From the Principal’s desk

WHSPA Welcomes Paul Ryan As Principal
This week Mr Paul Ryan has been appointed as the new Principal of WHSPA, subject to the 10 day appeal period. Mr Ryan is expected to take up the role of Principal from the beginning of the 2016 school year. Please join me in congratulating and welcoming Mr Ryan to the WHSPA family.

As a result of this I will return to my substantive role of deputy Principal in 2016 along with Mr Bryce O’Connor who has been appointed permanently to Deputy Principal position due to the retirement of Mr Steve Creenaune at the end of 2015.

Staff Farewells
This year we farewell a number of teachers who have contributed significantly to WHSPA.

Mr Creenaune is retiring after many years of service to public education. As Deputy Principal at WHSPA Mr Creenaune always made the wellbeing of students his core business. He contributed significantly to ICT upgrades, school aesthetics and the introduction of a range of new computer based school processes.

Mr Reid is retiring after teaching at WHSPA for 30 years. As a PDHPE teacher Mr Reid inspired many students in relation to their sporting involvement. Mr Reid also had many years as a Combined High Schools hockey coach. In retirement Mr Reid will be playing lots of golf.

Mr Bubb has worked at WHSPA as a PDHPE teacher for several years. He has contributed greatly to teaching and learning in the PDHPE faculty as well as the organisation of sport. Mr Bubb has been successful in gaining a permanent appointment at Magdelene Catholic College in Narellan.

Ms Waters came to WHSPA two years ago on transfer from Broken Hill. In 2016 she is moving to Melbourne for personal reasons. She will be pursuing her teaching career there.

Mrs Kalsow will be on maternity leave for all of 2016. Mrs Kalsow’s great teaching and leadership of the SRC will be missed next year. We wish Mr and Mrs Kalsow all the best for the arrival of their first child.
From the Principal’s Desk…cont’d

Ms Ashton will be taking maternity leave in 2016. Alex has done a great job in raising the profile of environmental issues this year. We wish her well for the birth of her first child.

Mrs Marchant has been at WHSPA for two years. This year she has done an amazing job supporting our EAL/D and refugee students. Jessica and her husband are moving to Canberra.

Ms Cole has worked at WHSPA as a Visual Arts teacher for 2015. Ms Cole has been successful in gaining a permanent position at Edmund Rice College.

Ms Burnard has been at WHSPA this year as our teacher of hearing impaired students. She has fitted in beautifully at WHSPA and has done a great job supporting these students.

Ms Hook has worked at WHSPA this year as a Visual Arts Teacher two days a week. I would like to thank her for her contributions to Visual Arts this year.

Mr Tanner is leaving WHSPA and the HSIE faculty after filling a staff vacancy for 2015.

Ms Hasleton has been successful in gaining transfer to Warilla HS as school counsellor. Ms Hasleton’s expertise in student wellbeing and counselling will be missed.

I would like to thank each of these teachers for the great contributions they have made to WHSPA and wish them well in the future.

Wellbeing Team 2016
The school Wellbeing Team welcomes some new faces for 2016. The list of Stage Coordinators and Year Advisors appears below. This team will be ably led by Ms Nunn who will join WHSPA as Head Teacher Wellbeing in 2016 after a successful career teaching at Bulli HS.

Stage 4 (Years 7 and 8) Coordinator: Miss Armstrong
Year 7 Advisor: Mrs Cram
Year 8 Advisor: Mr Kates

Head Teacher Welfare and Stage 5 (Year 9 and 10) Coordinator: Ms Nunn
Year 9 Advisor: Ms Meafou
Year 10 Advisor: Mrs Whelan

Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12) Coordinator: Ms Nethery
Year 11 Advisor: Ms Stehr
Year 12 Advisor: Mr Pirie

Clearance For Years 7-10 and Distribution of Yearly Reports
In the last week of the school year, students in Years 7-10 will complete clearance for the year. This will occur for Year 8 (Period 1), Year 9 (Period 2), Year 10 (Period 3) on Monday 15 December. Year 7 will complete clearance in Period 1 on Tuesday 16 December. In Period 4 on Tuesday 16 December all student in Years 7-10 will receive their yearly reports. Students are ‘cleared’ from their 2015 subjects and classes when all required fees have been paid, textbooks, library books and other necessary resources have been returned to the school. The aspect of clearance that causes some stress is when students are unable to complete the process and not receive their report because required fees have not been paid. To avoid this stress please check with the school office prior to clearance about any fees that may be outstanding for your child and complete payment as required. You can check outstanding fees by phoning the school or asking your child to go to the front office. This will ensure a smooth and stress free process for all concerned and the easy distribution of your child’s yearly report. If you have any issues or concerns related to this please contact the Principal or either of the two Deputy Principals at the school.

