

Keross Avenue Barrack Heights NSW 2528 T: 4296 3055 F: 4297 2817 E: warilla-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au W: http://www.warillahs.nsw.edu.au



Monday 9 November 2009

## **Principal's Message**

Issue 2 - Term 4 - Week 4

With the HSC well under way, the School Certificate about to happen and yearly assessment and reports underway – we are now in the busiest time of year.

We are currently working on our timetable for 2010 and with the steady growth in student numbers (estimate 1250 for next year) it appears that our staffing is likely to increase. Both Adam Toole (our new Technical Support Officer for student laptops) and Michael Groves (our new Head Teacher Industrial Arts) have made very good starts this term and are very positive in their comments about the students and tone of Warilla High School.

Our information evening about the Year 9 Laptop Program was held in week 3. Any parent and Year 9 student who did not attend this meeting needs to see the Student Advisor, Mrs Orton, to obtain important paperwork before laptops are issued. Our intention is to start allocating laptops to students as of this week.

I would also like to wish Year 10 well as they commence the School Certificate exams in Week 4. Their exams will extend over 3 days and they will be tested in English, Maths, Science, HSIE History, HSIE Geography and Computer Skills. I would also like to indicate that Year 10 are expected to continue their schooling after these exams. ONLY students who will not be returning AND can prove that they are entering FULL TIME employment, training or further education, will be permitted to sign out and leave after these School Certificate exams. Important work will be provided to all Year 10 students after the exams. During this time they will need to complete a MANDATORY unit of work provided by the Board of Studies called 'All My Own Work'. This work must be done before students can commence their studies in Year 11.

We have just finished celebrating two important events. World Teachers Day was celebrated on 30 October and "SASS" Recognition Week was held from 2 November to 6 November. I would like to thank and commend our teachers for the wonderful work they do in improving the learning for our students. I would also like to acknowledge the brilliant ancillary and support staff we have at Warilla High School who keep the school running and in tip top shape. Well done! A reminder that our last P&C meeting for the year is on Tuesday 10 November at 7.30 pm. I invite you to attend this informative meeting which provides wonderful feedback and allows a productive forum for discussion.

Our Vinnies Winter Appeal Luncheon is rapidly approaching and I would like to invite you to attend and support this terrific fund raising function if you can. Details can be found at the rear of this newsletter.

Finally we are having a "Book Amnesty" in weeks 4 and 5 at school. If you have any unreturned textbooks or library books from previous years that are lying around at home, please return these to the box in the Front Office – no questions asked, we are just glad to get them back.

So read on folks and enjoy our busy and productive times at Warilla High School.

Cheers and best wishes.

Glenn Isemonger Principal

### Coming Events Week 4B

Monday 9 November	SC Exams Yr 9 Exams Week Yr 11 Advanced English Excursion to Sydney
Tuesday 10 November	SC Exams Yr 9 Exams Week <b>P &amp; C Meeting 7.30pm in the Library</b>
Wednesday 11 November	HSC Exams Yr 9 Exams Week Rememberance Day
Thursday 12 November	HSC Exams Yr 9 Exams Week School Tour for Flinders PS, Shell Cove PS and Warilla PS
Friday 13 November	Yr 12 Sign Out Day in the Hall Yr 9 Exams Week



Our School's Core Values:

# Coming Events (Cont)

#### Week 5A

Monday 16 November	Yr 8 Exams Week
Tuesday 17 November	Yr 8 Exams Week Yr 6 Sports Day Yr 9 & Yr 11 Textiles Excursion to the Whitehouse Textiles Show in Sydney
Wednesday 18 November	Yr 8 Exams Week Yr 12 Ancient History Excursion to the Australian Museum
Thursday 19 November	Yr 8 Exams Week
Friday 20 November	Yr 8 Exams Week Yr 11 Drama Excursion to Kiama

## From the Deputies

#### Year 7 2010

We are currently in the process of organising our school visits for next year's Year 7 students. Last Thursday afternoon's visit from Shellharbour Primary School and Warilla Primary School was postponed due to the wet weather.

On Thursday 12 November we will be visited by students from Flinders Primary School, Shell Cove Primary School and Warilla Primary School.

On Thursday 3 December we will be visited by students from Barrack Heights Primary School, Shellharbour Primary School and any other Primary Schools. We apologise for any inconvenience due to change of days.

A Parent Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 1 December at 7.00pm in the School Hall. Uniforms and book packs (cash only for book packs please) will be on sale from 6.00pm until 7.00pm on this evening.

We look forward to meeting you and your students. If you have any questions or need any further information please contact me at school.

