

Important dates:

Monday 07 June
Western Australia Day

Monday 19 July
School Development Day
(No Students Attend)

Monday 11 October
School Development Day
(No Students Attend)

[View the
College Events Calendar](#)



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Digby Mercer

School Refurbishment

The refurbishment program that started during the Christmas school holidays is still continuing. Large parts of the school have received a badly needed coat of fresh paint, the Performing Arts Centre has had a sprung dance floor installed and parts of the school driveway have been re-surfaced and new drainage installed. Many corridors and walkways have been re-surfaced with either carpet or non-slip resin.

More recent and ongoing refurbishment includes the installation of automatic doors to facilitate access for all students. The old chaplain's office has been extended by moving a wall to create a multi-purpose meeting room. In addition, a new demountable is in the final stages of being prepared to take students. This demountable is one of two that will be erected to replace the transportables irreparably damaged by termites.

I have been told by the Department of Education that the tenders for the canteen redevelopment have been returned and evaluated and are awaiting the final contract documentation to be signed and awarded to the contractor. It is likely that once an announcement is made the works will quickly get underway and changes will occur rapidly.

COVID 19

During the most recent Covid lockdown students and staff coped very well with requirement to wear masks, however, planning for school events and excursions was difficult. The corporate Golf Day had to be postponed because of the restrictions. This is a very important function for the Golf program because it helps to pay for the tuition fees of the Collier Park professionals. A number of other events have had to be cancelled or postponed. The recent lockdowns are a reminder that these are more likely than not to happen in the future and that we need to be able to respond with just a moment's notice.

Meeting with Jeff Baker MLA

I met with Jeff Baker, the new member for South Perth, last week. Better facilities for Como Secondary College is one of Mr Baker's top priorities and he reiterated that he would be working to ensure that election promises of a new STEM classroom and improved parking are implemented.

Welcome to Ms Paskandy and Mr Bosich

Two new staff members have joined us this term. Ms Renate Paskandy is our new Health and Physical Education Head of Learning Area. She is taking over from Mr Adam Smith who did a very good job as acting HOLA. Mr Bosich is our new photography teacher and replaces Mr Powell who has gone to work in the mining industry. We also welcome back Ms Emerson who rejoins us after a term at Narrogin.

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all the news [here](#)



ADMIN & FINANCE NEWS

Jo May - Corporate Services Manager

Contributions and Charges

It is government policy that parents should contribute towards the cost of educating their children. Given that all students benefit from the pool of collected fees, it is fair to expect that all parents should pay the balance of contributions and charges.

Contributions and charges form a large part of the school's income for learning and teaching programs in the school and supports the school in its focus to provide a quality education for all. The College is currently accepting payments for the 2021 school year.

Turn one big payment into easy instalments, you may like to consider starting a payment plan NOW to assist with completing all payments.

Payments are accepted by cheque, cash, Visa, Mastercard, direct deposit and Qkr:

BSB: 066 102 | A/C: 00903523 |Ref: student name

Attendance

- contact the Hub's 24 hour Attendance Hotline 9365 2011 or go to the Connect homepage to advise reason for student absence before 9.00am
- for early departure provide student with a written note to request permission to leave class
- write an explanation for absence and send it via your child as soon as they return to the College
- respond promptly to Absentee Letters

Contact Details

Please advise changes via email to Como.SC.AdminSupport@education.wa.edu.au or Change of Details form available at Administration. Many communications are sent by email – please ensure the College has your current email address.

Student pick up & drop off

Parents are reminded to please use the designated areas for pick up and drop off and not the Staff Car Park near Administration. We realise the temptation particularly when the weather is unfavourable, however it can cause more congestion in an already busy area of the school. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

2021 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS FINALIST



Congratulations to Como Golf Academy Ambassador and former student Hannah Green for being named as a finalist in the 2021 Western Australian of the Year Award in the Sports Category. We are extremely proud of Hannah and her achievements, and wish her the very best of luck.

Enrolments 2022

A reminder general enrolments and applications for Approved & School Based Specialist Programs for Year 7 students in 2022 are open.

Applications for selective entry to our Approved & School Based Specialist Programs of EMITS, Music, Golf, Hockey and Create@Como will **close 21 May 2021**.

Anyone with a current Year 6 student that has special ability and an interest in these subjects is encouraged to apply. All students entering Year 7 in 2022 are welcome to apply.

To receive an Expression of Interest Form please contact our Enrolment Officer on 9365 2000 or visit our website [Enrolment / Department of Education Approved Specialist Programs / School-based Specialist Programs](#)



To find out more on the history, events and how we can contribute to achieving reconciliation go to

nrw.reconciliation.org.au

Educating parents on practical strategies to help manage modern-day issues and challenges affecting today's youth across both primary and secondary school levels.



