotics Playoffs, and Lil' Timmy's Big Team is gearing up for the next Sydney Robotics Tour in early 2026.

If you're interested in joining the Ashdale Robotics Team in 2025, see Mr. Warwick in the D&T office for more details. We can't wait to see what next year has in store!

Steve Warwick

Teacher - Design and Technology (Engineering)



WISE Future Engineers Program

During the October school holidays, two of the College's Year 11 students, Emilia Milarski and Riddhi Panchal, participated in the WISE Future Engineers Program. This program is aimed at female students to engage them in STEM and Engineering and allow them to explore the array of opportunities available to them in the renewable energy and ocean industries.

WISE - Women in Subsea & Energy aims to achieve gender equity by growing the profile of women in STEM roles by promoting strategies and initiatives to Attract, Retain, Develop, and Promote women within the Subsea and other ocean-based industries.

The girls took part in a five-day program where they heard from industry professionals, learnt about these unique industries, and got to get hands-on and explore work sites and equipment used in these industries. The girls returned from the program with a renewed appreciation for Engineering and STEM and a reinforced motivation to excel in these fields.

Emilia noted on the program:

"The Wise Future Engineers program was an inspiring initiative exclusively for girls, designed to empower young women to explore careers in subsea engineering. Riddhi and I had the opportunity to visit leading companies such as Rio Tinto, Woodside, Shell, Oceaneering, TechnipFMC, ERGT, and Fugro, where we learned about their innovative projects and commitment to sustainable energy. These visits showcased engineers' critical role in addressing global energy challenges while reducing environmental impacts. Through discussions on renewable energy technologies and hands-on activities the program not only broadened our understanding of the industry but also reinforced our confidence in pursuing futures in engineering."

- Emilia Milarski

Steve Warwick

Teacher - Design and Technology (Engineering)





Information and Communication Technology

A Day of Inspiration

A dozen girls in Years 10, 11 and 12 spent a sunny winter's day attending the Inspiring Girls Forum at Optus Stadium. Hosted by The Chamber of Minerals & Energy of Western Australia, the students had the opportunity to hear from two highly innovative speakers working in the resources industry and meet with a wide range of other women from the industry during a range of one-on-one workshop activities. The students found the event extremely helpful in identifying the diverse range of pathways available, giving them a glimpse of the exciting and rewarding careers available while meeting like-minded people. Such events are invaluable for helping students decide on their future pathways.

Rachel Farnay

Head of Learning Area - ICT



Careers on Campus

In Term 2, Year 9 ICT ASP students spent a fun day at Edith Cowan University in Joondalup, meeting with subject specialists to discover the wide range of careers in etymology, cyber security, and security & intelligence. At the SuperLab, we dug through soil to find insects and spiders for examination under the microscope. At the Digital Forensics lab, we learnt about cryptography, Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) and hacking before completing a password-cracking challenge and gathering intelligence for a kidnapping. At the Counter Terrorism Security and Intelligence lab, we came to the rescue of WA Police to locate a penguin stolen from Perth Zoo. Thank you, ECU staff, for the great day of super challenges!

Rachel Farnay

Head of Learning Area - ICT



Buzzing with Creativity: Year 12 Design Class Takes on Sweet Challenge

Nestled in the charming countryside of Manjimup, the family-owned Kazzag Retreat has recently embarked on a sweet new venture: beekeeping. Their first batch of golden honey has been harvested and bottled, and now they're looking to bring this local delight to the community. To make a splash at the Manjimup markets, they turned to the Year 12 Design class's creative minds for help crafting an eye-catching sticker design for their honey jars.

The challenge was set, and the students, brimming with enthusiasm, eagerly buzzed into action. The class discussions were alive with excitement as they meticulously considered various aspects of the project:

Sticker Size and Shape	They needed designs for both 500ml round jars and 1L hexagonal jars.
Design Elements	The students delved into the elements and principles of design, aiming to align with the client's preferences and needs.
Target Audience	They strategised on appealing to a diverse audience, including local residents, visitors, and short-stay holiday-makers at the Manjimup markets.
Competitor Analysis	They examined honey products in supermarkets and other homemade sellers to ensure their designs stood out.

In Term 2, the students dedicated themselves to thorough research, meticulous planning, and creatively executing their sticker designs. The culmination of their hard work was a showcase of creativity and innovation, with each student presenting their unique vision for the Kazzag Retreat honey jars.

The winning design, crafted by Cian M, was a true standout. Cian received a 500ml jar of Kazzag Retreat Honey and a loaf of freshly baked bread as a sweet reward.

The winning design was crafted by Cian M, receiving a sweet reward of a 500ml jar of Kazzag Retreat Honey, a loaf of freshly baked bread, and a \$10 canteen voucher. Second place was awarded to Jasper P. and third to Natasha G., both receiving a \$10 canteen voucher for their golden designs.

With their new vibrant and appealing labels, Kazzag Retreat is all set to make a buzz at the Manjimup markets, offering locals and visitors a taste of their homemade, locally produced honey.

Tracey Rutter
Numeracy Coordinator



Year 8 ICT Specialist Classes Action-Packed Incursion

In Term 4, our Year 8 Specialist STEM and Creative Technologies Institute classes enjoyed an action-packed all-day incursion at Ashdale Secondary College.

Among the highlights of the day was piecing together billy karts, which the students then test-drove with great enthusiasm in the Year 7 area. In addition to this hands-on activity, students participated in engaging workshops that explored cutting-edge STEM technology. One workshop focused on robotics, where students learned how robots operate and tackled fun challenges using robots. Another workshop delved into the exciting world of drones, with students discovering the mechanics of flight before taking to the skies in the gym. The incursion workshops were run by external companies Edgy X and AI Code. They provided students with a fantastic opportunity to develop problem-solving, teamwork and technical skills while having an unforgettable time.

Costa Kastanis

Teacher - Photography and Digital Technologies



The Super ICT Specialist Students

After being a part of the ICT Approved Specialist Program for three years, it was finally time for this group of Year 9 students to celebrate all their outstanding achievements. Their graduation from the course began with an Awards Ceremony, where the top of each class and students who best represented the skills of creativity, collaboration, communication, problem-solving, critical thinking and innovation were acknowledged with certificates. After many rounds of applause, we headed to Karrinyup Shopping Centre for a day of fun and highly competitive games, including 10-pin bowling, laser tag and arcade games. We then feasted on pizzas, laughed, took photos, and ate lots of lollies and ice creams while reminiscing about the good times we enjoyed together.

Rachel Farnay
Head of Learning Area - ICT





The Arts and Languages

2024 Sydney Arts Tour

With an early start at 4 am on Tuesday, 25 June, 25 selected students, alongside Miss Segall, Miss Rodrigues, and Mr. Canzullo embarked on a journey to explore the vibrant arts scene of Sydney.

The tour, spanning seven eventful days, was crafted to immerse students in Drama, Dance, Visual Art, and Music in workshops and experiences led by industry professionals. And from breathtaking performances to insightful workshops, each day offered discoveries and unforgettable moments.

Our second day in Sydney began with a hearty American-style buffet breakfast, energising us for an exciting exploration of Circular Quay and the iconic Sydney Opera House. The tour inside the Opera House was a dream come true as we explored its stunning architecture and performance spaces. The day's highlight was our visit to the Sydney Opera House's performance studio, where we witnessed the mesmerising "*Horizon*" by Bangarra Dance Theatre. In collaboration with Māori choreographer Moss Te Ururangi Patterson, this groundbreaking production deeply resonated with themes of resilience and spirit across Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, and Māori communities.

After the performance, students engaged in a stimulating Q&A session with Bangarra dancers and were privileged to have personal discussions with some performers. The day culminated with an enchanting evening at Capitol Theatre, where we were spellbound by the musical "*Chicago*" and treated to a special meet-and-greet with cast members.

