



Fairbridge College
Kalgoorlie Campus

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1

TERM 1 2020

From the Principal's Desk

We are certainly living through an unprecedented time. This school year started with a new campus in Kalgoorlie and new staff members in Pinjarra and we are ending the term prepared for the possibility of distance/on-line learning. I think it's important to look for the 'silver-lining' in times like these and I can whole-heartedly say that shifting our program to an on-line platform, upskilling staff and implementing unique ways to connect with our students are all things that will move us forward long after this pandemic ends.

I urge all parents/carers to be patient with us and your children during this time. As a school, we will take on feedback about our programs and try to use it to improve the delivery of our services. I'd also like to take this time to remind parent/carers that we are working in partnership with you and I know that schooling at home will not be an easy task. The College will need your support in ensuring the on-going education of your child and we suggest following a few simple rules:

- Maintain school hours - i.e. 9.00 am to 2.30 am Monday to Friday
- Maintain healthy sleeping habits

- Ensure your child is home during school hours to accept calls from staff to assist with their work.

I'd like to close by thanking the dedicated, hard-working and resilient Fairbridge College staff for everything they have done to facilitate the best possible learning experience for our students. I know this hasn't been easy and I know that you have been asked to take on an enormous task. I feel confident that the education of Fairbridge College students will be the best it can possibly be thanks to your efforts.

Jen

Life is 10 per cent what happens and 90 per cent how you deal with it.

Jim Stynes

jimstynes

From the Head of School

This term has raced by and as we opened the doors to our first 15 students, we have slowly grown throughout the term to 20 students. Thank you to all the students, parents and carers who have supported us during this term and grown our community into a positive and caring environment that we all want to be a part of.

We started the year with a focus to create a small library so that students had access to reading a selection of books at any time. The generosity of the local community and even people from as far away as Bunbury allowed us to create a small library in both Jordan and Warwick's classrooms, that all student have been able to utilise. Along with visits to the local library, it is wonderful to see so many students choosing to read and taking advantage of what the Goldfields community has provided us. Thank you from everyone at our school!

The year so far has been a busy one, with students visiting a variety of locations in the Goldfields area. We have seen the success of students building their own bikes from scratch, dropping eggs from the head frame of the museum, cooking a variety of food, attending excursions for photography and completing our first mural to mark the significance and dedication of our foundation class.

The term has also been busy with staff making constant changes and upskilling themselves to learn new resources and training as we learn more about our students' needs. Staff have spent their weekends completing First Aid, Gatekeeper training and now, with everything going on, learning how to move their lessons into virtual classrooms. I have been the lucky one who is also going back to my younger years and putting my L plates up, so I can learn to drive our new bus that arrived mid-term. I look forward to being able to take a longer trip in the bus as it is pretty comfy.

Term 1 also saw the completion of our internal wall to segregate the College from the Camp School. The wall has hinges which allows for students to move freely between the spaces and still utilise the Camp School when there are no visitors. It was great to see so many students identify the Fairbridge Tree in the design.

I would personally like to thank every student for the ongoing respect, dedication and kindness that you show to each other and the staff. As the first group of students to attend Fairbridge College you are doing us proud and we can not wait for what Term 2 will offer us.

Jayde



Introducing...

Bec– My name is Rebecca Kinsella, but better known as Bec. It has been a great privilege to be one of three teachers involved in starting a new CARE school in Kalgoorlie. I am proud of what we have achieved so far.

A bit more about me, however. I graduated as a teacher in the U.K. in 2001 and emigrated to Australia with my husband in 2005. We have travelled around Australia a fair amount and have visited some fantastic places and met some great people along the way. We do call Wollongong home, as we have a beach house there and it is where I raised my 3 kids while they were little.

Now we are on an adventure in Kalgoorlie, as we travelled from NSW across the Nullarbor. We don't know where this adventure will take us. So far, we have been part of opening this school and my husband has opened a, 'Ço-working space,' so we might be in Kalgoorlie a while. I enjoy being outdoors, whether that's in the bush or on the beach or pottering around in the garden. My family is quite relaxed and take most things in our stride.

Just a final note that I wish you all the best during these challenging times.

Jordan - My name is Jordan Davis and I've just moved to the Goldfields, for a second time, with my wife and baby boy. I have worked in prisons, as a youth worker, and in schools in Perth and Coolgardie. I love photography, writing Haikus, sport, and baking chocolate chip cookies!

Warwick - I was born in Subiaco, Western Australia in 1981 but grew up in the small country community of Meekatharra. I am a Yamatji (Naaguja) Martu (Tjiparn) man and have worked in the Education and Training field for the last 13 years, mostly as an Assistant or Officer. For the last 4 years however, I have been studying to become a qualified teacher and aim to complete that by the end of this year. I enjoy working with disadvantaged students which is why I have chosen to be a part of Fairbridge's newly formed Kalgoorlie Campus.

Meri - Hi all, a little bit about myself, my name is Meredith. I am married, and myself and my husband have five children. My youngest child has just started school full time, so now it's my turn to get out into the workforce.

