Open Night

On Monday 11th March we held our annual Open Night, it was a huge success with many prospective parents and students in attendance. All Woonona High staff were in attendance, speaking with parents and students and demonstrating each of the subjects available in their respective faculties. Also in attendance were a huge number of students who volunteered to be classroom assistants or guides for parent groups throughout the evening. At the conclusion of the evening many of the new parents in attendance expressed how impressed they were with the displays, demonstrations, commitment of staff and the friendly, happy and respectful students. Well done everyone!

Furakawa Reimei Junior High

This week we have had the pleasure of hosting 20 students from Furakawa Reimei Junior High School. The students have been billeted by students and their families for the week attending school each day. Mr Lewis has organised a fantastic week for our visitors, incorporating visits to many of our local landmarks, a day in Sydney taking in Featherdale Wildlife Park, Bondi Beach, a Manly ferry ride and the Opera House, a picnic at Sandon Point exploring the rock platform and of course the purpose of their visit; an English lesson each day. The students have thoroughly enjoyed their stay; have been amazed at the beauty of our local area and particularly enjoyed meeting and working with many of our students. Thank you to all families who have opened their homes to our visitors and gone out of their way to ensure that all students have had an exciting, fun filled, busy and informative week in Woonona.
A huge thank you to the Peary, Armstrong, Walker, Linsley, Austin, Garnon and Luyten families. Thank you also to the following staff who hosted students for the week; Mrs Brooks, Mrs Baker, Mrs Chambers, Mrs Harris, Mr Laidler and Mr Lewis.

A huge congratulations to Year 12 student, Owen Cannings who this week was informed that he is the recipient of a 2013 Creative and Performing Arts Nanga Mai Award. This state award recognises outstanding achievement by an Aboriginal student in the creative arts, a most prestigious award and one he richly deserves. Owen and his family have been invited to the award presentation on 10th April at the Maritime Museum Darling Harbour, a celebration with other award recipients from around the state. Well done Owen!

Belinda Wall
Principal
Japanese Exchange Student Visit

This week Woonona High School played host to a group of Japanese exchange students. The students have been enjoying perfect weather and have been very busy so far. Monday saw the group have an English lesson with Mrs Pike and then a tour of Wollongong. On Tuesday the students visited Featherdale Wildlife Park in Sydney, a trip to Manly on the ferry and a visit to famous Bondi Beach. On Wednesday Mr Zubovic, with the group did Boomerang painting and teaching them boomerang throwing.

Next bulletin will contain a full report on the visit.

Open Night 2013

On Monday 11th March, Woonona High School hosted its annual Open Night for prospective students and caregivers. Throughout the evening approximately 300 individuals were welcomed into our school and given the opportunity to take part in sample lessons, undertake a guided tour of the school, chat to staff and students and enter a range of classrooms in order to gain an understanding of what Woonona High is all about.

Groups were entertained by senior music students and a silks aerial display and were provided with delicious refreshments made by senior Hospitality students. Approximately 60 WHS students assisted staff on the night, acting as guides, mentors or demonstrators in faculties. All did a fantastic job and represented our school proudly and professionally.

Parents and students were extremely impressed with the attitude, confidence and behavior of Woonona High School students and are all eager to continue visiting the school throughout the year. On behalf of all staff I would like to thank every student who was involved in some way on the night. This event would not be successful without your participation and effort - you did a great job and are all examples of how fantastic our school really is. Throughout the rest of the year faculties will be calling on volunteers to help run special interest days for year 5 and 6 students. If you enjoyed yourself at Open Night or are interested in participating in extracurricular events listen our for notices in the coming months.
YEAR 11 ENGLISH GO AWAY TO SEE “AWAY”

On Friday 8th March the students of Woonona High Year 11 Standard English ventured to Wollongong High to watch a play production of Away, that we have been studying in class, along with the concept of “Journeys”.

As we arrived at school, the bell rang as usual and we gathered for our Year meeting. It was brief and we soon began a short walk to Woonona Train Station. From there we caught the train and arrived at North Wollongong. We then walked to Wollongong High, where they were waiting for us. Finally after all that walking and endless roll marking we were seated ready for the production, in what was described as “the best seats in town.”

Throughout the play the actors created a realistic feel of the relationships between characters and used many other techniques that helped us understand the play in greater depth.