Como Secondary College with the support of the P&C are pleased to announce SchoolTV is now available. SchoolTV offers a wide range of resources to assist with the challenges faced by students and families today. It is a valuable and diverse resource which can be easily accessed via our [website homepage](#) using the blue TV icon on the right, alternatively click on the link below.

Celebrating Mother's Day

Mother's Day originated from humble beginnings in 1908 as a simple tradition to honour all mothers, living and deceased. However, it did not take long for florists, confectioners and card companies to jump onboard and commercialise the day, much to the disappointment of its founder, Ann Jarvis.

Mother's Day is a good annual reminder to say thanks to the mums and other special carers who play an important role in our lives, but it is essential we mark the day with love and sincerity. This year is especially important due to the recent pandemic, where mothers played multiple roles over recent months providing care and support to those they love under difficult circumstances. Mothers will often put the needs of others above their own, so it is paramount to remind them to take care of

themselves also, especially when it comes to mental health.

Research has shown that women experience

some mental health conditions more so than men and at much higher rates. There are many factors that can impact a woman's wellbeing physically and emotionally. Seeking effective treatment can enable her to engage more readily in everyday activities and fulfil the needs of her children and family.

This Special Report highlights the role mothers play in the developmental growth of her children and the importance of self-care for good mental health. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If this Special Report raises any concerns for you, a loved one or the wellbeing of your child, please seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report https://como.wa.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/celebrating-mothers-day



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Renate Paskandy Health and Physical Education HoLA

Como Interhouse Athletics Carnival

For the second year in a row, Jacaranda House ran, jumped and threw their way to become the 2021 Athletics carnival House Champions for 2021. There were many stellar performances on the day from Athletes and spectators alike. A special mention to all of the staff and students who assisted setting up equipment and recording at events. I was very impressed by the sense of community, teamwork and sportsmanship.

School Records

This year Toby Gunton set a new record for Year 8 boys High Jump. He beat the previous record of 1.55m by 5cm top set a new record of 1.60m. Congratulations Toby!

Looking forward to 2022, there are a few challenges to be set.

Can Sophia Stiles cut 1.4 seconds off her 2021 100m sprint in order to set a new Year 12 Girls 100m record? Will Kaela Usher, Andy Petzke, Grace Taylor and Jaeda Ritchie take out Champion Girl for a third year running? Like wise, can Toby Gunton, Owen Watkins and Amos Ndakirutimana maintain their champion streak? Will the Pilatti sporting dynasty continue to work their way up the athletic ranks?

Overall Results

1st place: Jacaranda with 4113 points

2nd place: Pine with 3257 points

3rd place: Flame with 2702 points

Year	Gender	Champion	Runner Up	Third
7	Female	Kailee Sharp	Eve Pilatti	Peyton Ritchie
	Male	Archie Thomas	Alastair Kelly	Kane Darmody
8	Female	Tallinn Collard	Maddie Hill	Ginger Archer
	Male	Toby Gunton	Harley Muir	Jonah Pilatti
9	Female	Andy Petzke	Lucy Taylor	Sarah Van De Klashorst
	Male	Joshua Thornton	Tony Thomas	Matthew Laidler
10	Female	Jaeda Ritchie	Angelic Sumilang	Georgia Neill
11	Male	Owen Watkins	Haris Rashid	Sam Hannah
	Female	Grace Taylor	Sophia Stiles	Jade Wright
	Male	Amos Ndakirutimama	Kynan Smythe	Harper Mitchell-Oehlers
12	Female	Kaela Usher	Isadora Verhelst	Ava Thompson
	Male	Oliver Singor	Matthew Robinson	Rohan Davis







GOLF

Adam Smith - TIC



Welcome back... 'Bridging the Gap'

Our Year 7-10 Golf Academy students had an awesome experience playing in the Bridging The Gap event with the Collier Park Seniors. Congratulations to Karissa Sanchez (Year 10) and Arnika Zuideveld (Year 9) who, along with their senior team mates, captured the coveted BTG trophy! Well done to Brodie Ridley (Year 10) and Kimberley Innes (Year 8) who finished in second place.

This competition has been a longstanding highlight on the lower school golfers' calendar. After the cancellation of last year's event, it was great to see a smile on the faces of all competitors.

Thank you to the seniors and to Collier Park Golf Course for supporting this event, which is so important to our school community.



2022 Golf Applications Closing 21st May 2021

The closing date for 2022 enrolments into the Como Golf Academy is Friday 21st May. If you would like your child to be part of a specialist golf program which has a long history of success and development, please contact our Enrolment Officer, Gaye Murphy, on (08) 9365 2000 or at gaye.murphy@education.wa.edu.au.

