

WHAT'S ON IN COMING WEEKS

December 2011

- Mon 19 Staff Development Day
Tue 20 Staff Development Day

January 2012

- Fri 27 Staff Development Day
Mon 30 Yrs 7, 11 & 12 return
Tue 31 Yrs 8, 9 & 10 return

February 2012

- Wed 8 School Swimming Carnival,
Corrimal Pool
Thu 9 Yr 12 HSC Information
Night—7pm in Hall

CANTEEN HELPERS THIS WEEK

- Mon 30 HELP NEEDED
Tue 31 HELP NEEDED
Wed 1 C Core
Thu 2 HELP NEEDED
Fri 3 HELP NEEDED

Mon 6 W Regan
Tue 7 J Overton / L Wallace
Wed 8 S Cotterill
Thu 9 J Bridge
Fri 10 HELP NEEDED

UNIFORM SHOP

The new school uniform shop will be opened at the following times:

Wednesday 25th January
9.00am—10.30am

Friday 27th January
9.00am—10.30am

In 2012, every Thursday, the shop will be open for fittings from 8.00am to 8.30am. Orders can be placed online through the school's website.

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PURSUING EXCELLENCE

WEEKLY eNEWSLETTER

TERM 4 WEEK 11 19 DECEMBER 2011

Principal's Report

It certainly has been a very busy end of year but a time of energy, enthusiasm and celebration. The final Year 10 Graduation ceremony was held last week. Many students were recognised and acknowledged for their academic achievements, community service and leadership qualities. The School Certificate results were very pleasing with our students achieving 161 Band 5 and Band 6 with Tiana Stevens being recognised for her outstanding School Certificate results.

Yesterday, a morning tea was held for Year 12 students to allow them to share their HSC and ATAR results with one another and their teachers. It was lovely to be able to congratulate so many justifiably proud students and staff. Parents were invited to attend the morning tea as they too deserve the acknowledgement and congratulations for a job well done! Once again many of our students obtained outstanding results. This cohort of students achieved 11 Band 6 and 91 Band 5 and five of the students receiving an ATAR above 90 with an additional achieving scores above 80! Terrific results, well done to all students it is a significant achievement to obtain a HSC and will be their first and probably not their last academic transcript achieved.

On Wednesday evening, Miss Sharp and Mr McDermott again produced the annual Variety Night Concert. A large, enthusiastic and engaged audience enjoyed the varying talents of our students including a first performance from circus skills students using the newly installed 'tissues' (silks hung from the ceiling of the hall). A big thank you to both staff and all performers who clearly had a great night entertaining the crowd.

As reported in the previous newsletter a review of the school's electronic and telecommunications policy has been undertaken. I have included for comment the draft policy for implementation in 2012. In essence, mobile phones are not to be used at school. If students or parents need to contact one another, this can be via the front office. A hands free phone has been purchased to allow confidential conversations to take place and messages will always be passed onto students when required.

The new school uniform has received a very positive response from incoming Year 7 students and their parents and 2012 senior students. A reminder to parents that when purchasing school shoes for the new school year they are to be ALL black leather or suede. Students have been informed again that only all black shoes are to be purchased and worn with white ankle socks.

The end of 2011 and the beginning of 2012 will see many changes at Woonona High, not just the school uniform. It is at this time of year we farewell staff who for one reason or another move on from our school. Ms Elle Shaw Radley is returning to England, Mrs Mary-Anne Attard is transferring to another school, Mrs Leslie Blanton, Mr David Wood, Mr John Fisher, Mr Steve Powell, Mr Tony Caldwell and Mrs Mary Martin are all retiring. I would like to thank them all for their contribution in enriching our student's education with their professionalism, passion for teaching and learning and for what they have given to our school and our profession. I wish them well as they each move on to another exciting phase in their life.

I wish you all a safe and happy festive season and look forward to sharing with you the continuing achievements and successes of our staff and students in 2012.

Merry Christmas

Belinda Wall
Principal

Congratulations

Recently, the Illawarra Schools Excellence in Vocational Education & Training Awards 2011 were held and two of our students achieved awards.



Michael Uren (*above*) was announced the winner of the School Based Trainee of the Year and also gained a Certificate of Merit for Business Services. Well done, Michael, on this impressive achievement.

Jaicari Noor (*below*) also received a Certificate of Merit for Business Services. Well done, Jaicari on your achievement.



