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Principal's Message

Well, it is hard to believe that we are halfway through the last term. I don't want to panic you, but they are talking about how many weeks until Christmas and the decorations are in the shops!!! If you are like me, 2020 has been both a fast-moving and at the same time almost snail-like year. I think COVID has made this a year to remember, as at school, we work with the ever-changing rules and regulations while working at our real business of teaching our students.

We have used 2020 as an opportunity to work on many aspects of the school's physical setting. When we are in a post-COVID world, and we can have visitors back into the school, I would like to invite you to come and have a look at the many projects we have undertaken this year to make Warilla High a better place for your students to learn in. Our latest project is we are getting new roofing on nearly every building in the school. The timing hasn't been great, but we are working with the construction folk to get this done. The recent downpours have confirmed how many leaks we have, in a 50+ year old structure. We have almost seen what we call "E Block", which houses the Foreshore Centre, English and PE classrooms finished. The next tricky part is pulling down the scaffolding from this building and moving to the Science and Maths building. We are very mindful of keeping our students safe during this process and will be asking students not to leave classrooms during lesson time for their safety. All of this noise and fuss while we are trying to keep the school quiet and as settled as we can as the HSC is underway. With 1300 students in a smaller than usual area, with scaffolding and exclusion fencing everywhere it has been a big ask, but the students have been amazing in their compliance.

Our Year 12 students have made us all proud. Signing in for every exam a document that declares they are COVID free, they move into the exam setting and pretend it is business as usual. You should be so proud, as we are, of their maturity and the way they have taken all of this on and still been focussed on doing their very best in the exams. The external supervisors of the exams have made a point of telling me how impressed they are by our students; their behaviour is excellent; their focus is obvious despite all of the external distractions. We are almost there, and this Thursday we will see our very last students complete their Drama exam and the challenge of being a Year 12 student in 2020. That same evening they will be celebrating their year with a formal event. The next day we are inviting two guests per student, making us COVID compliant, to their graduation. For those family members who are not able to join us, we are recording the event and will share with you so that everyone can join them in celebrating what has been a unique challenge.

This week the Department of Education sent out an update about what we currently can do with the relaxation of some of the COVID rules. Next week we are going to be able to welcome Year 6 students from our neighbouring Primary schools for a series of transition days. It is lovely to be able to introduce them to some of our teachers and their new High School environment. While there are still a series of rules around their visit, we are really looking forward to giving them a taste of how wonderful Warilla High is. When they come to us in 2021, we are hopeful that the last of our roofing will be finished and they are coming to a safer site, that is also more waterproof!!! On a totally different issue, we have had a number of students caught "vaping" at school. It is frightening that these students have not

realised both how dangerous this is but also that it is totally against the acceptable behaviours of any student in an NSW Department of Education school. We are taking such behaviour very seriously and issuing consequences for this anti-social behaviour.

Being Week 5 of this term, we are all looking towards the end of the year. Congratulations to our students who are still powering on the reach the end of their yearly courses. We will be in touch soon but are working out how we can have a Prize Giving event, while still being dictated to by the rules around social events and COVID. We will be meeting, in some form, to celebrate the hard work of many of our students. Thank you so much for your understanding as we try to make this situation as "normal" as possible. One of the things that makes Warilla High such a wonderful school is our shared focus on the well being of our students, staff, student families and the wider community. Keep well, and hopefully, we will see each other before the end of this crazy year.

With kind regards, Ms Brook, Principal

Deputies' Report

On behalf of the Deputy Principals of Warilla High School, I would like to commence this report by congratulating Year 12 2020. It is well documented that a quality, well-rounded education is one of the clearest indicators for positive life outcomes such as employment, income and wellbeing. Our students should, therefore take great pride for having successfully completing thirteen years of formal schooling. It is one of life's great milestones.

It is also fantastic that in a year where there have been many restrictions you will have the opportunity to enjoy a formal and graduation. These are important opportunities to celebrate your success with the families and friends who have supported and watched as you have transitioned from child to the fine young adults we know today. We wish you all the happiness and joy that life has to offer.

With the HSC having been completed for 2020, it is important to note that this term has seen Year 11 start their Higher School Certificate courses. It is important that students regularly attend school, their classes and actively engage in the set tasks and activities so that there are no gaps in their learning.

Missed assessment tasks in the Year 12 course dramatically affect the grades that students receive. The Year 12 Assessment Schedule booklet is being distributed to students, and they are encouraged to use the assessment task planner in the back on the booklet to map out their formal tasks.

