

# **PORT SCHOOL**



**NEWSLETTER**

**TERM 3 2024**

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Cover Artwork: Justin MacMahon

# PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

SEPTEMBER 2024 TERM 3

## EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Don't miss out on the education you deserve.

### OUR JOB AT PORT SCHOOL

Our job is to get students academically and emotionally up to speed so they can leave school with as many opportunities for employment or further study as they can achieve.

Unfortunately, many of our students are still attending less than 80%, as you can see in the graph (right) this is considered of "serious concern".

This is a huge concern of ours as well and I would like to invite all of our community to get in touch if they have any suggestions on how we can improve attendance.

Additionally, I would like you to please reach out if you want or need any support from the school with strategies for getting your young person to school.



## THE IMPACTS OF POOR ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

### Lower academic achievement

Students who frequently miss school are likely to fall behind in their studies. This can lead to lower grades and difficulty keeping up with the curriculum.

### Increased risk of school failure

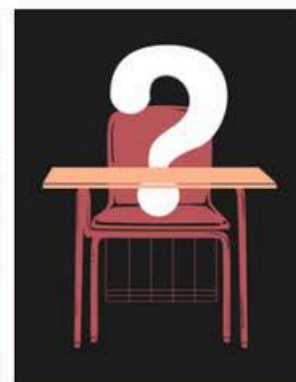
Persistent absenteeism is a strong predictor of school failure and can lead to repeating grades or even dropping out of school.

### Higher dropout rates

Students with poor attendance are at a greater risk of dropping out of school. Dropout rates are higher among students who miss a significant amount of school.

### Decreased social skills

Regular interaction with peers is crucial for developing social skills. Students who are frequently absent may struggle with social integration and relationship-building.



### Emotional Distress

Chronic absenteeism can be both a symptom and a cause of emotional issues, such as anxiety or depression.

### Increased Behavioural Issues

Students who miss school regularly may develop behavioural problems, including disengagement, defiance, and a lack of motivation. These issues can further exacerbate their attendance problems.

### Higher Risk of Delinquency

Research has shown that students with poor school attendance are at a higher risk of engaging in delinquent behaviour.

### Impact on Community

Low school attendance can affect community well-being, as it is linked to broader issues such as increased crime rates and lower community engagement.

### Increased feeling of isolation

Absenteeism can lead to feelings of alienation and isolation, as students may miss out on important social interactions and extracurricular activities.



# **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

By the time you are reading this, we will have been travelling through Malaysia with six students who have been experiencing the amazing culture, food and sounds of the country as well as visiting Klang Special School.



Dionne and I are very fortunate to be the ones not only representing Port, but be taking students away for this amazing experience of a lifetime.

The relationship is now in its twelfth year and Port has seen 71 students visit Malaysia over that time. They have been part of raising well over \$200k and have donated equipment, resources, sponsored a new playground, taken over arts and sculptures and sponsored over 100 orphan students over that time.

## **Past Student Visit**

The school was delighted earlier this term to have a visit from Courtney Knowles a past student. Courtney was at Port from 2014 - 2016 and is now working for St Jude's as an individual support worker, assisting adults in the areas mental health, elderly and disabilities. Courtney was part of the 2015 Malaysia group and has fond memories of the trip as well as helping with construction of the YPC and ELC back then. Courtney has a beautiful 2 year old daughter Arianna who enjoyed a play in the ELC with other children during their visit. Great to see you doing so well Courtney.



## **THANKS**

Thanks to all our Port staff for another amazing term. An incredible \$350k grant was awarded to the ELC thanks to Nicole. The Art Exhibition was an amazing success. It's also great to have Nickie back in the kitchen working with Ali and of course our YPC manager Michelle was nominated for the Westfield Local Hero \$20k award.

Thank you for all that you do, have a great break, see you all in term 4

**Mike**

## Malaysia 2024

### Student Profile

Name: Elif Sals  
Age: 18  
Hobbies/ Interests: Fashion, Music, Sewing

Most looking forward to: I am really looking forward to stepping out of my comfort zone, exploring Malaysia and going on the Night Hike in Gopeng as well as visiting the Petronas Twin Towers and Sunway lagoon amusement park.

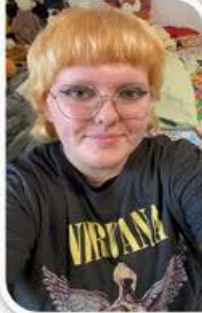


## Malaysia 2024

### Student Profile

Name: Ruby Moorman  
Age: 16  
Hobbies/ Interests: Sewing, Reading, Art, Writing

Most looking forward to: I am looking forward to exploring Malaysia, meeting the kids at Klang Special School, trying new foods and seeing the culture.

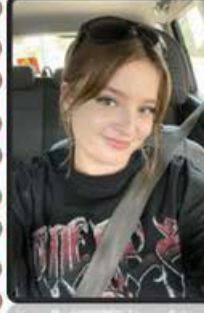


## Malaysia 2024

### Student Profile

Name: Tayla Bailey  
Age: 18  
Hobbies/ Interests: Music, Painting & Beauty Therapy

Most looking forward to: I am really looking forward to exploring the Gopeng Rainforest, trying the foods, doing fun activities and working with the children at Klang School.



## Malaysia 2024

### Student Profile

Name: Jake Madgen  
Age: 16  
Hobbies/ Interests: Art, Drawing, Street Art, Hip Hop, Photography, Listening to music

Most looking forward to: I have never been out of the country before and am looking forward to flying and seeing the different cultures in Malaysia and their way of life. I am especially can't wait to help at Klang School and visit Sunway Lagoon.

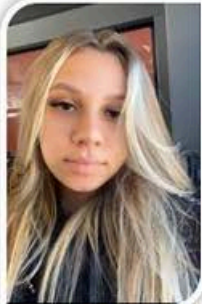


## Malaysia 2024

### Student Profile

Name: Khyanna Alone  
Age: 17  
Hobbies/ Interests: Painting, reading, music

Most looking forward to: I am looking forward to flying on a plane for the first time and exploring Malaysia. I am keen to try all the different food and see what all the different cultures are like there.

