

Woonona High School

EXCELLENCE INNOVATION SUCCESS



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Issue No. 18

19 November 2012

Fabulous Front Office Staff

Let me share with you an excerpt from a letter I received from a parent this week.

"The office is the face and backbone of a school, the place that sets the tone and offers a first impression of a school. You have outstanding office staff. They are friendly, helpful, organised, thorough and always made me feel very welcome, whether on the phone or in person."

I am sure you all agree with the sentiments expressed as we have the most fantastic professional, hard working, delightful front office staff.



Canteen Volunteers and P&C Xmas Party

On Wednesday evening the parents who support our school volunteering in the canteen and attending monthly P&C meetings were invited to an end of year xmas celebration to acknowledge their contributions to our school. The catering was provided by our Year 11 Hospitality students under the guidance and expertise of Mr De Main. All parents in attendance were extremely impressed with the quality of the food and presentation (including the Christmas decorations). Thank you to all of our parent volunteers and a huge thank you to the Hospitality students for their hard work, professionalism and delicious food.

Another successful student

Mikayla Haberley, Year 12 student has been awarded a major prize in the University of Wollongong, Faculty of Engineering NSW Senior High School Technology Competition. Mikayla will be presented with her award next Friday at the University of Wollongong. Congratulations Mikayla a well deserved award for an outstanding Design and Technology major work.



Ms Belinda Wall
Principal

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Delivering excellence, innovation, opportunity and student success

Narrative Writing Celebration Day

As part of our Community of Schools and a focus on literacy, we recently held a narrative writing task with Woonona East Primary school. Students were required to write a narrative which was then assessed by their peers. The two best scripts were selected from each class and the winning students presented with a certificate at our Celebration day. The standard of the winning entries were very high and no doubt we will have some budding authors in the future.

The winners from Woonona East Primary were: Sanna Eriksson, Tegan McDermott, Nicholas Turner, Ruby Thompson, Jessica Rylander, Caleb Bate and Tristin Verhaaf.

The winners from Woonona High School were: Zoe Post, Brent Jones, Heather Oakley, Connor Elliot and Lachlan Starling.

Mrs Roddis
Teacher Librarian



Meeting for Year 12 2013— HSC Requirements

There will be a meeting in the school hall on Tuesday, 4 December 2012 at 7.00pm, where information with respect to requirements and expectations for the Higher School Certificate year will be discussed.

The Board of Studies Liaison Officer, Cheryl Russell, has been invited to attend to explain the Board's requirements to students and their parents and carers.

Woonona High School's Principal, Ms Wall; Deputy Principal for the cohort, Mr Brophy and the Year 12 Adviser, Mr Bradley, will also be in attendance to discuss a range of related issues aimed at maximising students' achievements in their HSC year.

Mr Brophy—Deputy Principal (Rel.)

Excellence in Vocational education awards

Congratulations to Katelyn Koenig who received an award for excellence in Vocational Education as part of her HSC studies in Construction. Katelyn was nominated by two employers as an outstanding student, displaying initiative, teamwork qualities and a willingness to learn.



Katelyn has now completed her Certificate II in Construction and is considering her future pathways post HSC. Congratulations and well done to Katelyn!

Mr Bradley
Construction Teacher

National Adolescents Vaccination Program

On Wednesday, 28 November, the third visit of the South Eastern Illawarra Public Health will take place. Year 7 and Year 10 students who have had prior vaccinations will receive their final vaccination. Students who requested (via a form) Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine will also receive this.

Year 7 Swim Testing Day

All Year 7 students have received information regarding their swimming test day. Notes should be returned to the PE Staffroom. The Department of Education and Communities requires all students on excursions near, or in, water to be tested prior to the event. Testing will take place at Woonona Ocean Pool on Thursday, 29 November 2012. This testing will cover excursions for Year 8 students in 2013. All other information is on the permission note given to all Year 7 students.

Mrs Sim
Organiser

Students Show Off Their Acrobatic Skills

Story by KATE McILWAIN
The Illawarra Mercury

Last year Chloe Apps barely knew what an aerialist was. But just 12 months later, the 15-year-old looks like an expert as she hoists herself high onto long, suspended silks, then twists and wraps her body into knots before gracefully falling towards the ground.

Along with fellow Woonona High School students Brooke Farrow, Amy Bradbury and Emma Maslowski, Chloe has put in hours of gruelling lunchtime practice to master her new skill.

