Term 1  Week 6

Important dates to put in your calendar.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>12 March 2015</td>
<td>Selective High School placement test</td>
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<td>13 March 2015</td>
<td>High School Athletics Carnival 8.15-2.30 at Warnervale Athletics</td>
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<td>17 March 2015</td>
<td>Sydney North all schools Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>18 March 2015</td>
<td>Yr7 2016 Academic Test. Start 8.30 – 11.00</td>
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<td>20 March 2015</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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Principal Report

Student Brilliance

As always our focus is on the work that happens each and every lesson to benefit student learning. Already this year, we have had students involved in a range activities and working with experts to deepen learning. This includes field studies in Science and Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE); visits by a number of practicing artists; and senior students attending seminars to build their study skills.

These opportunities add to the work occurring in classrooms each day. We are seeing the efforts of students being demonstrated in a range of assessments, their engagement in lessons and involvement in activities such as the homework centre.

Here are just a few examples of the many stories of excellence recorded through our commendation system this year:

Both these students continue to work hard in class and their own time. Both are ahead of the class and have been bringing in resources from their own research.

These students are excelling in class, their work ethic, knowledge and questioning is very impressive.

Completed all classwork to a high standard and attempted the advanced extension content voluntarily.

These examples highlight some of the great attributes of quality learning being demonstrated by our children and young people.

Acts of Kindness

Last newsletter I shared some acts of kindness by students outside of the school. This week I would like to acknowledge those occurring within the school. Many of these go unreported but over the last week included handing in mobile phones that had a fallen out of a students’ pocket during lunchtime as well as general acts of students assisting each other.

Collective Smartness

We have just received our student attendance data summary for 7-12 last year. It was fantastic to see two of our year groups have exceeded state performance by as much as 2.2 percentage points and that four of the six year groups had achieved the best recorded data for our school since the DEC recorded information at year levels in 2009.

Last year 926 students had attendance of at least 90%, 185 students had attendance of at least 98% and 40 students achieved 100% attendance for the year.

Overall, we have more than halved the gap to state attendance and are now within one percentage point of exceeding it.

Community

Thank you to the many families who have been able to support a range of information sessions and activities focussed on supporting
The general development in the local community, including the large number of enrolments to the school from interstate and outside of the Central Coast, highlights the opportunity that school events can provide for making connections between adults across our community as well as building relationships between staff and community.

We are looking forward to starting our program of community events that provide an opportunity for our students to develop and showcase their talents within a community context. Look out for information on our Trivia Night this term.

We are currently sourcing prizes for events like the Trivia Night and are always keen to hear from anyone in our community who might have relevant connections through work or other networks that could be utilised.

A special thank you to our Student Voice Ambassadors who have been supporting all of our community events to welcome people, guide people and answer questions about the school. Their leadership has led to a number of positive comments about the way they conduct themselves.

Mr J McGrath
Principal

Deputy Principal

It's week 6 and we are now more than half way through Term 1. Hopefully all students have found their rhythm for the year and our new students have settled in well and are feeling welcomed into the Wadalba Community School community.

A successful Year 11 information night was held where parents participated in three information forums based on:

a) student welfare and the importance of looking after themselves in the senior school years

b) Myths and Mysteries surrounding the calculation of the HSC results, and

c) assessment and what to do in the event of illness and misadventure.

Hopefully parents feel more informed as result of attending this information evening. Thank you to Mr McGrath, Ms Hesse and Ms Harris for leading these valuable discussions.

Last week, the Wadalba Student Ambassadors escorted prospective 2016 parents on tours of the school grounds. This proved to be a valuable introduction to the school. Many positive comments were given to the ambassadors and the teachers who gave of their time to showcase our school to the community. Thank you to Mrs Brown, Mr Dusting and the numerous staff who assisted with

Mr J McGrath
Principal

Coming up are the Yr 12 half yearly exams. Students should ensure that they are planning ahead and preparing thoroughly for all their subjects. Students should make time to complete questions from past HSC papers and seek feedback from their teachers. A timely reminder that students can access the homework centre, in the library, where some extra guidance can be found.

Some positive excursions have been on offer over the past few weeks, for many of our students, in a range of subjects. It has been wonderful to hear positive feedback regarding our students from the wider community. Yr 11 Geography has this week embarked on an overnight excursion to Gibberagong Field Studies Centre, and hope that the next newsletter gives us some insight into their adventures.

In our endeavours to ensure students arrive safely to school, we ask you to discuss the importance of using the crossings that students encounter on their journey to school. Students are taking risks when alighting from buses that drop off on the Pacific Highway and impatiently crossing this busy road without waiting for the traffic lights. Other students are taking risks outside the school, riding their bikes across the road amongst busy morning and afternoon traffic, and crossing near the shops rather than walking to the safety of the crossing. I encourage you to have
this conversation with your child to ensure they arrive at school and home safely each day.

Appropriate use of mobile phones has been a focus of a number of classrooms that I have visited. I encourage students to make good choices about when and how their phones are being used and only have them out and visible in class if the teacher has indicated that they are being used for a classroom activity. It is not appropriate for students to be charging their phones in classrooms.

