FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I would like to begin by extending a very warm welcome to all our new students and staff. It is great to have you join the Westfields Sports family. I look forward to getting to know you all as the year progresses. I believe very strongly in the importance of developing strong home-school partnerships so that we can work together to ensure that your sons and daughters achieve to the best of their ability in all aspects of school life. Our first Parents and Citizens Meeting for the year is Wednesday 27 February at 6.30 pm in the Administration Block. All parents, especially our new Year 7 parents, are invited to come along and support your school. As a special treat, our Hospitality students are providing finger food for the occasion.

Our students not only excel on the sporting field, they also achieve outstanding HSC results. In 2012 our top tertiary admission rank was an amazing 99.75. We had a large number of students achieving ATARs above 90 and 70 Band 6 results. With second round offers still not finalised already over 100 students have accepted places at university. Well done to all our staff and students on these excellent results. I would now like to challenge this year’s HSC students to out-perform last year’s results.

I would like to ask for the support of parents in ensuring that your sons and daughters are at school on time. When students arrive late, not only are they missing out on valuable work, they also disrupt the rest of the class who are already working, and that is not fair on the other students or the teacher. It is even more important that students attend school all the time. Frequent absences affect the continuity of learning and this means that students often miss out on valuable knowledge and skills that are a prerequisite for further learning to occur. I would also like to reinforce the importance of being in full school uniform and wearing the uniform with pride. This means having shirts tucked in and ties done up. A reminder that only fully enclosed black leather shoes are permitted. I would encourage parents to ensure that your sons and daughters are correctly attired before they leave for school.

Invoices for school contributions, subject fees and sport fees will be mailed home next week. I cannot stress how important it is that all subject fees and school contributions are paid promptly. Without this ongoing support, we will not be able to continue to provide the high quality education which the community has become used to. Subject fees need to be paid immediately as they are required to buy the consumables and resources which your sons and daughters use to complete their course. Eg. timber in woodwork and food in home economics. The school contribution enables the school to purchase computers, TVs, software, textbooks and other essential resources. I would like all outstanding school contributions and sport fees to be paid by the end of this term or for a payment by instalment plan to have commenced. If there are extenuating circumstances, I would ask parents to contact me so that we can make alternate arrangements. If you have not made any payments by the end of this term, our school bursar will be contacting you to organise a payment plan.

Last week, in conjunction with Variety Club, the school took possession of a new 12 seat mini bus. This means that we now have a bus for sale. The bus is a 1985, 10 seat Toyota mini bus, registration number NSI 510. The bus has travelled 360,000 km and has 10 months registration. The bus will be sold by tender, which should be addressed to the Principal, Westfields Sports High School. Tenders close at 3.00 pm Friday 22 February 2013.

Mr R. Davis
Principal
SCHOOL ID PHOTOS

Years 7, 10 & 12 plus new students will be photographed on Tuesday 19 February, 2013.

Year 12 photos are for the HSC identification. All others are for school ID cards. Students who require ID cards have been invoiced. Students who require HSC identification need to bring $2.00 on the day.

Ms J. Cash  
Head Teacher Administration

MUSIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAM – YEAR 7

If your daughter or son plays any instrument and/or sings, they are welcome to join the Music Enrichment program. Here your child will be a member of a music ensemble, which rehearses at 8:10am to 8:45am every Monday and Thursday morning.

If you would like to know more information or if your child is interested in joining, please contact Ms Ricapito or Ms Chipps for an information booklet.

Ms T. Ricapito & Ms V. Chipps  
CAPA Faculty

SMS MESSAGING

On receiving a message parents/caregivers can reply by pressing the reply option and providing the following information student's full name, year, roll call, date of absence and the reason for absence or lateness.

eg. Shauna Smith 07R01 sick 13/3

Please do not use abbreviations or preferred names.

The school expects parents/caregivers to contact the school in advance if they know their child is to be absent and to ensure the current mobile numbers are provided to the school.

Thank you for your assistance and co-operation

Miss D Zanet  
Head Teacher Administration

VACCINATIONS

YEAR 7 BOYS & GIRLS / YEAR 9 BOYS

On Wednesday Year 7 viewed a presentation on Human Papilloma virus (HPV) during assembly. The link is provided below for you to view and discuss with your child. Year 9 should take the opportunity to view this at home.


