

# Warrawong High School

*Creating opportunities,  
achieving success*

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Subject Selections

It's that time of year when we start preparing students in Years 8 & 10 for selecting their electives for 2018.

We had our Year 10 Subject Selection Evening on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July. It was fantastic to see that we had over 80% of the year group attend the evening with their parents. Having a high attendance rate at this evening is a great start for our students in readying them for their HSC which they will complete in 2019.

Over the next few weeks all Year 10 students will meet with their allocated Academic Coach and the Careers Adviser to finalise their subject choices for Year 11. This is another program we believe supports students being successful at the HSC by ensuring they are enrolled in the most appropriate courses from day 1 of their Preliminary Courses.

Year 8 students are about to undertake their electives selections for Year 9 in the next week or two, however, it won't be as extensive as the Year 10 process.

### End of Preliminary and HSC Courses

As we approach the midway point of the term it is time to start thinking about both Year 11 & Year 12 students completing their respective courses. While the completion of Year 12 is traditionally a significant part of the school calendar, preparing our Year 11 for the completion of their Preliminary Courses in readiness for the start of the HSC Course in Term 4 is also important.

All Stage 6 students must ensure they are up to date with all course work over the next few weeks to

be eligible to complete their courses. They also need to make sure they are preparing well for their end of Preliminary Course exams at the end of the term and the HSC at the start of Term 4.

We ask that parents make sure that all course fees are paid before the end of the term and that students return all necessary text books and resources as well.

### Year 11 Teacher Student Conferences

As part of our "Improving the HSC Plan", an important part of our overall School Plan, we have renewed our assessing and reporting processes. The sequencing of our Parent Teacher Afternoons has also been reviewed resulting in an additional Parent Teacher Afternoon in Term 1.

To make these afternoons even more effective we have introduced student conferencing this year with our Stage 6 students. On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August we held our Year 11 Student Conferences afternoon. All students spent part of the morning working with original

Academic Coach from the Yr 10 subject selections process to develop scripts for each of their subjects outlining what they believed they had achieved as well as identifying what help was needed. Students spent the afternoon meeting with each of their teachers and sharing this information with them as well as asking what their teacher could do to help them improve.

This is an extremely powerful exercise that I have never seen in any of the schools that I have worked in previously. Our plan is extend this type of approach across 7-12 over the next couple of reporting periods.



### Parent Engagement Group

The school is getting ready to develop the next 3 year School Plan and one of the many great things that has happened at the school this year is our Parent Engagement Group. Initiated by a key group of interested parents, our Parent Engagement Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month to discuss the progress of the school across a range of areas.

The Parent Engagement Group is an important source of feedback on how the school is progressing on its priority areas and targets. They will also play an important role in developing our new School Plan. We meet at 10am on the fourth Tuesday of each month during the school term and we invite as many parents as possible to come to these meetings

### School Expectations

I stated in the first newsletter of the year that while there are many great things that go on at Warrawong High School to support our students, the basics of attendance, behaviour and uniform are fundamental to a positive school tone and culture of students coming to school each day ready and prepared to learn.

When students are not able to live up to these fundamental expectations, without a valid and reasonable excuse, there will usually be a consequence for not following school procedure. We ask that parents support the school in ensuring our students live up to these expectations and understand that they may be taken off the playground for failing to do so. When students also fail to attend lunch detentions they will then be required to attend an afternoon detention.

There have been a significant number of students who refuse to follow these rules and there are expectations that the Deputy Principals are working hard to instil. In some extreme cases students will find themselves at risk of being suspended from school for not following school procedures.

I am happy to discuss this stance with parents either on the school number 4274 0707 or through our Parent Engagement Group.

*Rick Coleman*  
**Principal**

## **Senior Girls Volleyball get entry into NSW CHS Volleyball Finals**

On the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July, the Senior Girls Volleyball team travelled to Olympic Park for the 2017 State finals. The team consisting of Seini, Serena, Leilani, Litia, Geraldine and Glennies fought hard during the lead up in the local regional rounds with 5 wins and placed second in the South Coast region.

The NSW CHS competition was a significant step up in talent and skill. There was lots of Australian and NSW representative jumpers on players and coaches which was initially intimidating, especially with teams having ex Olympians as their coaches.

The girls lost the first game to a very professional and organised team however it must be noted that our team consisted of only 6 players with no subs for the entire 2 day carnival. The girls lost their next game as well but only by two points to a team who later placed 6<sup>th</sup> overall. They ended the tournament with a comfortable win against Caringbah High School and placed 15<sup>th</sup> in the state. This is a great achievement for a team that had little training due to our late invitation to the carnival. The girls have witnessed the high standard and set their goals for the 2018 competition. With a little more training on our positional play and defence, our strategic game will be greater next year.