I'm currently studying. I have been extremely lucky to have the privilege to be able to volunteer at Fairbridge College and meet some truly amazing children and work alongside some of the most caring teachers. Fairbridge isn't just a school it's almost like a family and I'm thankful to be able to be a part of it.



Bec's Bag of Treasures

Term 1 started with a week of fun activities for the new staff and students. The games such as, 'Minute to win it', 'Crate trust', 'Team Games' and the popular 'Noodle Hockey' were a great way to get to know each other and start developing authentic and trusting relationships. As the first week ended with very high temperatures the water battle was a great way to cool down and finish the week. Everyone's competitive streak was definitely on show!

The mural painting was started during Week 1 and has continued to develop over the term. All students and staff who have been a part of the school from the beginning are represented on the Mural by some fantastic initial designs.

My class has achieved some great success and many students are starting to develop a growth mindset. They have been visiting the local library every fortnight and undertaking daily independent learning. The students have really enjoyed their first Math Pathways cycle, and many were proud of their individual growth during their first teacher led reflections.

The students in our class have had fun getting messy and making a mess in some of their STEM lessons. They started with tie-dying their library bags. Play dough making, sherbet making, and slime were also a success. Many students enjoyed making more stress balls out of rice and slime for the classroom.

The whole school has come together most Fridays for reward excursions which have included trips to the cinema, Oasis swimming pool, and a few sausage sizzles at local parks.

The cooking project has also been a great success and all students have enjoyed eating what they have cooked. We have made: Weetbix Tropical Fruit Slice, Pizza Wraps, Chocolate Chip Cup Cakes, Baked Beans Curry and Homemade Pattie burgers.



Bec



Warwick's Wrecking Crew

Term 1 has been extremely positive for Warwick's Life Skills and Projects classes. Although the first week was a period of fun-filled games and activities, since then the students have engaged in programs that are both confidence building and engaging. Life skills has been divided into two learning areas which are Visual Arts and Protective Behaviours. For projects, Warwick's Wrecking Crew have been fixing and restoring old bikes and bringing them to their former glory!

The visual arts aspect of life skills has seen us explore the use of lines in all forms of art that range from Aboriginal and Maori traditions, action art and more modern forms such as graffiti and street art. For Protective Behaviours we have learned to listen to the warning signs that our bodies tell us when feeling unsafe, as well as the methods that others can use to manipulate us, particularly in the area of advertising. For our bike program, we have learned the basic mechanics involved to repair old bikes, recycling old parts and budgeting and planning when buying new parts.

Overall, Warwick's Wrecking Crew participants have been awesome in their abilities to adapt to the new learning centre that is Fairbridge College and overcoming the challenges that have come with such a change. The personal and emotional growth that they have displayed toward the end of this term has been evident and we as a school community look forward too many more positive changes as the year continues.



Warwick

Jordan's Corner

During our first couple of months, my class (accidentally, but aptly nicknamed Positive Sauce) has engaged with a variety of activities inside and outside the classroom. The students developed devices to keep an egg safe when dropped from various heights using only a few supplies. This creative engineering activity culminated in a trip to the Museum of the Goldfields to drop the devices over 18 metres from the Headframe. I introduced weekly topical discussions in our HaSS class through a unit called Jordan's News for You. We engaged in lively debates about the legality/ wisdom of extreme body modification, shark culling, and the merits of corporal/ capital punishment among several other topics; it was always an interesting way to start the week!

We also had some hard-hitting Morning Circle discussions during which this class showed maturity, vulnerability, and compassion. The term has been full of wonderful excursions: swimming at Goldfields Oasis, rock climbing, library trips, seeing Sonic the Hedgehog at Orana Cinemas, and multiple sport/sausage sizzle park trips.

This first term at Fairbridge College in Kalgoorlie has been challenging but fulfilling and I look forward to what the rest of the year holds.

Jordan



From the Eyes of Our Students

“I think Fairbridge College, Kalgoorlie is good because they help you out if you don't know things like Maths. What I like most about Fairbridge College, Kalgoorlie is that I have a small class and no annoying people 24/7”

Aaron

“My favourite thing we have done at Fairbridge College so far is to find out where I am at with Learning. I also like the small class and the people in my class “

TS

“I felt bad and terrible at the start of the term because I wanted to go back to ‘another school’. But then when I came here, I realised that there were not many kids here which was good.”

Year 9 Student

“ My first year at this new school is the best choice for the career path I am looking to go to and going to this school I get the chance to be one on one with a teacher and students because of the small classes”

Harry





27 th April 2020	ANZAC Day- Public Holiday
28 th April 2020	First Day Back for Term 2
1 st June 2020	WA Day- Public Holiday
3 rd July 2020	Last Day Term 2 2020

Attendance Stars

The following students had the **at least** 90% attendance this term:

Kiara Lee
Harry Webb
Aiden Cotter
Brody O'Neil
TR

Tenaya Stevenage
Wiki Moeau-Feterika
Aaron Marwick
Bailey Brown
JM



SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep up to date with things at Fairbridge College!

