Term 1 Week 8

Important dates to put in your calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23/3/2015</td>
<td>Year 12 Half Year exams start</td>
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<tr>
<td>25/3/2015</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/4/2015</td>
<td>Primary letterland Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/4/2015</td>
<td>Trivia night $10 a head</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4/2015</td>
<td>School Holidays</td>
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Principal Report

Academic

We wish Y12 well as they start their half yearly exams. Feedback from students and staff has been positive about the level of study preparation. We have been encouraging students to build a positive and confident mindset and focus on good time management practices, including in the exams themselves.

Thank you to the large number of families who have taken up the opportunity to meet as a family with Ms Harris to build a shared support plan for Y11 students as they start to develop their senior study routines.

We have also commenced a new student mentoring program under the leadership of Mr Dusting, Ms Trumm and Ms Clarke for some of our Y12 students. The purpose is to support the academic endeavours that the students are already working towards.

We are currently working on our planning to introduce a student mentoring focus as part of our Middle School next term. We will also be extending our Genius Hour projects from stage 3 into our Middle School as we seek to promote and support active, student led learning.

Student Brilliance

As always, there have been many great examples of student success since the last newsletter. Congratulations to Tallulah in Y10 who have been selected to perform at this year’s School Spectacular as a featured artist as well as the opportunity to attend the state vocal camp. Tallulah is the first student at our school to be selected at this level.

Our student leaders and student action groups have organised some outstanding large scale activities for Harmony Day/ Anti-bullying day and as part of the Wadalba Cup. This work builds school spirit and demonstrates learning that is connected to real world experiences.

We have had a large number of our sporting teams achieve success in knockout competitions.

Student Reports and School Values

The Executive and whole staff have been reviewing our student reports in both the Primary and Secondary to maximise their relevance to families and provide effective feedback that can inform individual growth. Thank you to a number of families who provided feedback to us about our Primary reports as part of a focus group that was led by Mrs MacDonald and Mrs Collins.

In the Secondary, the focus has been looking particularly at the information on each class report about student’s social development and commitment to learning. We have sought to link the categories to our school values and to connect ideas to the “6Cs” (see diagram below) which focus on 21st century learning concepts.

![Diagram of 6Cs]

We look forward to finalising these ideas this term and to actively promote the concepts prior to the reporting cycle next term.
Respect
1. Displays respect towards peers
2. Displays respect towards staff
3. Values the opportunity to learn

Responsibility
4. Takes responsibility for being organised and prepared for learning
5. Percentage attendance for each class
6. Attends class on time

Excellence
7. Shows commitment to producing quality work
8. Utilises feedback to continually improve learning
9. Demonstrates initiative as a member of the class community
10. Engages actively in collaborative learning

An Executive team has also been formed, under the leadership of Mr Harris, to trial a student self-reporting process which builds on some of the latest education research into what makes a difference. The capacity for a student to be able to accurately analyse their progress is seen as one of the most significant ways students can improve their learning outcomes.

Mr J McGrath
Principal

Deputy Principal Report
The term is moving along very quickly it is week 9 next week and there has been a lot of exciting things happening across the school.

Today as a school community we celebrated Harmony Day, The message of Harmony Day is everyone belongs. It’s a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. Star 104.5 presented at the school and students were encouraged to wear orange to school, banners for each house were created and students wrote positive quotes and statements around the theme of Bullying, it is not ok and not acceptable in our school community. A whole school assembly further supported the message of Harmony Day. Thank You to Ms Miller and Ms Coghlan and other staff involved in organising the day.

Yesterday we had a AVID morning tea, Mrs Bennett invited Students and Teachers from Tumbi Umbi High school who have been involved in the AVID program for several years now, to discuss the benefits of being involved in the program has had on their success at school. Parents from both school also had the opportunity to interact, which was beneficial. Thank You to Mrs Bennett for the organisation as well as the staff involved in the AVID program, the students are very settled and enjoying the challenge.

Mrs Hesse took a group of Year 11 students along to the RYDA Driver Awareness program on Wednesday. The students had a very productive day and learnt a lot about driver awareness, road safety and making good choices while driving. This is one of the best excursions I have been involved in and encourage all parents of Year 10 students to encourage your child to go along and be involved next year when the opportunity arises for them.

I have been having individual meetings with many Year 11 students and their parents/carers to develop and support them with an individual study plan; I still have several students to get through yet please feel free to contact me if you still haven’t made an appointment. To support all Year 11 students we will be having Elevate Education delivering a study session on Thursday 26th March, students will be receiving more information next week.

