# NEWSLETTER

## June 2019



#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At the half way point of the year Warrawong High continuing to develop and evaluate our current school direction of developing a student centred/future focused school. The images below are guiding some of our thinking and planning.

#### A Key Question...



How can we help students understand the world they live in, and prepare them for independent, life-long learning?

The Most Effective Learning will...



Help teachers see learning through the eyes of the students and help students see themselves as their own teachers.



To maximise student engagement into our future we are currently planning the creation of a prototype student centred learning environment. This classroom will use educational pedagogy based on catering to the futures learning whilst utilising the 4C's Collaboration, Creativity, Communication, Critical Thinking. Our plan includes the development of flexible and dynamic learning spaces as the key driver in our schools longer term vision.

In a further effort of moving towards student centred learning, we are focusing on creating a shared language for learning through; high expectations, coaching with mentoring/conferencing, faculty/school branding, student voice through the SRC and student wellbeing team, differentiation in our programs- including higher order thinking skills, expansion of ASPIRE into stage 5, Implementation and evaluation of individual student Personal Learning and Support plans (PLASPS)

Please follow the link below to see a real time video clip of this type of learning:

#### https://youtu.be/WUJNEvvgjzs

In other news; school reports for years 7-11 are currently being completed by our teachers. Reports aim to further assist families and students make meaning of their Semester One Report. We extend an opportunity for students and their parents/careers to attend our Teacher and Parent Conferences. These conferences have the purpose of enabling students and families to identify current level of achievement and begin the development of strategies to further enhance learning. The conferences will be held in our library and Maths faculty on Wednesday 20 May from 3.00-6.00pm. Please follow the translated information regarding school reports.

https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-apublic-school/translated-documents/written-reports-forschool-students

A further community event is now being offered to parents and carers in an attempt to strengthen a strong community identity and connection. Please see the attached flyer of a series of workshops for parents and careers promote the use of the, parent portal, Edrolo and the school App. Everyone is welcome to attend these workshops.



Proudly supported

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Finally, congratulations to Amanda Allnutt for her appointment to the position of Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning at Warrawong High School. In a highly competitive process, Amanda has been successful in demonstrating outstanding professional practice and a capability to lead others in pedagogy and professional learning.

We look forward to a strong finish to the Semester and wish all our families a safe and enjoyable holiday period.

Brad Hughes Principal

#### DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Term two has seen a strong focus on learning for our students and teachers with many exciting initiatives to support their development in a range of areas. Teachers from all faculties have been actively engaging in professional learning to support the knowledge and skills in the delivery of curriculum and this is being supported through our school's ongoing review process, led by our Head Teacher Secondary Studies, Mrs Napier. We aim to ensure that all teachers are teaching from programs that exhibit best practice in education and that they are meeting the learning needs of all students. Furthermore, we have engaged the expertise of Ray Handley, Lecturer from the University of Wollongong, to work with teachers in classrooms to develop classroom management strategies.

Students from all years have had the opportunity to develop their skills and understanding through a range of schoolbased and external programs. Year 12 have recently engaged in conferencing with their teachers to discuss their individual learning needs in each of their courses. The follow up to this has been the opportunity for students to develop a study plan that applies all of the advice and information from their teachers so they can work on developing in specific areas of their learning. This process culminates in Week 10 of Term 2 with every student engaging in career interviews to map their future goals. Thanks to Mrs Hijazi, Mrs Wilkins, and Mr Cattle for their work supporting Year 12s on this journey.

Year 10 are taking the first big steps into their future, starting with work experience this term and leading to senior subject selections early next term. The process involves taster lessons, student coaching and a mandatory subject selection information evening where parents and students are provided with information to help them make the best decisions about their choices. Thank you to Mr Stanizzo, Mrs Napier, Mr Cattle, and the team for their organisation of these events.

Our connections with the University of Wollongong have proved fruitful with our Aspire students accessing a taster visit to expose them to aspects of university life and open their minds about possibilities for their future. Aspire students will be presenting their learning at the showcase evening on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June between 4-5pm for Year 7 and 5.15-6.15pm for Year 8. Also at the uni, Year 9 STEM students engaged in a boot camp to progress their skills and knowledge of the course following their exciting Bio printing excursion earlier in the term.