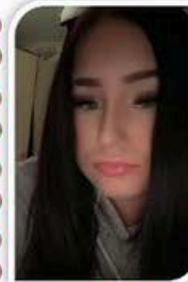


## Malaysia 2024

### Student Profile

Name: Jemma Roser  
Age: 17  
Hobbies/ Interests: Music, sports and beauty therapy

Most looking forward to: I have never been outside of Australia before and I'm excited. I am looking forward to exploring Gopeng Rainforest, helping the children at Klang School with learning activities as well as trying some new foods.



## Malaysia 2024

### Staff Profile

Name: Mike Gilbert  
Age: Close to retirement surely!!!  
Hobbies/ Interests: Pool, MG's, Travel & Caravanning.

Most looking forward to: I love Malaysia and the people. It's a small group this year, but as always I am very much looking forward to this occasion and giving students an experience of a lifetime once again. Can't wait to see how the Klang students have changed and visit a few places we have not been for several years.

Really pleased to be helping out Klang Special School again and seeing all our friends there as well as eating the amazing food.



# Klang Special School

## Malaysia 2024

### Staff Profile

Name: Dorna Ganwy  
Age: Younger than Mike (jvt :))  
Hobbies/ Interests: Art, Music, Sewing, Beach walks, Travel.

Most looking forward to: After experiencing the Malaysia mirrors on for the first time in 2023, I am looking forward to rekindling up the Klang students & teachers again and seeing the message at the school. With Malacca and Port Dickson being added to the program this year, I am excited to visit a new part of the country. As always, I can't wait for the summer weather, seeing the Agave crows, some Malaysian food as well as staying our Port students everywhere Malaysia.



# RTO UPDATE

## MICRO-CREDENTIALS

A micro-credential is a certification that proves you've learned a specific skill or competency. It takes at least one hour to complete and is smaller than a full qualification. It can be an extra, alternative, or complementary part of an official qualification. In addition, they can assist in employment chances and may be a compulsory industry requirement.

Well done to students that have completed any or all of these!

### First Aid

Each year, staff and students complete First Aid Training- a Nationally Accredited certificate which includes CPR, basic first aid and emergency life support components. This certificate provides three units of competency for students, one of which is included in some Port School qualifications, and various external qualifications.

Sam Kerridge has successfully facilitated the training through ABC First Aid.

### White Card

A White Card is evidence of completing a General Construction Induction course. This course is mandatory for anyone who works or wants to work in the construction industry. The course is delivered and accessed via an online platform through Blue Dog Training- with assistance from Port School staff.

### Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA)

The Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) course teaches you how to serve alcohol safely and legally. It helps prevent alcohol-related issues, improves customer service, and is often required for jobs in hospitality.

### Use Hand & Power Tools

This unit teaches the skills and knowledge needed to use hand and power tools in the resources and infrastructure industries. It's designed for people in operational roles who work under supervision, follow set routines and procedures, and are responsible for the quality of their own work.

# CLASS NEWS

## Term 3



### Maths

Aren't we glad winter is over! This term saw a change of staff in the classroom. Grant's role has changed to allow him more time to focus on supporting students. So as we say thank you and goodbye to Grant, we welcome Terri! Terri has hit the ground running in class, helping support the students with their work. Her other notable work has been sprucing up the decor of the class. Thank you, Terri! The students have been working really hard to learn new content. Across the groups we have been learning how to solve equations with fractions. We have also learned how fractions can be used to solve problems of probability. The students have had to draw on their knowledge of converting fractions to percentages and decimals. In the last few weeks of the term we have started looking at algebra, which was quite daunting for a lot of students. BUT! they have worked hard and are showing good progress. They're learning about pronumerals, algebraic conventions, how to collect like terms and how to substitute and evaluate expressions. We have also spent some time in lessons practicing OLNA questions to help prepare a number of students before sitting their tests. I hope you all have a fantastic holiday break and see you all for the last term of the year!

 Brett Limpus

“  
When asked,  
'How do you  
write?' I  
invariably  
answer, 'one  
word at a  
time.

- Stephen King

AUTHORITY FIG

### English

This term every senior student in English class was given a personalised journal, numerous studies show that writing provides psychological benefits by helping us make sense of life's emotional highs and lows, with greater cognitive effort leading to deeper meaning (Ullrich & Lutgendorf, 2002). Journaling is more than just writing down thoughts; it's a powerful tool for self-expression, reflection, and personal growth. Each journal is a personal space to explore thoughts, ideas, and emotions.

Keeping a journal offers benefits. It helps process experiences, enhances writing skills, and fosters creativity. Journaling can also reduce stress by giving students a safe outlet to express their emotions. As they track their personal growth over time, students can gain valuable insights into their lives, helping them develop a stronger sense of self and numerous studies also show a strong connection between handwriting skills and literacy development.

Journaling also works as intrinsic motivation. When students are given the freedom to write for themselves, without the pressure of results or expectations, they begin to find joy in the process of writing. It may become an act of self-discovery and confidence-building. This kind of motivation is crucial, as it encourages students to take ownership of their learning and fosters a lifelong love for writing.

We hope these journals will not only serve as a creative outlet but also as a reminder that their thoughts and ideas matter. By building this habit of reflection and expression, students can better navigate their academic and personal challenges. We look forward to seeing how they use this new tool to enhance their learning journey!

Joy Cromwell



## **NAILING YOUR VIRTUAL JOB INTERVIEW**

*Speak with clarity, confidence and competence*

Are you nervous about job interviews? Do you want to create a great first impression?

Have you noticed that many employers are now requesting either pre-recorded introductory videos or live virtual interviews?

Unfortunately, many people crumble the second the camera starts to roll, and this can lead to missed opportunities to share your personality, skills and strengths when it matters.

Being able to speak in a calm, cool, and collected manner in front of the camera will give your future employer confidence that you have great communication skills, and these are critical skills needed in any workplace.

Read the tips over the page and get ready to nail your next interview.



**Dr Paula Smith**

**Your expert in Presentation Intelligence ® and Leadership Communication**

**Professional Speaker CSP, Author, Master Trainer and Business Leadership Coach**

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## *Tips to help you navigate your on-camera interview*

**Know who you are:** Develop your personal introduction narrative/story. Who are you? what are you interested in and why? This is brief and gives the interviewer a sense of who you are and why you might be a great fit for the role.

