

Woonona High School

EXCELLENCE INNOVATION SUCCESS



Issue No.19

16 December 2013



WOONONA HIGH SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG

Partners in Quality Teaching and Mentoring programs



Presentation Night 2013

It never ceases to amaze me the depth and breadth of talent within our student body at WHS. In every newsletter we celebrate student and staff achievements but last night we had our annual school presentation evening and it was fantastic to see so many students recognised for their academic, leadership, volunteering, creative and performing arts and sporting achievements. Congratulations to all award recipients. A large parent and community audience enjoyed the evening as did our special guests, all of whom were impressed by the breadth and depth of talent within our student body.



Variety Night

2013 Variety night was held on Tuesday evening, what a great night with students entertaining a captive audience with an array of musical, dance and performance items. More on this further in the newsletter.



SRC Xmas Fundraiser

Thank you to all students and families who have very generously donated to the Anglicare Toys n Tucker giving tree. It is lovely for visitors to our school to see the generosity and sense of community shown by our students. Next year our aim is to have all students donate one item to the charity that the SRC chooses for our giving tree.

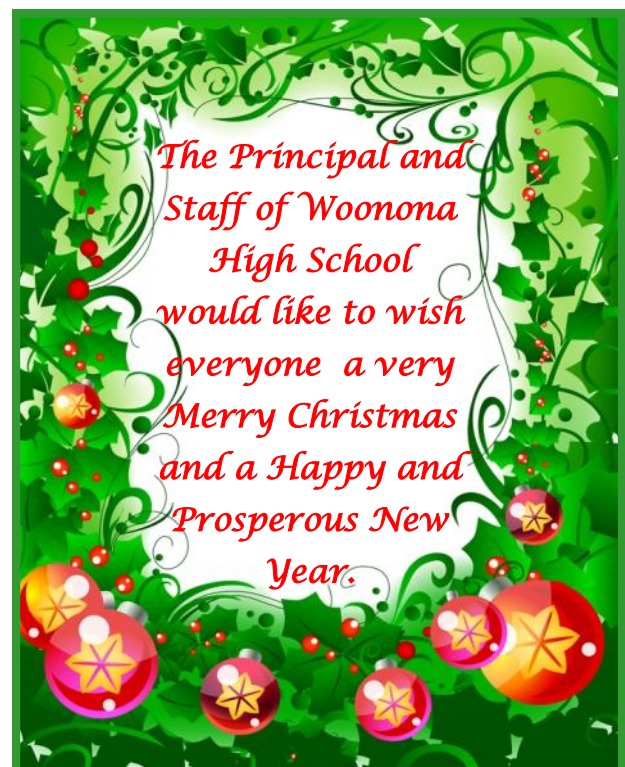
HSC Results 2013

With confidence I look forward to Wednesday 18th December when the NSW Board of Studies releases this year Higher School Certificate results. I wish them all the best and look forward to reporting on their success in our first newsletter of 2014. I would like to remind all Year 12 students and their parents of our "sharing our successes" morning tea on Thursday 19th December at 10.30am.

Staff Farewells

As announced last night, Mrs Anne Green retired from Woonona High School after more than 30 years of service to the students of our school. Also leaving our school are Mr Wayne McBride, Mrs Suzanne Montague, Mrs Jo Baker and Mrs Sharon Chambers.

All have made outstanding contributions to public education but more importantly they have enriched the learning of students at Woonona High School with their dedication, commitment, passion, willingness to go the extra mile and their absolute focus on each student as an individual. They will be greatly missed by both staff and students but we wish them well in continuing to provide quality teaching and learning programs to young people.



Delivering excellence, innovation, opportunity and student success

The annual Woonona High School Presentation Evening was held on Thursday 12 December.

Some of the major award winners were:

School Medal: Owen Cannings

A.J.Jenkins Trophy (Greatest Contribution to the school): Kirsten Armstrong.