Mr Stanizzo and his team have been working diligently with our community of schools so we can adequately prepare for the Year 7 students of 2020. This process has involved visits to the primary schools and close connections with our CoS Principals who have supported our rigorous procedures for data collection. 74 incoming students, currently in Year 6, undertook ACER testing at Warrawong High School that focused on their reading and numeracy skills. This information, together with data from their learning experiences in primary school, will support the development of learning plans and decisions around class placements so we can provide a smooth transition into high school.

In celebration of the learning that has taken place so far this year, semester two reports for years 7-11 will be issued in week 10. Families are encouraged to take the time to read reports and consider the comments made by teachers in preparation for parent-teacher evening, which will take place on Week 1 Term 3, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July between 3-6pm. We are trialling a new booking procedure using the Parent Portal, which will be available from week 9. Bookings made using the online parent portal will take priority on the night. If you would to register for the parent portal or if you have questions regarding this process, you can call the school or email our Head Teacher Administration, marc.gunner2@det.nsw.edu.au.

We will be concluding term two with some celebrations recognising our diversity, including the Multicultural Week expo and NAIDOC Week events. I encourage all students to actively participate in the fun activities planned for you at these events.

Enjoy your break and we hope to see you all refreshed and ready to learn in term 3.

#### Christine Goldspink and Michael Stanizzo

#### SRC REPORT

Warrawong High School's Student Representative Council has been busy working away in organising the Carnivale event for Term Three. We can now proudly say the event will be held in Week Three of Term Three as it is Education Week. This event will be ran on Monday the 5th of August and will play host to a range of amazing activities and events from an assembly and showcase, rides and food to entertainment, open classes and activities ran throughout the whole school. This will be a coming together of local communities, schools, teachers, students and nationalities from across the region to celebrate Education the best way we know how.... With entertainment and a full belly!

The Student Representative Council will be also honing their skills as future leaders with an upcoming workshop later in the term, delivered by the wonderful services of Burn Bright—A student leadership and Wellbeing organisation. This is an opportunity for our current and future school leaders to develop their leadership, communication and collaboration skills to build a formidable leadership team and accompany the amazing work they are already doing.

> Anthony Stefanelli SRC Co-ordinator

> > Mr Morales

#### MR MORALES' TIME MACHINE

This month's trip takes us back to the great Aztec civilisation in 16<sup>th</sup> century Mexico. In 1519 Spanish conquistador Hernando Cortes lead a small band of soldiers in search of gold and glory. With the help of rival tribes and European weaponry they managed to conquer a vast empire for Spain. The Spaniards came as a shock to the Aztecs as they believed Cortes was the god Quetzalcoatl.

On this occasion Jorden Sharkey has travelled back in time to join Cortes' conquistadors. He is wearing plate armour, morion helmet, buckler shield and sword.



Conquistador Jorden Sharkey stands next to an Aztec pyramid.

#### YEAR 8 REPORT

This year has continued to bring challenges and rewarding experiences for the Year 8 students. We received our Elevate booklets, a great way for the students to gain the study skills needed to achieve well in their academic career. To ensure we are achieving receiving a holistic education, we worked through some of the Dragons diaries we were lucky to receive. The students set health and educational goals for the term in the diaries. We have also been working on positive relations and being a good friend in our wellbeing meetings.

Year 8 have been lucky to still have the chance to take part in wellbeing programs in smaller groups. The Boys engagement group is in full steam in the permaculture garden and the new Girls Stuff group has been an excellent opportunity for our girls to shine. Later in the year we will be utilising the Black Dog institute to deliver their Bite Back program, an online positive psychology program aimed at improving the overall wellbeing and resilience of young Australians.

I have also started to talk about camp next year. I am hoping that all students will have the opportunity to go, so I am hoping that we can do some fundraising before the end of the year and also next year to help bring the costs down per student. Anyone with any ideas for fundraising, please contact the school so we can get it organised early.

> Robyn Fallo Year 8 Year Advisor

#### NEWS FROM MR GUNNER—HEAD TEACHER ADMINISTRATION

As Term 2 is well underway, the standings for the title of *Most Punctual Year Group* have shifted a little and have been very tight! As of Week 7, the standings are:

1<sup>st</sup> place – Year 7 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Year 9 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Year 8 4<sup>th</sup> place – Year 10 5<sup>th</sup> place – Year 12 6<sup>th</sup> place – Year 11

Mr Gunner's hot tip for the title is on Year 9 to knock Year 7 off the top of the ladder.

