SAFETY  TEAMWORK  ACHIEVEMENT  RESPECT

Digital Photo of the week by Mikaela Sabas Year 9

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Principal’s Report

I met with all the students who are in our top class in each Year group from Years 7-10 last Tuesday. The purpose of this meeting was twofold. Firstly to ensure students are aware of our high expectations in regard to their attitude and application to school work, and secondly to ask for students to think about how the school can provide opportunities and enrichment to meet their educational needs. The schools Gifted and Talented program is currently being evaluated to ensure we are meeting the needs of these students. We are currently designing surveys for both parents and students to assist in the evaluation.

Our Thursday Interest Groups continue to be a very positive part of our week with the majority of students being involved. Over the next few newsletters different groups will be sharing what has been happening. This week Duke of Ed, Indoor Cricket, Mind Body & Soul and Printmaking have made their reports.
On the 31st March, I will be hosting our inaugural Principals Morning Tea, where students who reflect our STAR (Safety, Teamwork, Achievement and Respect) values will be recognised. This term, the morning tea will be for the nominated students and their parents of Years 10, 11 and 12. It is our way of saying thank you to these students for displaying the qualities we admire at Windsor High.

We started a focus last week on students putting their phones away and turned off in class time. You may have experienced a similar problem at home when there are times when your child is reluctant to put their phone away, or turn it off, even when sharing the evening meal together. It has come to our attention that a number of students are unable to self-regulate their phone usage at school, resulting in them being distracted from their learning. During class time, the school rule is phones off and in their bags. If students do not follow this rule, and they are seen by the teacher to have their phone in class, they have been told that by having it out, they are giving permission for the teacher to confiscate it for the lesson. If this happens a second time, the phone will be returned to a parent, when they are able to come to school. We ask parents to have a conversation about the importance on concentrating on their school work, and developing their own skills in self-regulating their phone use. We also ask that parents do not call the students phone during class time, and if it is urgent, please contact the school and a message can be given to the student. Some students are so addicted to using their phones, the idea of not having it turned on and in their hand is distressing. This is not a healthy situation and one that could significantly impact on their academic results as well as their future employment if they are unable to function without 24/7 access to social media and constant messaging.

Congratulations to Natalie Malpass in Year 7 who has achieved amazing things in the sport of Karate. Natalie who currently holds a black belt in Karate, is the current- 2015 National Champion in Kumite, a form of Karate in the above 39kg category. Kumite is a form of Karate where they practice scoring points against opponents. Natalie competed at Liverpool on Saturday the 19th March at the State Selection for the State Team. She came first in her age group in the state for Kumite and third for Kata. Natalie was awarded two medals for her achievement. Well Done Natalie!

Mrs Jenny Hawken
Principal

Windsor High School

Natalie Malpass
Homelessness services in the Nepean Blue Mountains District

There are six services in the Nepean Blue Mountains District to help you if there is a chance you will become homeless. If you are already homeless, they will help you access crisis or transitional accommodation. Importantly they will work with you to help make sure that you don’t become homeless in the future.

We help a range of people including women and children escaping domestic or family violence, single women and men, young people and families. All services help Aboriginal people and people from different cultures. You can be referred to a service by a friend or family member, the LinkHome phone line or by another service. If you’d prefer, you can contact services directly by ringing the Right Door number.

