

Woonona High School

EXCELLENCE INNOVATION SUCCESS



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Year 6 Sample Lesson Day

Prospective Year 7 2013 students spent the day in classrooms at Woonona High yesterday. Students had the opportunity to participate in Hospitality, Industrial Technology, English, Science, Language, HSIE and PDHPE lessons. The students had a fantastic day, our students were terrific as mentors in the classroom and as peer leaders.

Quality partnerships lie at the core of all successful learning and programs. Each year the Woonona Learning community comes together at transition time to assist another group of fine Year 6 students to experience a seamless transition from Primary school to High school. The success of this comprehensive program is the result of the concerted contribution of many, both here at the high school and in each of our partner primary schools; Woonona Public, Woonona East Public and Russell Vale Public Schools. Thank you to all staff whose efforts resulted in a wonderful experience for all students who participated.

Another Outstanding Teacher

Thursday 25th October was World Teachers Day. The Australian Council of Educators, Illawarra South East Region Branch celebrated with an awards ceremony held at the Citadel Smiths Hill High school on Wednesday evening. The awards ceremony was to celebrate the achievements in education of many local educators in Public, Independent and Catholic Schools.

Ms Rhiannon Sharp was recognised for her outstanding contribution to the education of our students in the area of Creative and Performing Arts. As many of you are aware Ms Sharp goes above and beyond in providing opportunities and experiences for many students to experience, participate and excel in their creative endeavours. Congratulations Ms Sharp.



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2 November 2012

Fantastic Community Feedback

This week I have had the pleasure of receiving 3 letters congratulating both individual and groups of students for their presentation, participation and maturity in attending a variety of events outside of school. It is delightful for members of our community to appreciate and recognise the calibre of student that we have at Woonona High. Congratulations to all students and an excerpt of the letters is contained within this newsletter.

A Tale of Two Schools



I began this article speaking of the importance of partnerships in learning and I will conclude it with a wonderful example. Desmond Cannings, an exceptionally talented Year 12 Keira High School student, last term received the highly prestigious, *Minister of Education Award for Excellence in Student Achievement*. Desmond was joined by a group of gifted Year 12 students from around the state whose level of success is truly remarkable. Desmond spent the first four years of his secondary education at Woonona High School, he now attends Keira High School, a highly respected member of the Wollongong North Learning Community. The partnership between two wonderful public schools has contributed much in providing Desmond with the diverse and challenging learning and performing arts opportunities that have allowed for his talents to be fully realised. Of course, Desmond's, commitment, initiative and enthusiasm for learning and sheer talent had something to do with it too!

Ms Belinda Wall
Principal

Delivering excellence, innovation, opportunity and student success

Students form friendships at Mini Olympics

Fifteen lucky Year 10 students had the opportunity to participate in the Essential Personnel Mini Olympics. They were:

Amy Bradbury, Emma Brown, Amber Burden-Hill, Isabella Cvetanovic, Rachel Hudson, Brooke Ireland, Kate Linsley, Katelyn Moore, Taylah Murrill, Kayla Reay, Emma Rigby, Tameka Snelson, Kate Stewart, Samuel Wardle-Reid, Ellie Yates



The students were each 'buddied' with a special needs student from Para Meadows School and assisted them in competing in their chosen athletics events. Woonona High students pushed wheel chairs, ran alongside competitors and made various encouragements to help their buddies.

Friendships were formed with both buddies and students from other schools. Especially noteworthy on the day was the skillfull job Taylah Murrill performed in assisting her buddy and the new friendships she formed. This was a truly rewarding and eye opening experience for the students that attended.

Mr Chamberlain

An excerpt from an email received from Mary Heriot, Essential Personnel (organiser of the mini Olympics)

"Hi there John,

Every student from Woonona High conducted themselves with the utmost respect, maturity and genuine companionship. It was an honour and a pleasure and they should be extremely proud of themselves and Woonona High should also be extremely proud of their students.

Look forward to next year's Mini Olympics and Woonona High School's involvement again, Cheers, Mary Heriot"

Talented student makes school proud

Woonona High School student, James Walker Year 10, recently competed in the NSWCHS Tennis Championships in Gosford. Following is a letter received from Paul Creighton, South Coast HS Tennis Convenor/Manager congratulating James.

Dear Principal, 30/10/12

c/o: James Walker,

It is with great pleasure that I write to inform you of the respectful attitude, behaviour and commitment displayed by one of your students at the NSWCHS Tennis Championships held in Gosford recently (Week 3 Term 4).

I am the convenor / manager of the South Coast High Schools Tennis team and had the great honour of being in charge of such a mature, well presented and appreciative group of athletes, in which James Walker was part of.