Eid al-Fitr is a festival of breaking the fast of Ramadan which has just been celebrated recently. At Warrawong High School we recognise and encourage our students to celebrate their culture, particularly Eid. For any students or parents who were absent from school during Eid, don't forget to bring in a note explaining your absences so that we can adjust your attendance record.

> Marc Gunner Head Teacher Administration

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#### **REFUGEE WEEK**

Seven IEC students will be dancing a Traditional African Cultural Dance as part of Refugee Week at Wollongong Town Hall on Wed 19<sup>th</sup> June from 6-9 pm. This performance has been put together with the generous and creative leadership of former IEC and WHS student- and now an IEC SLSO language aide- Leatitie!

Please go along to support these students as part of Refugee Week in Wollongong!

Good luck to:

- Louise Irankunda
- Alliance Uwineza
- Rebbeca Uwimana
- Ruth Tuysengye
- Divine Nishimwe
- Estella (Esther) Mutoni
- Adolphine Jacques



During week 9, 28 exiting IEC students will be visiting their new high schools for one week. The IEC students go to various high schools across the Illawarra depending on where they live and their 'in-area school'. We wish them luck and trust they will have an insightful and inspiring time. If you see any IEC students in WHS please make them feel welcome!

## **Black Box Parenting Program**



#### What Does the Programme Cover?

This is not a general parenting programme but one specially designed for the challenges of parenting after family disruption or trauma. It is designed for parents who have their own experiences of trauma. It does cover the usual things like setting rules and how to manage behaviour, and it also covers topics such as how things like guilt make it hard to parent. This programme uses group discussion to help make sense of relating to and parenting your child. The Black Box format allows us to talk about how things from the past might be affecting our parenting without having to go into detail about what actually happened.

#### About the Program:

Black Box Parenting has 5 x 2-hr sessions (with a tea break in the middle). Sessions are every 2 weeks – on the week in between facilitators touch base with participants individually by phone.

#### When and Where?

Location: The Orana Centre (Illawarra Drug & Alcohol Service) at 2 Rawson St, Wollongong.

It will commence Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 12noon until 2:45pm.

#### How Do I refer?

Please contact David St Quintin on 4254 2700 or Kerry Searle on 4254 1600 if want to make a referral or have any questions.

This group is being run jointly by the Illawarra Drug & Alcohol Service and the Illawarra Mental Health Service.



### PAGE 6 YEAR 9 MARINE STUDIES

Year 9 Marine Studies. The students have been working together to create a booklet that identifies every species of animal, located in the Port Kembla rock platform ecosystem.



#### PERMACULTURE IMMERSION DAY

Permaculture Immersion Day on Friday 14/06! 7.2 had the opportunity to spend the afternoon in our high school's amazing Living Classroom. They had the opportunity to learn about where their food came from, feed and pick fruit from the trees, made and cooked their own cheese and spinach triangles, and had a tour of Green Connects sustainable farm.



### PAGE 8 MATHEMATICS FACULTY NEWS

#### **Meli-Solomons Award**

George Meli is a former student of Warrawong High School and he has sponsored an award over the past few years to recognise student dedication and achievement in Year 10. Winners must be willing to undertake Extension Mathematics in Year 11. The award is named after him and his former teacher, David Solomons. David, as a former Head Teacher Mathematics, presented the award last year at Presentation Day. Last year the award was won by Carmen B and Carmen has chosen to spend her \$1500 award on a new computer which she has just received.



There are posters in the Maths classrooms and corridors encouraging students to strive for this prestigious award. It features photographs of previous winners with George.

For this year, there are to be some changes to the award with George stating, "My vision for the Meli - Solomon's Award is to incentivise and have the students compete to bring out their best through **teacher** / **student collaboration**." At a recent meeting with George, it has been decided to split the \$3000 award into three. The first will be \$1500 for a student in Year 10 who is committed to their studies, works collaboratively with their teacher and who is choosing to do Extension Maths in Year 11/12. The other two will be for \$1000 and \$500. The criteria for these awards are being decided now so further information on these will be shared with students and the community as soon as possible.



Available to students in Year 10 at Warrawong High School, who have shown a high level of ability and application to the study of Mathematics and are committed to the study of extension level Mathematics in years 11 and 12.

