

NEWSLETTER

February 2019



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to the Warrawong High School community and a very warm welcome to our new students and their families. I sincerely hope you all had a restful break and are completely refreshed and ready for a great new start to the school year.

We have many new students in every year group including our Intensive English Centre and Support unit. A growing enrolment is great for our school community and enables us as a school to provide a broad and engaging program for the students.

On Wednesday 30th January, the Year 7 and 11 students started and it was absolutely brilliant to see them all dressed smartly in their new Warrawong High School uniform, ready to begin their new year of learning. We look forward to our other year groups wearing the new school uniform in years to come.

Our start to the year has been remarkably smooth and we are confident that many of our school improvement initiatives are gaining traction. We are very confident that we will continue to see further improvement in student outcomes this year and in years to come.

We also welcome the following new and returning teaching staff. It gives me great pleasure to welcome:

Head Teacher Maths – Ms Janelle Collins,

Head Teacher English – Ms Brooke Truebody,

Head Teacher Science – Ms Carol Kalaz

Head Teacher Secondary Studies –

Mrs Cassandra Napier.

We also welcome new teachers in Science –

Mr Blair Overton and Ms Kylie Dunn,

TASAM – Mr Damien Beattie, Teacher Librarian

– Ms Lynda Steele, Generalist teacher – Anthony Steffaneli, Bayview Centre – Ms Emma Harris and Mr Mitchell Miekell.



Proudly
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by:



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Can I take this opportunity to congratulate our class of year 12, 2018 on their recent HSC Results. We were extremely pleased with the excellent results in particular Extension Maths, EAL/D English Community and Family studies and Senior Science. These Key Learning Areas achieved above the state average in their overall results, highlighted by Extension Maths student: Annie Hoang scoring a band 6, which places her at the very top of this subject within the state. We were also pleased to hear that 13 of our students had gained early entry into the University of Wollongong. Students were offered placement in Pre-Medicine, Engineering, Education and Nursing. Congratulations to all students on their completion of their formal schooling, we look forward to hearing about the wonderful and exciting journey you now undertake post Warrawong High School.

You may have recently seen and heard our recent media coverage regarding a student centred wellbeing project in PDHPE. (Please see the attached Illawarra Mercury article) Our students, Caitlyn Hayden and Leah Green were also heard on i98fm and ABC radio spruiking the project based learning activity. The girls were able to collaboratively think and plan ways in which the school could improve wellbeing spaces within the school grounds. They were then able to critically investigate research bases and apply practical skills in transforming the girls toilets. Messages of inspiration were placed onto toilet cubicle doors, information posters and help lines on the back and an improved and welcoming design of pot plants, fairy lights and sanitary products were highlights. This project highlights the ever increased changes in the ways students learn, led by teachers Ms Amanda Allnutt and Ms Jess Simi. The girls planned, budgeted, researched, designed and implemented a project that displayed many skills in teamwork and creativity.

Finally, our 'Open Day' was an invitation to our Warrawong community to come see our school. On Wednesday 27th February, the school was abuzz with excitement and interest. Future students had a chance to meet our teachers and current students. Everyone made us proud of what we stand for as a school. It really was wonderful to see so many of our families participate. A massive thanks must go to Mr Michael Stanizzo, Mr David Curley and their amazing team for putting together such a fantastic event.

Welcome back to 2019, good luck and best wishes for a positive and productive year.

Regards

Brad Hughes

PARENT ENGAGEMENT GROUP

Parent engagement at Warrawong High is about parents and carers, schools and communities working together to ensure that every parent can play a positive role in their child's learning.

Warrawong High acknowledges that our parents and families play an important role in supporting their child's education. When schools and families work together, children do better, stay in school longer, are more engaged with their school work, go to school more regularly, behave better, and have better social skills.

We would like to invite you to our next meeting for 2019, Wednesday 29th May at 6:00pm in the school common/ staff room. Subsequent meetings will be held during week 5 each term.

We look forward to seeing you. If you can't make it, we will share our minutes on the website and Facebook.



Do you find that your child is having emotional or behavioural issues? Are they struggling socially, academically? Warrawong High School now has a psychologist to provide high quality mental health support your child on the school grounds.

Sarah Irish is a registered psychologist who specialises in child and adolescent mental health. Her services are provided at the school at NO COST through Medicare bulk billing. She will work collaboratively with you, your child, and the teachers to maximize opportunities for positive growth.