Now this hard work is paying off as the four girls prepare to show-off their new-found acrobatics at the prestigious Schools Spectacular performance at the end of the month.

The Sydney show gathers the best school-aged talent from around NSW and this year the girls will perform the first acrobatics and aerial display in front of thousands of people.

Having previously performed for only classmates and at a school variety night, they are understandably nervous about their big debut.

"We don't even really know what we'll be doing yet but we'll find out in our first rehearsal this week," Brooke said.



Photos courtesy of The Illawarra Mercury



"It's a pretty big deal and pretty nerve-racking," Chloe said.

Circus skills were introduced at Woonona High thanks to physical education teacher Guy McDermott.

He installed silks in the school hall after a Year 8 circus skills elective proved hugely popular and said his students' talent soon surpassed his own.

"We've got a class of about 30 students who come at lunchtime to practise and these girls are some of the standouts," Mr McDermott said.

"I taught them everything I knew in the first week and they have just accelerated from there."

He said students enjoyed the fun and fitness aspects of his class, but had also gained friendships and confidence. "The social side of it is great and the kids learn from each other to develop these skills they never thought they'd have and it gives them confidence in other areas of school," he said.

Schools Spectacular is on at Sydney Entertainment Centre on November 23 and 24.

End of Year Activities

Our school will run “End of Year Activities” on Monday 17 December to Wednesday 19 December. Students will choose the activities they would like to do on these three days. Some activities will require travel, some cost and some will require water equipment. Parents could discuss the activities with their children so they choose wisely. Below is a list of the activities being offered. The students will choose by early next week.

Mrs Sim

| <i>Monday 17 December</i> | <i>Tuesday 18 December</i> | <i>Wednesday 19 December</i> |
|---|--|---|
| Learn to Surf—Southern beaches Cost: \$20 plus bus fare (approx. \$30 total) | 20 x 20 Cricket Dalton Park Cost: train fare | “Legally Blonde” - musical Cost: \$60 |
| Fishing—Lake Illawarra Cost: \$10—\$15 includes transport and bait | Fishing—Lake Illawarra Cost: \$10—\$15 includes transport and bait | Surf Competition Woonona Beach Cost: Nil |
| Bush Walking / Beach Games Shellharbour Area Cost: approx. \$15 | Jamberoo Action Park Cost: \$38 (bus & entry included) | Film Appreciation Wollongong Mall Cost: \$13 plus lunch |
| Ten Pin Bowling Northern Bowls Cost: \$8 | Bicycle Maintenance at Woonona High School Cost: Nil | Fishing Woonona Beach Cost: \$2 for bait |
| Xmas Cards & Present Making at Woonona High School Cost: \$4 | Xmas Cards & Present Making at Woonona High School Cost: \$4 | Scrapbooking at Woonona High School Cost: approx. \$10 |
| Models/Puzzles/Guitar lessons/ Xmas Cooking at Woonona High School Cost: \$4 | Walking in Sydney (near harbour bridge) Cost: approx. \$10 | Circus Skills at Woonona High School Cost: \$4 |
| Computer Games/Competitions at Woonona High School Cost: \$2 | Fishing Woonona Beach Cost: \$2 for bait | Computer Games/Competitions at Woonona High School Cost: \$2 |
| Surf Survival/Life Saving Woonona Beach Cost: Nil | Card Games at Woonona High School Cost: \$1 | Card Games at Woonona High School Cost: \$1 |
| Cycling Cycleway Cost: Nil | Music Video Workshop Powerhouse Museum Sydney Cost: \$15—\$30 | Ten Pin Bowling Northern Bowls Cost: \$8 |
| Circus Skills at Woonona High School Cost: \$4 | Film Appreciation Wollongong Mall Cost: \$13 plus lunch | Models/Puzzles/Guitar lessons/ Xmas Cooking at Woonona High School Cost: \$4 |
| Triathlon/Biathlon Local area Cost: Nil | | Triathlon/Biathlon Local area Cost: Nil |
| | | Games at Stewart Park Cost: Train fare to Fairy Meadow |

Fantastic Sporting Achievements

Congratulations to the following teams for their performances in the knockout competitions:

15 Years Girls basketball team: This talented group of girls travelled to Narranderra High School for the third round of the knockout competition. The team was reduced to 6 players due to a clash in commitments for our Year 10 girls so we knew it was going to be a hard fought match. Both teams played great basketball and Narranderra won by 3 points. Our girls showed great sportsmanship throughout the game. Beth Chappell, the Sports Organiser at Narranderra High wrote, *"the game was awesome, with great basketball by both sides. Woonona High players were to be congratulated on the way they played the game with only 6 players. They were great ambassadors for school sport and Woonona High School"*. The players were: Georgia Thomas, Jessica Porter, Denym Downes, Emma Hobson, Jazmin Tweddle-O'Donnell and Brittany Clark.

