Dear Parents and Carers,

At the recently conducted Leavers events the 155 students who made up the historic ‘half cohort’ year 12 group were impressive in their presentation, humble in the acknowledgement of their achievements and grateful for what the college has equipped them with for the future.

This group of ‘early starters’ back in 2002 have completed schooling with varied individual accomplishments but all leave with guidance and encouragement about how they have capacity to create a rewarding future influenced by ‘The Seeker Finds’.

I enjoyed participating in the Mid West Vet in Schools awards, Leavers assembly, Valedictory ceremony and the Mid West Football Academy presentation, and took pride from witnessing the outcomes reported from the collective contributions of parents, school and community groups. Individual award recipients are to be congratulated and become beneficiaries from within a special historic group in this our 75th anniversary year.

My optimism declared at the beginning of 2014 remains and I am confident the effect we have at Geraldton Senior College should be promoted at every opportunity. Students say they like being at the college and parents say they would recommend the school to others. This is what the data from the online survey completed recently by students, staff and parents says.

In thanking you for being supporters of the college and perhaps having shared in the recent events including providing survey feedback, I also urge you to be active in pursuing developments that will impact on the future of secondary schooling in Geraldton.

Garry Simmons
A WORD FROM OUR HEAD GIRL

Year twelves, I address this speech to you. The crowd listening can learn how amazing you all are. Because this is a celebration of you, of what you have achieved. And you have achieved a lot.

I’ve been witness to everything you guys have done. I’ve watched you make mistakes because it’s the only way you really learn. I’ve seen you create memories with each other every time you laugh and smile. I’ve watched you develop life-long friendships, be willing to put your trust in others and give others a reason to trust you. I’ve seen the goodness of your hearts, when you comforted others when they were down or when you lent a helping hand. I felt this goodness every time we asked for donations for charity, because you were always ready to give up what little money you had. I’ve experienced your passion each time you stood up for you what believed in, when you took a stand against the things you believed to be wrong.

And I’ve seen you follow your dreams and in your chase of those dreams, I’ve seen your strength and resilience. I’ve seen the effort you put in with school work and other commitments. I’ve seen your willingness to get back up whenever you were knocked down. You were always there to encourage others when they were ready to give up. I’ve seen the challenges you faced, when you had to figure out the solutions to the problems in front of you. I’ve seen your determination to finish what you’ve started. A determination proven by the fact you are sitting here today.

You’ll achieve those dreams one day because when I look at you I don’t just see young adults, I see scientists, designers, game-makers, travellers, writers, musicians, artists, actors, doctors, star athletes, millionaires, billionaires, and maybe even teachers. I see people who will make a difference to the world, people who’ll do it good.

And in everything I see in you, I can only say that I have never been more proud of anyone than I am of all of you. And I have never been more honoured to call you all my friends. Thank you so much for making it all worth it. Thank you so much for making some of these years the best of my life. Thank you for helping me create memories I will treasure forever. Be proud of how far you’ve come, you have nothing to regret.

I wish you luck, happiness and love in the long journey you have in front of you. It will be tough, but after all that I have seen, I know you’ll be more than fine. You are great people, destined for great things. Don’t forget that and don’t let anyone tell you otherwise.

- Nhut Tran, 2014 Head Girl

VALEDICTORY HONOUR ROLL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellence</th>
<th>Stage 1</th>
<th>Stage 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Information Technology</td>
<td>Amanda Jolley</td>
<td>Lauren Duncan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Management Enterprise</td>
<td>Kayla Sermon</td>
<td>Krystal Taufa</td>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Contemporary Music</td>
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<td>Design Graphics</td>
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<td>Design Photography</td>
<td>Taylah McDonnell</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>English Stag 1 C/D</td>
<td>Ashlee Lancaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Stag 3 A/B</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Science and Technology - Hospitality</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Lauren Duncan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifeskills 12</td>
<td>Alisha Scarff</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Material - Wood</td>
<td>Brody Boyle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics Stag 2 A/B</td>
<td>Brock Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outdoor Education</td>
<td>Olivia Allen</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Education Studies</td>
<td>Jack Te Aho</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual Art</td>
<td>Jade Plester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Art Stag 3</td>
<td>Dayna Petera</td>
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</table>
## Commendation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Information Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Stage 2 C/D</td>
<td>Kayla Sermon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Biological Science</td>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>Nhut Tran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material - Metals</td>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Shannan Aylmore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Stage 1 B/C</td>
<td>Zailieah Nazzari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Stage 1 D/E</td>
<td>Olivia Allen and Shannan Aylmore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Stage 2 C/D</td>
<td>Sam Bullock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Stage 3 C/D</td>
<td>Lauren Duncan</td>
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<td>Modern History</td>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>Dayna Petera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Music</td>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>Teagan Goodfield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Special Awards

