THE WARATAH WEEKLY

Choose to Listen; and believe the voice of Truth

From the Foundation Headmaster, Dr Stuart Quarmby

The longest election campaign

The Federal election is in September and – right on time – the Federal government finally responds to Australia’s falling education standards (when compared with our developed neighbours) with an injection of One Billion Dollars into a “Back to Basics Reading Blitz” – reported in the Sunday Telegraph last weekend. Smile and mention the kids – that will win votes.

Let’s not be cynical. The roll out of phonics programs into early education classrooms is a great initiative. In fact, it is an initiative that we rolled out ten years ago at Wollondilly. That’s not to say that there is no room for whole language approaches. We use a balanced approach to reading which incorporates useful aspects of both phonics and whole language teaching. A skilled teacher will identify the learning styles of students and adapt delivery style to improve reading.

“Every Australian child should be able to read, it’s as simple as that” Ms Gillard told the Sunday Telegraph. “But sadly that’s not the case in our schools.” Not a good self-analysis report card for the “Education Revolution” but a moment of honest reflection nonetheless.

But it gets worse. The funding is actually “back ended” as was gleefully pointed out by a finger waving “Greens spokesman, Penny Wright – the Prime Minister’s plan to back-end the lion’s share of the funding until 2019 is just not good enough.” So the need for improved literacy is urgent but most of the funds can wait until after the next term in government - or the one after. It is more clever to promise money in the future than to produce it magically now. But there is another solution.

Turn a few pages in the same newspaper and there is an interesting article reporting that “choosing your child’s friends may be the smartest thing you do. New research shows clever is contagious, with brain power boosted if you ‘hang out’ with like-minded achievers. Child psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg said parents need to understand their children’s friends have more of an impact on their attitude to study than they think. Conversely, if you hang out with kids who don’t value school, are disinterested and disrespectful, then you are going to have a difficult time encouraging that child to study and to be interested or be clever”.

Wait a minute … Let’s put these two articles together. Australian literacy standards are poor. Kids do not learn well if they are corralled together with disruptive students. Developed neighbour’s literacy standards are much higher. Education is held in higher regard in such places. So are teachers. So is discipline.

Eureka!! Could it be that time and money may be better spent on making schools safer and more disciplined places – then governments could roll out lots of programs in an environment more conducive to learning. Just a wild thought!

I guess that’s why Roslyn and I figured our family was worth the investment. We sent our girls to a College much like Wollondilly. Kids learn when they are surrounded by people who invest time in them, and provide a safe environment where achievement, effort and progress are all valued and celebrated. Kids pick up the vibe and adopt a more positive focus. Like attracts like. And here’s the punchline …

Just like Wollondilly – only 15 years ago – that school also already used the same program for early Literacy that the government announced they were rolling out nationwide with great fanfare last Sunday.

And, just like at Wollondilly, the classroom environment was ready to receive it.
ENROLMENTS FOR 2014

Interviews have commenced for students applying for entry into secondary years in 2014. It is important that parents wishing students to be enrolled Transition to Year 12 fill in the Application for Enrolment documentation. **If you are aware of friends wishing to receive application information, please inform them as positions, particularly for Year 7 are filling quickly.**

Application for Enrolment documentation is available from Mrs Mozejko at the College office or online at www.wac.nsw.edu.au.

STEAM FESTIVAL

Wollondilly Anglican College will be taking part in the street parade for this year’s Thirlmere Festival of Steam on Sunday, 3 March. Whilst we normally avoid Sunday functions, the timing of the event allows College families to still attend morning or evening church services.

We are looking for a few more volunteer students to represent the College in the Gala Parade at the festival. Mr Toland and Mrs Poole will be meeting students at 12.30 pm in Westbourne Avenue. Please look for the Wollondilly banner. The parade will be travelling clockwise up Barbour Road into Mason Street, right into Goodlet Street, right again into Oak Road and finishing back in Westbourne Avenue. The parade will take about an hour from start to finish. Please collect your child/ren in Westbourne Avenue after the parade.

Students representing the College in this Community Service activity are asked to please dress in their Summer Uniform (and especially the College hat). Names will be recorded on the day but could you register your interest by emailing Christine Mozejko: c.mozejko@wac.nsw.edu.au or contacting the office on 4684 2577 by Friday, 1 March.

Should your child have any medical needs please leave your mobile with the office or include in the email at the time of you registering your child’s interest in attending. This will allow staff to contact you should the need arise.

We are looking forward to seeing many of our students and families on the day.

MISA HEADS MEETING

This week we hosted the Heads of the 16 most prominent Independent and Catholic schools from Wollondilly Shire to Bankstown. The Macarthur Independent Schools Association is an invitation only association. The association provides networking for the Northern zone (Bankstown to Prestons) and the Southern Zone (Wollondilly to Campbelltown).

Meetings are held by a host school each term and cover the weekly sporting association along with calendar events for debating and public speaking, student leadership and a variety of other activities. There is also opportunity for Heads to discuss regional matters and items on the broader education agenda such as the new National Curriculum.

Mrs Christine Mozejko
College Development Manager
Some Rules for Mobile Phone Use

Blogger Janell Burley Hofmann found fame in the US when she gave her son Gregory an iPhone for Christmas. It came with a few conditions ... 18 to be precise.