The manner in which James presented himself each day and competed with commitment, pride and distinction for the team, is a credit to the values and beliefs that has been instilled in him not only by his parents, but also at your school.

James played a crucial part in the teams overall success at the Championships.

His 'never say die attitude', resilience, determination on the court and great sportsmanship made me proud to be his Manager.

I am extremely appreciative of your support for allowing such a mature, well respected and talented student represent your school, the community and South Coast Region.

Thank you for your continued support of South Coast High Schools sport. I must also commend James' parents who were fantastic in their support, dedication and promotion of school sport all throughout the tennis program of 2012.

Yours in sport,

Paul Creighton

Dapto High School

South Coast HS Tennis Convenor / Manager

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.

Important P&C Information

Our P & C meeting for October was attended by a small group of parents but as usual our meetings are friendly and very interesting. One item that was up for discussion was information relating to funding cuts to schools by the NSW government. This is a topic we should all be interested in whether we are parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents or carers of not only current students but of students of the future.

'The NSW Government has drastically cut education funding. This will damage you child's education. If they get away with this they will cut further. We need your help to stop this happening.' Does this information have you worried? What about this, *'When the Government announced the Local Schools, Local Decisions policy, they promised they would not cut education funding. They lied. In September 2012, they cut education funding by 1.7 billion, the biggest cut to education in the history of NSW.'* [taken from information hand out and website]

For more information and how to have a voice on this subject go to www.puttingstudentsfirst.org.au

On the website there is also information about a community day of action being held on Sunday 18/11/12, 11am – 1pm at McCabe Park Wollongong.

Let me lastly invite you to our last P & C meeting for the year, which will also be our AGM. There is never a dull moment.

Come along. Tuesday 20th November 7:30pm, Staff common room.

Keep informed

J Walker
P & C President

Food Technology students test their skills

Throughout Term 3, students studying Stage 5 Food Technology tested suitable recipes and designed invitations as part of their units of work. To put the work into a real scenario the classes ran an evening for their family and friends. The evening gave parents a chance to see the skills that their children had achieved throughout the year and for students to put the theory and the small scale class cooking into a real practical application on a larger scale.



A small group of students invited family and friends to attend an evening buffet at school. They prepared food throughout the week and then stayed back after school to setup and get organised. It was a glorious evening and the senior quad was transformed into an outside eating area.



Students prepared hors d'oeuvres, a buffet of Rice Paper Rolls, Butter Chicken, Thai Beef Salad and desserts just to list a few. Students worked both as waiters and chefs on the night as well as washing dishes and cleaning up.

Students and parents thoroughly enjoyed the evening and would all love to run more events of this

kind. Both, parents and students, thought it was a valuable learning experience and were proud of the achievements.

Ms Chambers
Yrs 9 & 10 Food Technology Teacher

Top Sporting Award received by talented student

Congratulations to Molly Dugan in Year 11. Molly was selected to receive the South Coast School Sport Blues award. A Blue is given to students who excel in South Coast sport. It is the highest sporting award given for the South Coast region. Molly is a deserving winner as in 2012 Molly won the 16 years CHS javelin competition. She was also selected in the NSW CHS netball team. Molly has also excelled in 2012 in basketball, swimming, water polo and touch at school and South Coast competitions.



End of Year activities

The last 3 days of this term (Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th December) students will take part in a programme of activities. There will be a variety of activities offered by our teachers and students will have the opportunity to choose activities that they find interesting.

Some of the activities offered are; *film appreciation, bike riding, bush walking, making and recording music videos and sound tracks, guitar lessons, surfing competition, ten pin bowling, golf, fishing at both Woonona beach and Lake Illawarra, scrap booking, Xmas card making, Xmas decorations, cooking Xmas confectionary, golf, Jamboree fun Park, surf survival, learn to surf, triathlon and biathlon training, bicycle maintenance, card games, travelling to Sydney to see "Legally Blonde" the musical, puzzles and model building, beach games and computer games competitions.*

Some of the activities will be free of cost whilst students may need to pay an entry fee or pay for the cost of materials used in other activities. More information will be given to students next week.

Year 7 Swimming and Life Saving Program

Staff at Woonona High are alarmed at the number of students who demonstrate poor swimming and poor abilities in water. The Department also requires all students on excursions near or in the water to be tested prior to the event. Year 7 students will be tested on Thursday the 29th November at Woonona Ocean pool. Year 7 students will be given more information next week.

Mrs Sim
Sports Coordinator

Library News

Scary Stories Week



This week the library held a Scary Stories display in conjunction with Halloween. A competition was also held to find the best short horror story. Our winners were Hamish Butler and Shania Everson. Congratulations!