Thursday was dedicated to our music students' at the Australian Institute of Music (AIM). They immersed themselves in workshops led by industry professionals like Bronte, Noa, and Jake, gaining valuable insights into songwriting, performance, and musical theatre. On Thursday evening, we visited the Ensemble Theatre for "*MASTER CLASS*," portraying the legendary Maria Callas, who left a lasting impression with its powerful storytelling and live opera performances. Thursday

blended cultural exploration with visits to the New South Wales Art Gallery and Taronga Zoo. Students delighted in the diverse artworks at the gallery and cherished close encounters with wildlife at the zoo.

Our Friday concluded with the captivating "*American Signs*" at Sydney Theatre Company, offering a thought-provoking glimpse into the complexities of corporate America.

On Saturday, we saw our dancers thrive at Sydney Dance Company, where they participated in workshops spanning contemporary, jazz, and hip-hop dance styles. Each session pushed their creative boundaries and fostered new skills.

Reflecting on our Sydney Arts Tour, we are grateful for the invaluable experiences, friendships forged, and knowledge gained. A heartfelt thank you to all involved, from the talented performers and educators to the organisers and supportive community back at Ashdale Secondary College.

Miss Segall, Miss Rodrigues, and Mr Canzullo





Mid-Year Music Concert

We are excited to highlight the unique talents on display at our Mid-Year Music Concert, where students from Year 7 to Year 12 impressed everyone with their musical skills. The concert featured various performances, including solos, duets, and ensemble pieces, each showcasing professionalism and fantastic musical abilities. It was a memorable event that truly showcased the vibrant musical community at Ashdale Secondary College, and we're incredibly proud of all our performers and their outstanding contributions.

Our ensembles and their directors performed in state festivals throughout Term 3, a significant platform for them to showcase their talent and dedication. These festivals are an exciting opportunity for our students to further their musical journey.

Marisa Ritchie

Head of Learning Area – The Arts and Languages



St George's Cathedral Art Exhibition

We were thrilled that Allie Tran, a talented Year 12 student from our General Visual Arts program, showcased her incredible artwork at St George's Cathedral Art this year!

Allie's piece is a captivating exploration of the Trompe l'oeil technique, delving into the complexities of the digital age and its impact on our society, with a particular focus on the influence of social media. Titled "Kara Sevda," which translates to "blinding love" in Turkish, her artwork is a powerful symbol of how individuals can be consumed by the digital realm, often avoiding the realities of the world around them.

Mo Iqbal

Teacher - The Arts

Junior School Drama Showcase Shines Bright!

We were excited to share the outstanding performances at our Junior School Drama Showcase, where students in Years 7 - 10 showcased their talents in monologues and collaborative group scenes. The Showcase featured a variety of acts, each highlighting the creativity and skill of our budding actors. Students exhibited their hard work and dedication to their classwork across Semester 1. We applaud all the participants for their creative contributions to our vibrant drama program.

Lynette Watters

Teacher - The Arts





A Delicious Dive into French Culture

At the end of Term 2, the Year 8 French students had a fantastic time at their French food incursion, celebrating their hard work this Semester with a delicious treat.

Hosted by 'Miam Miam a Bite of France', our students actively participated in the preparation. They indulged in mouthwatering crepes, waffles, and Orangina, experiencing authentic French cuisine made by native French chefs. The excitement was in the air as the students gathered around the vibrant food truck, their eagerness adding to the festive atmosphere. The delicious aroma of crepes attracted classrooms nearby, which allowed them to partake in the delectable experience. This event was a huge hit, providing a fun and educational experience that brought a slice of France to our College.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the team at *Miam Miam - A Taste of France* for providing such a unique and enriching experience

Everyone left with full stomachs and big smiles. It was an excellent experience for all!

Bonnes vacances scolaires à tous les élèves!

Madame Sarah Bara

Teacher - The Arts and Languages





Cluster Muster

We had the immense pleasure of hosting the Annual Cluster Muster for our Cluster Primary Schools on Monday, 2 September, and what an event it was.

The audience was treated to spectacular performances and even a dazzling circus act, leaving everyone in awe.

A huge THANK YOU to all the Cluster Primary Schools for participating and bringing such energy and talent to the stage. Your performances truly made the event unforgettable.

We also thank the parents and guardians for your unwavering support and patience with the start time. Your dedication to your children's experiences makes all the difference.

Lastly, a massive shoutout to our Arts staff for putting on an incredible show, even in the face of some technical hiccups. Your hard work and perseverance ensured the event went off without a hitch.



Chicago: Teen Edition

Production rehearsals have been underway throughout Term 4, and the cast has made serious progress.

By the end of this Term, the team will have blocked the entire musical; building the bones of both Act 1 and Act 2 and participating in music sessions most Sunday mornings to learn the songs.

Many may ask why we started the process in Term 4, 2024.

To create a production of such a high calibre, it is imperative that all students have a clear knowledge of the musical version of the songs and where they will be on stage when they're singing them. This allows everyone during the holidays to rehearse and revise their parts, in preparation for the stage to be built and the performance to occur.

We want to commend the whole cast and staff for all of the hours they have worked outside of school hours, and we wish the cast all the best in using their summer holiday to relax, recuperate and rehearse!

Chantal Rodrigues and Joelle Segall
Teachers - The Arts



Celebrating Dance: A Year of Outstanding Showcases at Ashdale Secondary College

Throughout the year, Ashdale Secondary College has been treated to two incredible Dance Showcases that highlighted our students' tremendous talent, creativity, and dedication. These events showcased our dancers' hard work and passion and served as a celebration of the thriving dance culture at the College.

The first showcase, held mid-year, was an exciting opportunity for students to perform for their peers and families, presenting an array of stunning group routines, solos, and ensemble pieces. The performances were a testament to the commitment and artistry of our dancers, who poured their hearts into each performance.

The second showcase, held at the end of the year, was another spectacular event that left the audience in awe. As the final performance of the year, it allowed students to reflect on their growth as dancers while displaying the technical skills and creativity they have developed throughout the year.

These events would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of two key teachers who played a pivotal role in bringing the showcases to life: Miss Segall and Miss Rodrigues. Their tireless commitment to fostering a love for dance and ensuring every student had the chance to shine was integral to the success of both showcases. From choreography to rehearsals and the overall production, their support and guidance helped make each performance an unforgettable experience.

We look forward to more amazing showcases in the future, celebrating the remarkable talents of our students.



COLLECTIVE ART EXHIBITION



On Monday, 2 December 2024, Ashdale Secondary College proudly opened The Collective Art Exhibition, featuring an impressive array of student artworks. The event was inaugurated by Margaret Quirk, MLA and College Principal, Mrs Jacquie Bogunovich, who commended the students for their creativity, dedication, and skill in media manipulation. The showcased pieces, selected from Years 7 to 12, highlighted best practices and innovative approaches to art inspired by traditional and contemporary movements worldwide.

This year's exhibition featured over 600 works, reflecting a rich diversity of styles, mediums, and techniques. The collection spanned several categories, including:

- Year 12 & 11 General Visual Arts
- Year 9 & 10 Applied Arts
- Year 9 Contemporary Art and Design
- Year 7 & 8 General Visual Arts
- Year 9 3D Art

Students demonstrated their artistic versatility across a wide range of mediums, such as coloured pencils, printmaking, graphite, oil pastels, marker drawings, paintings, ceramics, collages, cardboard, and papier-mâché sculptures.

