

Newsletter September 2025



*Eliza's
Sparkle*

SUCCESS IMPROVEMENT COMMUNITY



We are Respectful

Respectful people are polite, they listen and make positive choices.

We Own our behaviour

People who own their behaviour are accountable for their actions.

We are Courageous

Being courageous is making positive choices in the face of challenges.

We are Kind

Being kind means that through our actions we show empathy for others.



KEY DATES



TERM 3

SEPTEMBER

3-4	P&C Father's Day Stall
6	The York Show
8-19	OLNA Round 2
9	Secondary Interschool Athletics
11	R U OK? Day
12	Primary Interschool Athletics
17	Crown Theatre Excursion (7 & 8)
17	Year 7 Parent Info Night (6pm)
19	Whole School Assembly
22-26	Country Week

We R O C K

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

TRENT LOCKYER

As we reflect on a very busy period, it is clear that the strength of our school lies not only in academic achievement but in the sense of community we cultivate together. Events such as NAIDOC Week, Three-Way Conferences, Athletics Carnivals, camps, and Book Week are far more than calendar highlights—they are vital opportunities for students, staff, and families to engage, celebrate, and learn together.

NAIDOC Week, for example, connects our students to the rich history, culture, and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It fosters respect, awareness, and reconciliation, shaping our school values and helping students understand their place within a broader cultural and historical context. The lessons learned extend beyond the classroom, inspiring students to contribute positively to the wider community and to act with empathy and understanding.

Three-Way Conferences strengthen relationships between students, teachers, and families, reinforcing the shared responsibility we have in guiding young people's growth. Athletics Carnivals, camps, and Book Week celebrate teamwork, resilience, creativity, and leadership, while nurturing a sense of belonging that reaches into our local community. These events often involve community members as volunteers, mentors, and spectators, reinforcing connections between the school and the wider region.

By participating in these experiences, students gain more than skills—they develop a sense of social responsibility, cultural awareness, and civic engagement. A strong school culture, built on shared experiences and community partnerships, underpins student wellbeing and achievement, creating a ripple effect that strengthens families, local organisations, and the broader community.

At York District High School, we are proud to foster these connections, knowing that when students feel valued, included, and supported, they thrive academically, socially, and culturally. Together, we continue to build a school where every student belongs, contributes, and leaves a positive impact on the wider community.

**“WHEN STUDENTS FEEL
VALUED, INCLUDED, AND
SUPPORTED, THEY
THRIVE ACADEMICALLY,
SOCIALY, AND
CULTURALLY”**



FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAINS

ABI WOK & JOHN DONOVAN

**“BOOK WEEK BROUGHT
OUR LOVE OF READING
TO LIFE”**



As we progress through another vibrant term, it's wonderful to reflect on the incredible experiences our students have embraced. NAIDOC Week was a celebration of culture and community, with students participating in activities that highlighted Indigenous history, art, and storytelling.

Our Faction Athletics Carnival showcased the energy, sportsmanship, and school spirit of every student, with impressive performances across all events. Year 10 Cadets engaged in the Keys4Life program, gaining valuable pre-driver education skills, while the P.A.R.T.Y. excursion offered a powerful, real-life perspective on trauma prevention and responsible decision-making.

Book Week brought our love of reading to life, with a colourful Character Dress-Up Parade inspiring imagination across all year levels. Three-Way Conferences provided students and parents the chance to reflect on progress and set goals for the remainder of the year.

In sporting achievements, our Year 5/6 West Coast Fever Netball team claimed the Championship, demonstrating dedication and teamwork. Year 9 and 10 students enjoyed the Rottneest Island Camp, building friendships and creating memories. Finally, Stitch in Time offered reflection on self-care, emotional regulation and respectful behaviours.

Looking ahead, we have more exciting events on the horizon. Students will compete in the Interschool Athletics Carnivals in Beverley and Brookton, participate in R U OK Day to raise awareness for mental health, sit the OLN assessments, and engage in Country Week, celebrating regional sport and community spirit.

It's been a busy term filled with learning, growth, and celebration—here's to finishing the term with the same passion, pride, and commitment to excellence!