Dear Gregory

Merry Christmas! You are now the proud owner of an iPhone. You are a good and responsible 13-year-old boy and you deserve this gift. But with the acceptance of this present comes rules and regulations. Please read through the following contract. I hope that you understand it is my job to raise you into a well rounded, healthy young man that can function in the world and coexist with technology, not be ruled by it. Failure to comply with the following list will result in termination of your iPhone ownership.

I love you madly and look forward to sharing several million text messages with you in the days to come.

1. It is my phone. I bought it. I pay for it. I am loaning it to you. Aren't I the greatest?
2. I will always know the password.
3. If it rings, answer it. It is a phone. Say hello, use your manners. Do not ever ignore a phone call if the screen reads "Mum" or "Dad." Not ever.
4. Hand the phone to one of your parents promptly at 7.30 pm every school night and every weekend night at 9.00 pm. It will be shut off for the night and turned on again at 7.30 am. If you would not make a call to someone's land line, wherein their parents may answer first, then do not call or text. Listen to those instincts and respect other families like we would like to be respected.
5. It does not go to school with you. Have a conversation with the people you text in person. It's a life skill. Half days, field trips and after school activities will require special consideration.
6. If it falls into the toilet, smashes on the ground, or vanishes into thin air, you are responsible for the replacement costs or repairs. Mow a lawn, babysit, stash some birthday money. It will happen, you should be prepared.
7. Do not use this technology to lie, fool, or deceive another human being. Do not involve yourself in conversations that are hurtful to others. Be a good friend first or stay the hell out of the crossfire.
8. Do not text, email, or say anything through this device you would not say in person.
9. Do not text, email, or say anything to someone that you would not say out loud with their parents in the room. Censor yourself.
10. No porn. Search the web for information you would openly share with me. If you have a question about anything, ask a person -- preferably me or your father.
11. Turn it off, silence it, put it away in public. Especially in a restaurant, at the movies, or while speaking with another human being. You are not a rude person; do not allow the iPhone to change that.
12. Do not send or receive pictures of your private parts or anyone else's private parts. Don't laugh. Someday you will be tempted to do this despite your high intelligence. It is risky and could ruin your teenage/college/adult life. It is always a bad idea. Cyberspace is vast and more powerful than you. And it is hard to make anything of this magnitude disappear - including a bad reputation.
13. Don't take a zillion pictures and videos. There is no need to document everything. Live your experiences. They will be stored in your memory for eternity.
14. Leave your phone home sometimes and feel safe and secure in that decision. It is not alive or an extension of you. Learn to live without it. Be bigger and more powerful than FOMO (fear of missing out).
15. Download music that is new or classic or different than the millions of your peers that listen to the same exact stuff. Your generation has access to music like never before in history. Take advantage of that gift. Expand your horizons.
16. Play a game with words or puzzles or brain teasers every now and then.

17. Keep your eyes up. See the world happening around you. Stare out a window. Listen to the birds. Take a walk. Talk to a stranger. Wonder without googling.

18. You will mess up. I will take away your phone. We will sit down and talk about it. We will start over again. You and I, we are always learning. I am on your team. We are in this together.

It is my hope that you can agree to these terms. Most of the lessons listed here do not just apply to the iPhone, but to life. You are growing up in a fast and ever changing world. It is exciting and enticing. Keep it simple every chance you get. Trust your powerful mind and giant heart above any machine. I love you. I hope you enjoy your awesome new iPhone.

Mum xoxoxo,

Source: Care of Craig Russell.


DUKE OF EDINBURGH’S AWARD TRAINING DAY

Dear Parents

On Saturday, 9 March a Training Day will be held to prepare students for their first expedition which will occur on 6 and 7 April.

Details are as follows:

• Commences at 8.30 am at the College at Melba Ampitheatre and concludes 2.00 pm.
• Students will need to bring – hat, sunscreen, water bottle, clothes for walking in bush, suitable shoes for bush walking, a pen, recess and lunch.
• The students will be supervised and instructed by Mr Hicks and Mr Croger.
• Activities will include instruction on safety, first aid, navigating using a map and compass, equipment to take, route planning for the expedition, requirements and expectations for an expedition, cooking and camping Skills.

It is essential that students attend this training before they participate in the expedition or expeditions at a later date.

Mr Ian Croger
Deputy Headmaster

P & F FUNDRAISING

Weather conditions are perfect. Why not plan a floral display for your winter/spring garden, plant a pot of hyacinth or tulips or just purchase a bag of bulbs for that special gardener.

You could Win a $25.00 voucher from TAAMOOR GARDEN CENTRE or LOWES by placing an order

The names of all purchasers will be entered into a “Thank You” draw. There are 3 vouchers from each of our sponsors to be won

Orders close on Monday, 18 March

Drop completed order forms into the office anytime
Bulbs will be delivered to the College and distributed to students before Easter

Catalogues are still available at the office
Your support in this fundraising effort is greatly appreciated.

P&F Fundraising
Spotlight on the Awards System
The College recognises student achievement across a number of areas and awards students who make a considerable contribution to an area with an award known as a College Contribution. This award is often given to students who are involved in areas such as the College Musical, Debating/Public Speaking, Student Representative Council among others. The programs that students are involved in to achieve this award are often ongoing in nature although on occasions students may receive an award of this nature due to specific involvement in an activity that may be more short-term.

