



TERM 2 2025 NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, July 2nd, 2025



**John Tonkin College
Education Support Centre**

Celebrating 30 Years

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www.johntonkincollegeesc.wa.edu.au



John Tonkin College Education Support Centre

Celebrating 30 Years

This year, JTCESC is celebrating 30 years. We have been known by many names, in multiple different sites across Mandurah, but our goals have remained consistent - to educate our students and empower them to reach their dreams.



Our school recognises the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to the Country on which we live, work, learn and grow. We pay respects to Elders past, present, and emerging. We acknowledge and respect the heritage and connections of the Bindjareb people of the Noongar Nation.



CONTENTS

Topic	Page
Principal's Message	4
School Board	5
Student Services	6
Brunch Cafe	7
Workplace Learning	8
FG03	9
FG04	10
FG09	11
T2	12
Art	13
Workshop	14

Topic	Page
Cadets	15
Cadets Camp	16
Animal Studies	18
Construction	19
Retail	20
Beauty	21
Enterprise	22
Sustainability	23
Outdoors Indoors	24
Wellbeing & Coding	25
Quick References	26
Mental Health	27

2026

Enrolments

Enrolling your child at JTCESC for Year 11 or 12 in 2026? Submit your application as soon as possible. We can't wait to meet you!



Department of Education
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The WA Student Assistance Payment

Helping you get the things you need for your kids. Claim by 4 July 2025.

\$150
For each Kindergarten and primary school student

\$250
For each secondary school student

[Find out more](#)

Claim on the ServiceWA app

Claims close Friday 4 July

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As Term 2 comes to a close, I'm delighted to share some of the highlights that made this term so memorable at John Tonkin College ESC.

In Week 9 we welcomed the Halls Head College ESC Galaxy Choir – thanks to Aaron Spice and Lauren Hanney for all their hard work! Our students collaborated on the Auslan version of “A Million Dreams”, performing it beautifully. A special mention goes to Matilda for her moving solo of “This Is Me.” Tarryn Lambert and her team added to the celebration with a delicious morning tea.

We've also had some staffing changes. Audra Guy joined us to support the Alpha to Omega literacy program while Sharon Hegney is on leave. Amber Sloan began a six-month sabbatical, and our multi-skilled EA, Penny Madigan, has stepped into the School Officer role. Between Penny and Charlotte, you're guaranteed a warm and friendly welcome at reception.

In Week 6, our students braved near-monsoonal rain to compete in the Kalability AFL competition in Kalamunda. Their determination paid off – they brought home a trophy! We're incredibly proud of their grit, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Another major highlight was our whole school camp to Mornington Adventure Camp. Students and staff shared joyful, lasting memories. Huge thanks to Emergency Services Cadet leader Nat Harris, Transition Coordinator Aaron Spice, and all staff who supported students over the three days. We're already looking forward to Semester Two camps, including Rottnest Island and Year 11/12 trips around Perth.

Finally, we're thrilled to welcome back Kristin Lucas as our Principal. Her leadership and energy have been greatly missed.

Thank you to all students, staff, and families for your continued support. Wishing everyone a safe and restful break—we look forward to another exciting term ahead!

Clare Munro

Acting Principal



SCHOOL BOARD



Laura Tolomei
Chairperson



Kristin Lucas
Principal



Clare Munro
Staff



Aaron Spice
Staff



Penny Madigan
Staff



Shannon Wright
Community



Chilambe Kawame
Community



Nancy Hartnett
Community



Jenny Green
Community

STUDENT SERVICES

We're halfway through the year, and it's been a busy but rewarding term in Student Services. Our focus has been on supporting our students in building independence, emotional regulation, and preparing for post-school life. From self-regulation toolboxes to personal routines and communication supports, we're seeing fantastic growth in students' ability to manage their emotions and navigate their day with confidence.

Support Dogs 🐶

Maple and Hannah continue to be a calming presence across the school. They've also enjoyed Friday visits to Animal Studies, where they interact with Dallas and Bear, the two resident Animal Studies K9's.

Excursions & Community Engagement

Students participated in enriching off-site activities, including Mornington Adventure Camp. These experiences helped build confidence, independence, and real-world social skills, with strong support from our staff team.

Student Services Hub

Our new hub has been well used this term, offering a supportive space for regulation, breaks, and wellbeing. Data tracking is helping us measure its impact and guide future improvements.

