

## Principal's Message

Welcome back to a short and action packed Term 4. With "Skills Week" commencing mid Week 8, it gives us only a short time frame to run the Higher School Certificate and School Certificate exams, do our final assessing and reporting for all years, write the Annual School Report, review the school plan for 2010, prepare our finances and budgets, conduct orientations for Year 6 students into Year 7, organise the timetable and staff for 2010 and a myriad of other things – never a dull moment at Warilla High School.

You might have noticed a few "constructions" develop since last term. Our Science upgrade has been completed and we now have five state of the art laboratories. Retaining walls have been replaced down near the oval, covered walkways have been constructed between D and E Blocks and from D Block to the CAPA rooms. We have replaced the timber fascia boards on the walkways in A Block and we have expanded the entrance to the Administration Block and created an interview room. The only project that is still continuing is the development of a much needed toilet facility in D Block. Hopefully this will be completed by the end of term.

Our new Head Teacher Industrial Arts, Mr Michael Groves will commence this term. Michael brings a lot of experience and enthusiasm to the position and will be a great asset to the school.

A new Technical Service Officer (TSO), Mr Adam Toole has just been appointed to oversee the distribution, management and maintenance of the Year 9 Laptop Rollout Program. On Wednesday of Week 3 this term (4/11/09) an information evening will be held for all Year 9 students and their parents. At this event the process of rolling out the laptops will be fully explained and "Laptop Agreements" distributed. These need to be signed before any computers are handed out. More information about the night will be given to Year 9 students next week.

I would also like to formally send Year 12 students our best wishes for success as they undertake their HSC exams. I thank this year group for their contributions, their friendship and strong support of the Warilla High School community. They have been an excellent group

of senior students who have developed a very positive relationship with the staff and school.

Don't forget to check the calendar dates as there are many events coming up. So read on and enjoy the many great stories coming out of Warilla High school. Cheers and best wishes.

Glenn Isemonger  
Principal

## Coming Events

### Week 2B

Monday 26 October	HSC Exams Yr 11 VET Work Placement Yr 9 Peer Support Training in SCG Yr 8 Marine Studies Excursion to Shellharbour Beach
Tuesday 27 October	HSC Exams Yr 11 VET Work Placement
Wednesday 28 October	HSC Exams Yr 11 VET Work Placement
Thursday 29 October	HSC Exams
Friday 30 October	HSC Exams Yr 8 PASS Outdoor Education Day at Killalea

### Week 3A

Monday 2 November	HSC Exams
Tuesday 3 November	HSC Exams Davidson Shield Cricket
Wednesday 4 November	HSC Exams Yr 11 Good Students Excursion to Jamberoo Recreation Park Yr 9 PASS Ten Pin Bowling at Sunset Avenue (Lunchtime and P3) Davidson Shield Cricket
Thursday 5 November	HSC Exams Yr 6 School Tours for Shellharbour PS and Warilla PS 12.45pm
Friday 6 November	HSC Exams Yr 9 Career Exploration

## From the Deputies

### Personal property

A reminder about the school's policy on personal property. We recommend that students do not bring expensive items of personal property such as mobile phones, I-pods etc. to school as we cannot accept responsibility for these items. The safest place for them is at home. If students choose to bring them to school they need to ensure they are not left unattended. Mobile phones and I-pods frequently go missing and are almost impossible to recover. If students choose to bring these items to school, they do so entirely at their own risk.

### Uniform

Please be aware that students are expected to wear correct school uniform every day. If there are exceptional circumstances and students are unable to wear correct uniform they need to bring a note from home. Students without correct uniform and with no note, may be placed on school detention.

### NAPLAN Results

The school has recently received our NAPLAN results. We are currently analysing the data to determine trends and to plan our response. At first glance it appears that we have improved our writing results in both Years 7 and 9. Other results appear mixed. Our numeracy and overall literacy results are a little disappointing, and we will need to address these areas in the near future.

Alan McInnes and Jodie Fallo-Cranney  
Deputy Principals

## Aspire

An old saying points out something very pertinent to us. It goes "even if you're on the right track, you can still be left behind if you just sit there". Our high flyers this week are well aware of this. They know where they want to go and push themselves to get there.

Congratulations firstly to our new elected School Leaders. This process involved an interview with the Principal and SRC leadership, and public speeches prior to voting by staff and students. I am proud to announce that Tyson Arapali has been elected as the School Leader and Anneliese Dobbie as Deputy Leader. Melissa Galiatsatos and Danielle Mangos were also voted in as our Senior SRC Representatives. This is a strong leadership team and I wish them well as they take on their new and important role. I would also like to thank the outgoing School Leaders Justine Norris, Jesse Roche, Adriana Mazeveski and Christopher Murray who have been wonderful ambassadors for the school. Thank you for your excellent leadership and efforts.

