

# Warrawong High School

Creating opportunities,  
achieving success

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Staff Matters

All great schools are made up of even greater people and Warrawong High School has had plenty of such people over the course of its history. The end of Term 2 marks the end of an extremely long career in education and one that represents an almost 40 year association with Warrawong High School. Mrs Lyn Ramsay will be celebrating the final stages of her teaching career in the last couple of weeks of this term. Lyn has been a long standing member of the PDHPE faculty, however, a significant proportion of her career has been in the role of Head Teacher Student Wellbeing. In both roles, Lyn has made a tremendously positive impact on so many students, some of whom have had their own children attend Warrawong High School. On behalf of the entire Warrawong High School community, I would like to thank Lyn for her dedication, care and hard work for our students over many decades.

### Year 12 Student Conferences

Over the past two and half years we have been implementing many strategies that are part of our *Improving the HSC Plan*. Assessment and Reporting is a key focus area, including Formative Assessment which is the process of teachers and students using individual learning outcomes at regular points to determine learning needs and plan for the stages of the learning continuum. After trials in 2016, this year Mrs Goldspink, Mr Hughes, Mr Fangupo and myself have conducted conferencing with small groups of Year 12 students. Students came to the conferences with feedback from their half year exams, half yearly reports and their own self assessment with the purpose of setting goals with each of their class teachers in the final term of their HSC course. These goals will inform their own study plan to be developed at the beginning of Term 3. It is hoped that Year 12 use this valuable opportunity to prepare themselves for their Trail HSC Exams which begin on **Friday 21 July**.

### Year 5 Taste of High School

Under the leadership of Mr Trent Sovrano (Primary Transition Coordinator) our school's HeadStart Program continues to strengthen and provides great support in preparing students as they transition from primary school to high school.

On 14 June, Year 5 students from our partner primary schools spent the day at Warrawong High School participating in a series of taster lessons from many faculties across the school. It was the largest Year 5 group to take part in the program and their feedback showed the day was extremely enjoyable and a great opportunity to experience the school's facilities. They also enjoyed working with our teachers and student leaders.

On May 24 The National Simultaneous Storytime was added to our HeadStart Program. Small groups of kindergarten students from our partner primary schools participated in some reading activities led by our 8S students. The day was initiated and organised by Ms Amy Babis (Teacher Librarian) and I had the privilege of reading *The Cow Tripped Over the Moon* children's book to the group.

### Athletics Carnival

The school Athletics Carnival, held on May 26, was another successful event. Many thanks and congratulations to Miss Jess Simi and Miss Amanda Allnutt for their organisation of the day along with the rest of the PDHPE faculty. The success of the day can also be attributed to all staff for their hard work and student competitors. The tabloid style for the carnival really suits our students and makes great use of our grounds and facilities which are well maintained by Mr Dave Robson, our General Assistant.

### NAIDOC Week

Our NAIDOC Week celebrations were held on Tuesday 20 June in recognition of the history, culture and traditions of our indigenous people. It is a great opportunity for our school and local community to come together and share in this rich culture as expressed by our young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women. Congratulations to Mrs Lani Blazan (Aboriginal Education Officer) and Mr Rob Oczos (HSIE Head Teacher & Aboriginal Education Coordinator) along with Brendon Newton (AIME Coordinator) for their ongoing support and dedication to improving the learning outcomes of our students.





Dates to Remember

- Jun 28 – Yrs7-11 Half Yearly Reports issued
- Jun 30 – Last day of Term 2
- Jul 18 – Day 1 of Term 3
- Jul 21 – Yr12 Trial HSC Exams begin
- July 28 – Yr12 Trial HSC Exams finish



Warrwong High School and Warrawong Public School staff listening to Gary Zadkovich (Deputy President NSW Teachers Federation) at our local GONSKI billboard event.

*Rick Coleman*  
**Principal**

## Marine News

Marine Studies at WHS have been making great progress towards the end of Term 2.

The Year 11 class after a period of planning and design have started the first construction on their Olive Barrel Chop and Flip aquaponics systems. We are looking forward to their completion in the coming term. Stay tuned for progress.

The Year 9 class has been busy identifying different species of plants and animals in the intertidal zone at Port Kembla beach. Over 15 different species were identified and now they are working to create food webs showing the feeding relationships of the organisms in this ecosystem. Keep up to date with all the progress on Instagram.

[https://www.instagram.com/the\\_living\\_classroom\\_whs/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/the_living_classroom_whs/?hl=en)

