FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our next Parents and Citizens meeting is on Wednesday 27 March at 6.30 pm. This meeting is our AGM so it is very important in electing your executive for the next 12 months. I look forward to seeing lots of parents there to support your sons and daughters with their education.

A friendly reminder about the payment of fees and contributions. We need any outstanding amounts to be paid by the end of the term so that we can purchase all of the resources that we need to continue to provide a quality education for your sons and daughters. I would like to thank those parents who have already either paid their fees in full or have contacted the school to organise a payment by instalment plan.

Examinations for our senior students are just around the corner. Year 12 Half Yearly exams commence on Tuesday 2 April and for all other years at the beginning of next term. I expect that all of our senior students have their study timetables organised and that they are already spending between two and three hours each night preparing for these exams. The NSW HSC Online at http://hsc.csu.edu.au/, Board of Studies at http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/, and the Board of Studies Assessment and Resource Centre at http://arc.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/ are all very valuable study aides as they contain summaries, past papers, questions and answers, study guides and tips, work examples and marking criteria and guidelines for the HSC. They should be placed on the list of favourites for every senior student and used frequently to assist the students with their study.

To assist our senior students with their study, the library is open at 7.30am every morning with staff on duty to assist with research and study. In addition, the Homework Centre is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in the library from 3.15pm – 4.15pm. Two members of staff who are available to assist students with their research and study supervise it. I would highly recommend this to our senior students, especially those who do not have access to the Internet at home or those who know that they are easily distracted from study by television, social media or computer games.

This past week has been a very busy one in terms of visitors to the school. On Wednesday, Jim Wilson, Sports Presenter from Channel 7 came to talk to some of our Year 12 students about sports journalism. His talk was filmed so those of you who watch Channel 7 news would no doubt have seen this segment. It was great publicity for the school. On Friday, the NSW Minister for Sport and Recreation, the Hon. Graham Annesley attended a special awards ceremony to present certificates to our state and national sports representatives and also medals to some of our Duke of Edinburgh students. Our hospitality students provided an excellent morning tea afterwards. The Minister was most impressed with our school and asked that I pass on his thanks to all involved.

Mr R. Davis
Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Senior students had the opportunity to attend two presentations this week to provide guidance on future career options. Andrew Page, a member of the Future Direction Network, established by Corey Payne spoke from a Chartered Accountant’s perspective on the value of higher education. Jim Wilson, sports reporter for Channel 7, gave many insights into the media industry. He summed up by saying that nothing beats hard work and determination.

A special initiative from Ms Walker and Ms Jethi is a Study Skills course for Year 11 students. This will take place for the next four Thursdays at the conclusion of lunch time. Topics covered will include; Time Management, Unpacking Exam Questions, Stress Management, How to Answer Multiple Choice Questions and The Standards Package. This series of workshops is highly recommended.

Saturday school classes will not run during the Easter weekend. There will be classes on Saturday 6 April. Classes will resume for Term 2 on Saturday 4 May. For all students, the Homework Centre is available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in the school library – from 3.15 to 4.15pm.

The Hon Graham Annesley, Minister for Sport and Recreation will visit our school on Friday to present awards to our successful Duke Of Edinburgh candidates. Students receiving these awards included: A Barton, E Carruthers, E Dankha, N Jankov, A McEwan Ferguson, E Patramanis, L Piccinin, A Reid, B Woodward and S Tang. This has been a highly successful program, indeed 70 students attended a meeting on Wednesday to register for the program in 2013.

The Minister also acknowledged those students who have achieved state and national teams in their chosen sports: B Crosbie, D Hayes, R Oveev, A Wickens, Z Zielinski, G Rowntree and T Tupaea.

Congratulations to our library staff on the excellent display of Westfields Stars. Over 200 champions are showcased for all visitors to see.

On Wednesday evening, Year 9 parents and students attended a special presentation prior to receiving their laptops. Parents signed a charter agreement to support the appropriate use of the laptops. The technology can only enhance learning when students bring their device to school each day – fully charged.

NAPLAN testing for all students in Years 7 and 9 will take place on the 14, 15 and 16 May in the school stadium. Students have received advice, via moodle, regarding the NAPLAN testing. It is highly recommended that students try the practice tests and become very familiar with the NAPLAN format.