Jessica Jenkins Wins Place In National Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths Program
WHSPA Year 9 girl Jessica is among 54 schoolgirls from across Australia heading to the Australian National University in Canberra on 9 December for the first national Curious Minds learning and mentoring program for girls in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). Jessica was selected based on her capability and interest in science and maths.

Each student will be matched with a mentor drawn from a pool of 124 women working in science, industry and engineering fields who responded to the call to mentor young women.

The students will spend four days at the Australian National University in the first of two intensive modules of learning across physics, informatics, chemistry, biology, mathematics and earth and environmental science. The schoolgirls will also meet their mentors with whom they will work over a six-month period. WHSPA is proud of you Jessica.

Back to School dates for 2016
Teachers return for a professional learning day on Wednesday 27 January. Years 7, 11 and 12 return on Thursday 28 January together with Peer Support leaders from Year 10. Years 8, 9 and 10 join the rest of the school on Friday 29 January.

As this is the final High Notes for 2015 I would like to take the opportunity to wish you and your families a safe and happy Christmas and holiday period. It really is a wonderful and caring place to be, with a staff I find a privilege to work with every day and students who continue to delight and impress me with their talents, creativity, personalities and friendliness. I would also like to thank all of you who have supported me as Relieving Principal during this year. It has been an honour to have had the opportunity to lead this fine
school. I will return to my substantive role of Deputy Principal in 2016.

Doug Hearne
Relieving Principal

Attention Parents!
P&C Federation needs your feedback. Please go to the web address below and complete our survey so we can deliver what you want (takes less than 1 minute to complete).


Thank you and the P&C for the great work that you do on behalf of all students in Public Education.

Debbie Clifford
P&C Federation

Warradjah Guunamaa Dreamin Workshop
On Tuesday the 17 November, all of Year 7 students participated in the Warradjah Guunamaa Dreamin Workshop. The workshop is aimed to provide students with an Authentic Aboriginal Experience to pass on cultural information, weaving the past into the future.

During this time students engaged in various activities, including a talk about traditional Aboriginal tools and technology, a Didgeridoo performance along with dancing and singing.

During the workshop students were taught how to weave various baskets using traditional techniques as well as learning ceremonial dances and drum beats.

The program is directly linked to curriculum learning and activities were both hands on as well as interactive. The local Warradjah Aboriginal Services created a fun and educational environment for the students, where they were not only engaged but were provided with a valuable insight into our local Aboriginal Culture and we look forward to more collaborations in the near future. We would also like to thank Jodi Edwards, Richard Campbell and Tahlia King (Year 10 student) for providing us with a highly beneficial and memorable workshop.

“Today’s workshop was fantastic, I really enjoyed learning about traditional Aboriginal weaving techniques. Hearing the Didgeridoo was amazing and it was great to learn some dance moves too!”

Riley Smith, (Participating Year 7 Student).

A huge Thank you to Year 7 teachers on their support in supervising students during the day as well as the students for their participation and respect they showed during the workshop.

Amelia Hollis Sarah Cole
Teacher HSIE Teacher Visual Arts

10 VALID Results
The Validation of Assessment 4 Learning & Individual Development (VALID) test for Year 10 students was held in September. This is is an interactive test which is run by NSW Board of Studies. The purpose of this test is to “raise community awareness about science education”. At WHSPA, we use this information to improve teaching and learning programs for our science students.

Results of the test are now available. A personal report for each student has been sent to parents/carers to describe the science knowledge and skills demonstrated by the students who sat the test. There is also information about how each student’s results compared with the overall performance of all students in the state.

I would like to congratulate the following students for obtaining a band 6 in the recent Board of Studies VALID examination in Science:

Hannah Billet; Jayden Brett; Bradley Inglis; Chiara Kovac; James MacAlpine; Dylan Maher; Elijah Moynihan; Taylor Nelson; Brendon Plaza McCune; Cassandra Ready; Adrian Smark & Pfreya Villarey
Whilst I so greatly appreciate the help, support and guidance from your teachers, families, and the school community, it is you, who are inevitably responsible for where you are today.

These results reflect the commitment and dedication you show to your studies.

Attention Students, Parents & Caregivers of YEAR 10, 2015:
HSC: ALL MY OWN WORK.
This program is run by the Board of Studies, NSW. According to BOSTES:

The HSC: All My Own Work program is designed to help Higher School Certificate students to follow the principles and practices of good scholarship. This includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when locating and using information as part of their HSC studies.

The program has been developed as part of the NSW Government’s Respect and Responsibility strategy and complements other approaches such as brochures for teachers, students and parents and strengthened student and teacher declarations for the HSC.

The HSC: All My Own Work program is integrated with other NSW syllabuses and programs. The program is designed to be delivered flexibly as self-paced learning modules.

While this program is being run in Science, it is not a Science program. It is for all students returning to school in 2016. Students cannot be entered into Year 11 until this is completed.