The Caltex Medal (Best All-rounder): Sheridan Brown

G.M. Doyle Award (Greatest contribution to the school by a junior student) Brenna Petrolo

Long Tan Award: Dean Cambourn, Brenna Petrolo

Reuben F Scarf Award (In recognition of consistent effort and a desire to improve): Emma Brown

Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute Award (Outstanding achievement in Science) : Amy Bradbury

World Changer Award (for volunteering): Bianca Caldana

Mike Dyer Memorial Award (Excellence in History): Amber Burden-Hill

Sportsman of the Year: Ben Brien

Sportswomen of the Year: Molly Dugan

Dux Year 11: Kate Linsley

Dux Year10: James Overton

Dux year 9: Jamie Carter

Dux year 8: Alyssa Ludewig

Dux Year 7: Jade O'Brien

Congratulations to all these students and to all the other worthy award recipients of the night.



The prestigious Victor Chang Cardiac Institute Award for excellence in Science was presented to Amy Bradbury.



Thankyou to Ms Rhiannon Sharp for her hard work and dedication in producing a well run and faultless Presentation Ceremony.

Certainly the staff and students of Woonona High School appreciate your efforts.



ORIENTATION DAY

On Wednesday, 4th December Woonona High School welcomed 122 Year 6 students into our school for their official orientation day. After being thoroughly impressed by our talented Year 8 dance ensemble and indigenous choir, the *Boomerangs*, Year 6 students were split into five groups for the remainder of the day. In these groups students took part in two sample lessons in areas such as Science, Geography, Mathematics, English, TAS, Visual Arts and Music, all of which were designed to provide students with an insight into some of the subjects they will be completing in 2014. After a delicious BBQ lunch cooked by Mr Mete and Mr Dusky, students took part in their first official peer support lessons, led by Year 9 and Year 10 WHS students. These activities were not only fun and engaging, but provided an excellent opportunity for Year 6 students to make friends with students from other primary schools and also to meet some role models they can turn to next year for assistance and guidance. Students were also given the opportunity to meet their Year Adviser, Mr DeMain, as well as other key WHS personnel such as Ms Wall, Mr Brophy and Mr Rayner. All students that were spoken to thoroughly enjoyed their time at WHS and are extremely excited about starting high school next year. Staff would like to thank all WHS student helpers and SRC members for assisting them on the day as well as the lovely ladies in the canteen who provided all of Year 6 with some delicious cakes for recess.

Ms Packer (Orientation Day Coordinator)



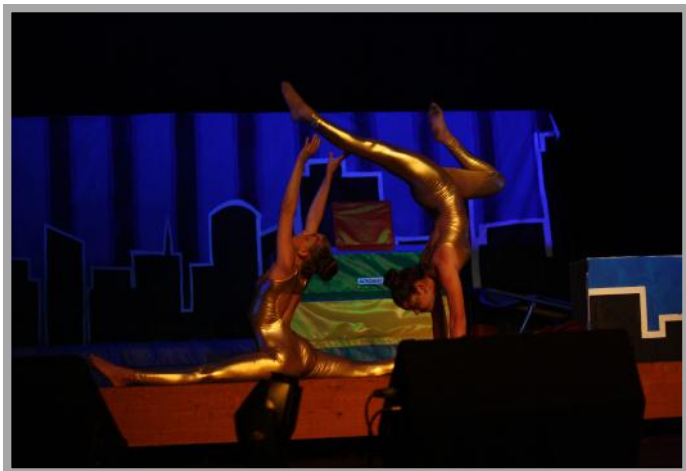
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VARIETY NIGHT

Woonona High School held its annual Variety Night concert last Tuesday (10 December). The concert titled "Can't Hold Us" was a huge success and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment which featured music, dance and circus performances.

Once again Miss Rhiannon Sharp worked tirelessly (with her band of helpers) to ensure that our students had the chance to showcase their talents on a night that is as much fun for them as the members of the audience.

A big thankyou to Mr Sean O'Brian and Mrs Suzanne Montague for these fantastic photos.