Notable achievements and information include:

- 16 Australian Representatives
- Major Champion Hannah Green as our Academy Ambassador
- Access to world class strength and conditioning facilities at Curtin Stadium
- Coaching from PGA Professionals at Collier Park Golf Course
- Completion of Certificate II in Sports Coaching

For more information about the program, please contact Teacher in Charge of Golf, Adam Smith, on (08) 9365 2000 or at adam.smith3@education.wa.edu.au.

King Kane completes the Triple Crown

Well done to Year 7 golfer, Kane Darmody, who completed a 'triple crown' by winning the interhouse cross country, 800m and 1500 in his respective year group. Congratulations Kane on a wonderful achievement and showing the rest of the world that golfers really are athletes!



Corporate Day update

For the second year running, the Corporate Fundraising Day was unfortunately postponed. As with many sporting and educational activities, the uncertainty and restrictions imposed by Covid-19 meant that the day could not be held on the scheduled date.

The Corporate Day is fundamental to the Academy's continuous development and the school is working hard to secure a date later on in the year. Please check the school website and Facebook page for updates.

HOCKEY

Tate Napier - TIC

Quadrathon 2021

The annual Quadrathon at Point Walter saw a field of thirteen teams compete for the individual and team accolades on offer. Individual standout performances included Jonah Pilatti (Yr 8 – Swim), Austin Colthart (Yr 9 - 4km Run), Nash Pittaway (Yr 8 - Ride) and Tommy McNamara (Yr 8 - 2km Run). The most outstanding team performance on the day saw the title go to Jonah Pilatti (Year 8 - Swim), Shaun Shackley (Year 11 – 4km Run), Travis Blok (Year 10 – Bike) and Jonte Sadler (Year 9 – 2km Run).

Congratulations and thank you to the Year 12 students for their efforts in preparing and hosting the event, and to the parent support crew who gave up their time to assist on the course as race marshals and chefs on the BBQ.



THE ARTS

Kiara Wild - Music

ANZAC DAY

2021 has brought us another ANZAC Day where we've had to pay our respects in different ways, many of us standing united at the ends of our driveways. Some of Como's Music Students we're able to help commemorate both on April 25th, and surrounding dates.

We'd like to thank the following students for their performances;

- Raiyah Bagley (Yr 12) for her playing of the Last Post and The Rouse at Como Secondary's ANZAC Assembly.

- Zoe Bizzaca (Yr 9) for her video and sound recording of the Last Post and the Rouse for Millen Primary School's ANZAC assembly. She was unfortunately unable to perform in person due to the COVID-19 restrictions but hopes to perform in 2022 at Millen. The primary school enjoyed having Zoe's recording to use this year.

- George Tan (Yr 8), Duangsuda Coles (Yr 8) and Ms Turner for their early morning playing's of the Last Post on ANZAC morning in their respective driveways.

Collier Park Village Performance



Students studying their Certificate II and III in the Music Industry were invited to Collier Park Retirement Village to perform at their afternoon tea. The students formed a small ensemble and performed classics such as 'Rock Around the Clock', 'La Bamba' and 'Johnny B. Goode' for the residents, who all seemed to enjoy and sing along to the pieces.

BEXX – Arts Attack



Arts Attack kicked off on Friday April 30th with local artist BEXX giving students a performance at lunch time. BEXX is an electronic performance producer and artist who went through WAAPA and she's told her sound is similar to Billie Eilish and Tone and I.

Students of all year groups came to watch and listen, with lots of students actually getting involved in the singing and dancing! Thanks to WAM (WA Music) for their continued support and sourcing talented artists to perform for our students, and a big thankyou to BEXX for her performance!

TECHNOLOGIES

Kirsten Romany - Technologies HoLA

Home Economics Teachers created a display in the library for all staff, students and visitors. Some of the items are on loan from the Old Mill in South Perth, others were brought in by Ms Preston.

The display demonstrated how far we have come with Home Economics and how the focus has changed from the home to industry.

This year's topic is ageing populations, which is fitting considering it has been a hot topic around Australia and the risk our ageing populations have been at during the current pandemic.

Students also worked hard creating dishes for presentation. Year 9s Annika and Ry are pictured with their pasta dish and Year 11s Sophia, Isabella, Jade, Shenae, Amos, Jaiden, Carson and Louis are pictured with their garden vegetable quiches.



CREATE

Emma Cattapan - English Teacher

Create at Como's Creatives!



Over the past few weeks, the Year 8 Create English class have been working on combining narrative with elements of non-fiction in biographical writing. It is a true testament to the strength of these young, budding writers that they were able to capture so eloquently something even adult writers struggle to do! Biographies are more than just informative – they are entertaining, succinct, emotional and often, divulge something about the subject that's admirable. But don't take my word for it! Check out their collated anthology! Called "Voices of Change", we compiled their texts with original artworks into a complete book, which is now available for your viewing pleasure at [here](#).