Upcoming in Term 3

- Halls Head College ESC Transition Visits: We're welcoming their Year 10 students for interactive sessions. Our Year 11s are excited to introduce them to our school.
- Year 12 Wellbeing Program: Year 12s will attend an off-site program focused on life skills, wellbeing, and community access to support their transition from school.

What another great term —
We look forward to Term 3!

Julie Woodman
Student Services EA



BRUNCH CAFE

Term 2 gave me the opportunity to use some of the produce from the school's vegetable garden. With an abundance of silverbeet, I put my Italian cooking skills into gear. It gave me so much joy seeing the students enjoying the 'green stuff' from the garden!

The Brunch Cafe has given the opportunity for the students not only a space for social interactions but also opportunities to try new foods.

With snow peas and broccoli ready to harvest in term 3, I'm looking forward to showcasing these in the Brunch Cafe menu 😊

Filomena Maranta
Brunch Cafe Coordinator



WORKPLACE LEARNING

We are proud to share the continued success of our Workplace Learning program. This program provides students with the invaluable opportunity to gain hands-on experience in real workplace environments, develop practical skills, and secure written references from employers or the school.

We are pleased to report that all participating students have received positive feedback from their employers.

As part of their transition from school, all students are now updating their resumes. The focus is on creating a detailed document that will be included in their graduation portfolios. We remind students that their resume is a vital tool for life beyond school and should be regularly updated as they complete further training, volunteering or gain employment.

Marg Bowman
Workplace Learning Coordinator



MS BROCKMAN'S CLASS FG03

FG03 have had a busy term with Sexual Health Quarters incursions, Cadets Camp, cooking classes, the Kalability AFL carnival, and our certificate course work.

Students have been using a class banking system as both a reward system and a way to learn about banking. We have been enjoying this process, learning and having fun, especially when we could use what we learned to do reward activities such as block construction and games.

We look forward to another busy and big term in term 3.

Lexie Brockman
Teacher



MR BENNETT'S CLASS

FG04

I was going to say it's hard to imagine we're halfway through the year, but looking through our work, I can well believe it!

Maths saw us building on our time and money management skills while learning how area, perimeter and circumference are used in the real world. Students are getting really good at taking the description of a logical problem, turning it into a maths concept, and then using what they know to solve it. We've also looked at how this kind of work changes and strengthens your brain and how many kinds of workers use these skills every day.

Our literacy work has seen us look at the concept of good and bad in society. We've explored how it is possible to determine if someone is trustworthy, how advertising works and what a scam is. We've also explored how complex good and bad can be whilst reading Dorothy Pilkington Garimara's excellent book, Rabbit-Proof Fence.

David Bennett
Teacher

"We've been doing direction, coordinates, work placements and footy. I emailed the Eagles some questions about bullying, and Ella from their membership team replied with lots of information. We cooked some tacos, chicken burgers, and Mr Bennett (tried to) sing for us instead of his usual jokes."

– Memphis



"This term was great to hang out with the teacher and students. Me and my friends had funny moments at camp. We also had Mr Bennett singing Let It Go from Frozen LoL! In math, we did direction and coordinates. In cooking class, we cooked tacos and chicken. I also showed Mr B my singing - "This Is Me" from Camp Rock. And the last thing is, we also emailed the West Coast Eagles a question about how they stop bullying in their football team."

– Matilda

MS SMITH'S CLASS FG09

We have had an amazing term in FG09!

The students have continued to strengthen their socio-emotional understanding and skills, which have included facilitated learning from the Sexual Health Quarters program focusing on respect, responsible decision-making and positive relationships.

The students have also engaged in volunteering at Heavenly Homes in Mandurah, helping to support those less fortunate in the community. Students have shown how kind and considerate they are and have enjoyed different learning environments.

We have also cooked many, many delicious meals! Students are becoming more independent chefs, and with time and practice, are perfecting their cooking skills and techniques. Great work, everyone!

In English and maths, we are learning about real-world scenarios, including potential careers once students graduate, such as volunteering and further study options. Students are benefitting from this hands-on, authentic approach and have been excelling with their assessments as well.

We have had a busy term, especially with the fantastic Harvey Camp, so the break is well-needed! We are all looking forward to Term 3!

Megan Smith
Teacher



MS LAMBERT'S CLASS

T2

Kicking Off with Emotional Regulation

We kicked off Term 2 with a visit from Sexual Health Quarters, who ran a Protective Behaviours session for our students. It was amazing watching them learn how to regulate their emotions and understand what helps them feel safe and supported.

