

Life in the Wilderness

Term 3 Issue #2 | Friday 13 August, 2021



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Learning That Matters

[Belinda Arnfield, Acting Principal](#)

At Wilderness, we aim to provide our girls with learning that matters.

This 'life-worthy learning' seeks to equip them with the knowledge and skills they need to be creative, connected and engaged in a rapidly changing world.

This week we celebrate National Science Week. The theme for 2021 is Food: Different by Design, inspired by the United Nations International Year of Fruits and Vegetables and the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development.

Sustainability is a key learning area for our girls, from our youngest students in Mamies and Annies learning about recycling and water conservation to our senior students analysing, evaluating, and creating sustainable designs for future cities.

Although our Science Assembly was moved online, our fantastic Science Department excited girls by sharing research into how scientists believe bugs hold significant promise for food security and the environment and preparing a challenge 'to design a new menu item for the Wildy Café that incorporates sustainability and alternative ingredients, including insects.

Each Form is currently preparing its sustainable menu item to be presented as a 'Shark Tank' style pitch. They will need to explain their gourmet dish from farm to plate,

accounting for sustainability, nutrition, costing and the possibility of a local supplier.

In Week 6, they will upload their pitch to the House collective and the School will vote for their favourite dish. The winning menu item will be offered as a weekly one-off special for Term 4 in the Café, with proceeds going to Wilderness School's Bhadure Boarding House in Nepal.

I look forward to hearing the girls' ideas and exploring alternative options for protein. It is just one example of the adventurous learning here at Wilderness and solidifies that our girls are forging the way for women in science.

Cancellation of Show Day

Yesterday the Premier of South Australia announced the Royal Adelaide Show, scheduled for next month, has been cancelled due to the current level of restrictions across the state.

As such, the Wilderness School annual Show Day planned for **Monday 6 September** will be replaced with a **normal academic day**. All students will be required to attend school as usual.



EARLY LEARNING

A Sense of Belonging

Rebecca Williamson, Assistant Head of Junior School - Early Years

As our ELC girls returned to school following the lockdown, with backpacks on, their teachers in masks, and waving goodbye to their families with whom they had just spent five weeks, it became abundantly clear how confident, capable and resilient they are, and more importantly, just how connected they are to our ELC.

It was heart-warming to observe how delighted the girls were to be back together and how much enjoyment they experienced from reconnecting with their educators and learning spaces.

The Early Years Learning Framework states that “experiencing belonging – knowing where and with whom you belong – is integral to human existence”.

It reaffirms that relationships are crucial to a sense of belonging in early childhood and continuing throughout life.

“Children first belong to a family, a cultural group, a neighbourhood and a wider community. Belonging acknowledges children’s interdependence with others and the basis of relationships in defining identities.”

Every one of our girls brings her own identity into our ELC, formed by her family and community, and this alone brings such richness, vibrance and diversity to our school. This is then further enhanced when the girls interact and form relationships with each

other and their educators.

Through these positive, respectful relationships, each little girl finds a sense of belonging at Wilderness, and her identity continues to grow. They are Mamie girls, Annie girls, Wildy girls and most importantly, friends.







JUNIOR SCHOOL

New Opportunities in Term 3

[Liz McCarthy, Head of Junior School](#)

Our Junior School has been a busy place this last fortnight as we returned to the term from our extended time apart due to holidays and then lockdown. The girls have resumed their usual learning programs, enjoying the many new projects, units of learning, and collaborations that a new term brings.

Badge Presentation Assembly

It was a delight to finally be able to congratulate and welcome our Semester 2 Year 6 Leadership Group at our Badge Presentation Assembly on Thursday 12 August. Each girl was presented to Mrs Belinda Arnfield, Acting Principal, who stepped in, in place of Ms Jane Danvers, and given her badge, naming the role she will be undertaking this semester. Ranging from House captain to committee leaders, year level representatives to our executive, each girl now has the opportunity to play an integral role in our Junior School over the coming terms.