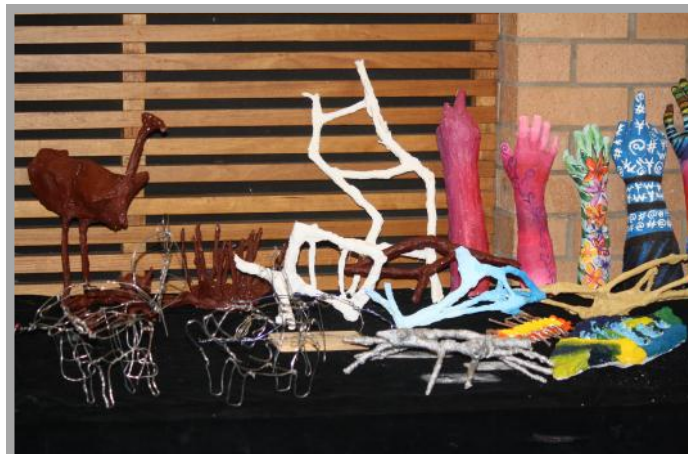


VISUAL ART

Visual Art students have been very busy this year producing some very artistic and creative work. As can be seen from the photos here “Visual Arts” is not just about painting but also sculpture. Students in Visual Art produced some dramatic sculptures using a variety of mediums including ‘hebel” bricks, metal and clay.



Visual Arts students put a lot of time, effort and imagination into producing the back drops, props and artwork for the WHS Variety Night.



A special mention must be made of Visual Arts teacher, Ms Suzanne Montague. This year many of the photographs that have been published in this newsletter have been taken by Ms Montague. She is always available to take photos at school assemblies, COS days, sports days and any other school functions. Thankyou and I’m sure everyone has enjoyed your photos.



CAR WASH AND BARBECUE IN SUPPORT OF PHILIPPINE'S DISASTER RELIEF.

The Year eleven Work Studies class hosted a successful fundraiser on Tuesday 10 December. Students researched a cause, promoted the event for two weeks and organised all facets of the barbecue and car washing. In the end twenty one cars were washed and \$350 was donated to assist in the disaster relief efforts following the devastation of super Typhoon Haiyan.

The students did a fantastic job. Corey Quirk and Jamie-Lee Burnside took responsibility for the barbecue. William Webb used his experience to ensure that a proper job was completed on each car. Shaun Lowe worked like trooper with initiative and persistence. Callum Corey ensured that the fine details were all completed. Blake Harrison at all times rounded up the right tools for each task. The students worked like a well serviced machine showing what teamwork can accomplish.

Thank you to all staff and students that supported this event.

Mr Chamberlain



ANGLICARE TOYS N' TUCKER



The spirit of Christmas is alive and well as you can see by the amount of donations Woonona High School students, families and staff have made to Anglicare's Tucker "N" Toy drive.

Every year Angilcares relief program provides financial and food assistance to an estimated 20 000 financially excluded families and individuals who struggle to get by on a low income.

This year Anglicares Toys "N" Tucker drive is aiming to individually pack and deliver more than 5000 Christmas hampers and toy parcels for delivery to families in Sydney and Wollongong who would otherwise go without.

A big thankyou to all who have left donations at our Christmas tree ready for pick up by Anglicare.

If you still wish to donate it's not to late. Please bring your donation to school as soon as you are able.



STOP PRESS: A total of \$354 was raised by the event for this great cause. Congratulations to all involved.



PEER SUPPORT



PREPARING FOR THE SWIMMING CARNIVAL SEASON NEXT YEAR

I would like to draw everyone's attention to the opportunity to do some swimming training over the holidays and into February at Thirroul Pool under the tutorage of Ken Thorley. I would like to highly commend Ken as an experienced and highly competent coach.

Morning Swimming Training will recommence at Woonona Pool the start of 2014 for students interested in doing some preparation closer to Home.

WELL DONE ADRIAN!

Below is an email that was sent to Belinda Wall. Congratulations and well done to Adrian Myer in Year 7. Adrian has featured in our newsletter before for his volunteering efforts with the Disability Trust. Earlier this year he spent time volunteering at the Disability Trust Camp at Broken Bay helping out with activities and at meal times. Adrian has a disabled brother but says he volunteers not only because of his brother but because he enjoys the experience of working with other disabled people.

[This message is for the Principal of Woonona High School and Adrian Myer in Year 7.](#)

My name is Nyree Saxby, my youngest daughter Chloe (5yrs) was diagnosed last year with an incurable brain disease (a type of Leukodystrophy called Vanishing White Matter Disease) which is extremely rare, degenerative and terminal, every time Chloe bumps her head or her temperature goes above 38 degrees, she loses a little more of the white matter in her brain. Chloe has gone from being a normal 3yr old girl, running around dancing, riding and swimming to now being in a wheelchair. To say that it has been a very hard 18mths for our family is an understatement, our lives have changed completely.