- **MLA Student Council Award**: Casey Wiffen
- **Augustus Gregory (Male)**: Steven Redman
- **Augustus Gregory (Female)**: Terina Tito
- **Sportsman of the Year**: Dylan Myers
- **Sportswoman of the Year**: Dainira Papertalk
- **Susette Carr Memorial Citizenship Award**: Mark Mataitoga
- **Richard Pym Award**: Krystal Taufa
- **Caltex All Rounder**: Taen Butcher
- **Westscheme Award for Excellence in Vocational Education and Training**: Kelsey O’Malley
- **Fremasons VET Award**: Ryan Bickley
- **Warlugurra Walgamanynulu - Highest Achiever**: Rhiannon Riley
- **Gigaman Gawala - Highest Achiever**: Nathaniel Clinch
- **P&C College ATAR Dux**: Lauren Duncan
- **P&C College ATAR Dux Runner up**: Dayna Petera
- **Rotary General Studies Dux**: Zoe Wright
- **Rotary General Studies Dux Runner up**: Mahnie Mullender

## Other Notable Awards / Achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECU Year 12 Personal Excellence</td>
<td>Macauley Spackman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADF Long Tan Teamwork &amp; Leadership Award</td>
<td>Brody Boyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrity Award</td>
<td>Axis Hutchinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winner Midwest VET in Schools Cert I and II</td>
<td>Dainira Papertalk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winner Midwest VET in Schools Cert III or Higher</td>
<td>Kelsey O’Malley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Midwest VET in Schools Pre-Apprenticeship in Schools Program</td>
<td>Mark Mataitoga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Midwest VET in Schools School Based Trainee</td>
<td>Will Barrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Midwest VET in Schools Aboriginal School Based Trainee</td>
<td>Maitland Spratt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Midwest VET in Schools Aboriginal School Based Trainee</td>
<td>Myrabelle Ronan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Midwest VET in Schools Certificate I and II</td>
<td>Brenton Wilkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Midwest VET in Schools Education Student</td>
<td>Tahira Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Midwest VET in Schools Education Student</td>
<td>Declan Comeagain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First</th>
<th>Moresby</th>
<th>494</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Chapman</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Greenough</td>
<td>379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Batavia</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>Abrolhos</td>
<td>294</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The year 12 ATAR Art Exhibition saw parents and students surveying the visually spectacular Year 12 art work in the school theatre. The exhibition showcases the final works of ATAR students from Nagle Catholic College and Geraldton Senior College.

The exhibition space was dynamic with four walls hung with quality artwork, some following themes of social commentary, others purely observational studies. Following the exhibition the best work from each student was sent to Perth for external assessment. This contributes to their final Visual Art ATAR mark.

The exhibition award for the best art work from Geraldton Senior College went to Dayna Petera for her piece ‘Hiding’ (pictured right).

Many events were held over the week’s celebrations including class quizzes and visits from guest speakers, including Nola Gregory and returned serviceman Mr Graham Taylor and Mr William Gillespie-Harp.

Radio MAMA held an ‘Outside Broadcast’ from our cafeteria. Presenter Priscilla Bradley gladly took song requests from students in between the interviews.

Dishes including kangaroo curry, kangaroo sausage and damper were handed out to students and guests while guest performer Reno James sang ‘The Country Gentleman’ to the audience.

Thank you to all who attended, we’re looking forward to seeing you at NAIDOC week next year!

Jaymee Usher recently had her art work selected for the ‘Young Originals’ art exhibition. Jaymee’s work “Binary” was selected from hundreds of entries from public secondary schools state wide.

The event which was held at Spectrum Project Space Mt Lawley, is funded by the Western Australian Secondary Schools’ Executive Association in partnership with Edith Cowan University, School of Communication and Arts. Well done Jaymee for being selected in this reputable exhibition.
At the Midwest Clontarf Academy we have a huge focus on giving back to the community. We try and shine a positive light on our program and pump up the reputation and self-esteem of the students involved.

Over the course of the year we’ve been involved in numerous activities such as umpiring footy carnivals, football clinics at primary schools, Holland Street School, Community Art Project at Levy Street Park, tree planting days, Ice Bucket Challenge, Adopt a beach program, Volunteering at the Lighthouse Church, Relay For Life, Amazing races in the CBD and numerous other events.

To go into a bit more detail of some of the bigger events we do on a regular basis sees us start with the Light-house Church. For a number of years now we have taken four year 10 students per week over to the Church to help prepare and serve a free lunch to community members every Wednesday. Our boys help cook, serve the food and then get busy clearing the tables and doing the dishes to help out the other volunteers there. The ladies at the Lighthouse Church love us coming over to help out nearly as much as our boys love going over.

For quite a few years now we have umpired the local primary and secondary football carnivals run by Paul Pirotina, the local Regional Development officer from Sport & Rec. This is a fantastic opportunity for our boys to showcase themselves and gain confidence speaking in front of large groups and it has coincided with them getting assessed as part of their Certificate in Sport & Rec. I know Mr Pirotina is always very grateful to have our lads in charge of the whistles every year.