Junior School President for Semester 2, Annika Ganesh, expressed the important responsibilities that come with leadership beautifully in her speech.

“When I think about what it means to be an impactful leader, my thoughts turn to the values and ethos of our school - to be honest, kind, respectful, collaborative, hardworking, resilient and community minded. As your

Junior School SRC President, I will endeavour to demonstrate these core values and encourage my peers to be positive mentors.

“We, as Semester 2 leaders, pledge to be attentive listeners and create an inclusive environment where your ideas and feedback are heard. We will aspire to ensure a compassionate and nurturing environment and encourage Junior School girls to be kind, show gratitude and to be of service to others.

As the iconic female trailblazer Amelia Earhart once said, ‘a single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions and the roots spring up and make new trees’. When we experience kindness, we are inspired to be kind ourselves. When we show acts of kindness and generosity, we can make meaningful ripple effects in our community.” **Annika Ganesh, Year**

6 JSSRC President

Book Week

We are thoroughly looking forward to our annual Book Week celebrations, beginning in Week 5, Monday 23 August.

The 2021 theme is ‘Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds’ and the girls in ELC to Year 6 will have the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character and participate in our parade on Thursday 26 August. The parade will be held from 8:30am to 9:00am in the Gym and will be filmed and shared with parents as we are not yet able to have you with us in person.

Please find below some suggestions and inspiration for a wide range costumes you can create with items from the shop, borrowed, or invented at home. Our one rule is that it relates to a children’s book. You can also find some costume [inspiration here](#).

New Worlds

- Another country or culture
- Future worlds (robots, technology)
- An animal world - Australian, deserts, rainforests, farms
- Get a bug’s eye view as an insect

- Under the water or the air (bird, plane, rocket)
- Your favourite character from a book

Other Worlds

- Imaginary creatures
- Fairies, mermaids
- Witches and wizards
- Unicorns, dragons
- Monsters, giants
- Fictional friends
- Make up your own

Old Worlds

- Dinosaurs
- Ancient Romans, Greeks, Vikings Centuries
- Past decades (20s, 50s, 60s, 70s)
- Colonial Australia

A number of exciting activities will take place for our Junior School girls across the week, with more information to come.

Wilderness School's Babysitting List

Looking for a date night or regular babysitter can be a time-consuming task of texting past sitters, asking family friends, or posting on Facebook.

Wilderness School has created a list of old scholars, who can provide babysitting services to families in need of care within our School community. The list can be accessed via the Wilderness parent portal.

Having an Wilderness old scholar as your babysitter also supports the girls in gaining paid work, responsibilities and experiences. This list is regularly updated and we encourage you to contact the girls directly. We are looking to grow our list of old scholar babysitters and if you are interested in being added to the list, please [email Emma Bishop](#), Old Scholars Liaison Officer.

Wishing you a wonderful and safe fortnight ahead.





MIDDLE SCHOOL

Breadth of Learning

Brad Snell, Acting Head of Middle School

I am very pleased to be Acting Head of Middle School while Belinda Arnfield is Acting Principal. So far, it has been a wonderful experience to get to know the Middle School students on a more familiar basis and support girls with their academic and pastoral needs.

It is an exciting time for girls in Years 7, 8 and 9 as they choose their subjects for 2022. The Wilderness School Strategic Plan (2020–2022) highlights the need to “cultivate capabilities and dispositions to support each girl to emerge as a connected and engaged learner, prepared to succeed in and contribute to a complex, rapidly changing world”.

Our learning entitlement for students across the Middle School is designed to provide a breadth of learning. In 2021, we introduced new subjects to provide our girls with engaging experiences relevant to their future possibilities. This included:

- Design, Technology and Engineering in Years 7 and 8
- Artemis, Years 7, 8 and 9
- Cyber and Artificial Intelligence, Year 9
- Space and Robotics, Year 9
- Film and Animation Year 9

- Creative Product Design, Year 9

Within our Middle School curriculum, girls have the opportunity to work closely with South Australian businesses and within relevant South Australian industries to ensure they receive real-world industry exposure. These include SAAB, the space industry, Jam Factory and Media and Animation.