Students who receive four College Contribution Awards receive a Green Award and those who receive eight are awarded a College White. Green Awards are presented at weekly assemblies and White Awards at formal assemblies.

Unexplained Absences
A number of letters were sent out to parents last week detailing absences from the College that are currently unexplained. Parents are asked to verify these absences by completing the letter and returning it either to the front office or the students Class /Roll Call teacher. A reminder that absences remain unexplained and will appear on your child’s report until verified. Parents can go onto the section on the website entitled Staff and Students and click on the Parent Portal. Absences can then be verified through this method.

Thirlmere Steam Festival
A reminder to all students involved in the street parade that we will meet at 12.30 pm on Westbourne Avenue, Thirlmere to Marshal for the parade. Students will have their names marked off here and parents are to meet the students back at this location at the conclusion of the parade to collect their children. All students who are involved in the parade will receive a Community Service Award for their involvement.

Student Representative Council
The SRC will be involved in the following College based service programs throughout 2013. The SRC will be looking to serve within the College through the Canteen and through the provision of lunch time sporting competitions for Primary School students among other areas. Further discussion will also be occurring with regards to what organisations will be supported through this year’s Mufti Days in Term 3 and Term 4. If students at the College have ideas of organisations to support they are encouraged to speak with their representatives to bring the ideas to the meeting.

Fundraising will also occur to support organisations through the Term 3 and Term 4 Mufti Days as well as other organised events throughout the year. Please make a note of these events and students are encouraged to support them in a generous manner.

As always throughout the year the SRC is the voice of the student body. If you have an idea or suggestion and you feel strongly about it please speak with your SRC rep and have them bring it up at the meetings.

Mr Liam Toland
Director of Pastoral Care T-12

Year 12 Student Fundraiser
The Year 12 students will be holding a cake stall on Friday, 22 March to offset the costs of our College event: the Year 12 Formal. The students are also providing an opportunity to purchase items with the pre-order forms enclosed in this week’s Waratah Weekly.

Please return order forms to the College Office by Friday, 15 March.
**NEWS FROM THE INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRES**

**Literacy Week Celebrations:** From Wednesday, 6 March - 13 March we are raising awareness of literacy within our College with a week long focus. To begin we will celebrate World Read Aloud Day on Wednesday, 6 March with all students from Year 5 - Year 9 reading to the younger students from years Transition - Year 4 during our roll call time. Teachers will read aloud to students in Year 10 - Year 12. The bookfair will also be set up on this day. Male Secondary staff will be visiting all the primary classes to share a reading book and some stories on their reading experience. The Fathers and Literacy morning will be held on Tuesday, 12 March.

**Book Fair:** The bookfair will be set up on Wednesday and parents are welcome to view and purchase any day after College hours up until 3.30 pm. Students will be able to explore the bookfair on Thursday and fill out wish lists. The bookfair will be set up under the sails (or in Sturt if it rains) for the Literacy morning just for the Fathers and children from Transition - Year 4. The book fair will conclude on Wednesday, 13 March.

**Fathers and Literacy:** Calling all Fathers, Grandfathers, Uncles: please join us on Tuesday, 12 March to celebrate Literacy with your child. The day will begin at 8.15 am where you will be directed to your child’s classroom. As in the past we will have several activities for you to do, however, in response to requests, all classes from Transition - Year 4 will run a reading lesson as they do every day which will allow you to participate in and understand how we teach reading and literacy. The morning will conclude at 10.00 am and the Headmaster would be pleased if you were then able to join him for morning tea in the Rose Garden at the completion of your visit. I will put a timetable in next week’s newsletter to assist in the planning of visits for those Fathers with more than one child. Please complete the enclosed flyer to assist us with attendance for this morning.

**Scholastic Book Club:** All orders have been placed and we are expecting delivery in the College early next week. Books ordered will be given to the children to take home unless requested on the form. Any special or hold orders can be picked up from the College office.

Live a life well read.

Mrs Louise Saint-John
IRC Coordinator

www.love2read.org.au

**BAND NEWS!**

On Sunday, 3 March 2013, the College Band and String Ensemble have been asked to perform at the Thirlmere Steam Festival as part of the festivities. The performance will commence at 9.00 am and conclude at 9.30 am in Thirlmere Park. Please come along and support your fellow peers as they perform.

All students in the Band and Strings are required to arrive at Thirlmere Park at 8.15 am to assist with setup and at the conclusion of the performance are required to assist with any packing up.

Please wear full College uniform as you are representing the College. Students are encouraged to bring a change of comfortable clothes to wear after the performance if you intend on staying at the Steam Festival for the remainder of the day.

Mr Lloyd Grant
Secondary Teacher (Music)
NEW STAFF PROFILE - MR TRAVIS COUTTS-SMITH

Position: Primary Teacher
Place of Birth: Wollongong, NSW
Qualifications: Post Graduate Diploma in Primary Education, Bachelor of Arts
Favourite Food: A Baked Dinner
Favourite Modern Band: James Morrison
Favourite Book: Any book written by Matthew Reilly
Interests: Water Skiing, Fishing, Hockey, Athletics, Rugby League, Brass Band and Singing

HICES LEADERSHIP DAY

Our great Wollondilly Junior House Captains, Junior School Captains and Middle School Captains ventured to Blue Mountains Grammar this week to take place in Leadership workshops throughout the day. Our students were actively involved in fine tuning their leadership skills and looked at ways to improve the Paradise we already belong to.