Getting Out and About

Our community outings have been a blast! Students loved the hydrotherapy and bowling trips. We also launched a fun new activity at Chorus, painting and decorating while socialising in the community. It's been a great way for students to show their creativity and make connections.

Backpack Buddies Program

Our team has teamed up with Backpack Buddies, and everyone's been buzzing to help. Students have been repackaging food items into meal bags, spreading smiles across schools in our area.

Cooking Up a Storm

Every Monday, students prepare food for our Brunch Café, building culinary skills and teamwork. We prepared delicious treats for the Halls Head Choir when they visited and again for WA Mums' Cottage morning tea. It's been wonderful to see our students confidently and responsibly work with kitchen equipment while growing their life skills. Our students continue to dive into fun, meaningful activities weekly.

Their enthusiasm this term has been inspiring, and we can't wait to see what Term 3 brings!

Tarryn Lambert
Teacher



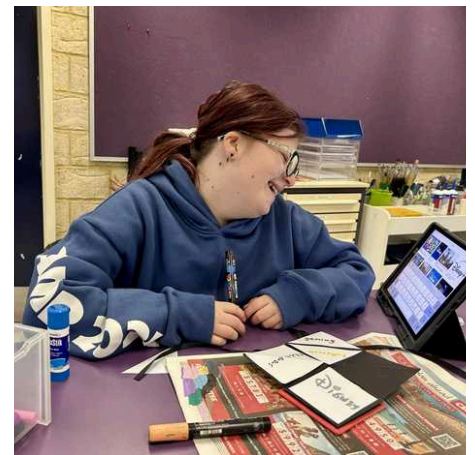
ART

We have been very busy in the Arts this term - we have been exploring the world of Drama.

First, we took a look at what a Foley artist is - a sound effects specialist who creates and records realistic sounds for film, television, and other media in post-production. We learnt how sound effects are made and added to theatre or film, and then played around with different ways sounds can be made by using a range of different items. We were surprised by how you can create unique sounds when you think creatively!

We then learned about film and theatre genres, characters and costumes. It was interesting to learn about how actors move around a stage, including what a stage direction looks like, sounds like and means.

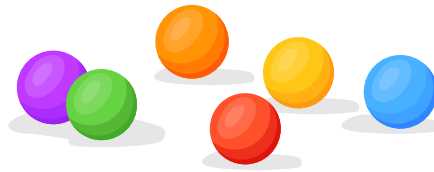
Lexie Brockman
Teacher



WORKSHOP

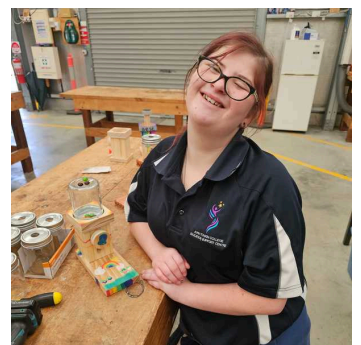
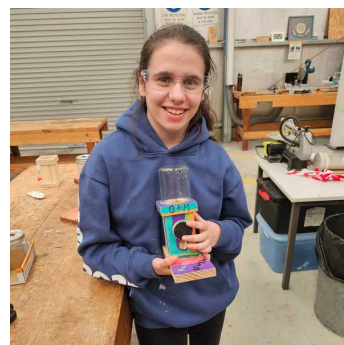
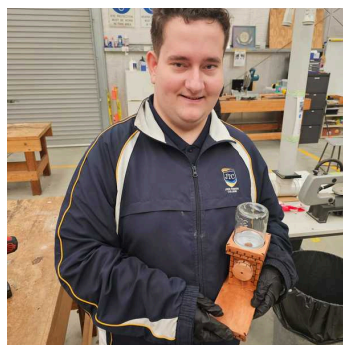
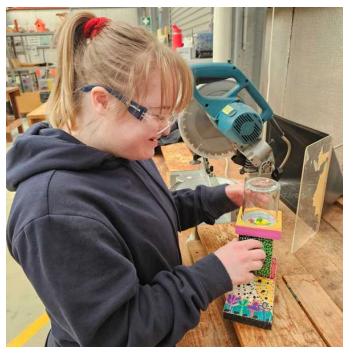
The workshop was a hive of activity again this term, with everyone making working gumball machines. They look simple, but they must be made with care to make sure the internals all line up - and our bunch of budding carpenters did not disappoint!

