FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As the year comes to an end, I thought that I would take the opportunity to recap on some of the main highlights in what has been another hugely successful year for Westfields Sports. As there are no longer any School Certificate exams and our HSC results do not arrive until next week, the only other external exams were NAPLAN for Years 7 and 9. The single most important aspect of these exams is our ability to track individual student performance over that two year period. I am pleased to say that the growth data for Year 9 students from when they sat their NAPLAN tests in Year 7 in 2013 was significantly above state average. The growth data from Year 9 NAPLAN through to the HSC was even more impressive placing Westfields in the top 3% of all schools from across NSW.

Our Recognition of Student Excellence Awards and morning teas celebrated and rewarded academic success and were once again well supported by parents. As in previous years, we had many students who received distinction and high distinction awards in Australia wide competitions in English, Maths and Science and our debating teams were also highly successful.

In terms of our sporting achievements, this year we had 9 students selected to represent Australia, 72 selected to represent NSW in their chosen sports and Westfields won 9 state knockout competitions. Last week at the regional sports awards, 11 students received SSW sporting blues as well as the prestigious President’s Award, and at the state awards 7 Westfields students received a NSW CHS Sporting Blue.

Once again our creative and performing arts students had another outstanding year. In addition to our drama and music nights, our students performed at the Evening of Dance at the Riverside Theatre, at regional and state dance and more recently at the fantastic school spectacular. As an indication of the success of our dance program, 24 individual dance items from this year’s HSC cohort have been selected to perform at HSC Dance Call Back, which places us right at the top of the state.

We have recently had four new demountable classrooms placed adjacent to A and B blocks. This means that the school is now officially at capacity and cannot get any larger. Our anticipated enrolment for 2016 will be over 1,700 students. Next year we also plan to commence a building program to double the size of our strength and conditioning facility. With the increasing number of students in our sporting programs and increased dependency on weight training, this building extension has become a necessity. For parents of sports students, we will be in contact next year when we begin fundraising for this new facility.

In terms of technology, every classroom in the school has either an interactive data projector or an interactive whiteboard. Unfortunately, next year’s Year 12 are now the only group remaining who still have a government supplied laptop. To help us in our planning for a future without these laptops, this year we introduced a BYOD trial for Year 10. As a follow up to the encouraging results from this trial, we are now suggesting that all students bring their own device to school to assist them with their learning. We believe it is important that your sons and daughters know how to use this latest technology to help them prepare for the digital and online needs of our 21st century society.

As the end of our school year rapidly approaches, I would like to let you know that Yearly Reports will also be issued during roll call on Friday 11 December. Normal timetabled lessons finish next Tuesday 15 December. Wednesday 16 December will be a literacy enrichment day and Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December are pupil free school development days. I look forward to working closely with staff, students and parents next year to make 2016 even more successful than this year. For those of you who like to be planned well in advance, Years 7, 11 and 12 return on Thursday 28 January and Years 8, 9 and 10 return on Friday 29 January 2016. Thank you once again for your ongoing support of our fantastic school, and please have a safe, happy and relaxing Christmas holiday break.

Mr R. Davis
Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

It was my pleasure to announce the following awards at the Westfields Sports Presentation Night:

Janice Crosio Scholarship - Ellen Ly
Denis Evans Scholarship - Chinasa Urigwe
Caufield Scholarship - Yosra Bushter
Frank Tedesco Award - Luis Realegeno
P&C Service Awards - Marwa Kalank & Anthony Carter
Micati Award - Phung Tran
Sydney University Academic Excellence - Alex Brook
ADF Long Tan Award - Sibel Alca
Southwest Connect VT Award - Joel Divertie
Wiltronics Technology Award - Jonathan May
Sydney Markets Award - Kristen Romero
Compass University Ready Award - Olivia Rowntree
Compass University Achievement Award - Anthony Jurac
Smithfield RSL Scholarship - Blessah Genares
University of Western Sydney Award - Lachlan Talau

Congratulations to all students.