The biggest event we are a part of is Relay for Life, which is fast becoming a full year fundraising event culminating in 24 hours of walking laps at Eadon Clarke Oval to raise money and awareness for cancer research.

Last year was our first time participating in the relay and we started off small, with three students from each year plus all staff members. This year we are aiming for bigger and better things and have held a number of sausage sizzles at Bunnings over the duration of the year we should be able to donate close to $2000 to the cause as well as having approximately 30 boys plus staff participate in the event on October 25th & 26th.

Every little bit we do in the community hopefully opens a few more eyes as to what great young men we have in our program, but it also gives our lads a boost of intrinsic reward as to how they are helping make our community a better place. If you ever cross paths with anybody while they are doing a positive thing in the community, please stop and give them a shout out of encouragement as it really does lift their self-esteem and only encourages them to do more.

Best-selling author Maureen McCarthy was our Youth Literature Day guest of honour in term 3. Maureen was fantastic at showing the students the intricacies of character development. Also, she was able to answer all the questions about writing for television and making a full-time living from her art.

After meeting the students, Ms McCarthy said she was amazed by the quality of writing that is happening right here in the Midwest. She was also quick to point out that this program is one of the best she has seen in the whole country.

Dr Parry, the librarian, said he was always thrilled to bring students and quality authors together. “What we have here with the Youth Literature Days is ten years of fabulous professional development for teachers, wonderful opportunities for our young writers, and some of the best published authors in the land.”

What a lucky time it has been for our students! To celebrate Big Sky 2014, our students were treated to a talk by Isobelle Carmody, the country’s leading fantasy writer.

“OMG, she was inspirational!” said Chelsea “She told the best stories about growing up with her siblings.”

Writing is alive and well here at Geraldton Senior College!
Top Students

“My top student of 2014 is Brody Boyle, our current deputy head boy” says Mr Ioannidis, Design and Technology teacher. “He put a lot of hard work into D&T this year, and these drawers are definitely proof of that.”

The drawers are made from Marri wood and were finished with a beautiful granite top. “It took me about 15 weeks to finish them.” Brody says “I was considering selling them but I’ve been talked into keeping them for myself.” These drawers are not the first pieces Brody has made. “I made some clock backs for Leon Baker and they’re currently being shown in his store, Leon Baker Jewellers.”

After graduation, Brody is going to get himself a membership at The Menshed so he can continue to make furniture. “The end goal is to become a woodwork teacher,” he says.

Meanwhile, Dainira Papertalk has been named the top jewellery student. “Her work is fantastic,” says Jewellery teacher Mr Clarke, “You’ll be stunned once you see what she has done.”

The necklace (pictured left) took Dainira a total of 5 blocks to make. “I started off by cutting out layers of silver by hand. I then riveted the layers together. My inspiration came from some of the jewellery I work with at my job.”

Dainira works at Baker Williamson Studios, a jeweller and watchmaker studio located at the old railway station here in Geraldton. Dainira will continue to work there after graduating from GSC. We wish Dainira and Brody all the best for the future!

R U OK? Day

The R U OK? Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation that works to encourage people to regularly and meaningfully ask R U OK? to those people in their life who may appear to be struggling.

This year, R U OK? Day fell on Thursday 11th September. Staff and students were encouraged to complete a ‘Warm Fuzzies’ activity during form in an attempt to identify positive attributes about one another and initiate conversations. Students were also encouraged to utilise social media in a positive way to promote R U OK? Day by including #ruok in photos and comments.

A very big thank you goes to all the form teachers and students who actively promoted this cause!

If you are worried about someone follow these steps:

1. Ask, “Are you ok?”
2. Listen without judgement
3. Encourage action
4. Follow-up

(More information can be found at www.ruok.org.au)

- Deb Muscio and Amy Smith.

E-mail Information

Significantly reducing paper use is probably the most important part of curbing deforestation and the environmental havoc wreaked by paper production. If we want to create healthy learning environments for our kids now and in the future, then we need to acknowledge that our paper choices at school and home have a deep impact on their well-being.

In the near future, GSC will be using e-mail to circulate as much information as possible. This includes newsletter distribution, important messages and school updates. Please make sure to submit or update your e-mail address by contacting the school on 9965 8400 or e-mailing your details to geraldtonseniorth@education.wa.edu.au
Spring is in the air and that can only mean one thing – GSC’s annual Spring Dance! 150 students gathered together in the performing arts theatre in early September. The girls were dolled up in beautiful colourful dresses while boys donned button up shirts and sleek hairdos.

Students dined on pizza and danced to tunes provided by Sound Trax Music. “I’m glad they played good music,” says a year 11 student. “Everyone got out on the dance floor and had a really great time.”

Thanks to staff who attended, as well as the parent helpers who kept the (soft) drinks coming all night long.