If you believe that this might benefit your child, please contact the school Head Teacher Wellbeing – Amanda Daenell and request an onPsych Parent Pack for further information.

FROM THE DEPUTIES

Five weeks into the school year and we have certainly started the year with a burst of activity. Year 7 have settled into high school and their classes. They are finding their way around their new school, getting to know routines and timetables, as well as the variety of teachers they will have for the year. Year 7 have also recently completed Best Start. The data gathered through this process will assist our staff in providing the required support for each student in relation to achieving their desired literacy and numeracy outcomes.

Interim Reports for all Year 7 and 11 students are currently being completed. These reports will be issued by the end of week 6 with a parent/carer evening taking place on Wednesday 13th March. The school will be making personalised phone calls to some parents/carers requesting their attendance during this evening if recommended by our teaching staff.

Congratulations to twenty six of our Year 10 students who completed a whole day of Peer Support Leadership Training facilitated by Burn Bright on Tuesday 19th February. We are looking forward to these students working closely with our Year 7 students throughout the year in a mentoring capacity. I would like to thank Mr Fangupo who has taken on the role of Peer Support co-ordinator in 2019.

Year 10 students in attendance on March 1st received their Assessment Booklet for 2019. We strongly recommend that all parents/carers take the time to sit down with their child to read this booklet which contains an outline of all course assessment schedules for 2019, our school assessment policy, student responsibilities, assessment task appeal information, course performance descriptors and the accident, illness and misadventure process as well as NESA requirements and standards. If your child in Year 10 was absent on this day could you please ask them to see Mr Stanizzo or Mr Freeme.

The change of course application process has elapsed for all Year 11 students. If there are extenuating circumstances you will need to speak to Mrs Goldspink. We would like to encourage all Year 12 students to continue accessing Edrolo as often as possible as a means to supplement their work in class. A reminder that any Year 12 student who has a study period on their timetable needs to have returned the permission note given to them by Mr Stanizzo.

It was wonderful to see the majority of our Year 7 and Year 8 ASPIRE students and parent/carers attend the ASPIRE Information Evening on Thursday 21st February. Thank you to all of our staff who were in attendance and for doing an amazing job in outlining the wonderful teaching and learning currently taking place in these classes but in also providing a preview of upcoming opportunities for our students. We also had Tom Bambrick from the University of Wollongong in attendance who discussed the blossoming relationship the university currently shares with Warrawong High School. Thank you to Mr Sovrano for the sterling job he is doing in coordinating this program. The next parent/carer session will be in week 10.

A reminder that no student should be exiting school at the end of the day via the staff car park. The only exceptions are for those students with disabilities who are picked up at the end of the day or parents who have been granted permission by Mr Hughes to pick up their child. All other students should be leaving the school grounds at the end of the day via the Flagstaff Road exit. This is obviously for safety reasons, as from 2:30pm every afternoon there is a constant stream of vehicles entering and exiting our staff car park.

We are pleased to announce that some of the winter stock has finally arrived into our uniform shop. The shell jacket is now available for purchase but we are still awaiting the arrival of the fleece jackets. It has been tremendous to see our school community embrace the change in uniform.

Thank you to all of our students who participated in the study skills presentations facilitated by Elevate Education in week 1. Our Learning Support and Wellbeing teams will be reinforcing the strategies provided to our students on this day at various intervals throughout the year. Well done to Mrs Daenell for her wonderful organisation of this day. We would also like to thank our Wellbeing Team led by Mrs Daenell for the induction days that took place for each year group at the start of the year.

Mr Stanizzo and Mrs Goldspink

WARRAWONG HIGH SCHOOL TV STARS

Bayview students have continued their acting and filming success by being finalists in the 2018 Nova national short film competition. Their film *Countryside Survival* was also included in the Foxtel Aurora channel short film program and was screened on air in January this year. Such success has given our students great pride and confidence in their abilities. Students will be available for autographs at lunchtime...

Mr Morales
Teacher



Cameron Mackie, Grace Stojkoski and Jorden Sharkey proudly receive their award.



ILLAWARRA ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Wednesday 20th February Mr McCarthy, Mr Freeme and Miss Simi had the pleasure of going to the Illawarra Zone Swim Carnival at Dapto Pool with a group of students. Swimming is a tough sport which requires skill stamina and determination the students all exhibited these abilities and represented Warrawong High proudly. These students are to be commended on their efforts and for challenging themselves in this extra curricula opportunity.