We look forward to the new Trade Training Centre opening early in Term 2. Hospitality students will have an industry standard kitchen in which to develop their culinary skills.

Congratulations to our school neighbour Tom Meigan on receiving the Fairfield City Council Award in appreciation for his community support and good citizenship.

YEAR 7 BULLYING INCURSION

Friday 15 March was National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. Year 7 students participated in this day of action by watching a fantastic, relevant and thought-provoking performance entitled Verbal Combat, which was performed by the drama company Brainstorm Productions.

Two young actors posed as several students in a high school setting. The scenes used modern music, powerful song lyrics, humour, and captivating drama to convey the multifaceted layers surrounding issues of bullying. The play depicted common motives for bullying and highlighted the various ways that a student can be bullied. At the conclusion of the play, the actors lead a comprehensive discussion focusing on vital questions relating to the consequences of bullying and different strategies for conflict resolution at school.

The two actors were delighted with the engagement and the behaviour of the audience and their contribution to the production. Year 7 represented Westfields Sports with excellence, with Fortitudo. Well done Year 7! Thank you also to the fantastic teachers who helped make this incursion a success!

Miss K. Smith
PDHPE Faculty

12PDHPE VISIT SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

Recently, 30 students from Year 12 attended a PDHPE workshop at Sydney University. The topic “Physiological Responses to Cardiovascular Training” gave an introduction to the work covered in school and allowed students to actively experience different types of training and to explore the effects training has on the body. The group also examined the principals of training and how different training methods can be used in sport. A practical exercise was conducted which allowed the students to understand the energy systems of the body in action. Participating in aerobic and anaerobic fitness tests using tests such as sub-max VO2 and anaerobic power using the Wingate bike did this.

All students enjoyed the experience and were polite and well mannered throughout the day.

Mr C. Jarvis
Head Teacher PDHPE

DEBATING NEWS

If your child wishes to expand their skills in English then debating might just be the sport for them.

Debating will allow your child to meet students from other schools, comment on current issues, whilst being part of a team environment. Junior competitions (7-10) will be starting soon.

Please advise your child to listen carefully to daily notices for further information regarding meeting times.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Mrs J. Jones
Debating Coordinator
MEETING THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

In December 2012, five Photography and Digital Media students attended a paper collage workshop over two days at Casula Powerhouse and Arts Centre (CPAC). The students; Blessah Genares, Chloe Duran, Cassie Grant, Holly Millwood and Jacinta Effendi, worked with professional artist Deborah Kelly to create their own paper collage artworks, which were displayed as part of the *Onside: Women in Sport* exhibition. In 2013 CPAC invited these students to return to meet the Governor General, Ms Quentin Bryce when she visited the exhibition. The girls presented their work to Ms Bryce and discussed their concepts as well as their future aspirations. Ms Bryce was so impressed with the girls that she has requested their contact details so she can invite them to tea later in the year.

It was a wonderful celebration of the creative talent in our school and the students’ commitment to their own learning and to the local community.

Ms S. Wade
CAPA Faculty

WORK EDUCATION

Year 9 students are working towards establishing a fruitful vegetable/herb garden at Westfields Sports High.

While learning about nutrition and photosynthesis the Year 9 student’s are outdoors working up a sweat.

Practical activities help the students make connections between school and real life settings.

National Partnership Team

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

FILM PRODUCTION & EDITING

In 2012, one Year 9 Photography & Digital Media class worked with professional filmmaker Jack McGrath from the University of Sydney to create “The Hacker”, a short film, as part of the Compass program. The students conceived, filmed and edited the film over seven weeks and then attended a red carpet screening in the Great Hall at the University of Sydney.

The film told the story of a group of students whose evil teacher hacked the school’s system to lock them in the school. The students had to complete a number of challenges before they were able to thwart the evil hacker’s plan.

The film was made to a high standard and the students displayed commitment and enthusiasm throughout the project. The quality of the program and the results has ensured that this unit will be run again in 2013 with a new group of Year 9 students.

Many thanks to the University of Sydney Compass team, particularly Jack McGrath!