If students need additional support with their homework or assessment tasks they can access the Homework Centre on Tuesdays in E21 from 1:40 – 3:30 pm or attend the Senior Study Club in the Library on Wednesdays from 2:45 – 5:00 pm.

Representatives from 'Premier Illawarra' have also recently been on school buses to promote the need for students to have and use their OPAL cards.

When a student taps both on and off a school bus, the data is recorded, and this information has two purposes. The first is to help track a student's movements in case a safety issue arises. The second is a headcount to determine whether a bus route is still required or whether additional buses need to be added to a particular route. Unless an accurate headcount is maintained, there is no guarantee that these services will continue into the future.

'Premier Illawarra' is a local company. They employ locals and provide a necessary service for our community. They are contracted to run the school bus service and must therefore comply with the guidelines of this contract. This includes not transporting any student without an OPAL card or proof that a new card has been requested. Their actions over recent weeks have been to educate and ensure that all students who are eligible to access this service are able to do so in a safe and orderly fashion.

If your child has misplaced their OPAL card, either telephone OPAL on 136725 or email www.OPAL.Com.au for information and directions on replacing cards.

This term has also seen the school focus on improving student punctuality. Unfortunately, we had a number of students who were consistently arriving at school late without supplying a legitimate reason. This is a life skill. No employer would accept an employee consistently arriving after the recognised start time and no school that seriously values the safety and education of its students will also accept this behaviour. Please be aware that if your child arrives at school three times without a note, from home, or some form of

communication to explain the reason for this late arrival, they will be given a lunch detention. If this behaviour continues, other measures will be applied in line with DoE attendance policy.

Finally, it is fitting that as I write this report during NAIDOC Week 2020, I highlight the success of one of our graduating Year 12 students, Thomas Nicholls. Tom is a recipient of an NSW Department of Education 2020 Nanga Mai Award. These awards celebrate and recognise outstanding Aboriginal students. They also recognise Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal staff and community members who are helping Aboriginal students reach their potential. Tom's award is for Outstanding Student Engagement, one of three-handed out in the state this year. This is testimony to Tom's consistent hard work and leadership across our school, and this recognition is much deserved..



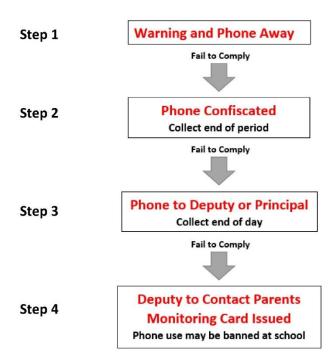
Mr Hales, Mrs Luckman and Mrs Masters



Warilla High School Mobile Phone Policy



- It is recommended that students <u>do not</u> bring phones to school. Students who bring a phone, do so at their own risk
- Mobile phones (including earphones/airpods) are to be out of sight and in bags during all lessons, unless otherwise instructed by the classroom teacher
- If students <u>fail to comply</u> with this rule then they will be issued a consequence following a <u>4 step process</u>





Warilla High School Uniform Policy

Junior



Navy Shorts

Skirt or Skort

Navy Trackpants





Shoes

should be predominantly white or black & be fully enclosed.



- Any unbranded uniform must be plain navy.
- Shorts, skirts or skorts should be mid-thigh in length.
- A **plain white** long sleeve t-shirt may be worn under the white polo .

Leggings or tights are to be worn under shorts, skorts or skirts
- not on their own.

Please note this infographic is a summary. Please refer to comprehensive Uniform Policy on the WHS website.



Warilla High School Uniform Policy

Senior



Senior Shirt

School Jacket

Senior Jersey









Navy Shorts

Pleated Check Skirt

Navy Trackpants







Shoes

should be predominantly white or black & be fully enclosed.



- Any unbranded uniform must be **plain navy**.
- Shorts, skirts or skorts should be mid-thigh in length.
- A plain white long sleeve t-shirt may be worn under the senior shirt.

Leggings or tights are to be worn under shorts, skorts or skirts
- not on their own.

Please note this infographic is a summary. Please refer to comprehensive Uniform Policy on the WHS website.



Warilla High School Uniform Policy

Sport



Representative Jumpers

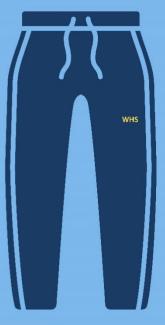




Navy Shorts

Navy Trackpants





Shoes

should be predominantly white or black & be fully enclosed.



- Any unbranded uniform must be plain navy.
- Shorts, skirts or skorts should be mid-thigh in length.
- A **plain white** long sleeve t-shirt may be worn under the sport polo .