Prior to Chloe being diagnosed with this devastating disease, we had never had anything to do with "Disability". I would like to pass on my sincere appreciation to Adrian Myer, if only every second person was like Adrian, the world would be a far better place. Adrian, thank your for your volunteer work at the Disability Trust, Chloe has received from "Kidsfund" through the Disability Trust so far; a special bath seat \$1200, AFO's for her feet, a new manual wheelchair fitted to Chloe's needs (with dancing fairies on the wheels - if you have to have a wheelchair, you may as well make it a good one!) and a special pram to enable us to take walks along the bike track at Woonona as a family.

Adrian, thanks to people like yourself and organisations like the Disability Trust, it makes everyday life easier when something devastating like this happens to families like ourselves.

Thankyou Nyree Saxby



MUSIC CAMP 2013

After an early start, a treacherous bus ride and an intense shop, we had finally arrived at our destination at Ulladulla. Though some may not have been as enthusiastic or inspired as others, a cosy cabin and a jumping pillow was enough to keep them going. It took a while for some to gain the confidence to perform in front of and with others, but the more experienced students such as Sam Wardle-Reid helped pull the group together. The entire camp, which was made up of students ranging from Year 8 to Year 12, participated in camp items and most also worked on performances in small groups. These big items, which were performed at variety night, were Can't Hold Us, Something I Need and The Fox. These consisted of multiple singing parts and brass instruments were also featured. After two days at the holiday park we had to leave for the journey home. This was enlightened by an enjoyable 3 hours at Funland. This was an overall fun camp and everyone learnt something. I would also like to give a big thanks to Miss Sharp for her organisation and her dedication to the event.

Jay Archer



INDIGENOUS READING PROJECT.

This year several of our students were involved in the Indigenous Reading Project to improve their reading.

Jack Taylor (Year 9), Tiana Pearce-McGeary (Year 8) and Akeylah Colvin (Year 7) have all successfully improved their reading and have been awarded Kindles to own.



I am so proud of these students and how dedicated they have been to their reading. Congratulations to these students.

Ms Hollis

English and Modern History Teacher



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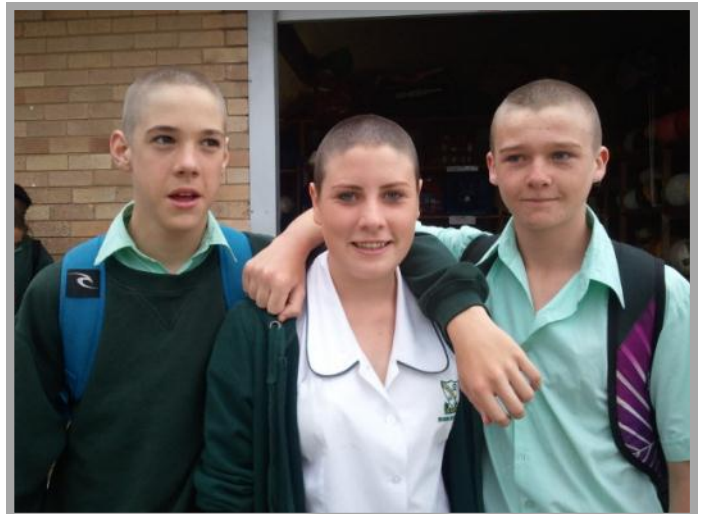
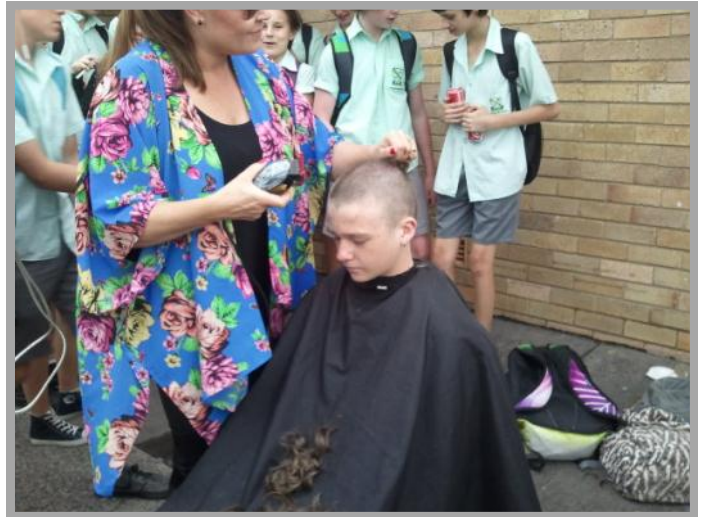
THE BIG SHAVE FOR CAMP QUALITY



On Friday the 22nd of November, Bailey Mathieson, Kate Dawson and Joel Hooker shaved their heads for Camp Quality to raise money for Cancer. The three students were amazed at what they organised by themselves with the help of Ms Chambers, Miss Sharp and the SRC.