Girls 12s

Jasmine Alderton

-1st Place 200m Freestyle

Rumeysa Kalkan

-1st Place 100m Butterfly

-2nd Place 100m Backstroke

Boys 12s

Charlie Cowan – Luckhurst

-2nd 100m Freestyle

-2nd 100m Butterfly

-3rd 50m Freestyle

Congratulation to all these students and goodluck for the Regional Carnival.

WOLLONGONG JUNIOR CHESS CLUB

JNR CHESS TOURNAMENT

2019 SUMMER SUNDAY

(Under 18 Year Olds)

7 ROUND SWISS

FAIRY MEADOW COMMUNITY CENTRE - KEIRA ROOM

Guest Park - Crn Cambridge Ave & Princes Hwy

Fairy Meadow (Opposite Woolworths)

Trophy Prizes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd + Age Groups

Games will be rated by NSWJCL

Results will influence qualification to

NSWJCL Country Championship

Entry Fee: \$10

Lunch: Players should bring their own lunch and refreshments.

Arbiter and Information: JOHN MAZZIERI

Phone: (02) 4283 3080

e-mail: mazzieri@exemail.com.au

WOLLONGONG JNR CHESS CLUB

meets Thursdays 4:00-6:00pm (not school hols)

Fairy Meadow Community Centre

Future SUNDAY TOURNAMENTS

26-May AUTUMN Sunday

25-Aug WINTER Sunday

10-Nov SPRING Sunday

PROJECT KASPAROV — CHESS AT WARRAWONG HIGH SCHOOL

Not so long ago, former University of Sydney Senior Lecturer of Economics & Business, Dr. Peter Dauvergne, made a case for chess to be used as a tool to develop students minds. He concluded that chess is one of the most powerful and effective teaching tools to prepare children for a world increasingly swamped by information and ever tougher decision-making challenges.

WHS has always promoted chess as a learning tool and chess has been offered to students as an extra-curricular activity since the school opened in 1972. This year, inter-school, outdoor concrete chess during Break 2 Tuesdays in the small quad and chess for Thursday afternoon sport are available to students. Dauvergne maintains "chess is one of the few games that fully exercises our minds". We look forward to more students taking advantage of these options during the year.

In the meantime, two representative teams (WHS/WIEC) have been entered in the NSW Junior Chess League's (7 Rounds) Country HS Knockout Chess Competition. Students wishing to have a go at playing representative chess need to see Mrs Steele in the library or Ms Dus in the IEC.

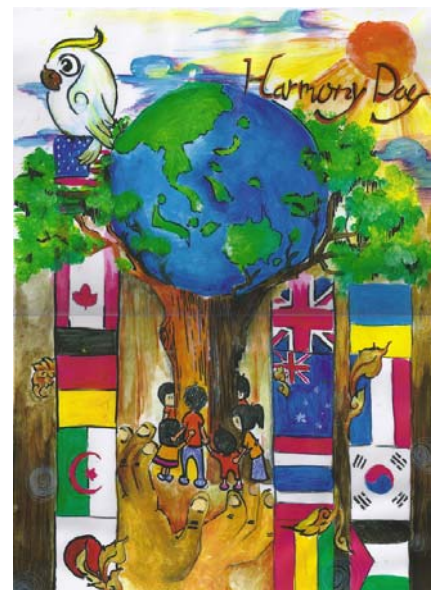
As well, students walking through the small quad will see 2 new poster plaques. These two plaques have very interesting back stories - the first, overlooking the chess court was designed by Junki Wano - a former Japanese IEC student who loved Manga style art. Junki entered a poster competition at the time and won 1st Place. His design portrays one of chess's most awesome and powerful moves in a match, that is, when a pawn reaches the 8th row and converts into the most powerful piece the Queen. A fitting image next to our concrete chess court and hopefully one that can inspire players! By the way, Junki also designed the IEC's logo. See the IEC section of the Parent Bulletin.

The second plaque positioned at the opposite end of the quad was designed by another amazing student artist - former IEC Thai student Min Cheunpongsa. Out of over 4000 State-wide entries in a previous Harmony Day Poster Design Competition, Min's poster was deemed the best out of all high schools across NSW, winning her close to \$1000 for her achievement.

