

Principals Report



Please note that The Woden School is a nut-free zone. We appreciate parents not providing peanut butter, Nutella or similar sandwiches as we have some students and staff with severe allergies to these products. Please check that any cakes, chocolates and any food products brought to school are nut free.



**NUT FREE
ZONE**



TWS Future of Education



TWS Student Handbook

Dear Woden School Community,

As 2025 draws to a close, it's hard to believe how quickly the year has passed. Term 4 has been filled with energy, celebration and some unforgettable moments.

We launched our end-of-year festivities in the best possible way with Wodenstock – always one of my personal highlights! This year's event was truly outstanding, with the electrifying live performance by the Alfred Deakin High School band stealing the show. Our students' enthusiasm was infectious, and the entire day was a celebration of talent, creativity and community spirit. A special thank you to Peta Sheppard for her incredible work in organising such a memorable festival.

The celebrations continued with our Year 10 and Year 12 formals – two wonderful evenings filled with laughter, pride and a real sense of achievement. We will round off the term this week with our Awards Night at Canberra College, where we look forward to recognising the hard work and success of so many of our students.

None of these events would be possible without the dedication of our amazing staff. To every teacher, support staff member and volunteer – thank you for going above and beyond to make these experiences so special for our young people.

I also want to sincerely thank our entire school community for your understanding and cooperation during the unexpected closure earlier this term caused by the coloured sand incident. Your calm and supportive response made a difficult situation much easier to manage. Please be assured that we have taken every precaution to ensure there is no ongoing risk.

To our graduating students – a huge congratulations! You have grown so much during your time at The Woden School, and we are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved. We wish you every success, happiness and adventure in the next chapter of your lives.

To our parents, carers and wider community – thank you for your continued trust and partnership throughout 2025. It has been both a privilege and a joy to serve as your Principal, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

Wishing you all a safe, restful and joyful holiday season.

Warm regards,

James Malone
Principal
The Woden School

Principal

James Malone

Deputy Principal

Laura Simsen

Moira Beverley

Business Manager

Keshap Moktan

Executive Teachers

Nicole Terry

Jaimie Horrobin

Matt Marasco

Liam Biti

Support Assistant's 4

Juniors: Emma Schirmer

Middles: Nat Burke

Seniors: Cameron Sant

School Psychologist

Jon Schwartz

Occupational Therapist

Annalise Korsch

Speech Pathologist

Kate Sanderson

Front Office

Narelle Leonard

Bethany Turner

Chencho Om



UPCOMING EVENTS

Important Contacts

Term 4 Ends	18 December
School Closed	19 Dec—12 Jan
New Student Start	30 January
Returning students Start	2 February
Meet and Greet	10 February
School Photos	25 February
Hospitality Kitchen Open Week 3	11 February
Disco	Wednesdays

Front Office
6142 0200
TWS@thewodens.act.edu.au
Special Needs Transport
6205 3555
transit.act.gov.au
Q City
6128 9313
qcitytransit.com.au
Communities @ Work After
School Contact
0417 043 761
www.commsatwork.org

Are you feeling stressed, worried, sad, lonely or anxious?

You are not alone. This pandemic has been a very troubling and worrying time for everyone. We'd like to show you some online resources you can access if you are feeling any of these emotions.

Please access these, with the support of a parent or carer if needed, if you need some information, tips, and tricks to help you ease some of the discomfort caused by experiencing these (very normal) difficult emotions.

Reach Out resources for young people 14 - 25 (via Beyond Blue website portal)

<https://coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au/managing-my-daily-life/young-people-aged-14-25.html>

Head to Health

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

The Woden School social media

Facebook

The Woden School

<https://www.facebook.com/TheWodenSchool/>

Our Priorities 2022—2026

1. Engaging Curriculum and pedagogies
2. Student voice and agency
3. Student centred learning communities



IMPORTANT NOTICES

School Closed

19th of December 2025 —12th of January 2026

Meet and Greet 2026

10th of February 5pm—6:30pm

School Photos 2026

25th of February

New Payment Process from 1st of January 2026

The Quick web payment method will no longer be active as of the 31st of December.

Payment options from 1st of January will include:

- Cash payment
- Parent Portal Payments

If you have not yet set up your Parent Portal account, we encourage you to set this up over the holiday in preparation.

Parent Car Pick ups:

Are to occur AFTER 3pm please, unless otherwise organised with the front office. This is so buses have time to be loaded and cleared to allow for a safe transition home. Please **do not leave your car**. Pull up along the front apron and your young person will be called.

Please notify school office of any absences before 9.30am.