On behalf of these students I would like to thank everyone who came along and supported us, overall we raised \$609.00, although it was an overwhelming experience we hope it made a difference.

Kate Dawson



Well done, Kate, Bailey and Joel, I'm sure this fantastic fund raising effort will be much appreciated by Camp Quality.



JAMBEROO REWARDS EXCURSION

On Friday, 6th December, 76 Woonona High School students from Years 7-11 attended a rewards excursion to Jamberoo. This excursion was only open to students who gained their silver and gold certificates as part of the school's merit system. Students braved the early cold weather and eagerly lined up for many rides. The teachers on the other hand approached the day a little differently, taking their time with a morning coffee before venturing into the water. Mr Hancock managed to find a quiet place to finish writing a Maths assessment task, while Mr DeMain, Mr Mucci, Miss Ward and Miss Packer overcome their fear of heights to successfully take on 'The Rock'. While the waterslides, 'Taipan' and wave pool were undoubtedly fun, it was the 'Funnel Web' that students found most alluring – the extremely long queue meaning anyone who wanted to go on any other ride didn't have to wait in line very long. Overall, students had a fantastic time and represented the school brilliantly.

Staff would like to thank all students for their excellent behavior and attitude throughout the day and look forward to organizing a similar rewards excursion in 2014.

Ms Packer



CAREERS

MR CHAMBERLAIN

UOW OPTIONS DAY.

[Your ATAR](#) may be higher or lower than you need, and you don't know what to do. It doesn't matter what your situation is, you have lots of options at UOW, and our Options day is where we'll help you find them.

Our academic staff, representatives from [UOW College](#) and [TAFE](#) as well as current students will be here to help you:

- Choose the right degree
- Modify your UAC preferences
- Plan your pathway to UOW

See [our campus](#) and facilities

See our [accommodation options](#)

Bring your HSC and ATAR results on the day so we can help you and give you the best advice. This will be your last chance to talk to UOW staff before [UAC preferences](#) close on 4 January.

Bookings for this event aren't required. You can arrive at a time that suits you between 9am and 2pm on the day. For enquiries, call us on 1300 367 869 or email uni-advice@uow.edu.au

Faculty/Campus Tours

Faculty tours will be available on UOW Options Day at 9.30am, 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm and 1.30pm. Enjoy a tour around the campus with current UOW students, and see the facilities specific to your faculty of interest. Bookings are not required, Signs will be displayed on the day directing you where to meet.



UOW FACULTY OF ENGINEERING HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION

On the 22nd of November students from Woonona High attended the awards night for the University of Wollongong, Faculty of Engineering High School Competition. These awards have become a prestigious state wide competition with schools from both the public and private sector competing. Woonona High school had six students who have won awards.

In the Year 12 Engineering Studies section Anthony Driezi and Chris Carter were both awarded major prizes in the Aeronautical Engineering category. While in the Year 11 Design & Technology section Emma Brown, Jessica Cotterill, Kade Lucich and Ryan Taylor took out the group project category (see story below). James Overton won a major award in the Year 10 Industrial Technology category.

Mr Zubovic



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

The students were awarded "best group Design and Tech project" where their child toy creations of a puppet show box and animal fishing mat were judged best school projects.

They each received a certificate and \$125 cash.

Woonona did well to have 6 students win awards as from what I can remember only four other local schools won awards and no other school had this many students representing their school in the Illawarra. Most of the awards were going to private schools in Sydney such as Newington and Trinity.

Mr Buswell



STAGE 4 ASSEMBLY

On Friday 29 November Stage 4 held their formal assembly. Stage 4 students chaired the assembly and shared all their successes and achievements of the term.

