



NUNGA NEWS

First Nation Stories
Findon High School

Number 1 | Term 3 2021



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hockey stars



WELCOME TO NUNGA NEWS

We welcome you to our first issue of Nunga News, created for our First Nations families at Findon High School and to share with the wider education community.

This year and in 2022, Steve Phillips our ASETO and Judith Rose our AET are supporting each of our First Nations students to be successful in their learning. Steve keeps in close touch with our First Nations families because they are valued partners in their student's learning.

WARNING: This newsletter contains a photograph of a deceased First Nations Elder.

PERSONALISED AND CHALLENGING LEARNING

At Findon High School we support each of our First Nations students to enjoy and succeed at school through:

- Designing flexible learning within subjects that build on each student's strengths, experience and passions and create new passions
- Analysing relevant data to inform learning design for each student
- Emphasising the importance of explicit teaching of functional literacy and numeracy in all learning areas within a high challenge student centred learning framework
- Supporting our First Nations families to be partners in their student's learning including literacy and numeracy
- Enabling cultural learning with First Nations people
- Setting and regularly reviewing each student's career goals and next learning steps
- Encouraging teachers to believe that each student can succeed



STACIA SILKSCREENING LOGOS ON ICE FACTOR T-SHIRTS FOR THE TEAM.



TERESA WORKING WITH LINCOLN ON A CHALLENGING LEARNING TASK



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: ALEXIS, LINCOLN, TERESA, WAYNE, KIRA AND FELICITY

HOMework TUTORIAL GROUP

AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS MENTORING
EXPERIENCE (AIME)

Every Thursday from 3-4pm, all of our First Nations students are welcome to participate in the AIME tutorial group in the school resource centre. Here are some of our regular attenders. Teacher Teresa Bulmer regularly helps AIME students get their tasks done on time.

FINDON HIGH SCHOOL RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN (RAP) GROUP

This year the Findon High School RAP group have collaboratively developed Findon High School's first Reconciliation Action Plan with 12 measurable goals to promote Reconciliation at Findon High School through each participant's bold and courageous actions. At the centre is our aim to value and amplify First Nations people's voices at school in many ways, for example by:

- Mapping, building on and celebrating First Nations perspectives and histories currently taught across subjects and year levels
- Involving First Nations people in

the design and delivery of student learning and teacher professional development

- Strengthening our partnerships with First Nations families
- Celebrating Kurna people as the traditional owners of the land we learn on with the crafting of a Kurna shield by Kurna Elder, Jack Buckskin and permanently displaying it at the school entrance.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: STEVE ATLASALAS PRINCIPAL, STEVE PHILLIPS ASETO, JULIE KEAST TEACHER, TERESA BULMER TEACHER, BEC CLARK ACETL FLINDERS PARK, BRENTON KOVALEFF TEACHER AND RAP CO-CHAIR, CAROL OTTO ASETO HENLEY HIGH SCHOOL, JAYNE FEJO ASEO FLINDERS PARK, AMIRA STUDENT, NATALIE GENTLE RECONCILIATION SA, EVELINA STUDENT
ABSENT AND INSERTED TOP RIGHT: JESS DANGERFIELD TEACHER AND CO-CHAIR, JUDITH ROSE AET

ACKNOWLEDGING COUNTRY



FELICITY AND ALEXIS

FELICITY AND ALEXIS

Sisters, Alexis and Felicity are our 'go to' First Nations students who formally acknowledge Country at school events including our whole school Celebration assemblies every term.

"Acknowledging Country is a reminder of the past that tells us to move forward in the future and not to make the same mistakes over and over."

Felicity

AMIRA AND EVELINA

Amira and Evelina, our student Reconciliation Action Plan committee representatives have each composed and presented their own personalised Acknowledgements of Country. Through their examples we can see the positive power that we have when we use our voices to show respect for our First Nations peoples.



AMIRA AND EVELINA



CARVING THE KAURNA SHIELD

On 30 August, Kurna leader Jack Buckskin cut a traditional Kurna shield from a tree on the school oval. This was a key initiative of the Findon High School RAP group.

The scar tree and the finished shield are symbols of our respect for the Kurna people, past, present and future as the traditional owners of the land the school is built on.

The scar tree and shield also show our long-term commitment to valuing and welcoming First Nations peoples to our school and prioritising learning about our First Nations histories and cultures.

ABOVE: JACK BUCKSKIN GOUGING DEEPER, PREPARING TO LIFT THE SHIELD FROM THE TRUNK

BELOW: JACK SHOWING STUDENTS





JACK EXPLAINS TO STEVE THE PRINCIPAL, HOW THE SCAR TREE WILL CHANGE OVER TIME.



CELEBRATING A PROUD MOMENT: JACK AND STEVE WITH FIRST NATIONS STUDENTS LINCOLN, ALEXIS AND ANTHONY

AND THE WINNER IS ... KANYINI!