David Bennett
Teacher



“Back in my old high school, I learned about woodwork, and it quickly became my least favourite subject due to not knowing anyone, spacing out when instructions were being given, and having a hard time asking for help without feeling judged. In term two this year, I started going to school on Tuesdays, and one of my classes was woodwork. I will admit I was nervous, worrying I might mess up or not like it, but in reality, I really enjoyed it! I found it cool how we could use the machines and tools, and how most of the time everyone was doing their own thing, whether sanding down their wood pieces or waiting their turn to drill. This term, we made gumball machines, and my favourite part was adding my own designs to them. For mine, I added mushrooms and flowers.”

– Deegan



CADETS

We're excited to share what our Cadets have been up to this Term, and what's coming up next!

First Aid Training

We kicked off the term with First Aid lessons led by Mrs Hegney, who has now departed on another epic adventure around Australia. We thank her for her valuable contributions and welcome Mrs Bianca White to the Cadet team in the interim. Students were highly engaged as they learned:

- The **DRSABCD action plan**
- How to call **000** in an emergency
- Bandaging techniques for various injuries



Fire Safety Education

As we wrap up the term, students are learning about:

- Structure and home fire safety
- Bushfire awareness
- Creating a home fire escape plan
- The **Stop, Drop, Cover, Roll** technique for clothing fires



We encourage you to discuss fire safety at home and check your fire alarms if you haven't already.

Upcoming Camp

We're thrilled to announce our next camp to **Rottneest Island**, scheduled for **8th–10th September (Term 3)**. You should have received the initial letter and camp nomination form. Please return it as soon as possible so we can begin booking the ferry and planning activities. More details will be shared in the coming weeks.

Nat Harris
ESCC Unit Leader



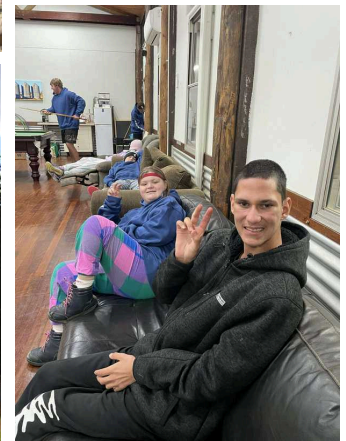
CADETS CAMP

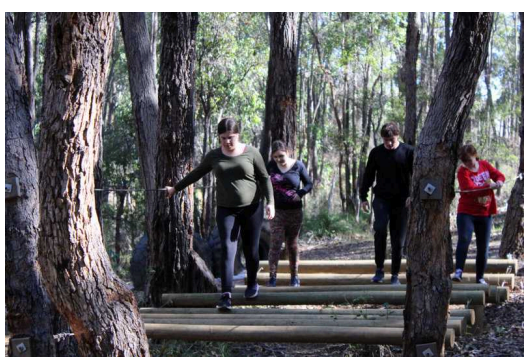
Mornington Adventure Camp – Week 5

Our camp at Mornington Adventure Camp in Harvey was a huge success! Students participated in:

- Creek hike, wall climbing, flying fox, commando course, tug of war
- Gymnasium games, cricket, and a cultural lesson with Mrs Green
- Pizza and marshmallows by the fire, outdoor movie night
- Plenty of Uno and pool in the hangout room

It was a fantastic experience for all involved!





ANIMAL STUDIES

Term 2 has been full of hands-on learning in Animal Studies, with students expanding their skills beyond dog care to include species such as budgerigars and guinea pigs.

Courtney has taken the lead in researching how to care for budgerigars and recently demonstrated her knowledge by setting up a small bird cage with all the essentials a budgie needs—such as perches, food and water stations, and enrichment items. She is now turning her attention to guinea pigs, building her understanding of their housing, feeding, and social needs.

Eva has also been making fantastic progress this term. She's been working extremely hard on her written hygiene assessments, writing long, detailed responses with beautifully neat handwriting. Her efforts show real care and commitment to her learning.

Animal and facility hygiene has remained a strong focus, with students practising practical tasks like sweeping, mopping, crate cleaning, and brushing the dogs. Courtney has been helping with crate hygiene routines. Eva has also been developing her cleaning and handling skills while building strong connections with both class dogs.

Eva continues to bond with Bear through daily walks and interaction in the exercise yard. This term, she has also started connecting with Dallas, offering him treats and pats. It's been wonderful to see her interactions grow with both animals.

As we move into term 3, students are building well-rounded knowledge and skills across a range of species and animal care tasks. We're proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by the whole class—it's shaping up to be another successful and rewarding year in animal studies!