Leggings or tights are to be worn under shorts, skorts or skirts - not on their own.

Please note this infographic is a summary. Please refer to comprehensive Uniform Policy on the WHS website.

WARILLA HIGH SCHOOL - UNIFORM POLICY

Warilla High School is a proud uniform wearing school. This is in accordance with the Department of Education policy and supported by the whole school community – students (represented by Student Representative Council), parents and families (represented by the P&C), and staff.

Wearing school uniform presents a positive public image to the community of our school. School uniform also fosters a safer school environment by enabling students to be easily identified. All students are expected to wear full school uniform every day.

Years 7 - 10
Junior School
Uniform –
Boys & Girls

Boys	<u>Girls</u>	
Plain* White Polo Shirt	Plain* White Polo Shirt	
Plain* Navy Blue Jacket or Jumper Plain* Navy Blue Jacket or Jumpe		
Plain* Navy Trousers	Plain* Navy Trousers	
Plain* Navy Mid-thigh Shorts	Plain* Navy Mid-thigh Shorts or Skirt	
School Tracksuit	School Tracksuit	

Years 11 – 12	Boys	<u>Girls</u>	
Senior School	Sky Blue School Button Up Shirt	Sky Blue School Button Up Shirt	
80 800	Plain* Navy Blue Jacket or Jumper	Plain* Navy Blue Jacket or Jumper	
Uniform –	Senior Jersey	Senior Jersey	
Boys & Girls	Plain* Navy Mid-thigh Shorts or	Plain* Navy Mid-thigh Shorts or	
•	Trousers	Trousers	
		School Checked Pleated Skirt	
	School Tracksuit	School Tracksuit	

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- *PLAIN means WITHOUT patterns, stripes, slogans of ANY kind.
- A plain **WHITE** T-shirt may be worn underneath the normal white school polo shirt for Years 7-10 or the blue senior shirt for Years 11 and 12. Shirts must be buttoned up at all times.
- In very cold/wet weather any jacket worn MUST BE PLAIN NAVY BLUE.
- Shoes: Predominately white or black fully-enclosed sneakers or joggers. Note: Light canvas 'Raben' shoes/ballet style shoes do not meet Workplace Health & Safety regulations.
- Leggings or tights are to be worn under skirts or shorts not on their own. Offending students will be asked to report to the Deputy Principal where they will be given a skirt or shorts to wear on loan.
- Skirts and shorts must be of appropriate length ie: mid-thigh.
- Skirts, shorts or pants must also be worn at a socially acceptable height at all times so that there is no gap between the shirt and skirt.
- Jewellery is to be kept to a minimum and be unobtrusive, including studded body piercing.
- School representative sport jumpers are only to be worn on sports day ie Thursday.

Physical Education and Sport Uniforms

Footwear Sports shoes or joggers must be worn.

Shirt The Warilla High School Sports Shirt must be worn for PE and Sport.

Shorts The Warilla High School Rugby/Soccer Sports Shorts must be worn for PE and Sport.

Tracksuit The school tracksuit for both boys and girls.

Jewellery No earrings (except studs), rings, bangles, necklaces or watches.

ON THURSDAYS STUDENTS ARE PERMITTED TO WEAR THEIR PE UNIFORM ALL DAY. IT MUST **NOT** BE WORN IN NORMAL CLASSROOM LESSONS ON **ANY OTHER DAY.**

24 September 2019

WARILLA HIGH SCHOOL - UNIFORM PROCEDURES

If a student is unable to wear school uniform they:

- have a note from the Parent/Caregiver explaining the reason
- Roll Call teacher will record on Sentral ('Toggle uniform') and refer to Head Teacher for a Uniform Slip
- produce uniform slip on request from teachers throughout the day
- be aware that if the correct shoes are not worn students will be unable to participate in some practical activities (see below)

When a student has a note from home, Head Teacher:

collects student note, issues Uniform Slip and records incident on HT Uniform Tracking Sheet

When a student has no note, Head Teacher:

- issues Uniform Slip and records incident on HT Uniform Tracking Sheet
- counsels student regarding uniform
- contacts parents on the 2nd incident in a term
- issues a HT lunch detention
- exclusion from school activities for 3 or more incidents in a term

When a student is out of school uniform with no Uniform Slip:

- the teacher will request student removes item of clothing immediately, if appropriate
- if a student refuses to follow instructions seek support of HT or send student with a note and a responsible student to the Faculty HT
- the Teacher/HT to record incident and follow up on Sentral