We will be on the look out for some extra players too so if there are any girls who LOVE sport and would LOVE to be taught how to play, please see Ms Allnutt in the PDHPE staffroom. You don't have to be a pro volleyball player, we can teach you everything you need to know. Bring a positive attitude and the rest will be history.

Congratulations to the team on a great two days of competition and fun. It was a pleasure to take these respectful, supportive and hilarious students.



**Miss Amanda Allnutt**



## Student Conferencing

At Warrawong High School we believe in providing a supportive environment whereby students can reach their potential in all areas of school life including academic performance and in particular, their application to work.

As such we are trialling a new initiative in our senior years (11 and 12) 'student conferencing'. This includes students leading conferences with their teachers and being able to share their reflections on achievements and challenges and articulate what support they need from their teachers.

Overall, the aim of this program is to enable students to be responsible for their own learning and feel empowered in how they can maximise their results. Whilst at the same time receive support from their academic coach (Warrawong's Head Teachers)

The school has developed a process whereby students:

- Complete a REALITY check from their ½ Yearly report and exams.
- Meet with their academic coach to discuss their learning needs based on their reality checks and ½ yearly reports.
- Complete a script for each of their subjects to guide them through their following conference with their teachers.
- Lead conferences with their teachers outlining their; strengths, areas of improvement and learning needs.
- Participate in a follow up workshop where an action plan is developed.

This program will take place during week 4, term 3 (9.8.17) and serves as a lead in to Parent/teacher and student conferences in term 4.

We look forward to working with you and your child through their educational journey. Please contact the school through their year advisor Mr Curley if you would like to discuss this program further or your child's progress.

**Brad Hughes**  
Deputy Principal



## Year 12 Work Studies

During Semester 1, Year 12 Work Studies embarked on a Team Enterprise Project to raise funds for Multiple Sclerosis : Illawarra Branch. All students learnt how to work as a team, manage budgets & prices, prepare and cook food, customer service, promotion, advertising and sales. The students managed to raise a total of \$571.98. Congratulations year 12 Work Studies for a great effort.



**Mrs Lillian Kriss**  
HSIE Teacher





## STEM Challenge at UOW

This year, for the first time, Warrawong High School participated in the Science and Engineering Challenge at the University of Wollongong.

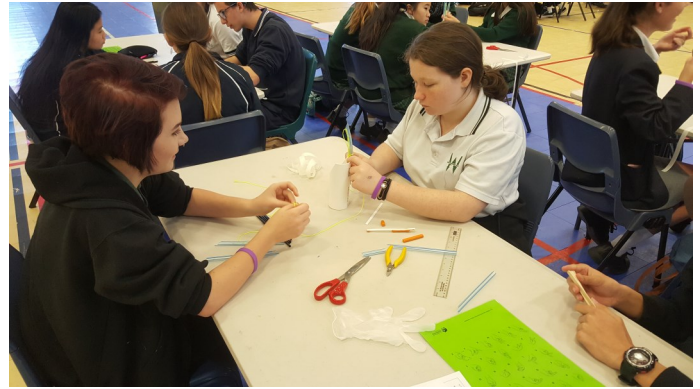
Mr Koglin, Mr Curley and 29 students from years 7-10 travelled to the university, and engaged in a range of STEM-based challenges, including constructing a catapult, building a suspension system for a mars rover, creating a biomechanical hand from basic materials, and much more.

Every student represented WHS with pride, competing against a range of other schools from the region, and demonstrated their skills of team work, problem-solving, and critical thinking.

With smiles on their faces during the whole day, they showed the determination of WHS students!

We hope they will inspire the next generation of students, and lead WHS in the 2018 Science and Engineering Challenge!

**Troy Koglin**  
Science Teacher





## Marine Studies at WHS

Term 3 for Marine Studies at WHS means the students will be finishing off their construction projects and getting stuck into some serious fishing. The Year 9 Marine Class has 3 major projects on the go, including a 3.6m pond, a swirl filter and duck weed farm and a 4ft turtle tank. While the Year 9 Marine Class is nearing completion on their Chop and Flip Aquaponics Systems. They have all been working extremely well and making great progress.

The first of 5 fishing excursions will happen at the end of week 3. Stay tuned as the students, with the guidance of Mr Gunner (Aka the Warrawong High Rex Hunt), all become pro fishers.

**Joe Gander**  
Science Teacher



## Refugee Week Performance

Last month, WIEC classes 3HS and 2R with Ms Harvey, Ms Seymour and Ms Regan went to Wollongong Town Hall to perform our version of the play 'Little Red Riding Hood' for Refugee Week.

First, we met our teachers at the front of Wollongong Library. Next, we walked to the beach and we took a lot of photos. Then, we walked to the Town Hall. After, we listened to students from other schools read the poems they had written and we performed our play in front of a large audience. Finally, we did Thai, Serbian and Arabic dancing. We had a wonderful day and I helped Ms Harvey to carry the props we had made in class back to her car after the show.