FACTION ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS

CHAMPIONS

Grace Giles
Charlie Weir
Allira Metcalf
Harrison Hayes & Hunter Battista
Samara Bovington
Jaiden McHugh
Olive Wallace
Lucas Galbraith & Ben Davies
Lauren Hooper
Blake Spain
Alanie Metcalf
George Boyle
Phoebe Wherrett
Jake Chitty
Harliah Thomas
Jayden Metcalf
Karis Rous
Dylan Cochrane
Katie Spencer
Levi Taylor
Abigail Wok
John Donovan

RUNNERS UP

Alice Saunders
Zeke Chambers
Indianna Lockyer
Angus Johnson
Annabelle Robinson
Nate Mackay
Skye Hooper
Jax McNaboe & Willam Sorensen
Shiloh Mackay
Nathan Jones
Jasmin Patrick
Carter Cochrane
Sophie Rous
William Devlin
Zoe Mackenzie
AJ Lockyer
Isabelle Hayes & Olive Kainuku
Kane Richardson
Tayla Pyke
Flynn Stubbs
Scarlett Wok
Alfie Udomsak



CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

**Amelia Hooper
Mariah Begley
Benjamin Hannington
Jayden Metcalf
Isabelle Hayes
Rhys Harries
Paige Ferguson
Max Burrow
D'lanie Mayes
Michael Gill
Tayla Pyke
Noah Hughes
Scarlett Wok
Thomas Windsor
Mason Miller
Hayley Ritchie
Indianna Lockyer
Felix Antonsen
Michael Hayes
Meila Newland
Emma Strahan**

**Jacinta Godin
Thomas Buchanan
Liam Kasteel
Lincoln Black
Michael Harvey
Patrick Astle
Oliver Collins
Gareth Birleson
Max Harris
Yohan Lozano
Lucas Cooper
Ella Ker
Amani Waitere-Kahukura
Casey Ritchie
Ethan Aylmore
Hazel Reed
Noah Buchanan
Jack Luelf
Xavier Narkle
Ayla Nelsen**



Faction Athletics Carnival

Our 2025 Faction Athletics Carnival was an outstanding success, showcasing the talent, determination and sportsmanship of our students from Pre-Primary through to Year 10. The day was filled with exciting competition on the track and field, with students giving their all while cheering loudly for their factions. A special congratulations goes to **Talbot**, who took out first place with 3688 points, followed by **Avon** (3340), **Mackie** (3128) and **Dale** (2751). Every student should be proud of their effort and commitment, with individual champions and runners up celebrated across all year levels. The carnival would not have been possible without the incredible support of our staff, parents and community volunteers. From coordinating events, officiating races, keeping scores and encouraging our athletes, your contribution ensured a smooth and enjoyable day for all. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's carnival such a memorable celebration of school spirit!

SUCCESS

West Coast Fever Cup Final

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 Netball Team who travelled to Perth last week to compete in the West Coast Fever Champions Cup. This prestigious competition brought together 32 champion school teams from across regional and metropolitan areas. Our team played brilliantly throughout the day—winning their pool, defeating the neighbouring pool champions, and advancing to the grand final. Unfortunately, just as the final was about to begin, thunder and lightning forced the match to be called off. In an unprecedented decision, both grand final teams were crowned 2025 Joint Champions—a remarkable achievement! The team's success was made even more special thanks to the dedication of parents and grandparents who braved the cold and wet weather to cheer them on. Well done to: George Boyle, Amelia Higgins, Sophie Rous, Dakota Mackay, Phoebe Wherrett, Charlie Wherrett, Jake Chitty, and Will Devlin. A big thank you also to Ms Shields for the organisation and Mrs Rous and Mrs Wherrett for their coaching support on the day. A fantastic team effort, on and off the court!



Rottne Island Camp | ESCC 9&10

From 25-29 August 2025, our Year 9/10 Emergency Service Cadets experienced an unforgettable week at Rottne Island (Wadjemup). The camp blended history, culture, skill development, and adventure, leaving students with memories to last a lifetime. Highlights included a traditional smoking ceremony and cultural tour with a Noongar guide, learning about Wadjemup's deep spiritual and historical significance. Cadets also explored the island's rich heritage through the Pioneers & Prisoners Tour and the Reefs, Wrecks and Daring Sailors Tour. Outdoor activities such as hikes, bike rides, beach safety training, and wildlife spotting—whales, seals, and sea eagles—brought learning to life in powerful ways. The camp not only built cadet values of teamwork, resilience, and leadership but also strengthened friendships and bonds within the cohort. A huge thank you to Ms Chitty for her coordination, and to Ms Read, Ms Guadagnin, Mr Gregory, Mr Pringle, and Mr Wilkins for their support throughout this successful camp.



Book Week

What an incredible celebration of stories, imagination, and creativity at our annual Book Week Parade! Students, staff, and families brought the magic of books to life with an array of colourful and creative costumes that filled the school with joy and excitement. From classic favourites to modern characters, every outfit reflected the spirit of adventure and the power of reading. A huge thank you to our entire school community for your enthusiasm, effort, and school spirit—it truly made the day unforgettable.

We also extend our gratitude to Paint York REaD for their continued support in nurturing our love of books and literacy. Their encouragement helps us keep the joy of reading alive in every classroom. This year's theme, "Book An Adventure", reminded us that every page turned is a new journey waiting to unfold. What a perfect way to celebrate the wonder of books!