Shea McCann
Trainer & Assessor



CONSTRUCTION

During Term 2, students have been learning about handling construction materials, as well as developing their Workplace Health and Safety knowledge and skills. Students have been further developing their hand skills whilst learning about Plaster Board, and how to cut and lay Wall Tiles. Students also had a go at designing their own Mosaic work and had a visit to the Construction Futures Centre.

Mark Barritt
Trainer & Assessor



RETAIL

This term, our retail students have successfully completed the 'Communication in the Workplace' unit, equipping them with vital skills to communicate effectively with colleagues and customers from diverse backgrounds, while working as part of a team. This foundation prepares them for frontline roles across various industry sectors, emphasising the importance of adhering to organisational policies and procedures under supervision. Building on this, students have now begun their third unit, which focuses on working effectively in the retail environment by integrating knowledge of workplace rights, responsibilities, and organisational policies into daily tasks.

Throughout their coursework, students continued making and selling their popular 'Bark Bites' dog treats, with the turkey-flavoured treats receiving rave reviews from both dogs and cats alike.

Our recent visit to Bunnings offered students valuable hands-on warehouse experience, where they collaborated with staff on a project for a local community charity, bridging theoretical knowledge—like workplace policies and procedures—with practical application. This excursion enhanced their understanding of real-world work environments, fostered teamwork skills, and reinforced the importance of adhering to workplace standards.

A big thank you to Bunnings Greenfields for supporting our students in their retail journey.

Meagan Green
Trainer & Assessor



BEAUTY

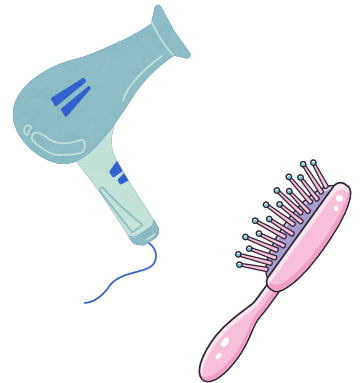
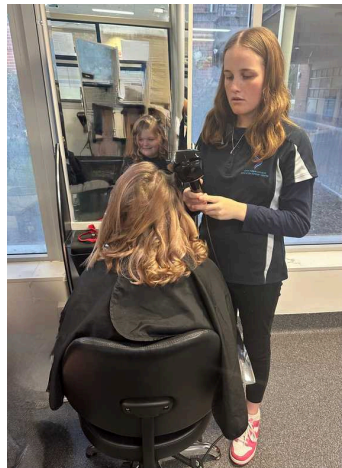
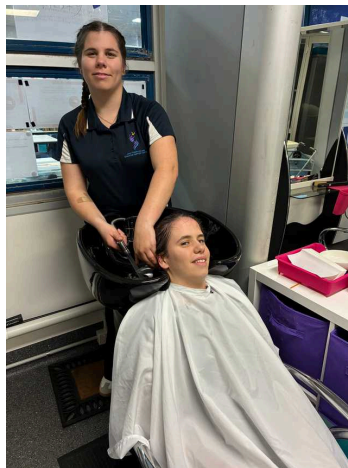
This term, we have covered Workplace Health and Safety and communication in the workplace. It has been a pleasure seeing the students develop their skills, not only in the salon but in the fundamental skills required in the workplace.

The students have been practising answering the phone to take appointments and writing emails using different scenarios.

On the appointment topic, the salon has started taking appointments from staff and students. This is helping to continue their communication and work health and safety knowledge.

It has been a pleasure working with the hair and beauty class this semester.

Filomena Maranta
Trainer & Assessor



ENTERPRISE

Crafty Connections at Chorus

This term, we headed to Chorus for a fun craft session where we met new people and made woolly wreaths and flowers. It was a brilliant way to socialise and get out into the community.

Rag-Tearing & Morning Tea

Our students continued their rag-tearing fundraiser for WA Mums' Cottage, then treated everyone to a lovely morning tea. We also popped into the local op-shop, which is always a great community outing!

Spreading Kindness with 1000Hearts

We've proudly partnered with the 1000Hearts program, a kindness-driven project from Tasmania that makes handmade fabric hearts to share hope and connection. This term, we packed over 500 hearts into bags to share kindness in our community. Thank you, Mark, for making this possible!

Market Day Prep & Disability Expo

This term, we crafted bottle lamps using napkins and recycled bottles, then added cork lights to them. Students packed lolly bags and added stickers to the front. This is all to showcase our creations at the upcoming disability expo and to sell at the market day.

