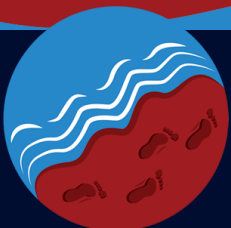




2020 Term 1




AISWA

**Future Footprints
Newsletter**

From the Future Footprints Team



What an interesting start to 2020!

We began the year with our new staff member, Andrew Beck, who joins Lisa Fieldhouse as Aboriginal Education Consultant. We held a fantastic Welcome to Country in February at Burswood park, with nearly all 17 schools attending. School visits and activities were going well, with many more planned throughout the year, before everything got put on hold due to coronavirus. We have cancelled or postponed many of our Term 2 events, but we hope to hold many of these later in the year, or move onto to exciting events next year.

The Future Footprints team is currently working from home, we are still here to support you via email, phone, or video meeting. Please reach out if you need support.






POST YOUR HOME SCHOOLING
SET UP WITH

#FFPFamily

FUTURE FOOTPRINTS WILL
COLLECT THEM AND POST IN
A WEEKLY ALBUM



Future Footprints will be active on social media in the coming weeks, in this time of physical distance it is important we all stay connected. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and make sure to use the hashtag **#FFPFamily** when posting photos of your life living through the pandemic. We'd love to see the creative ways our students are distance schooling and the activities you are getting up to.

Welcome to Country

This year we decided to run our annual Welcome to Country at Burswood Park on the banks of the Derbarl Yirrigan. The Welcome Ceremony is traditionally given by a Whadjuk Elder to the Future Footprints students in the second week of Term One. It is protocol for Aboriginal people when entering someone else's Country to signal your intentions and be accepted into their country. A ceremony shows respect for the traditional custodians. We were fortunate this year to have Shaun Nannup a Whadjuk Leader to welcome students who come from all over Western Australia onto Noongar Country. He talked to them about staying strong and connected to country, talk their mother tongue, and respect the land they are on. He shared a message of hope and empowerment and encouraged the students to strive to succeed. He invited each student to walk through a smoking ceremony and had a representative from each school come to the river and throw sand in the water to symbolise who they are and to let the good spirits know they have come to Perth and wish for protection.

The day also gives the students a chance to meet up with fellow students or siblings from other schools. Students also network and develop friendships with other support networks; such as the scholarship partners, supporters, community members, parents and school staff in attendance. In developing these networks students will know that they are not alone in their pursuit of education. We are very fortunate to have the support of parliamentarians Patrick Gorman MLA Perth and Hon Samantha Roe MLC, both commented that the day was terrific and very meaningful and respectful.

This year we wanted the students to be involved in a joint dance as a movement of coming together and showcasing our strong connection to land, country and culture. We had emerging leaders Derek Nannup Jnr and Rikkeeta Walley run small workshops with the students learning some basic dance movements. We then all collaborated together in a huge circle to dance with some students playing the didgeridoo while everyone else danced. This was a huge highlight that students are still talking about it.







Term 1 Camp

We had a beautiful family atmosphere at our Term 1 boarders' midterm camp, with ten students in Cockburn. Students enjoyed many activities, including laser tag, Bounce trampolining, Adventure World and Sonic the Hedgehog at the movies—plus trying out every playground in the neighbourhood!

The Term 2 camp has been cancelled.



Coronavirus Information - ABSTUDY

Which of these payments are parents of boarding students entitled to?

ABSTUDY Living Allowance recipients **will be entitled** to receive the **first Economic Support Payment** of \$750 (provided they reside in Australia and are eligible for ABSTUDY Living Allowance at any time between 12 March 2020 to 13 April 2020).

ABSTUDY Living Allowance recipients are **also entitled** to receive the additional **fortnightly Coronavirus Supplement** of \$550 per fortnight commencing from 27 April 2020 (provided they continue to meet eligibility requirements for ABSTUDY Living Allowance throughout this period).

ABSTUDY Living Allowance recipients will **not be entitled** to receive the **second Economic Support Payment** of \$750 as they cannot be eligible if they receive the fortnightly Coronavirus Supplement of \$550

Do these payments go to school or the families?

The **first Economic Support Payment** and the **Coronavirus Supplement** are intended to be paid to the student or if the student is under 18, to their parent/guardian. It is not to be paid to boarding schools, hostels or private boarding providers.

Further information on these payments, and the respective eligibility requirements for ABSTUDY Living Allowance recipients, is available online at:

<https://www.dss.gov.au/about-the-department/coronavirus-covid-19-information-and-support>.

Moordtij by Moonlight

This year Wesley College teamed up with Guildford Grammar School, St Catherine's College, UWA, and Presbyterian Ladies' College Perth for a night celebrating Indigenous culture, held at Wesley College.

Gates opened at 4pm for fun activities, with dance and song performances that started at 6pm

There was a buzz in the air soon as you entered the gates of Wesley college. There were children running around with face paint on, balloons everywhere and the smell of food from the food vans filled the air. The Moorditj Mob boys were there early setting up the massive sand mural where all the dancing was going to happen later that night. People began to gather around the mural to try and get front row seating so they didn't miss a thing. Around 2000 people from everywhere came to enjoy the free event for all. Olman Walley was the MC for the evening keeping everything running smoothly throughout the night.

Watch Wesley College's [video](#) on their Facebook page.

The collaboration from all the schools highlights the work that Future Footprints has done over the years to empower schools and students feeling comfortable to run events such as this. So proud to be apart of such an amazing program.



Photo courtesy of the PLC Facebook page



Parent Networking Group

Future Footprints has created a Parent Networking Group on Facebook for parents of current students attending one of our participating schools. The purpose of the group is to support parents, to help navigate the education system, and to connect parents with other parents. We hope you will join and participate in the discussion with Future Footprints and other parents.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/147339476033301/>



Contact Future Footprints

To all the parents, carers, and communities, if you have any queries or need assistance in Perth, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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Future Footprints is on Facebook and Instagram! Follow us:

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