From the Principal

Welcome Back
Welcome to the 2015 school year for all new and existing students and parents. Our start to the year has been very smooth and settled and we expect another excellent year. Also again, strong student enrolment numbers indicate that the community continues to support our work. For those new to our school community look at our website to get a taste of our school and the work we do.

School Plan
2015 marks the start of the new 3 year school planning cycles. Much time was spent throughout 2014 developing our strategic directions. As our core business is teaching and learning it makes sense that our focus is on supporting all students to enhance their learning as well as building the leadership capacity of all staff to achieve this outcome. Strengthening our partnerships within the local community, including our parent body, is another important focus for Warrawong High School.

Therefore, our 3 strategic directions for 2015-2017 are: Equity and Engagement (student-centred); Learning and Engagement (teacher-centred); Communication and Engagement (community-centred). We have attached three Head Teacher positions to these strategic directions. Mrs Lyn Ramsay is our Head Teacher Equity and Engagement, Ms Mel Cairns is Head Teacher Learning and Engagement and, Mr Neil Pearson is Head Teacher Communication and Engagement.

This is an extremely exciting time for Warrawong High School and we look forward to working with school community to achieve the many milestones associated with the new school plan.

In developing the school plan we revisited the school’s purpose. That is, what we stand for as a school, what we value and what we expect from our students. Warrawong High School is a complex comprehensive high school with an outstanding Special Education unit that supports students with intellectual disabilities. It also houses the regions Intensive English Centre which supports refugees and new arrivals to the Illawarra, and has done for over 30 years. In the mainstream high school our expert staff support the educational wellbeing of all students by providing opportunities to extend themselves academically, in sport, through leadership and, in the creative and performing arts. There are many community programs of which our Permaculture Garden is a community of schools focus with clear links to learning in the classroom.

Attached to this edition of the newsletter is the school’s revised Values Platform. It sets out what our school values, the rights and responsibilities of our students and the links to teaching and learning. All of these are set connected across the three Permaculture ethics; Earth Care, People Care, Fair Share.

I urge you to read through the Values Platform which underpins the work of the school in supporting your child’s education, which you will find on page 7 of this newsletter.
School Uniform
Full school uniform makes students look good, it creates respect in the community and helps set a positive school tone. Our uniform letter to parents has been given to all students and again this year it has the full support of parents through the P&C. Parents are urged to ensure that their child always follows our uniform code.

School Open Afternoon
When: Wednesday March 4th, 2015 from 3.00pm to 6.00pm

P&C Meeting
When: February 17th, 2015 at 2pm-3:00pm in the school foyer. This is our first Parents & Citizens Association meeting for the year and all parents are encouraged to attend. At the meeting we will talk about our start to the year including our annual plans, facilities, school fees, uniform and the welfare policy. In addition, we will discuss the future of the P&C, how to increase parent participation and how best the P&C can support the work of the school.

Rick Coleman
Principal

Year 12 students participated in Discovery Day at the University of Wollongong on Tuesday 3rd February. The aims of the day were to inform, motivate and familiarise students with the University setting. Students attended a compulsory session which dealt with how to get into university, early admission, ATAR, HECS payments, scholarships, career paths etc.

Students also attended different sessions corresponding to their interests so they could find out about different degrees on offer. They also had a chance to see aspects of student life such as having lunch on the lawn and a disco in the Uni Bar. The day was extremely worthwhile for students who are hoping to attend university next year.

Mrs B Coursey
Careers Advisor
And the winner is……..  

WACKI  

2014 marked the 13th anniversary of the WACKI Film Festival, which proved, once again, to be highly successful. The Wednesday night Gala premier was well-attended by parents, community members, teachers and of course the excited students from Warrawong High and our feeder primary schools.

A record number of short movies focused on engaging topics, drawing on genres such as comedy, sci-fi, historical spoofs and drama. These films showcased a wide range of local talent, reflecting not only vibrant imaginations but also admirable filming and editing skills. Our local primary school Spielbergs have upped the ante for future movie standards by utilising cutting-edge technology of drones fitted with Go-pros! What next?

The wonderful, rich diversity of our school culture was reflected by the representation of many backgrounds, experiences and interests, culminating in the winning high school movie - I Come From Here - being made by students from our Intensive English Centre. Congratulations to the whole team, especially documentary presenter, Ali….

Once again the Warrawong High Support unit, thanks to movie producer/director extraordinaire Frank ‘Spielberg’ Morales, presented us with memorable films such as the side-splitting Handyman II and the chilling Call of Duty: Zombies. Mr Morales is already busily making movies for next year.
A big thank you to all our sponsors: Win TV-BlueScope Community Partners; Illawarra Yacht club and Oak Flats Bowling Club and the ongoing generous support of The Gala Twin Cinemas, supporting us now for 13 years. Thankyou also to entertaining MC Steve Delaney and renowned short film judges, Nola Galagher and Shane Stackhouse, who confided that this year’s decisions, regarding Best Actors and Best Movies, were quite difficult.

The WACKI film festival is a unique NSW Department of Education-supported initiative, that has earned for our school several prestigious state and national awards over its 13 years. Thankyou to Warrawong High executive and all staff members who have once again generously contributed to a successful and enjoyable celebration of student achievement!