Three-Way Conferences

We recently held our first cycle of Three-Way Conferences, and we are proud to celebrate its success. This new format placed students at the centre of conversations about their learning, behaviour, and wellbeing, strengthening the partnership between students, families, and teachers. Unlike traditional parent-teacher interviews, the Three-Way model gave students the opportunity to actively reflect on their progress, celebrate strengths, and set meaningful goals for improvement. This approach promoted student agency, authentic home-school partnerships, and goal-setting, while reinforcing our school's ROCKY values of Respect, Owning our Behaviour, Courage, and Kindness. The strong engagement from staff and families ensured that the conferences were positive, purposeful, and future-focused. Together, we are building a culture of academic improvement and personal growth supported by open communication and collaboration. We thank our staff, students, and community for their commitment to making our first Three-Way Conference cycle a success.



Stitch in Time

York District High School recently hosted the Stitch in Time program, proudly supported by Telethon, delivering a day of reflection, creativity, and connection for our secondary students. Across workshops, students engaged with important themes including self-care, emotional regulation, respectful behaviours, and creative expression. The day was filled with laughter, honest conversations, and opportunities for students to reflect on what these ideas look like in their own lives. The program is designed to give young people practical tools they can use every day—whether it's managing emotions, looking after themselves, or strengthening relationships with others. We also reinforce these ideas through the important work of YouthCARE and Lifeline in our SWELL program, another initiative making a positive difference in regional communities. A huge thank you to Bunge Grain Services for their generous support, helping to bring these important conversations to life in schools across the Wheatbelt.



NAIDOC

York District High School proudly celebrated NAIDOC Week with a series of engaging and meaningful activities across the week, highlighting the importance of honouring and learning from Aboriginal culture and traditions. Students participated in a colouring-in competition, with winners announced at Friday's Smoking Ceremony. Primary classes created colourful wool headbands, worn proudly during the ceremony, while secondary students joined in through Culture Class. Across all year levels, students worked with Mrs Bateman to create unique pieces of artwork representing their learning phase, which were later displayed as a celebration of culture and storytelling. Hands-on activities such as damper making brought history and tradition to life, and Friday's Smoking Ceremony—conducted by Elder Phil Bateman—was a powerful moment of reflection and respect. The day concluded with a shared sausage sizzle, bringing the community together. A heartfelt thank you to all staff, students, and community members who embraced this week of celebration and learning.



COMMUNITY



Keys 4 Life

Our Year 10 Cadets have recently participated in the Keys4Life program, an evidence-based pre-driver education initiative endorsed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA). Designed for students over 15 years of age, the program aims to develop positive attitudes towards driving, fostering a culture of respect, resilience, and responsibility. Over ten comprehensive lessons, students engaged in activities that promoted safe driving practices, responsible socialising, and an understanding of the licensing system. The curriculum is mapped to the Western Australian Curriculum and the WA licensing system, ensuring relevance and applicability. As part of the program, students completed the 'Behind the Wheel' journal, which includes tasks and quizzes to reinforce their learning. Upon successful completion, students have the opportunity to sit for the Learner's Permit Theory Test, a significant step towards obtaining their driver's license. This initiative not only equips our Cadets with essential road safety knowledge but also encourages them to take an active role in promoting safer driving within their communities.

P.A.R.T.Y.

Our Year 10 students have had the opportunity to participate in the P.A.R.T.Y. (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-related Trauma in Youth) Program, a unique and eye-opening experience that goes far beyond a typical excursion. Unlike traditional events, this P.A.R.T.Y. is designed to raise awareness and prevent risky behaviour through vivid, real-life experiences. Students step into the shoes of a trauma patient, following the journey from emergency response and surgery through rehabilitation. Along the way, they hear directly from police officers, paramedics, doctors, nurses, rehabilitation specialists, and injury ambassadors who share their personal experiences and insights. This powerful combination of science, storytelling, and emotion demonstrates the very real consequences of choices that can change a life forever. By the end of the program, participants leave with a deeper understanding of risk, safety, and responsibility—equipped to make smarter decisions for themselves and their communities.



PREVENT
Alcohol and Risk-Related
Trauma in Youth

Eliza's Game

POWERED BY **FERN VALLEY**
CONTRACTING

SAT, SEPTEMBER 13TH
YORK, WA

One epic field hockey game.

400+ players rotating across 8+ hours of action – all coming together to raise funds for two incredible causes: Hurt to Help and Eliza's Sparkle.

Family fun scattered throughout the day.

Delicious food and drink options.

A game with heart, community, and purpose.

Spots are limited – register now to be part of something unforgettable!

Made possible by our incredible sponsors.



