Term 3 Week 4

Important dates to put in your calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13/8/2014</td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 &amp; 15 August</td>
<td>Yr 11 2015 Subject selection interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/8/2014 to 20/8/2014</td>
<td>Stage 3 camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>21/8/2014</td>
<td>Primary Science Day</td>
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Principal Report

Education Week

Education Week was a great chance to celebrate all of the great things about public education. Our children and young people showed off their academic and creative talents, as well as their community spirit. The school was vibrant as it was opened up to community. It was wonderful to see so many families who were part of the many events including Grandparents Day and Showcase. It was also terrific to work with local businesses to put on a fundraiser bbq for https://www.redkite.org.au/ . Red Kite is the fundraising focus of one of our student action teams this term, led with great passion by our school captain Corey.

“Learning is foremost”

As one parent eloquently wrote as part of our School Planning conversations, “learning is foremost”. Currently, our Year 12 students are doing their trial HSC exams. Many are also finalising their major projects. Year 11 are preparing for their end of Preliminary HSC exams. Year 10 and Year 8 students and families are currently working through subject selections for next year. Subject selection evening was full of families seeking information and chatting about the opportunities ahead. We have initiated a seminar program as part of our Homework Centre which is staffed on a voluntary basis. This week, a number of Y10 students looked at some study tips that we have collated in an electronic document that can be found at http://ow.ly/yYPTk . They have all decided to try idea 111:

Revision Idea 111.

Use traffic light colours to mark learning points you are reviewing in your classwork that you are (green) confident about understanding (yellow) think you understand but want to check your understanding or (red) do not understand/ could not explain to someone else.

Across the school we have been encouraging all students to action at least one learning goal based on feedback from their half yearly reports. We have also been encouraging students to focus on having a consistent effort to their studies- students who achieved great reports frequently had the comment “always” rather than “sometimes” as part of the comment.

“Tell Them From Me”

We have been fortunate to have been working with a Canadian expert on student engagement, Dr Doug Willms. Doug does a lot of work for the OECD and has developed a survey for students and a survey for parents to support schools with setting directions. We are hoping to get as many parents/ families as possible to complete the parent survey to provide us with this important perspective on how we can support our kids. The survey details are:

Link https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/login.htm
User name: Wadalba
Password: parents1234

We will ensure we provide you with an update on the information gained and how we will be using your ideas to ensure we are continuing to learn and improve.

Mr J McGrath
**Deputy Principal Report**

We have had another busy start to the term for the students, staff and parents who have attended a variety of night time events at our school. Firstly the Parent-Teacher interviews were well attended. It was great to see so many parents conversing with the teachers to find out how their child is progressing and see how they can help maximise their learning. This was followed the next week by the CAPA Showcase which was a display of the exceptional musical and dramatic talents of our students. Both the parents and staff were absolutely blown away by the first class performances. A big thank you needs to go out to the Teachers who have given plenty of their time to help get the students to such a professional level. And lastly subject selection night. Hundreds of eager Year 8 students and their parents attended subject selection night to find out more about the electives that they can choose for next year. While this was an exciting time for Year 8 getting to choose their electives for the first time, Year10, while still excited, had a sense of trepidation as they were making very big decisions regarding their future pathways. In some ways these subjects selections could be one of the more important decisions that they have to make about their future. Fortunately, lots of experienced staff were on hand to put their minds at ease and point them in the right direction.

The local Chemist asked us to help celebrate their 1st Birthday. Our student leaders decided to hold a BBQ with all profits going to the Red Kite Foundation. One of our leaders was the beneficiary of Red Kite’s support during recent medical problems. We managed to raise over two hundred dollars that will be put to good use to help support kids suffering from cancer. We have recently begun the process to select next year’s school leaders. We are always very lucky to have such a large number of dedicated and committed school leaders.

It has been a very interesting and busy few weeks for me undertaking my first substantial block as Relieving Deputy. I get to witness the miracles that Mrs Harris and Mr Dusting perform on a daily basis and have been very fortunate to benefit from their advice and support.

Finally, good luck to all of Year 12 who are currently undertaking the trial examinations. They may need a bit of TLC since the Trial exams are notoriously difficult.