I would like to thank the school community for welcoming me to Wadalba Community School. It has been a busy start meeting staff, students and parents, and I am looking forward to being part of all that the school has to offer.

Mrs Erica Burge
Year 7 and 10 Deputy Principal

TSP Uniforms

An unfortunate error was made during the ordering of our TSP uniforms in 2014. Some uniforms are in stock with the supplier. These will be distributed to students (if they have paid in full) in the next couple of days.

Unfortunately, most uniforms that were ordered and paid for in December 2014 will be added to our March-April order for 2015.

We apologise for any inconvenience that this may have caused. In the meantime, students may wear last year’s uniform or an appropriate change of clothes for TSP training until orders arrive.

Any further information that parents/guardians may wish to have clarified please call the school on 43 92 5000 during office hours.

Supporting your child’s sporting endeavours

Mr Matthew Sawyer &
Mr Robert Ristuccia

HSIE

What a busy start to the year! Year 11 Geography have just completed an overnight camp at Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre in the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park. Our students were engaged and interested in this beautiful natural environment and spent the time learning about biophysical interactions and human impacts. Congratulations to all who participated. Well done, and thank you to Mr Hancock and Ms Burge for assisting with transportation and supervision.

Year 12 Geography are about to participate in a fieldwork day at Porters Creek Wetland. Porters Creek is the largest freshwater wetland in NSW and is one of the case studies that students will complete for their HSC. The bonus being it is right in our backyard, making it a fabulous resource for students to engage with and learn from. These students should also be taking advantage of the ABC program on The Great Barrier Reef as this is our second case study. Year 12 Society and Culture will be visiting the Nan-Tien temple at Wollongong on the 10th and 11th of June.

Ms Clark took 8D to The Rocks on a recent excursion to explore the area. This fitted in with both English and History. Students were again extremely well behaved and interested in the day.

Year 10 will be participating in an HSIE geography fieldwork day at Lakes Beach in term 2.

All year 12 students should be preparing for their half year exams and need to be sure they are seeking teacher assistance if they need work to be clarified before weeks 9 and 10.

Year 11 Business Studies: These 2 classes are full at the present time and I have had some requests for students to change classes for a variety of reasons. While we have been able to accommodate some of these requests, students and parents should note that after the halfly year exam and the completion of the first assessment task, the classes will be re-shuffled based on merit. At the end of year 11 the classes will again be changed on merit for the HSC year. Students are therefore advised to work to the best of their ability in both exam and assessment situations.

At the present time, I am investigating the possibility of an overseas excursion to Vietnam and Cambodia in 2016. If this is to go ahead, I will begin to seek expressions of interest during term 2 of 2015. Further information and clarification will follow. Should it go ahead, preference will be given to senior students, particularly those studying Modern History, Ancient History, Geography and Society and Culture. Students from other year groups would be most welcome to participate, especially if the Humanities are their preferred pattern of study in the senior years. Many thanks to those parents who are continually supporting our teachers’ efforts to help their children. It is very much appreciated.

Mrs Jenny Bennett
HT HSIE
Middle School

During Measuring Physical Space (MPS) classes, students have been taught the many safety skills required when using the school science laboratories. Students must be able to display their understanding of these vital skills or they can jeopardise not only their own safety, but the safety of others’. Students have enjoyed their time demonstrating the skills necessary to obtain their bunsen burner licence and can now carry out experiments that require the use of a bunsen burner.

Student Report
I am in 7E and recently I received my Bunsen Burner Licence in my MPS Class - Science. It was super exciting! I got my Bunson Burner licence by going through a short and easy procedure which involved many safety checks. First you had to check the gas tube to make sure there weren’t any holes in the gas gas tube. Then you light a match. It took 6 goes to light the match but I got it in the end. After that I turned the gas on and ran the match up the side of the bunsen burner to light it. That is how I got my bunsen burner licence. Bethany Hall.

Support Unit

Last Wednesday the support unit played host to Jasmine Baric, an accomplished violinist from the Rising Stars program of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. During Jasmine’s one hour visit, the students learnt about the history of the violin, the different parts of a violin and how to tune and play this amazing stringed instrument. All the students enjoyed the experience and were highly involved in the interactive and experiential lesson.

Beverly Partridge
Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning

Mr Stan Baric
Head teacher Special Education
Student Support

More than 634,000 students at over 1370 schools across the nation are now registered for the 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence and Wadalba Community School is a part of a growing nationwide movement to 'Take a Stand Together' against bullying and violence.

We are encouraging the students to 'Take a Stand Together' and asking them to wear orange on Friday 20th March. Craig and Mandy from Star 104.5 radio station will be broadcasting live from 6 to 9am.

The day will also include the launch of the revamped 'Wotz Up Wadalba' website, the winner of the poster competition announced, face painting, performances and much more.

CAN WE INVITE THE PARENTS TO COME DOWN AS WELL AND WEAR ORANGE???

