

SWIMMING TO SUPPORT AUTISM WEST

Olivia Kennedy-Perkins, Julia Kent,
Anastasia Peel, Lauren Yee and Emily Whelan.
Absent from photo: Aurelia Thomson.



On April 7, Olivia Kennedy-Perkins (Year 10) took part in the 2019 Autism West Team Sprint Cup, for her fifth consecutive year. Olivia was joined by fellow classmates Julia Kent, Anastasia Peel, Lauren Yee, Emily Whelan and Aurelia Thomson who took part in the 6x50m swimming relay.

Olivia explained what motivated her to sign up for the first time in Year 5.

"As an individual, I was aware of the autism awareness community and have known friends who work with people who are affected by autism. As I enjoy swimming and am involved with the community I decided to round up a group of friends and head down to this incredible event."

All funds raised at the event go towards Autism West in creating opportunities for teenagers and young adults with autism to gain skills and experiences that allow them to successfully connect with others and the world around them.

Explaining why she continues to take part in the swim each year, Olivia stated,

"Since my first year participating I have watched the event grow to what it is now and have seen the impact it has had on the Autism West foundation, knowing that I, with the help of friends, have supported this amazing foundation to raise money and continue to help others in the wider community is incredibly self-rewarding. Not only does the day allow me to compete in a sport I love, but I also get to hang out with friends and know that I am contributing to something in the bigger picture."

The Autism West Team Sprint Cup celebrated its 11th year in 2019.