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 25 February at 6.30 pm in the Administration Block. All parents, but especially our new Year 7 parents are invited to come along and support your school.

Our students not only excel on the sporting field, the 2014 HSC results were also outstanding. Our dux achieved an amazing tertiary admission rank of 99.5. We had a large number of students achieving ATARs above 90 and 64 Band 6 results. With second round offers still not finalised, already over 130 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 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 in the next two weeks. 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. For example, timber in Industrial Technology Timber and food in Food Technology. 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 the term or for a payment by installment 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.

Mr R. Davis
Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

School diaries have been issued and are an important tool for all students. Students have been asked to copy their timetable into the diary and keep it with them at all times to record homework & school activities. For new students and parents the front of the diary has important information about school procedures and our welfare program.

In November 2014 students in Year 8 completed ESSA online (Essential Secondary Science Assessment). These results have now been distributed to students to take home.

I am pleased to report that Year 7 have had a settled start to the year and are adjusting well to the timetable and routines of high school. Could I ask parents to assist by checking the night before that your child has all the necessary books and equipment for the next school day. Unless a student has a training session before school it is expected that students arrive each day in full school uniform. I would also encourage parents to ensure that your child is getting to bed at a reasonable hour.

Mr D. Barrett
Deputy Principal

SPANISH EXCURSION

On Friday 12 December, Year 9 Spanish went on an excursion to see the Aztec exhibition at the Sydney Australian museum.

The first thing we did when we arrived at Museum Station was to take photos in front of the historical fountain. We then walked over to St Mary’s Cathedral, where we all had a moment of reverence in the beautifully decorated room with tall ceilings and rooms lit by candles.

We made our way to the museum and met our guide Bryan. He welcomed us and had an amazing attitude all day. He took us to see a slide show so we could gain some background knowledge. We then were lead to the artefacts and filled in sheets Mrs Ayas gave us. There were so many incredible pieces and treasures there, like weapons made of obsidian and Spanish armours, it was very interesting.

By lunch time we were all hungry and some of us just had to go to Starbucks! Then, who ever wanted had the opportunity to try Spanish food from ‘En Casa’, a Spanish delicatessen/restaurant. ‘En Casa’ means at home in Spanish and the food was deliciosa!! We finished and caught the next train back to school and by this time we were exhausted.

The excursion was a lot of fun and really educational at the same time.

Ms M. Ayas & 9SPA
Head Teacher Languages

WESTFIELDS SPORTS WELFARE TEAM

Year 7 Adviser Mrs Jones (PDHPE)
Year 7 Assistant Mr Brame (PDHPE)
Year 7 Deputy Mr Barrett
Year 8 Adviser Ms Pham (Social Sciences)
Year 8 Assistant Ms Alic (Home Economics)
Year 8 Deputy Mrs Walker
Year 9 Adviser Ms Jaajaa (Social Sciences)
Year 9 Assistant Ms Wade (CAPA)
Year 9 Deputy Ms Zanet
Year 10 Adviser Ms Leone (History)
Year 10 Assistant Ms Aylett (Mathematics)
Year 10 Deputy Mr Rogers
Year 11 Adviser Ms Smith (Learning Centre)
Year 11 Assistant Ms Farnon (Learning Centre)
Year 11 Deputy Mr Barrett
Year 12 Adviser Ms Ricapito (CAPA)
Year 12 Assistant Ms Kendirjian (English)
Year 12 Deputy Ms Zanet
Positive Peer Culture Ms Burt (PDHPE)
Head Teacher Welfare Mrs Taylor (PDHPE)
Assistant HT Welfare Ms Burt (PDHPE)

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 T. Lam
Head Teacher Administration

HOMEWORK CENTRE - SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

The homework centre, based in the school library is available for all students from 3.15pm to 4.15 pm 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 C. King
Relieving Head Teacher Pedagogy
ACCIDENTS OR ILLNESS

Students who become sick during the school day will be given permission by their teacher to go to the sick bay. Minor injuries are treated at school. If necessary, an ambulance will be called.

Staff will contact parents/guardians if students need to go home.

STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO CONTACT PARENTS DIRECTLY.

Ms D. Zanet
Deputy Principal

EARLY LEAVERS

If a student needs to leave school early they should:
- bring a parental note stating why and when the student is required to leave school
- show the note to the Deputy in Charge of their year and receive an Early Leavers Pass
- show their classroom teacher the Early Leavers Pass when leaving class

All appointments should be made outside of school times.

STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS WITHOUT PERMISSION

Mr A. Rogers
Deputy Principal

SCHOOL PHOTOS 2015

School photos will be occurring on Tuesday 17 February for all students. This year the school has opted to only take individual portrait photos. Year 12 will be the only year group to still have a group photo.

Information regarding school photos will be distributed in Roll Call early in Week 3. All money is to be given directly to the photographers on the day. However, the preferred method for purchasing photographs is to make payments online through the Advanced Life Photography website. Further information can be found in the information package.

As usual students will be required to wear full school uniform. Please ensure any hair accessories such as ribbons, are in the school colours and that all other school uniform expectations are adhered to.

For any absent students there will be a catch up day for school photos the following week on Wednesday 25 February.

Mr. G Boulous
Relieving Head Teacher Administration

UNIFORM SHOP - OPENING HOURS

The Uniform Shop is open every Thursday during the school terms from 8:00am to 11:30am.

Mrs J. Stickler
Uniform Shop

WESTFIELDS SPORTS HOUSE SYSTEM

As we start a new school year, it is a good time to remind all students of their ‘House team’. The 4 houses are:

CLARKE (Blue): Surname A – E.
Captains - David Chappuis & Brittney Cable

HAYNE (Green): Surname F – L.
Captains - Blake Jackson & Lilliana Fante

KEWELL (Red): Surname M – R.
Captains – Eroe Piccinin & Bronte Macdonald

SAMUELS (Yellow): Surname S – Z.
Captains – Sunny Trinh & Natalie Tualii

Apart from the major school sporting carnivals (Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics), students are now able to take part in a wider range of school activities in order to gain points for their house. Staff will offer competitions not only in sport but across curriculum and club activities. Points will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place in any event/activity as well as students gaining a point for taking part.

The ‘Champion House’, the house with the most points accumulated throughout the year, will be presented with “The Tucker Shield” and students who participate in any event or activity will receive a school ‘House Participation Certificate’

If students have an interest in a hobby or any activity that they would like to see organised as a house competition, I encourage them to approach a teacher to ask for help in organising and managing that event.

Mr C. Jarvis
House Coordinator

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

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

For all the latest information follow us @WestfieldsSport.
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.

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. 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

SATURDAY SCHOOL

Saturday School tutorials in Mathematics and English commence on the 14 February. These tutorials offer students an opportunity to get ahead in their studies or to catch up on work. The cost is $80.00 per term, per subject. Applications are available from me in the Deputy Principal’s office.

Mrs S. Walker
Relieving Deputy Principal

SCHOOL CANTEEN

The school Canteen is always happy to have assistance from parents who can lend a hand weekly, fortnightly or monthly. If you would like to be a part of this very important team at Westfields Sports, please contact Anne Smith on 96043333.

Mrs L. Thomas
School Administration Manager

WESTFIELDS SPORTS APP

Our School now has our own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community. We are asking parents/students to install our Skoolbag School App. To install it, just search for our school name "Westfields Sports High Fairfield West" in either the Apple App Store, or Google Play Store

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.schools.nsw.edu.au

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