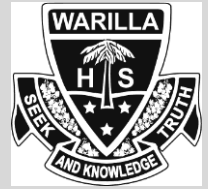


Warilla High School Newsletter

Kalori



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22 October 2012

Issue 1 – Term 4 – Week 3

Principal's Message

Welcome back to term 4 and what is shaping as another very hectic term.

Our Year 12 students began their HSC examinations on 15 October, with the last test scheduled for 8 November.

I am confident that our kids will give a good account of themselves and I look forward to analysing the results when they arrive in late December.

Several of our students are to receive awards at the upcoming Illawarra Workplace Learning 2012 Awards for Excellence in Vocational Education. This is an outstanding achievement and underscores the rich and deep curriculum being offered when these awards traverse areas such as Business Services; Construction; Hospitality and Retail Services.

These students have developed an impressive array of skills and competencies in these industry accredited frameworks and have set a solid platform in their transition to the workforce.

Our vocational education curriculum will continue into 2013, with significant numbers of students applying for both school based and TAFE delivered courses.

We hope to finalise our Year 11 curriculum and Year 8 and Year 9 electives within the next few weeks as part of our timetabling operation.

In the last Newsletter, I took up the question of bullying and harassment. This vile, anti-social behaviour has no place in this school and I have put students on notice that those who engage in this type of activity may well forfeit their place here.

This has been reinforced by our Police Liaison Officer who has briefed students on the law in relation to this issue, and its consequences for those who breach it.

As always, we can't do this alone and the ongoing support of our parents and care providers is something we rely on.

I commend the efforts of staff and especially of our Head Teacher Welfare Mr Stanizzo, who works tirelessly to ensure we are proactive in this area. Recently, this has seen Mr Stanizzo and a team of staff take the majority of Year 8 students to the Narrabeen Sports and Fitness Centre to work on social and life skills pertinent to their needs. It is through the explicit teaching of such skills that a school environment of tolerance and respect will be achieved.

Our ongoing commitment to critical self-reflection and improvement will see the HSIE faculty undertake an evaluation of its management systems and leadership practice. This will be led by personnel external to the school and result in a series of recommendations designed to improve the current operating systems. I commend the HSIE staff for the positive manner with which this evaluation has been embraced.

Have a great term!

With my kind regards,

John Hambly
Principal

Deputies Report

Year 12 HSC Exams

As Year 12 complete their final exams at Warilla High School we would like to wish them all the best for their future. Both the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony and Formal were outstanding events that gave the school an opportunity to thank this outstanding group of young people for their contributions to Warilla High School. Thank you to all staff involved in these events including Mrs Orton, Mrs Fallo, Mrs Condon and Mr Morris.

Year 11 starting the HSC Course

Year 11 have now completed their Preliminary studies and have started work within their HSC courses. Some students have submitted a request to change their study pattern by dropping a subject. These requests will be considered during Week 2 and Week 3 and students will be notified of the decision early Week 4. Year 11 students have been asked to continue attending all courses until they are notified their request has been approved by the Deputy Principal.

HSC Assessment Booklets

Year 11 students have been issued with these booklets during Week 2 and Week 3. The booklets include key information for our HSC students regarding assessment for the HSC. A parent information session regarding HSC courses and assessment will be held on Tuesday 13 November in our school library at 6.00pm. Further information regarding this evening will be provided to Year 11 over the coming weeks.

Behaviour in the Playground

There has been a positive start to Term 4 in terms of our students' behaviour in the playground. During last term the playground was, at times, left in an untidy state following breaks. Students have been spoken to about this issue on various occasions. Following these warnings, if the playground continues to be left in an untidy state, students will be asked to take responsibility for the areas that they access at break times.

Subject Information for Year 11 2013

It is important for Year 10 to note that from 2013 they will be expected to maintain 12 units of study at Warilla High School as they move from Year 11 into Year 12. We believe the retention of 12 units into Year 12 study will have benefits for student outcomes and student welfare. This is a change in procedure at our school that has been endorsed by staff and our P&C. Further detailed information will be provided to Year 10 and their parents in the coming weeks.