Recently, the Year 8s also had the pleasure of meeting the author of their studied novel Zac and Mia – Amanda Betts. Amanda goes by A.J.Betts and visited the Year 8s to discuss her novel, the act of writing, how to develop characters, conflict and novels you don't want to put down! Amanda also told us about being approached by

Hollywood producers to turn her novel into a TV series! Zac and Mia is now a hit American TV show, having won awards for its young actors at the Emmy Awards and Amanda was flown to LA to visit the set, and even was used as an extra in one scene!

The Year 7s are currently working on their original picture books. They have chosen an issue or concern of interest to a young adult audience and have investigated how to make a complete book – from the cover, to the spine, to the words, to the images! I can't wait to see their final products and enter some in the CBCA Make a Storybook Competition.

Coming up, both the Year 7s and 8 Create classes will be visiting the Scribblers Festival at the Subiaco Arts Centre. This is a huge day of creativity and we are excited to take part – we will be meeting local and interstate authors, illustrators and participating in workshops about writing and creating. We will share pictures after the event!

Don't forget to stay up to date with all things Create at Como via our Instagram page: [create_at_como](#)



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

These times can be stressful for many families. If you require help during this period, the following information may be of assistance.

Emergency services and help lines:

Call 000 in an emergency if you feel someone is at risk of harm OR for mental health emergency assessment, support and referral contact:

- Urgent Mental Health Telephone Support Line supports children and young people under 18 years (family who have concerns can call 24 hours a day/7 days a week incl. public holidays) - 1800 048 636

- Mental Health Emergency Response Line (MHERL) 18 years+ is 24/7 – 1300 552 002 (metro) Peel callers – 1800 676 822 (free call).

- RuralLink for Rural and remote areas from 4:30 pm to 8:30 am (Mon to Fri) and 24 hrs (Sat, Sun and public holidays) - 1800 552 002

- Find your GP after-hours clinic. Call after hours GP Helpline on 1800 022 222

If you need someone to talk to:

Womens Domestic Violence Helpline	1800 007 339
Beyondblue	1300 224 636
Crisis Care Helpline Or Country Toll Free	9223 1111 1800 199 008
Headspace	1800 650 890
Kids Helpline	1800 551 800
Lifeline	13 11 14
Men's Line Australia	1300 789 978
Suicide Call Back Service	1300 659 467
The Samaritans	135 247 (7AM to 7PM)

Online support can be accessed through the [WA Mental Health Commission](#)

PARENTS & CITIZENS

Meetings

The P&C meet once a month during term time on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7.30pm at the College in the Elicos Room. Attendance at these meetings is a great way to find out more about what is happening in the College, its future plans and how these will affect your child and your family. It is also a venue for parents to voice concerns, raise issues and discuss ideas both with the Principal and with other parents.

Second-hand uniforms

There is a second hand uniform shop located at the school. It is run by the P&C and all funds raised go towards projects to benefit all students. Non-students need to sign in at the front office and staff can assist as to where to find the shop.

The shop is run on donations only. Please consider donating any school uniforms that you no longer need, including any specialist program uniforms, e.g. black pants, white collared long sleeve shirts for music performances.

Donations: can be placed in the marked boxes in the Canteen, the front office during school hours or given to the shop when open.

Open every Friday 8.30am – 9.15am

Location: B Block

Enquiries: comoseconds@outlook.com

Payments: Cash Only



COMO NOTICES

Please Remember the School Zone Speed Limit of

College Access

All visitors to the College MUST sign in at Administration.



Contact Details

Please advise changes via email to Como.SC.AdminSupport@education.wa.edu.au, or Change of Details form available at Administration. Please ensure the College has your current email address.

Contact During School Hours

Please DO NOT call the College to ask for a message to be given to your child. Please understand that with a College community of over 800 it is not possible to get messages to individual students. To avoid this issue, please ensure that after school arrangements are pre-arranged. This is part of helping students to become independent.

Drop-off

There is considerable vehicle traffic around our College site before and after school. It is expected that all vehicles use the Bruce Street car park or the marked drop-off bays to drop students off. Staff and Student car parks are NOT to be used for this purpose because it causes a great deal of congestion and potential danger to students.

Health

The Health Centre is open when the School Nurse is on site. When the Centre is open, students may access it at recess and lunch time without needing permission. If a student wishes to go during class time, permission with a note written in the College diary by their supervising teacher is required. If the Nurse is not available, students should see another member of the Student Services team or a Deputy Principal. Under no circumstances are students to contact parents/guardians directly and leave the College grounds without parents contacting the College and the student being properly signed out. In the case of injury, either a parent will be contacted or the student will be sent by ambulance to hospital, at the parent's expense.

NOTE: Please consider the health and wellbeing of others before allowing unwell students to attend school.