THE BOOMERANGS

On Friday 29 November at the Stage 4 assembly it was our second time performing in front of the whole school and we were all pretty nervous. The first song we sang was the national anthem in the Dharawal language. They we sang "Burra Ferra" from the Sapphires. I had to introduce this song and talk into the microphone which was really scary. I told the school how this song was based on a story from the bible, so it symbolised cooperation between white people and Aboriginal people.

The third song we sang was "Just the way you are" by Bruno Mars. Cassie Pratt-Johnson introduced this song and she talked about how it is symbolic of how we all need to get along and accept each other. It was great when the school started clapping along with us when we were singing. All of us were so happy that we have done it. All our hard work paid off after all!

By Ashleigh Handley (Year 10)



SIPS & ISMS AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Since the start of Term 3, Year 7 and Year 8 students have been working in groups on their own specialised topics to present to the public in Term 4. Year 7 chose a special interest project and Year 8 had to pick a topic ending in "ISM". The presentation evening was held on November 21 and the standard of the projects was extremely high. At the stage 4 assembly award certificates were given out to the best presentations on the night.



Categories for the "SIPS" and 'ISMS awards included Best Speech, Best Poster Display, Most Interesting Project, Best Costume display, Best process Diary and Best interactivity of student questioning. Congratulations to all students who took part in the evening and to those who received awards.



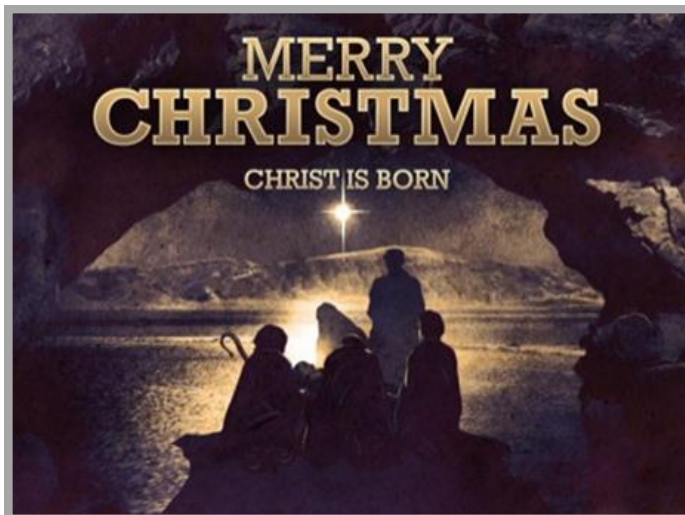
Year 9 / 10 TOP GEAR GO-KARTING DAY

During 2013 seventeen Year 9 and 10 boys have examined many aspects of the world of motoring in a subject called Top Gear. The aim of the course was to increase their motoring knowledge and skills so that they would be more aware motorists. Each student purchased an imaginary car and then had to finance, run and care for their car. The students also had to go through the process of obtaining their learner's permit and driver's licence. During Term 4 we have discussed many of the necessary driving skills and attitudes that contribute to a safer and happier driving experience. Lastly, we have examined many of the targeted road safety campaigns that have been used by the Centre for Road Safety to help change motoring attitudes and reduce the road toll in New South Wales.

We followed up our work with an excursion to the Picton Karting Track on Monday, 2nd December, where the boys could put into practice some of the skills we had discussed in class. Almost as soon as we had arrived the boys went outside and watched a few locals do some serious laps. Immediately I could see they were thinking that this looks like FUN and when could they get out on the track. Once in the karts it did not take the boys long to work out the quick way around the track and some quite good lap times were recorded. Kurt Decker recorded the fastest lap in session one with a time of 42.56 seconds. During the second session many of the boys showed the benefit of their session one experience and recorded faster times. Lochlan Weir was the fastest in session two, recording a fastest time of the day of 42.03 seconds. Luke Prasser was consistently fast in both sessions.

All boys agreed they had both learnt something about car control and had a lot of FUN doing it. I want to thank all boys for their promptness in returning their permission notes and paying their excursion money. Lastly, and importantly, I would like to congratulate all boys on the way they have engaged in all activities and cooperated throughout the year.