The Visual Arts department also recognised two outstanding achievements:

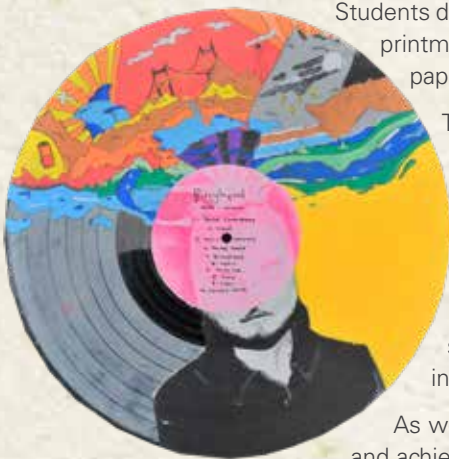
Hisyam Razlan, Year 12, received the 2024 *Principal's Choice Award* for his remarkable oil painting, "Beauty and Chaos."

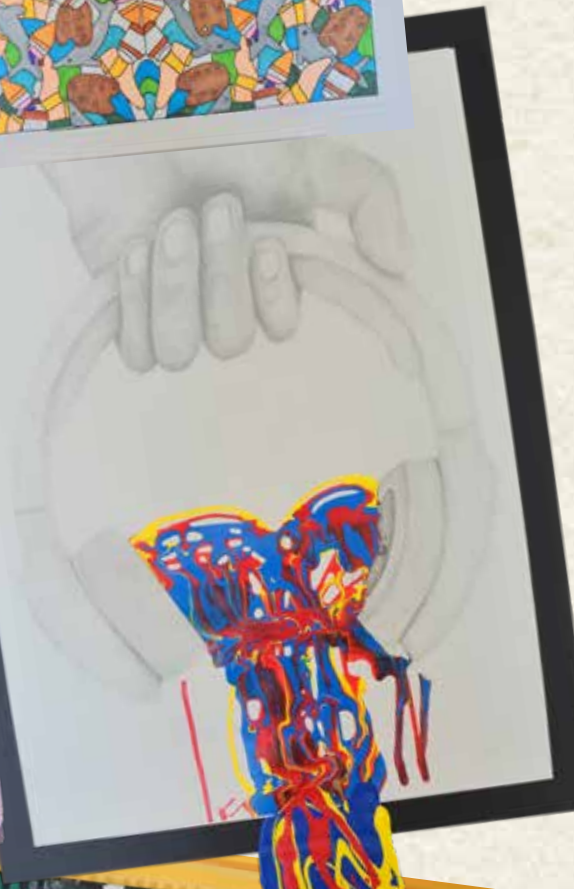
Savannah Sangiacomo, Year 11, earned the 2024 *Viewer's Choice Award* for her captivating still life painting, "Decadence".

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Home Economics team for their delicious catering and the Arts staff for their dedication behind the scenes. A special thanks goes to all the students for their unwavering passion and hard work throughout the year, which have resulted in such exceptional accomplishments.

As we reflect on the incredible talent displayed in 2024, we eagerly anticipate the artistic journeys and achievements that 2025 will bring.

Mo Iqbal, Tarryne Hutchinson, Lisa Briscoe, Sarah Bara, Lynette Watters, and Samantha Samuels
The Visual Arts Teaching Staff







Health and Physical Education

2024 Athletics Carnival

We were thrilled to see our students back on the track, proudly representing their Houses at our annual Whole School Athletics Carnival on Friday, 30 August.

With participation levels high throughout the day, we had an impressive turnout of just over 1000 students attending the morning events and nearly 900 students still present for the afternoon presentations.

Despite some rainy days in the lead-up, we were lucky to have perfect weather for the big event. Several individual performances stood out, and we saw a record-breaking number of school records fall—truly a testament to our athletes' hard work and determination!

It was fantastic to witness the house bays adorned in vibrant colours, with the sound of House chants echoing across the field. The unwavering support from the House bays undoubtedly inspired the competitors to jump higher, throw further, and run faster all day long. The House spirit on display made the carnival an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

Ultimately, Curie claimed victory with 7,055 points, followed by Galileo with 6319, Newton with 6279, and Tesla with 4938.

HPE cannot thank all the staff enough for their endless help and assistance on the day. This carnival cannot go ahead without your fantastic support!

Scott Brown, Luke Ioppolo & the HPE Learning Area

Year	Champion	Runner-up
7 Girls	Tessa Thomas (163)	Peyton Adams (157)
7 Boys	Brayden Bernasconi (174)	Logan Batey (166)
8 Girls	Mia Edwards (199)	Megan Shorto (196)
8 Boys	Luke Marshall (176)	Dane Arto (144)
9 Girls	Amy Vega (213)	Jemma Tognetti (211)
9 Boys	Leon Atkin (210)	Adam Ajis (166)
10 Girls	Megan Ansell (232)	Lilijana Nosow (175)
10 Boys	Hussen Jamal Eddine (192)	Hao Dai (176)
11+ Girls	Nina Schofield (209)	Abbey Frazer (189)
11+ Boys	Cale Lance (188)	Nikolce Ajis (153)

Records broken

Boys Track

- Adam Ajis: Year 9 100m (12.11 secs)
- Leon Atkin: Year 9 800m (2:31.92)
- Leon Atkin: Year 9 1500m (5:07.70)
- Hao Dai: Year 10 800m (2:25.65)

Boys Field

- Adam Ajis: Year 9 Long Jump 5.42m
- William Vicencio: Year 10 Shot Put 12.92m

Girls Track

- Kate Paulton: Year 8 100m (13.92secs)
- Tara Grant: Year 8 800m (3:05.20)
- Tara Grant: Year 8 1500m (6:14.24)

Girls Field

- Katie Brennan: Year 7 Triple Jump (9m)
- Mia Edwards: Year 8 Discus (23.88m)
- Daphne Baker: Year 10 High Jump (1.5m)
- Jess Bickley: Year 11+ Long Jump (4.8m)





Interschool Athletics Carnival

On Tuesday, 15 October, our athletics team competed in the highly anticipated Champion Schools Track & Field Division 2 Carnival, and what a day it was! With fierce competition from schools across the region, our athletes gave it their all, and we are proud to announce that Ashdale placed 6th overall with a total of 1,213 points, securing our position in Division 2 for another year.

Final Results:

1	Willetton Senior High School	1,477 pts
2	Darling Range Sports College	1,465 pts
3	Lesmurdie Senior High School	1,304 pts
4	Warwick Senior High School	1,226 pts
5	Woodvale Secondary College	1,223 pts
6	Ashdale Secondary College	1,213 pts
7	Hampton Senior High School	1,187 pts
8	Applecross Senior High School	1,138 pts
9	Harrisdale Senior High School	1,071 pts

A special congratulations goes to Adam A, one of our Year 9 students, who claimed the Overall Champion Boy award for the second year in a row—going back-to-back! His incredible consistency and dedication paid off once again, and we couldn't be prouder of his achievements. Adam's perseverance and commitment are an inspiration to us all.

We also want to give a massive shoutout to our Year 12 students, who turned out in record numbers to compete in their final carnival as Ashdale athletes. This was our strongest Year 12 contingent yet, and despite the demands of finishing their studies, they gave their all, demonstrating leadership and setting an excellent example for the younger students. Their dedication to Ashdale's athletic program will leave a lasting legacy, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

But it wasn't just about the final results. Our athletes spent countless hours training and preparing for this event, and their efforts truly shone on the day. From their determination on the track to the teamwork and school spirit in the stands, the Ashdale community came together to celebrate a memorable day of competition.

We would also like to take this opportunity to commend our athletes for their performances at the carnival and their consistent hard work during training sessions. Their resilience and commitment to excellence were a credit to the school, and we could not be prouder of their achievements. A big thank you to our staff, coaches, and supporters for their ongoing support and encouragement. We look forward to building on these efforts for next year's carnival as we continue to strive for excellence in athletics.

Congratulations to everyone involved!

