

Principal's Message

As we near the end of Term 3 it is a critical time for many of our students. I would firstly like to wish Year 11 all the best as they sit for their final Preliminary Exams in Weeks 9 and 10. Many students have worked exceptionally well throughout the year and this should be reflected in their results.

Year 12 are also in the last formal weeks of school. The official Graduation for Year 12 is on Thursday 1 October and their Formal will be held on Friday 2 October. I encourage Year 12 to make the most of these last few weeks by consulting with their teachers and sticking to their study timetables. Throughout the second week of the holidays (12/10/09 to 16/10/09) there will be a series of subject specific seminars run at the school by teachers and I encourage them to attend.

The NAPLAN results are currently being released and in the next newsletter I look forward to providing you with feedback on the performance of Year 7 and Year 9 students. Each student in these years will receive a detailed package that gives a thorough analysis of their performance in a range of literacy and numeracy skills.

Early in Term 4 I will be organising a meeting for all Year 9 students and their parents to discuss the distribution of laptops. I am waiting until a technical officer has been appointed to the school before we proceed. All parents will need to attend the school and sign a charter/agreement before any laptop will be distributed. We are also still in the process of upgrading the Optic Fibre in school classrooms in readiness for this. It is hoped that B Block and E Block will be ready before laptops are given out.

Can I also encourage parents of students in the junior years to ensure they have completed the permission notes and elective forms for "Skills Week" activities. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to undertake some structured, educational and fun activities at the end of the year. However, the response so far has been poor and if this does not improve, Skills Week will not run.

We are also currently collating the survey results about school uniform and I hope to present you with feedback early next term.

I would also like to inform you that Mrs Fallo-Cranney will be relieving as Deputy Principal until the end of October while Mr Ashby is on long service leave.

So sit back and enjoy your read of the Warilla High School newsletter. There are always so many good things happening at our school. Cheers and best wishes.

Glenn Isemonger
Principal

Coming Events

Week 9A

Monday 21 September	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams R3 Class on Work Experience
Tuesday 22 September	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams R3 Class on Work Experience
Wednesday 23 September	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams R3 Class on Work Experience Yr 12 Aboriginal Studies Excursion to Bangarra Dance Company at Sydney Opera House
Thursday 24 September	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams R3 Class on Work Experience
Friday 25 September	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams R3 Class on Work Experience

Week 10B

Monday 28 September	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams Yr 10 HSIE Excursion to Canberra Support Unit IO Excursion to Black Beach
Tuesday 29 September	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams Yr 10 HSIE Excursion to Canberra
Wednesday 30 September	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams
Thursday 1 October	Yr 12 Graduation 10.00am in the School Hall
Friday 2 October	Yr 12 Formal at Wollongong Golf Club End of Term

Coming Events (Continued)

Term 4
Week 1A

Monday 19 October	Students Return to School
Tuesday 20 October	HSC Exams
Wednesday 21 October	HSC Exams Yr 11 VET Work Placement
Thursday 22 October	HSC Exams Yr 11 VET Work Placement
Friday 23 October	HSC Exams Yr 11 VET Work Placement Yr 10 HSIE Excursion to Sydney

Aspire

American philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson once said "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm", and he was right. This was clearly on display last week when a huge troupe of students, led by Ms Masters and Ms Neden, took part in the hugely spectacular "Southern Stars" concert. Our students in the Dance Troupe were superb and I would also like to thank all the students and staff who assisted with the many tasks, including costume design, for their great efforts. They are Jessie Vaughan, Erin Ulin, Lindsay Jones and Lisa Bird of Year 10 and David Bescos of Year 12. The staff are Julie Orton, Janina Nicholson, Kathie McNamara, Julie McCurry, Karen Wilmott, Caz Jervis, Pam Mavrikis, Ros Gaynor, Rosslyn Nixon, Ernie Orth and Jane Cobbin. Our fabulous dancers at Southern Stars were Yasemin Ali, Rochelle Allen-Taylor, Liana Baulch, Talia Benavente, Gemma Bennett, Rebecca Bogolin, Amy Brady, Megan Carey, Megan Davies, Ashley Galiatsatos, Brittney Gibb, Kyla Hakkenbrock, Shaye Hanson, Alma Hasanovic, Taylah Hogan, Katrina Hughes, Tegan James, Kirsty Johannes, Annemarie Johnston, Holly Kane, Taylah Logan, Holli McDonald, Kasey Nunes, Jessica Pinney, Naomi Pusell, Alisha Saint, Laura Sampson, Emily Seabrook, Maddison Silk, Bianca Smith, Codee Spagnolini, Jakoda Thicknesse, Kayla Todd, Claudia Trueman, Bonni Wathen, Tegan Watson, Teneel Whiteman, Brittany Wickham, Jayme Wilson and Emily Wortley.