No student will be transitioned across the car park.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Insurance and Ambulance Transport

The ACT Education Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automaticity and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school-organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover constancies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity within the ACT.

Attention Parents/Carers of Students with Medical Conditions.

It is essential that we maintain accurate and up to date information on all medical conditions. If at anytime the health care needs of your young adult changes, please notify the front office.

It is your Responsibility to update general Medical Information and Consent forms and other medical condition treatment plans yearly. Thank you

Privacy Notice—School Accidents/ Incidents

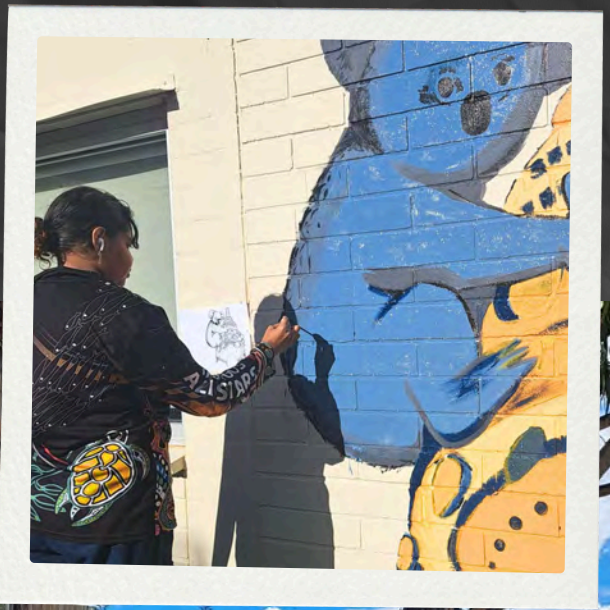
The Woden School collects information about Injuries and incidents which occur at the school or on school-organised activities, on behalf on the ACT Education Directorate. Some of the Information may be personal information as defined in the Information Privacy Act 2014 and the Health Records (Privacy and Access) Act 1997. The information is usually included in a Student Accident/Incident Report or Notification of a Critical Incident together with any Accompanying witness statements.

The purpose for which the information is collected include notifying the Territory's insurances and legal advisers of injuries and incidents and ensuring that the school itself has accurate and complete records. The Directorate unusually provides the form and any other information relevant to the accident/incident to the ACT Insurance Authority and the ACT Government Solicitor. Information may also be provided to WorkSafe ACT in accordance with ACT Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Schools have a duty of care to keep students safe. Where an injury or incident occurs schools have an obligation to determine what has happened and therefore question students. Schools may also ask students to make statements in writing and sign these statements.

ART COURTYARD

MURAL



After a massive success in the Art courtyard with the original Canberra scene mural of Telstra Tower and a wombat in a Canberra bus stop done by Kirsten, a year 10 student... We thought, why not go further and spread colour throughout the school?

Kirsten and Narelle (a year 9 student) helped Sarah, the Art teacher, complete the Art courtyard. There were tiled mosaics already hanging on the wall of Parliament House and Telstra Tower, so continuing the Canberra icon theme we added. Using school colours of the yellows and navy, the Australian War Memorial, Science Dome, Carillion, Parliament House and iconic Canberra balloons have been painted. (Pictured above).

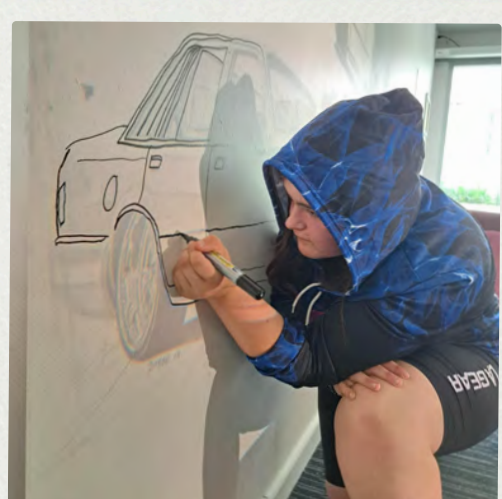
During week 1, the middle school Art elective created digital collages of images and themes they wanted to paint in the middle school corridor. After some editing, these scenes and images were projected onto the wall using an old school overhead projector, and students traced them onto the wall. Keeping with the warm colours already present in the middle school corridor with oranges, reds and yellows. (Pictured on the next page are students tracing and painting these murals as well as the finished product.) Kirsten A, Narelle B, Aaron B, Breanna M, Prithvee V, Yarra A, Mercedes H, Ava N, George B, Adi W and Ollie F were all involved with this process.