Alan McInnes Deputy Principal

## Aspire

There is a wonderful old saying the states "It isn't what you do, it's the way you do it." This sums up why so many of our students are Flying High. It's the extra effort they put in to everything they do that helps them succeed. So let us acknowledge some of our fantastic students.

NEW SOUTH WALES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING



Our School's Core Values:

Firstly, congratulations to Kyle Griffin of Year 8. He recently entered a national competition called "Doodle For Google", in which he submitted an environmental themed design for the "Google" image. He is one of the 32 Finalists from 5500 who entered nationally. Online voting will now take place to determine a winner, so I encourage everyone at school to do so. Congratulations Kyle on this great achievement.

A big rap also to Luke Sampson of Year 12, who has just been accepted into the RAAF for Pilot Training in 2010. They only took 50 applicants from over 5000 nominations so this is a great achievement. Well done Luke!

Thank you also to Kane Jones and Trent Opie of Year 11, who gave up time during their yearly exams to assist with the sound, lighting and data projector at the Year 12 graduation. We appreciate your efforts.

A big rap to our staff as well who made the effort in the school holidays to come in to school to run revision and study sessions for students. Thank you for making a difference.

Congratulations to our talented Year 7 students who used some great ingenuity to develop a vehicle powered by a mousetrap. At the official race we saw many unusual designs but we were really impressed with the clever technology used to power the machines. The following people did exceptional jobs and made their vehicles travel furthest. Laura Petkovski was the winner who gained a distance of 19.36 metres. Sean Nolan, Stephanie Vowles, Rebecca Cakarovska and Natasha Spirovski were close behind. Well done!!

Finally a big rap to some wonderfully honest students who make this school a great place. They have handed in a range of lost property, (keys, money, asthma inhalers and jewellery), to the Front Office. Thank you Kiel Pemberton of Year 9, Jake Park of Year 8, Bradley Jones of Year 11 and Michelle Thomas of Year 11 for your great integrity.

To all of our high flyers this week, congratulations and thankyou. Cheers!

Glenn Isemonger Principal

#### Next P & C Meeting Tuesday 10 November 2009 7.30pm in the Library

#### Southern Cross Cultural Exchange

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is seeking volunteer host families to host international exchange students arriving from Europe, Japan and the USA in February 2010 for a stay of 5 months. They will attend local secondary school, are fully insured and have their own spending money. Contact: 1800500501

email: <u>scceaust@scce.com.au</u> www.scce.com.au

> Care for your environment Embrace honesty Respect others and value yourself Seek knowledge

### Student Administration Changes to the Education Amendment Bill 2009

The changes in the Education Act from 2010 will now require all children to attend school until the end of Year 10 and then continue with school, engage in full-time work or participate in approved education or training until the age of <u>17 years.</u>

#### 1. Compulsory School Age

- The child is of or above the age of 6 years and below the minimum school leaving age
- The minimum school leaving age
  - The age at which the child completes Year 10 of secondary education (subject to 2 below)
  - The age of 17 years whichever appears first

#### 2. Compulsory School Age

- A child who completes Year 10 but who is below the age of 17 years is of compulsory school-age unless the child participates on a full-time basis\* in:
  - Approved Education and Training Eg. TAFE or Private Training Provider or
  - If the child is of or above the age of 15 years
    paid work or a combination of approved education or training and paid work

#### (\* Full time basis – average of 25 hours per week)

#### Completion of Year 10 of secondary education is:

- The completion of Year 10 of secondary education in this State (whether by school education or home schooling)
- The completion of a course provided by the TAFE commission that is approved by the Minister as the equivalent of Year 10
- The completion, outside of this state of the equivalent of Year 10 of secondary education in this state, or
- The completion of education in any special circumstance approved by the Minister

If you have any questions relating to the new changes please call the school.

Stephen Kershaw Head Teacher Student Administration

### English

Well done to Jade Burgess, Emily Hobson and Kurtis Wathen of Year 10 who competently assisted as adjudicators at Shell Cove Primary's 'Public Speaking Finals' on Friday 25 September.

These students made difficult and discerning decisions as they scrutinised the method, presentation and content of each Shell Cove student's speech.



Our School's Core Values:

This valuable experience fostered our link with Shell Cove Primary and offered an opportunity for our students to promote academic life at Warilla High School. It also encouraged Jade, Emily and Kurtis to grab the microphone and practise their public speaking skills as they addressed the audience of students, teachers and parents.

We thank Shell Cove Public School for inviting us to participate.

Karen Beasley English Teacher

### HSIE

#### Year 10 Canberra Excursion

On the 28 and 29 September 48 students from Year 10 Commerce and HSIE classes attended an educational tour of the National Capital and participated in a variety of educational programmes focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of civics and citizenship education. To assist parents in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government has contributed funding under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) Programme toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution of \$20 per student is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion and was deducted from the costs paid by students.