Please note each girl needs to return her subject selection form to her Form teacher by the start of Week 5. If you wish to discuss your daughter/s subject selections, please feel free to contact me. As a recent SACE coordinator, I can bring valuable insight into this area and am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Australian Maths Competition

This week, it was very impressive to see the number of students who elected to sit the Australian Maths Competition. Thank you to our Head of Mathematics, Mr Gavin Haydn, and the Mathematics Department for supporting our girls with this fantastic opportunity.

Year 8 Camp

The Year 8 students had a camp training session this week in anticipation of their Week 8 camp on the Fleurieu. Girls were given a presentation of what to expect during their time away and discussed the required items on the packing list. A practical lesson was also given on erecting a tent, packing and wearing a rucksack, and working a Trangia. A reminder to return any Year 8 camp medical/consent and Venture Waiver forms if you have not already done so.

Sport

Inspired by our recent Olympic triumphs, Interhouse athletics trials were held on Monday 9 August at the Parklands in preparation for Athletics Day as well as trials for Year 7 SAPSASA Athletics.

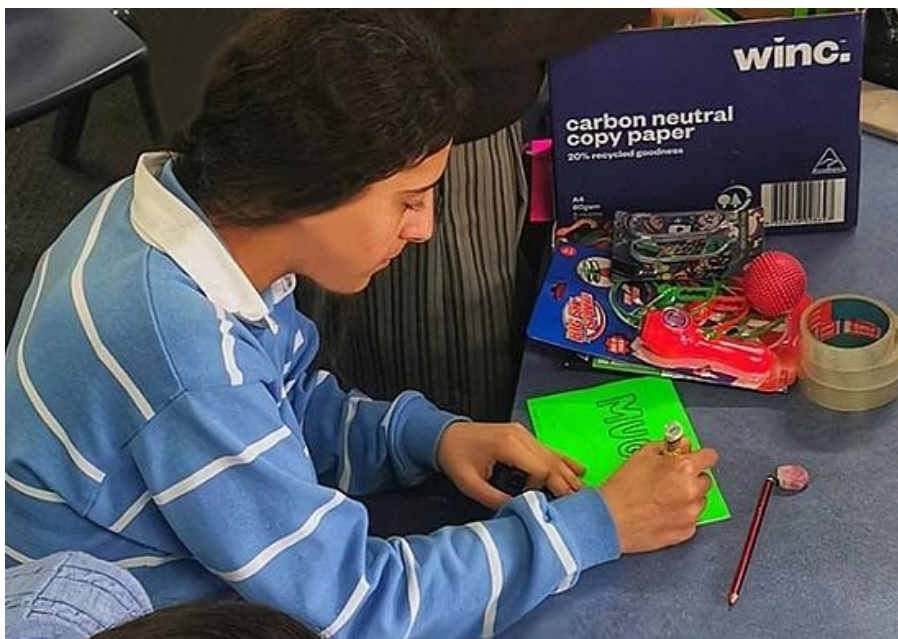
The Winter Intercollegiate Competition between Wilderness School and Seymour College commenced this week, and although we couldn't have the roaring of cheer squads from both students and parents, our girls did our school proud.

Thank you to Mr Jon Trovas and the PE and Sport Departments for their support and leadership of these events.

School Photos

Class, House and Year Level photos were taken on Wednesday 11 August. A reminder that Co-Curricular photos will be taken on **Thursday 19 August**.





SENIOR SCHOOL

Lessons in Leadership

Ben Manifold, Head of Senior School

As the sun set on the Tokyo Olympic Games last Sunday, I am sure, like many others, reflected on the 16 days of competition and the lessons that had come from them.

The Olympic games offered hope during a time of significant hardship across the world as nations continue to battle the severe impact of COVID-19. Who will ever forget the stories of personal sacrifice, the comradery, hardships and the highlights including our own Ariarne Titmus in the 400m freestyle final. As Katie Ledecky threw everything she had at Titmus, she managed to hang tough then surge past Ledecky on the final lap.

