FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I would again like to remind parents about the importance of paying fees and contributions. All subject fees and school contributions are now due. A minimum payment of $250 towards your child’s sport fee is also due. The school will be contacting all parents with outstanding fees early next term to arrange payment by an instalment plan.

By the time you receive this copy of Westnews, Year 12 will have commenced their half yearly exams. All other Years, 7 – 11 will commence their half yearly exams at the beginning of next term. All students should be spending some time over the school holidays studying for these important exams.

Last week Year 9 students received their laptops. Students are expected to take good care of their laptops and only use them for educational purposes. Any breach of the Laptop User Charter will result in the students having their laptop taken off them.

As this will be the last Westnews for the term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their commitment and dedication and all parents for their ongoing support. I trust that everyone will have a safe and relaxing holiday. The last day of term also marks the final day of Rod Cherry’s teaching career. After 38 years of service, the last 15 years as Deputy Principal at Westfields Sports, Rod is retiring. On behalf of the thousands of students who Rod has taught and the hundred’s of staff he has worked with, mentored and led, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rod for his contribution to public education and wish him all the best in his retirement.

Next term commences with two School Development Days, the second to enable schools to prepare for the introduction of the new National Curriculum in 2014. This means that students do not return until Wednesday 1 May 2013.

As the scheduled time for the next P & C Meeting falls during the upcoming holidays, there will not be a meeting in April. Our first P & C meeting next term will be 6.30pm on Wednesday 22 May. Please put this date in your diaries.

Mr R. Davis
Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

As we move very quickly towards the end of term it is a good opportunity to pause and reflect about our progress. For some students it is a time to review successful achievements. I have seen Year 7 show a mature transition to High School life. I have witnessed many students benefit from the careful tutoring of our SLSO’s in Multilit who have nurtured an interest and skills in reading. I know many others who have experienced accomplishment in both literacy and numeracy sessions at our National Partnership Learning Centre.

I hope to see these skills transferred early next term with NAPLAN assessment. I encourage all Year 7 and 9 students to review NAPLAN strategies through our Moodle site.

All Year 7 and 8 students have been issued with an assessment schedule recently. Use next term as an opportunity to grow as a successful learner by being organised and planning for those upcoming assessments. By planning for assessments and regularly using school diaries to support study and homework students can achieve even more school success. Parents are an important part of this learning by encouraging and signing diaries regularly, monitoring assessment schedules and reinforcing a passion for reading and learning.

This is a time when senior students face challenges of examinations and assessment tasks. Our senior study tutorials at Thursday lunch times in Ms Jethi’s room are a practical way to prepare for the academic rigour of senior study. These sessions can be supported at the homework centre in the library Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursday afternoons where teacher assistance is provided.

Ms S. Walker
Deputy Principal (Relieving)

NAPLAN TESTING 2013

NAPLAN testing at Westfields Sports for Years 7 & 9 will take place in the Stadium on the following days. Students are required to report to the Stadium for the periods listed below instead of attending their normal classroom.

**Tuesday 14 May, 2013**
Language Conventions (45 mins) and Writing (40 mins)
Year 7 - Periods 4, 5 & 6
Year 9 - Periods 1, 2 & 3

**Wednesday 15 May, 2013**
Reading (65 mins)
Year 7 - Assembly time 11:02am, R/C & Period 5
Year 9 - Periods 2 & 3

**Thursday 16 May, 2013**
Numeracy Calculator and Non-calculator (2 x 40 mins)
Year 7 - Periods 4, 5 & 6
Year 9 - Periods 1, 2 & 3

**Important**
All students must bring their own calculator for Numeracy testing.

Practice tests can be accessed via Moodle on the school intranet.

Mr D. Barrett
Deputy Principal

POSITIVE PEER CULTURE

On Wednesday 13 March, the week leading up to the National Day Against Bullying 30 students from Years 8 through to 12 attended a leadership-training day.

The full day training prepares these students for being a member of the Positive Peer Culture team at Westfields Sports to assist other students in conflict resolution along with skills to assist students in other issues that may be encountered throughout their school years.

Peer Mediation fits into the Department’s Student Welfare, Anti-bullying, Student Discipline, Anti-racism and Anti-discrimination policies and procedures.

The program aims to:
• increase awareness of how conflict affects people’s lives
• improve communication between students and between teachers and students
• teach students skills such as listening, critical thinking and problem-solving
• empower students by having them take greater responsibility for resolving their own disputes.

School staff trained in peer mediation coordinate peer mediation programs. They provide training, ongoing supervision and support for student mediators.

The trained student mediators will deal with minor disputes such as: name calling, rumour spreading, friendship problems, property issues, teasing, and exclusion.

Congratulations to the students involved.