## Meli-Solomons Award

#### Maths in Quilting

7 and 8 Aspire have been working together fortnightly to make a patchwork quilt in the school colours. This project involved measurement activities and work on patterns including tessellations. Students had to hand sew a patch and the quilt is in the process of being assembled. Work was done in the library with Mrs Pestana, Ms Collins and Mrs Steele assisting the students to complete their written work and their patches. In Week 9, the patches will be on display at Showcase. The quilt should be completed by the end of the term by Ms Collins.

Once the quilt is completed, it is expected to be displayed at a local show this year.



#### Women in Surveying

An International Womens' Day celebration was organised by the Association of Consulting Surveyors and the NSW Surveying Taskforce at Hyde Park in Sydney. A unique experience was offered to 60 female students attending high schools across NSW. Students targeted were those interested in STEM subjects with a love of Maths and Geography. The NSW Governor General David Hurley and the NSW Surveyor-General, Narelle Underwood This was exciting for our two attended the day. Warrawong High representatives, Tominika and Carmen, as the Governor General requested to meet the girls in person since he had grown up in the Port Kembla and attended Port Kembla High. Their Maths teacher, Mrs Pestana, assisted with organising this excursion and accompanied the girls on the day.

The NSW surveyor general Narelle Underwood, 35, is the first female to have held this position and entered surveying after studying engineering. She is quoted in the Herald as saying, "I love that every day can be different," she said. "Whether you like working indoors, outdoors, above ground or underground, there are career opportunities." Tominika and Carmen were interviewed by WIN television on the day and they talked about surveying activities they participated in and the future careers they could consider.



Photo L-R Tominika, Carmen, David Hurley NSW Governor General, Linda Hurley and Narelle Underwood NSW Surveyor General.

#### Maths in Football

Under the guidance of Mrs Napier, 7Up is running the school Footy Tipping competition. Students have been organising the competition, analysing statistics each week and making predictions. This real-world experience has given the students more confidence in their abilities and they have shown a true commitment to this project through working mathematically.



#### **Cross-curricular Project**

Currently, 7Aspire are completing a cross-curricular project involving Science, Mathematics and English. Students are designing a toy and have had the privilege of a being a part of the UOW Mentor in Residence program. For six weeks, a mentor from the University has spent time in Science and Mathematics classes to assist teachers and students in this project. As a part of this, students had to complete a few investigations including changing a variable to identify the difference it would make to the flight of a gyrocopter.

Photo of cardboard gyrocopter designed by Y7 students in Science and completed in Maths.



### PAGE 10 MATHEMATICS FACULTY NEWS

#### Student Teachers—Professional Experience

Last term, students from the University of Wollongong visited our school and many of them spent half a day with the Maths faculty staff observing in classrooms. Now, we are fortunate to have Miss Jessica Noffke working with staff in the Mathematics faculty for four weeks. She is studying at the University of Wollongong and is currently teaching Year 7, Year 8 and Year 12 Mathematics with Ms Collins observing her work. Other Mathematics faculty staff have had her visit their classrooms and she will be going to other faculties this week to observe different teachers in their specialty subjects.

With Year 8, Miss Noffke is teaching a circles project which incorporates building a stage. Students are writing a script for a play in English with Mrs Napier. So, it was decided that they could design and build their own Theatre in the Round or Thrust Stage in Maths utilising measurement skills they are mastering in class.







A theatre in the round is a space for a performance in which the audience surrounds the stage.

The stage is always in the <u>centre</u>, with the audience arranged on all sides. Actors may enter and exit through the audience from different directions or from below the stage.

Thrust Stage

A thrust stage is one that extends into the audience on three sides and is connected to the backstage area by its upstage end.

The audience may view the stage from three or more sides. They can view the performance from a variety of perspectives.

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#### Maths and Art

7 Aspire have worked on designing Fibonacci spirals in Maths class which will be incorporated into the Year 8 Aspire mural project on a wall near the school canteen. The spirals have been used as a template for a fern background. Students will be painting this mural in up-coming Art classes. A big thank you goes to Mrs Kriss who is coordinating this project.



# Study*ladder*

Mrs Crockett introduced Study Ladder to Year 7 students this year. This is an online tool which enables students to work on computers to support their learning in class and to use as a study tool at home. Teachers have a wide range of learning abilities within classrooms and the complete learning programs and teaching resources of study ladder can assist teachers to create individual learning activities for their students.