**Nepean Blue Mountains District specialist homelessness services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nepean Blue Mountains District Services</th>
<th>What we can do</th>
<th>Who we help</th>
<th>Local Government Areas covered</th>
<th>Contact number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Homelessness &amp; Housing Support</td>
<td>We provide a range of support services and accommodation including transitional accommodation, individual support, brokerage and rapid rehousing.</td>
<td>Single adults and couples without accompanying children.</td>
<td>Penrith, Hawkesbury Blue Mountains</td>
<td>1800 760 071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Family Violence Accommodation &amp; Support Service</td>
<td>We provide a range of services that includes: 24-hour crisis accommodation and support, Aboriginal cultural groups, children’s programs, outreach support, community hubs and a legal skills program, includes Aboriginal Specialist Response</td>
<td>Women with or without children escaping family or domestic violence.</td>
<td>Penrith, Hawkesbury Blue Mountains</td>
<td>1800 760 071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Peoples Homelessness &amp; Housing Support</td>
<td>We provide a range of support and accommodation services including 24-hour crisis accommodation, transitional housing, brokerage and tenancy support, Glaxo Factories in Penrith, Katoomba and Springwood and mobile services in Hawkesbury provide a central hub for the delivery of these services and immediate support.</td>
<td>Young people 16-25 including those experiencing family conflict, leaving out-of-home care, or in contact with the juvenile justice system.</td>
<td>Penrith, Hawkesbury Blue Mountains</td>
<td>1800 760 071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Homelessness &amp; Housing Support</td>
<td>We provide a range of accommodation options and services including group work programs, brokerage, outreach support, children’s programs and pathways to childhood.</td>
<td>Families/carers with dependent children under 16</td>
<td>Penrith, Hawkesbury Blue Mountains</td>
<td>1800 760 071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenancy Support Services</td>
<td>We provide a range of tenancy support services to help people maintain their current home. We can also provide financial counselling, brokerage and rapid rehousing if required.</td>
<td>Single adults, couples, families, young people and transgender clients whose tenancies are at risk</td>
<td>Lithgow, Penrith, Hawkesbury Blue Mountains</td>
<td>1800 760 071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithgow Homelessness &amp; Housing Support &amp; Counselling</td>
<td>We provide a range of accommodation services, tenancy support, service referral, information and practical support, group work programs and counselling.</td>
<td>Residents of Lithgow and surrounding areas</td>
<td>Lithgow only</td>
<td>1800 760 071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information go to www.housing.nsw.gov.au/SHS and click on New Services.

SCHOOL OPENING HOURS: Thursday 8—9.30am

KINGSWOOD SHOP HOURS: Monday to Friday 8am-4.30pm & first Saturday of the month 9am-12noon

Prices effective 1/08/15 ~ Subject to change without notice ~ Includes 10% GST

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Thursday Interest Group: Duke of Ed Report

Every Thursday for the last 5 weeks a group of peers, Ms Thompson, Mr Hawes and I met during the interest group time where we discuss and plan our adventurous journey. The Duke of Ed Bronze Award has four main aspects which we must complete; one for 6 months and the others for 3 months, for about one hour a week. First is physical, which means you must participate in an activity where you sweat. Second is service, in other words you need to volunteer and you must not get paid for what you do. Third is skill; for skill you must learn something new, but you must not sweat, e.g. learn the violin or guitar. The fourth aspect is the adventurous journey. We plan to go on two trips this year that will go for 2 or 3 days each. Our first trip we have been planning is the Coast Track in the Royal National Park.

By Analyse Steele, Year 9

Term 1 has been a busy term for the members of the Student Representative Council (SRC). We are currently working on a number of fundraising activities within the school and the community. One of these has been a fundraising barbecue, which was held in the main quad. All proceeds will be going towards the Boys Programs and the construction of an outdoor classroom. The construction of an outdoor classroom will allow the school community the opportunity for students to connect to learning in an innovative way. In particular, it is intended that core values such as teamwork, leadership and interpersonal skills can be strengthened. This arena will also provide a platform for teachers and students to engage in 21st century learning.

THANK YOU

Windsor High School and in particular the Library would like to thank community member Kylie Harris for her kind donation of resources for the library. Her generosity to our school community and the education of our students is greatly appreciated.
The Premiers reading challenge is well under way now.

We have a rapidly filling up challenge board of faces of students who have already taken up the challenge to extend their reading enjoyment.

It's not too late to jump on board.

In the library we have printed copies of both the instructions on how to log on and the students reading log.

Students can pick up one of each anytime they are in the library.

There is also (attached in this newsletter) a checklist of ideas to keep your students motivated in continuing with the challenge.

"The journey of a lifetime starts with the turning of a page." Rachel Anders

Science Matters

Students are well settled into their work and we are now planning other activities for the semester. Senior Chemistry students are preparing for the NSW Titration Competition run by Royal Australian Chemical Institute. This will be the first time we have entered a team in this competition, which is exciting. We are also hoping that our junior students will enter the crystal growing competition. There is a flyer in this newsletter with some information. Interested students can speak to their Science teacher for further information or see Mrs Greenhalgh.

