

FLEXI NEWS

Newsletter December 4, 2024

PRINCIPAL NEWS

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Important Dates

TERM FOUR finishes for young people on **Thursday 5 December 2024**

TERM ONE 2025 starts for young people on **Wednesday 5 February 2025**

NO SCHOOL **Friday 7 February 2025** Student Free Day.

Dear Flexi Friends and Families

HO Ho ho!!!! It's hard to believe the end of the academic year has arrived. However, I guess that is what happens when there is so much happening every day at Geraldton Flexible School. This year has seen many adjustments and changes. I am extremely proud of our young people and staff how they have adapted and supported each other through this transition process. The highlights of these changing times are moving to our new school facility. This is a state-of-the-art facility we are all very excited to be sharing our teaching and learning. To celebrate our move into our new school we have had two fantastic open days which have seen our surrounds being blessed and smoked to ensure all the best spirits and positivity is with us each and every day.

Next year we are looking forward to continuing great work in all the flexi programs we design and deliver by our very dedicated team of teachers, youth workers and admin team. However, none of this would be possible without the ongoing support of our families, carers and agencies who walk

side by side with us each day to improve the lives and opportunities of each young person who attends.

While we will continue to have a flexible and alternative approach to the curriculum and social supports we have in place, we will be focusing on engaging our young people with a focus on literacy and numeracy underpinning all we do.

In the meantime, have a safe and happy holiday and I look forward to your return when young people start on Wednesday 5 February 2025.

Wishing you all a Merry Xmas and

Happy New Year

Lynette English

Principal



RED GROUP

What a fantastic year it has been for staff and young people in the Red Group. I still recall the first day we returned Flexi this year in January. A lot of planning happened in term one about programs and safety plans for our young people. Over the past 10 months our young people have experienced lot of success in their Individual Education Plans. Since there are so many valuable and meaningful learning experiences that were planned and delivered throughout the year, we will only give you a snapshot of the highlights of our young people learning journey in each learning area.

Every young person was required set their individual goal at the beginning of each term. While most of them were able to set their own goals while others needed staff support and guidance to complete that task. The goals setting was a productive activity to encourage all young people to take control of their own learning. The Ready to Learn plan was also a valuable tool for young people to let us know when they are ready to learn and their expectations on their own learning journey. We encourage every young person to set high expectations and taught them how to overcome obstacle and challenges they may encounter when attempting to achieve their goals

The ***literacy program*** focuses on developing our young people receptive skills such as listening and expressive skills. Young people were able to practice their listening skills by watch motivational videos and then complete a knowledge quiz. The results of the quizzes were outstanding. All young people scored 70% or higher in these knowledge quizzes. Their scores confirms that they were listening and able to find the correct answers when testing their understanding. For those who were attending TAFE they had to apply their listening skills throughout the day so that complete all the tasks required to complete each module successfully. Congratulation to the young people who completed the courses successfully. Observing the social interactions between the young people and staff also demonstrated young people understanding about using respectful language during any type of social interaction with familiar and unfamiliar people. We provided a lot of opportunities for formal and informal discussion during class activities. It was fantastic that some young people took this activity seriously and expressed their opinions and thoughts in a tactful and respectful manner. Staff encourage all young people to participate group activity, but it was not imposed on anyone. Young people knew that they could opt out of group discussion and activity id they were not comfortable.

Receptive and expressive skills such as reading, writing and comprehending were also part of the literacy program. We took into consideration the diversity of our young people and build on their knowledge of how language work in their culture. We believe that our literacy program has empowered our young people and contributed to personal growth.

Our **Mathematic program** focused on the practical application of knowledge, skills and understandings in basic maths operation to solve measurement and money in a range of environments and everyday situations. All maths activities that were planned targeted different level where young people will work at the level, they are comfortable. We always encourage our young people to choose a level that can be challenging and meaningful for them. A few young people have completed financial literacy modules in Certificate 1 and Certificate II level. Well done to those young people who took on the challenge to trial these Financial Literacy packages. The evident of the progress that our young people have made in Numeracy confirms our belief that many young people are capable of doing a Certificate II next year. We are looking forward to assist and support those who are willing to consider working towards a Vocational course next year

The **Work Studies** (Career Education) program focused on providing learning experiences about the importance and components of self-directed and lifelong learning. Our Young people had completed numerous activities that explore skills and personal qualities associated with a range of occupations. The importance of teamwork and communication in work environment we also discussed. Young people understand the difference between hard and soft skills why these skills are important when applying for jobs. The most rewarding activity that help young people to understand themselves is the relevance of self-assessment of their self-awareness, personal attributes and trait in the career planning process. Young people have a good understanding of themselves and what things they are good at and the areas they need improvement.



Wellbeing: Red Class prioritises the well-being of young people. Our goal is to cultivate a caring and encouraging atmosphere where every young person feels heard and respected. Our goal is to give young people the tools that they need to succeed academically, socially, and emotionally, including stress-relieving activities and mental health resources. We support honest discussions, cultivate wholesome connections, and provide direction to assist young

people participating in overcoming obstacles in and out of the classroom. Anyone who works at Flexi is working to create a culture where young person's well-being is the top priority.