Mrs S. Walker
Deputy Principal

SCHOOL ACADEMIC PRESENTATION NIGHT

Congratulations to all students who received awards at presentation night on Tuesday night. It is important to celebrate the academic success of our students and it was nice to see so many parents and teachers in attendance.

A special congratulations to our students who were awarded Dux of their class in Year 7 or their year group:

7Aqua - Benjamin Ogden, 7Blue - Anastasia Radeka, 7Crimson - Christie Wang, 7Orange - Taneka Osgood, 7Purple - Paige Merriman, 7Red - Isabella Savvas, 7Silver - Doanna Nguyen, 7Violet - Triet Nguyen, 7White - Kathy Nguyen, 7Yellow - Maryam Othman

Year 8 - Layal Essa
Year 9 - Mary Doan
Year 10 - Christina McGrath
Year 11 - Catherine Nguyen

AUSTRALIAN ALL SCHOOLS ATHLETICS

Congratulations to the four athletes who represented us at the Australian All Schools National Championships. Dominic Darko won 2 gold and 2 silver medals. His silver medal in the 100m was a personal best time of 11.06 seconds in the U16 age group. He also won silver in 200m and gold in both 4x100m and Swiss relays. Sarah Ringrose won silver competing up an age group in the U18 hammer throw. Her personal best throw of 55.22 maintains her National number 1 ranking, which she has held for four consecutive years. Natalija Pavicevic finished 4th on a count back for the bronze medal with a personal best leap of 2.35m in the U14 pole vault. Tatiana Smith finished 6th in the U16 discus with a personal best of 36.70 metres.

Westfields Sports also sent an Intermediate Boys team to the Australian Schools Knockout held in Melbourne at the conclusion of the All Schools Championships. Our team of Dominic Darko, Yadin Ngeng, Gregory Kavadas, Obssa Youssouf, Riley Butler, Zac Zaineddine, Geromy Cluff and Thomas Tohi-Hiku finished 4th on 188 points just 1 point short of a medal. Mostly younger than other competing schools our boys were brilliant. A special mention to Obssa, for his 800m winning time of 1.57.71 (5th fastest time in Westfields History).

Mr D. Suchy
Athletics Director

UNIFORM SHOP AND LOST PROPERTY

The Uniform Shop will be open on Thursday 17 December from 8.00am to 10.00am.

It will also be open during the school holidays on Thursday 21 January and Wednesday 27 January from 8:00am to 1:30pm.

If you have any articles of school uniform no longer required and would like to donate them to the uniform shop for emergency loan clothing please bring them to the Uniform Shop on Thursdays or the school office.

As we near the end of another Term we have collected a very large amount of lost items of clothing and shoes, both school uniform and personal items. Please get students to check at the office if they have lost any items. As always items not collected will be donated to charity at the end of the term. There are also reading glasses and pencil cases in lost property.

Mrs J. Stickler
Uniform Shop

DANCE NEWS

It has been a wonderful term full of high quality performance and hard work from the dance students! Here are just some of the highlights:

An Evening of Dance 2015

The entire dance program along with 3 primary school groups took part in our annual showcase concert at the lovely Parramatta Riverside Theatre, on 4 November. It was a dazzling display of dance talent, student choreography and high quality HSC work. Congratulations to all involved, it was a great success.

Schools Spectacular 2015

A team of 16 students from Year 7 to Year 12 took part in the Schools Spectacular at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. The students performed in the item "Breath of Life" as well as the spectacular finale. The Westfields dance students were wonderful both on and off stage. Their behaviour was outstanding and they were wonderful representatives of our school. Congratulations to all involved.

HSC Callback Success

This year our HSC Dance students received 24 individual nominations for HSC Callback. In order to be nominated, students receive full marks in their practical work and demonstrate exemplary skill in the component they are nominated for. We are extremely proud of this group of students who have produced more nominations than ever before! We eagerly await their results, which come out at the end of this month.