**Don't talk to strangers:** Consider who you will be speaking to. Will there be one person or a panel of people? Do a little bit of research. A lot of information can be found on the organisation's website or you can ask.

**Not just any job:** Share why you would like to work at this organisation. This shows the interviewer you are not just wanting any job, you have done your homework and you believe your skills, values and what you can contribute align to not only the role but also the organisation.

**Presentation matters:** The way you dress and present yourself matters. This shows the interviewer that you have made an effort and gives an indication of how you may show up in the workplace. Hair off the face, spotlessly clean and ironed shirt or blouse/dress, avoid too much jewellery or other distracting accessories and think about how the colour might show up on camera. Plain colours work better than prints on camera.

**Etiquette matters too:** Smile - smiling is a universal language that makes you more approachable. Posture - sit or stand straight with your head up and shoulders back. Eye Contact - make eye contact with the interviewer or the camera. And always thank them for their time and/or the opportunity.

**Listen carefully:** If the interview is live/virtual pay close attention to any question being asked. Ensure you fully understand it before responding. If needed, you can ask for clarification. You can do this by asking a clarifying question. Eg. Would you like to know what I have finished studying or what I am currently studying?

**Speak with clarity and brevity.** Keep your answers focused and to the point. Avoid rambling or straying off-topic. A clear and concise response is more impactful. The interviewer will ask you more questions if they need a little more information.

**Don't be shy sharing your strengths:** This is the time to share with the interviewer all the skills and strengths you have, including your personality. You can also share some personal examples of your achievements.

**You are a life-long learner:** Share with your interviewer that you are always keen to learn more.

**Be human:** If you don't know the answer to a question, it's okay to admit it. Authenticity and honesty builds trust.

**Use the power pause:** There is no need to rush. Take the time you need to think about the question and your answer before speaking. A thoughtful response is better than a rushed response.

**Ask questions:** In a live interview, ask a couple of questions to show interest. You can prepare a couple beforehand. Eg. How long has your business been operating in this location? or will there be opportunities for professional development in the future?

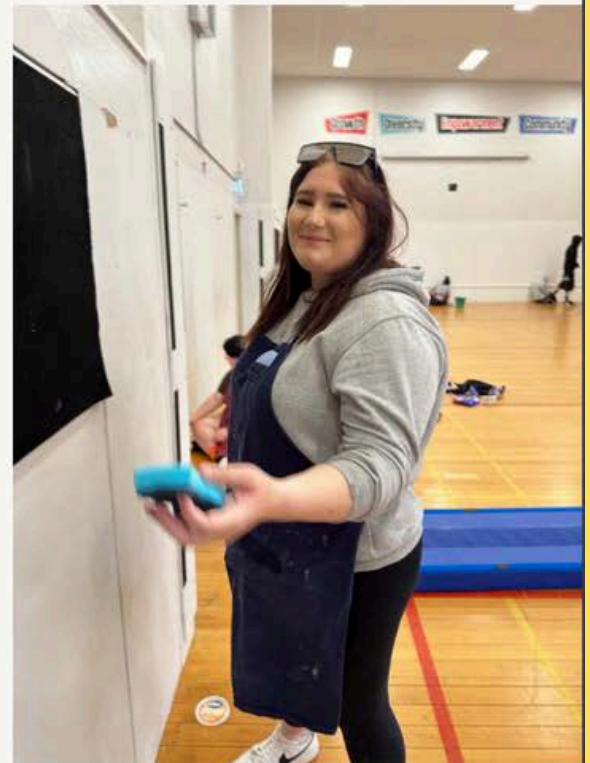
**Enjoy the experience:** Learn to enjoy interviews. Even if you don't get the job this time. The next one might be an even better fit.

# ART ROOM ANECDOTES

## Term 3

### Malaysia Fundraising Art Exhibition, A Celebration of Creativity and Compassion

On August 9th, the school gym was transformed into a vibrant gallery space once again, to host the eagerly anticipated Malaysia Fundraising Art Exhibition. This year's theme, "*Flight*," inspired an array of creative interpretations, showcasing the immense talent and imagination of our students. The event was a resounding success, raising an impressive \$10,000 for Klang Special School.



Preparing for  
the exhibition

The exhibition featured a diverse collection of works that captured the essence of flight in various forms. The *Quirky Birds* Ceramics project brought whimsy and charm to the theme, with each ceramic bird reflecting the unique personalities of its creators. Meanwhile, the Fight or Flight themed prints offered a more introspective take, with students using various print techniques including linocuts, Holbein etchings, and woodcut prints to delve into the instinctual responses of animals and humans alike.

# Quirky Birds...



Another highlight this term has been ***Pets Gone Wild***, an expressive project where students captured the personalities of their furry friends on large-scale canvases. These lively colourful and often humorous portraits added a playful energy to the exhibition, delighting all who attended.



This year's exhibition was again a true celebration of creativity, collaboration, and community spirit. The funds raised at this event will make a meaningful difference for the children at Klang Special School, showing once again how art can be a powerful force for good. This term has been incredibly busy and productive, culminating in an event that will be remembered. Well done and thank you to all involved!  
Dee, Dan and Poh

# Exhibition Opening Night, 2024



2024 Malaysia Excursion students



# CERTIFICATE IN GENERAL EDUCATION FOR ADULTS



## CGEA I

The Certificate I in General Education was introduced at the start of Term 3. There are 5 workbooks that make up the Certificate I in General Education for Adults. This term we focused on the computing cluster and maths cluster. We have had 10 students commence the course in the Senior School this term and have had 3 of those students complete the computer cluster and commence the maths cluster.

## CGEA II

This term our topic of focus in the CGEA classroom was Work, Health & Safety. The unit encompasses safe work practices, safety signs, identifying hazards, risk assessments and emergency evacuation procedures. Students also complete a Smartmove Certificate which informs them on how to recognise potential dangers, risks and hazards in the workplace; whilst giving them the tools to stay safe in the workplace.