Scott Brown

Teacher – Health and Physical Education





Year 12 Health Expo

During Week 8 of Term 3, our Year 12 Health Studies students hosted an incredible Health Expo, teaching their peers about current health issues facing teenagers. Information stalls covered issues including alcohol and drug abuse, mental health, smoking and e-cigarettes, healthy diet and exercise.

This interactive event gave students valuable insight into ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle. A big thank you to our wonderful Year 12s for putting on a fantastic event!

Lauren Johnston

Teacher – Health and Physical Education



Intermediate Boys Soccer State Champions

Our soccer team clinched the State Championship with a hard-fought 1- victory over Lynwood! Filip.M scored the decisive goal in the last five minutes, securing our win. The Man of the Match, Tyson A., was a phenomenon in goals, making four crucial saves that played a pivotal role in our triumph.

The whole squad gave a fantastic effort, and being crowned Champions among such excellent opposition is something these boys will remember forever.

A big thank you to everyone who came to support us—it means a lot! Special appreciation goes to Mrs Wheatman, Mr Canham., and Mr Ioppolo., whose coaching and dedication since Year 7 have been instrumental in the players' development.

This victory marks Ashdale Soccer Academy's 3rd State Soccer Championship in just four years!

Here's to more successes ahead!

John Carbone

Soccer Academy Coordinator



Year 12 Outdoor Education Camp

Throughout Term 1, our Year 12 Outdoor Education class made a splash at Trigg Beach! Our students geared up to ride the waves and take their surfing skills to the next level in this exciting outdoor adventure.

But it's not about just catching waves - it's about growth and learning, too! This camp isn't just fun; it's an opportunity for our students to push their boundaries and develop their expedition skills.

And guess what? They took charge of their own adventure! Students crafted their own camp checklists as part of their expedition planner, ensuring they were fully prepared for the thrills ahead

Our adventurers set off on Wednesday morning and arrived at Yallingup to set up camp. Afterwards, they surfed at Yallingup Lagoon and Smiths Beach to their heart's content. Students returned tired but fulfilled on Friday, but the impact of their journey echoes beyond just those days.

We're thrilled to share that we received an email from a couple holidaying in Busselton over the weekend. They couldn't stop praising our students' impeccable behaviour, attire, and manners, deeming them outstanding representatives of Ashdale Secondary College!



An Inspiring Day at the WA Institute of Sport

In Term 3, our students had an incredible opportunity to visit the Western Australian Institute of Sport (WAIS) as part of our ongoing commitment to providing hands-on learning experiences in Physical Education and courtesy of the Education Minister's Running Challenge. The day was filled with excitement, inspiration, and a glimpse into the world of elite sports.

One of the day's highlights was meeting Charlie Senior, a true inspiration and role model. Charlie, who recently won a bronze medal at the Paris Olympics, took the time to share his journey, offering invaluable insights into the dedication, resilience, and hard work required to compete at the highest level. Our students were captivated by his story and left the session with a renewed sense of motivation and determination.

The visit wasn't just about listening to inspiring stories, though. Our students had the chance to put their athletic abilities to the test. They participated in a 30m sprint test, where they could experience the same cutting-edge technology used by elite athletes to measure speed and acceleration. This was followed by a plyometric vertical leap test, challenging students to showcase their explosive power.

Both activities provided a fantastic opportunity for students to gain practical sports science experience and understand high-performance sports' physical demands.

The enthusiasm and effort displayed by all the students were commendable, and many discovered new strengths and areas for growth.

We are incredibly proud of our students for participating and engaging in this excursion. A big thank you to the staff at WAIS for providing such an enriching experience and to Charlie Senior for taking the time to inspire the next generation of athletes. This excursion will undoubtedly be a memorable one, and we look forward to seeing how our students apply what they've learned in their future endeavours.

Darren Young

Head of Learning Area – Health and Physical Education



Inaugural Ashdale Netball Cup

Our inaugural Ashdale Netball Cup was a memorable day, marking a significant milestone for our Netball Academy. The event brought together students from Years 7 through 10, mixed into ten dynamic teams, each a blend of younger players showing extraordinary skills against the older students and older students stepping up as leaders and mentors throughout the day. The atmosphere was electric, with the energy and excitement on display despite the hot weather.

The Year 7/8 students shone as they took on their Year 9/10 counterparts with impressive skill and resilience, while the older students played a crucial role in guiding and inspiring their younger teammates with maturity beyond their years. The students showed exceptional independence, managing everything from umpiring to scoring, embodying the self-discipline and sportsmanship we aim to cultivate.

The day's conclusion was an unforgettable grand final between Team Red, who had been undefeated, and Team Yellow, the underdogs who managed to make it through with only eight players all day. In a thrilling match that kept spectators on the edge of their seats, Team Yellow took out the win by a narrow margin of two goals.

This day highlighted our netballers' incredible skill, passion, and commitment, making us teachers immensely proud. We're already looking forward to next year's Ashdale Netball Cup—here's to building an annual tradition of fierce competition, fun, and school spirit!

Jaime Dastlik

Netball Academy Coordinator





Gold Coast Netball Tour

Our Ashdale netball girls embarked on an unforgettable journey to the Gold Coast in Term 4, combining thrilling activities and tough competition in an experience that brought the team closer together. Here's a look at their five days of adventure, teamwork, and resilience.

Day 1: The journey began with a long travel day, culminating in the girls' arrival at the Q1 Resort in Surfers Paradise. With the scenic views and the excitement of what lay ahead, the team was ready to take on the Gold Coast in style.

Day 2: The fun continued as the girls explored Movie World, embracing the adventure and tackling their fears on the Joker Roller Coaster – the tallest, fastest, and longest in the Southern Hemisphere. Their smiles were a testament to their courage and excitement as they enjoyed the park's rides and attractions.

Day 3: It was time to get back on the court with two exciting netball matches. First, the girls faced off against Robina State School in a challenging yet competitive game. Despite the heat and humidity, the team pushed through and played hard in their second match against Coomera Anglican College. Their determination and effort were commendable, showcasing their sportsmanship and team spirit. The night concluded with a memorable dinner and show at the Australian Outback Spectacular, where the girls enjoyed a true taste of Australian culture under the stars.

Day 4: The adventure continued with a snorkelling and kayaking tour. Split into teams, the students raced in an Amazing Race-style competition to Wave Break Island. The day was filled with fun, friendly competition, and a chance to appreciate the coast's natural beauty.

Day 5: The final day of competition featured matches against two more formidable teams – Palm Beach Currumbin High School and Keebra State School. Against Palm Beach, the girls faced their toughest competition but fought bravely, showcasing their strength and determination even without a win. However, the tour ended on a high note with a thrilling victory over Keebra State School, capping off the trip with a well-deserved win.

The Gold Coast Netball Tour was more than just a series of games and activities – it was an opportunity for the girls to bond, challenge themselves, and demonstrate their sportsmanship and team spirit. We are so proud of their dedication, effort, and positive attitudes throughout this fantastic experience.

Jaime Dastlik
Netball Academy Coordinator





2024 Singa Cup

Ashdale Secondary College's Soccer Academy made a strong impression at this year's Singa Cup, advancing to the quarter-finals in a thrilling display of skill, teamwork, and resilience. Ashdale's talented squad overcame tough competition, heat and humidity, showcasing the hard work and dedication put in by both players and coaches throughout the season.

In the quarter-finals, Ashdale was pitted against one of the most formidable teams in the tournament: Singapore Soccer Academy. The match was set to be an intense battle, but the scorching heat added another level of difficulty for the players. With temperatures soaring to nearly 35°C with intense humidity, both teams struggled to cope with the extreme conditions, but Ashdale's players continued to push through.

Despite their best efforts and a determined defensive performance, Ashdale ultimately fell short. Singapore Soccer Academy, known for their precise passing and quick counterattacks, broke the deadlock just before half-time, securing a 3-1 win and ending Ashdale's tournament run. Though disappointed, the Ashdale players held their heads high, having battled through not only a tough opponent but also some of the most challenging playing conditions.