**HSIE**

What a busy start to the term! Thank you to teachers for their work on parent teacher night in Week 2. Teachers really value the time that they have to discuss student progress and to be able to share and work with parents/caregivers. So thank you to parents for taking the time to be part of your child’s progress and education.

Week 2 also saw 110 Year 10 HSIE students participate in fieldwork at Terrigal Lagoon and Wamberal Beach at the location where 2 houses fell into the sea in the 1970’s. After some miscalculations on the part of the bus driver, students were eventually able to make their way to the sites where they participated in a range of activities. Fortunately it was a sunny, pleasant day and students got a bit of additional walking exercise - always good for improving our students fitness! On Friday of last week Ms Lovatt took her Commerce class and interested Preliminary Legal Studies students to the Supreme Court in Sydney. The students went on a tour of a court room and discussed the role of court officials. They were able to watch a high profile civil court case in progress. The case is examining whether an $85,000 artwork is legitimate or fake. Unfortunately, the hoped for criminal cases that are often accessible on these court visits were unavailable on the day of our visit. The students represented WCS and their families to the highest standard.

Year 12 Society and Culture students will be pleased that they have submitted their HSC PIP (Personal Interest Project). This was a massive effort from these students as it involves a 6000 word written task on a topic of their own choosing. Students had to research, collect data, and present the finished work over the past 10 months. I would like to thank Ms Clark for the many hours that she contributed, above and beyond the time that is available in class, to assist these students in helping them complete their work. No doubt all students will wish to thank her in their own way as well.
I would also like to thank Mr Hancock for producing an excellent DVD on the Vietnam trip. If you have been fortunate enough to see it or know someone who has a copy – enjoy 30 minutes travelling around Vietnam with us! We will at this stage be looking to run this trip again in 2016, and perhaps include a side trip to Cambodia as well. Anyone that speaks to the students that participated this year will be able to highly recommend the experience. Finally a public thank you to the teachers that accompanied me and our students in the holidays. Ms Clark, Ms Moes and Mr Hancock – you all made the trip as easy as it could possibly be. Best of good wishes to our students sitting for their Trial exams in Ancient History, Business Studies, Geography, Legal Studies, Modern History and Society and Culture. I know your teachers have prepared you well and hopefully you have been able to support their efforts with your own in your study at home.

**NSW State Training CATE Award Winners**

Wadalba Community School were proud to have 3 students win all places in the NSW State Training CATE Award. The Career and Transition Award recognises student achievement in the Community as well as Casual employment and Career Development. First Place was awarded to Branden Ross and runner-up prizes awarded to Corey Miskell and James Isaac. The judges were impressed with all 3 student applications. This was a very proud moment for Wadalba Community School. Congratulations to all 3 students on behalf of our school and the greater community. Well Done boys.

**Rhonda Boardman**  
**Careers Advisor**  
**Leadership Team**

This Term the Leadership Team is busily working in three action teams.
1. Cinema Under the Stars- This is a joint fundraiser happening on the 13 September 2014 at school. Movie TBA, starting at 5pm. There will be food and entertainment available between opening and the movie starting at 7pm. This is a joint fundraiser between the Wadalba Rural Fire Service and Wadalba Community School and open to all of the Community. We will notify students and community when tickets are available.
2. Red Kite Fundraiser. Week 7 will be Red Kite week where the Leadership Team will be running events to raise funds to support Red Kite Foundation. We will keep you posted!
3. Assembly Action Team is working hard to put together this term’s formal school assembly which will occur Monday Week 6. Parents and community are invited to attend at 12:10. Please enter at the administration building.

**2015 Leadership Team Elections!**
The current Year 11 have been issued with letters outlining the process they need to follow if they wish to be part of the Senior Leadership Team as a School Captain, Vice Captain or House Captain. All that nominate themselves are required to attend Leadership Training Monday and Wednesday of Week 5 and return their nomination slips by Thursday of Week 4.

The current Year 10 has been issued with letters outlining the process they need to follow if they wish to be part of the Senior Leadership Team as a House Captain or Year Representative. All that nominate themselves are required to attend Leadership Training Monday and Wednesday of Week 5 and return their nomination slips by Thursday of Week 4.