15 Years Boys water polo team: Our team travelled to Berkeley pool recently to play in the knockout competition. The boys played 3 games and won 2. They did not make the final but came third overall. This was a great effort as some of the boys had not played the game previously. Once again our boys were excellent ambassadors for the school. The players were: Trent Cooksley, Ben Brien, Brandon Waeger, Chad Butterworth, Conor Basham, Stephen Wallace, Mitchell Oszadcuk and Brodie O'Brian.

James Walker: Congratulations to James Walker on his excellent play in the State tennis tournament. The South Coast Open boys team travelled to Gosford to compete in the Combined High Schools' competition. The boys played some outstanding tennis throughout the carnival and were narrowly defeated on a number of occasions against very strong opposition. A win over Western Region was the highlight for South Coast. Special congratulations to James who was the only boy selected from the team in the NSW CHS Merit team.



Mrs Sim
Sports Organiser

CANTEEN HELPERS

| | |
|--------|---------------------------|
| Mon 19 | Margaret Elphick |
| Tue 20 | Help Needed |
| Wed 21 | Helen Rouse |
| Thu 22 | Janelle Te Pairi |
| Fri 23 | Julie McKeowen |
| Mon 26 | Help Needed |
| Tue 27 | Sue Boyle / Kerrie Austin |
| Wed 28 | Help Needed |
| Thu 29 | Help Needed |
| Fri 30 | Help Needed |

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date Event

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Nov 19-23 | Yr 10 Work Experience |
| Nov 19 | SRC National Leaders Day |
| Nov 20 | Yr 11 English Advanced & Standard Assessment Task |
| | P&C AGM, 7.30pm in Staff Common Room |
| Nov 22 | Yr 9 Food Technology excursion to Sydney |
| Nov 23 | Schools Spectacular excursion |
| Nov 26-28 | Music Camp |
| Nov 26-Dec 7 | Library Closed—Stocktake |
| Nov 28 | Yr 9 French excursion to Jewish Museum |
| Nov 29 | Yr 7 Swim Testing |
| Nov 30 | Indigenous Students Art Workshop |
| | Claymation Workshop |
| Dec 3 | English WRAP Assessment Task |
| Dec 5 | Yr 7 2013 Orientation Day—9.30am |
| Dec 6 | Community of Schools Showcase in school hall, 5.00-6.00pm |
| Dec 11 | Variety Night, 7.00pm in school hall |
| Dec 12 | Yrs 7-10 Yearly Reports issued to students |
| Dec 13 | Presentation Evening Yr 7-11—7.00pm |
| Dec 17-19 | Activities Week |
| Dec 19 | Legally Blonde excursion |
| | Last Day of school 2012 - for students |
| Dec 20-21 | Staff Development Days |

Uniform Shop - Term 4 Opening Hours

The Uniform Shop now has an email address. To contact Renae or Jackie for any enquiries regarding uniform orders please email them at woononahs.uniforms@gmail.com.

The Uniform Shop is now open each Thursday & Friday from 8.00am—9.30am.

Please place your orders for next year as soon as possible as the turnaround can take up to six weeks. Thank you.

End of Year Financial Rollover

Due to Department of Education and Communities End of Year Financial Rollover, from Wednesday 28 November 2012, the front office is unable to receipt any payments until this process is complete.

We are hoping that we will be able to take payments from Wednesday 5 December 2012.

Our apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Mrs Childs

School Administration Manager

Sport & Recreation is excited to announce we will be hosting a Girls Footy Festival in partnership with **NSW Soccer, AFL South Coast, NRL Women in League and the Dragons Community Team** in the upcoming December / January school holidays.

The clinics will take place at **Centenary Field, Croome Rd Complex Shellharbour**. Run over three days the footy festival will commence on **Monday 14th January with Soccer run by Football NSW, Wednesday 16th will be AFL hosted by AFL South Coast and conclude on Friday 18th with Rugby League run by NRL Women in League and the Dragons Community Team**.

Each day will start at **9am and finish at 12pm**, with all coaching provided by accredited coaches from each sport.