A reminder, Harmony Day is 21st March. This year's theme for any budding artists and songwriters is "**Harmony-it's up to us**". Check-out the "**Moving Forward Together**" website for more details and when walking through the small quad onto Dus Street, **LOOK -UP**, you'll be amazed.

"Creating Opportunities Achieving Success"

Ms Dus



“PEACE” ABOUNDS AT WARRAWONG HIGH

The **Sam Lewis Peace and Environment Award** is a competition that takes place during Term 3 each year. Results arrived in the last week of school last year! Congratulations are in order to all 18 IEC students along with **Bohao Jin (yr.11)** (pictured with WHS Principal Mr. Hughes) and **Yves Nsengiyunva(yr.10)** who were awarded



certificates and/or monetary prizes totaling \$775 for their success in this Teacher's Federation initiative

All our talented students represented the theme “**Schools are places of peace**” using different mediums including PowerPoint, MP4, poster design, poem and essay. Some students embraced the opportunity to submit multiple entries with their personal representations on the theme. A couple of very talented students were doubly rewarded for their efforts.

According to age, all students entered either the Year 11-12 or Year 7-10 categories. The results are as follows.



International students **Pete Tran** and **Angela Wu** (pictured with IEC Relieving HT Mrs. Seymour above right) further developed and adapted their competition digital poster designs and MP4s for submission in WHS's exciting annual WACKI Film Fest which takes place November each year and includes Five Islands Secondary College and all of WHS's feeder primary schools. The 2018 WACKI theme was “**Change**”. Pete's film was titled “**Nature's Enemy**” whilst Angela's was titled “**The Gift**”. Both talented students “cleaned-up” and walked away from the Awards Ceremony evening with “**Best Digital Poster Film Promo Design**” and “**Best Overall Film incorporating the theme Change**”. Intrinsic to Angela's Award winning film “**The Gift**” was the fact that whilst our school is a place of peace, this can only be possible if each and every student realises that peace is the gift of understanding and each and every student, then becomes that special “gift” to the school.

Congratulations to all our wonderful talented students. Remember, you “Gotta be in it, to win it !”

“Creating Opportunities Achieving Success”

Ms Dus
Class teacher

www.warrawonghighcareers.com

I've put together a new website.

UAC/VTAC/QTAC

VET

LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

WORK EXPERIENCE

DO AN INTERESTS TEST

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CHOOSE A UNIVERSITY

GAP YEAR

CREATE A RESUME

DEFENCE CAREERS

YOUTH ALLOWANCE

It's a "One Stop Shop" for everything you need with Career Planning and help.

CHECK IT OUT NOW!

Mr Peter Cattle
Careers Adviser



THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT

CHECKOUT OUR CHANGES.

Have a read of the Illawarra Mercury article about our amazing 2018 Year 10 PDHPE class!



4 ILLAWARRA MERCURY Thursday February 07, 2019

illawarramercury.com.au

NEWS

Big love for smallest room

BY LISA WACHSMUTH

A GROUP of Warrawong High School students are using girl power to make a difference – one toilet cubicle at a time.

As part of a Year 10 PDHPE project, they've enlisted their classmates' help to turn the girls' toilet block into a bright and welcoming space.

Caitlyn Hayden, now in Year 11, said the toilet makeover was part of a plan to banish bullying and boost self-esteem.

"We know one in four people will experience mental illness at some point, but four in four have their lives affected by it because if one person is upset it affects everyone around them," she said.

"So we started thinking about how we could create spaces in the school that would improve students' well-being.

"We've started with the toilets because we know some people may go there to hide or take time out if they're having issues with friends or at home.

"Yet the state of toilets



TOILET MAKEOVER: Warrawong High School students Sarah Thomas, Leah Green, Carmen Bawelkiewicz and Caitlyn Hayden. Picture: Sylvia Liber

can have a negative impact on well-being due to graffiti, or comments about people, written on the doors.

"So we wanted to replace those with positive messages and also educate the

students about the health services available."

After getting the nod of approval – and some funds – from the school executive, the girls got to work: enlisting many of their classmates

in the process.

Any graffiti was quickly covered up by brightly painted doors and reaffirming quotes such as 'Be a pineapple: stand tall, wear a crown and be sweet on the inside.'

On the back of doors, they stuck posters with information and contact numbers for health and support services in the community. And they strung up fairy lights, set up pot plants and a basket of

free sanitary products.

"If students are having any issues, they don't have to feel embarrassed about asking someone for information or contact numbers, as the information's right in front of them," Caitlyn said.