A great story also came across my desk this week via Mr Berry. An ex student contacted him with a good news tale. Throughout their schooling many students undertook First Aid training. Last week, an ex Year 12 student was involved in a minor car accident in which an elderly lady suffered a minor heart attack. The student was able to offer vital assistance to this lady at a critical time. It is great to hear that the things students learn at school have a real application in life.

Congratulations also to Stephanie Hili of Year 10 who was recently selected in the CHS Lawn Bowls team. She

is one of the many talented sports people emerging at Warilla High School. Well done!

Finally, I would like to commend the work of some fantastic student volunteers. These students have assisted other students with special provisions in Year 12, 11 and 10 during formal exams as readers and writers. They have given up their own time and had to catch up on missed work while providing this valuable service. Thank you and well done Blake James of Year 10 and from Year 9, Kristy Hobourn, Brie-Ann Smith, Jessica Beencke, Natasha Talevska, Silvana Srbinoski, Kayla Dupond, Eryn Taylor, Kimberley George, Jessica Gruevski, Lauren Fairweather, Chloe Arnold, Sarah Maher, Jarrod Worboyes, Dayna Hopwood, Tijana Burazor and Simon Dunstan.

So another highly successful week at Warilla High School. Congratulations to all of our fantastic students who are doing so well. Best wishes.

Glenn Isemonger
Principal

Community Service and Leadership Throsby Community Spirit and Leadership Awards

Congratulations to Tasmin Parsons in Year 11 who received the Throsby Community Spirit and Leadership Award on Friday 4 September at Heininger Hall, Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto during a special Awards Ceremony Night. This award was presented to her by Jennie George (Federal Member for Throsby) in recognition of the outstanding work that Tasmin does for a number of organisations in the community such as - The Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul Society and Mount Warrigal Retirement Village. Warilla High School is proud of you Tasmin and we look forward to hearing about more of your achievements in the future.

Michael Stanizzo
Head Teacher Welfare



Tasmin Parsons Year 11

Neighbours Request

Recently residents in Daphne St have complained that cars have been parked across driveways and in front of garbage bins (which cannot be emptied). Could I ask that you be aware of this issue and not block driveway access or the garbage collection service.

Glenn Isemonger
Principal

Absentee Notices

When providing explanations for school absences, parents are responsible for providing valid reasons for their child's absence. The school is unable to justify an absence based on a broad explanation, ie: "Family Reasons" or "Personal Reasons". As these notes relate to the fulfilling of requirements under the Education Act 1990, absentee notes become a legal document once tendered to the school, and the Principal has the responsibility of validating these notes. As a result, the school is **unable** to accept the above reasons as a valid reason for student absences. These absences will be marked down as UNJUSTIFIED absences until an appropriate reason has been given.

2.2.4 The Principals may decline to accept as satisfactory an explanation for an absence. The parent must be notified that the explanation has not been accepted and a reason for the decision provided

2.2.5 The Principal may request a medical certificate or other documentation where the absences explained as being due to sickness are frequent or prolonged

"NSW DET: Student Attendance In Government Schools: PROCEDURES"

Stephen Kershaw
Head Teacher Administration

Can you help!

On Tuesday of this week (15 September) somebody broke into E-Block and stole two adult Water Dragons from our enclosure. These Water Dragons have been raised from babies by our General Assistant and are there for the enjoyment of all the students. If anyone knows anything about this theft could you please contact the school. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Cindy Souter
School Administration Manager

Southern Stars 2009

This year forty students from Years 7 to 10 participated in "Southern Stars". The theme for the show was "Just for the fun of it!" and the students did have fun.

We performed in the section based on the game 'Twister' to the John Farnham song 'Playing to Win'. The students have been exceptional in behaviour, attitude and were commended on their manners by the staff at Chicks's Wollongong.

The dance troupe would like to publicly thank the following staff members for their help in making the costumes: Caz Jervis, Karen Wilmott, Julie McCurry, Maria Bryant, Kathie McNamara, Julie Orton, Pam Mavrikis, Ernie Orth, Roz Gaynor, Rosslyn Nixon and Jane Cobbin. Without this help, Ms Masters and Ms Neden would not have finished the costumes in time.

