

Warrawong High School

*Creating opportunities,
achieving success*

From the Principal

Student enrolments

Each year schools go through a process of predicting the number of enrolments for Years 7 to 12 based on historical data. These enrolment numbers effect our fulltime teaching and non-teaching staff numbers.

This year, with increased enrolments in the IEC, Support Unit and the mainstream high school, we have started the year with 650 students. This is an increase of 70 students from 2014.

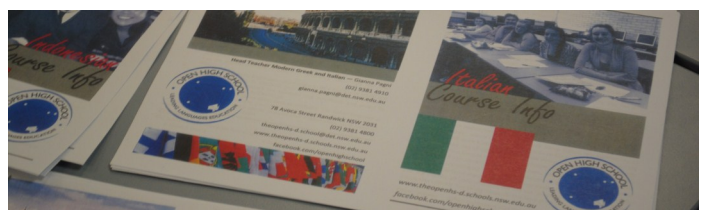
We are continuing to work with our partner primary schools to ensure Warrawong High School is the first choice high school for our local students.

Open Day

The Warrawong High School open Day was held on Wednesday 4 March and it would be true to say that the school was really buzzing that afternoon.

Every parent and student I spoke to were extremely impressed with what they had seen and heard at the various displays and demonstrations.

Not only did we have students from Years 4 to 6 come along to the afternoon, there were also people that heard it advertised on the local radio and were interested to come and see the school first hand.



WAGGI FILM
FESTIVAL

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The Open Afternoon proved to be terrific promotion for the school. Like all school activities, it was so successful because of the staff involvement and many students who participated in the demonstrations around the school. Our SRC students and Yr7 students also did a fantastic job with meeting parents and their children.



School Signs

During Term 4 last year, a decision was made to make the pedestrian entry/exit to the school at the Flagstaff Road gate. This made sense with the crossing and service bus stop already at this point.

It has meant, however, that it is less obvious for visitors and passers-by that this is where Warrawong High School is. With a lot of hard work by Mrs Ramsay, we have installed two new banner signs at top of the pathway to school. These signs look great and include a welcome in a variety of languages.



Parents I have spoken to at the end of the school day say that the signs do look good and create an even more welcoming feel to the school.

We have urged all of our students to be respectful of the signs and report any interference of them to myself or Mr Hughes and Mr Morris.

Road Safety

Although having students enter and exit the school via the Flagstaff Road gate, there is a lot of congestion as the entire school leave all at once on most days.

Students have been reminded of crossing the road safely and walking on the footpaths only. We would like parents to reinforce this message with their children.

Parents who pick up or drive past the school in the mornings and afternoons are also reminded to be aware of the speed limits and parking restrictions outside the school. This also applies to Warrawong Public School next door and to our senior students who drive to school.

NAPLAN Tests

NAPLAN tests for students in Years 7 and 9 will take place next term on Tuesday 12 May through to Thursday 14 May.

Parents will be receiving a letter home regarding the tests in the near future.

Rick Coleman
Principal

WHS DANCE PARTY!

On March 18th the SRC are hosting a school dance party in the hall from 5:30pm - 9:30pm.

The cost is \$10 which includes pizza, a DJ and unlimited use of a photo booth.

Security guards will be present alongside teachers for supervision.

Cans of drink and a lolly bar will be available to purchase.

Tickets are on sale now at the front office! Get in quick because you cannot buy them on the night!



Dragon Boat Racing

The WHS school motto "**Creating Opportunities, Achieving Success**" was the title of a recent award winning documentary showcasing the school's newest sport, Dragon Boat paddling (DBP). The short film won the "**Most Memorable Experience**" Award at the annual WACKI Film Festival in December last term.

The Illawarra DB Club situated alongside the Illawarra Yacht Club on Northcliff Drive in Warrawong has kindly invited WHS students, Term 1 this year, to get involved in this amazing opportunity (DBP) during sport time Thursday afternoons. To ensure an ongoing commitment we need students to show an interest with a minimum of 10 students required for the sport to continue. All students are required to wear the life jackets supplied. Cost to the students is \$4 each week.

DBP is similar to canoeing except the fibreglass boat holds a larger crew of 20 paddlers arranged in pairs, a drummer at the bow and a sweep steering at the rear.

A colourful dragon head is carved in the bow of the boat and is specially decorated for regattas, where boats from different clubs race each other.

This time last year WHS had a team partaking in the Chinese NY DB racing festivities. Currently, posters promoting the DB **races** for the upcoming Shellharbour weekend of Sport Festival were also been placed around the school.

Currently there are 14 students doing the sport but there are up to 6 places remaining for any interested WHS students. Please see Ms Allnut in the PE dept. or Ms Dus in the IEC.

Josette Dus
IEC Teacher



Excursion to the Hyde Park Barracks – Convicts for a day!

On Friday 13th February IEC Classes 3 and 4 had an excursion to Sydney to visit the Hyde Park Barracks to learn more about the convicts as part of our history program.

When we arrived at St James station we went into Hyde Park and saw the Archibald Fountain. It was a nice place and good for relaxing.



After our morning tea we went into the barracks and were divided into two groups. Our guide told us many interesting things about convict life in the 19th century. The barracks were built by the convicts not as a gaol but a home for the convicts. We lay in the hammocks where the convicts slept, dressed in convict clothes, put on leg irons and whipped one of our class with the cat o' nine tails that was used as punishment. Luckily the whip was not a real one and didn't hurt!