One of the standout performers of the tournament was Ashdale's own Adam Ajis, who was named Player of the Tournament for Ashdale for his exceptional contributions throughout the competition. Ajis was a constant presence in defense, orchestrating play and making crucial interceptions. His ability to dictate the tempo of the game and his tireless work ethic earned him well-deserved recognition.

The players and coaches also enjoyed a fun-filled day at Universal Studios Singapore, where they experienced thrilling rides, explored the iconic movie-themed attractions, and enjoyed time away from the pitch.



The team also spent an exciting day at Adventure Cove Waterpark, cooling off in the various water rides and pools, which provided a refreshing break from the heat. It was a perfect chance for the players to bond, unwind, and create memories together beyond the soccer field. No trip to Singapore would be complete without some shopping, and the Ashdale team certainly made the most of it. The players enjoyed exploring the world-class shopping destinations of Orchard Road and VivoCity, where they picked up souvenirs, treated themselves to some retail therapy, and experienced the vibrant culture of Singapore.

With the Singa Cup now behind them, Ashdale's Soccer Academy has already focused on their next challenges. The squad will continue to refine their skills and build on the lessons learned in Singapore, ensuring that they are better prepared for upcoming competitions.

John Carbone

Teacher - Soccer Academy Coordinator



Year 10 Outdoor Recreation Camp: An Unforgettable Experience in Lancelin

Our Year 10 Outdoor Recreation students recently returned from an incredible overnight camp in Lancelin, where they had the opportunity to put their skills to the test in the great outdoors. This hands-on experience allowed students from all three classes to showcase their growing proficiency in bodyboarding, fishing, and camp cooking while embracing the challenges of the natural environment.

The adventure began at Lancelin's iconic Back Beach, where students participated in three bodyboarding sessions over two days, taking advantage of varying conditions perfect for catching waves. Whether seasoned or new to the sport, students demonstrated enthusiasm and skill, applying techniques they had learned in class and building their confidence in the water. The beach sessions provided a fantastic opportunity for students to challenge themselves, enjoy the thrill of the waves, and foster a spirit of adventure.

Following their time at the beach, the groups headed to the Lancelin Jetty for an afternoon of fishing. Students eagerly cast their lines, using the basics they'd learned throughout the year, including setting up and packing down fishing rods. The effort paid off as they reeled in various local fish, including blowfish, trumpeter, and wrasse. For many, this was their first time fishing in Lancelin, and the experience brought plenty of excitement and laughter to the trip.

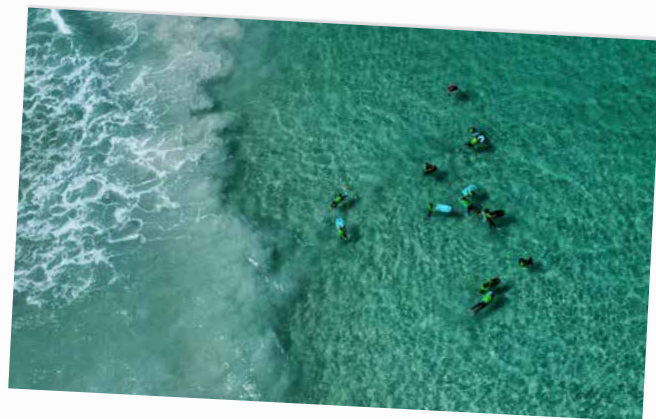
Evenings at the camp were equally enriching as students prepared their own meals using school Trangia stoves. This gave them a chance to practice their camp cooking skills and fostered teamwork and self-sufficiency. Students took pride in creating and sharing their meals, which brought a sense of accomplishment after a full day of activities.

Beyond the structured activities, the camp was an excellent opportunity for students to develop important life skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, and resilience. Students contributed to the trip's success by setting up tents and cooking together. These experiences provided valuable insights into the demands and rewards of outdoor education, preparing them for future studies in Year 11 and Year 12.

Overall, the camp was more than just a chance to practice outdoor skills—it was a journey of self-discovery, building confidence, and making lifelong memories. We are proud of our Year 10 Outdoor Recreation students for their hard work, positive spirit, and enthusiasm. Well done to all participants!

Mr. Jones, Mr. Hangan, Miss Bennie, and Ms. Wall

Teachers - Health and Physical Education



Ashdale AFL 2024

This year's AFL competitions have been an excellent opportunity for Ashdale's students to improve their skills and make new friends outside the classroom. Playing together on the field, they've built stronger bonds in times of hardship and success. It's been a fun and memorable experience, helping the students grow both as teammates and individuals while representing the College with pride.

Year 7 Victory Athletics Cup: A Competitive Start with Room to Grow

Ashdale's Year 7 team participated in the Victory Athletics Cup with impressive determination. They began the competition with a strong 29-13 win over Greenwood SC but faced losses to Carine SHS and Wanneroo SC, an AFL specialist school. Despite these setbacks, the students exhibited strong competitive spirit, and their continued dedication will help them improve in the future.



Year 8/9 Eagles Cup AFL: A Season of Growth and Resilience

The Year 8/9 AFL boys team faced tough competition this season, going up against schools like Ellenbrook, Ballajura, and Mt Lawley. Despite mixed results, the team showed tremendous skills, sportsmanship, and resilience growth. With the leadership of the Year 8/9 players and the bravery of the Year 7s playing above their age group, the team demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm, setting a strong foundation for future success.



Junior School Girls Dockers Cup: A Strong Start and Valuable Experience

The Year 7-9 Dockers Cup offered students a chance to compete in a challenging AFL environment, with Ashdale beginning the competition strongly. They defeated Greenwood 22-9 in their first round but faced tough losses against Churchlands, Warwick SHS, and Carine SHS in subsequent matches. The team's resilience, combined with their valuable experiences, will guide their development in future competitions.

Senior School Boys in the Jakovich Division: A Competitive Campaign

The Senior School boys competed fiercely in the Jakovich Division, featuring AFL-specialist schools, and others recently dropped from the top division. After a challenging 21-60 loss to Warwick SHS, Ashdale bounced back with an impressive 128-37 victory over Greenwood College. Despite a tough final-game loss to Sacred Heart College, they showed great potential. Their resilience and commitment during a busy upper school timetable is a credit to their character. All the best to the Year 12s, who hopefully will maintain their commitment to the sport for years to come.



Senior School Girls Dockers Cup: An Almost Perfect Run

Ashdale's Senior School Girls team dominated throughout the Dockers Cup, winning every match until the Semi-Final. They began their journey with an overwhelming 78-0 win against Holy Cross College, continuing their success with victories over Carine SHS and John Septimus Roe ACS. In the Qualifying Final, they triumphed 64-2 over St Stephens Carramar. Though they were defeated by Iona Presentation College in the Semi-Final, their performance was outstanding, and they should be incredibly proud of their efforts.

Looking Ahead

Across all divisions, Ashdale's students have shown impressive growth and resilience, building valuable skills along the way. As they continue to learn and develop, the future of Ashdale's AFL teams looks bright, with the potential for even more success in upcoming seasons. A special thank you to the parents of the students involved along with the staff and students who assisted with officiating and coaching. Looking forward to competing in 2025.

Ben Hangan and Luke Jones

Teachers - Health and Physical Education





VET, WPL and Business

Workplace Learning

As 2024 comes to a close, the Workplace Learning Program (WPL) at Ashdale Secondary College continues to offer students invaluable opportunities to gain practical experience and explore potential career pathways. Partnering with various industries, the program equips students with the skills and insights to shape their futures.