Upon reflection over the past 12 months, we can honestly see a vast improvement in each and every young person in the RED group. Every young person in that group is unique and brought a different flavour to the classroom. We have never experienced any conflict between the young people in our group because our teaching practices focus on preparing them to be tolerant resilient and persistent. Unfortunately, it is sad to say goodbye to some young people who are leaving us at the end of this year. We are saying farewell to Kayden Pearce Flynn Berta, Dean Delaney, Ethan Gellatly, Malachi Fraser and Slayde Crawford. Many of them will be undertaking further education at TAFE and other educational institution. Well done boys. We are proud of your achievements and thank you for allowing us to walk beside you in your learning journey at Flexi.



PURPLE GROUP

This year in the purple class we have been very busy. We have had a few 'career tasters' at TAFE in which we all had a ball learning about the different courses that TAFE has to offer. The career tasters we did were Art, and we designed our own skateboard art, and the next one was horticulture, and we made Kokodamus. During these sessions we were taught many aspects of the course outlines and what we needed to obtain if we picked any of the courses. We also had the opportunity of doing a quick course on safety harnessing when working on a mine site.

We went on 2 camps this year the first one we went up to Kalbarri and learnt about Nanda country from one of the Indigenous Rangers up there and the 2nd camp we went on was to Perth and we stayed at Swan Valley Adventure Camp this camp was about team building and co-operation.

A few of the purple students have joined in the music program which was held every Thursday at PCYC.

Gemma and Nigel



YELLOW GROUP

This semester the Yellow Group welcomed Courtney to the teaching team, to join Jo and Jodie. We've continued our Bundiyarra program, completing artworks that use symbolism to express our families. There's been lots of participation in community events, one of which was the Mingenew Expo.

We have also been to the PCYC and the beach during the Outdoor Adventure Based Learning program. The girls have been cooking up a storm with sausage rolls and churros on the menu. Yellow group junior girls also attended the junior camp, which was held in the Swan Valley in Perth. It was lovely to see the girls push themselves out of their comfort zone and try new experiences. Great attendance and attitudes throughout the semester. We are proud of everything these young people are achieving!



Kind regards
The yellow team.



ORANGE GROUP

This term orange group welcomed the arrival of Indiana Hotereni, a distinguished educator with a breadth of experience and teaching practice to Flexible School, and respectively to their learning space.

With Orange group's invaluable Youth Worker, Maddy Graham, we have worked together to re-set classroom settings and habits of learning in a gentle but deliberate way.

Highlights from the young people in orange group this term have included:

- their openness to learning as they continue to push past comfort zones.
- their curiosity and courage to follow new routines in the classroom, and
- their unique way of connecting and forming meaningful interactions with Indiana – Orange group way.



BLUE GROUP

Term 4, 2024 has been dedicated to educational development through learning and exploration.

We have engaged in learning to cook different foods, taking care of our class garden area, working together on projects, school camp in Perth and many more wonderful things we have shared.

We have established a daily routine, checking in to see if we are ready to learn, having a learning goal and someone to help us when we need it. Everyone has participated in daily journal writing and building reading and comprehension capacity with the Reader Box program.

We have had lots of hands-on project-based learning with our outdoor garden project growing coastal resilient plants, tomatoes and potting up palms. We have been recycling outdoor furniture that was being thrown out and given it a new life. Our art enterprise project has been something that everyone took part in with great visual results with the aim to sell sets to pay for our end of term fish and chip celebration lunch.

Together, we have explored avenues like a visit to Headspace to help keep track of our wellbeing and our mental health.

We have embraced the land beneath our feet on beach walks, our amazing ocean swims that have cleansed the mind, body and soul, whilst watching our little blue class build some amazing friendships and come closer together as a whole.

We have also been focusing on the 4 principals at Flexi

Respect, Honesty, Safe and Legal and Participation.

These are introduced as a daily reminder as to what “Flexi” is all about.

Learning to **Respect** each other, **Stay safe and legal** in our community and our surroundings. **Participation**, having a go, stepping out of your comfort zone, being **Honest** towards one another also helps create kindness, resilience and respectful boundaries within our school.

Well done Blue for all your hard work

Have a very Merry Christmas and safe New Year.

Can't wait to see your smiling faces in 2025

Dee and Berni 😊



GREEN GROUP

It has been a busy year for the green program, and we thank the boys for their participation over the year.

We are proud of the things that the boys have achieved this year and look forward to working with them in 2025.

This term we have been involved with the Outdoor Adventure Based Learning run by Glen. Part of this program is following instructions and participating in a bike ride. Through this the boys follow the 4 Principles with a focus on being Safe and Legal.

We have also spent time at PCYC where we have participated in basketball, table tennis and have spent time in the gym developing healthy habits. We were also fortunate to be included in the music program that is run through PCYC. It was great to see the boys getting involved.

Some of the young people have visited GRAMS and Real Futures to plan their pathway forward. At GRAMS they applied for Centrelink ID and through Real Futures they have opened bank accounts, worked on their driver's license and exploring their job prospects.

Other learning activities have included being coached by a Buccs player and participating in basketball skill sessions. They have also developed their swimming skills through lessons at the Aquarena.

Well done on a great year.

Mike and Katie



OUTDOOR ADVENTURE BASED LEARNING (OABL) SEMESTER TWO



A giant thankyou to young people and Flexi staff for making OABL an enjoyable learning experience for all this semester. What didn't we do? We ran, biked, swum, hiked, climbed, jumped, first aided, crowned champions, learned more about ourselves, culture, being outdoors, challenged and encouraged each other, laughed, cried, watched the whale migration, enjoyed wildflower time, the list goes on.

Have a good, safe and healthy summer holidays then let's do it all again next year folks.