

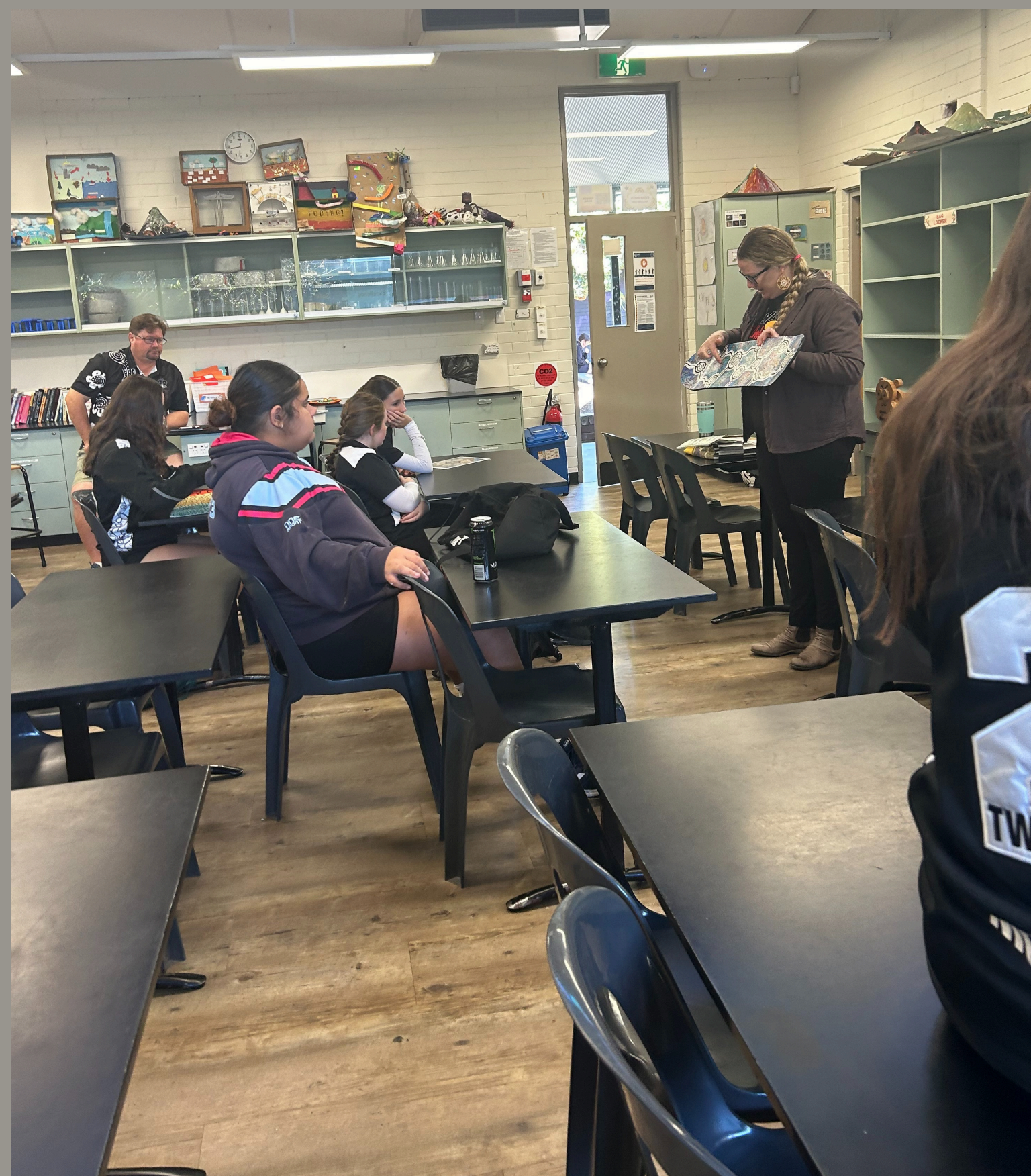
# DEADLY CONNECTIONS

CANBERRA HIGH'S CULTURAL CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER, 2024 –  
TERM 1, WEEK 10, 2025

We are quickly approaching the end of Term 1, here's a recap of what we've been up to in Cultural Connections!

## Leah Brideson – Aboriginal Artist -

We had Leah Brideson, ACT Education Directorate Cultural Integrity Coordinator and Aboriginal Artist, join us to yarn about all things Aboriginal Art; the significance of symbols & images in our art, the link between our Culture and Art as Aboriginal people and how our young mob can use their connection to Country & Culture in their Artwork. Leah worked with our mob to start a first draft design for the Skateboard Art Program being run by Canberra High's Youth Worker, Paul Simmons, in Cultural Connections in Term 2. It was Leah's final day working with the Education Directorate before moving into a new role with AISTSIS, so it was a privilege for us to get to work with her in one of her biggest passions; Aboriginal Art.





**THE NEXT  
GENERATION:  
STRENGTH,  
VISION &  
LEGACY**  
6-13 JULY 2025

## Planning for NAIDOC

Earlier this term our IEO Maddy began planning for Canberra High's NAIDOC celebration for 2025, hoping to make it the most deadly week of events and activities as possible. The Cultural Integrity Action Team met in week 8, to begin expanding Maddy's plan. Having a teacher from each faculty in our Action Team means that we can share the load of planning activities like the whole school Assembly, a collaborative artwork, Buroinjin games, weaving workshop, First Nations Author reading and much more. We are still in the earlier stages of coming up with ideas and yarning about the practical side of running each activity, but 2025 NAIDOC at Canberra High is looking deadly already.

## Fire Pit Yarns

Mr Cauduro planned a firepit session with our mob, initially planning to make damper together but that didn't quite work out. Instead, we sat around the fire and our Mob had some deadly yarns...chatting with each other and enjoying the time outside, even toasting some marshmallows too! Seeing our mob yarn so freely together was a highly for Mr Cauduro and Maddy to see!



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

I've been tryin to avoid doubling up on the young people I pick for our Student Spotlight, and even though she featured in this section in 1 of the newsletters last year, I simply couldn't miss this opportunity to share a deadly moment that happened in week 8's Harmony Day assembly.

Sage often delivers the pre-written Acknowledgemnt of Country at school assmeblies as a School Captain in 2025, and through many yarns with Maddy about the singifance of conection to country as an Indingeous Person, and with other teachers at school too, Sage has shown an interest in moving away from the pre-written Acknowledgemnt towards a more personalised Acknowledgment written in her own words.

With the support of a few key teachers who worked closely with Sage, she wrote and then delivered a deeply moving Acknowledgement of Country – linking it beautifully with the Harmony Day assmebly and celebrating our many diverse cultures at Canberra High, while centreing her perspective as a \_\_\_\_\_ woman and her apprecitation for Ngunnawal country.

While absolutely everyone can and should be able to deliver a personalised Acknowledgement of Country, and the Canberra High community as a whole is committed to moving towards embedding this as a regular practice, seeing such a Deadly young Aboriginal woman stand up infront of the entire school and confidently set a perfect example for how an Acknowledgment can be done... was a really special moment to witness.

Sage - thank you; for embracing the discomfort of being the 'first person' to do something new, for stepping up and being role model for all young people and adults at Canberra High to look towards when it comes to an Acknowledgemnt of Country. We are incredibly proud of you.

