Term 4 Week 7

Important dates to put in your calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26/11/2015</td>
<td>Sports Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/12/2015</td>
<td>Kindy Teddy Bear Pinic</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/12/2015</td>
<td>Yr7 2016 Orientation Day</td>
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Principal Report

Congratulations Mr Dusting

After 38 years of public service, including six years at Wadalba Community as Deputy Principal, we congratulate Mr Dusting and wish him well in his retirement. Mr Dusting has been a strong advocate for Quality Teaching and student voice. He has also led many key areas for strategic development. One of his last achievements was managing the project for the new learning spaces in the library. Mr Dusting will receive his retirement medal at the Presentation Assembly at the end of the year. The inscription on the retirement medal for all public school teachers’ reads “service to students”.

Thank you Mr Dusting for your contribution to public education and Wadalba Community School.

Welcome Mr Glachan

With the retirement of Mr Dusting we welcome Mr Glachan to the school as Deputy Principal. Mr Glachan will have particular responsibilities for Year 9 and next year’s Year 7 students.

Mr Glachan has tremendous experience and local connections to the area. For those who drop off their children in the morning you will see Mr Glachan at the front gate greeting people at the start of the day.

Welcome Mr Glachan.

Learning is first and foremost

Year 12 have now completed their HSC exams and held their farewell which was a fabulous night of celebration.

The supervisor of exams was most impressed by the commitment shown by our Year 12 students during each exam. This attitude has been repeated walking around and seeing students in other Year Groups doing their end of year assessments.

Deputy Principal Report

This will be my last newsletter as I am retiring from the Department of Education after 38 Years.

I have taught in a wide variety of schools from small rural Central Schools, Senior Colleges, large comprehensive schools, Canadian schools and of course a Community School - Wadalba.

There have been incredible changes in Education over this time. I recall our first ever computer, an Apple 2E. It arrived in a box and needed to be completely assembled, by teachers who had never seen one before. A whole lesson would involve looking at the computer and identifying the parts of this amazing new machine.

There has also been a huge shift in the community in terms of Technology and the resulting Social Media. Schools have had to negotiate these changes and develop strategies to improve pedagogy to ensure students remain engaged, productive learners. The access to this Technology is something we now take for granted with most students now having their own portable devices and access to the internet 24/7. We are all very familiar with both the positives and negatives around this.

One thing that hasn’t changed over this time is the power and influence that positive relationships provide. Strong student/teachers relationships and strong school/
community relationships are the key to a school’s and in turn student success. I encourage all parents to be actively involved with their students learning and foster strong partnerships with the school to ensure optimum student outcomes. The school’s influence grows exponentially when the seeds of these relationships are planted. Wadalba Community School is a wonderful school. The new three year plan is an exciting blueprint for teachers, students and the community. The teachers are dedicated and knowledgeable. The resources are second to none. As I walk around the school and I see students engaged in Construction Trade Training, Aquaculture, the Café, Year 9 Science GATs class Drama and Creative Arts, Targeted sports, Technology as well as innovations in History, English and Maths I know we are meeting the needs of 21st Century learners.

I wish everyone an enjoyable, safe and happy Christmas and look forward to hearing of the future successes at Wadalba Community School.

Kind regards,
Cameron Dusting
Deputy Principal

Special Education Report

This term the students from the Support classes were lucky enough to attend a swimming scheme at the YMCA swim school at the Mariners Centre of Excellence. This swim school was organised by Ms Regal who was able to ensure that the swim scheme was available, at no cost, to all the students. The students learnt some valuable water safety skills as well as practising their swimming. Each week we were also lucky enough to see the Mariners’ team having their cool down session at the pool.

Middle School

We are nearing the end of the Year and a lot has been happening. Next week Year 7 will be showing off their Genius Hour in mini expos that will be visited by teachers and other Year 7 classes.

In PE students are learning about outdoor recreation and survival. In Mathematics students have recently started learning about measurement both through practical and theoretical methods where they will learn skills relevant to their everyday lives.

In Humanities students are undertaking an in depth study of a world heritage site in Asia. Students will pretend they are a tour guide and take their class on a tour of their chosen site. This will be accompanied by a PowerPoint with pictures of the site.

Please remember, students are expected to bring all of their equipment until the last day of school and treat every lesson as a normal day.

Year 7I reading during their D.E.A.R time

Beverly Partridge
Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning

PDHPE

We would like to thank all students for their efforts and achievements throughout the year in PDHPE. We would like to remind all students that the PDHPE practical uniform consists of a dark blue shirt and shorts that need to be worn for all practical lessons. This uniform can be purchased from the uniform shop. It would be appreciated if all students could make arrangements to have this uniform purchased and ready to be worn before the commencement of 2016.

TSP

We would like to congratulate those students that have recently been invited to take part in the TSP program for 2016. We are looking forward to new and improved activities with our coaches in the coming calendar year. We would also like to congratulate those students that receive an award or acknowledgement at our Sports Presentation evening on Thursday 26th November 5:30-7:00pm.

Sport

We would like to thank all students that have represented Wadalba Community School in their chosen
sporting endeavours throughout 2015. Big congratulations to those students that have progressed further in their level achievement and represented their Zone, region or State. Well done! Our 2016 WCS Swimming Carnival will be held at Wyong pool on Thursday 18th February (Primary) and Friday 19th February (Secondary). We are hoping for fine weather and would like to remind students and parents that students are required to attend sporting carnivals to ensure they meet the NSW Department of Education’s requirements for school sport participation. We hope you have a very safe and enjoyable holiday and we look forward to seeing all students in the New Year.

Mr Matt Sawyer
HT PDHPE