Vaccination packs were issued to all students this week and should be completed and returned by the end of Week 3.

Vaccinations will be carried out at school and the dates are as follows:

- 6 March 2013 - HPV, dTPa
- 9 May 2013 - HPV, HepB, Varicella
- 5 September, 2013 - HPV, HepB

Should you require additional information please contact me on 9604 3333 during school hours.

Mrs M Chidzey  
Relieving HT Welfare

HOMEWORK CENTRE - SUPPORTING STUDENTS

The homework centre, based in the school library is available for all students from 3:15pm to 4:15pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during the school term. Teaching staff are available to assist students with homework, research and study. Whilst attendance is voluntary, students may need to make alternate arrangements to travel home as they will not be dismissed from the homework centre until 4:15pm on these days. If your child requires assistance with homework or is just looking for a quiet place to study please encourage them to attend the homework centre.

Mr D. Barrett  
Deputy Principal

TIMETABLES

The following information is provided for Year 7 students (and parents) who are experiencing difficulty in understanding their new timetables.

The first 3 letters after the year of the student is the class colour. This is followed by the subject code as below:

- M  Maths
- E  English
- G  Geography
- H  History
- S  Science
- MU  Music
- PE  PDHPE
- TM  Tech Mandatory
- VA  Visual Art
- SE  Sport Enrichment (followed by sport)
- SP  Sport
- ENR  Enrichment

Mrs M Chidzey  
Relieving HT Welfare

PDHPE AND SPORT REMINDER

During PE and Sport lessons students need to be properly prepared with hat, drink bottle and sunscreen. In extreme weather, lessons will be modified with adequate rest and drink breaks provided.

Whilst it is commendable for students to be looking after their hygiene and want to use a deodorant after PE or Sport, it is important to remember that the spray can variety is not suitable to use in the school environment. Roll on deodorant is the most suitable and should be the only method used.

Mr C. Jarvis  
Head Teacher PDHPE

MOBILE PHONES

Students may bring a mobile phone to school. All phones must be turned off throughout the day.

Inappropriate use of phones – including images or recording of fellow students is unacceptable.

If a student is found using their mobile phone during school time the phone will be taken from students and placed in the school safe for collection by the student at the end of the school day.

Subsequent offences will result in parents having to collect the phone from the school office.

Mrs M Chidzey  
Relieving HT Welfare
DANCERS SHINE IN THE YOUTH OLYMPICS OPENING CEREMONY

21 Westfields Dancers from Years 10 and 11 performed in the opening ceremony of the 2013 Youth Olympics on Wednesday 16 January. The dancers were spectacular, performing “Shake it Up” and “This Is Who I am” to an audience of over 4000, including athletes from across the world. Ben Zammit of Year 11 was selected to perform a featured duet as part of the ceremony. His performance captivated audience members and was very well received by the ceremony’s coordinators. The dancers gave up 3 days of their school holidays to rehearse and perform. They were outstanding ambassadors for the school and Dance Program. Congratulations!

Miss E. Ireland
CAPA Faculty

The Department of Education and Communities has recently announced that all government schools will receive a general use adrenaline autoinjector (an Epi Pen) for their first aid kit.

This does not replace the need for parents to continue to provide the school with an adrenaline autoinjector and ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis signed and dated by their doctor when their child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis. Instead the general use adrenaline autoinjector is intended to be used if:

• an undiagnosed student has an anaphylactic reaction at school.
• there is a misfire of the adrenaline autoinjector that has been prescribed for a student.
• a student requires further adrenaline autoinjector to be administered after his or her own adrenaline autoinjector has been administered.

Please contact the school on 9604 3333 if you would like further information in relation to this matter.

STUDENT RECORDS

In cases of emergency it is very important that Student Records are accurate and up to date.

If you have changed your address or telephone number, or wish to update your emergency contact person, please advise the Administration Office as soon as possible.