On the excursion students visited Parliament House, Old Parliament House, the Australian War Memorial, the newly refurbished Mint, High Court of Australia, the National Museum and Questacon. A highlight for all was the students re-enacting the Franklin Dam parliamentary debates in Old Parliament. We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Mrs Ruse, Mrs Buzik, Mr Beasley and Mr Williams accompanied the students and all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The students were highly complimented by the coach driver for the way they looked after the coach and were great ambassadors for Warilla High School during the trip. Hopefully it was both an educational and enjoyable experience for all.

Mrs Ruse HSIE Teacher

## Sport

Competition sport for winter has been completed. Warilla were successful in winning 6 premierships as follows

Senior Girls A & B Touch Junior B Girls Touch Junior B Boys Touch Junior Girls Basketball

> Care for your environment Embrace honesty Respect others and value yourself Seek knowledge

#### Senior Girls Netball

These premierships resulted in Warilla joining Albion Park as Champion Grade Sport School.

Warilla was also successful in achieving Champion Sports School. This is achieved through results in the 3 carnivals, Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics, as well as Grade Sport results. This is an outstanding achievement and a great reward for the student's efforts this year.

Zoe Elkerton of Year 10 recently competed in the Australian School Swimming Championships. Zoe was successful in winning 9 medals – 1 Gold in the 100m Freestyle, 4 Silver and 4 Bronze. This is an excellent achievement from an outstanding young athlete. Well done Zoe.

The 13 Yrs Girls 4 x 100m relay team achieved a Bronze medal in the NSW CHS Athletics Championships. This is a great result and a well deserved effort for their dedication and training. The team members were Kirsten Nash, Rianna Drake and Mikayla Kostovski all from Year 7 and Lara Roche from Year 8. Well done girls.

Ian Morris Head Teacher PD/H/PE

## News from the Office

#### Skills Week

Skills Week activities begin Wednesday 9 December up to and including Tuesday 15 December. All payments for Skills Week need to be finalised by the end of Week 4.

#### Finance

If you have been issued with a cheque from Warilla High School would you please present it to your financial institution as soon as possible as the end of the financial year for Warilla High School is 30 November 2009.

Cindy Souter Office Manager

#### St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal Launch

You are invited to attend the launch of the 2009 St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal Luncheon.

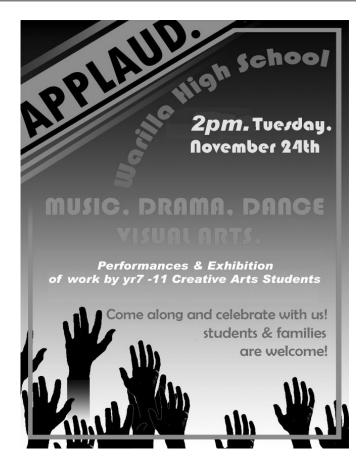
Join your hosts Warilla High School Event Management Students and guest speaker Wollongong Diocesan Bishop Peter Ingham for a gourmet luncheon and Christmas festivities.

Venue:Sea Spray Function Centre Beach Road ShellharbourDate:Friday 4 December 2009 11.30am - 2.30pmCost:\$35.00 per person or \$350.00 table of 10

Payments can be made at Warilla High School

For further information please contact Kellie Marsh on 0447292788 or email <u>kelliem@svdpwgong.org.au</u> RSVP by 1 December 2009

Our School's Core Values:



#### HELP WITH THE HSC VIA THE BOARD OF STUDIES

The NSW Higher School Certificate is a huge operation with many people, papers and processes all leading to the final results.

Each year many senior students and their parents send the Board of Studies questions about how parts of the HSC work. For example, what is moderation? How do you check your assessment ranking? Who sets the exams?

To help students understand how all these parts come together, the Board of Studies have put together a new web-based description of *How Your HSC Works* available at <u>www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/yourhsc</u>

Breaking the process up into nine big steps, *How Your HSC Works* will walk students through from Step 1, being eligible to start the HSC in Term 4, to the final Step 9 where results are delivered before Christmas the following year.

In between, the steps describe such things as where exam papers come from and where they go, and how the Board knows exactly what each student's marks are at any time.

We're planning to build on this bank of information for students, parents and teachers in a range of ways, so please send your comments and ideas to us at information@bos.nsw.edu.au

#### How Your HSC Works

Step 1 – Getting ready Step 2 – We're ready for you Step 3 – The people, the papers, the process Step 4 – Your school assessment marks Step 5 – The exams Step 6 – Marking Step 7 – Moderationg assessment marks Step 8 – Judges apply the standards Step 9 – Finally: your results

Care for your environment Embrace honesty Respect others and value yourself Seek knowledge