Long term non-compliance will result in non-participation in extra-curricular and whole school activities including but not limited to: Incursions, Year Excursions, Camps, Formals, Ski Trip, Other non-curriculum based activities eg. Sporting teams

If student is **not** in the correct footwear they will be unable to participate in activities in the following areas: Science Laboratories, Industrial Arts, Food Technology and Textiles, Visual Arts

Calendar

Week 5A

09/11/2020	Year 7 Cap Media Workshop	
11/11/2020 12/11/2020	Year 12 Sign Out Day	
12/11/2020	Year 12 Formal	
13/11/2020	Year 12 Graduation	

Week 6B

16/11/2020	Year 6 Orientation Day	
16/11/2020	Batyr Presentation	
18/11/2020	Year 6 Orientation Day	
20/11/2020	Year 6 Orientation Day	
20/11/2020	White Ribbon Day	

Week 7A

27/11/2020-	Christmas Stalls		
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Week 8B

01/12/2020-	PREPARE Program Year 7/8 CORE	
04/12/2020	Koori Awards Day	

Week 9A

11/12/2020	Celebrating Success Assemblies
11/12/2020	celebrating saccess Assemblies

Week 10B

16/12/2020	Last Day for Students
18/12/2020	Last Day for Staff

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

LATE ARRIVAL – CHANGE OF PROCEDURES

Up until 9.30am go to the side window of the Library between 'A' block and the Library block. One of the Office Staff will record your information and give you a late slip to get into class. After 9.30am report to the front office. Arriving late 3 times without a note from parent/guardian will result in parents being contacted by the school and consequences will apply.

UPDATING STUDENT DETAILS

If you change your address, phone number, including mobile number, or other contact details could you please let the school know as soon as possible?

PRIVATE PERSONAL PROPERTY

Personal property which is brought to school is the sole responsibility of the individual. The school is not insured to cover loss or damage.

PARKING IN SCHOOL ZONES

Heavy fines are imposed for illegal dropping off or picking up students in school zone hours.

The school car park is for staff parking only and is not to be used for dropping off or picking up students.

RIDING A BIKE TO SCHOOL

Students who ride a bike to school are required by law to wear a helmet.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Students must bring a note to explain their absences. A green 'Absence Book' is available from the front office. Unexplained absences will appear on the student's report.

Infectious Disease

I am writing to advise you that our school currently has a student who is receiving treatment for cancer. Currently, he/she is actively involved in the school community in between having treatment and dealing with and recovering from the side effects.

As this student has a compromised immune system (which makes him/her more vulnerable to disease), it is important that you do not send your child to school if he/she is unwell. For example, if your child has an infectious disease (such as measles, chickenpox, shingles or diagnosed flu), he/she should stay at home until no longer contagious. For more information about how long an illness is contagious, contact your GP or visit the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au.

I would also appreciate it if you would notify me if your child has an infectious disease. This will allow me to assess the potential risk of the disease and if necessary, to notify the student's parents and medical team.

We appreciate your co-operation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Brook Principal

Attendance – changes to students returning to school after sick leave

With restrictions being tightened up in New South Wales, we have had a number of changes made to our school procedures. One of the significant changes is the way we deal with students who either present at school with flu-like symptoms or students with flu-like symptoms that are kept home by parents. If students present at school with flu-like symptoms, they will be sent home. Students in either of these situations are now required to take a test for the COVID-19 virus and MUST show a negative result to the school before the student is allowed back on site. This means that staff will be required to sight the results that you have received for the test before allowing the student to return to school. We understand that this may add complexities to some family situations, for example, being able to pick students up or accessing testing facilities, but these procedures have been put in place to ensure the safety of staff, students and members of our whole school community. Please be aware that this is now a requirement of all New South Wales schools. We would appreciate your full co-operation with these requirements and would advise you to contact the school if you have any further questions.

Mr. Nolan HT Administration Students

Every minute counts!

hat Equals	Which is	Over 13 years of schooling
		that is
minutes a Week	1.5 Weeks per Year	Nearly 1/2 Year
		of lost learning
our 40 minutes a	2.5 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 Year</u>
Week		of lost learning
/2 a Day a Week	4 Weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 Years
		of lost learning
1 day a Week	8 Weeks per year	Nearly 2.5 Years
		of lost learning
	minutes a Week our 40 minutes a Week /2 a Day a Week	minutes a Week 1.5 Weeks per Year our 40 minutes a Week 2.5 Weeks per year Week 4 Weeks per year

We are concerned at the number of students who are presenting as chronically late for school, and we also have many students who are missing significant chunks of class time each week. By arriving late and missing school hours, students receive fewer hours of instruction than students who are in class, on time and ready to learn. Not only does a student who is consistently arriving late to school establish bad punctuality habits, their tardiness also disrupts the learning of other students in the classroom.