CANTEEN HELPERS

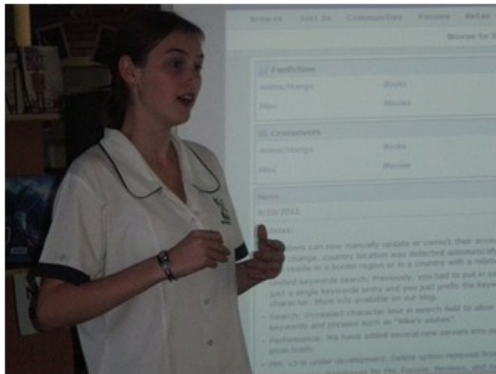
Mon 5	Wayne Regan
Tue 6	Jackie Lyn
Wed 7	Chris Core
Thu 8	Help Needed
Fri 9	Help Needed
Mon 12	Help Needed
Tue 13	Help Needed
Wed 14	Help Needed
Thu 15	Ida Rasch
Fri 16	Stephanie Cotterill

Book Club

This fortnight we were privileged to have Mrs Abrahams from the H.S.I.E department as our guest speaker. Mrs Abraham's favourite book is To Kill a Mockingbird.



Shania Everson spoke about the website Fanfiction.net. This website allows budding writers to change the outcomes of their favourite stories by rewriting their own version of events.



New Books

Lots of new books have come into the library this week. Some of these include:



HSC Open Day for 2013 Years 11 & 12 Students

This open day is a unique and powerful program designed to motivate, empower and organise students, and ensure they are provided with the necessary skills and information to maximise HSC scores. This day features guest speakers and elite teachers from top ranking schools. It will be held on November 11th and 17th. For more details see www.tsfx.com.au

School Laptops

I would like to remind parents that their children are able to access the school **Library Catalogue** from home. They simply log on to their DET student portal site and go to Search Sites to find the link "My Library".

The catalogue provides a wealth of information for assignments including;

- Over ten thousand teacher reviewed websites on all subjects which can be accessed directly from the catalogue as a live link.
- LINKS4LEARNING - provides students with ready links to carefully selected websites and online resources for all subjects from Kindergarten to Year 12.
- Online tools such as Atlases, Dictionaries, Encyclopaedias and Thesaurus which are also available through Links4learning.
- How to create a Bibliography.

Mrs Roddis
Teacher Librarian

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date Event

Nov 5-9	Yr 11 Construction Work Placement
Nov 6	Yr 8 English (Part 1) & Yr 9 Science Yearly Exams
Nov 8	15yrs Boys Water Polo at Berkeley Pool
Nov 9	Yr 8 English (Part 2) Yearly Exam 15yrs Girls Water Polo at Berkeley Pool Yr 11 Geography Excursion to Sydney Aquarium
Nov 12-16	Yr 11 Metal & Engineering Work Placement
Nov 12	Remembrance Day Assembly—Period 2
Nov 13-14	ESSA Tests
Nov 13	Yr 11 Visual Arts excursion to NSW Art Gallery
Nov 14	ISER Ensemble Performance in Hall
Nov 15	Yr 12 Formal—Seacliff Function Centre Narrative Writing Celebration—Woonona HS & Woonona East PS Special Interest Projects Showcase Night
Nov 16	Yrs 7-10 Indigenous Digital Media Day
Nov 19-23	Yr 10 Work Experience
Nov 26-Dec 7	Library Closed—Stocktake
Dec 5	Yr 7 2013 Orientation Day—9.30am
Dec 13	Presentation Evening Yr 7-11—7pm
Dec 19	Last Day of school 2012 - for students
Dec 20-21	Staff Development Days

Chaplain's Corner:

I would like to acknowledge **Drive Thru or Park Unanderra Nursery** for their kind contribution towards the beautification of our school grounds. They recently donated a whole tray of various ground covers and other plants, to 'green' some of the bare areas in our garden beds.



Learning how to make our own juggling balls

Another new supporter to the Breakfast Program is also worthy of great thanks – **Riviana** have donated 5 boxes of fruit cups for the students to enjoy!

It has been a pleasure to recently be involved in the HOTS Program with Year 7, teaching juggling and juggling-ball making. The boys listened really well in our juggling session, and enjoyed honing their skills in juggling and flower-stick manipulation.



Flower stick skills

Rowan Keyzer
School Chaplain

Brekky Club: Free breakfasts on Thursday mornings 7:30am-8:25am in the Canteen.