I believe the excursion was a great idea as it has helped us understand the play in greater detail, helping us with our assessment tasks to be completed at a later date. In my personal opinion I would go again. I believe it was a good investment towards our greater understanding of Away and the concept of Journeys.

By Ryan Jones

SPORT

Congratulations to the following students on their sporting achievements:
Michael Usher, Molly Dugan, Renee Schwarz, Ellie Yates and Taryn Yates on their selection to attend the State Swimming titles.
Brittany Clark on her selection in the South Coast Basketball team.
Molly Dugan, Caitlyn Williams and Jazmin Tweddle O’Donnell on their selection in the South Coast Netball team.
Good luck to Khalia Rasch who will be travelling to New Zealand soon as part of the Australian School girls 16 years netball team.

Cross Country

This year our school cross country carnival will take place on Wednesday 3rd April. Runners will begin at Nicholson Park and will continue to run around the local parks finishing near Woonona Surf club. All students will walk fully supervised by staff and will be dismissed from Nicholson Park at 2:30pm. From this carnival the first 10 runners in each age division will represent our school in the Northern Zone Carnival. The Zone Carnival will also be held at Nicholson Park.

Wednesday Sport

Next Wednesday we begin our Winter Sport unit. In Terms 2 and 3 team sports are played ( Term 4 and Term 1 each year are Recreational sports ). All students will trial for school teams to play against other Northern Zone schools. Each student that is successful in making our school team will travel to other schools on a bus provided. The cost of the bus is $6. Students can expect to travel approximately 6 times throughout the 2 terms. Indoor soccer, indoor cricket and dodgeball will also be charged a playing fee each week as outside venues are used.

Students who are unsuccessful in making a school team will be placed into a house competition in venues within walking distance to the school.
Marg Sim (Sport Organiser)

IMMUNISATIONS

The second round of immunisations will take place on Monday 8th April for Year 7 & Year 9 students.
Woonona High School welcomes back Ex-Champion Surfer

We were very pleased when ex champion Michael Callender accepted our invitation to present trophies to our 2012 School Surfing Champions. Michael, now a Senior Lifeguard with Wollongong Council, won the Australian Schools Surfing Championship title in 1984, in partnership with Les Faulkner. Many of our surfing fraternity instantly recognised Michael as a talented local surfer, as did his daughter Molly, who is currently in Year 7 at our school.

Thank you Michael for making this years presentation extra special. Thank you also to Mr Bradley for making the trophies for the presentation; they get better every year.

Mr Landy & Mr Spargo.

Metal and Engineering Equipment Donated by CIGWELD

Thank you to Bill Heaton from CIGWELD for donating two new welding machines and four personal protective safety kits including welding helmets with automatic lenses, earmuffs, leather gloves, oxy-acetylene goggles and much more. These kits and welding machines are essential items of equipment for the metal and engineering vocational students in year 11 and 12 to complete their competencies. Students such as Brendan Roche (pictured) who is currently undertaking a sheetmetal school based apprenticeship at LC Stainless will benefit from the use of this equipment at school. Equipment such as this allows our students to replicate current industry practices at Woonona High School.

Mr Buswell

U13’s and Open Boys Rugby League

The under 13 boys rugby league team were undefeated in three games when they participated in the Sean Timmins Shield at Sid Parish Park earlier this month. As a result they have been invited to play in the next round of the competition in Week 2, Term 2.

Mr Landy.

Hassett Cup Cricket

On Friday 15th March, Woonona HS played Smiths Hill HS in the Hassett Cup junior cricket competition. Woonona won the toss and elected to bat. After the loss of 3 early wickets due to some fine bowling from Smith’s Hill, Woonona were in trouble at 3 for 7. Lachlan Jones and Alex Glasgow then steadied the innings for Woonona taking us to 3 for 58 at the drinks break. Shortly after drinks Alex was dismissed for a fighting innings of 11. Lachlan went on with his innings with some solid batting finally holing out at mid-off for 54 runs. From then on the Woonona lower order collapsed to be all out for 80 runs. In reply Smith’s Hill began their innings with the loss of their first wicket to the bowling of Nicholas Cracknell in the second over. After that things went all Smith’s Hills way with their score reaching 1 for 64 at the drinks break. Following drinks Smith’s Hill reached their target with the loss of only 1 more wicket to a wicked delivery by Sam Rogers. Thanks must go to Mr Rogers for umpiring on the day and thankyou to all the boys who exhibited a fighting spirit and conducted themselves with true sportspersonship.