There is also a concern for students who miss part of a period, or full periods during the day. These partial absences have the same effect as full days as they can become accumulative and result in students experiencing significant disruption to their learning and experiencing long-term effects on their academic achievement and overall wellbeing.

In Term 4, we are changing some of our policies and procedures to ensure that we reduce the number of unnecessary absences for students. Students who arrive late at school on a regular basis (a total of three times in the term – unjustified), will be issued with an Executive In-school Detention, supervised by Head Teacher Administration (students), Head Teacher Administration (Staff) and our senior executive staff (Deputies and Principal). For each consecutive late arrival, after the initial three, the student will be issued with an executive detention. Students who continue to disregard the importance of arriving at school on time will be placed on a red level presuspension monitoring card with their respective Deputy and the school discipline policy will be applied.

Students who are deliberately truanting class will also be issued with an executive detention and placed on an attendance monitoring card with the Head Teacher Administration (students). If students are persistent in truanting class, they will be placed on a red level presuspension monitoring card with their respective Deputy and the school discipline policy will be applied.

We would appreciate your support in working with us to increase the attendance rate of our students. Remember that attendance is directly related to the level of academic achievement and level of success for all students at Warilla High School.

What parents can do to help student attendance:

- Ensure your child is sent with a note for all justified late arrivals
- Set positive attendance habits early
- Set high expectations for your child and support the school when applying consequences
- Reach out to the school when you no longer feel in control

Mr. Nolan

HT Administration Students

4 ILLAWARRA MERCURY Wednesday September 23, 2020

illawarramercury.com.au

NEWS

Twins galore for HSC year

BY AGRON LATIFI

THERE are 879 sets of twins enrolled to do their HSC in NSW this year.

Ten of these sets go to Kiama, Dapto and Warilla high schools.

Kiama and Dapto have three sets each, while Warilla is home to the most sets of twins among Illawarra schools, with four.

But if things had gone a bit differently, this honour would have belonged to Dapto.

"We had eight sets of twins when this current Year 12 group started in Year 7," Dapto High year adviser Allison Hopkins said.

"It's crazy to think we had that many, but we did.

"[We now have] three sets of fraternal twins but they have been quite easy to tell apart. They are all very different and have their own unique personalities.

"We just wish them all their best for their future."

Jacinta Madden said she and twin sister Isabelle were "very different" but shared a lot in common.

'I think we've found an



SEEING DOUBLE: Three sets of twins at Dapto High School are doing their HSC this year. They are (top) Alex and Nicholas Kakais, Joshua and Caitlyn Slade as well as (standing) Isabelle and Jacinta Madden. Picture: Anna Warr

appreciation for just how different we are and it allows us to try new things and see what the other person is interested in and respect and value what our different hobbies and interests are."

Jacinta said

"My sister is pretty bubbly and funny as well and she is pretty passionate in the things she believes in. I think as I've got older, life has taught me just how special being a twin is. Especially with COVID and stuff like that, I've always got that support with me."

Warilla High School leader and vice-captain Sam Giles said life as a twin at school



FOUR SETS OF TWINS: Warilla High School twins Zack and Josh McLachlan, Chelsea and Caitlyn Cooper, Abi and Sophie Parker and Abbey and Sam Giles. Picture: Sylvia Liber.



I think as I've got older, life has taught me just how special being a twin is.

Jacinta Madden

was "sweet"

Sam and his twin sister Abbey get along quite well with their fellow twins at school, Zack and Joshua McLachlan, Chelsea and Caitlyn Cooper and Abi and Sophie Parker.

Abi Parker joked that the academic experience at school had so far been better for her twin Sophie.

"Sophie has done better than me but I think we've both enjoyed our time at school equally," Abi said.

The three set of twins from Kiama High School were unavailable for a photo.

Their names are Emily and Lauren Fraser, Emily and Jordan Loiterton and Luke and Max Parisotto.

Year 12

Only one week to go and year 12's time at secondary school will be over! They have conducted themselves with respect and professionalism throughout the exams and are to be congratulated for their effort. Well done!

Sign out day is Wednesday (11th) morning in the Library, where students are expected to return any outstanding loans. Drama students can sign out on Thursday morning due to their final exam.