The highlight of the day was definitely the Wollondilly 'shake' where not only did our kids win the Design a TV Advertisement Competition, they virtually 'blew everyone else out the water' with their amazing dance and theatrical skills. Great day, an excellent bunch of students.

Mrs Lisa Rockwell
Secondary Teacher Pastoral Care 5-8

A.S.K (HOMEWORK CLUB)

We had a fantastic turn out of students to kick start Homework Club for 2013! As we head into the busy time of the term with assessments.

We encourage students to consider taking this opportunity for focussed study time and support from our friendly staff. All students from Years 7-12 are welcome to attend throughout the term. See you there!

When: Wednesday afternoons 3.00 pm - 4.30 pm
Where: Flynn IRC
What to bring: Homework, tasks, puzzling questions, necessary equipment and a positive attitude!
Contact: Mr Gregory, Mrs Madden, Mr Shellshear or Mrs Poole (School Office ph. 4684 2577)

Important…. Remember to bring some afternoon tea as hunger does NOT promote positive learning.

“Any fool can know. The point is to understand.” — Albert Einstein

Mrs Emily Madden
Secondary Teacher (Maths)
Homework Club Co-ordinator
AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES AT THE COLLEGE - JOIN THE P&F

Why join the P&F?

- Help keep fees down
- Make new friends
- Be an active part of the College community
- Get the inside story and behind the scenes info of the College
- Enjoy great and relevant guest speakers
- Have some fun
- Demonstrate to your children a generous spirit, a willingness to lend a hand, dedication to and pride in the College

On Monday, 11 March at the AGM, we have guest speaker Mrs Amanda Rollason to introduce the Gardening Club. Amanda works in the research area of the Australian Botanic Garden and her expertise is in propagation. Then the new Executive Committee is elected and the P&F program for the year is finalised. In preparation, we invite interested parents and friends to express their interest to be involved with the work of the P&F. This could be in an Executive capacity or as one of the many co-ordinators or teams. If you would like to play an important role in serving the students at the College, please contact the Office or by email at pandfpresident@wac.nsw.edu.au (Phone: 4623 0203) The vacant roles are:

As per constitution, people interested in leadership positions on the P & F should arrange to discuss their interest with the College Headmaster over the next couple of weeks.

Exec positions:
Vice President

Coordinator positions:
Merchandise
Country Fair
Fun Run
Sponsorship
Business Directory

Mrs Danielle Turner
President of the P&F

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2013 - SUNDAY, 3 MARCH 2013

It is not too late to sign up for Clean Up Australia Day. A group from the College will join a clean-up site in Bargo (Corner of Tylers Road and Silica Road) which runs from 9.30 am to 11.30 am on Sunday, 3 March 2013.

It is a simple way that you can take action to clean up, fix up and conserve our unique and prized Australian environment.

A reminder that every person who participates must to sign up via the Internet. To do so go to: http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/Tylers+road and join the Tylers Road site.

BRING: Please make sure you bring a pair of sturdy gloves, wear enclosed shoes and I recommend long pants.

Last year we were a team of approximately 15 and we, with some local residents, picked up two skips in rubbish. I really hope we can do even better than that this year.

Please email me with any questions: j.hart@wac.nsw.edu.au

Mr Jay Hart
Secondary Teacher (HSIE)
TERM 1 WORKING BEE 9 MARCH 2013

Our first Working Bee for 2013 is happening from 8.00 am till 4.00 pm on Saturday, 9 March and we would love to have you join us here at the College. For those of you who are new to our College, it is a good way to be a part of the greater College community, meeting and working side by side while having some great fellowship with other parents and students. It also helps to get some of the things done around the place which we don’t normally have the time for. Some of these jobs are;

- Cleaning the Flynn gardens so that we can replant it with new plants similar to what we have been using at the front of the College.
- Painting the new handrails around Flynn with primer. We have the paint, brushes and drop sheets, we only need a couple of good painters to do a thorough job.
- There is lots of wood to cut up so it can be split for firewood before winter. For safety reasons, only operators who are familiar with their own chainsaws are required to help get this job done. The College P&F sell this split firewood for $60.00 a trailer load and use this as a fundraiser for the College.
- Another big job due to the rain we have had is the weeding of all our garden areas around the College. Lots and lots of weeding to do.
- The College carpark gutters can be swept to rid them of leaves which can then be put on the gardens as compost.
- The cover girls will be covering some books with Mrs Saint John in the Flynn 2 classroom from 9.00 am. A great job for the kids is the picking up of papers around our field.

Between now and then there could be more jobs found that need attending to so don’t forget to bring your gardening tools, gloves and anything else you think might help on the day. We always have a great time at our Working Bees so come along and be a part of the action to help keep our College looking great.

As always a luscious Morning Tea will be provided by the Wollondilly Anglican Community Church and a BBQ lunch will be provided by the P&F.