Programs are up and running for 2015 and we are very fortunate to be working collaboratively with community members and local support agencies. During term 1, we have had LINKS come in and deliver a 6 week Cyber Safety program, Oaisis facilitated a girls program 'REGEN' and AMP'D, a mentoring program for boys, to learn skills in a hands on environment.

A number of year 9 girls are involved in 'Girls with a Purpose' with Ms Miller; the program helps girls talk about a range of real life issues such as relationships, goal setting, keeping safe and communicating effectively with others.

Facilitators use fun games and small group discussions to engage the young women, and this strengths-based program has earned positive responses from a variety of practitioners, including youth workers, school nurses and psychologists.

If you feel that your child would respond well to being apart of a program, please contact Ms Miller 43925000 during school hours.

PDHPE

A reminder to all students in Years 7-10 of our school policy in regard to bringing and wearing correct PDHPE uniform for all practical lessons. This uniform can be purchased from the uniform shop which is open Mon to Thur 8:15-9:30am during school days.

The PE uniform is made up of a dark blue polo shirt with the school emblem, light blue on the sides and blue piping around the collar and navy blue shorts with the school emblem. In winter, students may be able to wear navy blue tracksuit pants. TSP shirts can be worn on Tuesdays (for sport) or for PE lessons. Students are unable to wear the light blue school shirt for practical lessons.

Sport

Students are reminded that buses that take students to sport leave at 12:15pm (half way through lunch). If students have not selected a sport for Term 1, they should see Mr Marlin in the Middle School Staffroom to make their choice.

Buses cost $5.00 and some venues have additional charges involved. Students must make sure they have their correct money for sport with...
them on Tuesday afternoons. Selections for Term 2 sports will be happening in coming weeks.

**CHS KO Team Results**

- Open Girls Touch defeated Gorokan 9-4
- Open Girls Volleyball defeated Gorokan 3-0
- Open Girls Cricket defeated Hills Sports HS in their last game and play Hunter Sports HS on Tue 10th March
- Open Boys Volleyball lost to TLSC 3-2
- Open Boys Baseball defeated Lisarow 12-5
- Open Lawn Bowls lost to Northlakes 32-9
- Open Boys Basketball play on Thursday 5th March
- Open Boys Football play on Friday 6th March
- Open Boys Touch are due to play Girrakool and Henry Kendall in a double header on Tuesday 10th March

**Carnivals**

On Friday 20th February, we held our annual Swimming Carnival at Wyong Pool. Congratulations to all of our participants and competitors and to all those students that made the effort to dress in their house colours. We would like to make special mention of Freeman House representatives Brittany Wheat for her efforts with her fancy dress costume as well as our staff representative Miss Morgan, who also looked spectacular on the day. Our most vocal house was Freeman winning points for their house in the War Cry competition.

**Age Champions:**

Age 12: Charlotte Burgess
Joshua Drummond
Age 13: Hayley Bernsdorff
Jarrod Simpson
Age 14: Adele Brown
Aaron Laksa
Age 15: Jorgia Creighton
Xavier O’Donoghue
Age 16: Tayla Hayes
Zachary Johnson
Age 17: Emma Hamlyn
Jake Fonti

Our school Athletics Carnival will be held this Term on Friday 13th March (Week 7) at Warnervale Athletics Track. Please note that this has been a change in venue from the previous newsletter and normal school buses will be rerouted directly to the venue. Shuttle buses will be booked to transport students that normally make their own way to and from school to and from the venue. The cost of this event will be $2 to cover ground hire and use of equipment and facilities at the track.

**TSP**

Coaches have finalised their squads and have commenced their training programs. An unfortunate error has been made in the ordering of uniforms at the end of 2014 which has delayed the arrival of 2015 uniforms. Your patience with the delay in arrival of uniforms is greatly appreciated.

*Mr M Sawyer*
*Head Teacher PDHPE*
WADALBA GOES POP

On Thursday 26th February 53 CAPA students travelled by bus to The Art Gallery of NSW to view the Pop To Popism Exhibition and Art Express.

Students were able to see artworks that up until today they had only ever seen in text books or on the internet. Yr9 and Yr11 who are currently studying Pop Art were excited to see some of their focus works in person.

Andy Warhol's soup cans and Marilyn screen-prints were a favourite, students were able to have their photo take with some other Marilyn's and play some Marilyn twister.

After viewing the large Pop art exhibition student were then impressed with the 2014 HSC Visual Arts students final works, the quality and concepts a great stimulus for our current Yr12 students.

Miss Melissa Norris
We can’t believe it is Week 6 already. Time flies when you’re having fun!

We are settled into our routines and have already made new friends. We enjoy participating in fitness every morning to get rid of our never ending energy and on Fridays, we are learning Minky Ball.

We enjoy learning about Maths and how much fun you can have while learning. We get to play maths games and work with our friends- what’s not to like!

We’re mad about Maths!!
STAR 104.5
loving music, loving life

CRAIG & MANDY'S
SCHOOL PROJECT

Craig & Mandy are here broadcasting live

FRI 20 MAR
FROM 6 TO 9AM