Skills Week 2012

Students have now made their selections for Skills Week. Thank you to Mrs Mavrikis for all of her work around this important whole school event and tradition at Warilla High School. In 2012 Year 10 will also participate in Skills Week within their own separate program being organised by Miss Hand. Invoices are currently being posted home with an outline of costs for these activities. Please contact the school with any questions regarding Skills Week.

Jenni Raison & Ian Morris
Deputy Principals

Our School's Core Values:

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



Coming Events

Week 3A

22 October	• Year 10 Ryda Safety Workshop
23 October	• Year 6 Sports Day
24 October	• Year 9 and Year 10 Unique Experience Day

Week 4B

30 October	• Year 10 Drama Showcase 6.30pm
1 November	• Shellharbour Primary School Year 6 visit
2 November	• Year 7 – Year 10 Oztag Event at Cringila

Week 5A

5 November	• Year 7 and Year 10 Vaccination catch - up day
8 November	• Barrack Heights Primary School Year 6 visit
9 November	• Remembrance Day Ceremony • Year 12 Sign Out Day in Hall Periods 1-3 inclusive

Finalising End of Year Attendance for Reports

As we approach the end of the year, Warilla High School would like to finalise all outstanding attendance issues so that we can minimise the unexplained absences that will appear on your child's report.

The school is required by the Department of Education to include this attendance information on each report as it appears at the time of printing, so in order to update this information prior to this date, we need a written explanation for each part day or whole day that your child has had off this year.

If you are unable to remember the day that your child has been absent, they are able to get a printout of their attendance from me.

This final report is a vital document for students, and with your support we would like to make the attendance information as favourable as possible.

Please note we are unable to change absences after the reports have been issued.

Mr Kershaw
Head Teacher Student Administration

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**.

Days absent	Total days	Number of terms	Number of years missed
1 day per week	440	8.8	2 years 0.8 term
1.5 days per week	660	13.2	3 years 1.2 terms
2 days per week	880	17.6	4 years 1.6 terms
3 days per week	1320	26.4	6 years 2.4 terms
5 weeks per term	1100	22	5 years 2 terms
Average 5 days per term	220	4.4	1 year 0.4 term
Average 10 days per term	440	8.8	2 years 0.8 term

Mr Kershaw
HT Student Administration

Sport

U/15's Girls Basketball Final 8 Series

On Friday 24 August, the Under 15 girls' basketball team travelled to Bomaderry to compete in the South Coast Final 8 series.

The girls conducted themselves with great pride and excellent sportsmanship and every girl gave 100%.

A special mention to our Most Valuable Player, Kayley Smith, for an outstanding performance in scoring and rebounding.

With a predominantly Year 7 and Year 8 team, the girls did extremely well against an older and more experienced opposition who had girls from Year 9 and Year 10.

The girls should be extremely proud of their commitment to training sessions and to have finished in the top 8 of the South Coast Region. The girls have developed a great foundation for the team to grow and improve over the next few years.

We will lose Jasmyn Davies, and she should be congratulated on her leadership of the team.

Congratulations on your efforts girls, I'm very proud of you all and I look forward to competing again next year.

Miss Fotheringham
PD/H/PE

We're on the way to becoming eSmart

Earlier we advised that our school had registered with eSmart – a comprehensive approach for managing cybersafety and dealing with bullying and cyberbullying in school communities.

We're pleased to let you know that we have completed the first phase of our eSmart journey.

We have planned many activities in line with the eSmart Schools Framework, and are now progressing with implementation.



Expect to hear a lot more in the coming months about our efforts to promote the smart, safe and responsible use of digital technology.

We hope you will also take part in some of the opportunities to learn more about being eSmart.

For more information visit www.esmart.org.au



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Welfare

On Monday 8 October to Wednesday 10 October, 81 students attended the Year 8 "Equipped For Life" camp at The Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation based in Narrabeen.