This year, 270 students from Ashdale Secondary College participated in the program, completing over 470 placements with employers across diverse sectors. These placements enhance students' practical knowledge and contribute to achieving the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE), underscoring the importance of real-world learning in their academic journey.

The program's success depends heavily on the support of our employer network. Their generosity and commitment have provided students with meaningful workplace experiences. However, sourcing new employers is becoming increasingly challenging. To address this, we are contacting the Ashdale community to help expand our network of host employers and sustain these vital opportunities.

We encourage businesses or professionals within the community to consider becoming a Workplace Learning host. This partnership supports the development of future professionals while strengthening ties between the school and local industries. To register your interest, please use the QR code below.



Finally, we commend the dedication of our students, who have represented Ashdale Secondary College with professionalism and integrity throughout their placements. Their efforts reflect the school's values and reinforce the importance of programs like WPL. With the ongoing support of the community and our valued employers, we look forward to another successful year ahead.

Jess Della Franca and Christian Apedaile
Workplace Learning Coordinators



BME Accelerate: A Day of Insight and Inspiration for ATAR Business Students

On Friday, 8 November, the College hosted a unique and enriching event, welcoming Curtin Business School alongside Balcatta Senior High School and Joseph Banks Secondary College students. This one-day workshop, BME Accelerate: Year 11 Intensive, was tailored to equip Year 11 ATAR Business Management and Enterprise (BME) students with a head start on Year 12 concepts in a dynamic and interactive environment.

The day began with a warm welcome and an introduction, setting the tone for an engaging schedule ahead.

Here's how the day unfolded:

- **Study Skills Workshop:** Ashdale Secondary College kicked off the program with an insightful session that helped students refine their study techniques for academic success.
- **Cross-Cultural Leadership:** Curtin Business School introduced students to the nuances of global leadership, fostering awareness of diversity in the workplace.
- **Financial Ratios Masterclass:** This session, expertly delivered by Curtin Business School faculty, brought the complexities of financial analysis to life.
- **Globalisation & Free Trade Agreements:** Students explored the impact of globalisation and the mechanics of free trade agreements in an informative and thought-provoking discussion.
- **Industry Case Study:** Wrapping up the day, students delved into real-world business scenarios, applying their newfound knowledge to practical challenges.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

This intensive program wasn't just about learning; it was about experiencing the relevance of business concepts in a real-world context. Year 11 students had the opportunity to interact with university professionals, collaborate with peers from other schools, and gain valuable insights into Year 12 topics. The workshops were lively and interactive, designed to inspire curiosity and critical thinking. Students left the event feeling more confident, equipped with practical skills, and eager to apply their knowledge to their studies.

Acknowledgments

A heartfelt thank you goes to Curtin Business School and the dedicated teachers from Ashdale Secondary College, Balcatta Senior High School, and Joseph Banks Secondary College. Your collaboration made this event an unforgettable success! We can't wait to see how these students advance their learning in the years to come.

Anaiya Dabasia

Teacher - Business



ECU UniPrep 2024 – 2025

Ashdale SC runs Edith Cowan University's UniPrep for Schools program as part of the Year 12 subject selection. Students apply to be part of this program, and it is delivered to complement students' general studies timetable. Upon successful completion of this program, in combination with their WACE certificate, students will receive a minimum ECU indicative ATAR score of 70.

Successful students were required to attend a three-day intensive course and a whole day of workshops at Edith Cowan University, Joondalup campus, for an 'on campus' experience.

The students experienced discipline-specific workshops, toured the ECU facilities and were able to engage with student ambassadors. This was a great day held by all, and the students are now keen to get started in the course to start them on their post-school pathway.

Megan Falconer

Program Coordinator - VET and Workplace Learning



Year 9 Careers Week

During Week 9 of Term 4, the Year 9 students have been learning and exploring a variety of career pathways. They have been taught about career adaptability and the importance of employability skills, where communication, career learning, compromise and time management are skills employers are looking for.

Through various excursions to ECU Joondalup, UWA, the Western Australian Institute of Sport, Optus Stadium and Futures Construction Centre, students got some hands-on experience and understanding of what possible future pathways they can take within these industries. We also had panels throughout the week with representatives from building and construction, automotive, sports and corporate industry areas and special guest speakers from the Defence Force and Fortescue Mining. Within classes, students were shown and discussed what options are available for them in possible future career pathways.

Career conversations start at home, and a helpful website that assists parents and students is www.myfuture.edu.au.

Megan Falconer

Program Coordinator - VET and Workplace Learning



Course Information and Careers Expo

The annual Year 10 Parent Information and Careers Evening occurred on Wednesday, 19 June. The night was a success, with 40 providers sharing their knowledge and information with parents and students. Those who attended were shown various options regarding their pathways both at school and post-school.

This night allowed parents and students to learn about universities, TAFE, and future job prospects in mining, hospitality, defence, and other industries. Students and parents were also given information about WACE requirements and options for subject selections.

Thank you to all the exhibitors, College staff and the broader community for making this event a huge success.

Megan Falconer

Program Coordinator - VET and Workplace Learning

Houses



House Awards

We are thrilled to share the resounding success of our House Awards ceremonies, which unfolded on Monday, 9 December (Junior School) and Tuesday, 10 December (Senior School). These events served as a remarkable platform to honour and celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students across various categories, reinforcing the strength of our growing House system within the College community.

This year's ceremonies were especially significant as they marked our second House Awards Ceremony, with Newton House winning the House Shield again – a testament to their exceptional efforts and achievements throughout 2024. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Newton House for their continued commitment, spirit, and teamwork!

The dedication and excellence displayed by over 200 students from Years 7-11 were acknowledged with pride and enthusiasm. The categories included Academic, Sports, Arts, Community, Respect, Cooperation, and Independence. The atmosphere on both evenings was electric, with students, parents, and educators coming together to celebrate the collective achievements of our remarkable student body.

The success of these ceremonies is a testament to the thriving House system at Ashdale Secondary College. The sense of community and pride that permeated the ceremonies directly resulted from the collaborative efforts of students, staff, and parents. We are confident that with your ongoing support, the House system will continue to flourish in the coming years, fostering an environment where every student is encouraged to excel and contribute to the vibrant tapestry of our College community.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the award recipients and express gratitude to everyone who played a part in making these ceremonies a resounding success. Here's to a future filled with continued achievements and celebrations!

Robert Cross
Deputy Principal



Ashdale Showdown

The inaugural Ashdale House Showdown was a thrilling competition. Galileo, Newton, Curie, and Tesla battled it out in intense mini-games, including head-to-head challenges and team games, earning house points for 2025. The event was packed with excitement and fierce rivalries, and everyone had a fun, exciting afternoon.

After an action-packed afternoon, we celebrated a successful year for our Houses! **Newton** emerged as the 2024 House champion! The race was tight, but Newton's consistent performance pushed them ahead to take the top spot.

What an amazing year for all our Houses! I can't wait to see what 2025 has in store!

With the stage set for next year, every house is gearing up for another round of fierce competition. Will Newton defend their title, or will another house rise to the challenge?

Bring on 2025!

Emma Kelly

Youth Engagement & Support Worker

2024 Final House Points

1	Newton	9,661
2	Galileo	7,144
3	Curie	7,124
4	Tesla	6,747



“Euphoria” House Art Competition

We are proud of the winners of this year’s House Art Competition, held under the captivating theme of “Euphoria.” The competition brought together a fantastic range of artistic talents from across the College, and the results have been nothing short of inspiring.



First Place: Thu Nuygen from Tesla emerged as the winner with her dreamlike artwork, which left a profound impression on the judges. Thu described her piece as a portrayal of a girl immersed in music, using it to escape reality and experience a deep euphoria. Her artwork was praised for its ethereal quality and how it effectively conveyed the theme through vibrant colours and emotive imagery.