Congratulations this week to some individuals for their great work. Laura Worthy of Year 12 is to be acknowledged for receiving a credit in the National Chemistry Quiz. This is a great achievement Laura. Well done. Well done also Emanuel Sultana of Year 8 who recently won a prize in the recent "Save the Bilby"

competition. Holly Kane of Year 8 is also to be congratulated. Holly gave up a considerable amount of her own time each week throughout last term to assist students at Warrawong High School in their dance routine for Southern Stars. Your effort and skills are greatly appreciated.

Our Visual Arts students and teacher Mrs Jervis also deserve a rap for assisting in the design of sets for the Wakikiri dance competition for Primary Schools. They spent countless hours on Thursday afternoons creating superb backdrops and sets and Warilla Primary School came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state. Well done!

Well done Jesse Rodgers in Year 7 for his great attitude and effort in class. Jesse was particularly helpful by assisting other students to use the program 'Photoshop'.

Elle Sperring in Year 11 has also impressed her teachers with her consistent effort and positive application in all of her classes. Keep it up Elle!

Thank you also to Kane Jones and Trent Opie of Year 11 for their excellent work and expertise in assisting with the sound and audio at the recent Formal Assembly. A huge rap also to our talented dancers who performed and those "movie directors of the future" who entertained us with their fabulous "slow-motion" stories on the big screen. Move over Steven Spielberg!!

Congratulations to the following students who showed wonderful community spirit by collecting donations for "Legacy" recently. They were Jake Roe, Stewart Robertson and Jason Clark from Year 9 and Zayne Burgess, Anita Vasilevska, Danny Petrovski and Dylan Roche from Year 10. Your efforts were much appreciated.

Recently we had some Year 11 students attend some Industry talks. The presenters sought us out and complemented the Warilla High School students who attended as the best group they have addressed. They were particularly impressed with manners, maturity, enthusiasm and participation of our students. Well done Jacob Condello, Codie Flegg, Aaron Francis, Mitchell Green, Chay McGregor, Jacob McPhie, Ethan Reed, Harold Snell, Chad Steele, Reuben Talbot, Jovce Tosevski, Mathew Wane, Bradley Chapman, Daniel Trunzo and Blake Hayes-Davies.

A rap also to three of our Year 10 English students, Jade Burgess, Emily Hobson and Kurtis Wathen who were excellent adjudicators at Shell Cove Primary School's senior debate. They did an exceptional job. Well done!

I would also like to acknowledge the integrity of some of our students. Stephanie Kirwan and Michelle Mendez, both of Year 10, handed in a lost phone to the front office and Connor Selby and Jake Park of Year 8 handed in some house keys they found. It is great to have such honest students in our school.

### Our School's Core Values:

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

In Year 10 Food Technology there has also been some exceptional work. Megan Dalmazzo is to be commended for her excellent attitude to work while Robert Madeddu, Maddison Marsh and Nikki Nicastrì are to be congratulated on their fantastic attitude and application. In Year 9 Food Technology, Tihan Marley, Jessica Nardone, Aidan Bonaz and Benjamin Carney are all to be acknowledged for their excellent efforts in a recent practical exam. In Year 8 Technology, Tegan Dodd, Tegan Watson and Jayme Wilson deserve a rap for their exceptional effort and attitude.

Finally a big rap to Year 7 as a whole year group. It has been passed on to me that they have been demonstrating excellent manners and cooperation. Keep up the great effort.

So congratulations to all of our high flyers this week. We are very proud of your efforts. Well done and best wishes.

Glenn Isemonger  
Principal

## Student Attendance

### The Importance of Regular School Attendance

The following chart highlights the impact of non-attendance over time. Viewed in this context, the implications of regular absenteeism are startling. The chart shows the cumulative effect of persistent non-attendance over the period of schooling from **Kindergarten to the end of Year 10**.

Mr Kershaw  
Head Teacher Student Administration

Days absent	Total days	Number of terms	Number of years missed
1 day per week	440	8.2	2 years 1 term
1.5 days per week	660	12.3	3 years 1.5 terms
2 days per week	880	16.4	4 years 2 terms
3 days per week	1320	25	6 years 1 terms
5 weeks per term	1100	22	5 years 2 terms
Average 5 days per term	220	4.5	1 year 1.5 terms
Average 10 days per term	440	9	2 years 3 terms

## Library

The library would like to welcome back students and staff to Term 4 which is shaping up to be a very busy term. We would like to wish Year 12 students all the best in their examinations over the next few weeks – I hope they all get the good results they have worked towards over the past 2 years.

