**Term 4 Week 6**

*Important dates to put in your calendar.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/11/2014-12/11/2014</td>
<td>Science Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/11/2014</td>
<td>Yr12 Formal</td>
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<tr>
<td>27/11/2014</td>
<td>Sport Presentation</td>
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**Principal Report**

**Active Citizenship**

Commemoration of Remembrance Day reminds us of the values that connect us as a community. It has been great over the last few weeks to hear about and/or acknowledge some terrific individual stories where our children and young people have stepped up to help others. This includes handing in some phones/other found objects and seeking adult help when issues arise.

**Student Reports**

We are currently finalising student reports. As they are sent home we would encourage you to read through them with your child, looking for common messages, positive comments and ideas that can be used to reset goals for next year. The conversation can also help children to consolidate their learning for the year by having to explain to you what the teacher comments mean to them.

Here are a selection of words and phrases that highlight some of the great attitudes to learning that many of our students are demonstrating:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conscientious</td>
<td>Continually applies themselves Applied themselves with dedication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diligent</td>
<td>Completes all classwork Positive about learning new skills and concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always tries their best</td>
<td>Listens attentively to explanations Volunteers to help others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrated a thorough understanding</td>
<td>Produced a high quality final product Has produced a good standard of work consistently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enthusiastic</td>
<td>Intelligent and polite Reads a wide range of texts for a sustained period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrious</td>
<td>Asks for assistance with new concepts Outstanding grasp of concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoys</td>
<td>Demonstr Outgoing</td>
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**We Asked, You Told Us, We’re Now Planning**

We have been very keen to collect information from parents, students and staff to inform school directions for our next 3 year school plan. We have been fortunate to collect some high quality feedback from all stakeholders, both affirming and with suggestions about how we can continue to improve, and are now in the process of turning the key themes into draft actions. At this stage we are looking at 3 overarching strategic directions to support the work that happens every day in our classrooms:

**Strategic Direction 1: Learning for all is first and foremost** (based on some words provided by a parent given to us at parent teacher night through the “Say it with photos” activity)

**Strategic Direction 2: Challenging students to reach for success** (based on some words from a staff member during the school planning evening we held with staff last term)
Strategic Direction 3: A culture fostering optimism, diversity and community (bringing together a number of ideas including strong support from parents about students being involved with community activities and values).

Our School Self Evaluation Governance Committee which includes parent, student and staff representatives will be refining the draft plan as we seek to finalise it by the end of first term next year. Some of our primary leaders have already helped analyse the primary student Tell Them From Me survey results and our secondary student leaders will do the same when we close the survey shortly. Thank you to all who have contributed.

Mr J McGrath
Principal

Deputy Report

Congratulations to Year 12 for successfully completing the HSC and 13 years of schooling. Five of our original Kindergarten class completed the HSC this year, an achievement that was recognised in the visit of our now former NSW Governor Dame Marie Bashir. Many of the students that I have encountered since finishing the HSC have a huge smile on their face and are ecstatic to have finally finished the exams, but seem to be happy to hang around the school and take it all in before finally letting go to face the big world that awaits them.

It is a very busy time for staff as they are writing the student’s end of year reports. Whilst we can hardly believe that we are in term four already, we are also finishing off the teachers and students timetables for next year as well as determining classes so that we are ready to hit the ground running at the start of next year.

It has been an interesting few months for me personally as I have filled in as Deputy Principal. During this time I have made many new and strong relationships with students, parents and support staff, sometimes these relationships have been forged under difficult circumstances; however, the relationships have become stronger as we realise that we are all endeavouring for the same outcome, ie. the students wellbeing and academic progress. Once again I would like to thank the incredible support of our wonderful senior executive and I would like to welcome our new Deputy Principal Erica Burge who will be starting at our school at the beginning of week 7.

Mr C Harris
Deputy Principal (Rel)

Middle School News

This term in Humanities Middle School are studying Ancient China. On Thursday November 6, we ordered Chinese food and had a banquet. All students were encouraged to eat with chopsticks, which for some, was a first. This proved to be a fun experience and was quite entertaining to watch. Food provides good motivation and it was amazing to see the improvement in chopstick skills. Honey Chicken was by far the most popular.

Beverly Partridge
Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning

NEW INITIATIVE FOR YEAR 8 STUDENTS IN 2015 AVID – Advancement through Individual Determination

“AVID is for kids who are in the middle band and want an education to get further” The program is about skill building and support for students that develops them as engaged, capable and independent learners – creating a clear pathway for them to succeed.

WCS is looking to implement a new class in 2015 for a selected group of students. The class will be in addition to the 2 academic classes in year 8 and will target students who are capable of attaining a university qualification, but are not achieving as well as they should be at the present time. The system has been operating for over 30 years and a large amount of evidence shows its success. The class will specifically be taught academic, organisational, thinking and persistence skills to be able to succeed at school and at University, should they choose to take this path.

More information will be available to parents and students early next week. An information night will be organised and parents will be asked to submit an expression of interest for their son/daughter to be part of the program. Hope to see you there!

Jenny Bennett
Head Teacher HSIE

MULTI CAT

The students in Multi Cat have been experiencing a lot of new things this semester, studying Society and Culture with Ms Moir. In their Visual Arts explorations,
they investigated Abstraction. They enjoyed incorporating masking and spray painting techniques to create bold and graphic compositions. A little messy, but a whole lot of fun!