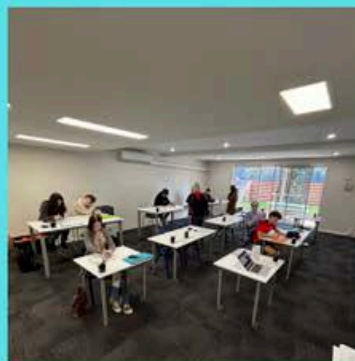
## CGEA III

We currently have 15+ students working on the Certificate III in General Education for Adults at Port School. This is the highest intake of students doing the Certificate III that we have had since the course was introduced. This course extends students language, literacy, numeracy and IT skills and sets students up well to work independently in external studies such as TAFE and University.



## CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION

- Jayesha- Certificate II in General Education for Adults
- Amber- Certificate II in General Education for Adults
- Dylan S- Certificate II in General Education for Adults
- Kelly- Certificate II in General Education for Adults
- Eric (EJ)- Certificate II in General Education for Adults
- Ruby- Certificate II in General Education for Adults



## FINAL WORD

Congratulations on making it through the Term 3! We look forward to doing it all again in Term 4. Enjoy the school holidays!



## HASS CORNER: *KEEPING SAFE* FEATURE

Raf took Long Service Leave to recharge her batteries in the first few weeks of Term 3, and Bel, Claire, Steph & Carolyn did a great job in covering HASS classes, during that time. The rest of term 3 has been spent on the **Keeping Safe Curriculum**, a protective curriculum which encourages our students to review their own risk-taking behaviours, and seeks to improve safety outcomes for young people. Today's HASS newsletter focus is dedicated to sharing part of this message with students' parents, carers, and families & features online safety hacks to strengthen our online safety.

### The Key Dangers of the Internet

So much of our daily life revolves around the internet, from work to education and even talking and gaming with friends. For some interesting up to date statistics on social media usage look up this link: <https://www.genroe.com/blog/social-media-statistics-australia/13492>.

When you and your family use the internet, you are (often unknowingly) exposing yourself to a wide range of potential online threats. Digital landscapes are constantly changing nowadays, and to avoid their inherent dangers, we recommend following our essential internet safety tips when you are online:

1. Make sure you're using a secure internet connection
2. Choose strong passwords
3. Enable multi-factor authentication where you can
4. Keep software and operating systems updated
5. Check that websites 'look' and 'feel' reliable
6. Review your privacy settings and understand privacy policies
7. Be careful of suspicious links and where you click
8. Make sure your devices are secure!
9. Backup data regularly
10. Close unused accounts
11. Be careful what you download
12. Be careful what you post and where
13. Be careful who you meet online
14. Double check online information
15. Use a good antivirus and keep it updated

(<https://www.kaspersky.com/resource-center/preemptive-safety/top-10-preemptive-safety-rules-and-what-not-to-do-online> )

For anyone worried about their child's e-safety, or for further information refer to <https://www.esafety.gov.au/report>



# What's been cooking in term 3?

Welcome to Term 3 at Port School Kitchen. We've had a busy term 3 which has seen the return of the amazing Nickie to our kitchen team!



**Kitchen Team**  
Nickie Maree Ali



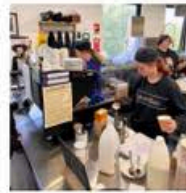
We have welcomed middle school students into the kitchen and we had lots of fun seeing their skills develop.



Our Certificate II Hospitality students along with all of our cooking classes have been busy planning and preparing for the annual Art Exhibition



It's been a busy term for our Hospitality students as they develop their barista skills



We have welcomed the young Mums into the kitchen this term, we are really enjoying teaching cooking skills and hearing how much they love being a Mum, while learning new skills that they can pass onto their children



Congrats to Our Hospitality students have finished their Certificate II, Dylan, Hailley, Danesh and Kelly

The highlight of this term is the Art Exhibition, there's always a buzz in the kitchen as students and staff work hard to produce amazing food.

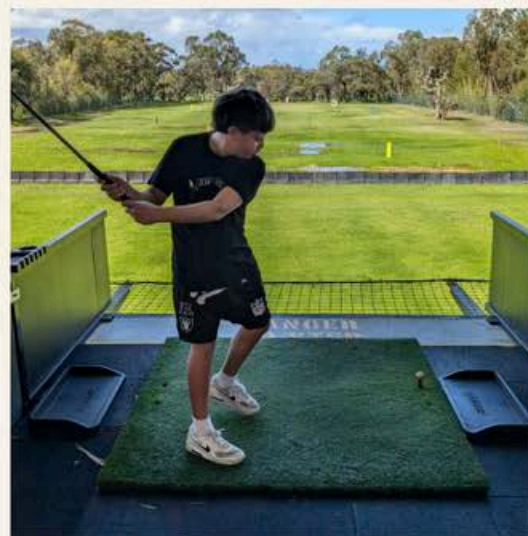


Thanks to the wild bakery for your continued support





# PE and Team Sport



This term during PE, students have continued to develop their movement skills and ability to participate in physical activity in both individual and team situations. In Team Sports, students have been participating in individual 'Olympic' challenges in activities such as longest kick, running races, mini golf, basketball shooting and much more. These challenges have been combined with a variety of team-based games.

## FITNESS CENTRE

In the fitness centre this term, the students have been focusing on strength training and over all fitness. The students have also been enjoying boxing with lots of new techniques being learnt.



# MSI

## TERM 3

### MSI

MS1 has had an excellent Term 3! There has been a lovely calm atmosphere in academic subjects with a real focus on improving literacy and numeracy skills. We have been working on pet portraits in Art and have enjoyed bringing our furry friends to life! The Middle School had Olympians Belinda and Arthur visit us again. Arthur coached his athlete to a silver medal at the Paris Olympics in Windsurfing!

MS1 students had a fun time pulling the "Gimme my money" prank on Middle School staff! WA wildlife visited and we learnt more about local native species. It's been a jam packed term!