Soul Purpose (Christian Interest Group)

Soul Purpose in an interest group that offers students a safe place to discuss and ask questions about God. There are an increasing number of students turning up each week with a number of interesting and insightful questions. We’ve been sharing real stories where God has made an impact in our lives. Students from Year 7 to 12 attend our group with the older students having the capacity to foster leadership through group discussion and mentoring.
Mind Body and Soul Interest Group

Each Thursday during our lunch breaks, I have been attending a voluntary interest group called Mind, Body and Soul. We have broken the month into 4 rotating activities. Week 1 is yoga, week 2 is beauty, week 3 is pilates and week 4 is hair. It has been interesting learning new tips on hair and makeup and getting our hair and nails done. Pilates and yoga has been challenging and fun, with plenty of giggling while we are learning the new moves. We are forming new friendships with students from other years and it is nice chatting to Miss Flitter and Mrs Jones outside of the classroom.

Olivia Lavender

Indoor Cricket Interest Group

During our Thursday lunch breaks we have been participating in a weekly Indoor cricket interest group. Participating in this group has been competitive, but also highly enjoyable for a number of reasons. These include the new friendships that have been formed as a result of participating in a sport that is made up of students from different age groups and the opportunity to participate in a sport which we highly enjoy. We look forward to Term 2 and having the opportunity to defeat the opposition.

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CALENDAR

21/3  Excursion-Legal Studies/ Commerce
22/3  Talent Quest Period 4
22/3  Excursion-Riverside Theatre Extension English
22/3  P & C Meeting 7pm
24/3  Yr 7 Vaccinations
25/3 - 28/3  Easter
29/3  Excursion-Yr11 & 1Yr 12 Ancient History
29/3  Macquarie Zone Netball
31/3  Principal’s Morning Tea
5/4  Athletics Carnival
7/4  ANZAC Assembly
8/4  Excursion– GDP Workshop Year 12
27/4  School resumes for Term 2
28/4  Excursion - Longneck Lagoon Year 11 Biology
2/5 –4/5  Academic reviews Year 11
5/5  X-Country Carnival
5/5 - 6/5  Academic Reviews Year 7
10/5  Excursion—Advanced English
10/5-11/5  Academic Reviews Year 8
Crystal Growing Competition

Let your Students Shine!

Crystals are everywhere. Just think of our daily lives, sugar and salt are crystals and the only reason LCD computer and television screens work is because of the many tiny crystals inside. Where else can you find crystals? How about your classroom! If you enter the RACI NSW Crystal Growing Competition then you can create your own crystals within six weeks and then have a chance to have these crystals judged and the results published during National Science Week.

Why be involved?

Do you want to have fun with Science? Would you like to do some simple chemistry experiments with your students? Then enter the RACI NSW Crystal Growing Competition and learn all about growing beautiful crystals.

Participation fulfills the NSW syllabus aims for both K-6 and 7-10 of developing competence, confidence and responsibility in science and technology. It provides a learning experience which allows students to acquire scientific knowledge and skills and develop understanding about phenomena within and beyond their experience. And it is fun to do!

What’s involved?

The competition is aimed at Primary and Junior Secondary students with 3 ‘closed’ divisions: K-Year 3, Years 4-6 and Years 7-8. Primary teachers can contact Jenny Jones for a copy of a creative lesson sequence leading to growing crystals.

There is also an Open Division for students from K-12 in which entrants may grow any crystal of their choice. The aim in the 3 ‘closed’ divisions is to grow the best possible crystal of Potash Alum (also called Alum or potassium aluminium sulfate) in 6 weeks. Crystals will be judged on shape and clarity firstly, rather than size. The winning crystals in each division will receive certificates and winning schools receive a trophy.

The competition takes place in Term 2, closing date Friday 1 July 2016.

So act now!

Important information regarding bus safety

Unfortunately this year there have been two separate occasions where students have been injured by a car after alighting from their bus on the way home. Both students walked in front of the bus and into the path of an oncoming vehicle.

Thankfully neither student was seriously injured, however the situation could have been much worse.

The road safety message for all students is:
Wait until the bus has gone and then use a safe place to cross the road.

In light of these recent incidents, schools are asked to remind and reinforce safe road user behaviours in and around buses with their students.

The attached flyer contains key messages and links to quality teaching and learning resources for students in early stage 1 up to stage 5.

Contact your local Department Road Safety Education Officer for further support.
For more information visit the Department’s new Road Safety Education website.