Coming up in week 10 is the HSC half yearly exams and week 2 Term 2 is the Year 11 half yearly exams. We wish our senior students every success in these exams and encourage them to strive for individual excellence.

The CAPA faculty have their annual Trivia night coming up on Wednesday 1st April, I encourage you all to come along and get involved, it is always a fantastic night and an opportunity to celebrate the success of our CAPA staff and students.

Jane Harris
Deputy Principal Year 8 and 11
**Homework Centre**

The English Faculty Homework Centre is here for you!

Every Monday afternoon from 2.45pm to 4pm at the top of J Block.

English teachers will be on hand to help with any English work that is giving you trouble or any work that you want to perfect.

To be there or not to be there? That is the question. The answer is BE THERE!

*Niven Williams, English Teacher*

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**NETBALL CORNER**

TSP has begun with a great deal of success. We held a trial period for those transitioning from Year 6 into Year 7. We only had limited placing for new athletes but it gave us a great idea of all the young talent Wadalba has! Congratulations to Eden Waddell and Riley Jarvis, joining the other year 7’s (Katelyn Lockyer, Jorja Russ and Tanaya Miller) in TSP. With the variety of skill training sessions, beach and pool fitness sessions, and run’s to Hamlyn Terrace, both Mrs Hesse and Miss Morgan hope you are enjoying the 2015 program.

Selections for the Open girls netball team was extremely competitive and gave the selectors a tough job. Usually we look to our senior students for this team; however, this year we had some new names amongst the oldies! The girls played at Adcock Park on Tuesday the 10th of March with great success. A win against Mosman (47-2) put the girls in great spirits for their follow on match against a competitive Gosford team. It went goal-for-goal, with our girls pulling ahead in the last quarter to win 37-26! We now progress to round 4 which is most likely against the very strong, Terrigal!

*Jessica Morgan
PDHPE Faculty*

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**Student Voice Conference:**

**Term One, 2015.**

On Monday the 9th of March, I accompanied two of our student leaders to the first student voice conference of the year. Many of the schools on the Central Coast are participating in this initiative. The overall aim is to improve the voice that students have throughout their schooling, and essentially, improve learning outcomes, connectedness to the school and mental health.

Kaitlyn Sloan and Taylah Laverack (year 10), were our student representatives for this conference. Here are their recaps of the day:

Kaitlyn:

*Today at our student voice conference, we each separated into groups with students from other schools to discuss what each school has been doing to improve their student voices. We then went back and gathered with members of our school to discuss ideas to better our school and make it a more fun and enjoyable place for both teachers and students. We hope to take our ideas back to WCS and run them by our fellow leaders and the executive. Many exciting new things to come!*

Taylah:

*Today we contributed and listened to ideas from all of the different schools. We will now go back to the other school leaders and teachers to create ideas unique that will work for us at WCS. We created a list of ideas that we think will benefit our relationships with teachers and students. It was a good day because everything was organised and run by the student leaders at Gorokan High School.*

The WCS group of student voice ambassadors are looking for new members to join their team. If you are interested in joining and would like to know more information, please talk to one of the ambassadors or see Miss Morgan in Staff Room 1. We meet on Wednesday Week A during roll call and are looking at creating new, exciting projects and events for WCS!

*Jessica Morgan
PDHPE Faculty*
The past 2 weeks Wadalba Cup had been Blitzing litter on the playground. Bonus points and Canteen Bin It vouchers have been on offer. Two successful winners.

Water Polo

Congratulations to the Open Girls Water Polo team for making it to the knockout second round. All girls represented WCS with pride and showed great skill improvement from playing U/15 previous years.

PDHPE

As the weather begins to change we would like to take this opportunity to remind to all students in Years 7-10 of our school policy in regard to bringing and wearing correct PDHPE uniform for all practical lessons. Practical uniform can be purchased from the uniform shop which is open Monday to Thursday 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. During cooler months, students may 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 defeated Henry Kendall and Wyong and play in the Rounds 4 & 5 playoffs on Thursday 23rd April at Sohier Park Ourimbah.

Carnivals

Unfortunately, our school Athletics Carnival was postponed due to wet weather on Friday 13th March (Week 7) at Warnervale Athletics Track. The new date for our carnival will be Wednesday 6th May (Term 2 Week 3). Our Cross Country Carnival will also be held in the same week on Friday 8th May.