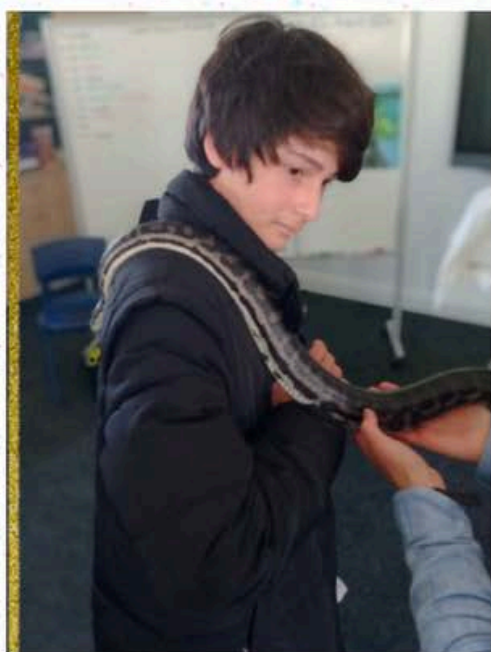
### Kids in the Kitchen



### MSI at McDonalds



# MSI Term 3

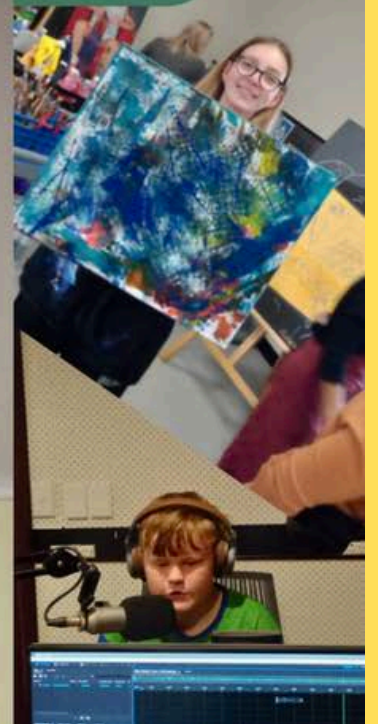


# PORT SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL 2



## Term 3

It has been another action packed term in the Middle School 2 classroom. Our creative schools project has been keeping us busy with podcasting workshops and lots of other artistic pursuits. In the classroom everyone has been working super hard during English and Maths and it's great to see the results of 3 terms of such good work. We are already looking forward to term 4 and our camp.

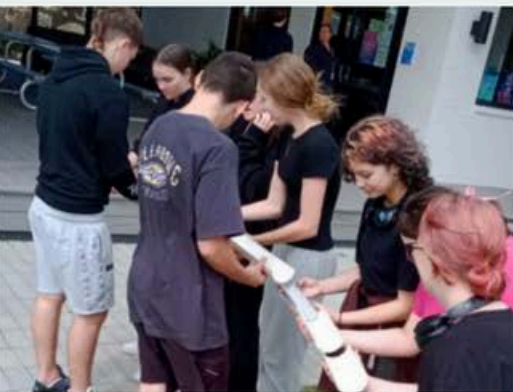


# MS3



This term in Middle School Classroom 3, along with regular Mathematics lessons, students have been learning how Australian politics and the economy work, how to use figurative language conventions such as similes and personification, and how volcanos erupt.

On Monday afternoons, we have been engaging in Team Building activities including an egg drop challenge, newspaper fashion show, marble pipeline challenge, and an escape room. Students have worked together to solve problems, and have shown great resilience when completing these challenges. It has been a fun term, and Scott and Eileen look forward to their last term with this class before they head off to Senior School.



# PORT EARLY LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

## TERM 3

### CULTURAL IMMERSION

We are excited to share the wonderful experiences we've had this term at Port ELC. This term, we have had the privilege of engaging in weekly cultural immersion sessions with Aunty Fran from Kulungar Waabiny.

Through these enriching sessions, our children have been introduced to the Noongar language, exploring numbers, colours, seasons, animals, and traditional stories. Aunty Fran's teachings have provided a deep and meaningful connection to the Noongar culture, enriching our learning environment and broadening our understanding.

We look forward to continuing this journey of cultural discovery and appreciation.



### BOOK WEEK

This term, Book Week at our ECEC was a magical celebration under the theme 'Reading is Magic.' Both the ELC and YPC embraced the fun, with children and mums joining in during our weekly Thursday playgroup session. Our special theme, 'The Wiggles,' brought vibrant energy to the event, with staff dressing up as beloved characters and activities and Wiggles inspired food such as 'Hot Potatoes, and cold spaghetti'. We all enjoyed a delightful array of themed treats and had a fantastic time together, celebrating the joy of reading in a truly magical way!

### NATIONAL ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY

On August 1st, we honoured National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day at our ECEC, a significant occasion for reflecting on the history of First Nations people. The date, August 4th, holds special meaning as it marks the communal celebration of birthdays for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were part of the Stolen Generations, taken from their families without knowing their own birthdays. This year's event was enriched by the participation of various community organisations, including Meerilinga, the City of Cockburn, Wanslea, and two Elders from the Ngalla Yorga Waangkan Aboriginal Corporation. Port teachers and students contributed with engaging activities such as face painting, art projects, and traditional damper making. We are excited to make this a cherished annual celebration for our children and families.



# PORT SCHOOL

## Young Parent & Early Learning Centre

### TERM 3



## WESTFIELD LOCAL HERO

We are beyond proud to announce our wonderful Michelle Forsyth, Manager of the YPC is a top 3 finalist in the Westfield Local Heroes competition for 2024. The Westfield Local Hero competition is designed to recognise people who make a positive impact to others in our community. The work Michelle does for the members of the YPC is much appreciated by both staff and students. She really does go above and beyond to make sure the centre is running smoothly and that everyone feels seen and cared for.

If Michelle is successful in winning the generous grant of \$20,000, she will buy a car that can be used to transport the mums and their babies to school, removing one of the biggest barriers to attendance for our students.

Voting has now closed but we are hopeful Michelle will take out the top prize.



## TESTIMONIALS

Thank you Michelle for putting in so much dedication to the centre and in helping me with not only my academic success but also succeeding in my personal life. Thanks to you, I have learnt so much about myself, others and about what's important in life. Overall, you have helped me grow as a parent and a person.