The students participated in a range of structured activities which included abseiling, challenge ropes, flying fox, canoeing, initiatives and a team challenge.

I would like to commend the students on their impeccable behaviour throughout the 3 days and the instructors at the academy commented that our students were amongst the best groups that they had the pleasure to work with all year.

We look forward to all of these students applying many of the skills that they learnt whilst on camp back at school and in their everyday lives. It was also pleasing that Mr Meizer had learnt his lesson from last year and behaved himself at camp as well.

A special thanks to the following staff who gave up their time to attend the camp: Mrs Unicomb, Mr B Jones, Mr Meizer, Miss Hand, Mrs Murray, Miss Munro and Mrs Robinson.

On Monday 22 October close to 100 Year 10 students will be attending the RYDA Road Safety Education Program at the Croome Road Sporting Complex. During this program students will be taking part in 6 interactive sessions on a broad range of road safety topics.

The empowering messages are designed to give the young participants cause to stop, reflect and consider their decisions as a passenger or a driver.

61 students from Year 9 and Year 10 will be taking part in the UNique Experience Day on Wednesday 24 October at the University of Wollongong. This year the UNique Experience Day is themed "The In2Uni Apprentice". Students are invited onto the University of Wollongong campus to provide them with the opportunity to choose their career path as an apprentice in their chosen faculty for the day. Students will participate in Faculty taster sessions, group activities and Alumni experience workshops to introduce them to different aspects of university life and assist with subject selections for their senior studies. For more information on the 2012 UNique Experience Day, please see:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/in2uni/upcomingevents/uniqueprogram/index.html>

39 Year 9 students took part in a Peer Support training day on Friday 12 October which was conducted by Rising Generations. These students will play a crucial role in assisting our Year 7 cohort in 2013, making the adjustment into high school and making their school experience meaningful.

I would like to commend each of these students in being selected to act as Peer Support Leaders and for also agreeing to devote their time and experience to the younger students. A special thanks to Miss Fotheringham and Mr Orange for their assistance in the organisation of this training and for their continued excellent work as Warilla High School's Peer Support Co-ordinators.

On behalf of the Welfare Team, I would like to wish Mrs Robinson all the best as the birth of her child approaches. She deserves to be acknowledged for the outstanding work that she has done so far with the Year 8 cohort and I know that she is looking forward to continuing her support of these students when she returns from her maternity leave.

In the interim period, Mrs Murray will serve as relieving Year 8 Advisor and Warilla High School is very fortunate to have someone of her calibre willing and able to step into a critical role such as this.

Just a reminder that the end of the year is fast approaching so it is imperative that students hand in their merit certificates to the Year Advisors so that Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards can be processed.

Any students who are eligible for a Gold Award this semester will soon receive a letter in the mail addressed to their parents / caregivers providing details of when this assembly will take place.

Michael Stanizzo
Head Teacher Welfare

Careers

Students, who enter Year 11 or Year 12 in 2013, are eligible to complete a 33 week course in Wollongong, with a limit of 20 students across the Illawarra, on Technical Production.


This course is a Certificate III and has a 4 Unit value at Preliminary and / or HSC level.

The course runs Wednesdays 1.30pm – 6.30pm.


Units include: Operate Professional Audio Equipment, Sound Editing, Entertainment Industry Knowledge and Record and Mix a Basic Music Demo.

Welcome back to Mrs Glasgow from a well-deserved long service leave.



Mrs N Fulton
Acting Careers Advisor



Koori Connections:



**Notice of Important Dates and Events
in our School Community**

* **Wollongong Local AECG Annual General Meeting:**

Date: Monday 22 October 2012
Venue: Oak Flats Primary School,
Griffiths Street Oak Flats
Time: 4.00pm

* **PLPs:** (Personal Learning Plans for Years 8 - 9)
BBQ date to be confirmed

* **End of Year Koori Awards Day**

Date: 16 November 2012
Invitations will be sent home in
upcoming weeks

* **Koori Homework Centre:**
Commences Wednesday 24 October

Dharawal Aboriginal Language Activities

During last week of Term 3, a group of Aboriginal students were selected to take part in a 3 day course in the local Aboriginal language, Dharawal.