Mr Fred Schroder
Property Manager

LIFELONG LEARNING CLASSES

Dear Secondary Parents

Wollondilly Anglican College plans to run a four week course aimed at helping parents help their child with their Maths. It is particularly directed at helping their students with basic number facts and basic Algebra. Parents would need to commit to bringing their child on week 2 of the course. Parents with little or no confidence with Mathematics are more than welcome. Courses will run for one hour.

Places are limited to 25 parents (one per family).
Cost is $5.00 per night.
The course would be held in the Flynn building on Monday nights at 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm.

Monday, 11 March :   Teaching my student number facts (PART 1)
Monday, 18 March:   Teaching my student number facts (PART2) – student to attend
Monday, 25 March:   Helping my student with basic Algebra (PART 1)
Monday, 1 April:    Easter Monday (No class)
Monday, 8 April:    Helping my student with basic Algebra (PART 2)

Please let the front office know if you plan to attend by Monday, 4 March.

Payments are to be made to the front office.

Mr Tim Hicks
Mathematics Co-ordinator
As part of our 10 Year Celebrations we are hoping to launch a number of options to help WAC families commemorate this special year. Could you please give us an indication of what you would be interested in purchasing or being a part of so we have an idea of numbers.

Estimated Costs Only

- 10 Year Dinner at Peppers Craigieburn ........................................ $110.00
- Commemorative Port ......................................................................... $15.00
- Purchase a single student imprinted paver for the garden ................ $45.00
- Purchase a family imprinted paver for the garden ............................ $70.00
- 10 Year Reflections Book ................................................................... $25.00

Please note that the above costs are just estimates and may change. Please fill out the “Expressions of Interest form” at the College Office or call Mrs Hay on 4684 2577.

Mrs Rhonda Hay
Headmaster’s Secretary
10 Year Celebration Committee

“A DECADE OF REFLECTIONS” - WE WANT YOUR MEMORIES…

As part of our 10 Year Celebrations we will be creating and publishing “A Decade of Reflections”- a book of memories from our first 10 years of College life. We would love our parent, student and staff community to contribute to this production.

If you have any photos or memories from throughout the years that you feel could be included please email them to reflections@wac.nsw.edu.au All items need to be sent by the end of Term 1 (12 April) and will be considered for inclusion in this commemorative publication by the 10 Year Committee.

“A Decade of Reflections” will be launched at the 10 Year Dinner and will be available for purchase after the evening.

Mrs Lucy Gregory
Support Teacher
10 Year Celebration Committee
YEAR 3-6 MATHS CLUB

What a great time we had this week. We moved onto times table games and this proved a hit with everyone who came. Here are this week’s games for your child (and you) to play at home. They cover all ages (from easier to more difficult).

Google: multiplication.com    (So many games to play on here)
Press: games (at the top of the page)
Easier: Holiday Fun: Decorate the house: Choose from 0-3, 0-6 or 0-9 tables.
Harder: Grand Prix: A range of times tables. More than one player can play.

When: Every Monday at 2nd half lunch! I will pick up Years 3 and 4 from their playground and Year 5 and 6 can meet me at the door of Banks 5 IT lab at the start of 2nd half lunch.

Mr Darren Wayne
Primary Teacher
Maths Club Co-ordinator

DEBATING

The HICES Debating competition is set to start off this week with the first round of interschool debating.

The HICES debates are all held outside of College hours – from 2.30 pm until about 6.00 pm. This year our debating squads have grown to include over 30 students who regularly attend the research, planning and practise sessions. The College has entered two teams in each of the Junior and Middle School Divisions (Years 5,6,7 and 8) and one team in the Senior Division (Years 9 and 10)

There are four HICES competition debates with the first round being held on Thursday, 28 February at Macarthur Anglican School. The topics to be debated are:

Junior Division: That the school day should be longer
Middle Division: That there should be more police on public transport.

For these debates Wollondilly has the negative case. The Senior debaters will receive their topic when they arrive at the venue and they will have one hour to prepare. The focus for their topic is Current Events.

We are looking forward to another challenging year of debates along with the opportunity to meet and mix with students from other schools.

Mrs Wendy Croger
English Co-ordinator
The 3-6 swimming carnival last Thursday was a great success. The weather was kind to us and all of the children completed to the best of their abilities. We had four records broken:

- 8-10 years 100m freestyle girls - Lily Wenman
- 8-10 years 100m freestyle boys - Fletcher Davies
- Junior Mixed Relay - Sollya
- Senior Mixed Relay - Sollya

The age champions were as follows:

- 9 Years Boys - Alexander Jefferys
- 10 Years Boys - Fletcher Davies
- 11 Years Boys - Matthew Grima
- 12 Years Boys - Damien Wright
- 9 Years Girls - Rose Wenman
- 10 Years Girls - Lily Wenman
- 11 Years Girls - Isabella Norman
- 12 Years Girls - Ruby Wenman

The final Primary house points were:

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<th>House</th>
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<td>Grevillea</td>
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<td>Acacia</td>
<td>136</td>
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Thank you to the staff and the parents who assisted with various responsibilities including timekeeping and judging on the day. Without parental support, our carnival would not have been the success it was. Thank you for your support.