Ms Habicki & Ms Woods
WACKI Co-Ordinators
**Financial Literacy Certificate 1 Course**

During early term 3, 15 students participated in the Certificate 1 Financial Literacy course run by an accredited Money Minded Facilitator. The course was run over a 5 week time period for 2 hours per week. The Program focuses on money management and developing skills to achieve financial goals, such as developing a savings plan and developing a personal budget. The course also incorporates types of debt, the Australian taxation system, superannuation and the Australian financial systems. The course is a recognized certificate 1 accreditation which assist students with attain further education pathways.

The students worked hard to achieve this qualification and now have a positive outlook on their own financial planning and goals through achieving this certificate.

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**“Wool4Skool” Competition**

The Woolmark Company celebrated 50 years of Fashion in 2014 with a Wool4Skool competition aimed at introducing students to Australian merino wool as a natural and renewable fibre, showcasing products that are grown on Australian farms and end up on catwalks around the world.

The competition required entrants to design an outfit with up to 3 pieces incorporating 80% wool, based on an era from the last 50 years and inspired by a personality from that era.

Year 11 student Noparsin (John) Jongthanyakorn was inspired by actor James Dean from the 1950’s whilst IEC student Fern Sutiyawan chose the 1980’s and was inspired by Princess Diana. Congratulations to both students who received an “Outstanding Achievement” Award for their efforts.

A big thank you to D & T’s Ms Ella for her guidance and expertise given to the students on their submissions.
We’re With You Every Step of the Way

Have you ever noticed the magnificent Illawarra Flame Tree that towers over our high school alongside the tall flagpole? Recently, the Intensive English Centre (IEC) students were asked to take particular note of this amazing red tree used as a logo for a local business - The Illawarra Credit Union (ICU).

Fairfax Community Newspapers’ “Design an AD” competition coincided with recent classwork covering advertisements in the IEC. Approximately 20 local businesses were assigned local primary and secondary schools. The Illawarra Mercury assigned local business, the ICU to the IEC. Twenty students took up the challenge to design an ad for the ICU given their business brief. Thirty ad designs were submitted and the ICU chose Shukurani Biranda’s artwork as best reflecting their business mantra (see title). Sales Executive Officer from the Mercury Julie Connor (below right) along with IEC Head Teacher Ruth Cooke (L) congratulated Shukurani on his achievement. Shukurani’s ad appeared in the paper Wednesday 12 November. Well done Shukurani. The $800 first prize for overall best Ads went to Lake Heights PS with their ad for Dapto Leagues and Woonona HS with their ad for Cossies R Us.

Barista Training

In December, students in Years 9 and 10 participated in a Barista Workshop in the new commercial kitchen at school. Ms Allnutt and Ms Tull delivered training on the basics of coffee recognition, grinding, coffee making, milk frothing, pouring and coffee art. Students had fun learning and sampling their creations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permaculture Ethics</th>
<th>Fair Share</th>
<th>People Care</th>
<th>Earth Care</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warrawong High School Values Platform</td>
<td>Creating opportunities, achieving success</td>
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### Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day date month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 February</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival (Competitors Only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 to 27 February</td>
<td>Year 12 VET Work Placement</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 February</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 February</td>
<td>7S Testing (Year 7—2016)</td>
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<td>2 &amp; 3 March</td>
<td>School Photo Catch-up</td>
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<td>10 March</td>
<td>International Women’s Day</td>
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### Community Notices

WHS does not receive or accept any paid advertising for Community Notices. Also, we have no way of checking the bona fides of any information received. We encourage parents/caregivers to make all necessary checks prior to involving their children in activities listed.

#### TUTORING AND HOMEWORK HELP PROGRAM

For Primary and Secondary Students

**Enrolment Essential**

Program commencing on

**Tuesday 3rd Feb to 24th March 2015**

for 8 Weeks

4pm – Junior Program

5pm – Senior Program

FREE

Sponsored by BlueScopeWin

Phone Marie on 4276 1229 for enrolments.

The Kemblawarra Football Club is seeking players aged 16 to 19 interested in trailing for the Youth squad for the upcoming 2015 season. Squad training is every Tuesday and Thursday starting 6pm sharp at the Five Islands Secondary College at Port Kembla.

All players are welcome to trial. For further information please feel free to call Neil Mineeff (Youth Grade Coach) on 0434 076 603 or Rob Oliveira (Club Secretary) on 0423 513 585.

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**WOLLONGONG JUNIOR CHESS CLUB**

**JNR CHESS TOURNAMENT 2015 SUMMER SUNDAY**

(Under 18 Year Olds)

**7 ROUND SWISS**

**WHEN:** 10:00am Sunday 15-Feb-2015 (10:00am to 4:00pm)

**WHERE:** FAIRY MEADOW COMMUNITY CENTRE - KEIRA ROOM

Guest Park - Crn Cambridge Ave and Princess Hwy Fairy Meadow

(Opposite Woolworth)

**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: mazzi@exemail.com.au

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**WOLLONGONG JNR CHESS CLUB**

meets Thursdays 4:30-6:30pm (not school holos)

Fairy Meadow Community Centre

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**Our Supporters:**

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