Keely (ex YPC student)



The YPC has been my second home and probably always will be. The environment here is like a family, so much love, empathy, understanding and encouragement. Michelle and the staff, and all the girls have been my rock in literally the hardest struggles of my life. I whole hearted believe I would not be the mother to my son that I am now if it weren't for Michelle and Port School. For that I will be eternally grateful, it has been the most priceless gift anyone has given me.

Sharnie (ex YPC student)



The YPC has been my second chance at getting my life together, not only helping me to regain an education but helping me overcome my own personal struggles and making me become a better person. Michelle continuously puts in so much dedication to not only the centre but to making sure we achieve all our personal and educational goals. She truly goes above and beyond for everyone here, without Michelle I don't believe I would have ever come back to school.

Caitlin (YPC student)

# POP NEWS!

**Jon Kroeck**

There goes term 3 flying past. This was a very busy term for students and staff completing two days Professional Development and the Art Exhibition within a week.

We usually spend a lot of time writing about the achievements of students, in this newsletter we are going to spend some time writing about the great work our staff do. Belinda Carcione, Jon Kroeck, Sam Kerridge, Jane Hawdon and Lorraine O'Toole make up the Port Outreach Team, fondly known as POP. The POP Team work at Port providing a mobile education service to students who are not able to attend their classes on site. The POP team works rain, hail and shine to support students to achieve their learning goals.



Jon has been working on the POP team with students since the beginning of 2022. He originates from California but has called Australia home for the past 15 years. Jon has been working in the education sector for most of his career, getting his diploma as a teacher in Elementary Education with a focus on psychology before receiving his Master of International Sustainable Tourism. He used this time to research how experiential education affected students, their ability to learn in a more hands-on environment, and whether it improved their retention of taught information.

Jon's favourite part of being on the POP team is the ability to create one-on-one relationships with his students. He finds allowing the freedom to create a personalised curriculum for each student not only enhances their learning opportunities but allows for a more holistic teaching environment that keeps both staff and students engaged in furthering their education. This teaching style also provides a time for staff to play to each student's strengths, creating more engagement and growth.

Although Outreach has many benefits, sometimes it is difficult to find an environment suitable for each student's needs. There are only so many libraries and cafes with quiet corners. Time out in the community is also restricted by the weather that day, especially when driving a twelve-seater bus alongside Perth motorists who have never seen rain. While we tend to make do, sometimes our sessions need to be cut short, or at least come to a brief pause as we watch a motorist doing skids at the stop lights.

When all is said and done, Jon hopes to bring his whole self to his students on POP. He wants to show them that making mistakes is okay, people aren't perfect. The most important thing is we can all be ourselves and still find people who love us for just that. We want to teach respect and kindness, and that it's fine to not always be happy. Laughing, as long as it is with others, heals a lot more than we think. And lastly, just do the work, kids, without complaining! It is an education program after all!



Sam is a primary and high school qualified teacher with a commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of teenagers. He currently works in the Outreach program at Port School, supporting students who may be struggling to engage with traditional education systems. Sam holds a degree in Psychology as well as a diploma in counselling. Recognising the importance of education as a tool for change, Sam later pursued and completed a degree in education.

Sam's passion for teaching is driven by his belief in the power of meaningful engagement with young people. He is particularly passionate about connecting with teenagers, understanding the unique challenges they face, and helping them find their path forward. He does this through courses in outdoor recreation, first aid, sport and coaching, alongside fitness, counselling and VET education and liaising with multidisciplinary teams and agencies. Through his work at Port School, Sam hopes to make a lasting difference, empowering students to overcome obstacles and achieve their full potential.

### **Sam Kerridge**



### **Lorraine O'Toole**

My name is Lorraine O'Toole and I joined the Port School Outreach Program in 2023. I am a mother of 3 daughters and now a grandma of 3 granddaughters.

I began my career in the early 1990's working in a drop-in centre and running specific programs for young people. I really loved this work, eventually moving into education, working as an assistant to children with special needs. I began studying toward my teaching degree, which I completed in 2014. I had already started working with the Department of Communities within residential group homes. I stayed in this sector for 13 years, managing a group home in the southern suburbs. I loved this work, and went on to lecture in Community Services and Youth Work for a couple of years at TAFE before joining the Port team last year.

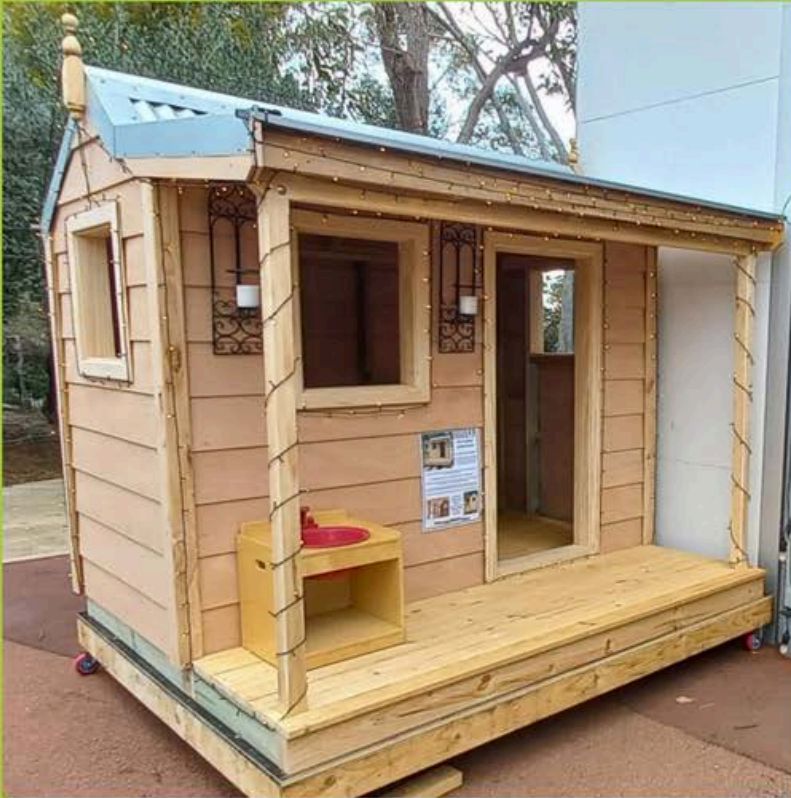
### **Belinda Carcione**

My name is Belinda Carcione and I found my passion of working with Youth at Risk while working with the Department of Communities. As a Youth and Family Support Worker I worked with families in times of need. In this role I have supported young people to navigate the juvenile justice system and linked them with other agencies and services; always working closely with schools to re-engage young people in education.