Presentation Night

The Dance ensemble students look forward to their performance at Presentation night, performing "Dig Deep", choreographed by Year 12 student, Joshua O'Connor.

On a final note, I would like to thank all of the wonderful dance students both past and present at Westfields Sports! It has been an absolute joy to work with you all and I will miss this program dearly. Thanks to Michelle Holden and the CAPA staff for all of their support and dedication to dance programs I have been involved in in my time at this school. I wish you all the best for 2016 and beyond.

Miss E. Ireland
CAPA Faculty

NETBALL SINGAPORE TOUR

On Tuesday 24 November, 12 athletes from the Westfields Netball Program departed Sydney on a flight to Singapore to compete in the International Youth Sport Challenge. The U16 athletes competed in the netball tournament against 7 other teams from South Africa, New Zealand, Malaysia and Singapore. The tournament ran for 8 days, which included games each day along with some sightseeing & cultural activities.

The Westfields Sports Team went through the round matches undefeated reflecting their commitment to their preparation and recovery including pre and post team meetings, reflection and evaluation activities, pool recovery sessions and meeting nutritional requirements. The team gradually improved their netball play and managed to adjust to the different styles of the international teams.

In the final against Mt Albert Grammar School from New Zealand, the first quarter proved to be the deciding factor in the final score. Unfortunately Westfields did not cope with the speed of the New Zealand team and were down by 6 by the quarter break. It was a tough ask to claw back such a deficit with Westfields going down by 7 in the final score. Mereana Peyroux was named best defender of the tournament voted by each team.

Aside from Netball, the girls visited the Singapore Wet Market walking through the markets and viewing different types of foods being sold (live frogs and eels!!). They experienced a traditional Singaporean meal including Kaya toast and a Soya milk drink. The group visited the Botanic Gardens and Orchid gardens, Singapore Flyer, Singapore Zoo and the decorated Orchard Road.

All the girls were exemplary representatives of our school both on and off the court and were able to reap the benefits of such unique sporting and cultural experiences.

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
School Administration Officer
ITALY / SPAIN CULTURAL TOUR RAFFLE

Thank you to all members of our community who purchased tickets in the Italy/Spain Cultural Tour raffle. Congratulations to the winner - Heather Clarke.

Mrs M Ayas
Tour Leader

BOOT COLLECTION

West Leagues Club Campbelltown are organising a boot and headgear drive for disadvantaged players from the Brewarrina Rugby Club. Brewarrina is approx. 100K from Bourke. If anyone has grown out of his or her boots or headgear and wishes to donate please drop into Mrs Stickler in the front office.

Mrs J. Stickler
School Administration Officer

WESTFIELDS SPORTS BUCKET HATS

The Welfare team recently introduced bucket hats as part of the school uniform to better protect our students from the sun. In 2016, it will be mandatory for Year 7 students to wear a bucket hat for PE and sport lessons.

Bucket hats are available at the Uniform Shop. They are $15.00 each.

Mrs S Taylor
Head Teacher Welfare

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Congratulations
• Girls Hockey – Quickstix Schools Cup Champions
• Boys Hockey – Quickstix Schools Cup Runners Up
• Eden Hopkinson, Tayla Noble, Amber Frost, Shelby Fulton, Jaimie Johnson, Breanna Evans, Ashleigh Viera, Brittney Cable, Breanna Baker, Kristy Aguilar – SSW Softball Representatives

Mrs J. Kenny
Director of Sport

NSWCHS BLUES PRESENTATION

The annual New South Wales Combined High Schools Presentation held on Friday 4 December, 2015 saw a number of Westfields Sports students honoured with State Blues.

Brendan Smith – Cricket
Rebecca Johnson - Football
Evangelos Patramanis - Football
Claudia Barton – Netball
Olivia Rowntree - Netball
Jye Challenger – Rugby League
Mayez Elrich – Tennis

Congratulations to these students on their achievements at state level in 2015.

Mrs J. Kenny
Director of Sport

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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