G. Daly



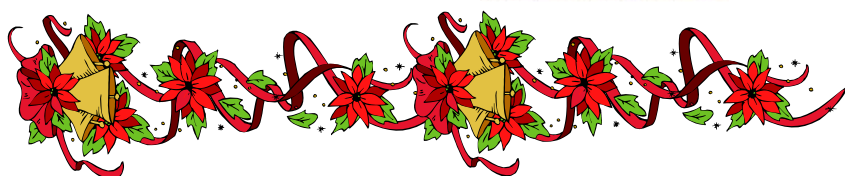
CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Here we are at the end of 2013 and I am enjoying looking back over the year and thinking about all the great things that have happened with the Chaplaincy Program over the year.

There was Girl Talk with the Year 7 girls way back in Term 1, and the My FRIENDS program with each year 8 over the last three terms...we have our last classes today as I write this (Thursday). I hope the program has equipped Year 8s with some Life Skills they can take with them into Year 9 and beyond, such as relaxation skills, being aware of our self talk, knowing there are always other ways to approach a problem, and knowing that there is a safe adult at school to talk to about anything at all. There has also been the popular Brekky Club and in Term 3 and 4 the Toast Club in the Drama Room at recess and lunch. I wonder how many pieces of toast I have made this year? J

As we go into Summer, I wish every family associated with WHS a very Happy Christmas and Safe New Year! Enjoy the holidays and I look forward to seeing all the staff and students in 2014.

Rowan Kayzer (School Chaplin)



UPCOMING EVENTS TERM 1 2014

Date	Event
29 Jan	Yrs 7,11 & 12 Commence Term 1
30 Jan	Yrs 8,9 & 10 Commence Term 1
3 Feb	UOW Discovery Day
7 Feb	Yr 12 Chemistry ANSTO Excursion
18 Feb	Yr 7 Parent / Teacher "Meet & Greet" 3pm—5pm
20 Feb	Game Show Training Day Yrs 7—11
21 Feb	Zone Swimming Carnival
6 Mar	Regional Swimming carnival
14 Mar	Immunization Yrs 7 & 9
7 Apr	NSW CHS Swimming Carnival
8 Apr	NSW CHS Swimming Carnival
10 Apr	Yrs 7, 11 & 12 Parent Teacher Interviews.

CANTEEN LADIES TREATED TO CHRISTMAS DINNER

On Wednesday 27th November our canteen ladies, Sharon and Pam, as well as their very hard working volunteers were treated to Christmas dinner in the Staff Common Room, cooked by our very own Hospitality students.

The students prepared, cooked and served a lavish feast for our canteen ladies to say a big thankyou for all their hard work in feeding and serving Woonona High School staff and students.

The ladies all thoroughly enjoyed their meal, describing it as "absolutely wonderful" and "the best yet". Well done to the teachers and students involved and thankyou to our canteen ladies.



CANTEEN HELPERS TERM 1 2014

29.1.14	HELP NEEDED
30.1.14	Mandy Tyler
31.1.14	Jo Meiers
3.2.14	Wayne Regan
4.2.14	Mardi Prentice
5.2.14	Chris Core
6.2.14	Lara Sinton
7.2.14	Narelle Green
10.2.14	Nicole Nicholson / Vacey Usher
11.2.14	Nicole Ficker
12.2.14	Rachael Dunn
13.2.14	Stephanie Cotterill
14.2.14	HELP NEEDED
17.2.14	HELP NEEDED
18.2.14	Susi Eager
19.2.14	Volker Neukamm
20.2.14	Ida Rasch
21 .2.14	HELP NEEDED
24.2.14	Janine Johnson
25.2.14	Kerrie Austin
26.2.14	Kate DeRome
27.2.14	Lara Sinton
28.2.14	HELP NEEDED