"And we will constantly refill the basket of pads and tampons so girls can just grab them when they need them."

Fellow student Leah Green said the feedback had been overwhelmingly positive and, tellingly, there'd been no further graffiti.

"All the girls love the area and look on it as a real improvement for our school," she said. "Going in there and reading those inspirational quotes puts a smile on their face and brightens their day."

PDHPE teachers Amanda Allnut and Jessica Simi said they were proud of what their students had achieved.

"Project-based learning takes students away from textbooks and gets them to start problem-solving and working as a team," Ms Allnut said. "If they can take ownership of a project, it makes them more passionate about it."



School Community Charter

 **Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

The best education happens when parents and schools work together.

The School Community Charter aligns with the NSW Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022.



Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- to be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- to be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

We treat each other with respect

We prioritise the wellbeing of all students and staff

Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

We work together with the school

Ensuring respectful learning environments for all members of NSW Public Schools communities.



We create
collaborative
learning
environments

We
all play
a part

We work
in partnership
to promote
student
learning

Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

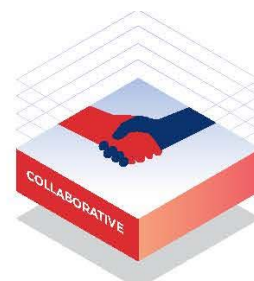
Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process: education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students

Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.



Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.



Collaborative.
Respectful.
Communication.

School Community Charter

education.nsw.gov.au

Community News:

The Smith Family

Learning for Life scholarship

DO YOU NEED SUPPORT

WITH THE COST OF YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION?



The Learning for Life scholarship can provide parents with two payments a year for each child (max 4 children) which can be spent on uniforms, school shoes, stationary, BYOD, excursions.

(Payments are to be used for school expenses only!)

You may be eligible for the scholarship if your family:

- ✓ holds a Pension Concession or Health Care card
- ✓ attends one of our partner schools*
- ✓ **student is enrolled in Kindy to Year 8**
- ✓ demonstrates a commitment to education (children attend school regularly)



Payments are made in January and July.

KINDY TO YEAR 10 students receive \$420 a year.

Year 11 and 12 students receive \$679 a year.

(Receipts must be provided if requested)

For more info please call or text Emma on 0407 458 250

or email emma.woods@thesmithfamily.com.au

* Corimal, Warrawong and Illawarra Sports High Schools

* Bellambi, Corimal, Corimal East, Tarrawanna, Cringila, Kemblawarra and Warrawong Public Schools

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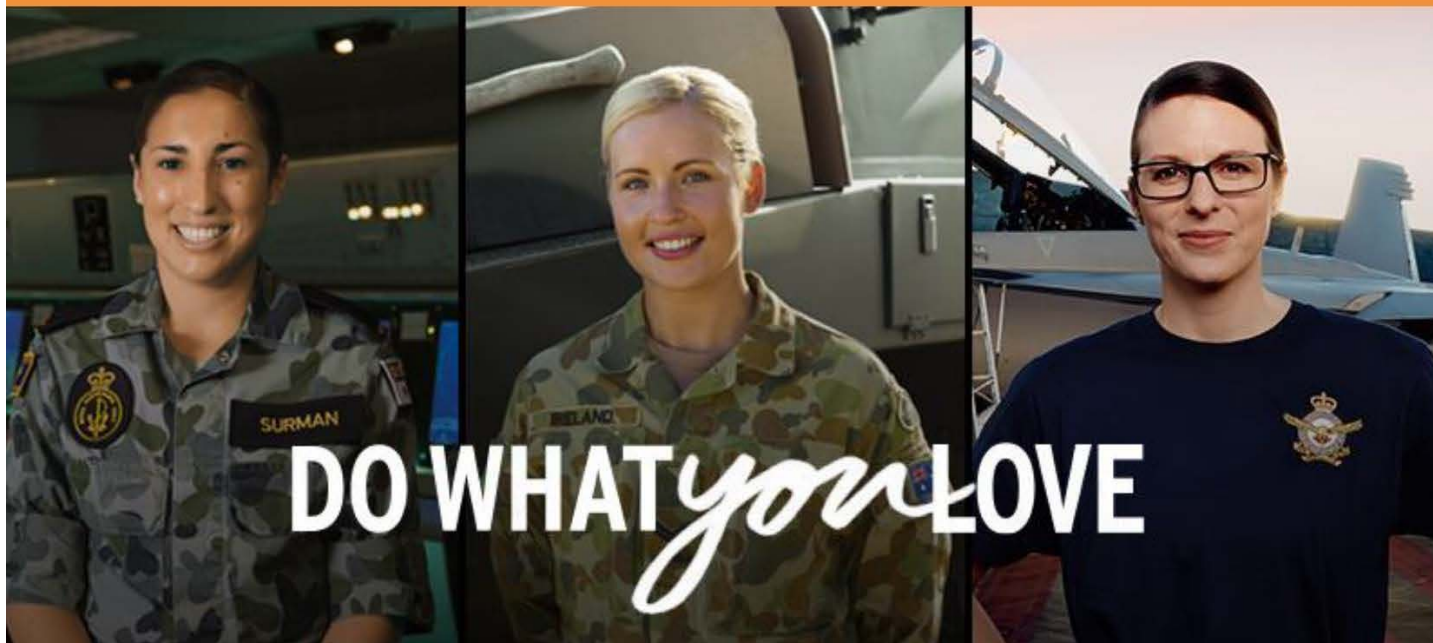
100% OF FUNDS RAISED
ARE DONATED TO
SAVING CHLOE SAXBY