I thought Patrick Tiernan's run in the 10,000m final was an incredible performance and one of grit and determination. To collapse on the track just 50 metres away from the finish then somehow muster the strength to get across the line and set his season-best time was amazing.

I could go on and on, but these examples provide the perfect foundation for our Year 11s as they head into the SRC Election process in the weeks ahead. Leadership is not all about winning and it is important that the girls reflect on the stories of the Tokyo Olympics as they prepare to take over the leadership reigns from the Year 12 cohort at the end of Term 3.

The Olympics provided some key leadership lessons which include:

Lesson 1: Lead by example

Our Opening Ceremony Flag Bearers Cate Campbell and Patty Mills led their teams from the front and did not back down when the going got tough. It was not a personal success they were chasing; they were competing for their team.

Lesson 2: Surround yourself with the right people and support them

Leadership is not just a personal journey. We heard over and over athletes acknowledging their support teams in their quest for glory.

Lesson 3: Never give up when the going gets tough

In 2013, Emma McKeon was on the verge of quitting and letting her immense potential wash away down the drain. Yet in 2021, she walks away from the Tokyo Olympics as Australia's greatest and most decorated Olympian after sweeping the competition in the pool, winning another seven medals in Tokyo.

Lesson 4: Be your best

While numerous athletes at the Olympics wanted to win a medal, ultimately, the fact is, there can only be one winner. In life, we must be brave and understand that we will not always get what we want. But that does not mean we don't try!

Good luck to all Year 11 girls who have put their hand up to be a School Leader in 2022. Whether you are successful or not – be brave and proud of putting yourself forward.

Winter Intercol

This week we are hosting Seymour College in the annual Winter Intercollegiate Competition. Good luck to all girls as we challenge Seymour in debating, soccer, netball, football, badminton and hockey.

While we may not have as many supporters at these games as we would like due to COVID-19 restrictions, we wish all girls the best in their respective competitions.

Foster care packages

The enthusiasm of helping others by our Gold Duke of Edinburgh girls is inspiring.

Although 'Fun in the Wilderness', our after-school foster care program is on hold due to COVID-19 restriction, the girls still wanted to maintain their support, contact and connect with the children.

To do this, the girls put together care packages and letters and organised for them to be sent this week. The children will be so excited to receive something in the mail and we look forward to when 'Fun in the Wilderness' can return.

Subject selections

A reminder that Subject Selections for 2022 need to be entered online by **Monday 16 August** for Year 11 girls moving into Year 12 in 2022 and **Monday 23 August** for Year 10 girls moving into Year 11 in 2022.

Girls need to print their online forms and have them signed by their parents/caregivers before returning them to the Senior School Office.





BOARDING

Wellbeing Focus in the Boarding House

[Rosie Broderick, Head of Boarding](#)

Our leaders focus for Term 3 is wellbeing and Eliza Corbin and Tess Moloney will lead this with the support of all the other student-elected leaders. The girls have set up an Instagram page to share inspirational quotes and links to wellness sites.

At the family meeting this week, the girls lead a session on the importance of developing healthy sleep habits and offered some tips on how to improve these habits.

The expectation that staff enforce bedtimes and girls understand why this routine is important was the focus of our first family meeting this term.

Social and cultural forces and the pervasive use of technology have collided with the biology of the adolescent to prevent many teens from getting enough rest.

Like most teenagers, our boarders are maturing in an era of ubiquitous electronic media. While our current boarding guidelines remove all devices for our junior girls, by necessity, the senior girls are allowed to retain their laptops overnight for academic purposes. For this reason, our girls must be aware of the impact that late-night exposure to lit screens can have on their ability to get a good quality sleep.

Sleep-phase delay is exacerbated when teens are exposed late at night to a lit screen,

which sends a message via the retina to the portion of the brain that controls the body's circadian clock. The message - it's not night-time yet. This one factor is enough to trigger issues, but the problem can magnify rapidly when we add in the social, emotional elements of late messages from friends.