Mrs M. Chidzey
Head Teacher Welfare (Relieving)
YEAR 10 PASS

On Thursday 7 March, Year 10 PASS changed their classroom for the day. They were able to participate in a day of sun and surf at Cronulla Beach while participating in a two hour surfing lesson. As part of our Sport, Leisure and Recreation unit students learnt that some sports are not as easy as they may seem with surfing being one of those. One student was heard to say that they ‘would rather run in a straight line.’ Even with the challenge students had a great day and both teachers and students would love to have that beautiful backdrop to be their classroom more often.

OUTSTANDING MATHEMATICIANS

Congratulations to the following students who obtained outstanding results in the recent assessment tasks. You should all be very proud of your achievements.

Year 7 Diagnostic Test
1st in Course - Kevin Le
2nd in Course - Jason Tu
3rd in Course (Eq) - Shi Han Jong, Helen Kalou, Robinson Le
1st in Class - Jet Cheng, Daniel Wilmering, Harry Brett, Andrew Head, Jessica Main, Luis Ferreira, Kevin Le, Shu Han Jong, Jessica Nguyen, Richard Ung, Alexander Sras

Year 8 Common Test
1st in Course - Callum Watt
2nd in Course - Celina Huynh
3rd in Course (Eq) - Adam Bateup, Shannon Kenmare
1st in Class - Timothy Ngo, Samuel Raymond, Cindy Le, Fiu Gibson, Princess Ibini- Iseti, Harmony Malaalula, Dylan Popplewell, Lena Li

Year 9 Common Test
Advanced 5.3
1st in Course - Edwin Cheer
2nd in Course (Eq) - Aly Muhammad Hemani, Matthew Le, Jade Nguyen

Intermediate 5.2
1st in Course - Matia Greco
2nd in Course - Daniel Won

Standard 5.1
1st in Course - Alex Zarafetas
2nd in Course (Eq) - Omar El-Sayed, John Fonua

Year 10 Assessment
Advanced 5.3
1st in Course - Evangelos Patramanis
2nd in Course (Eq) - Joshua Duong, Jimmy Nham

Intermediate 5.2
1st in Course (Eq) - Kathy Nguyen, Marko Filipovic, Bailey Woodward

Standard 5.1
1st in Course - Andi Mito
2nd in Course - Jesses Zaya

Year 11 Assessments 1 & 2
Extension
1st in Course (Eq) - Tony Pham, Benjamin Waller

Mathematics 2U
1st in Course (1) - Benjamin Waller
2nd in Course (1) - Jasmine Kim
1st in Course (2) - Jasmine Kim
2nd in Course (2) - Benjamin Waller, Brock Westwood

Mathematics General
1st in Course (1) - Brian Jamba, Robert Ovseev, Raymond Skelton, Liam Cockburn

Year 12 Assessment
Extension 2
1st in Course (Eq) - Phi Long Bui, Kevin Luc

Extension 1
1st in Course - Patrick Ngo
2nd in Course (Eq) - Michael Jankulovski, Vivian Luu, Joshua Thai, Danny Nguyen

Mathematics 2U
1st in Course (Eq) - Nashwan Istephan, Danny Nguyen

Mathematics General
1st in Course (Eq) - Mark Cichon, Stacey Evic

Mathematics Applied
1st in Course - Rachell Sharne
2nd in Course - Azra Alisic

Next term, during weeks 1 & 2, students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 will be sitting for their half yearly exams. Students can prepare for these exams by:
• creating summaries from their class notes on each topic.
• redoing homework activities and diagnostic tests.
• participating in classroom revision and completing revision sheets.
• doing past papers (preferably under test conditions).
• attending extra tutorials run by the Maths staff.

Students can also do mathletics www.mathletics.com and attend the homework centre on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays after school for further assistance.

We wish all these students the best of luck for these very important exams.

Ms P. Katsaros
Mathematics Faculty

UNIFORM SHOP

Now in stock - Rainjackets in all sizes - $50.00, Scarves - $5.00 and Girls Navy Pants - $48.00. These items can only be worn in Terms 2 & 3.

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. Any non school uniform articles not collected by end of term will be donated to charity.

Mrs J. Stickler
Uniform Shop
HOMEWORK CENTRE - SUPPORTING STUDENTS

The homework centre, based in the school library, is available for all students from 3:15pm to 4:15pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons 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

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

DER LAPTOPS

Students are reminded to bring their laptops to school each day—fully charged. Swapping of batteries will shut down laptops.

Parents are reminded that in the case of damage to laptops, an incident report must be completed and returned to the Technical Service Officers in C block. If laptops are lost a police report is required.

Mr E. Gergi
Technical Service Officers

EARLY LEAVERS

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

Mr A. Rogers
Deputy Principal

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, uniforms 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 miss 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:
• Abi Avenido - SSW Girls Basketball Representative
• Jack Sweeney – NSWCHS State Diving Representative
• Melissa Caceres, Lauren Featherstone, Victoria Guzman, Amy Harrison, Rebecca Johnson, Shelby Milton, Rhianna Pollicina, Jessica Urquhart, Clare Woods - SSW Girls Football Representatives

Mrs J. Kenny
Director of Sport

Westfields Sports are proud to be supported by:

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