Our Supporters:



WHS: 127 Cowper Street, Warrawong. PO Box 105 Warrawong NSW 2502



DFR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EXPERIENCE

Here's your opportunity to be a part of the ultimate International Women's Day experience. This will include a once in a lifetime opportunity to be ferried across the beautiful Sydney Harbour and enjoy a fully catered, gourmet lunch on the exclusive Spectacle Island! This historical naval site is not accessible to the general public, but we are offering you the exclusive opportunity to join us on this special day and share it with some of the amazing women currently serving in the Australian Defence Force.

How can you get involved?

Firstly let us know in 100 words or less why you would like to take part in this experience. You then have the option of answering in 200 words or less **one** of the following three questions:

1. *If you could choose any job in the Australian Defence Force which one would you choose and why?*
2. *If you were going to join the Army/Navy/Air Force for just one week, pick a job and tell us what you think a week in that job would be like.*
3. *Which job on the Defence Force Recruiting website would be the most exciting and, which one would be the most challenging? Tell us why.*

We suggest you use this website as a resource to assist you with your answers <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au>

Where do you send your response? Please send your response to ersrtw@dfr.com.au. **Who can enter?** This experience is open to young women between the ages of 16-18 years old at school within the NSW region.

How long do you have to enter? Entries will close at 5pm AEST on Friday **22 February 2019**.

Who will be selected? 20 lucky young women across NSW will be chosen to partake in this once in a lifetime experience. **Important points to note:**

- The experience will occur in Sydney beginning at 10.30am and finish at 3pm.
- It will be the responsibility of the experience recipient to make their own way to HMAS Kuttubul in Sydney on 08 March 2019.
- Each experience recipient will be able to bring one guest to join them on the day.

NSW REGIONAL INFORMATION EVENINGS

The Civil Industry School Visit Program



A joint initiative with the
NSW Department of Industry



Our unique program showcases the fast-growing civil industry and the many career opportunities available.

THE PROGRAM

- Find out what the civil construction and maintenance industry has to offer
- Explore our Job Wheel showcasing industry careers available
- 'Question and Answer' session with local employers



REGIONAL DATES

SOUTH EAST
18th February 2019
Goulim Workers Club

NORTHERN RIVERS
5th March 2019
Quality Hotel Ballina Beach Resort,
Compton Dr Ballina

NORTH COAST
7th March 2019
Cox Cofts, 2-6 Vernon St,
Coffs Harbour

CENTRAL WEST
12th March 2019
Rydges Bathurst,
1 Conrad Street, Bathurst

NORTHWEST
14th March 2019
Quality Hotel Powerhouse,
Armidale Rd, Tamworth

BR/CRINA
19th March 2019
Townhouse Hotel
70 St Morgan St, Wigan, Wigan

SYDNEY METRO
21st March 2019
Eden Gardens
307 lane cove rd Macquarie park

ELLAWARRA
26th March 2019
City Beach Function Centre
1 Marine Dr, Wollongong

HUNTER
28th March 2019
Noah's on the Beach, Chr Shortland
Esplanade & Zara St, Newcastle

 RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW

evanesc@cc.fmuw.co.mn

careerinvt.com