Sleep research suggests that a teenager needs between 8 to 10 hours of sleep every night. Yet, most adolescents only get about 6.5 – 7.5 hours of sleep per night, and some get less. With academic demands and extra-curricular activities, the importance of sleep can be pushed aside. When the girls say they are tired, they don't realise that, more realistically, they are sleep deprived for this developmental phase of their life.

If you would like to read more, please click [here](#).

New date for the Boarders' Fashion Parade

Friday 10 September is the new date proposed for the Boarders' Fashion Parade. If you have booked tickets for the earlier date and know you will not be able to attend the September date, please contact the [Boarding Office](#) to arrange for a ticket refund.

Home-based activities last weekend

The performance of the Australian swimming team provided great entertainment for a weekend where leave was still somewhat restricted.

The girls got into the competitive spirit of the games on Sunday afternoon with our own mini-Olympics. Jina's mentor group came out with the Gold on the day – a pizza supper for all the girls in that mentor group.

Other activities over the weekend included spontaneous cooking and conversations and marshmallows around the firepit.

Staffing update

Last week we introduced Ms Amy Day to you. Following her University placement, Amy was offered a position. While we are disappointed that this means she will not be able to continue her work in the Boarding House, we congratulate her as this is such a wonderful opportunity that sees her start her journey in her chosen career.



SPORT

Winter Intercol Kicks Off

[Jon Trovas, Director of Sport and Recreation](#)

Winter Intercol is well underway and Wilderness is off to a fantastic start.

On Tuesday night our first official Intercol event took place, with the Senior A debating teams facing off in the Chrysalis. Our Wilderness girls presented an outstanding argument and were declared the winners by four points over their Seymour opponents.

Wednesday afternoon it was our soccer team's time to shine. Our Premier League girls faced one of their most significant challenges this season playing against the top of the table Seymour side. In a fiercely contested first half, the score was nil-all. The momentum continued to swing both ways until finally, late in the second half, Tahlia Leathart found herself in a scoring position with just the goalkeeper to beat. In her final Intercol, Tahlia's shot found the back of the net much to the delight of the Wilderness supporters. The girls stayed in control to hold off some late offensive efforts from Seymour for a 1-0 win securing the Soccer Intercol Trophy outright for the second year in a row. Well done to our Premier League side and their coaches Mr Shane Hill and 2020 old scholar Chrissie Zikos.

Our Division 1B Team managed a 2-1 win and our 1A Team a closely fought 2-0 defeat. Wilderness Division 2 and 3 teams had the difficult task of playing Seymour at home and despite their valiant efforts were defeated.

I would like to congratulate our Wilderness girls and our Sports Captain, Teagan Powell, on their approach to the 2021 Winter Intercol Week. Obviously, there are spectator

restrictions in place to ensure we are compliant with the current COVID-19 Restrictions. While disappointing, it has been encouraging to witness the comradery and support in place of the traditional crowds. A special thank you to Mr Hal Bruce and our Media Team girls who are working in the background filming and creating videos to be able to celebrate Winter Intercol in a different way given the limitations.

The Winter Intercol scorecard currently sits at 3-3 so our girls have plenty to play for this weekend with the football, badminton, hockey and netball matches still to be played. We look forward to sharing the girl's results with you soon.

Spectators

With frequent updates on the COVID-19 restrictions, we are continually assessing information and are looking for ways to allow our parents/caregivers to attend their daughter's sporting events without compromising the health and safety of our girls and community.

Wilderness outdoor sporting events:

- Parents/caregivers can attend their daughters matches.
- Parents/caregivers must wear a mask.
- Parents/caregivers must socially distance.

Wilderness indoor sporting events (Year 7-12):

- 1 parent/caregiver per Year 12 student can attend matches.
- Parents/caregivers must wear a mask.
- Parents/caregivers must socially distance.
- Parents/caregivers must sign in using the Gym QR codes.