MURALS



MIDDLE SCHOOL CORRIDOR

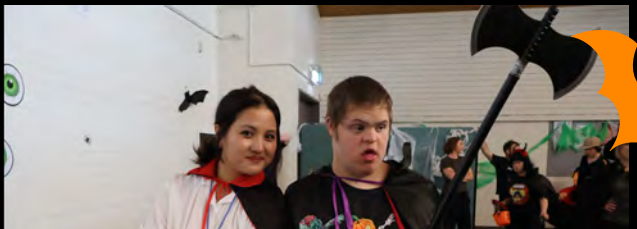




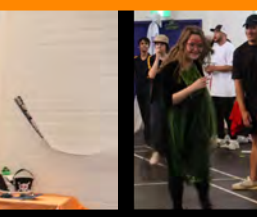
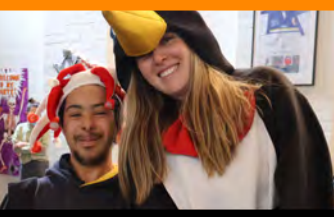
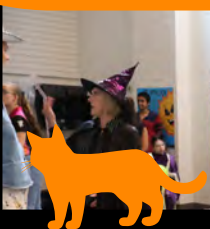
The Woden School 2025



Halloween Disco



From monster moves to magical melodies, the dance floor was alive with frightful fun. We all turned up the spooky style and made it unforgettable!



Year 10 Formal

27th of November, 2025

The Year 10 Formal was a successful evening, leaving students, teachers, and families with memories to cherish for years to come. From the moment the doors opened, the atmosphere was electric—filled with laughter, excitement, and the promise of an unforgettable evening.

Every student looked absolutely stunning, dressed to impress in beautiful dresses and sharp suits. The pride and joy on their faces were matched only by the smiles of parents, carers and staff who watched these young people celebrate an impressive milestone.

It was a celebration not just of the end of a school year, but of friendships, growth, and the bright futures ahead. The Year 10 Formal was a beautiful reminder of how far our students have come, and we thank everyone for their support and engagement.



Year 10 Formal

27th of November, 2025





Year 12 Formal

4TH OF DECEMBER 2025



THE YEAR 12 FORMAL WAS A NIGHT FULL OF CELEBRATION, MEMORIES, AND LOTS OF DANCING!



WE TOOK THE TIME TO RECOGNISE HOW FAR OUR STUDENTS HAVE COME, AND PRAISE THEIR AMAZING ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGHOUT THEIR JOURNEY AT THE WODEN SCHOOL.



THE SPEECHES WERE HEARTFELT AND MEANINGFUL, SHOWCASING THE DEDICATION OUR STAFF HAVE TO THE WELL-BEING AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR STUDENTS, THEIR PRESENCE WILL BE DEEPLY MISSED.

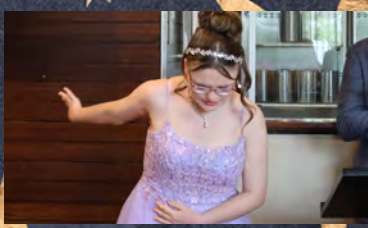
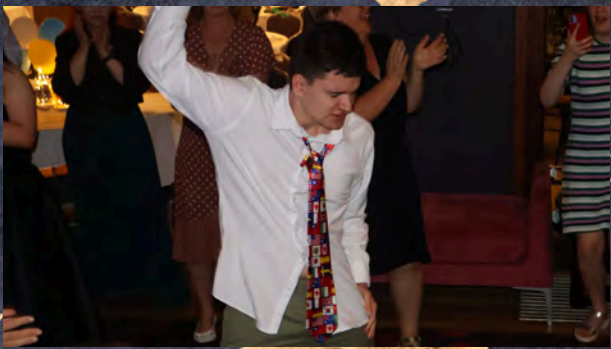


WE THANK EVERYONE WHO WAS INVOLVED AND MADE THE NIGHT ONE TO REMEMBER.



Year 12 Formal

4TH OF DECEMBER 2025

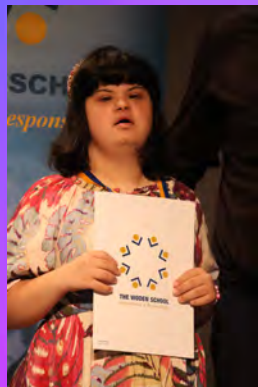


Presentation Evening

11th of December 2025

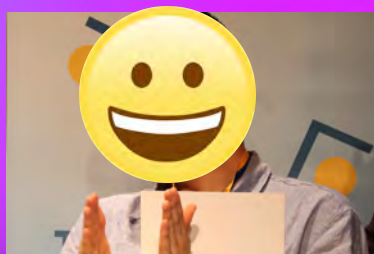
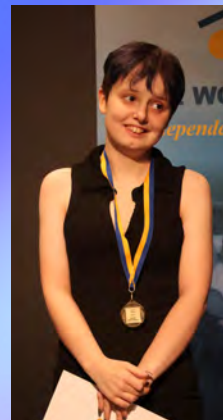
Thank you to all families and carers who came to support our recent presentation evening. It was a successful evening celebrating our students excellence and recognising their achievements and dedication to The Woden School.