We are seeking **your support** in promoting this clinic to students from your school who may be interested in coming along. This clinic is a **fantastic opportunity** for young females to have an opportunity to try a new sport and learn some new skills while having fun in a safe learning environment. These clinics are suitable for **8-15 year old girls** of any skill level.

At a very affordable \$30 per participant for all three days, what better way to get girls motivated and keep them active over the school holidays.

Attached to this email is a **flyer and enrolment form** for the upcoming clinic. It would be greatly appreciated if you could distribute this flyer to students and parents of girls within the age bracket who may like to attend. I can also send hard copies to your school if that makes it easier to distribute. Finally, if possible it would also be appreciated if you could place the information regarding this clinic in any **newsletter** that may be produced in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your support of this clinic. Should you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact me anytime on the below details.

Kind Regards

Emma Cappetta

Development Officer, Central Region

Sport and Recreation Division

Office of Sport, Recreation and Communities

Department of Education and Communities

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Reminder for Parents of Students Years 7 to 10

Please return Parent Consent Forms for **UOW Alcohol and Media Survey**.

Our school has joined forces with the Centre for Health Initiatives at the University of Wollongong in order to support the valuable research they are undertaking which examines the effects of media advertising on attitudes and behaviour regarding drinking alcohol.

Students are asked to take part in a confidential online survey (to be conducted in class). This survey will be repeated in 2013 and 2014. [Information Sheets](#) and [Consent Forms](#) which provide more detail about the purpose of the research were sent home with all students in Years 7-10 recently, so we ask that they be returned as soon as possible.

For more information or clarification, please contact the school on 4284 1513 or the Research Project Manager, Kelly Andrews, on (02) 4221 5810 or email kellym@uow.edu.au

Book Packs

In 2013, Years 8 & 9 will be able to purchase Book Packs. It is a slightly different pack which is available for Year 7.

Included in the pack: Music book, Visual Arts diary, Maths grid book, Maths set, 4 x 128p exercise books, 2 x 198p exercise books, pens, pencils, coloured pencils, ruler, glue stick, sharpener.

We anticipate the cost of the book pack will be approximately \$35.00

Community Noticeboard

130th Anniversary of Woonona Public School

Friday 30 November 2012

11:00 am

at Woonona Public School

Past students, former staff members and parents are invited to join us to celebrate 130 years of public education at Woonona Public School.

There will be a short ceremony in the Hall at 11:00am, followed by current students demonstrating 'old-fashioned' games, photo displays and classroom visits.

A light lunch and refreshments will be available.

If you are able to attend please reply for catering purposes.

Phone: 4284 4316 Fax: 4283 4216

Email: woonona-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

WOONONA LIONS CLUB

PROUDLY PRESENTS:

CHRISTMAS CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

SUNDAY 9TH DECEMBER from 6.30PM

STRACHAN PARK WOONONA

Featuring

THE NOT SO SILENT
NIGHTERS

*THE CITY OF WOLLONGONG
WIND BAND

MORE GREAT ACTS

*SAUSAGE SIZZLE *RAFFLE *SANTA

*SONGSHEETS TO SING ALONG WITH *CANDLES

ALL FREE OF CHARGE

(Donations welcome)

Just bring a chair, your voice and some Christmas good will

In the event of wet weather the Carols will transfer to the
Bulli Show Pavilion at Slacky Flat showground

Summer Study Blitz

January Holiday Workshops at
The Illawarra Grammar School

For Students in Years 7 to 12
14 to 17 January 2013

ICS* will be conducting a series of workshops to assist students with their studies.

Programs include

- *Junior Study Skills – Years 7 to 9*
- *Advanced Reading Skills – Years 10 to 12*
- *Essay Skills – Years 10 to 12*
- *Senior Study Skills – Years 10 to 12*

ICS* is a company that has been helping students for more than 30 years.

For information & enrolment details, contact

ICS Learning Group*

Ph: 9960 6231 or Email: c.shadforth@skillscentre.com.au

www.skillscentre.com.au



Presents "Under the Big Top" Festival November 13th- 18th.

WHERE: Under the Big Top in McCabe Park Wollongong.

Three spectacular events: **Fundraising Gala** for Illawarra's disadvantaged youth, **Comedy Under the Big Top** and Circus Monoxide's own "Going Going Gong" family friendly Circus Show. Come on down and catch some highflying action and have a really great laugh. More info and tickets www.circusmonoxide.com.au