Wilderness indoor sporting events (Year 3-6):

- 1 parent/caregiver per student is permitted to attend if they are required to be present as a caregiver for a participant.
- Parents/caregivers must wear a mask.

- Parents/caregivers must socially distance.
- Parents/caregivers must sign in using the Gym QR codes.

We thank our community for their patience and understanding during this time and we will continue to provide updates as the SA Government continues to review the situation.

PCASA State Team

Congratulations to both Annabel Manifold (Year 11) and Lisa Cowling (Year 10) on their recent success competing for positions in the Pony Club Association of South Australia (PCASA) State Team.

While there have been disruptions to the regular interstate and national competition schedules, both Annabel and Lisa have continued to train and compete locally and have both been justly rewarded with selection in the State Team.

Congratulations girls on your achievements.







CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Down the Rabbit Hole

[Aldo Longobardi, Head of Drama](#)

Year 6 students presented their musical production of 'Alice', based on the story of 'Alice in Wonderland' in Week 3 under the direction of Ms Jessica Foster and Mrs Ruth Shrimpton.

The production was a culmination of the Year 6's work in Drama and Music over Semester 1. It came alive with vibrant performances, colourful costumes and fantastical animations, turning the Newman Theatre into the absurd Wonderland.

It was unfortunate that COVID-19 restrictions prevented the girls from presenting the production to their families. However, they were able to perform to the Junior and Lower Junior students who appreciated and enjoyed the colour, energy and magic of the production.

A video recording of the performance will be shared with the Wilderness community in the coming weeks. In the meantime, we are happy to share with you some photographs that capture the work of the Year 6 girls and their teachers.

Music

Ensemble Rehearsals and the Annual Showcase of Music

All co-curricular music ensembles have now resumed face-to-face rehearsals and the girls are working hard in readiness for the upcoming Showcase of Music.

In line with current restrictions, Elder Hall is currently operating at 50 per cent capacity and this will limit the number of people we can have in the audience. We will be emailing parents with further information and the TryBooking link in the coming week, so please look out for this.

Stage 2 Solo Performance Recital

On Monday 23 August, our Stage 2 Solo Performance students will perform in an intimate recital in Hender Hall, commencing at 6.00pm. To stay within the current room capacity requirements, only parents of the girls involved have been invited. However, we would like the Year 9 and 10 girls currently studying Music to attend to learn more about the subject. The girls undertaking the performance would appreciate the support from their peers. If your daughter is studying Music, we would love it if you could arrange for them to be there.

Eisteddfod Success – Isabelle Yu

We would like to congratulate Year 11 student, Isabelle Yu, on her wonderful success in last week's Adelaide Eisteddfod. Entering two highly competitive senior divisions, S306 (Junior String Concerto Solo, 16 Years and Under) and S314 (Romantic Era 18 Years and Under), Isabelle placed first and second, respectively. Well done, Isabelle!

Farewell to Mekhla Kumar

It is with great sadness that we farewell one of our music staff this week. From next week, Ms Mekhla Kumar will no longer be teaching piano or accompanying our choirs at Wilderness School.

Mekhla has been successful in her application to teach and enter the Postgraduate Performance Degree at the Jacobs School of Music in Indiana, USA, a wonderful opportunity indeed.

It has been an absolute pleasure having Mekhla on our staff. I know that the girls will miss her very much. Mekhla was, is, and always will be a Wildy girl - graduating in 2006 and working alongside our team for the past six years. We wish her all the very best and hope to welcome her back sometime in the not-too-distant future.

Anna Lenartowicz

Year 9 Film and Animation

The creation of 'Wesley'

During Semester 1, the Year 9 Film and Animation classes collaborated on the development and creation of a new mini-series called 'Wesley'. The series tells the comical tale of Wesley, who is a man on a mission to find the perfect job and be kind to everyone..

In Week 6 of Term 2, the girls had the opportunity to finally head out on location and shoot their films. Working in groups, they built their story concepts for their episodes, wrote and developed their screenplays and then began to plan for their film shoots. They sourced amazing locations and actors, created their shot lists, storyboards and shooting schedules, and practiced their production skills.