Second Place: Reyan Jasim from Newton earned the runner-up position with an innovative and emotionally charged entry. Reyan’s artwork was noted for its unique approach and the compelling way it captured the essence of euphoria.



Third Place: Arisa Farahmand, also from Tesla, took home third place with a beautiful oil-painted piece.

The competition showcased the impressive talents of Ashdale Secondary College’s students and fostered a strong sense of house spirit. All participants contributed valuable house points to their teams,

making the event a significant part of the College’s community and competitive spirit.

Congratulations to Thu, Reyan, Arisa, and all the students who participated. Your creativity and hard work have truly shone, and we are excited about the potential for more incredible contributions in future competitions. Keep up the great work!

Emma Kelly

Head of House
Youth Engagement & Support Worker



Mini House Games

Term 2 was busy, brimming with mini-House games that brought joy and camaraderie to our College community. The standout events have undoubtedly been the “Minute to Win It” challenges. These quick, fun, and often hilariously difficult games saw students racing against the clock to complete tasks as diverse as stacking dice with chopsticks, balancing rocks, and transferring dice with spoons! The atmosphere around the College was electric, with lots of cheer and laughter.

Another thrilling event was the Year 7 and 8 Paper Plane Challenge. This was no ordinary paper plane contest—it was a battle of wits and skill. Students were tasked with designing and launching their own paper planes, and the competition was fierce. With meticulous folding and rigorous testing, participants aimed to achieve the longest flight. The gymnasium was transformed into a mini aviation field, with planes soaring through the air, much to the delight of the onlookers. Ultimately, Telsa emerged victorious, with Curie hot on their heels, making for a truly nail-biting finish.

Emma Kelly

Youth Engagement & Support Worker



Inter-House Dance Competition

On Friday, 10 April, Galileo Theatre came alive with vibrant performances as over 42 students participated in the eagerly anticipated House Dance Competition. This student-run event, a cornerstone of our College's annual activities, showcased the theme "Euphoria," allowing students to display their dance artistry and teamwork.

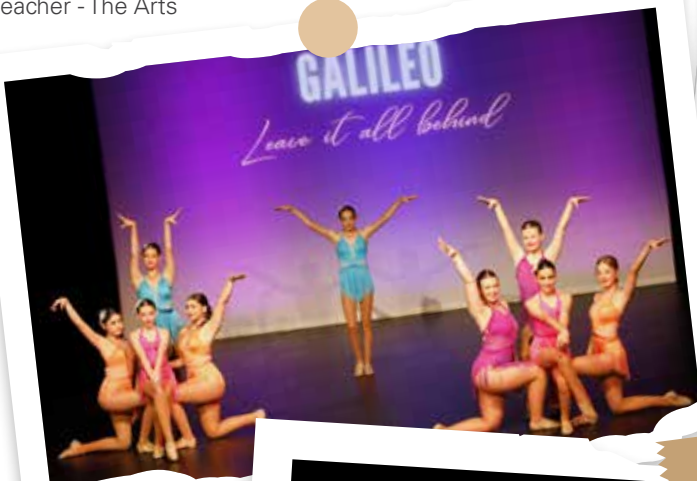
The creativity and dedication demonstrated by each House were genuinely commendable. Congratulations to Galileo House for winning the prestigious House Dance Shield for 2024 with their captivating performance of "Leave it All Behind."

This competition is a testament to the leadership and talent of our Year 11 and 12 students, who took on the roles of Lead Dance Choreographers. Their exceptional planning, choreographic skills, and innovative use of music techniques were sensational and played a significant role in the event's success.

The judges were impressed by the high-performance standards across all houses, making it difficult to select the winners. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved for making this event a memorable celebration of talent and collaboration.

Joelle Segall

Teacher - The Arts





Student Support

Prevent Alcohol-Related Trauma in Youth (P.A.R.TY) Excursion

On Friday, 7 June, we attended St John of God Hospital in Midland for the PARTY Program excursion. We toured the Intensive Care Unit and Emergency Ward, led by presenters throughout the day. We were shown the ambulance bays and were given a talk by a paramedic who discussed his work in the field. It was inspiring for students interested in the paramedic field. We were then shown the Emergency Ward, where patients would be taken in from the ambulance and given immediate help. The presenter showed us the different ways to help a patient who has experienced trauma, including intubating through their mouth or trachea or putting in a catheter to assist with a coma. The guide gave a talk regarding life support and organ donation and informed us of the possible choices we may have to make for our families.

Afterwards, we were allowed to try out some of the rehabilitation equipment Physiotherapists use on patients who have experienced trauma and their ability to walk. We used wheelchairs as well as other similar equipment that are used for patients who can stand but can't walk. We were shown sets of bars to assist with walking, where we tried to do triceps dips. Most patients who can't walk without assistance aren't allowed to be discharged from the hospital until they can perform a certain number of dips as they use their arms to assist with movements. It made us understand how hard it could be if you faced a trauma and weren't able to walk.

The day concluded with a presentation from two guest speakers. One man who had suffered strokes due to excessive drug use, and another man who was in a car accident and became paralysed. Both men shared their confronting stories of how their lives were changed due to mistakes they made as teenagers. These men inspired students to stay away from drugs and stay safe on the roads.

Shnae

Student - Year 12



Senior School Enrichment Program (SSEP)

The Senior School Enrichment Program (SSEP) has been an integral part of the Year 11 and 12 calendar throughout 2024, offering our senior students an array of enriching experiences designed to support their academic, social, and emotional growth. This year's program, developed by the Year 11 and 12 Coordinators, has been packed with sessions to prepare students for their final years of schooling and life beyond Ashdale Secondary College.

This year SSEP featured engaging presentations from representatives of leading universities, including Murdoch, Curtin, UWA, and ECU, providing students with valuable insights into future study options and career pathways. Sessions focused on personal development and wellbeing, with expert advice on managing exam stress, improving study techniques, and maintaining a healthy balance between academic demands and personal life. Additionally, students learnt how to prioritise their safety and the safety of their peers, particularly during leavers' events, through informative talks from Red Frogs that reinforced the importance of responsible decision-making.

Feedback from students and staff has been positive, highlighting the value of SSEP in equipping our young people with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed. The Senior School team is already looking ahead to 2025, aiming to build on the program's success with even more rigorous and tailored content to meet the evolving needs of our senior school cohort.

We thank all presenters, staff, and students for their participation in making SSEP 2024 a meaningful and impactful experience.

Candice Bell

Year 12 Coordinator

Exploring Career Pathways

In July, our Year 11 and 12 Flexible Learning Programme students had an incredible experience at the Careers Expo held at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Students explored various career pathways in an informative and interactive manner, gaining valuable insights into their future options. They also attended engaging seminars from the Australian Defence Force and learned about exciting opportunities in Canada for gap years and paid work.

Jessie Burke

Senior Teacher - Home Economics and Flexible Learning





Year 7s thrive at Ern Halliday Recreational Park

On the Thursday and Friday of Term 2, 219 of our Year 7 students embarked on an exciting adventure at Ern Halliday Recreational Park, engaging in various activities to strengthen their connections and teamwork. The students participated in Team Building Games, Ultimate Sports, Pump Tracks, Crate Climbing, and Caving. Throughout these activities, our Year 7 cohort exemplified our College values, with one instructor remarking that one of our groups was the best she had ever seen.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in making these two (2) days so unique. The event's success was made possible by the dedication and hard work of many staff members who generously gave their time. While there are too many to name individually, we extend a special shoutout to Mrs Pullela, Mr Cross, and Ms Allardice for their invaluable support. Additionally, we appreciate all the staff who attended either day.

Feedback from the Year 7s indicates that they had a fantastic time and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They particularly loved the Team Building Games and the Ultimate Sports. Despite Mr Duckworth's best efforts during dodgeball, we had no injuries over the two days, but we certainly had plenty of happy faces.