Our Thursdays have been lively, creative, and full of heart, just like our students!

Tarryn Lambert
Teacher



SUSTAINABILITY

It has been another awesome term in sustainability!

The students have continued with their weekly nature clean-up walks, collecting general rubbish and 10c containers around the campus, for our school's Containers for Change program. We visited the recycling depot this term, and the students enjoyed using the machines and conveyor belts to process the containers. We are proud to help keep our local environment healthy and beautiful!

The students also enjoyed two very exciting incursions, from Eco Action and Australian Earth Science Education! The visit from Eco Action taught us more about local wildlife and how to plant some native fruit trees. We planted a banana tree, a dragon fruit plant, and grape vines! The visit from Australian Earth Science taught us about volcanoes & lava, rocks and fossils, and the students were fascinated by the megalodon teeth!

Students have shown an enthusiastic approach to sustainability and have been engaged throughout the term. Well done, everyone, you have been essential in our school's commitment to sustainability!

Megan Smith
Teacher



OUTDOORS INDOORS

As the weather turned cold in term 2, our sporting endeavours switched to AFL. Who knew how many of our students love to play footy? It was great to see kicking, passing and marking skills develop as teams practised, practised, practised!

And speaking of teams, this term also saw JTCESC's first appearance this year at an interschool competition: the 2025 Kalability AFL Carnival. Despite being absolutely drenched during the first round, our team of AFL superstars played their hearts out and did themselves and the school community proud. Coming second in their (top) division, we were acknowledged as the team that showed outstanding respect, responsibility, and safe behaviour on the day, receiving the Perpetual Values Trophy!

Hand in hand with our sporting efforts, we also looked at how various AFL players have shown us how to be the best off the field, too. We checked out Nicky Winmar, Adam Goodes, Tayla Harris and Bachar Houli; all great players who stood up to hardship and made a positive difference in their communities.

Congrats again to our AFL team: Dan, Jayden, Troy, Misty, Ambher, Chanel, Brayden, Tilda and Captain Kayla.

Basketball, here we come!

David Bennett
Teacher



WELLBEING & CODING

This term, our three Friday groups have enjoyed a wide range of engaging activities!

The **Purple Group** continued exploring emotions and learned to sign common ones like happy, sad, angry, and calm. They've been practising "A Million Dreams" in sign language, showing great progress throughout the term. Each Friday morning, Riley leads the flag-raising team with impressive skill and efficiency. Afterwards, students choose activities based on how they're feeling—options include painting, LEGO, coding, UNO, and pickleball. Many have shown noticeable improvement in pickleball this year!

Aqua Group has benefited from a special wellbeing program led by our school psychologist, Camilla. Students learned calming techniques like balloon breathing and muscle relaxation, and explored the connection between thoughts, actions, and feelings. They practised generating helpful thoughts when an unhelpful thought came to mind, and enjoyed role plays and games that reinforced key concepts. Camilla and I had a great time running these sessions, and we hope the students did too!

Blue Group began exploring their 'Spark'—an activity that brings joy, purpose, and flow, making us feel alive, and lose track of time. For Deegan, writing is her Spark, and she's shown remarkable talent. We're excited to see more of her work! Some students return from workplace learning and explore different activities they can do that aren't too tiring after a day at work. They often choose relaxing activities like LEGO, art, coding, or chess to wind down. These options offer a pleasant way to end the week.

Kate Gelle
Teacher



QUICK REFERENCES

Below are some quick links and references you might find helpful.

Contact Us



www.facebook.com/JTCEsc



www.johntonkincollegeesc.wa.edu.au



JohnTonkinCollege.ESC@education.wa.edu.au



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What's On in Mandurah?



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1800 910 211



www.abilitywa.com.au



1300 106 106



www.activ.asn.au



08 9387 0555



www.actbelongcommit.org.au

MENTAL HEALTH

If you are concerned for your safety or the safety of others, seek immediate assistance by calling Triple Zero (000).

Lifeline | 13 11 14 | www.lifeline.org.au | Provides 24/7 Crisis Support.

Beyond Blue | 1300 22 46 36 | www.beyondblue.org.au | Provides 24/7 Advice, Mental Health Referrals and Support.

Kids Helpline | 1800 55 1800 | www.kidshelpline.com.au | 24/7 Counselling Service for Young People (Aged 5-25).

13 YARN | 13 92 76 | www.13yarn.org.au | Provides 24/7 Crisis Support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.





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