Findon High School's focus on embedding First Nations cultural understandings and history into the curriculum is becoming recognised across the state.

On 15 September, the school won a competition entered by 56 schools to name South Australia's first ever locally manufactured satellite, the SASAT1. This satellite will provide valuable data on SA's landscape by monitoring water quality, mining and bushfire fuel loads.

Our students collectively decided to enter the Pitjantjatjara word, Kanyini. It is the principle of connectedness through caring and responsibility that underpins First Nations peoples' lives.

Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands Elders and communities welcome the satellite's name and soon Anangu artists will be working with Findon High School students to create the Kanyini logo.



LEFT TO RIGHT: AMIRA, PREMIER STEVEN MARSHALL, EDUCATION MINISTER JOHN GARDNER AND EVELINA

"The combination of ancient Australia and modern Australia coming together in this new space frontier will be a matter of great celebration for the first South Australians of Central Australian deserts."

Richard King Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands general manager

Evelina and Amira, our RAP committee student representatives accepted this honour from Premier Steven Marshall at the 12th Australian Space Forum at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

KANYINI

Kanyini is a connectedness to *tjukurrpa* (knowledge of creation or Dreaming), *ngura* (place, land), *walytja* (kinship) and *kurunpa* (spirit or soul). *Kanyini* is nurtured through caring and practicing responsibility for all things.

To learn more about *kanyini* visit the *Kanyini* website and view the 50 minute documentary film. Both are the work of Anangu Elder Bob Randall.

<http://www.kanyini.com>

AND THE WINNER IS ... KANYINI!



LEFT TO RIGHT: EVELINA, AMIRA AND INABOR TECHNOLOGY LEADER



AMIRA AND EVELINA ON STAGE AT THE ADELAIDE CONVENTION CENTRE



FIRST NATIONS ICE HOCKEY STARS



STACIA (LEFT) AND HER GRANDFATHER, NGARRINDJERI ELDER MAJOR "MOOGIE" SUMNER (CENTRE)

The above photo made the front page of The Advertiser when Major Sumner conducted a traditional "safe travels ceremony" with Kaurna Boomerangs players prior to their trip to Darwin.

STACIA

Stacia, currently in Year 10 has been playing ice hockey with the Ice Factor program since Year 8.

"I have played lots of sports, but this (ice hockey) is the one I enjoy the most."

This year Stacia accepted the invitation to join South Australia's first Indigenous ice hockey team, the Kaurna Boomerangs as one of only two female players.

"Being on this team is something to be proud about."

In April, the Kaurna Boomerangs played several national teams at an invitational tournament in Darwin and in Term 2, Stacia accepted the offer of the role of captain of the Findon Falcons team.

"Stacia is a great role model for all of our players. She trains hard and is quick to offer support to anyone from our team who needs it. The value she brings to our team and the respect she has makes her the perfect choice to lead our team into the future."

Brenton Kovaleff – Findon Falcons Team Manager



FIRST NATIONS ICE HOCKEY STARS



STEVE THE PRINCIPAL PRESENTING ELLA HER AWARD

ELLA

Since joining Ice Factor in Term 2, Ella in Year 8 has rapidly improved her skating to become a fierce ice hockey tournament competitor and valued team member of the Findon Falcons.

"It took me three Mondays to get the hang of it. I hadn't played hockey or ice skated before joining Ice Factor."

"In addition to her natural ability in Ice Hockey, Ella shows great leadership and commitment to the program in many ways, most notably volunteering to address the June tournament participants."

Brenton Kovaleff Ice Factor coordinator and FHS teacher

At the Term 3 Celebration assembly, Ella was awarded a certificate by her Findon Falcons teammates for her early contribution to the team.



ELLA (RHS) AND HANA (CENTRE) AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR MARIE SHAW (LHS)

In this photo, Ella and Hana share the stage with Ice Factor program Director Marie Shaw. They are addressing 100 plus Ice Factor participants at the June tournament.

FIRST NATIONS HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVES ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Teachers of a range of subjects at Findon High School include First Nations histories and perspectives in their learning programs.

INCORPORATING LOCAL INDIGENOUS PLANT FOODS INTO HOME ECONOMICS COURSES

Alice and Alec pictured on the right, are considering how indigenous Australian lilly pilly berries could be incorporated into cooking programs at school. These little berries have been eaten by Kaurna people and other First Nations groups across Australia for many generations. High in vitamin C and E, lilly pilly berries help to fight illnesses and strengthen the immune system.



ABOVE: ALICE AND ALEC



ABOVE: CLOSE UP OF A LILLY PILLY BUSH

WARRIPARINGA WETLANDS

An intermediate English class who visited the Warriparinga wetlands and explorer trail at Marion, learnt firsthand from a First Nations cultural instructor about the ingenuity of the Kaurna people to live prosperously and in harmony with nature in the Adelaide region for thousands of years.