Mrs M. Edwards
Administration Office

THANK YOU

My family and I would like to say thank you for your support, help and kind words, as well as generous donations when our house burnt down last year.

It is now fixed, and we have moved in for about two months already. Your prayers and kindness was greatly appreciated. We are lucky to have such good friends.

I consider myself lucky to have such wonderful support from those I work with. Thank you to Mr. Davis and Mrs. Wilson for their counsel and great advice, without which I would have cried all year long (dealing with insurance company is not something I recommend!).

Kallyan Ung
Mathematics Faculty

MUSIC TUITION

Westfields Sports Music Department offer students the opportunity to have guitar, drums, keyboard, singing and violin lessons.

Our school provides your child with expert tuition by experienced musicians at very reasonable rates. Students also have the opportunity to sit for external music exams, for example, AMEB.

For further information, please contact Ms Ricapito or Ms Chipps.

Ms T. Ricapito & Ms V. Chipps
CAPA Faculty

CARDAC KIDNEY HEALTH STUDY

Students at Westfield Sports have the opportunity to be involved in the ARDAC Kidney Health Study.

We are currently recruiting any students who would be interested in participating in the study.

We are looking for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal participants.

Screening takes approximately 5 minutes and involves measuring height, weight, waist circumference, blood pressure and a urine test.

The participants receive a football or a $10 gift card as a thank you gift.

A parent information letter and consent form for students to take home and have signed will be issued once numbers are confirmed.

Interested students should see Mrs Chidzey in the Home Economics faculty by Wednesday the 13 February 2013.

Mrs M Chidzey
Relieving HT Welfare

EARLY LEAVERS

All requests for your child to leave school early will be validated by the Deputy Principal prior to issuing the pass. Please include your contact details (mobile & home phone numbers) on the leave request.

Mr A. Rogers
Deputy Principal
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In the event of injury, no personal injury insurance cover is provided by the NSW Department of Education and Training for students in relation to school sporting activities, physical education lessons or any other school activity.

Parents and caregivers are advised to assess the level and extent of their child’s involvement in the sport program offered by the school, school sport zone, area and state school sport associations when deciding whether additional insurance cover is required. Personal accident insurance cover is available through normal retail insurance outlets.

Parents who have private ambulance cover need to check whether that cover extends to interstate travel and make additional arrangements as considered appropriate.

The NSW Supplementary Sporting Injury Benefits Scheme, funded by the NSW Government, provides limited cover for serious injury resulting in the permanent loss of a prescribed faculty or the use of some prescribed part of the body.

Information can be obtained from: www.sportinginjuries.com.au
Further information regarding student accident insurance and private health cover is provided at:

Mrs J. Kenny
Director of Sport

LOCAL SPORTING CHAMPIONS FUNDING

This Australian Government initiative has been designed to provide financial assistance for junior sportsmen and women towards the cost of travel, accommodation, or equipment when competing at an official national sporting organisation (NSO) endorsed state sporting organisation (SSO) or national school sporting competition.

The grants for individual applicants will be $500 and $3000 for team applications. To be eligible to apply, young people must be aged between 12-18 years and travelling more than 250km to compete in state or national level sporting competitions. So if you know any junior sportsmen and women at your school that maybe finding it difficult to meet the ongoing and significant costs associated with participation at sporting competitions, send them this flyer and encourage them to apply for an LSC grant online at http://www.ausport.gov.au/champions

Grant applications are assessed three times per year. Round opening and closing dates are as follows:

Mrs J. Kenny
Director of Sport

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Congratulations:
• Brandon Crosbie & Daniel Hayes – NSW All Schools Cricket Representatives

Mrs J. Kenny
Director of Sport

LOST PROPERTY

Already we have around thirty jumpers in lost property – unfortunately NONE with names on.
If your child has lost their jumper please get them to check at the front office.

Westfields Sports are proud to be supported by:

Hamilton Road Fairfield West, NSW 2165
Phone: 9604 3333 • Fax: 9725 4898
E-mail: westfields-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web: www.westfields-h.schoo ls.nsw.edu.au

Medical Centre Phone: 9604 3122
Gymnastics Hall Phone: 9604 3773
Sports Stadium Phone: 9604 9361