I am a member of the Port Outreach Team, helping disengaged students to re-engage in education, making sure they are safe, healthy, and that their needs are being met. I am tenacious and never give up on my students. My objective is always to support them to engage in school.

**Year 12 & 13 students you have 9 weeks to complete your Certificates II and III.**

**Attend all your classes and let's get the job done!!!**



# Port School Construction Project

## **Your Expressions of interest.**

Two cubby houses have been made by the construction class students here at Port School using sustainably sourced materials rated for exterior use.

They can be disassembled as flat pack to enable loading onto a trailer and carrying through narrow openings to back yards.

Re-assembly and installation by our students are options for an additional fee.

Each house can be primed and ready to paint in your chosen colour or our students can topcoat for an additional fee. A clear timber finish is also available.

Each house will feature opening windows using clear safety polycarbonate and a front door. Accessories such as slides, planter boxes, mailboxes, stairs etc can be added for additional fees.

They will be ready at approximately the end of November and the price will be from \$2950 each.



For further information or to express your interest, please contact our workshop trainer Adrian on 9335 6323.



**Diversity**

**Growth**

**Empowerment**

**Community**



# PORT SCHOOL WORKSHOP

TERM 3 HAS BEEN VERY BUSY IN THE WORKSHOP, PREPARING ITEMS FOR THE ART EXHIBITION.

THE EXHIBITION WAS A HUGE SUCCESS, WITH A LARGE AMOUNT OF ITEMS SOLD RAISING MONEY FOR THE SCHOOL MALAYSIA TRIP.



THE PORT FACTORY CLASS HAS MADE A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF ITEMS THAT HAVE SOLD FOR A PROFIT. PORTIONS OF THIS PROFIT WILL BE RETURNED TO THE STUDENTS IN TERM 4 AND WILL ALSO BE USED FOR AN EXCURSION LATER IN THE YEAR.



THE MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES HAVE EXCELLED IN MAKING SOME AWESOME PROJECTS INCLUDING ROUND SERVING TRAYS, RESIN ART SERVING PLATTERS AND TOOLBOXES.



# STREET ART GRAFFITI

This term has been another awesome journey for the street art crew, showcasing remarkable growth and creativity! It's been inspiring to witness the students evolve in their artistic abilities, gaining confidence with each new piece they create.

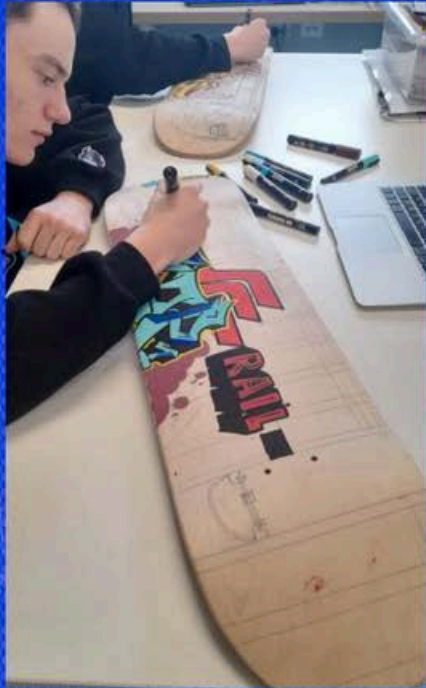
Throughout Term 3, the focus has been on refining lettering techniques while seamlessly integrating characters and themes into their artwork. A unique project this term was the skateboard deck challenge. Each student was provided with a blank skate deck as their canvas, offering a chance to create a personalised, hand-painted masterpiece. The skateboard deck designs posed a new challenge, pushing students to think creatively about how to translate their ideas from paper to the curved surface of the deck. They first sketched their designs on paper, then carefully transferred them onto the deck, using paint pens to bring their visions to life with vibrant colours and intricate highlights. These stunning works were proudly displayed at the 2024 Art Exhibition on Thursday, August 29th, where they were admired by fellow students, staff and community members.

In addition to individual projects, students have been collaborating on a larger, ongoing piece that features the school's name on large boards. This ambitious project aims to create a bold, cohesive display that will be installed around the school, showcasing the collective talent of the street art class. While the work is still in progress, there's a shared goal to complete it by the end of Term 4.

The street art class was established not only to cultivate students' graffiti art skills but also to foster relationships and provide a safe, welcoming space where students can relax, express themselves, and connect with others who share their passion for art. Our class has grown from just a few students to ending the term with 10 regulars. We look forward to term 4 with more creative projects to come!!



# STREET ART GRAFFITI



# OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES



The students enjoyed a combination of indoor and outdoor activities this term.

During their trip, they explored numerous museums, art galleries, beaches, and parks. They are continuing to cultivate strong friendships within the group and enhance their interpersonal skills. We embrace the arrival of spring and eagerly anticipate the new adventures in the upcoming term.



# Outdoor Recreation

Jake Madgen



Dyoondalup Bike Park  
Pt Walter

Rubin



The offroad riding unit offers students an exciting opportunity to develop essential skills in equipment handling, safety, and navigation, building their confidence and competence in managing offroad terrains.

This hands-on experience is perfect for thrill-seekers and outdoor enthusiasts.

The Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation serves as a foundation for further education and leadership roles in the outdoor recreation industry, paving the way for careers in sports, fitness, and adventure activities.

Mooro-Beelo Bridge  
Bayswater



# OUTDOOR REC



We learnt about WA's involvement in the Gold Rush, viewed the 1 Tonne gold coin, experienced a live gold pour and held \$1.4 million worth of gold



**EXCURSION  
TO THE PERTH  
MINT**





# PORT MUSIC

## Term 3, 2024



### Portcast Project

Inspired by our visit to Freocast, a local web radio station, students have been recording audio to create our very first podcast at Port School. The concept behind the podcast is to highlight the diverse music taste of the youth of today. Students had to select a song of their choice and record themselves announcing the track as well as explaining their reasoning behind their love for it. The project has allowed for improved confidence with speaking through a microphone.