Formal is on Thursday (12th) at the Kiama Pavilion, starting at 6 pm. Due to Covid restrictions, students are unable to gather in large numbers at the venue beforehand, so it is advised that students have their outside photo's taken nearby. Nearby photogenic locations in Kiama include Black Beach, The Lighthouse, Storm Bay and the Old Stables directly behind the Pavilion. Mr Nolan will be taking professional quality indoor photos during the event, which will be made digitally available to all students after the event.

It is important that attendees are aware they should only attend if they are feeling well and do not have any respiratory or COVID-19 symptoms. On arrival at the venue, the students will be checked in, and no pass-outs will be allowed. Security will be on site.

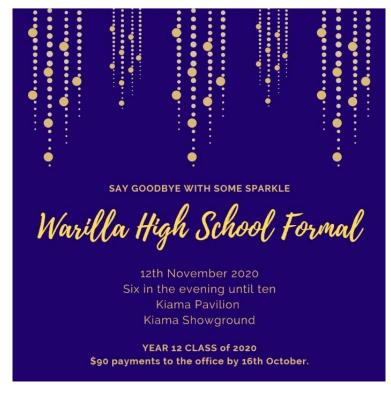
It is also important that students are aware that this is a school event, and as such, it is a Non Alcoholic event. It is further important to note that due to Covid, there are restrictions relating to any pre or post formal activities, including the maximum number of visitors permitted at a private residence under the Public Health Order.

Graduation is on Friday (13th) in the school hall at 12:15 pm. Please be aware that students need to be in school uniform and are only able to have two guests in attendance throughout the ceremony. Again, it is important that attendees are aware they should only attend if they are feeling well and do not have any respiratory or COVID-19 symptoms. On arrival at the venue, guests all need to complete a Covid safe form which most students already have copies of. Those who don't are able to collect them on sign out day. Again, due to Covid, the gathering of large groups for photographs is not permitted, and as such, we request that guests do not linger at the school on completion of the ceremony.

And then they are done! 13 years of schooling completed and new adventures to be had.

Congratulations to the graduating class of Warilla High School, 2020!

Mrs Woolett Year 12 Advisor





Breakfast Club - Grab 'n' Go!

After a break for the past few terms, we are back!

Every Wednesday morning, the smell of freshly cooked toast is wafting around E Block, and the crowd is gathering. The Wellbeing Hub has re-booted the Breakfast club in a Grab 'n' Go format. Come in and grab some toast, fruit and a breakfast shake and away you go, filled up and ready for the day.

Warilla Bakers Delight has jumped behind the initiative and supplies our bread and a range of cheese rolls for students to eat at lunch. Warilla High gives a big shout out to Toby and Fiona Napper at Bakers Delight for their enthusiastic support.

Come to room E33 at 7.30 am to grab some food, meet the Wellbeing staff and chat with some friends. The last serve is at 8.15 am so be quick!

Ms Clark, Claire, Richo and Kym (Welfare Hub).



BE A LIFESAVER AND RECYCLE!!

Save the planet and support Surf Life Saving NSW during National Recycling Week!

Warilla High school has registered to 'Be a Lifesaver and Recycle' this National Recycling Week in support of Surf Life Saving NSW!

From Monday 9th November – Friday 13th November, we'll be collecting all containers with a 10-cent return label and donating the refund to Surf Life Saving NSW for community education programs, training lifesavers and purchasing vital lifesaving and rescue equipment.

Staff, students and family members are encouraged to collect eligible containers and return them to the school. Let's raise awareness about the importance of recycling and cleaning up the environment whilst supporting important community service.

SEE MR STEPHENS IN CAREERS TO PICK UP YOUR BAG(S).

Inquiries can be directed to Mr Stephens.

Be a lifesaver and recycle!

Save the planet and support Surf Life Saving NSW during National Recycling week!



National Recycling Week 9-13 Nov, 2020

How you can get involved!

- Collect refundable containers with the '10-cent recycle label' at home and at school!
- 2 Make sure they are not damaged or have anything inside
- 3 Deposit all your containers in the orange Envirobank recycling bags provided to your school during National Recycling Week!
- 4 Envirobank will then collect the containers from the school and the 10-cent return from every container collected will be donated to Surf Life Saving NSW to fund vital lifesaving training and rescue equipment!

Refundable containers include the below items that have the 10-cent recycle label:





Plastic

Aluminum/Steel





Glass

Liquid Paperboard

Clean up your local environment and get ready to start collecting containers!