LEFT: INTERMEDIATE STUDENTS AT THE WARRIPARINGA WETLANDS

DAMPER MAKING

The Outdoor Cooking club learnt how to make damper on an open fire. Steve and the students discussed the importance of the campfire for First Nations peoples before European arrival for cooking food, warmth and social gatherings. Many students helped to build and maintain the campfire throughout the day.



CHRISTIANA



STEVE AND CRAIG PREPARING THE FIRE PIT



THE CAMPFIRE BECAME A PLACE FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION.

FIRST NATIONS HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVES ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

GARDEN DESIGNS WELCOMING FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE TO OUR SCHOOL



BECKY, SARAH AND JESS DISPLAYING THEIR DESIGNS

After learning about the impact of government policies that forced the removal of First Nations children from their families over many generations, a group of Year 9 English students designed garden spaces to pitch to the school's grounds renovation committee.

Their designs aim to welcome all First Nations people to our school and provide a space to help to heal the suffering experienced by Stolen Generations survivors. Each student's design is accompanied by their letter to Steve and Carol, our First Nations cultural educators, explaining their design and why it is important.

REC IN THE WEST

A group of Findon High School students participated in Rec in the West at Tauondi College, a day combining fun with cultural learning.



WESLEY AND LINCOLN



WAYNE WITH BIRD

THE FUN RUN



MICHAEL



LEFT TO RIGHT: MICHAEL, KADEN, ALEXIS AND FELICITY



KADEN

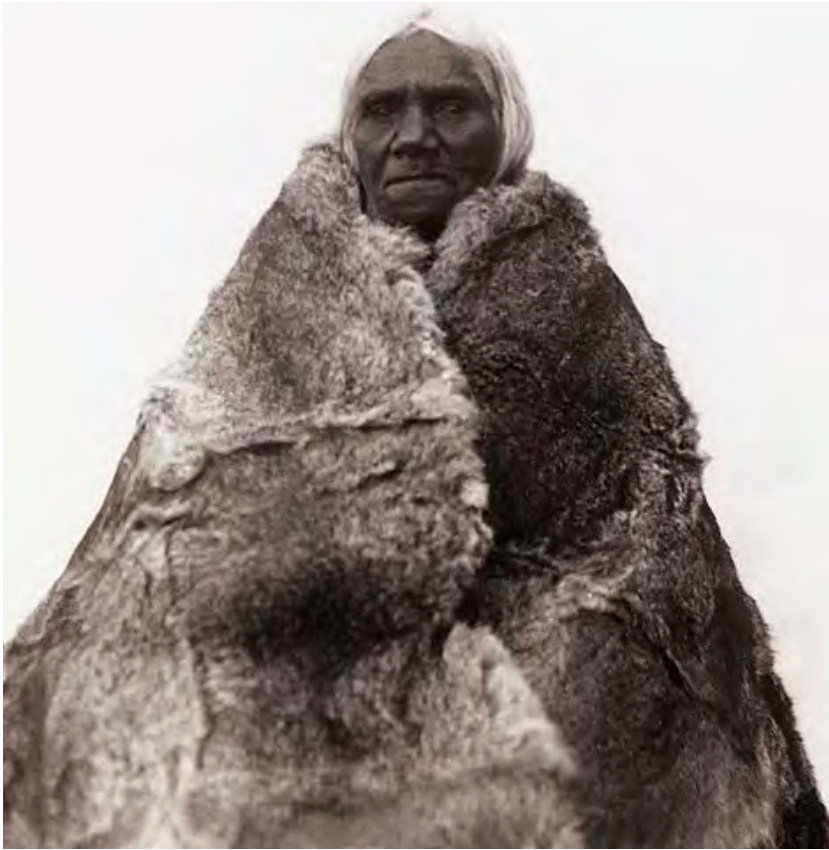


FELICITY



ALEXIS BEFORE AND AFTER

MEET KAURNA ELDER - IVARITJI



PORTRAIT OF IVARITJI, PHOTOGRAPH BY NORMAN B. TINDALE, 1928
Public Domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Ivaritji was born at Port Adelaide in 1849 and is believed to have been the last fluent Kurna language speaker. She shared many Kurna words and place-names with anthropologists, as well as insights into aspects of Kurna culture and the early colonial history of Adelaide. Her knowledge was later used in the revival of the Kurna language in the 1990s.

This photo was taken in 1928 at the South Australian Museum by anthropologist Norman B. Tindale. Ivaritji is wearing a wallaby-skin cloak which is part of the museum's collection. Ivaritji requested to wear the cloak for this photo.

FYI

At Findon High School we are now using the term First Nations peoples instead of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples because it is preferred by our First Nations communities and individuals.

THANK YOU



Thank you to Julie Keast for helping to provide Stacia with the flexible learning plan she needs by working one-on-one with her to silkscreen t-shirts and cooking together all for the Ice Factor program. Also for helping the Findon Falcons do their best at the Ice Arena each week.



Thank you to Matt at TK Print at Thebarton for donating custom cut cards for the First Nations students' small business program.