Students had an opportunity to discuss their heritage and learn snippets of information about local Aboriginal history.

The main focus was to teach some simple vocabulary. Students were taught how to sing "Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" using Dharawal words and also learned family words, kinship terms and animal names.

The students participated in many games to reinforce their learning and their behaviour was outstanding. All agreed that Jodie (the course leader) has put together a fantastic program, and the students had a wonderful time.

Mrs Goucher

Breakfast Club

During the examination time for the HSC the hall is not able to be used for Breakfast Club. The Vinnies volunteers will be relocating to B2 for that period of time and would like to welcome students to attend from 7.30am to 8.15am in that area. Due to class use Period 1, all food service and availability will end at that time. Thanks again to the students, who attend, assist and behave appropriately.

Car Restoration

With the Vinnies volunteers and their funding support, the Car Restoration Program is well underway, here on site, again for 2012. Selected students work, as part of a team, for one period on Wednesday and are advised and supervised by Vinnies volunteers and a qualified mechanic. Students will gain hands-on skills and see more relevance to many aspects of their school work. Interested parents or those able to assist in whatever form please contact the school.

Work placement

Work placement is a Board of Studies Requirement for Year 11 and Year 12 students who are completing an Industry Framework course - Hospitality, Retail, Construction, Metals, Sports Coaching and Business Services. Unfortunately some students have failed to complete the required hours or, to date, have failed to bring in the required paperwork to verify completion. In Week 3 'N' warnings will be completed and distributed to those Year 11 students who have failed to meet this requirement.

Mrs Potts

Farewell Year 12

Year 12 2012 have raised just over \$2000 for their gift to the school, to be used for refurbishment of B3 - to house the coffee machine and provide an industry standard outlet for Sprouts Café. I consider it an honour that they wished to use their funds to improve facilities for the teaching of Hospitality.

I wish to include an excerpt from the Year 12 Graduation Speech.

'Take with you the knowledge and skills we have given you at Warilla High School but also take with you an open mind. Make a decision that you are going to make a difference in the world.

Work hard but get your priorities right. Hold true to yourself, your value system, your work ethic, but remain flexible. These qualities will guide you further on your journey. We are all here to do the best we can and give as much as we can to others in our community.

If you dare to be great you can make the world a better place. You, Year 12 can save lives, enrich the art world, build great

buildings and bridges and bring different groups together to solve their problems.

So, chase your chosen career; excel, go the extra kilometre; show compassion; make your mark in the world; have empathy; dare to be the best you can be and then do it!

"Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations but about your unfilled potential. Concern yourself NOT with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do", Pope John 23rd.

Congratulations on your graduation, my love and best wishes to you all'.

Mrs J Orton

Year 12 Advisor

Important Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers

As previously advised in a letter sent home on 18 September, this is the last time our newsletter will be distributed in hard copy.

If you have not returned the slip with your email address, or you do not have email access at home and your child will be collecting a hard copy from the front office, could you please advise these details at your earliest convenience.

Parent and Community Association

This is a personal invitation to the parents of Warilla High School students to come and find out what is going on in our School.

We would love to see you, have a coffee and a chat. It would be lovely to see some fresh faces at our meetings and I promise, 'you won't be given a job'.

It is the perfect forum to find out what is going on at Warilla High School.

Meet staff members who regularly attend our meetings.

We are not a fundraising P&C.

Year 6 parents are very welcome to attend our meetings.

Our next meeting is Tuesday 13 November at the new time of 7.00pm.

Julie Holloway
Vice President

Canteen News

WACKY WEDNESDAY

Wednesday 24 October

Selling

Coke, Chocolates, Caramel

Slice, Custard Tarts and

Assorted Lollies