Ms S. Wade
CAPA Faculty

YEAR 12 HOSPITALITY VISIT NOVOTEL

Recently 24 Year 12 Hospitality students left early for the trip down to the Novotel in Wollongong to take part in the Student Hospitality Experience Program.

Throughout the day we experienced many different aspects of the hospitality industry.

We changed into our chef’s uniforms and with the guidance of the pastry chef created cakes and desserts for the days buffet. Then we learnt how to make the perfect coffee and were again able to have hands on experience and learnt various designs and techniques.

The buffet at lunchtime in the dining room was amazing with a great variety of foods to choose from and the view of the beach was stunning.

After lunch we toured all the back of house areas of the hotel including stores, maintenance, laundry, function rooms and met the Head Chef. Everyone was most accommodating in answering all our questions.

We learnt a great deal about how a large hotel runs and their sustainable programs.

Everyone one had such a great time that the bus was a very quiet place on the way home ... except for the snoring!

Ashleigh Bantoft & Chiara Romero
Year 12 Hospitality
FOOD TECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURE TRIP

After our class tour of Brasserie Bread I came out a more knowledgeable and passionate food enthusiast as the style, technique and nature of Artisan bakery intrigued me as well as many of my classmates. During our tour we were able to harness our inner bakers and learn what it means to be an Artisan baker. To clearly define what an Artisan baker is, it is simply a profession in which products are crafted with the use of an individual’s head, hands and heart as “Artisans” are the best and most passionate in their field of work.

Before we were able to tour the facilities available at the Sydney Branch of Brasserie Bread we were in a demonstration kitchen where we learnt the fundamentals of baking and many interesting facts about the company. Many facts include that Brasserie Bread pride themselves in the use of no artificial flavourings or preservatives in the manufacturing process. The first thing we were taught during our tour were the simple ingredients needed to produce an average loaf of bread. We learnt that it only takes four different ingredients in various proportions to produce an average loaf of bread. We created a plait loaf and scrolls that at the end of the day had been baked for us and we were able to take our handmade bread home.

Tony Lo
Year 12 Food Technology

UNIFORM SHOP

From Thursday 4 April, the Uniform Shop will be selling items of winter uniform - Scarves for $5.00 and Girls Navy Pants for $48.00. Items can only be worn in Terms 2 & 3.

Now in stock - Rainjackets in all sizes for $50.00

Lost Property - Lots of items, including jumpers, shoes, and joggers. Please get your child to check at front office if they have lost any items.

Mrs J. Stickler
Uniform Shop

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Congratulations :

• Boys Football - Westfields Sports defeated Hunter SHS 3-1
• Girls Football - Westfields Sports drew with Hunter SHS 1-1
• Michael Buettner Shield Rugby League – Westfields Sports defeated The Hills SHS & drew with Hunter SHS
• Chase Stanley Shield Rugby League – Westfields Sports defeated The Hills SHS & Hunter SHS
• Davidson Shield Cricket – Westfields Sports 3/140 defeated Endeavour SHS 10/139
• Steven Azzi, Nicholas Condisis, Danijel Elkaz, Dragan Elkaz, Jordan Edwards, Barfour Owusu-Ansah, Benjamin Schacht, Andrew Urigwe - SSW Boys Basketball Representatives
• Madison Bennett, Megan Cantellano-Little, Stacey Evic, Masani Francis, Ebony Frost, Chelsea Menna, Telesia Manumaleuga, Tahlia Tupaea - SSW Girls Basketball Representatives
• Boys Volleyball – Westfields Sports defeated Macquarie Fields HS
• Christopher Douglass & Ryan Whitley – NSWCHS State Baseball Representatives
• Jordie Hedges, Jermaine Mati-Leifi, Tui Oloapu, Tulsa Saumamao, Sinapati Solia, John Tohi, Jason Vidal – SSW 18s Rugby League Representatives
• Bil Benjament, Joshua Carr, George Francis, Setefano Ikamui, Giordan Patea, Dion Solaese – SSW 15s Rugby League Representatives

Mrs J. Kenny
Director of Sport

Westfields Sports are proud to be supported by :