**Mr Gander**  
**Science Teacher**

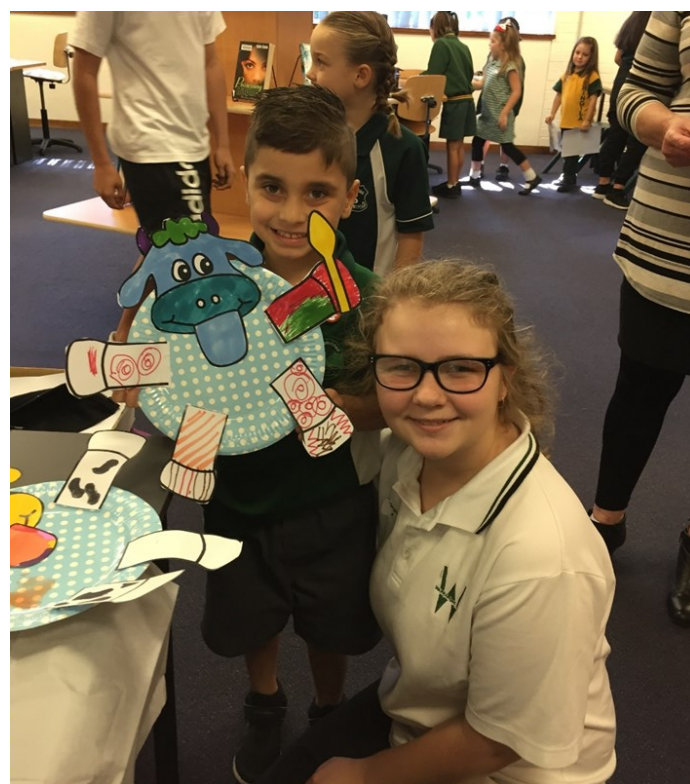




## News from the Library

Last month our school library hosted the National simultaneous Storytime for Kindergarten students from our local primary schools. The day was a success. Lots of fun was had by all involved.

Mr Coleman did a great job reading the story 'The Cow Tripped Over the Moon.' A big thankyou to students from 8.1 who ran the workshops with the primary school children.





## Mr Morales' Time Machine

This month's trip takes us back to the 'Hippie' years of the 1960s and 70s. Hippie 'flower power' spread new cultural ideas about love, peace, food, music, meditation and some groovy threads man. Bayview students have grown some long hair and dreadlocks and raided the technicolour wardrobe, including some of Roger Federer's headbands. Like wow man!



Casey Palmer : Groovy Baby



Grace Barnett: "Peace Man"

Brianna Akhurst, Gerald Jackson, Matthew Korte: "Ommmmmm"





## **Year 12 Exploring Early Childhood Excursion - UOW Discovery Centre**

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June Students and Ms Evitt attended the University of Wollongong- Early Start Discovery Centre. Students experienced the various areas of Early Childhood Learning that focus on Cognitive development, Fine and Gross Motor Skills, Imaginative Play and Sensory Development.

Students were able to visit each area and experience the variety of displays, including exploring the digestive system with interactive components along the way. Every play area was explained in detail and the facility was an 'eye opener' for the types of research and learning that is available to Early Childhood Educators.

The Students that attended enjoyed the experience and will use the information to further enhance their classroom learning.



## **Sydney Excursion Recount**

I had exciting and nice day at the end of Term 1. My class and I with Mr Dewa, Ms Seymour and Ms Harvey went to Sydney.

First, we met our teachers at Wollongong Train Station and caught the train to Sydney. Next, we had a rest in the park under the Sydney Harbour Bridge and we took a lot of photos. Then, we walked across the Sydney Harbour Bridge and walked through The Rocks. After, we went to Customs House to see the model of Sydney under the glass floor and we found a big food hall to have lunch. After that, we went to the Opera House and we took a lot of photos. Finally we went back to the train station.

It was a great excursion. I liked going to Sydney with my class. Thank you to the teachers.

**By Fadi Alkagela  
IEC Class 3HS**





# Community Notices

## Permaculture News

As the weather begins to cool, there continues to be a hive of activity in the Permaculture Garden. We recently hosted 21 students from Nowra East Public School, their teacher and Aboriginal Education Officer. The students are Garden Ambassadors for the Nowra East Community Permaculture Garden. Six Warrawong High School representatives knowledgeably guided the group through our garden. The event was successful in building positive connections with other school Permaculture gardens in our region.



In term one the WHS Support Unit proposed the establishment of an outdoor learning space and edible garden area. The aim is to grow, care or, harvest and eat organic food. The space will include garden beds for growing food and flowers; herb and citrus beds; a seating circle learning/meeting space, and worm farm; as water harvesting and organic composting. To kick-start, this ambitious project Miss Gale wrote a grant application for a Tradies iPromise Grant. Over 60 grant applications were received by Tradies and fortunately the WHS Support Unit Project was successful. We have been given \$3,413 to begin work on the Project.



## Building A Future Workshop

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 Refugee boys from Warrawong High School attended the 'Building A Future Workshop'.

The day was a fabulous opportunity to showcase some of the programs that have been proven to make a difference to the outcomes for refugee students. Students started off the day with a speech by Key note speaker Hussam Hattar from Illawarra Multicultural Services. Afterwards students were split into two groups and participated in workshops by Anglicare and Capoeira Angola from STARTTS. Students also had fun with Boxing sessions run by PCYC.



## 2017 JUNIOR TOUCH COMPETITION – 4<sup>th</sup> TERM

**START: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

**CONCLUDES: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**VENUE: Thomas Dalton Park, Fairy Meadow**

**AGE GROUPS: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 Boys & Girls**

**COST: \$65 first child, \$60 every other child**

**Age Groups - 8's: 2010 - 2011 • 10's: 2008 – 2009**

**• 12's: 2006 - 2007 • 14's: 2004 - 2005**

**• 16's: 2002 - 2003 (AS OF 2018)**

**ALL INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATIONS AND PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE ONLINE (no exceptions) – [www.wollongongtouch.asn.au](http://www.wollongongtouch.asn.au)**

**ALL ENQUIRIES AND TEAM LISTS ONLY TO:**

**Junior Director: Ali Day 0413 012 682**

**Email: [juniors@wollongongtouch.asn.au](mailto:juniors@wollongongtouch.asn.au)**

**Team sponsors required @ \$250.00 per team**

**Please email Ali for more info**

**REFEREES ALSO NEEDED**

**Junior State Cup to be held at Port Macquarie Feb 2018**

**Nominations for Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Managers are being taken – please email Ali**

*Our Supporters:*



**WHS: Cowper Street, Warrawong. PO Box 105 Warrawong NSW 2502**