We are all extremely proud of everyone who received an award, and grateful for all of the teachers who delivered meaningful and inspiring speeches.



Presentation Evening

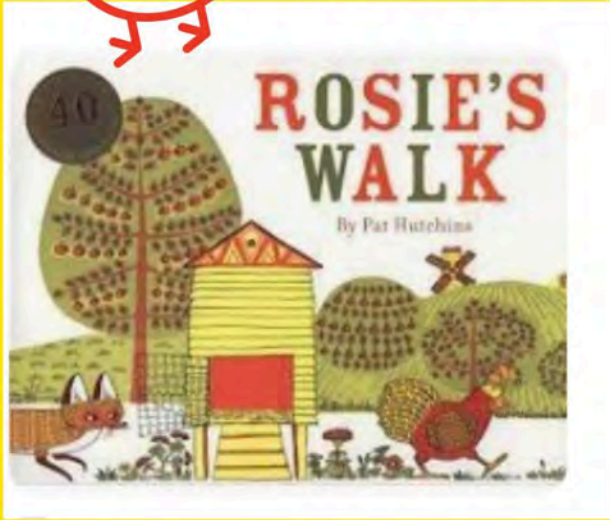
11th of December 2025





Room 5

5



Went on Rosie's Walk.
across, around, over, past, through
and under.



Woden wins big at Chief Minister's Reading Challenge 2025

Last week The Woden School was represented by Ava and Leo at the Chief Minister's Awards Ceremony at the National Library of Australia. Ava and Leo collected reading awards in the Years 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12 categories.

Congratulations to our students and teachers for embracing reading and being the only school in the ACT to win all three secondary years categories.



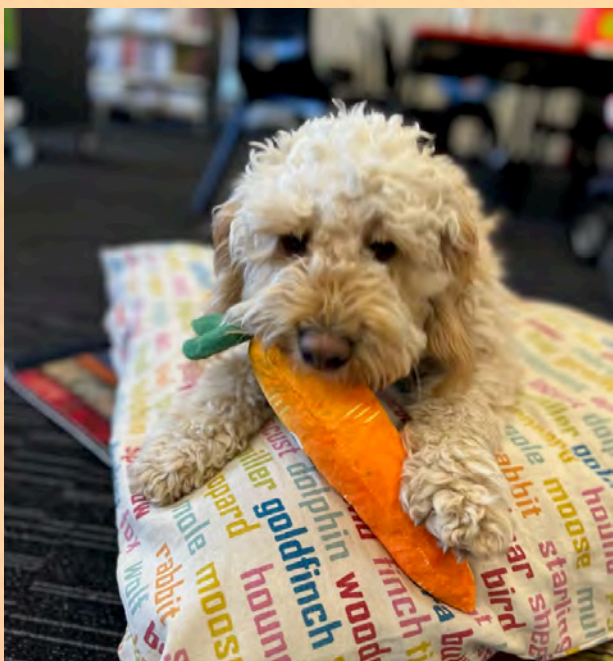
George the Dog

One Year of Making Our Community Stronger

George, the dog, has been part of The Woden School Community for a year now. In just twelve months, George has become a much-loved presence in the school. He walks the corridors greeting staff and students with a wagging tail and a friendly nature, bringing warmth, playfulness and comfort to all.

From the moment he arrived, George showed a natural ability to sense what someone needed and accommodate himself to that need, whether it was offering quiet companionship in the library, a cuddle on the floor of a corridor or playful engagement on the playground.

This awareness has given George an important role working with individual students to assist them with emotional support and regulation. Teachers and support staff have noticed the significant positive impact George has had on student engagement, participation and communication.



One student has taught her class how to say dog in AUSLAN, another student has learnt dogs are not to be feared and he no longer runs away, instead, asking if he can spend time with George. George participates in sensory breaks, supports students during transitions, and simply offers a steady, comforting presence when needed.

As we celebrate George's first year with us, we look forward to many more years of learning, growing, and sharing our days with him. He has truly become an important and valued member of our school community.