Mr Laidler

CANTEEN HELPERS

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<th>Day</th>
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<td>Mon 25</td>
<td>Anna Rindlisbacher</td>
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<td>Tue 26</td>
<td>Kerry Austin / Sue Boyle</td>
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Delivering excellence, innovation,
Chaplain’s Corner
The Breakfast Club has been going so well this term, with 60 or so students coming each Thursday to make use of the free breakfast. We are still trying to secure an ongoing supporter to the tune of $50-80 per month. If there are any parents or friends who are aware of a local business that may like to assist this worthy cause, please get in touch with me rowan.keyzer@det.nsw.edu.au or leave a message at the front office.

Girl Talk has been run this term with Year 7, and I have been so pleased with the girl’s behavior and willingness to be involved this term; they are a lovely bunch of students. In recent sessions we have been looking at Body Image and what things affect how we see ourselves; and how to look after ourselves in terms of nutrition, hygiene, rest and relaxation.

Kind regards,
Rowan Keyzer
Chaplain

Dear Parents,
There have been considerable traffic issues in the mornings in particular, when parents have been dropping off students at the bottom of Austin St in front of the entrance to the Staff/Student car park. This has resulted in traffic being backed up towards the top of the street causing considerable delay.

Would you please turn around and drop students a little way up the street and not block the entrance to the car park.

Thankyou for your cooperation.

Mr N Brophy

SOUTH COAST CRICKET
Corrimal Under 14’s defeated Keira (undefeated minor premiers) in the final played on Saturday March 9 & Sunday March 10. Nick Cracknell, Lachlan Jones and James Simpson were members of this successful team, playing a high standard of cricket to defeat favourites Keira easily in the final.
KILLALEA YEAR 11 SCIENCE EXCURSION REPORT.
Years 11/12 March, 2013.
As part of the Preliminary Biology and Senior Science courses, a study of a local ecosystem is a mandatory practical task. This year for the first time, Year 11 were taken on an overnight excursion to Minnamurra river in the Killalea State Park. In the past few years, this has been a rather rushed day trip with little time for socialising or other fun activities.

Students were exposed to a mixture of activities including paddling canoes on the pristine Minnamurra River, 4 way tug of war, slackstrap walking, cooking meals, fishing, catching bait, being bitten by nippers, seeing strange creatures like pipe fish and shy, tiny fiddler crabs, and most importantly, carrying out studies of the mangrove ecosystem using the expensive equipment (supplied by the Illawarra EEC) not available at school.

The group stayed in youth hostel style accommodation in the Killalea camping area in rooms of various sizes but all were hot due to the very warm and humid weather on the Monday. The menu included gourmet garlic and soy chicken, sirloin steaks and fried jacket spuds squashed on the bbq with butter. Shortcut bacon and toadinthehole eggs were a hit for breakfast and lunch was a rather rushed sausage sizzle before the long trip home!

Cooks who helped make the job of feeding 40 hungry people included James Walker, Ben Ridgeway (chook was cooked to perfection) and Khalia Rasch, Caitlin Russell and Ellie Yates on snag duty. Many others helped with breakfast and other meals and in the thankless task of washing up later. Too many to remember and name but most campers helped in some way.

A big thankyou goes to Mrs. Pickering who volunteered to baby sit the evening shift while the other teachers could get some sleep. Also, the staff from the field studies centre were most obliging in providing fun activities well after normal hours of duty. Thankyou Stuart Delandre. The kids thoroughly enjoyed all the new games and no-one broke any bones trying to master the slackrope. James came closest to joining the circus with his excellent balance.

Quite a few students felt the need to relate to our distant relations and were seen climbing the giant morton bay fig like a bunch of orangutans.

The group had fun and were well behaved (apart from a few non-sleepers) and deserve congratulations on their efforts. Stuart from the centre praised the group and said to pass this on to the school.

Hayley White went from being a hopeless paddler of a kayak to more than competent after an hour on the water. Another skill learnt!

Mr. Laidler, Mr. Cowan, and Mrs. Pickering.
Worlds Greatest Shave
As part of the world’s greatest shave during March thousands of people shave, colour and wax their hair to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation.
As part of the Woonona High Schools Shave for a cure day, students gathered for lunch on the school’s basketball courts and were able to see Kirby Saurine and Damian Rice of Year 12 and Grace Jones of Year 11 shave their heads to raise just under $2500. Thankyou to Miss Sharp and the music students who provided quality music and thankyou also to Miss Chambers and the S.R.C student helpers who organised the BBQ and sold drinks.