This year we particularly thank Mr Wood, who after 10 years of being the Life Guard for the Primary carnival, has decided to hand over the reins next year to another Life Guard. Our thanks go to Mr Wood for his dedication and assistance in helping our children at the carnivals.

The NASSA Swimming team has been announced and notes should have been returned. It is expected that all children on the team will attend and we will all be travelling to the carnival as a team, leaving the College at 1.00 pm. If you have an outstanding note, please return this tomorrow. Please also note the uniform requirements. Our best wishes go to all of the team for next Tuesday evening.

College Tracksuits White polo-top (NOT HOUSE); College shorts / College swimmers for all events OR PLAIN BLACK SWIMMERS / College swimming cap (worn over top of regular cap if necessary). Check availability of College costumes at Canteen as soon as possible. No gear - no swim the expectations are different to College (house) carnivals for College representatives

Students who qualify are expected to represent the College - or to bring a note explaining why they can’t attend

Next week, our IPSSO teams have another bye next Wednesday.
It was a great day out for our 10th Annual Wollondilly swimming carnival. The weather held out just long enough to see some amazing swims from our Champion Wollondilly swimmers. Thanks again to Mrs Manson and Mr Palmer for their ever reliable timekeeping efforts. The deluge of rain at the end did nothing to dampen the Wollondilly spirits as we sat back to enjoy our champions of Champions races. Congratulations to the following students for coming out supreme! Results below:

The overall House competition result was close and testament to one of the College’s ideals; endurance. Congratulations to Grevillea for their overall win. They will have their flag raising this Friday, 1 March.

Girls’ Age Champions:
• Amelia Weatherburn 12 GRE
• Georgia Beddow 13 GRE
• Dominique Palmer 14 GRE
• Alexandra Gaidzionis 15 WOL
• Samantha Vibert 16 TEL
• Azaena Blackmore 17 ACA
• Erin Grant 18 GRE

Boys’ Age Champions:
• Joshua Castle 12 SOL
• Samuel Napier 13 GRE
• Jason Davies 14 ACA
• Hayden Hecimovic 15 WOL
• Thomas Hart 16 SOL
• Aaron Manson 17 SOL
• Axel Friedfrich 18 GRE

The Champion of Champions 50m Freestyle races were thrillers with Samantha Vibert securing the Girls title and Hayden Hecimovic winning the Boys title.

Many thanks to the following groups of people:
• Parent helpers who assisted with setup, pack up, timing and judging (some helped all day!);
• All Secondary College staff including Mr Schroder and Mr Dubois for their smooth management;
• Mrs Richards for preparing the Staff lunches;
• Student helpers for their efficient conveyance of Heat sheets; and
• The Picton Pool staff for an excellent facility.

There are a number of NASSA and AICES sporting events on the horizon. Permission notes have issued for the NASSA swimming carnival. Please be sure to return them by their due date (2 March) or your son/daughter will not be able to attend.

Regarding sporting notes. Students have numerous opportunities to represent the College at various events, notes are issued well in advance of the event and spare copies are kept at the office. It has been decided that if students do not bring back their permission note by the date given on the note they will not be able to attend the event regardless of their ability in the respective sport. I would also like to re-emphasise the uniform requirements for the NASSA Swimming carnival-

College TrackSuits White polo-top (NOT HOUSE); College shorts / College swimmers for all events OR PLAIN BLACK SWIMMERS / College swimming cap (worn over top of regular cap if necessary). Check availability of College costumes at Canteen as soon as possible. No gear - no swim the expectations are different to College (house) carnivals for College representatives

Students who qualify are expected to represent the College - or to bring a note explaining why they can’t attend

Next week in MISA we play St Pats so only the girls teams will play, all venues as per normal.

Upcoming events:
NASSA secondary touch 11 March, Dalton park Wollongong
NASSA Secondary Swimming carnival 6 March, SOPAC Homebush

Mr Richard Madden
Secondary Sports Co-ordinator
It was really packed at the carnival. There were lots of kids and parents. All the parents got into the cheering. Some parents were walking up and down the pool cheering. My Dad lost his voice at the end of each race my sisters and I were in. I bet everyone had a great time. I made age champion. At the end of the carnival everyone got to do little fun races. The piggyback race was my favourite. I had lots of fun at the carnival.

By Rose Wenman

When I got to the swimming carnival all the team tents were colourful and filled with signs and posters. The posters were to cheer for people who were swimming. Lots of kids swam.

All the teams wanted to win. Everyone who swims gets a point for their house. It was a fun day.

Logan Bielaczek

On your marks, get set, go!!! On the 21st of February Wollondilly Anglican College went to Picton Pools, Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 all participated in swimming. It was a great day. The sun was shining and there were plenty of smiles on our faces. Lots of parents were cheering on our teams and having fun. Kids participated in breast stroke, freestyle and many more events. We also played mini games like piggy back races and walking on the bottom of the pool. Now that was fun. The relays were great and the medleys were great too. There were lots of winners. We had a great time.

Kirstin Starr
There were lots of swimming events that everybody could swim in at the College swimming carnival. Mrs Vidler called children in their age groups and Ms Huxtable got them ready for their races. Every race was different and it didn’t matter if you lost. It just mattered that you had fun. Everyone had a good time. I can’t wait until the next swimming carnival.