### What's next?

In Term 4 we hope to host some lunchtime performances to showcase some instrumental progression from our students. We'll also start to unveil originals and covers that have been recorded for the 2024 school album through lunchtime DJ sets!

# RESILIENT AND READY

Since  
2023



# PORT SCHOOL CADETS



## During the last 10 weeks we have done:

- Fire safety survey during our Naidoc week event
- Visited HMS Stirling, Garden Island
- Firetanker exercise with a visiting Montessori school
- Outing into Fremantle locating first-aid and defibrillators via downloaded phone apps
- Radio Communication exercises
- Map and compass orienteering in Manning park
- Search & rescue exercises
- Visiting Fremantle Army museum
- First Aid and moulage (fake wounds)
- Walks in local parks
- WA Wild life incursion with the middle school



## Free life saving Apps

- First Responder
- Emergency plus
- Bites And Stings



# Port School

Cadets



# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN (RAP)

## Port School learns to RAP

This term saw the formation of the RAP working group, with staff, community members and even students getting involved in implementing Port School's reconciliation Action Plan. The plan has a variety of actions to be implemented based on the RAP framework created by the Narragunnawali foundation.

Through these meetings and actions we hope to create a more inclusive school which celebrates our diversity. Watch this space for updates on our RAP throughout the year.



### UPCOMING CHANGES

- Australian and Indigenous Flags to be installed around the school
- A Native bushtucker garden to be planted around the new deck.

UPCOMING MEETING

16 October

Community Members welcome



Would you like to be involved?

Send any queries or questions to [kate@portschool.wa.edu.au](mailto:kate@portschool.wa.edu.au)

# AI in Therapy: Revolutionising Mental Health Care

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping various industries, including mental health care. While technology may seem impersonal, AI is proving to be a valuable tool in enhancing therapy, making mental health support more accessible and personalised.

**Expanding Access:** AI is breaking down barriers to mental health care by offering 24/7 support through chatbots and virtual therapists. This allows people to access help anytime, anywhere, making therapy more reachable for those in remote areas or dealing with mobility issues.

**Personalised Treatment:** AI can analyse vast amounts of data to tailor therapy to an individual's needs. By monitoring progress and detecting subtle changes in mood or behaviour, AI helps therapists adjust treatment plans, leading to more effective and personalised care.

**Supporting Therapists:** AI also assists therapists by handling administrative tasks like scheduling and billing, allowing them to focus more on patient care. Additionally, AI can analyse session data to provide insights, enhancing decision-making and therapeutic outcomes.



AI is transforming mental health care, making therapy more accessible and personalised. By integrating AI into therapy, we can improve the quality of care and reach more people, paving the way for a brighter future in mental health.



# Changemakers for Sustainability

**Calling all high school students interested in creating change for a more sustainable future!**

**Changemakers for Sustainability** is a 3-day challenge for Year 10-12 students, custom built to help you to learn about the sustainability challenges we face, understand how you can make a difference in the world, and guide you through the process of changemaking with your peers.

Supported by masterclasses with university academics, and mentoring from industry leaders, over the three days you will work alongside other motivated change-makers to create solutions to sustainability issues you are passionate about.

## PROGRAM DETAILS

- Who:** Year 10 - 12 high school students
- Date:** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> -Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024
- Time:** 9.30am - 4pm
- Location:** Curtin University Bentley Campus
- Cost:** FREE
- Apply:** For more information and to register go to [bit.ly/changemakersforsustainability2024](https://bit.ly/changemakersforsustainability2024)
- Contact:** [humanities-futures@curtin.edu.au](mailto:humanities-futures@curtin.edu.au)



# ROCK your SCHOOL holidays

## at Penny Lane's



### HOW WE ROCK N ROLL...

**PENNY LANE'S ROCK SCHOOL** is three hours of **jamming, song writing, composition** and **performance**.

Suitable for kids **6-16 years** and **grouped by age**. No prior musical experience is necessary but always welcomed!

**End with a concert** for family and friends.

**AM & PM SESSIONS**

**\$90 for 3 hrs** of MUSICAL FUN plus a CONCERT.

We supply everything on the day. **For more info**

[www.pennylanesmusic.com.au](http://www.pennylanesmusic.com.au)

# Part School

## NOTICES

### SKATEBOARD ART WORKSHOPS

EPYCentre X Hope Perth

**What's involved**  
Create, experiment and learn new art techniques on a skate deck in a safe and fun environment.

The skateboard you paint is yours to keep!

**When**  
Friday Afternoons 1.00-2.30pm  
Starting on the 6th September

**Where**  
EPYCentre, Cockburn

**DATES**  
6th September  
13th September  
20th September  
27th September  
4th October  
11th October

Please let your Support Coordinator know if you're interested or want more information :)

SpectrumSpace telethon

### Telethon Holiday Makers Program

**AGES 8-18**

Fremantle  
Rockingham  
Marangaroo  
Midland

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ARE OPEN!**

For more information, visit [www.spectrumspace.org.au](http://www.spectrumspace.org.au) or call us (08) 9431 2111

### MOVIE NIGHT

# BACK TO THE FUTURE II

THE FUTURE PART II

FREMANTLE TOWN HALL &

SUN 6 OCT | 5PM | \$5 ENTRY

headspace Fremantle

## HEADSPACE DAY

FREE EVENT YOUTH MARKET

SATURDAY OCT 12TH 11AM - 1PM

PAUSE. REFLECT. RECONNECT.

STALLHOLDERS  
CLOTHES STALL  
BLIND BOOK SWAP  
LOCAL ARTISTS  
SELF CARE PRIZE PACK TO BE WON

AH BRACKS LIBRARY MELVILLE  
CNR OF CANNING HWY & STOCK RD

## Term 4 Events Calendar

Term 4 starts Monday October 7th.

Middle School Year 8 Camp October 30th.

Middle School Year 9 Camp November 13th.

YPC Camp November 26th

Adventure World Excursion December 9th.

2024 Graduation Wednesday December 11th.