Wadalba Representing Sydney North

Already this term, Wadalba has had quite a few students representing the school at Sydney North level.

Eden Middleton played in the golf championships at Manly Golf Club
Isabelle Taylor, Drew Chivas and Alex Gledden played in the
Tennis Championships, with Alex and Drew progressing onto CHS.
Chloe Barnes was successful in gaining a position in the 2015 Sydney North Opens Netball team.
Congratulations to all of these Wadalba Possums. Keep up the hard work!

Linsey Kettle
PDHPE Teacher

Middle School

7F have been studying the novel Boy Overboard by Morris Gleitzman and have taken part in some interesting and in depth discussions about what makes a hero. Students have watched TED talks from refugees and learned to develop their skills of inference from what they knew about Afghanistan, the culture and what it would be like to be a child growing up in a war torn country and leaving home in a hurry.

Students are now in the middle of producing a short movie using Movie maker on the iPad that we will show in our class. The subject of the movie is the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989.

We are now moving on to the History component of the course where we will study what historians and archaeologists do.

During class time, students will start to develop a writing portfolio which is part of their assessment and will count towards their half yearly exam. The assessment is a common assessment that we have all of year 7 do and is due in Term 1, Week 10. There are two mandatory tasks for students to complete and will be supported by their classroom teacher. Students will then have to choose from a range of options for their second task. These options include:

- A Character introduction—explaining what the character was like at the beginning of the novel
- An event that the students found interesting in the novel
- What students have learnt from reading the novel
- To write about two characters that students admired or disliked and why.

I am so impressed with the maturity of 7F and their approach to learning.

Mrs Samantha Burton
7F Humanities Teacher

Learning Choices

In the Learning Choices Faculty we put the spotlight on one of our three courses each newsletter, Delta (Yr 8 and 9), Crusaders (Year 10) and the XLR8 (Year 11) course.

During English lessons, students in the Delta course this term are enjoying reading Holes by Louis Sachar and are completing activities and discussions surrounding the novel.

We have been strengthening our number skills in math and Year 8 are investigating Medieval Europe. Year 9 are Steam ing through the industrial revolution in the HSIE Key Learning Area.

During Science lessons, Year 8 has enjoyed designing their own experiments within the collaborative project and are continuing to develop their knowledge of the scientific process in our new topic of Ecology Under the Microscope. Year 9 are looking at Earth Science and are going to build an "earthquake proof" model. We look forward to seeing if these models withstand an earthquake!

Learning Choices Roll of Honour

Delta- Ebonnie Jager - always working hard and contributing in class
Crusaders- Matthew Ford - commitment to learning and insights during Science lessons
XLR8- Triston Gault- Excellent commitment to work at TAFE

Note to XLR8 Parents/Carers:
Please ensure that you have handed in your permission note to allow your child to attend the Gym
sessions and also ensure that students have the correct money for each session. From time to time, teachers may need to contact you regarding your child. Lately, I have noticed that some contact details are out of date, please ensure that you keep these updated with the office when you get a new mobile phone or move house.

Article written by Mrs Taryan Walsh (Delta Teacher).

Samantha Burton
HT Learning Choices.

Wadalba Cup Update

The grounds of Wadalba Community School have been buzzing with excitement and Wadalba Cup Fever this Term. Our fortnightly Blitzes both in the Primary and Secondary have been well supported by both the students and staff.

The Secondary School have had, a Uniform Blitz which was one by Freeman, The Attendance Blitz was taken out by Hall and last week Thorpe was the winner of the Litter Blitz.

There were many winners of the $5 & $1 canteen Bin It vouchers over the past fortnight, students were awarded these vouchers after collecting bags of rubbish for their house bins.

Staff were also competing for points, wearing their house colours last week leading up to the athletics carnival. Thorpe's Staff were the winners.

This fortnight the Secondary Blitz is on Positive Referrals. The house who is awarded the most will receive 250 bonus points.

Melissa Norris
CAPA Faculty Visual Arts/Photography Teacher
TRIVIA NIGHT

...Calling all KNOW-IT-ALLS!

WEDNESDAY 1st APRIL, 6PM START
WCS GYMNASIUM
Tables of ten @$10/head
BYO Nibblies & TEAM NAME!
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT FRONT OFFICE NOW

KARAOKE, GAMES & PRIZES!!!