Aaron Landrigan

On the 21st of February, Wollondilly Anglican College went to Picton Pools for the swimming carnival. I participated in three races. I swam in a relay, and normal races. I get a bit nervous before a race. When it was my turn to race I stood up on the blocks. I got ready to dive. The last thing I heard was ready, set, buzzer. I dived into the pool, SPLASH!!!

Alexander, Harrison and other kids were racing against me. I got to the end, I came third. It was a good race. I got out of the pool, my thighs were really hurting. I went in other races and I was happy I swam my best.

By Jacob Smith

Everyone was loud. We all cheered for our teams.

We got to go to the canteen and get some nice things to eat like ice cream and chips.

Ms Huxtable raced in a freestyle event. She swam fast but Ruby Wenman swam faster and beat her by just a little bit.

It was so hot and the water was cool when you jumped in. Free swim at the end of the carnival was the best.

Amelia Hunt

Grevillea wins the Wollondilly Anglican College Swimming Carnival 2013

Smile for the news crew
WOOSH is off to a great start for the new year, and we have enjoyed welcoming back previous families, and welcoming some new ones too.

The first weeks of this term have been focused on helping our new children (especially our new Transition children) to feel welcomed and comfortable in the afternoon. It is evident that this is starting to be achieved as we observe the children enjoying play as well as seeing children of different ages playing together, including looking after each other.

The children are given many choices about how they would like to play, with planned and spontaneous experiences provided each day. They have been participating in leisure activities that allow them to extend their interests, try new things, relax, and socialise with each other. It is a delight to see the children enjoying themselves each afternoon.

Parent reminders:
Please, if your child is being picked up or going on the bus instead of their usual attendance at WOOSH: Please ring the office before 2.15 pm or let the WOOSH staff know directly when you pick your child up. This is important so that staff know your child is safe and accounted for.

Mrs Emma Newhouse
WOOSH Co-ordinator

If you would like to join the F.L.O.W.E.R.S. team of wonderful helpers please fill in a form and return it to the Canteen. More volunteers are still needed. Remember, you can choose to do half a day or a few hours if that suits you.

Think healthy, Eat healthy, Live healthy!

Mrs Carolyn Richards
Canteen Supervisor
JUNGLE NEWS FROM TOTO AND TEMBO

Transition Tembo and Transition Toto are doing a wonderful job of continuing to settle into College life at WAC. I cannot believe how quickly the term is going! Both classes have now met all of their visiting teachers in the classroom and playground. You may particularly hear about Mrs Hart, Mrs Saint-John, Mrs Turner and Mr Grant.

In the classroom, we are beginning to learn some letter names and sounds and have learnt the letters ‘Aa’ and ‘Mm’. We are practising our alphabet and writing our name. Students have been practising counting and identifying numbers to 10, with a particular focus on numbers 0-3 so far. Over the past couple of weeks we have been learning about farm animals including the names of baby animals. A brief overview of learning will be sent home via the children’s diaries to let you know what our focus is each week. You are welcome to use this as a discussion starter with your child.

Transition are conquering the skill of rotating groups. This is a great opportunity for students to experience a variety of literacy and mathematics-based activities that they may not naturally gravitate towards. Students work in small groups of 4-5 students.

One of the recent highlights in Transition has been getting to know our Year 4 buddies. Our buddy program runs fortnightly. Transition Tembo’s buddy class is Mr Coutts-Smith’s class. Transition Toto is buddied with Mrs Keen’s class.

We have also begun our “Happy Hands and Feet” program with Kindergarten. Transition Tembo visits Mrs Napier’s class on a Wednesday and Transition Toto visits Miss Humble’s class on a Tuesday. The purpose of the program is to develop students’ fine motor and gross motor skills through interactive, hands-on activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify the students’ morning routine, as there has been some confusion. Parents are welcome to drop their children off at the Cook Cottage library from 7.50 each morning. If your child needs to be dropped off earlier, please leave your child with the morning duty teacher under the sails outside, who will hand them over to Mrs Hart (Monday), Mrs Cochrane (Tuesday/Thursday) or Mrs Moller (Wednesday/Friday) at 7.50 am to ensure they are supervised.

Fathers and Literacy Morning will take place Tuesday 12 March. As this is a regular day for Toto students, all students will participate. Although this is not compulsory for Transition Tembo, children are encouraged to come along! Transition Tembo students will need to leave at the conclusion of the morning with their visitor (about 10.00 am). Students from both classes are encouraged to invite their fathers or an adult male (grandfather, uncle, male family friend) to join them for the morning. Further details will be communicated as the date approaches.

A reminder that Transition Tembo students and families are welcome to come along to T-4 Chapel on Thursday afternoons from about 1.40 pm.

Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement.

Mrs Kristy Lee Ferris (k.ferris@wac.nsw.edu.au)
Transition Teacher
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

WH Ireland & Sons Machinery P/L
65 Bowral Road
Mittagong NSW 2575
PHONE: (02) 4872 1999
FAX: (02)4871 2540
E-MAIL: irelands@whireland.com.au

Tahmoor Coal
Thank you for the ongoing support.
From time to time, families undergo trauma such as severe or terminal illness. There are support structures in place at the College to assist families during these times. Parents have kindly offered practical support such as meals for other families. Please continue to contact Mrs Hay or Mr Shaw at the College, to assist. Confidentiality will be respected when requested.