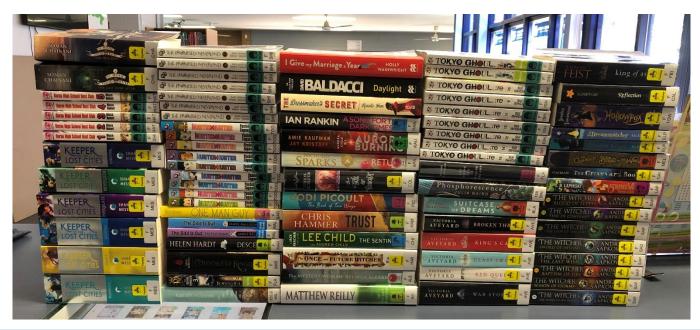
From the Library

The library team has been working hard 'genrifying' the school library. This means that instead of looking for a book author alphabetically by an author you can now look for a book under its genre. For example, Crime, Mystery and Suspense or Humour. This makes it easier for students to find a book they may enjoy reading. Each book now has a genre label and sits under its genre signage.

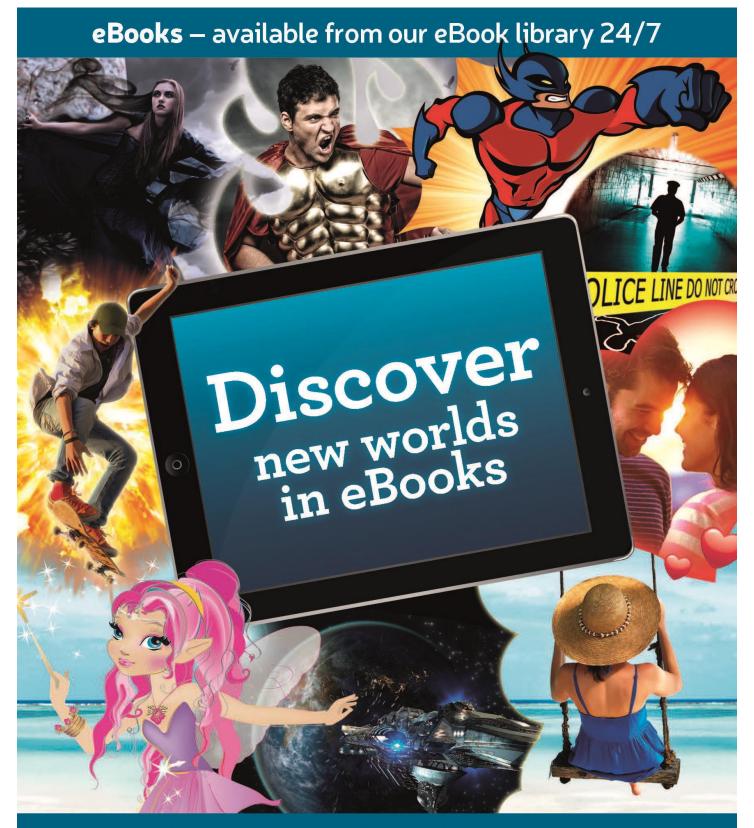




Hundreds of new books have recently been purchased for the library collection. Most from student and staff recommendations.







Borrowing our eBooks is as easy as



Search for and download the ePlatform app from your app store



Find our library and log in using your library ID



Browse and borrow an eBook to read on your device



Search for and download the ePlatform app:







Ask at the counter for more information about our eBooks



The move to increased online learning opens up a world of opportunity for **Secondary school students**. This series is all about empowering young people to challenge (cyber)bullying, support peers, navigate the online world safely and develop tools for digital wellbeing. Through critical thinking and reflection-based tasks, students will build a toolkit of strategies to make the most of online world, while looking out for each other and creating meaningful connection.

WEBINAR #1: LOOKING OUT FOR EACH OTHER ONLINE

As our lives spill further online, supporting young people to connect positively is more important than ever. This webinar will equip students with vital tools to stay connected, understand the impact of their actions and combat (cyber)bullying so that they can stay safe and healthy online.

WEBINAR #2 RESPECT AND EMPATHY

This webinar explores the way we form judgements and make assumptions online, so students can connect with empathy for 'the person behind the screen' and treat one another with kindness. It will support and challenge students to navigate the online world with compassion and critical thinking.

WEBINAR #3: TAKING POSITIVE ACTION

The online world gives us all an incredible opportunity to create social change.

Through this webinar your students will learn how to take positive action on the issues that matter most to them and stand up for what they believe in, so that they can be leaders among their peers and community.

WEBINAR #4: DIGITAL WELL REING

Your students will be equipped to navigate the wellbeing challenges that technology sometimes creates. They will explore ways to create positive online environments, manage anxiety and stress, tools to support mental health online and how to reach out for support.