It was a remarkable experience and a very special day. I liked going out with my class.

**Fadi Alkagela**  
4HS



## Year 7 & 8 Incentive Excursion

How do you reward a bunch of hardworking Year 7 and 8 kids on a freezing cold and windy Friday? You take them ice skating! These students have been outstanding members of Warrawong High School throughout Semester 1, setting the bar high for behaviour and effort for all students. They were selected based on their VIVO points, Semester 1 reports, and role model behaviour, scoring an invitation to attend this awesome day out!

They caught the bus along with Miss Allnutt, Mr Gunner, Miss Nicole and Miss Marie to the Novotel Wollongong to have a crack at ice skating. Some were naturals..... others, needed a little practice! There were many slips and falls, but each time matched with a laugh and smile. The weather was perfect for a relaxing stroll along the Blue Mile, and students stopped to take photos of Wollongong's beautiful seascapes.

To end the day in the perfect way, Chicko's was our lunch stop... and the kids definitely took advantage of that. Chicken Schnitzel burgers, chips, gelatos, and cheesecakes! Where did they put it all?!

All Warrawong High School students should stay focused, with their heads in the game, so they too, can come along to the next incentive excursions!





## Permaculture Girls presents...

The Tuesday June 27<sup>th</sup> 2017 Report

Using the Permaculture principles, we designed our Bromeliad living walls. These sites while being underutilised, are an ideal position for shade loving epiphytes like bromeliads and orchids to thrive.

We were inspired by the natural cone shapes of tree hollows to shape recycled sheet metal into our bromeliad holders. We were able to make 55 holders for our living walls. The bromeliad holders were designed to hang on cut sheets of concrete trench mesh donated by a local building contractor.

We hosted 8 people from the Illawarra Bromeliad Society for lunch preparing a roasted butternut pumpkin soup and wood fired flat bread with an Arabic twist, organic black tea and coffee with organic milk.

It was a really fun day for the Permaculture girls getting to know a lot more information on how to pot the plants up and how to look after them. We loved that they took time of to come and see us and share their experience and wisdom.

Illawarra Bromeliad Society said they had an amazing day with us and we had a great day with them and they have offered to come back to visit in late Term 4.

By Nicole Brown 7.3





# Community Notices

## Career News

There lots happening in the Careers department this term. To stay in touch please like and follow our new facebook page. **Warrawong High Career News**

Recently all year 10 had a speed careers day. It involved different members of the community talking to our students for 7 minutes about their working life and the opportunities in their fields of expertise. Many thanks to Mrs Andonovski for organising this event.

On Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of July the Defence Force came to Warrawong High and gave a recruitment talk. If students are interested in defence force, please see Mr Cattle for more information.

### Important dates and events coming up:

If parents/carers or students have any questions in regards to careers at Warrawong High School please be in touch.

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1/8     | UOW Early entry opens   |
| 2/8     | UAC Applications open. Yr 12 please apply ASAP. UAC applications close on the 29/9.   |
| 14-18/8 | Year 11 work experience week  |
| 23/8    | Taste of TAFE Day for Yr 10   |
| 29/8    | Trades Roadshow at Five Islands Secondary College for Yr 10.  |
| 30/8    | White Card Day. Students interested in working in the construction industry need a whitecard, they can complete their whitecard at school on this day only. |

**Mr Peter Cattle**  
[peter.cattle@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:peter.cattle@det.nsw.edu.au)



LAKE ILLAWARRA

## Safer Drivers Course for Learner Drivers

### 2017 course dates

- 22nd August 2017
- 5th September 2017
- 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017
- 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017
- 24th October 2017
- 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017
- 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017
- 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017

**PCYC POLICE CITIZENS YOUTH CLUBS**

**SAFER DRIVERS COURSE FOR LEARNER DRIVERS**

**THE SAFER DRIVERS COURSE INVOLVES TWO MODULES:**

**MODULE ONE:**  
 A three-hour facilitated group discussion on how to manage risks on the road. This will involve a maximum of 12 participants and will be delivered by a facilitator.

**MODULE TWO:**  
 A two-hour, in-vehicle coaching session to develop low-risk driving strategies. This will involve two participants and a coach.

**Course cost: \$140**

Participants must have completed 50 hours of actual on-road driving experience to be eligible for the course. Credits gained under the 3-for-1 scheme cannot be included.

**LEARNER DRIVERS WHO COMPLETE THE COURSE WILL RECEIVE 20 HOURS OFF THEIR LOG BOOK.**

**ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST:**

- Hold a valid NSW Learner Licence
- Be under 25 years of age
- Have completed 50 logbook hours (of actual on road experience and not credits gained under the 3 for 1 professional instruction scheme)

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**Find us on facebook:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/PCYCLakellawarra/>

**ADTA**  
 SAFE DRIVERS FOR LIFE

**PCYC LAKE ILLAWARRA**

Our Supporters:



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