**Melanie Coghlan**  
**English and Drama Teacher**
**English**

There has been a flurry of activity in the English faculty over the past few weeks with our students competing in numerous Public Speaking and Debating competitions. We started with two awesome speeches from Teghan Irwin and Anna Jones in the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Awards. Anna, who is in Year 7, did a fantastic job and certainly held her own against students in Year 9. Teghan’s speech on ‘legalising medicinal cannabis’ was outstanding and she came away with an honourable mention. Congratulations girls!

We have been inundated with Year 7 and 8 students who are keen to put their persuasive speaking skills to the test in the Premier’s Debating Challenge. This week, both teams competed against Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College, Berkeley Vale. Unfortunately, neither team came away with a win, but their determination to succeed in future debates is impressive. It’s onwards and upwards from here guys.

Yours in Debating and Public Speaking,

Mrs Louie

Shannon Louie
English Teacher

**Library**

The theme for 2014 is Connect to Reading, Reading to Connect. Connect to Reading is about enjoying the experience of exploring story and travelling to other worlds. To celebrate Book Week please link to The Children’s Book Council of Australia Website at [http://cbca.org.au/ShortList-2014.htm](http://cbca.org.au/ShortList-2014.htm), or students may visit the library to take a closer look at the wonderful selection of shortlisted books by notable authors which are on display at the front of the library. Also book trailers are now playing in the library for these and other popular reads.

On another note I am concerned at the number of students with headphones in and music too loud. It has been researched...damage occurs when this is the case, the effects of which are felt later on in life with hearing loss occurring prematurely.


Mrs Tanya Taylor
Teacher Librarian

**Community Spirit**

Working with local businesses and community to foster neighbourly spirit. One of the student action teams for Term 3, led with passion by our school captain Corey, is raising awareness and funds for [https://www.redkite.org.au/](https://www.redkite.org.au/). Thanks to our local businesses for the invitation and generosity.

Egypt Report by Edam Johnson 7F

Last term Year 7 wrote a diary entry about a person from Ancient Egypt. I thought it was really enjoyable. We made our diary look like an ancient Egyptian scroll that would have been made from papyrus. To make them look like this, some students burnt the edges and stained the paper with coffee or tea. I stained mine with chocolate. We wrote about the day in the life of an Ancient Egyptian. You could choose to be a pharaoh, farmer, slave, worker, priest, soldier or artisan. It was a really good thing that we could choose.
We wrote about our chosen person's day as if we were the person. I was a farmer. I reckon this would have been a very hard job. This task gave me a real feel about high school because we had to find out all the facts about our ancient Egyptian person so we could use this information to write our diary. This was a good assignment.

**MPS Report**

In Measuring Physical Space this term our focus unit is Change. In Science students are investigating living things. Through a microscope they are examining plant and animal cells. In Health we are looking at adolescent growth and development. Students are keeping fit and our two focus areas this term are jump rope for heart and invasion games. Algebraic techniques and probability are the topics students are learning in Maths.

**Middle School**

"Well Year 7 is now over half way on completing their first year of high school. Term 3 now sees them completing work and a number of tasks in all three subject areas. In Science students are doing a topic on 'living things' which sees them looking at the world through a microscope - looking at a number of plant and animal cells. In PDHPE we start to look and adolescent growth and development, jump rope for heart and invasion games. Finally as caregivers you may be getting some questions from year 7 students at home, with Mathematics now looking at Algebra."

**Beverly Partridge**

*Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning*

**Indigenous Students**

Secondary

We are pleased to inform you of the great work that Wadalba’s Indigenous students in Years 7-9 have been participating in through an Indigenous Literacy Program which has been running over the past year. Students have been making great progress in all areas of reading, writing, comprehension and spelling with a few students including Tiarna Jones (Yr 7), Kiara Burns (Year 7) and Tyson O’Grady (Yr 8) having been selected and showcased in several issues of the Deadly Vibe magazine last term.

**Alexandra Pearce**

**Primary Pieces**

**Primary**

We are pleased to inform you of the great work that Wadalba’s Indigenous students in Years K-6 have been participating in through an Indigenous Literacy Program which has been running over the past year. Students have been making great progress in all areas of reading, writing, comprehension and spelling with a few students including Dylan Stevens (K), Lili Forrest (Yr 1), Denim Ah See (Yr 2) and Dakota Mugridge (Yr 5) having been selected and showcased in issues of the Deadly Vibe magazine last term. We cannot wait to see them progress further with their learning.

**Alexandra Pearce**