(From Left) Miss Chambers, Kirby Saurine and Damian Rice before the big shave!
It was a selfless, generous and empathetic contribution by the students and their actions are a credit to them and their families. Many us have known a close friend or loved one who has been confronted by cancer. Grace, Kirby and Damian are role models to our school and community by drawing attention to the disease and being proactive in fighting it.

Above) Grace Jones takes the plunge!
You can still donate to World’s Greatest Shave and help the Leukaemia Foundation to support people with blood cancer until the end of March by going online to http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/TeamPage.aspx?Referrer=http%3a%2f%2fwww.worldsgreatestshave.com%2f&teamID=72817 you will then find a small profile and a running tally of money collected so far. A big thankyou to everyone who generously supported the event through donations of money and time.

Career News
John Chamberlain

Career Inventories
All Year Ten students are currently being given “career inventories”. (You may remember them as aptitude tests.) These inventories are a guide only but they will suggest a variety of occupations requiring varying skill levels that may appeal to individual students. We are planting seeds now so that students are well prepared to attend the Careers Expo and to make subject selections for Year Eleven. Parents may wish to go over the results of the inventories with their children and contact the Careers Office if there are any questions. If the resources are kept by students they may revisit them as they mature and see how much their interests and aptitudes have changed as they grow.

Careers Expo
The Illawarra Coal Career Expo is coming up in May. This is the thirty first year the event has been run, It is the largest careers event in the region. Universities, employers, training organisations, TAFE, private colleges, apprenticeships centres and more will all be represented. Woonona High School will be attending on Tuesday 14 May. All Year Ten and Twelve students will attend.

University of Wollongong
UOW is still working out the final details of its “early entry” scheme. We do know this much; The scheme will now be known as “Early Admission”, applicants will be open for the month of August, anyone may apply but indicative criteria will be published as a guide to students and parents. There will be provisions for special considerations. More details will follow.
UoW will be hosting a Year Ten Information Evening for current Year Ten students aspiring to university. The evening will held 30 April from 6:30-8:30 at the University Hall.

BlueScope Steel
BlueScope will be offering cadetships for 2014. A cadetship is a fantastic opportunity to combine work with study. It takes a couple years longer to get your degree but you are paid all the way and end up with invaluable industry experience. 2012 graduate Brodie Petrolo is currently enrolled in a cadetship at BlueScope. If any students in Years Ten through Twelve want to know more about BlueScope cadetships they are strongly advised to attend a “Cadetship Snapshot Day” during the July holidays. See Mr Chamberlain for more information and to register.

Air Cadets
The Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) is an air-minded youth organisation open to young people aged between 13 and 18 years. Your local unit, 314 Squadron, is now recruiting.
Information sessions will be held on Tuesday, 19 March 2013 and Tuesday, 26 March 2013 at 7:00 pm. For more information, visit www.aafc.org.au and 314sqn.aafc.org.au, or contact the Commanding Officer by emailing co.314sqn@aafc.org.au.
LIBRARY NEWS

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL – WOLLONGONG LIBRARY DATABASE PROGRAM

This week our library hosted a special program for HSC Society and Culture students. Specialist librarians from Wollongong City Library held a database demonstration and hands on workshop to assist students with their studies.

The HSC Society and Culture course requires students to submit a Personal Interest Project (PIP), which contributes 40% to their overall HSC mark. Researching the PIP topic is a rigorous and time consuming process. Many students simply use Google to research their projects. This research is often of a poor quality or of a level not suitable for the PIP project. Databases allow students to access university level journals and articles that are not found on the web because of copyright restrictions. This means the quality and level of their answers will be of a much higher standard. The course was extremely successful and we look forward to continued excellent results in this subject.
BULLYING NO WAY!

Woonona High School showed its support for National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence with a display and activities in the library. The displayed highlighted the different types of bullying and some practical solutions students could use to deal with bullies. The library also displayed a number of resources that are available to students to read and borrow.

Students were eager to participate and show their support for the day by demonstrating their stand against bullying. “Bullying No Way” was the message of the day. Woonona High School takes bullying seriously with a firm policy in place to deal with this problem. If your child is being bullied please ask them to report the incident to their teacher as soon as possible.

Mrs Roddis
Teacher Librarian