It was a great show, thanks to everyone who participated and watched. Yours in dance.

Dian Masters and Janine Neden
Southern Stars Coordinators



Southern Stars Dance Troupe

Sport

State Futsal Soccer Finals

On Monday 7 September 2009 the Open Boys Futsal Soccer team competed in the State Finals at Penrith. The team had participated in the Regional Championships earlier in the year and qualified with 20 other schools from across the State and the ACT for the State Finals.

Unfortunately, due to injuries and players being unavailable the side was missing three regular team members. A special thanks to Stefan Tomevski who we woke up early on Monday morning to fill in for our team. The first group match was against All Saints and the boys came back from 3-0 down to force a 3-3 draw. This

meant that our team had to win their remaining group games to qualify for the quarter finals.

Warilla High School responded to the challenge and overcame Callaghan College 2-1 and Cumberland High School 5-0. Our boys by this stage had no reserve players left due to further injuries but had made it through to the final 8 in the State. The team faced Homebush High School in the quarter finals and went down 5-2 in an entertaining encounter.

The side on the day consisted of Ben Mitchell, Petar Brankovic, Chad Keating, Alex Cortes, Jake Wilson Year 12 and Stefan Tomevski Year 11.

A special mention to David 'softie' Bescos Year 12 and Mitchell Scazzariello, James Gosharevski and Alex Garcia Year 11 who were part of the team but unable to play on the day.

Michael Stanizzo
Head Teacher Welfare

Library

The library has managed to secure a trial of the World Book Web online encyclopaedia until the end of September. This website includes 'World Book For Kids' (suitable for students 4-9 years old), 'World Book Student' (suitable for students 9-18 years old), 'World Book Advanced' (suitable for students 14-20 years old), and 'World Book Discover' (for students below reading grade level) and 'English as a Second Language' (students 9-18 years). There are also 3 new digital libraries in the World Book collection. These are 'Living Green' which looks at many of the current Geography issues studied in the junior school, 'World Book Early Peoples' which provides information, videos, animations etc on early civilisations including Egyptians, Greeks, Aztecs as well as Australian Aborigines; and also 'World Book Inventions and Discoveries'. It provides up-to-date reliable information on most topics your children would be studying at school and would greatly assist them in their assignments. Please take advantage of this free trial. I would welcome feedback on its value to your children as this will assist us to make a decision on continuing the subscription. The site is available both at school and at home. The log in page is located at :- www.worldbookonline.com

ID : *international*
Password : *eagle*

Maria Bryant
Teacher Librarian

New Laptop Rollout

The Digital Education Revolution (DER) in NSW is a program to provide wirelessly-enabled laptops to all Year 9 to 12 students in NSW public schools by 2012. For all the information about this exciting initiative, including a vodcast that explains the features of this Australian-first program, go to www.schools.nsw.edu.au/dernsw

School Leaving Age

From next year all NSW students by law, must remain at school until the end of Year 10 and must be in fulltime paid employment, education and training, or a combination of the two until the age of 17. This brings NSW into line with all other Australian states and territories. More information is available at:

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leavingschool/schoolleaveage/index.php

School Zone Road Safety

A reminder to parents that from 1 July 2009 the government has increased fines and loss of demerit points for all driving offences occurring in school zones. We are committed to providing a safe environment for all our students and visitors, so please observe the 40km/h speed limit during school hours and stop in designated drop off areas only.

Warilla High School Sport Raffle

The PD/H/PE Faculty will be holding a raffle.

Tickets may be purchased from the PE staffroom before school and during break times.

Cost of Tickets: **\$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.00**

1st Prize: **A signed 2009 St George Illawarra Jersey**

2nd Prize: **A signed 2009 Steeden Match Ball**

Prizes will be drawn at Assembly on Thursday 1 October 2009

Student Exchange Australia

In January and February 2010 Student Exchange Australia will welcome a new group of international exchange students to Australia. Our new arrivals will live with a host family and attend school for a semester or a year. As we plan for their arrival, we are keen to hear from suitable families who might be interested to host a student. Please note that all our host families are interviewed in their homes and carefully checked for suitability.

Student Exchange Australia is a not-for-profit secondary exchange organisation which is registered with education authorities in each State and Territory. You can find out more about our organisation by visiting www.studentexchange.org.au.

If you have any questions you can call our office on 1300135331.