Valued supporters:



Career News

Year 10 Work Experience

Work Experience week is fast approaching. All Year 10 students are required to attend Work Experience from 19 –23 November. Students that do not organise this will be required to attend classes. This was to be organised by 2 November. However many student have not done so yet. If you are having trouble organising Work Experience please come to the Careers Office for assistance.

Congratulations

Jessica Fraser and Thomas Grover are undertaking apprenticeships in Baking and Construction. Students should continue to check their emails for news about jobs and apprenticeships. Any students, especially 2012 school leavers may make an appointment to discuss career options; just drop by or call to arrange one.

TAFE News

The 2013 *Course and Career Guide* has been published and is now available on the TAFE Illawarra website. It is a bit difficult to navigate to, the following link may be helpful;

http://www.illawarra.tafensw.edu.au/images/stories/PDF_docs/Courses_and_Careers/careerguide2013_web.pdf

Careers and Course Advisers At The various TAFE Illawarra Campuses may be reached by phone on the numbers below.

4229 0535—Wollongong

4222 2855—Wollongong West

4262 9913—Yallah

All other TAFE campuses also offer this service and the Careers Office can provide you with their phone numbers.

Important Dates :

Pre Enrolment sessions for TAFE

All potential 2013 TAFE students should attend Wollongong & Wollongong West (at Wollongong Campus) Saturday 10 November 9am-12 noon

Dapto - Tuesday 13 November 4-7pm

Yallah - Tuesday 13 November 4-7pm

Shellharbour Wednesday 14 November 1-3 and 5-7 pm

Please contact the Careers Office for information regarding other campuses.

Information for School Leavers

Important Date: UOW Options Day 3rd January – 9:00-2:00pm

This is a very helpful day for students who must finalise their degree preferences by 4 January. They will have the opportunity to speak to academic advisers about what programs may suit them. This is particularly relevant for students who receive a higher or lower ATAR than expected as they may want to reconsider their options and change their preferences. Computers will be available to amend UAC applications. Students do not need to register for this event.

Navigate Your Options

The department of Education and Communities offers a FREE Careers Advisory Service December 20-24 (*Just when ATARs are published*)

Parents and Carers may also use this service.

The service is available over the phone or via their website.

Phone 1300 300 687 www.cas.det.nsw.edu.au

You may pick up a brochure at the Careers office.

Mr Chamberlain
Careers Adviser

Students Online Account Activation Process

Students wishing to activate their secure Students Online account should go to *Students Online* at: <https://studentonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/> and click on the Year 10 students 'activate your account now' link.

Students will then enter their:

- School name (selected from a dropdown list of all secondary schools)
- Given name(s) - as supplied by the school
- Last name
- Date of birth

and answer a security question of their choice that may be used in a future PIN recovery.

When this information finds a match on the Board's database, students are shown a screen displaying their Student number (which they will need to retain and keep safe by writing down, copying and pasting or emailing to themselves). Students are also sent an email to their school-supplied email account with a link to a log-in page where they enter their Student number and can create their own 6-digit PIN.

At this stage students have successfully created their account, and should be able to see a list of their personal details as well as the courses they are studying and, when available their Year 10 results. As these students are enrolled in and complete Preliminary and HSC courses, *Students Online* will also list students' Preliminary and HSC courses and, when finalised, their results.

RYDA—Road Safety Awareness Program

The RYDA Program is a one day out of school program delivering practical road safety information targeting attitude and awareness of young drivers and their passengers.

RYDA targets 16-18 year old students and includes six interactive sessions delivered to small student groups covering topics such as hazard perception, distraction management, vehicle safety, stopping distance, fatigue and experiences of a crash survivor. Last Monday 80 students from year 11 attended these seminars giving them an extensive and intense introduction into youth road trauma. It is our hope, here at Woonona High School to give all students an understanding of accident causes and its prevalence; understanding of the long term affects; and strategies to be better prepared to make better decision to keep them safe and others on the road.

Woonona High School is also pleased that we received positive feedback regarding student behaviour and participation in all road safety seminars.

Mr. Bradley
Year 11 Adviser

"Dear Students and Teachers

I just wanted to congratulate all of the students who participated in the RYDA driver education program on Monday 29th October. I ran one of the sessions (Plan B) and had the pleasure of meeting and dealing with the students in this capacity. All students were wonderfully behaved and respectful and participated with enthusiasm and interest. They seemed to really enjoy their day and I hope they gained some useful tips on how to be better drivers in the future. After all, these sessions are provided to hopefully ensure their safety.



I have been running these sessions for a couple of years and am able to meet many students from many high schools. I was very impressed with the way Woonona High School students conducted themselves and they and their teachers should be congratulated.

Once again, well done - I am very proud to be connected to Woonona High School if this year's Yr 11/12 students is any indication of the polite and fabulous kids this school is producing.