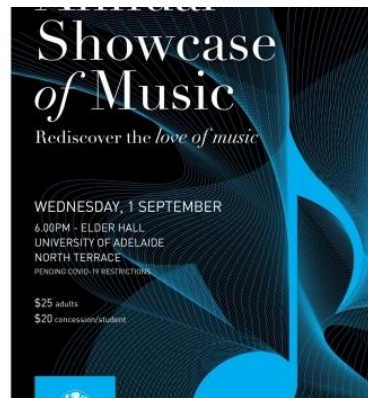
Once on set, they had the chance to work with film industry professionals who mentored the girls as they took on film production roles such as Sound Recordists, Cinematographers, Production Designers, First Assistant Directors and Directors. It was wonderful to see all their hard work in the pre-production phase pay off as they captured some superb footage.

The Editors and Animators have since done their part in the creative process, and we are excited to announce that Wesley the mini-series will red-carpet premiere at the Wilderness Fringe in Week 5 of Term 4. We hope to see you there to celebrate the girl's amazing achievement and enjoy the premiere of the first ever Year 9 Film and Animation miniseries.

Hal Bruce

Head of Creative Industries









COMMUNITY

Sony Camp

[Bess Smith, Head of Extended Curriculum](#)

Wilderness School and St Peter's College are proud to be hosting the Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camp for children between 8 and 14 years of age with special needs.

Sunday 26 - Tuesday 28 September 2021

St Peter's College Boarding House

Hackney Road, St Peters

This camp is offered free of charge thanks to the Sony Foundation and the generosity of the school communities involved. The camp will offer a variety of activities including:

- Art and craft
- Dance and music
- Aquatic activities
- Mini fair

The camp involves hosting 15 primary school-aged students who have a significant disability to provide respite care for their families. 15 girls from Year 11 will be carers and a companion over the three-day camp. Five Year 10 Girls will have the opportunity to be involved in the camp as helpers, setting up activities. They will be provided with

training and assisted by the camp coordinating team including nursing staff.

It is wonderful to see service activities being undertaken and an active form of responsible citizenship taking place.

Please contact Bess Smith via [email](#) if you have a child who is interested in participating.



WHOLE SCHOOL

Wilderness Face Masks

[April Ridgway, Director of Communications and Marketing](#)

The School has ordered a range of reusable, washable Wilderness Face Masks for students in Years 7 to 12 that can be ordered online through [Flexischools](#) or in person at the Uniform Shop.

Our Wilderness Face Masks will have an ergonomic shape, three layers of soft material and an adjustable nose wire and straps to give your daughter a secure and comfortable fit.

Show your support!

The second round of Wilderness Supporters Range orders is now open for parents, grandparents and special friends of Wilderness School!

Designed by local company Silver Fleece, the range includes high-quality rugby tops, polo tops, scarves and beanies that can be worn to show your support for our Wilderness girls during school sport, co-curricular activities and intercollegiate competitions.

The second round of orders is now open!

Orders can be placed online through [Flexischools](#) (under special clothing) or in person at the Uniform Shop. Please note orders will need to be placed **4.30pm Wednesday 25 August** or in the shop **before 9am Thursday 26 August**.

Once the orders have arrived in early Term 4, parents will be notified and instructed to collect their purchase from the Uniform Shop.

Should you wish to try on a rugby sample for sizing, the Uniform Shop will have some available to you. Please note, sizing must be correct at the time of order, as we are unable to exchange or return items.

Wear your colours at Intercol

We would love to see our parents and friends in their Wilderness Supporters Range, ordered in the first round, at their daughter's final event tomorrow. If you take any great photos in your supporter gear, email them through to our [communications team](#).

Should you have any questions about the Supporters Range or our Wilderness Face Masks, please contact [Meredith Olsson](#), Uniform Shop Manager.

We hope you join us in proudly wearing our Wilderness range throughout the year.





