# WARRAWONG

### HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 2016

### Principals Report

Term 4 has commenced smoothly and our Year 12 students are busily completing their HSC exams.

We had an exciting end to Term 3 as the school community celebrated the completion of schooling for all of Year 12. Congratulations to Mrs Ramsay and Mr Harrison, along with many other, who contributed to the organisation of the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony and Year 12 Formal. I would also like to thank Year 12 for the way they conducted themselves in the final weeks of their school career and the way they engaged with the Graduation and Formal. They have set a high standard for other Year 12 groups coming through.

#### Subject Selections

All Year 8 and 10 students have completed their subject selection choices for 2017. Again this year all Year 10 students were assigned an Academic Coach who worked through their subject choices prior to submitting them. Our Year 10 Subject Selection Evening was extremely well attended by parents and students. Therefore, we believe students are making the best start to HSC years already and we look forward to them achieving great things over the next two years.

#### HSC Induction Program

Year 11 students commence their HSC courses in Term 4 every year. To support this transition and better prepare them for their final year we are running our HSC Induction Program for the second year after positive feedback from last year's program.

Mr Fangupo (Year12 Adviser) is organising the program for Wednesday 26th October which will consist of study skills workshops during the day and a parent/student information session in the evening.

More information will be given to the students regarding the starting time for the evening session and we look forward to seeing all Year 12 students and their parents there.

#### Futures Learning Library Project

The project for upgrading our school Library continues. During the first few weeks of Term 4 we are holding a student design competition and we encourage all students to submit a design for their ultimate school Library. While there will be prizes for the best judged entries, there is opportunity for components of any of the designs entered to be used in our final plan. Hopefully work can begin on the physical upgrade later this term and over the Christmas holidays.

Students can see either Miss Simpson or Mr Freeme (our SRC Coordinators) for the entry form.

#### End of School Year Organisation

For the past few years the last two days of the school year have been pupil-free days or School Development Days. This year those last two days fall on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th of December which means the official last day of the school year for students is Friday 16th December.

We have had approval from our Director of Public Schools move these two School Development Days to other times in the year. While Friday 16th December is still the official last day of the year for students, we will be having our Christmas lunch and farewells at school on that afternoon. This means there will be limited supervision for students present at that time.

More information will be provided to students and their parents about these supervision arrangements closer to the end of the year.

#### Dates to Remember

- Oct 26 HSC Induction Program
- Oct 31 Yr10 Yearly Exams begin
- Nov 4 Yr10 Yearly Exams finish
- Nov 4 HSC Exams finish
- Nov 9 7S Expo Evening
- Dec 14 Presentation Day
- Dec 14 Yrs7-10 Yearly Reports issued
- Dec 15 HSC Morning Tea
- Dec 16 Last Day of Term 4

**Rick Coleman** 

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### Monsters, Inc. Support

MCC1 students used some good imagination to create their very own Monsters, Inc. gang. We had all sorts of critters in a great variety of colours and styles. There was lots of hair to no hair at all, and lots of eyes to a single great big one... and that's just the students! Invite one home for dinner... a monster that is...

**Mr Morales Bayview Education Centre** 





### Harmony Day Award

As part of Warrawong High and IEC Harmony Day celebrations held in March, a number of students entered the 'Moving Forward Together' Harmony Day Art Poster Competition.

This competition is an annual initiative and is open to all primary and secondary school students in New South Wales. Competition entries were sent to Sydney to be judged on the basis of best illustrations of the Harmony Day theme for 2016, 'Stop, Think, Consider Others'.

Elisa He from the IEC was awarded Regional Runner-up for her outstanding poster and was invited to attend NSW Parliament House in Sydney in June 2 to receive her award. The state and regional award recipients were chosen from over 4000 entries state wide. A number of dignitaries were present for the award ceremony, including parliamentarians and His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Rt'd) Governor of NSW (see photo with Elisa). This is a most prestigious award and we are very proud of Elisa's achievement and the work of so many students who participated. All students received a certificate of participation.



# Rula Rules the Roost

Fairfax Community Newspapers' has again invited our school to participate in this year's "Design an Ad" competition. The competition provides students with a unique opportunity to put into practice language and marketing skills for a "real life" situation. At some stage during their high school years all students learn about advertising and persuasive language and this competition is not only a great way to hone their language skills but also comes with cash prizes for the winners.

Past competitions have been entered by Rula Shakarchi (pictured with IEC Head Teacher Mrs Cooke) currently in year 11 and Shukurani Birindwa currently in year 9 who were both finalists in the 2015 and 2014 "Design an Ad" competitions.

In 2015, students were asked to design ads for the <u>Wollongong Art Gallery</u> and in 2014 the IEC were allocated <u>The</u> <u>Illawarra Credit Union</u>. See Shukurani's entry below.

This year the Illawarra Mercury has assigned the IEC the local business, Warrawong Accident and Medical whilst WHS has been assigned Wollongong City Denture Clinic. Interested students were given the ad template, design instructions and the business briefs and had until the end of last term to submit their designs. Results will be forwarded during Term 4 to Mrs Ray in the Learning Support Office and Ms Dus in the IEC. Good luck to all those students who participated in this "rich" task !

#### Ms Dus (IEC Coordinator)





# Mr Morales' Time Machine

This month's trip takes us to the furthest extremities of the Roman Empire in northern Britain. The wild Picts that lived in this region of present day Scotland worried the Romans. In fact they were so concerned that they eventually built Hadrian's Wall. This massive construction stretched all the way across the country for 135km and was completed in 128AD. A model of Hadrian's Wall built by Support students shows the solid construction. On this occasion Jorden Sharkey has travelled back in time to join the wild Picts. He has blue tattoos made with dye extracted from the woad plant. Pict means 'paint' in Latin.

#### **Mr Morales Bayview Education Centre**



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# It's FREE!

The Warrawong Community Library on King Street is an amazing freely available resource available to all school students...and the best part - it's free!

The friendly, helpful staff at the Library recently welcomed Class 1 from the IEC as part of an excursion, the purpose being to register for "free" Community Library Membership.

The students were given a tour of the Library including a review of all the "free" resources available to students. Naturally, there are books galore to assist students doing school research projects and students doing their HSC – everything from easy nonfiction "Leap Frog" readers to audio books and Premier's Reading Challenge(PRC) Books. Also available, were DVDs, music CD's and Computer Internet access for up to an hour. It goes without saying that all these resources encourage students to read more widely and expand their literacy horizons. Students can borrow items for up to 28 days for free. With membership, students can also access many online library services, including a free Tutor !

The day of the excursion coincided with the launch of Refugee Week and so after the tour the students were entertained by a volunteer belly dance troupe and also listened to a representative from the International SCARF organisation talking about a free service to help locate lost family members. To cap off the morning there was a most delicious morning tea.

A very big thank you to all the Warrawong Community Library personnel and a reminder to all high school and IEC students who completed this year's PRC, certificates are due Term 4.

### Ms Dus - IEC Gifted & Talented Coordinator