After our visit we walked through St Mary's Cathedral, which is a beautiful building, on our way to lunch at McDonalds. There we saw someone playing a Valentine's Day prank and propose to a complete stranger.



Finally we walked back through Hyde Park and just had time for a quick visit to the ANZAC Memorial. It was a wonderful day and we really enjoyed it.

A New Crop of Students

A new crop of students from the IEC have been busy at work in the WHS Permaculture garden this term. Students at the IEC spend one year at WHS before going on to different high schools and usually work two terms in the garden. Coming from many different countries including Russia, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, China, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Burma, Thailand, The Philippines and South Korea they bring many skills and stories about gardening and food from their countries and make a valuable contribution to the maintenance and upkeep of the garden.







This term Classes 4, 3, 1W, 1C and I R they have been working hard remodelling the former labyrinth into a compass garden, digging, weeding, mulching paths, making compost, preparing beds for planting and doing general cleaning and maintenance of the school garden.

Maria Schettino
IEC Teacher

A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child's health

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Holborn Park Skate Plaza Opens

On behalf of young people at Warrawong High School I would like to thank Wollongong Council for including us in the Holborn Skate Plaza journey.

They came out to see us five times and got ideas from over 150 students.

We have seen the ideas develop from the beginning and looking at how cool this place has turned out we are proud of the role we played.

I encourage everybody to take good care of this place because we are lucky to have it

Tyrease Von Stoll



This place is pretty awesome

We are stoked that Council decided to build it out here so the kids from the Berkeley, Warrawong, Lake Heights area can have such a great facility.

As you can see we have all the latest features and this park is as good as anything going round.

Like Tyrease said it's now our job to look after this place so let's make the park a happy, friendly and welcoming place for everybody.

Tyga Bar



GREEN CONNECT

Green Connect is a social enterprise that works in partnership with Warrawong High School to tackle some of the biggest problems in our community and care for people and planet. We create jobs, particularly for resettled refugees and young people; jobs that help the environment.

Green Connect runs a chemical free farm on land at Warrawong High School, and employs students to grow food. We also work with organisations and at events to keep waste out of landfill, turn food waste into compost and teach people to do this for themselves. Last year Green Connect employed 12 young people and 99 people from a refugee background, kept 85% of the waste we managed out of landfill, and developed our farm. This year we'll also be working with Warrawong High School students to help make the school more sustainable.

Veg Box

Green Connect sells a weekly Veg Box, packed with locally grown, seasonal, chemical-free veg.

Sign-up now. **It's the delicious way to help tackle some of the biggest problems in our community.**

Each week you'll get at least 10 different herbs and veg, including:

Onions, and other alliums like leek

Potatoes and other root veg like carrot and beetroot

Leafy greens like kale and lettuce

Flowering veg like tomato and zucchini

Legumes like beans and peas

Herbs like parsley and basil.



This Veg Box is available based on a community supported agriculture system. You sign-up and pay for 3 months (13 weeks), and we grow chemical-free veg locally to **reduce food miles, build food security, and create jobs in our community.** It's a system that creates a direct relationship between you and a local farm, so that we work together to build a more sustainable community.

A Veg Box costs \$40 per week pick-up from our farm in Warrawong. Potatoes and onions come from Foodies, and the rest comes from our farm in Warrawong. To order just call Green Connect on (02) 4243 1537 or email will@green-connect.com.au.



Warrawong
indoor trampoline arena

247 Shellharbour Road Warrawong (inside the Kemblawarra Business Park)

p: 4274 0730 e: warrawong@flipout.net.au

* Now offering Little Ninja Classes - We train to achieve the following: balance, coordination, agility, left and right motor receptors helping the child react faster to prevent accidents. Only \$12/class for term signup or \$15/class casually. Registration fee of \$30 applies which includes Ninja T-Shirt. Suitable for ages 3 through to 13

*Mums n Bubs - Perfect way for parents to spend some bonding time with their child on the trampolines together. \$15 for an hour includes both parent and child, and a FREE award winning Kamee coffee (weekdays between 9am and 3pm. Open to children 5 and under)

* After Dark - Come down after 5pm to enjoy the latest music and sensational light show while having fun on our trampolines and foam pit

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!!!

Upcoming Events

Day date month	Event
16 March	Immunisations Years 7 - 12
17 March	P & C Meeting
19 & 20 March	South Coast Lawn Bowls Selection
24 March	School Cross Country Carnival
27 March	Easter Show Incentive Excursion

Community Notices

WHS does not receive or accept any paid advertising for Community Notices. Also, we have no way of checking the bona fides of any information received. We encourage parents/caregivers to make all necessary checks prior to involving their children in activities listed.

The Australian Air-Force 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, 10th March 2015 and Tuesday, 17th March 2015 at 7.00pm.

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

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Offer only redeemable at: St John Ambulance Wollongong, 30 Kenny Street, Wollongong, NSW, 2500. Promotional period between 10 February 2015 – 10 March 2015. Flyer must be presented to receive discount. Valid in NSW only for year 10, 11 and 12 students only. Discount only applies to the Provide First Aid 1 or 2 day course.

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