Victor Chang Award

On Monday, 5th December, 2011, Brodie Petrolo attended the University of Wollongong Innovation Campus to receive the Victor Chang Award for excellence in Science for Year 11 students. Brodie has been a very strong Science student throughout his 5 year career at Woonona High School. This year he was the top student in both the Physics and Chemistry Preliminary courses. This award honours the memory of Dr Victor Chang, a world famous heart surgeon, who was tragically murdered. Brodie's parents and our Principal, Ms Wall attended the ceremony. Congratulations Brodie.



Neil Brophy

Woonona Surfing Titles 2011

The weather looked ominous at 7.30 am but not a drop of rain fell on the contest. A consistent and solid three foot swell persisted all day and provided a great range of waves for all.

Results

| Open Surf Board | Open Body Board | Learn To Surf |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 1 st Lachlan Hutton | 1 st Tully Mackay | 1 st Harrison Rose |
| 2 nd Ben Ridgway | 2 nd Andrew Jane | 2 nd Riley Hughes Jazmin Tweddle-O'Donnell |
| 3 rd Thomas Grover | 3 rd Ayden Osadczuk | |

Tag Team Winners: Robbie Hudson, Tully Mackay, Ben Ridgway, Ben Brien, Riley Hughes, Harrison Rose.

Congratulations to all winners and all competitors on the positive atmosphere you generated on the day.

Thankyou to the following student volunteers who performed the essential administrative tasks; Bridy Garnon, Isabel Napier, Taleah McPherson, Kate Stewart, Khalia Rasch, Grace Jones, Taylor Murrill and Dimitri Toliias for taking photographs.

Thanks to Mr Bradley and Mr Zubovic for essential infrastructure.

Many thanks to the Pines Surf School for the gracious loan of six Learn to Surf Boards and eight wetsuits.

Mr Landy

Education Tax Refund 2011-2012 Information

Under the Education Tax Refund, parents can claim for home computers, laptops printers, scanners, USB flash drives, home internet, educational software, textbooks, stationery, school uniforms, hats and shoes.

Envelopes with a table to write and record your educational expenses are available from the school.

Donations of Cooking Utensils for Canteen

We are looking to extend the facilities in the School Canteen so that students can get a wider variety of food and beverages. To be able to accomplish this we are looking to add a commercial oven, blenders, frypans, electric wok, boilers, mix master, saucepans and baking containers such as cup cake pans, baking trays etc.

If anyone has any of these items, in excellent working order it would be greatly appreciated if you could contact the school.

The Canteen Committee

School A-Z

A new resource for parents and school community is now available. School A-Z includes a website, a free mobile app and social media channels on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. It's designed to give parents the support they need to help their children's learning, wellbeing and overall development, and provide advice on appropriate use of technology.

It has been developed with the input of the NSW Primary and Secondary Principals' Councils and the Federation of Parents and Citizens' Associations of NSW.

Common parent concerns covered by School A to Z videos, featuring advice from NSW public school teachers, include:

- Advice on how to prepare for the various stages of school life
- Tips on how to handle bullying and build resilience
- How parents can help with school homework
- Preparing for the HSC
- How to develop with maths homework
- Advice on how parents can best communicate with their school
- Strategies to build reading skills and how to tackle essay writing

You can find School A-Z on www.schoolatoz.com.au

Community News

Tim Cahill Coaching Clinics are back this January with a twist!

Four children from the January Tim Cahill Coaching Clinics will be selected to train with the Everton academy for a week in 2012. Selection will be based on talent, attitude, skill and application to soccer so everyone has a chance! The four children chosen will be flown over with their guardian to;

- Meet Tim Cahill
 - Train with the Everton academy for a week
 - Watch Tim and his Everton team-mates play in a Premier League game
- Receive a personalised tour of Goodison Park by Tim.

Don't miss out on this exclusive opportunity, Sign up to the January Tim Cahill Coaching Clinics today and enjoy exclusive access to 'Club Cahill' – an online interactive service where your child can get closer to Tim.

The Clinics will be held in NSW over the following dates;

2nd – 4th January 2012 at Newcastle University - Newcastle

6th – 8th January 2012 at NSW University – Sydney

10th – 12th January 2012 at Australian National University – Canberra

Find out how your child can improve their soccer and how to get involved at www.timcahill.com

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