REGISTER NOW



Community Bank
York & Districts

Bendigo Bank



Nutrien



Avon Valley Toyota



Cellarbrations



YORK DHS - CALL FOR MORNING TEA GOODIES

ELIZA'S GAME

We're preparing Morning Tea Boxes to sell at Eliza's Snack Shack during Eliza's Game, and we'd love your help! If you can bake or buy a small treat, your donation will help us raise funds in Eliza's spirit of kindness and community.

Examples of what to donate (baked or bought)

Brownies • Tim Tams • Mini pizzas • Sandwiches •
Mini muffins • Slices • Biscuits • Savoury scrolls

**DELIVER: MRS HOOPER (ROOM 21) FRIDAY 12
SEPTEMBER (BY 3PM)**

How to package

- Individual serves (ready to pop into mixed boxes)
- Well-sealed (zip-lock bags or covered containers)
- Nut-aware: Please avoid nuts where possible
- Keep it simple: No fresh cream/or warm items

Questions? Ask Mrs Hooper

Every contribution—big or small—helps us support our fundraising beneficiaries - Hurt To Help & Kids Cancer Research Institute.

LESSON DESIGN

Components of an Explicit Direct Instruction (EDI) Lesson

Learning Objective

LO

Focused statement describing the skill and concept of the lesson.

Activate Prior Knowledge

APK

Quick review of skill or experience with a statement about how it is relevant to the learning objective.

Concept Development

CD

Concept **definitions** and big ideas supported by **labeled examples**. Precise academic language established. Questions to Check for Understanding.

Skill Development

SD

Modeling \rightleftarrows Guiding

Concept-based steps with precise language. **Matching problems**, one for teachers to **Model** and one for teachers to **Guide** students. Questions to Check for Understanding.

Relevance

REL

Personal, academic, and real-life reasons why the lesson is **important** to learn.

Closure

CL

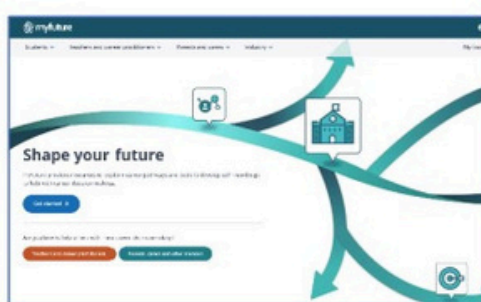
A skill-based problem, concept-based problem, and writing summary to provide evidence of learning.

Key career websites for families

Myfuture

myfuture is Australia's National Career Information Service. It provides online resources to explore career pathways and tools to develop self-knowledge for career decision-making. It encourages young people to consider how their interests, values and skills relate to a wide range of career pathways.

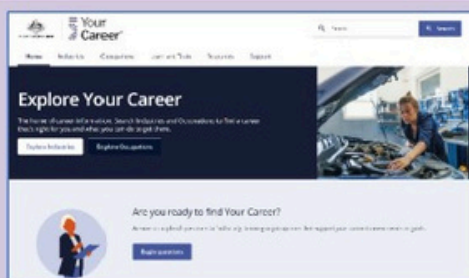
<https://myfuture.edu.au/>



Your Career

The Your Career website is a platform of the National Careers Institute. It is designed to provide clear and simple careers information and to help people of all ages and circumstances better plan and manage their career.

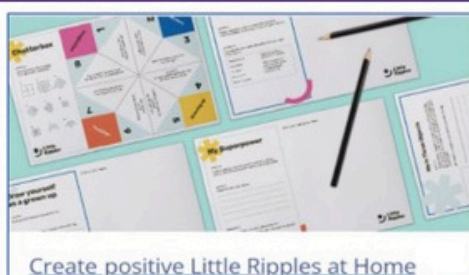
<https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/>



Little Ripples conversation cards and activities

Learn how to make a positive Little Ripple with your children. Download a range of free engaging conversation cards and fun activity sheets to get started.

<https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/resources/little-ripples/resources>



Little Ripples eBooks

Three eBooks developed to spark conversations with children. The stories follow Rosa as she engages with her community and discovers different careers and job roles.

<https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/resources/little-ripples/ebookresources>





IN & AROUND OUR SCHOOL



R

**WE ACTIVELY LISTEN &
FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS**

**WE ARE POLITE &
USE OUR MANNERS**

O

**WE MAKE POSITIVE CHOICES &
ARE ACCOUNTABLE**

**WE ARE HONEST &
ACT WITH INTEGRITY**

C

**WE CHALLENGE OURSELVES
TO BE OUR BEST**

WE SEEK HELP WHEN NEEDED

K

**WE ARE HELPFUL &
CONSIDERATE**

**WE ACCEPT & RESPECT
DIFFERENCES**