Kind Regards

Sascha Lynch"

Community Noticeboard

HSC Open Day – November 2012 For 2013 Year 11 & 12 HSC Students

Admission Fee: \$10 Donation to Charity. Valued at Over \$250!

Dear Sir/Madam,


"HSC Open Day" is a unique program designed to motivate, empower and organise students, and ensure they are provided with the necessary skills and information to maximise HSC scores. Featuring a unique collection of guest speakers and HSC exam markers, this exclusive event offers 2013 HSC students a great opportunity to get ahead and maximise HSC marks.

Program Features:


- **Special guest motivational speakers:** Geoff Huegill (Olympic Swimming Champion) & Dan Haesler (Motivational Speaker & Writer).
- In-depth **subject specific advice** from select HSC teachers (and exam markers) from top ranking schools in NSW. Hints and tips arising from years of HSC marking and teaching will be provided to students throughout each lecture.
- Exclusive advice from Australia's leading **learning/study skills** specialist. Note: Many of the skills and techniques that will be addressed have been proven to cut down on study time and markedly improve HSC results, but are not known (or practised) by the majority of students.

Please find enclosed a brochure relating to "HSC Open Day". We would appreciate it if you would make this program information available to your 2013 Year 11 and 12 students. Please do not hesitate to contact us on **1300 364 173** if you have any questions regarding this program.

Kind Regards,
TSFX.



TSFX Fundraising Programs




To date, TSFX fundraising programs have raised in excess of **\$110,000**, all of which TSFX has donated to the following charities: Oxfam Australia, The Fred Hollows Foundation and The Beyond Blue Foundation.

"It was a fascinating session. Really worth it and very informative." Student – Hornsby Girls' High School

"This presenter was brilliant. I learnt so much that I didn't know, that hadn't been covered in class. Thank you so much, I loved this lecture." Student – Loreto Normanhurst

"I was so inspired, I came home and did hours and hours of homework."

"TSFX is fantastic, I don't know how I would have made it through Year 12 without them."



City of Wollongong Giving Tree 2012

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO A YOUNG CHILD'S CHRISTMAS!

City of Wollongong Giving Tree supports two Wollongong agencies, St Vincent de Paul Society and Anglicare.

The Giving Tree Appeal plays an essential part in helping the agencies to make Christmas a special day for all children.

Unwrapped gifts or gift cards for children 0-16 years can be received until 21 December at:

- Council libraries
- Council's Customer Service area


Until 17 December at:

- Wests Illawarra
- Novotel Northbeach
- Wollongong Central Customer Service Centre
- Customer Service desks at both Westfield Figtree and Westfield Warrawong
- Wollongong UniCentre
- Illawarra Family Medical Centre, Crown St, Wollongong

Alternatively, cash donations can be made directly to Wollongong City Council.

THANK YOU

*City of Wollongong
Giving Tree Appeal 2012*



MERRY CHRISTMAS

For further information phone 4227 7104 or email events@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Twilight Christmas Market

Sat 1st Dec 4pm till 7pm

Bulli Anglican Church
66 Park Rd, Bulli

Fairtrade, Homemade, Recycled Stalls

Entertainment: Featuring
"Harvest Gospel Flavour" African Choir

Jumping castle and activities for kids

Food and devonshire teas

Proceeds to Anglicare Christmas Appeal


To run a stall contact bullianglican@bigpond.com
or phone the church on 42843021

WEP Student Exchange – Imagine Life As An Overseas Teenager!

Study overseas in more than 20 countries with World Education Program (WEP) Australia.


Opportunities to live and study overseas are available to all Australian secondary students who enjoy a challenge and are willing to completely immerse themselves into day-to-day life in another country. These outstanding educational programs offer you the experience of a lifetime and promote understanding and peace between people from different cultures.

"You know the expression "It takes a village to raise a child?" I think it takes a village to host an exchange student as well, as I have had different friends and neighbours drive me to school every day this week! I have been invited for weekends all over France with various people and everyone is keen to show me their way of life and culture! I couldn't be happier!"



~ Emma, semester program to France

Find Out More!
Visit www.wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733 (for the cost of a local call) to discuss suitable program options and request an information pack, including WEP's free application form.



Upcoming Information Evenings

Melbourne 24 October / 7:30-9pm Kingston Arts Centre 979 Nepean Highway Moorabbin	Sydney 25 October / 7:30-9pm Bowlers Club of NSW Level 2 / 95-99 York Street Sydney CBD	Brisbane 25 October / 7:30-9pm Metropolitan Motor Inn 106 Leichhardt Street Spring Hill
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