The new book display at the front of the library has a fantastic selection of both fiction and non-fiction books that I am sure will captivate both students and staff. Graphic novels have proved to be very popular especially with the boys. Some new titles include '**Daniel X ...Alien Hunter**', '**Ultimate Spiderman**', '**Wolverine**', as well as some old favourites such as Agatha Christie's '**Murder on the Links**' and Tolkein's '**The Hobbit**'. Their comic format make them a quick but fun read.

We have purchased a couple of new magazine subscriptions that are proving popular. '**Slam**' is a skateboarding magazine that has become all the rage with the students, while '**Gourmet Traveller**' is proving to be a favourite with the staff and the Home Economics classes. '**Choice**' magazine, an old favourite, contains a font of useful information for students and staff in helping us consume wisely. '**Dolly**' and '**Girlfriend**' however have maintained their popularity with both the boys and girls! We always welcome suggestions for future purchases and subscriptions.

The library would like to thank **Mrs Robinson's Year 7 Technology class** for their brilliant display in the library entrance. Students had the brief to create a board game or a backyard design. They have produced some excellent pieces of work that all visitors to the library have commented on very positively. There are some budding landscape architects in the group that I wouldn't mind designing my backyard!!!

Have a great term!

Maria Bryant  
Teacher Librarian

### 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 Shellharbour

**Date:** Friday 4 December 2009 11.30am – 2.30pm

**Cost:** \$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 [kelliem@svdpwgong.org.au](mailto:kelliem@svdpwgong.org.au) RSVP by 1 December 2009

## News from the Office

### Student Absentee Notes

To avoid any unexplained absences on student reports please hand in absentee notes promptly. Due to this being a short term we will be processing data for student reports earlier this term.

### Uniform

We now have three styles of PE Shorts available.

Older style long PE shorts	\$10.00
Rugby shorts	\$20.00
Long Soccer shorts	\$30.00

Crystal Bears at Warilla Grove are our preferred supplier of girls navy shorts.

Cindy Souter  
Office Manager

## Canteen News

### Volunteer Helpers Required for 2010

Mums, Dads, Aunties, Uncles, Nan and Pops – we need you! Our school is committed to providing high quality healthy food at reasonable prices for your children. If you can spare a few hours in the morning each month please put your name down at the canteen. We appreciate any help you can provide, so please consider helping your child's school.

### Student Volunteers Required

Any Year 7 children interested in learning to help in the canteen to serve at lunchtime please come and see Libby, Sue or Karen at the canteen.

### New Menu Items

Containers of fresh fruit \$2.00  
Salad or Chicken Wraps \$3.00  
Milo and Milky Bar Minis 70c  
Jelly Fruits now frozen 30c

Libby, Sue and Karen  
Canteen Supervisors

### Canteen News - "Wacky Wed"

The canteen will be selling chocolate, lollies etc. on Wednesday 28 October and Wednesday 25 November.

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

### NAPLAN

The 2009 NAPLAN test results were released nationally on 11 September. Reports to parents and caregivers were dispatched from schools in the week beginning 14 September.

To facilitate access to NAPLAN information for parents of NSW school students, a new website [WWW.naplanforparentsnsw.com.au](http://WWW.naplanforparentsnsw.com.au) has been developed. In addition to general information about NAPLAN, this website contains documents to assist parents in understanding the student report and the NAPLAN reporting scales. Parents are also invited to provide feedback on NAPLAN reporting by completing an online survey.

## Life Beyond School

From 2010 students need to stay at school until the end of Year 10, so it's important for your teenager to have some ideas about what they would like to be studying towards or what options they might like to pursue beyond school. There are many alternatives to university, including traineeships, apprenticeships and TAFE qualifications, many of which can be studied while still at school. For more information go to the department's training and industry webpage: [www.det.nsw.edu.au/trainingindustry/index.htm](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/trainingindustry/index.htm)

### Gold Medal Challenge

The NRMA and Bicycle NSW have launched the NRMA 500km Gold Medal Challenge which encourages high school students to get fit riding their bikes and learn more about road safety at the same time. Students who register for the challenge have to clock up 500km on their bikes through everyday cycling activities. Students who complete the challenge will receive a gold medal and great prizes such as bikes, cycle computers, velodrome workshops and free entry to a number of cycling events are also on offer. Register free until 18 December at: [www.bicyclensw.org.au/content/ride2school](http://www.bicyclensw.org.au/content/ride2school).

### WILDFYRE REGIONAL BATTLE OF THE BANDS

**Kangaroo Valley, Sunday 15 November 2009**

There are 3 spots left for bands in the Illawarra-Highlands-South Coast region to enter. Entries close at the end of the month unless by arrangement. Band members must be aged 12-25 years' to be eligible. First prize is worth over \$1500. Prizes total over \$2500 in value. For entry details email

[fyreinvalley@gmail.com](mailto:fyreinvalley@gmail.com) or call Karen Harrison on 0410410144.