World Day of Prayer - Friday, 1 March at 11.00 am, St Anthony’s School Hall, Mary Mackillop Lane, Picton.

International Women’s Day - Friday, 8 March. You are invited to celebrate with us, including guest speakers, pampering, breakfast and other activities. Breakfast from 7.30 am - 10.30 am. Tahmoor Community Centre, 6 Harper Close Tahmoor, Booking Essential, RSVP Friday, 1 March, contact Susan 4683 2776 (Community Links Wollondilly.)

Campbelltown City Council 2013 Challenge Walk at the Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan - Sunday, 10 March. 7.00 am for 8.00 am start. 6 km Fun Walk and 11 km Endurance Walk. Enter online at Campbelltown City Libraries. For further information Ph: 4645 4605 or email: Campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/challengewalk.

Picton Tennis Club - Free open day Sunday, 17 March, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm at Downing Street, Picton. For more information please visit www.pictontennis.com.au.

Wirrimbirra Sanctuary Reptile Day - Sunday, 24 March, 10.00 am - 3.00 pm Wirrimbirra Sanctuary 3105 Remembrance Drive, Bargo. Enquiries Ph: 4684 1112

Lectures for HSC Students - Free lectures for Year 11 and Year 12 mid-year exam revision. For further information visit website www.tsfx.com.au.

Appin Massacre Memorial Ceremony - Annual memorial for the Dharawal people, Sunday, 14 April to be held at Cataract Dam Picnic area, Appin, 12.00 pm - 3.30 pm.

Picton Music and Harvest Festival - Saturday, 4 May, Music Festival and Sunday, 5 May Busking Competition. For all enquiries please contact Ted Rixon Ph: 0414 467 717.

Highlands Football Club - Vacancies for Under 15 Boys. All enquiries please contact Nick D’Amore Ph: 0407 917 062 or email: dir.coach@hsa.org.au.

CRU Camps Autumn Register Now! - Five CRU Camps on offer this Autumn. HSC Study Camps and Activities Camps. For more information Ph: 02 9874 8933 email: crucamps@crusaders.edu.au.

Bargo Netball Club - Any interested netballers from the ages of 5 - 13 years, please contact Gaye on Ph: 0418 437 459 or email: wardlecrew@bigpond.com.

Wollondilly Anglican Community Church (WACC) meets in the Clifford Warne Auditorium every Sunday at 9.00 am. "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly." Romans 5:6 (NIV). "Powerless" can mean many things. It could be our weakness around certain temptations, or our failure to get things right. It could be a kryptonite thing, or just a realisation that we don't meet God's standards. The great thing about Easter is remembering that Jesus died at the right time for us, not when we were most good, but when we were most in need of forgiveness and renewal. Enjoy the lead up to the hope of Easter this year.

Rev. Rob Meischke

Please Note that this page is a service to the Community and items advertised do not necessarily carry the endorsement of the College. The College tries to be selective with what is advertised but cannot take responsibility. Please look into events
HEADMASTERLY HAPPENINGS

February

Thursday, 28
Rugby League visitor at WAC
Student enrolments for 2014
Staff Meeting

March

Friday, 1
Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation (SASC) Chairman meeting with Heads
Association of Heads of Independent Schools Australia (AHISA) at Shore, Sydney

Sunday, 3
AHISA Meeting continues at Shore School, North Sydney

Monday, 4
AHISA Meeting continues at Shore School, North Sydney

Tuesday, 5
Student enrolments for 2014
(Student) Church meeting

Wednesday, 6
College Executive meeting
Student enrolments for 2014
(evening) NASSA Heads meeting at Homebush
(evening) NASSA Secondary Swimming Carnival

Thursday, 7
Student enrolments for 2014

Friday, 8
P and F President meeting
Student enrolments for 2014

Saturday, 9
College Term 1 Working Bee

Monday, 11
Student enrolments for 2014
(Evening) Parents and Friends Executive
(Evening) 7.00 pm Parents and Friends Association AGM: College Cafeteria

Calendar Update

Tuesday, 26 February
Year 11 & 12 Information Night

Friday, 1 March
World Day of Prayer

Sunday, 3 March
Steam Festival

Tuesday, 5 March
NASSA Junior Swimming Carnival

Wednesday, 6 March
NASSA Secondary Swimming Carnival

Saturday, 9 March
Working Bee

Saturday, 9 March
Duke of Edinburgh Training Day

Tuesday, 12 March
Fathers and Literacy Day

Wednesday, 13 - Friday, 15 March
Year 9 Camp

Friday, 22 March
Term Service
“Special exploding lollies”: Pretend Headmaster, Tariq Daher (KC) is wondering if there is enough to go around our growing College Community.

Prayer Points

Thank God

- For the vision of those who founded the College for a safe place where He is honoured and learning is valued
- For 110 new faces and the abundance of enrolment applications for 2013 and 2014.
- For our caring staff and supportive parents

Ask God

- To maintain the energy required to keep high standards for learning and behaviour.
- For a continuation of our trouble free start to the year.
- That Wollondilly Anglican College may always be a place where His blessing rests.

Psalm 127:1 Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.

Excellence, Endurance, Eternity.