TERM 4 | 2025

TWS ILLUSTRATED

SPORTS

MAGAZINE

BRUMBIES RUGBY
BELOW



ABILITIES
UNLEASHED
A I S

KORBIN SHOWING HIS
STRENGTH DURING
MORNING CIRCUIT



APRIL LIGHTING UP
THE COLOUR RUN



**SIX
HIGHLIGHTS
BELOW !**



NOV 2025

BRUMBIES

RUGBY UNION





Soccer



WORLD CUP



TWS



Abilities Unleashed

AIS, Oct 2025

Wes

Emma

Bri

Lilly

Zoe



Junior's



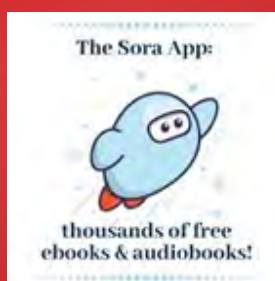
Colour Run



TWS Library has now closed for 2025

Thank you for a wonderful year of reading and farewell to our students who are moving onto other colleges or to life. We wish you all the best. Any library books that are found at home over the break or into the future, please pop them into the school or the mail as we always love to get them back. A reminder that e and audio books are totally available over the break. Students from Woden can access books from soraapp.com [using normal school logins] [ACT Education] and digital books from Story Box Hub online with the school's subscription [login woden/books]. ACT Libraries will be open over the break, please sign up for a library card if you don't have one. For additional assistance with login details for the above, please call the school library during the day up until the last school day this year. Keep on reading and see you in 2026!

Norma, Sally & Elizabeth
The Woden School Library



The Woden School Hospitality Program Menu

Term 1, 2026 |

Food freshly prepared by the student Hospitality work team



IMPORTANT: Recess can be either pre-ordered or purchased over the counter.
Lunch must be pre-ordered.

HOW TO ORDER

Orders must be handed to the café on Wednesday mornings.

Clearly write on a paper bag: name, year, recess & lunch order with amount included.

Please note that the café will open week 3.

Our café only runs on WEDNESDAYS

Drinks (available at recess and lunch)

Juice popper	
Milkshake (chocolate/strawberry/caramel)	\$2.00
Smoothie	\$3.50
Fresh Watermelon juice	\$3.50
	\$2.50

Recess only

Mini pizzas	\$2.50
Biscuits	\$3.50
Jelly Cup	\$1.00
Sausage roll	\$3.50
Arancini balls	\$4.50
Hot chips	\$4.50
Brownie Bliss Balls	\$1.00

Lunch only

Sandwiches	\$5.50
Ham	
Ham & Cheese	
Vegemite	
Vegemite and cheese	
Ham & Cheese Toastie	

WEEKLY LUNCH SPECIALS

\$9.00

Week 1: **Closed**

Week 2: **Closed**

Week 3: Chicken Gyros

Week 4: Sushi Bake

Week 5: Korean Beef Bulgogi
Bowls

Week 6: Nachos

Week 7: Chicken Burger

Week 8: Quesadillas

Week 9: Butter Chicken with Rice

Week 10: Cottage pie and Salad

Parent Portal

Parent Portal is a secure online platform used to share student information between you and your child's school.

Use Parent Portal to:

- notify us if your child is sick or explain an absence
- receive academic reports
- receive our school newsletter
- make payments
- access the school calendar and
- your child's student timetable.

Parent Portal is used by all ACT public schools from preschool through to year 12. If you have children at other ACT public schools, you don't need to sign up to the system twice. You can access their information from one account.

You can also access Parent Portal through the *Central for Parents* app. Download the app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#).



If you would like to access Parent Portal via a web browser on your mobile phone, tablet or computer, go to the Education Directorate website. When you are logged into Parent Portal, we recommend saving the browser as a favourite or to the homepage on your mobile phone for quick access in the future.

Access to Parent Portal and *Central for Parents* app is via your ACT Digital Account. If you still need to register, go to the Education Directorate website and log in or create your ACT Digital Account. You will need your access key, which you should have received by email when we launched.

If you have any questions, please contact the Front Office at TWS@thewodens.act.edu.au or on 61420200.

For more information about Parent Portal, visit the [Education Directorate website](https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/parent-portal) <https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/parent-portal>

ALL ABILITIES & POWERCHAIR

WANT TO BE PART OF CAPITAL FOOTBALL'S INCLUSION PROGRAMS?

TAKE PART IN THE ALL ABILITIES ACADEMY
OR OUR POWERCHAIR TRAINING



ALL ABILITIES



POWERCHAIR



CONTACT BRANDON.STROUD@CAPITALFOOTBALL.COM.AU WITH ANY QUERIES

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS™



The next Holiday Happenings edition is now available online.

To see the *Programs, Activities & Events* happening these holidays go to:

www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet