



**Fairbridge College**  
Kalgoorlie Campus

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5

TERM 1 2021

## From the Executive Principal's Desk

This has been a term like none other! The campuses of Fairbridge College started in very different ways with 'business as usual' in Kalgoorlie and masks and lockdown in Pinjarra. After a successful school year in 2020, the campus in Kalgoorlie now begins to grow its student numbers. Growth is an exciting time but it also brings new challenges, especially in the form of changes to routines and school culture. During this time, we must remember to use our College values as guiding principles for how we wish to conduct ourselves and move forward as a school. I'd like to remind everyone in the community to be gentle and understanding with one another --- we are all trying our best to deal with change and provide an engaging student-centred learning experience for all of the young people enrolled at the College.

To facilitate strong working relationships within the College community, we have codes of conduct for staff, students and parents/carers. These codes guide our interactions and act as a reference point when things don't go smoothly. When considering expectations for students' learning and behaviour, we use the student code of conduct to make decisions and determine consequences. While maintaining high expectations for our students, we also try to remain flexible and responsive to individual needs and circumstances. When considering

their interactions with students and parents/carers, College staff also have a code of conduct that must be followed. In this regard, good professional practice, respect for people, confidentiality and boundaries are essential. Finally, when considering their interactions with the College, parents/carers should refer to their code of conduct and the commitment they made to supporting what we do. I completely understand that parents/carers want what is best for their students and sometimes they may not agree with a decision or a direction taken by the College. In this instance, I would like to encourage parents/carers to *work* through concerns and issues with staff and, in particular, communicate with the Campus Principal. By all working together as a community, we can achieve world-class outcomes for the young people who are at the centre of what we do.

This year will surely be one of the most exciting times in our short history. I feel confident that everything that we are doing and planning for the year will set us up for success in the future. This term, the staff and students have regularly showed their grit and resilience and, for this reason, deserve a well-earned break during this school holidays. I hope that everyone has a chance to rest and recharge and I look forward to seeing what is in store for Term 2!

*Jen*

## From the Campus Principal

I would like to start this newsletter celebrating our One Year Anniversary. To the staff and students who have been with us from the beginning, I thank you for the support you have shown the school, your determination to make education a positive learning experience for everyone and the grit you have demonstrated through the hurdles we have all had to overcome is inspiring. To the students and staff who have joined us along the way, each one of you brings value and an understanding of each other that has allowed our school community to flourish and grow. Each person in the college, including our parents and carers has a part to play in the school and I will always be thankful for the people young and old who join us in our journey.

This term our school has had a real focus on our school's values, Inclusivity, Grit, Growth and Safety. Students have been discussing these values and what they mean personally and to their peers. That understanding of each other and our differences is what allows the school to work harmoniously and respectfully. The students' dedication in ensuring all people within the school community feel safe and included demonstrates the ongoing maturity they are developing. There have been many incidences this term of external community groups and people visiting the school exclaiming how polite and respectful the students of Fairbridge College are. Guardians, we hope you are as proud of your child as we are.

It has been an exciting term as all classes focused on the theme of water, with some classes exploring trips to Lake Douglas comparing summer vs winter water conditions, examining the CY O'Connor pipeline, experimenting with salinity and the effects on different plants or looking at aquatic animals. Each class explored the topic differently and it was wonderful see, as I walked around the school, the level of engagement both inside the class and out. It was only fitting we finish the term off with a splash at Oasis Swimming Pool.

As we move into Term 2 students will start exploring 'ethical understanding' as the new topic. I ask all parents and guardians if students have some tricky questions that can't be answered, remind them we are here to listen. A question not asked is a question not answered.

The start of Term 2 will see us welcoming Marnie to our team as an Education Assistant as well as Jayne and Delroy our school psychologists up to Kalgoorlie for on site visits. From everyone here at the college, have a wonderful Easter break, we look forward to welcoming all our students back on the Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April.



*Jayde*

## Warwick's Crew

This year has seen many students apply for and begin workplace positions within local businesses around Kalgoorlie, all of whom have been very accommodating to our students and their needs. From mechanic workshops, car detailing places and aeroplane hangars, 2021 has seen that our work placement and experience program has got off to a flying start. There are still many students who have yet to put their hand up for positions, but I will continue to work with them as the year unfolds.

Fairbridge Kalgoorlie will officially like to thank the following business' thus far that have supported our students; JG Car detailing, Goldfields Air Services, Spurtys Mechanical, MEEDAC, J&J Motorcycles and BMG Gaming Lounge.

Below is Aiden who will be heading to the BMG Gaming Lounge and Aaron who is currently with JG Detailing.

*Warwick*

## Camp Update

Notes for camp went on the last week of term for all students and parents to read, if you have not received one can you please let your child's TAG teacher know, so that they can be returned by the 14 April 2021. Camp will run from the 21-24 April 2021.

The students will be visiting Point Peron Camp School in Rockingham and will be participating in a range of activities including archery, laser tag, ropes courses and water activities. We will send home the completed timetable and more information confirming the details and packing list.

This camp is a reward camp for students who consistently follow the school's Code of Conduct and demonstrate Fairbridge College's Values, Grit, Growth, Inclusivity and Safety.

*Warwick and Jayde*



## Jordan's Corner

Term 1 of 2021 has flown by; it feels like the year just started and now we are about  $\frac{1}{4}$  through it! In my class we began the term with discussions about stereotypes and flowed into lessons on language and different dialects of English (Australian, British, and American). We analysed and created poems that centred around the theme of water. Students delved into a study of the Marshall Islands and learned about the threats faced by rising and warming oceans. The class learned about the Great Barrier Reef and gained an appreciation for ocean food chains and food webs. The class took a break from its aquatic theme to turn its gaze to politics in the week leading up to the state election. Students worked in groups to create their own political parties and even held a mock election (complete with donkey votes!) for their favourite local eatery using the preferential system.

Outside of the classroom we enjoyed several walks designed to teach the class how to focus on their senses and settings. I think one of the highlights of the term was our weekly YMCA visits which provided a high energy physical fitness opportunity. However, my favourite activity of the term was giving each student the time and space to create a mini-lesson for the rest of the class about her/ his area of interest. It was incredibly heartening to see the willingness and bravery of several of the students to stand up in front of the class and present.

During Period 5, I ran a weekly activity called Tasty United Nations; students learned a bit about a different country each week and got to try a few foods or drinks from that country (South Korean food was a big hit, aside from Kimchi). It was wonderful to see so much excitement for an unashamedly educational P5 activity, but perhaps even more thrilling was the fact that every week students asked where I purchased the food that they tried so they could find it themselves. I am excited for everything that Term 2 will hold and look forward to continuing the growth and development of our students.

*Jordan*



## Andrea's Circle

Term 1 has been exciting one getting to know returning students and welcoming new students into our classroom community!

In Life Skills we've been participating in different physical activities to develop health and skill related goals. Each student set an individual SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound) goal for the term. Some of our goals included improving footy kicking skills, exercising 20 minutes daily and increasing the intensity level of exercise. To help us achieve our goals we've visited local parks to practice our footy skills, enjoyed weekly walking excursions to the YMCA to play basketball, dodgeball and soccer and we've even tried fitness circuits in the classroom! Our fitness journals helped us reflect on our progress towards our term goals and think critically about how much sleep, water and healthy foods we include in our day to day lives.

Our Year 10 students are starting to organise their Friday Work Placement Learning, identifying career pathways and gaining job-ready skills and knowledge! In class we are also exploring potential career pathways and have started volunteering on Fridays for the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group (KBULG) Community Nursery in Karlkurla Bushland Park. At the plant nursery we've been practicing professional communication, building our skill sets and helping our local community.

Our volunteer work in the plant nursery tied in closely with our STEM unit on ecosystems and classifications. In class we've been learning about food webs and how changes in population to one organism effect the entire web. Students have shown good growth and achievement in their Math Pathways modules and have enjoyed recording their progress each cycle and setting SMART goals during their reflection.

In HaSS we investigated where our water in Kalgoorlie and Australia comes from, how much water we use daily, issues of water scarcity in developing countries and how we can be part of the solution.

My highlight from Period 5 activities this term has been Laps for Life. This program raises awareness for young people experiencing mental health issues by getting people out and exercising our bodies, swimming in the pool. Students set a goal for themselves and demonstrated great GRIT as they tried to beat their personal best from the week before.

Thank you to all the students for the warm welcome to Kalgoorlie and Fairbridge. Looking forward to Term 2!

*Andrea*



## Getting Down to Business with Gil

Hi everyone, Yuwa Bulloonah,

This term has seen some amazing learning from our room with some fabulous 21st Century Skills such as communication, initiative, team-work and persistence shining through each and every student. As humans we are constantly developing, and our students are no different. These 21st Century Skills are vital for being effective community members. We have undertaken an inquiry project into plants and their needs for water. We separated into three groups, took a visit to KBULG at Karkurla Park and bought three of the same plants. We then fed them 10ml of liquid every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. One plant got 10ml of salt, another 10ml of coffee and the last 10ml of water. We all tried to predict what would occur. After just two days it was clear to see that salt water was not the plants friend as the students observed every one watered with the salt water was drooping. After a few weeks, surprisingly, the only plants still thriving were the ones fed with the coffee solution. All plants have now been planted in our back area in the hope that they will thrive and survive.

We have created some clay figurines. This initially came from the reading of our class story *Ä Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park. It is a true story based on two narratives of people in Southern Sudan. One a girl Nya who lives in and around 2008, and the second a boy named Salva who lives in and around 1985. Initially we heard of Salva, who with his brothers were responsible for the raising of cows, but in their spare time made cows from clay which turned into a game with his brothers. Hence, we made our own clay creatures. This story has grasped the imagination of the students who sit mesmerised by the tale. It is a great opportunity to develop a love of reading, gain comprehension and understanding, relate things to their own lives. Salva's story, we found out today, has gone on for over 10 years now. Initially he was a young boy, now he is becoming a leader to those around him, still running from war and finding safe spaces to be.



The Period 5 activities I have run this term range from the Propel Youth Sketchbook Project which saw students register and commit to completing drawings in a small sketchbook. These have now been sent back to Perth and will eventually be on display, not just in Perth but here in Kalgoorlie at our local library. I can not wait until we can visit these.

We have also done cooking regularly where I take requests of students want to make and put a healthier spin on it, sometimes to their liking and at other times not so much. The following week the students write a brief review on the food and give it a rating out of five.



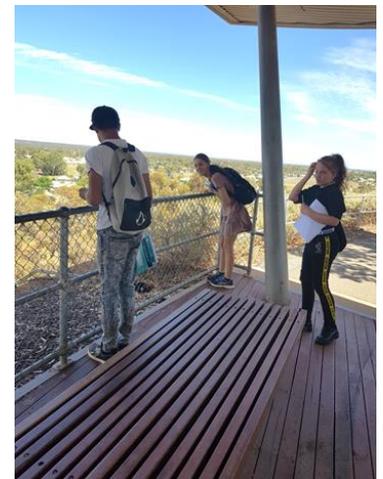
*Gil*

## What's Happening in Janelle's Space

My first term at Fairbridge College has been a blast! I have had the pleasure of welcoming many wonderful new students, getting to know them and watching their individuality and merits emerge. Driving the bus has given me the opportunity to see more of who our students are becoming outside of the classroom, too. Being somewhere between a teacher and an assistant in all classrooms is becoming more rewarding each day and I am so excited about their potential – I can't wait to see them exceed their own educational expectations. As I get to know them, my ideas for period 5 activities are becoming more popular and successful, too. I really enjoyed the drawing excursions and some of us are gearing up for some serious strength training in Term 2!

I graduated with a Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours) in 2011, by which time I had noticed a general exclusionary nature of the visual arts and decided that it had little potential for making a positive difference to the people that I would have wanted it to. There also weren't many available jobs in the field. I finally gave in to my obvious passion for teaching and completed a Masters of Teaching in Early Childhood. I first started teaching in Newman with all ages of primary school and my second full-time teaching role was in Kalgoorlie, so I have been living in Kalgoorlie for a while now. They say that the first two years of teaching are the hardest and admittedly, I am very happy to have some time in an assistant role where I can also teach from time to time.

My favourite things to do at Fairbridge College are pottering in the garden, going on drawing excursions and strength training. Mostly, I just love finding activities that different students enjoy doing for Period 5. I am very keen to get a music program started, but I need more interest! I am excited for strength training in Term 2, where we will receive our super cool resistance bands and an inspiring prize for the most improved!

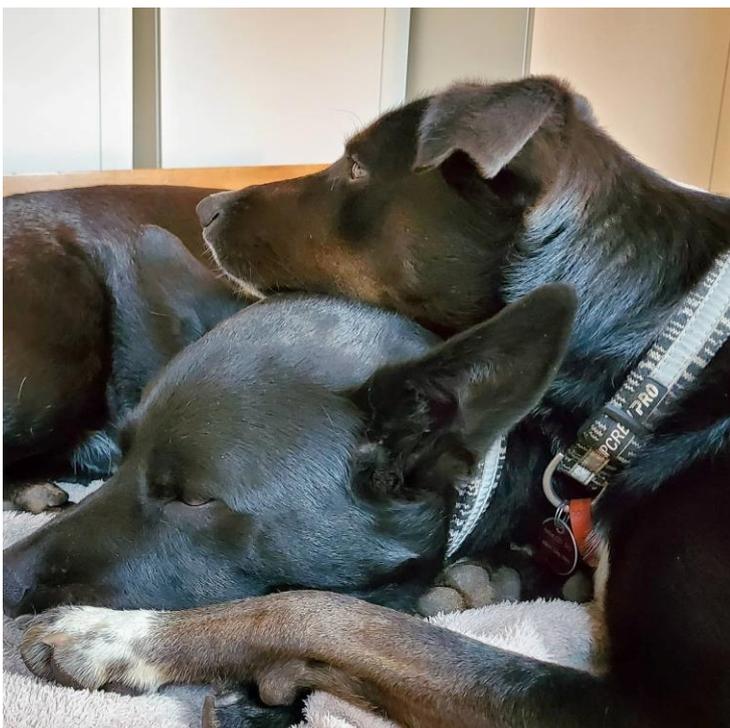


## Meet Jayne and Her Dogs



Hi Goldfields! Our names are Dug the Dog and Gal (also a dog, but Jayne didn't give me the extra bit with my name. I don't know why?). We have been working with Jayne, a Psychologist, at Fairbridge for 3 years. Most of you have already met Jayne, and some of you met Dug on camp last year, so we want to say "Hi!" to all the new students too, and here's a pic of Jayne and our larger brothers and sisters. We know you haven't met them yet!

Jayne wants us to remind you to take care of yourselves over the Easter break. Jayne will see you all soon IN PERSON and we hope the dogs can come too. If you need some help whilst school is on a break, perhaps you feel sad, or lonely or even angry please contact Kids Helpline [KidsHelpline.com.au](https://www.kidshelpline.com.au) for "webchat" or a call.





19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	First Day Back for Term 2
26 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Western Australia Day Public Holiday
21-24 June 2021	School Camp
2 July 2021	Last day of Term 2 for students and staff

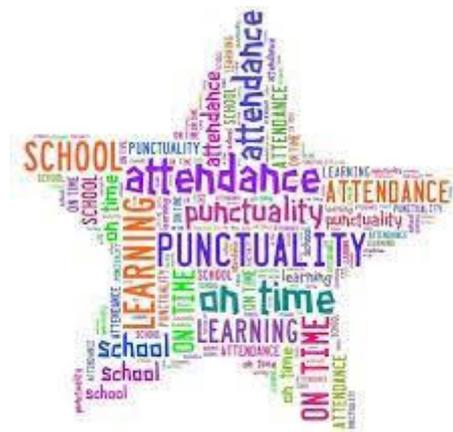
## Attendance Stars

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

Harry  
Ben  
Abe

Skyla  
Tenaya  
Holly

Jayden  
Janos  
Brody



## SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep up to date with things at Fairbridge College!