**P&C Meeting**

There is a special P&C meeting called for the 19th of November 2014 to vote on a special resolution for our new Constitution.

*Sharryn Brownlee*

*President*

*Wadalba Community School Parents & Citizens’ Association*

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**National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence**

The fifth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence will be held on Friday, 20 March 2015. This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say "Bullying. No Way!" and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time.

We are encouraging students, teachers and parents to wear orange on Friday 20th March.

*Ms N Miller*

*Student Support Officer*

**P.A.R.T.Y**

Thirty students from year 10 and 11 went to the Royal North Shore Hospital and were fortunate enough to take part in P.A.R.T.Y program which is an acronym for Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth, and is an in hospital injury awareness and prevention program aimed at providing teenagers with information about trauma that will enable them to recognise potential injury-producing situations, make prevention orientated choices and adopt behaviour that minimises unnecessary risk. During 2012 NSW youths aged between 15-25 years were responsible for over 15% of all serious to critically injured patients admitted to NSW major trauma service. The students displayed respect, responsibility and excellence throughout the day and participated in practical sessions with a full range of professionals involved in trauma care.

*Nicole Miller*

*Student Support Officer*

**Welfare**

We have identified an increased number of students utilising Coles and local shops before school. As part of the schools duty of care, it is an expectation that students make their way into the school grounds on arrival. Unfortunately there are a number of students making poor choices and arriving to school late. We are fortunate enough to have breakfast, recess and lunch available through our school canteen with the convenience of ordering on line.

*Nicole Miller*

*Student Support Officer*
**English**

Some Year 7 English students came and read books they had created to Kindergarten!

**Mathematics**

Luna Park Excursion year 11 and 10

On the 31st of October, the ‘scariest’ day of the year, maths student from year 10 and 12 travelled down to Luna Park to find the answer to the equation of FUN!!

The students experienced thrills, heights and scrumptious delights throughout the day. Some braved the hair raiser (a giant drop overlooking the harbour), while others caused chaos in the bumper cars.

Last but not least thank you to the teachers who organised this amazing day and for braving the scariest ride of all travelling with the students.

All in all, the day was a blast and we ended up finding the answer to the equation of fun..... it was easy as $\pi$.

Written by Rhiannon Hines, Emma Hamlyn and Sam Eather.

**Adam Spencer Excursion**

On Friday 7th November 6 students from year 8 and 9 were given the opportunity to work with Mathematician/Comedian Adam Spencer during a workshop at Gosford High School. Adam was very keen to share the enthusiasm he has for Mathematics with talented students from the Central Coast (he lives at MacMasters Beach!) Adam is one of the most exciting and energetic evangelists on the planet and he took students through a one hour session that amused, excited and pushed them to their limits.

Students were given the opportunity to purchase an autographed copy of his latest book.
Leanne Hancock  
Head Teacher Mathematics

Chinese Day

I thought that the Chinese day was really great because we got to eat Chinese food with chopsticks and were given a can of coke zero. It was really great fun to use the chopsticks even though they were harder to use than knives and forks. I just started stabbing everything but the hardest part was trying to eat the rice. Lucky for me I had honey chicken so the rice just started to stick to the chicken. I definitely need more practice in eating with chopsticks!

Report on the Chinese Banquet by Tony Fowler 7

PDHPE Expectations

A reminder for all PDHPE students to be changed into appropriate atline for practical lessons.

Sports presentation will be held on Thursday 27 November at 5.45pm and held in the gym/hall

Mr M Sawyer  
HT PDHPE
Primary News

The primary 'Cuppa & Cake' was a success today with many familiar as well as new families, coming along to chat with Jason McGrath and Roxanne Sanday. This will now be a once a term event that will continue to grow in 2015. If you have any suggestions for topics you'd like us to discuss next year please speak to Roxanne in Primary.

On Thursday 30th October, all students in the Primary participated in Count Us In, Australia’s biggest school initiative, with more than 500,000 participating students from over 2,100 schools nationwide. Count Us In has been growing in reach and impact since 2007, with Wadalba students participating for the last few years, under the leadership of Mrs Kerry Crowther.

The students loved singing this years’ song, titled Let me paint you a song, which was written and composed by a selected group of secondary students from across NSW. Each class practised daily over a couple of weeks to ensure that students were ready to take part of this exciting national event.

During the event, schools were streamed live via the Music Australia website, enabling students to experience the thrill of being part of such a big affair. Photos of all the Wadalba students were Tweeted during the performance, showing their excitement and enthusiasm.

Music education has been proven to improve students’ literacy, numeracy, school attendance and confidence. Count Us In brings teachers, parents, students and the music industry together in celebration, as more than half a million people unite to sing the same song at the same time, right across the country.

The Wadalba students’ singing could be heard by many people outside of the hall, who commented on the beautiful song and the way the students were singing.

Mrs Lee-Anne Collins
central coast ghosts

SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER
7PM AT THE GROVE
AS A PART OF YFEST 2014

This quirky original script has been written by one of Australia's leading playwright, Vanessa Bates, in collaboration with 15 young people from the Central Coast who have been working together with professional director Anna Kerrigan from Tantrum Youth Arts.

One performance only - don't miss out!
The Grove - Cnr North Rd & Pacific Hwy, Wyong
www.tantrum.org.au

Supported by Wyong Shire Council and ArtsNSW