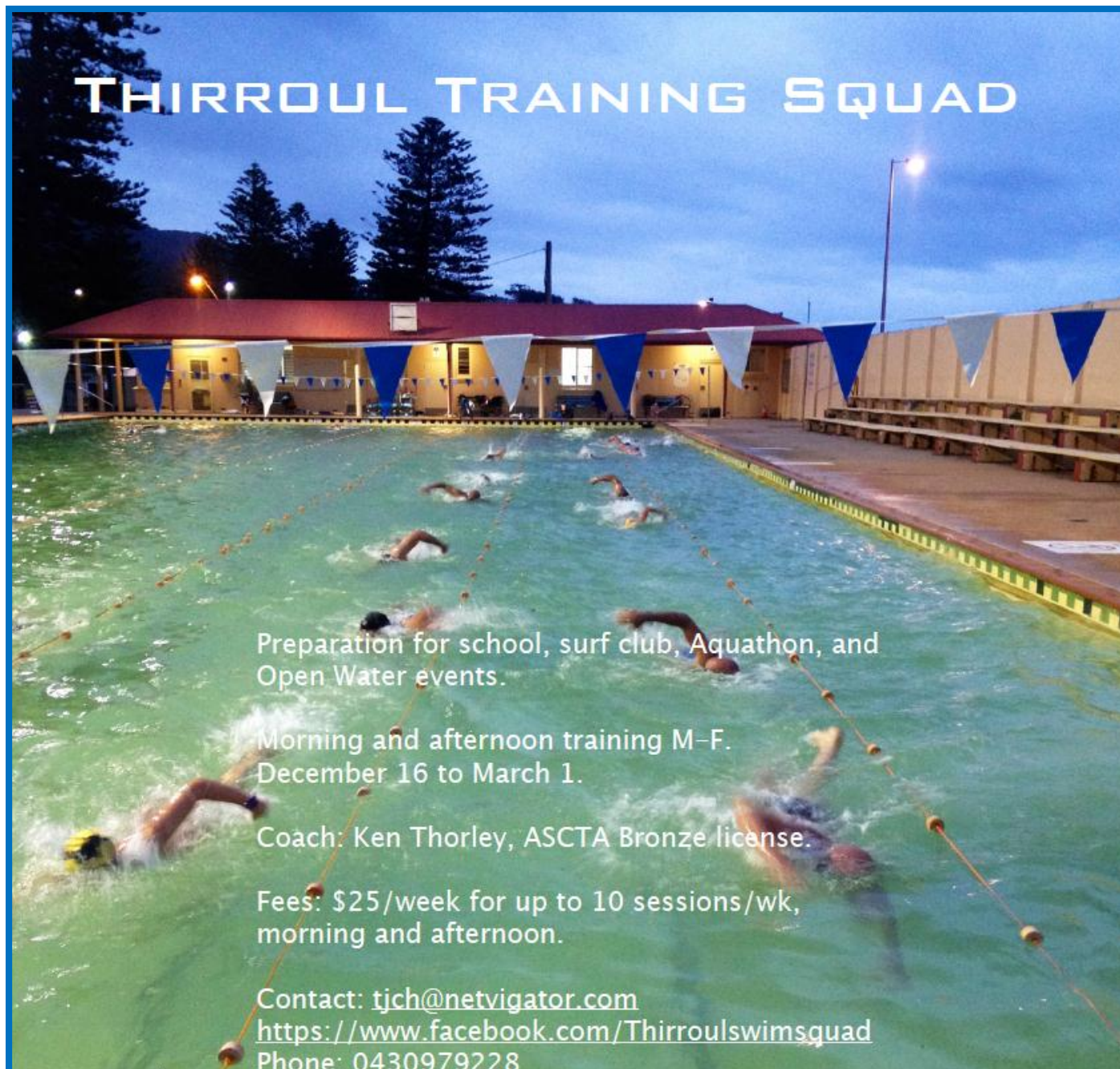
Uniform Shop - Term 1 2014 Opening Hours

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.

Uniform order forms can be downloaded from our website or they are available at the Front Office.

The Uniform Shop is open each Thursday from 8.00am—9.30am. If this time is unsuitable for you, orders can be paid for at the Front Office (Mon—Fri 7.45am to 3.15pm) and the items will be delivered to your child the following Thursday.

Community Noticeboard



THIRROUL TRAINING SQUAD

Preparation for school, surf club, Aquathon, and Open Water events.

Morning and afternoon training M-F.
December 16 to March 1.

Coach: Ken Thorley, ASCTA Bronze license.

Fees: \$25/week for up to 10 sessions/wk, morning and afternoon.

Contact: tjch@netvigator.com
<https://www.facebook.com/Thirroulswimsquad>
Phone: 0430979228

Time	Squad
6am-7am	Gold & Silver
3pm-3.45pm	Bronze
3.45pm-4.45pm	Silver
4.45pm-6.45pm	Gold

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