Earlier this year we applied for a Schools grant for the Project Rockit Webinars, and we were successful, which is very exciting. Our Year 7 cohort will be lucky enough to have these webinars delivered to them on the following two Fridays (6/11 and 13/11) during period 1 and 2. We hope that the students will find these both engaging and informative.

Ms N Clark

Do Kids have a voice in Parliament?

I was fortunate enough to take part this year in the NSW Children's Parliament. This took place on Thursday the 29th of October 2020. This year was different to previous years due to the worldwide pandemic of COVID, this meant that the forum was held via a Webex platform rather than in Canberra.

Kids from all over NSW took part, and I represented the Shellharbour electorate. They all had different opinions on the issues impacting youth, what was important to them and ways to address the issues.

I spoke about how I felt that we are losing the art of communication. I talked about how technology and social media are impacting the way we interact with one another and some ideas on how we can improve face to face communication.

An issue raised was how we need to educate the youth on vaping and the negative impact it has on your body. This young person mentioned that vaping is labelled as safer than smoking which makes people think that they are doing something 'good' for your body or at least better than if you were to smoke.

Another issue discussed was the idea of normalising 'slurs' (a slur is a word that is used against someone of a specific race, condition, sexuality, gender or illness). This person discussed how they are becoming normalised as we are surrounded by them in everyday life including music, singing, posters and television, which makes us think that they are just another word in our vocabulary which should not be the case.

This opportunity was a fantastic experience. It gave a great insight into youth issues and was very thought-provoking on what we can do to address them. If you ever get the opportunity to speak up about issues that matter to you to make sure you do because, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not." – Dr Suess

Ms N Clark

OPAL CARDS

Dear Parents,

Representatives from 'Premier Illawarra' have asked us to inform the school community that they will be active as of Monday the 02/11/2020 enforcing the need for students to have and use their OPAL cards on the school buses.

When a student taps both on and off a school bus, the data is recorded, and this information has two purposes. The first is to help track a student's movements if a safety issue arises. The second is headcount to determine whether a bus route is still required or whether additional buses need to be added to a particular route. Unless an accurate headcount is maintained, there is no guarantee that these services will be able to be maintained into the future.

Premier has informed the school that on Wednesday 04/11/2020 they will not be transporting any student without a card or proof that a new card has been requested. Parents will therefore need to arrange alternative transport arrangements for these students.

If your child has misplaced their OPAL card, either telephone OPAL on 136725 or visit https://www.opal.com.au for information and directions on replacing cards.

Foreshore Centre News

Killalea

Year 7 & 8 students from the Foreshore Centre have been privileged to attend the Illawarra Environmental Education Centre at Killalea Reserve once a fortnight this term. Each visit holds a variety of new and exciting experiences.

On their first visit students participated in an orienteering treasure hunt, using compasses to follow a series of clues; channelled their inner artists into creating drawings of the beach; foraged for pipis on the beach; and learned how to build natural shelters in the bush.

For their second visit students foraged for insects in the bush to look at them close up under magnifying glasses; measured the sun, wind and ground temperature using scientific tools; and helped collect rubbish from the beach to be sent off for scientific testing.

Mother Nature has blessed us with amazing weather for our visits so far. Fingers crossed it continues for the rest of the term!



Warilla Neighbourhood Centre

Year 7 & 8 students have been visiting the Warilla Neighbourhood Centre this term. The 30 minute walk from school give students travel training practice, and they're rewarded with a healthy fruit smoothie upon arrival at the centre. They then engage in games of pool, table tennis, giant jenga and cards, allowing them to work on their social and emotional skills. This helps build rapport between students, staff and community members outside of school. All activities are linked to program outcomes, and students and staff alike have been thoroughly enjoying the experience.

Mr A Demertzis

Koori Aspirations

The last 2 weeks saw our ATSI students from years 7-10 partake in the Koori Aspirations Program in conjunction with UOW mentors.

This program saw students thinking about their connection to country and identity. Themes included making choices, pathways after school, future and current learning, leadership and mentors, and managing priorities. In a yarning circle, students discussed and addressed questions in an informal setting as they learnt about culture and art.

Mrs Simon







Warilla High School Merit Policy



Diamond Award

Is achieved by receiving 5200 VIVOs



Platinum Award

Is achieved by receiving 2600 VIVOs



Gold Award

Is achieved by receiving 800 VIVOs



Silver Award

Is achieved by receiving 400 VIVOs



Bronze Award

Is achieved by receiving 200 VIVOs





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