Mr McKee continues to support faculty staff and students in the area of ICT. He will be assisting Mrs Pestana and 8Aspire with the planned Advanced skills Project next term. Mrs Bell and other faculty staff have been involved in developing new ways to present senior investigation tasks which include success criteria and milestones.



MON 24 JUNE 6-7PM TUE 25 JUNE 5-6PM THU 27 JUNE 3-4PM SCHOOL LIBRARY





#### WARRAWONG HIGH SCHOOL

## HOMEWORK CENTRE

#### MONDAYS & TUESDAYS 3-4PM

Staffed by teachers, years 7-12 are welcome to attend where you can receive assistance with homework or assessment tasks





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#### PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Last term we started the Premier's Reading Challenge and have had a great response. It is not too late to sign up – there are rewards along the way and the opportunity to be in the draw for some excellent book prizes when completed. Some students have already completed the challenge, which doesn't end until September! See the Teacher Librarian to get your personalised PRC website



#### LIBRARY LESSONS

Year 7 are well underway with their library lessons. They have been participating in a reading program and learning ICT skills to assist with gaining knowledge in the digital environment.



#### LUNCHTIME PROGRAMS

This term we have introduced a great lunchtime program including Minecraft Challenges, Deadly Crew, LGQTBIA+, Board Games, Movies, Manga Club and much more. Keep your eye out for posters around the school and in the daily notices.

#### CHESS

Our school is participating in the Inter School Chess Competition. In round one last term we played Corrimal High. After some challenging games, we were successful overall, winning three out of four games. Following this, we competed against Shellharbour Anglican College. On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>, we travelled to Smith's Hill High School to play against the reigning champions. Unfortunately, we didn't win, however as always the team's sportsmanship and eagerness were outstanding. Our next round will be a bye, then we will continue into level two of the tournament. The IEC team lost round one to Edmund Rice College (4-0) and are continuing into the level two tournament. Well done to the chess teams!



#### **EBOOKS**

eBooks or electronic books, can be read on any device including phones, tablets and PCs. They are easily adaptable to suit visual and learning needs as well as personal preference. We have over 1000 of these popular and classic books available through the library. To access them, use the links below and use your DET login or visit the library for assistance.

#### ePlatform app iTunes

#### ePlatform app android



#### **BORROWING AWARDS**

Congratulations to those students who received awards and book prizes for excellent use of the library. Keep up the borrowing!



		Apprenticeship & Traineeship Info Session Aged Care Automotive Beauty Hairdressing Business Services Construction Electrical Metal and Engineering Hospitality Information Technology
		<b>Give yourself the best chance of gaining an Apprenticeship or Traineeship</b> <b>Find out:</b> Where are the work opportunities? Whene are the work opportunities?
		What are employers looking for? Employers Group Training Organisations Defence Force Recruiting Training Services NSW Apprenticeship Networks Registered Training Organisations
Come along to our Parent/Carer Information Night and find out about study options in 2020 with TAFE NSW.	WHERE TAFE NSW Wollongong	When and Where?           Tuesday July 2, 2019           6:00pm - 8:00pm           6:00pm - 8:00pm           Worilla Bowls and Recreation Club
<ul> <li>Learn about TAFE NSW courses and what we can offer</li> <li>Find out about the experience of studying with TAFE NSW</li> <li>Hear from our expert teachers</li> <li>Discover what courses are on trend</li> </ul>	P block - Auatorium Foleys Lane North Wollongong 2500 <b>YEAR 10 STUDENTS</b> Parent/Carer Information Night Monday, 24 June 5.30 to 6.30pm	Hearning- Hoy an adu
for the future of employment Be guided on the path to further education and real job outcomes REGISTER NOW TO SECURE YOUR PLACE Wanday, 24, 7.30 to 8.30p 7.30 to 8.	YEAR 12 STUDENTS Parent/Carer Information Night Monday, 24 June 7.30 to 8.30pm RITE.COM.AU RITE.COM.AU	WORKPLACE CREATING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



## **Community News:**





Available to students in Year 10 at Warrawong High School, who have shown a high level of ability and application to the study of Mathematics and are committed to the study of extension level Mathematics in years 11 and 12.

## Meli-Solomons Award



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