Again, thank you to everyone who contributed to this memorable event.

Paul Trpenov and Joelle Segall
Year 7 Coordinators



Transition and Additional Supports Expo

Ashdale Secondary College recently hosted the Inaugural Transition and Additional Supports Expo, a remarkable event organised by the Specialised Autism Learning Program (SALP). This expo brought together an extensive range of support providers under one roof, showcasing the varied supports available for students from Years K to 12.

The event was a tremendous success, with excellent attendance from Ashdale SC and cluster families and members of the wider community. Attendees had the opportunity to explore a comprehensive and diverse array of resources and services designed to assist students in their educational journey. From academic support to external health providers, the expo highlighted the extensive and robust network of assistance available to our students, instilling confidence in our ability to cater to their needs.

The positive feedback from attendees underscored the importance of such events in fostering a supportive and inclusive school environment. Many families expressed their gratitude for the chance to connect with support providers and learn more about the resources available to their children.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Julia Kingston and the SALP team for their unwavering dedication and hard work in organising this event. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and we are truly grateful for your commitment to our students. We also extend our sincere appreciation to all the support providers who participated. The Inaugural Transition and Additional Supports Expo has set a high standard for future events, and we look forward to continuing to support our students and their families in every way possible.

Renee Tyler

Program Coordinator – SALP



Aquatic Excursion Adventure!

On Friday, 24 October, all SALP students had an incredible day at AQWA! With Ms Wheatman behind the wheel, we set off to Hillary's to explore the wonders of the underwater world!

The students were divided into three teams and took on an exciting scavenger hunt throughout AQWA. Some of the highlights included the adorable baby turtles in the Turtle Rehabilitation Centre and the friendly Port Jackson sharks in the touch pool, who loved a good head scratch!

Our students showed amazing teamwork and respect as they worked together to solve clues and interacted beautifully with peers from other schools, truly reflecting our College's core values!

Julia Kingston-Polman

Teacher – SALP

Year 10 Reward Excursion: Captain Cook Cruise on the Swan River

As part of our Year 10 reward program, students had an unforgettable experience aboard the Captain Cook Cruise on the Swan River. This cruise offered a perfect blend of fun, relaxation, and scenic beauty, allowing students to celebrate their academic achievements and positive behaviours while creating lasting memories together.

The adventure began at Barrack Street Jetty, where students were welcomed aboard and greeted with stunning views of the Perth skyline and Swan River. As the boat cruised along the river, students enjoyed panoramic views of iconic landmarks, including Kings Park and the Perth city skyline.

Students were treated to gourmet pizzas from Crust Pizza, with a variety of delicious options, and Krispy Kreme doughnuts for a sweet treat. Unlimited soft drinks kept everyone refreshed throughout the journey.

To add to the fun, a DJ provided lively tunes, creating a vibrant party atmosphere that had students dancing and singing along on the deck. It was an evening filled with laughter, great music, and celebration—a perfect reward for the hard work and positive contributions of Year 10.

A big thank you to all the teachers, staff, and students who made this excursion such a success!

Jessie Burke and Michelle Meyer
Year 10 Coordinators



Celebrating Pride!

On Wednesday, 27 November, we celebrated love, acceptance, and kindness during our Pride Lunch! A huge thank you to the representative from the Freedom Centre for joining us and sharing their valuable insights

Everyone was welcome to join the celebration, and we took the time to encourage our students to be allies, supportive, and, most importantly, KIND to everyone, regardless of their identity. Let's continue to spread love and support in every way we can!

Michelle Meyer
Year 10 Coordinator





Voluntary Contributions and Compulsory Charges

Thank you to families that have finalised payment or made regular payments toward students' contributions and charges this year. We understand each family's financial circumstances are different, and we will work with you to ensure we can financially support our teaching and learning programs.

Your financial support of our teaching and learning programs makes a significant difference for our students.

Payment Instalments for 2025 Subject Selection Charges

Instalments are offered when paying for subject selection charges. Upon subject selection, a payment of \$50 (Years 9 and 10) and \$100 (Years 11 and 12) was required. If you have not done so already, please make payment as soon as possible, as subject selections are not considered lodged until payment is received. Placement is not guaranteed if payment is not received, and the College may provide alternative course options.

Voluntary Contributions and Charges

Thank you to families that have finalised payment or have made regular payments toward students' contributions and charges. Your support of our teaching and learning programs makes a significant difference for our students.

For those with outstanding contributions and charges, we would sincerely appreciate payment being finalised as soon as possible. The following payment options will remain available during the school holiday period so that you can make a payment at any time.

- **Qkr! App** – select Charges and Contributions and your child's year group, and enter the amount
- **Direct Debit - Internet banking:** Commonwealth - BSB 066 040 - Account No 19901762

SaverPlus

Saver Plus is a financial education and matched savings program. Join SaverPlus before 31 December 2024 to match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500. You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card.

For further information, please call 1300 610 355 or go to Our Saver Plus financial literacy program (<https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/programs/financial/saver-plus>).

Jo Pecnik

Manager Corporate Services



P&C Association

Ashdale Secondary College Community, what a year it's been! Thank you for your incredible support; we've wrapped up 2024 on a high note. We managed to allocate funding to all the submissions we received, either through P&C or College funding.

We approved more than \$42,000 this year for items such as sausages for the Welcome BBQ, bus transport costs for the Mock Law students and the RAC Bstreetmart event, Science & Engineering Challenge registration fees, The Sydney Arts Tour promotional t-shirts, Breakfast Club resources, Coffee machine for the Hospitality students, 360-degree camera, Concert bass drum, Physical Education Honour Boards, Year 12 Graduation student award prizes and the P&C Scholarship program just to name a few. These items cannot be purchased without the support of parents and carers paying their P&C voluntary contributions, so thank you for your support on behalf of the P&C. Meetings are held once a term. We invite you to attend any P&C meetings or become a valued team member.

Lastly, we invite Year 7 families (or any new student families) to kick off 2025 with us at our Year 7 Welcome BBQ on 17 February, followed by the Annual General Meeting at 6 pm. Even if you are not planning to vote, see the process in action. For more information about the P&C, you can reach me at ashdale.sc@education.wa.edu.au or visit the Community section on the College's website.

Here's to another fantastic year ahead! Travel safely over the festive season, and we look forward to making a difference again in 2025.

Jonelle Carstens
P&C President



College Board

The fourth and final meeting of the year for the College Board was held in November of Term 4. This meeting provided insight into a draft version of the College Business Plan for 2025-27 and the PIVOT results generated from Cycle 2 of the survey. The Board was also informed of the Wellbeing and Engagement Census results from 2024. The results of these surveys demonstrate the effectiveness of the ongoing strategies currently in place to support connectedness and belonging at the College.

Further progress has been made with the College building project, with more funding committed to the works and final planning taking place. We will see the works finally begin in 2025 for future years' completion.

On behalf of the Board, I wish our College community families all the best for the upcoming holidays and festive season. I would also like to thank the Board members for their work attending meetings and events throughout the year. Be safe throughout the break, enjoy the festivities, and may your family bring you much happiness as we close out the year.

Ian Brotherton

Board Chair – Ashdale Secondary College *(signing off)*



2025 Term Dates

Term Dates

Term 1: Wednesday, 5 February - Friday, 11 April

Term 2: Monday, 28 April - Friday, 4 July

Term 3: Tuesday, 22 July - Friday, 26 September

Term 4: Monday, 13 October - Thursday, 18 December

School Development Days (Pupil Free)

Term 2: Friday, 30 May

Term 3: Monday, 21 July





Term 4: Friday, 24 October

Friday, 19 December

Ashdale
Secondary College



Ashdale Secondary College
An Independent Public School

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