Don’t forget the Broken Hill YMCA Desert Dash is on Sunday 6 April at the Living Desert. Permission notes and YMCA registration forms are available from Miss Kelly. YMCA registration forms and entry fees must be paid directly to the YMCA by Friday 4 April. Everyone is welcome to join in this enjoyable and fun community event. Be part of the school team and have a great day.

**YEAR 10 PI POEMS**

Pi is constant and never ending.
Just like algebra and expanding.
3.14 is the number we know.
But it continues. It goes, it goes.
A number that’s endless, but we try and recite
All of its digits, day and night.

Pi, Pretty intense
Pi. What does it mean?
It’s Pretty intense as you will see!
Because the digits never-ever end,
It can drive you right round the bend.

Pi
The only thing of its kind
Where people celebrate around the world
To come together and organise events
To commemorate this unique event.

Its endless digits bring to mind
The ebbs and flows of continuous time
For in my mind, an endless wheel
comes ideas and thoughts that can be made real.
Pi-one of a kind, like me.

WILLYAMA WHISPERS

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Term 1 Week 9 Monday 31 March 2014

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

Willyama High School students and staff participated in a number of activities as part of the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence on Friday 21 March. This day tied in very well with our school values and the type of culture we want to promote and maintain at our school. Well done to everyone who participated and particularly Miss Harris and her Year 7 PDHPE students for providing the impetus for the day. Let’s continue to work very hard to support positive behaviours by respecting others, using appropriate language and discouraging others from bullying and violence.

Our school Australian Rules Football team (U15s) travelled to Coomealla to compete in the Swan Shield against Coomealla and Broken Hill High Schools. Although we were unable to notch a win in either game, we were still successful with 5 boys selected into the West Darling team to play at the State AFL Carnival in Wagga Wagga in June. Congratulations to all these boys and we wish you well in the State Carnival.

It’s the YMCA Living Desert Dash time again on 6 April. Willyama High School had a large contingent of runners and walkers in this event last year. Let’s see if we can have an even larger group this year. More details inside this newsletter.

Our P&C Annual General Meeting was held recently. The newly elected executive for 2014 are: Maria Robinson (President), Katrina Kaye and Anne Campbell (Vice Presidents), Alison Burt (Secretary) and Dani Winders (Treasurer). On behalf of the school community I would like to thank these ladies for taking on these roles in such busy times and taking such a genuine interest in supporting the running of our school. Our next P&C meeting is on Thursday 10 April starting at 7.00 pm in the school library. Please come along and have a say in your child(ren)’s education.

The results for the Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA) test which was completed by Year 8 students (2013 cohort) in November last year have arrived and will be posted out this week.

Year 12 students are holding a “Red Day” on Friday 4 April. Please support them by buying the pancakes and drinks they are selling to raise funds for their HSC Formal at the end of the year.

Grant Shepherd
Principal
NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge
Dear Parents/Caregivers,
The 2014 NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge has commenced at Willyama with all Year 7 classes. The reading challenge is not a competition but rather a means of exposing students to a wide selection of quality literature and encouraging them to enjoy reading.
Last year 265,000 students from early Primary to Year 9 took part in the challenge across NSW. The reading journey starts in March and finishes on 22 August at which time students are expected to have read a minimum of 20 books, 15 to be selected from the PRC booklist and 5 of personal choice. All students who take part and finish this reading journey will receive an official Premier’s Reading Challenge certificate and their names will appear on the PRC Honour Roll.
For further information please visit the following website https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html
Any encouragement from home is very much appreciated.
Nikki Adams
Teacher Librarian
PRC Co-ordinator

Good Reads by Alexander Wardrop
My Australian Story: A Different Sort of Real by Kerry Greenwood, Teenage Australian Historical Diary
Charlotte McKenzie is a young girl living in Melbourne. The First World War is ending and she finds herself helping the doctor next door to her. Helping the doctor, she witnesses the increase of influenza pandemic, a raging flu claiming and changing hundreds of lives across Australia. Charlotte and the world around her is changing and she and her family are at risk of catching the deadly flu, like everyone else.
This is a real diary and a very important piece of Aussie history. Some may think that because it is a diary it is an invasion of privacy. Sure, there is that, but really the focus is not about that (seriously). The book shows very important events through its words and is pretty on the mark towards what happened. But be warned: this book can become heavy and sad and the tiniest bit depressing.
My Australian Story: A Different Sort of Real is available in the WHS Library.

Running Group – The Orroroo Half Marathon
On Saturday 22 March several members of the Willyama Running Group made the three and half hour journey to Orroroo in the Southern Flinders Ranges to participate in the Orroroo Half Marathon and the 10km run. The events were run on Sunday 23 March.

On the way to Orroroo we were able to experience the phenomenon of Magnetic Hill where even though the car is turned off, it will roll UPHILL. We visited the Goyder’s Line Memorial, hugged a 500 year old tree, investigated a time capsule and shouted echoes across mountain valleys.

On race day, Campbell Symes, Bailey Shepherd, Kate Baldwin and Mrs Margie Symes ran in the 10 km run while Mr Shepherd, Mr Hughes, Miss Sullivan and Georgia Treloar slogged it out in the 21 km run and Miss Kelly finished off the day’s events in the 21 km walk.

We would like to thank Di Barrie and the Orroroo Community Gym for all their hard work and amazing inclusiveness. We enjoyed wonderful hospitality at the Orroroo Caravan Park and our thanks go to Mr Symes and Mackenzie (our “backstage crew”) for their support.

Running Group meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 7.00 am at the school’s front ramp. Students, staff and parents are all welcome and you don’t have to run – brisk walking is always a great way to stay fit and healthy.