For Students:
Access through Google Chrome – type in “HSC: ALL MY OWN WORK”.
There are 5 modules. You need to work through the theory & then enter your answers in the quiz. (DO NOT DO THE QUIZ AT THE END OF EACH THEORY COMPONENT – LOOK IN THE TOP TOOLBAR FOR THE QUIZ FOLDER). This must be completed to at least 80% accuracy.

At the end of each module, use the snipping tool, cut & paste your module results into a word document.

When all 5 modules are completed, email the word document to: julie.gosper@det.nsw.edu.au
or hand it in to your Science teacher, or place it on your Science class blog (Edmodo) or submit it at the Science staffroom.

You have until Wednesday 16 December, 2015 to do this. Otherwise we will need to make alternative arrangements with Mrs Clancy.

If you have any issues, please do not hesitate to speak to your science teacher, or come and discuss same with me in the Science staffroom.

Julie Gosper
HT Science

Fish Mural And Skateboard Deck Display
During Week 8, the Visual Arts Department have installed two new artworks on the school grounds. The first of these is the finished fish mural, begun earlier in the year.
This work was created by Year 8 and 10 Auditioned Art Collective students on a full day incursion. Over the subsequent months students have glazed their individual fish. The wall was then prepared with a spray-painted design, and finally, boards installed with the fish attached.

This is part of a bigger plan for this wall in the Eastern Quad, which will include two more panels in 2016 of crustaceans and shellfish and a final three panels in 2017 of cephalopods such as squid, cuttlefish and octopuses.
The second work installed features skateboard decks completed by Year 9 students as part of the Street Art unit. These boards are installed above the door leading to the Southern Area. More boards will be added to this installation over coming years.

Kate Stehr
Teacher Visual Arts

WHSPA Sports Presentation Assembly
WHSPA is having its first Sports Presentation Assembly Week 10, Thursday 10 December from 12 till 1pm in the School Hall. All parents of award winners are invited to celebrate their child’s success and join us for some light refreshments afterwards. Could you please let the PDHPE staff know of your attendance by returning the acceptance slip on the letter sent home for catering purposes.

Trevor Burnett
Teacher PDHPE

WHSPA School Hats
Peaked Flat Brim Hats & Bucket Hats
The WHSPA Sports Committee has designed and implemented hat designs to encourage students to be sun safe while adhering to WHSPA’s school uniform policy.
Payment for the hats are to be made at the front office. Prices for hats are -

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<th>Hat Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>WHSPA Bucket Hat</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHSPA Peaked Flat Brim Hat</td>
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There are a limited number of hats available for the first order. More hats will be ordered when the first allocation is exhausted.

Phil Saunders
Teacher PDHPE

Schools Spectacular
Congratulations to all WHSPA students involved in the Schools Spectacular! Students represented the school as featured vocalists, in the drama ensemble, as dancers and in the Djembe drumming ensemble. The drumming ensemble also performed alongside former WHSPA student, Shannon Brown (pictured with the ensemble) who sang 'World in Union' accompanied by the drummers.

The show was a spectacular display of talent and the power of public education. Congratulations again to all performers and teachers involved.

Lucy Armstrong
Teacher English
Ms Palmer and I would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a wonderful holiday.

We have made a Christmas tree this year from books, and with special decorations featuring my beautiful Roll Call Class 7.3 on the baubles!

If you would like to donate toys or food to charity for Christmas, pop them under the tree.

Library Website

‘Do your self a favour’...check out my fabulous Library Website! You can find it on the school website, hanging out with Sport and Performing Arts. It is full of news, information, helpful links, and helpful and funny videos.

Library ……cont’d

The 2016 WHSPA Sports Program - Volunteering at Para Meadows

In 2016 we will begin a volunteering program where 15 WHSPA students from Yrs 9 and 10 will visit the Para Meadows School for disabled children in Gwynneville.

The program will run on Tuesdays during our normal school sport time.

Para Meadows caters for children from Kindergarten to Yr 12 with a range of disabilities and they hope to involve the WHSPA students in a range of activities including playing soccer, playing board games, leading musical and singing sessions and developing fun activities for the kids.

We are looking for highly-motivated students that are willing to bring energy and a positive attitude to the program. Some of the children have quite severe disabilities so the decision to take part in this program is not to be taken lightly and should not be seen by volunteers as a way to “get out of sport”.

This is a great opportunity for your children to volunteer their efforts to these wonderful kids and no doubt enrich their lives with invaluable experiences.

Students who join up will have the opportunity to leave the program and choose another sport if the experience is not agreeing with them.

I suggest you visit the Para Meadows web site and have a look at the wonderful things the school is doing each and every day. Go to: http://www.parameadowsschools.nsw.edu.au/

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the program.

Laury Furney
Teacher TAS
Laury.furney@det.nsw.edu.au
WHSPA - High Notes

SHARE THE JOY

Toys 'n' Tucker

SHOPPING LIST

Here's what you can give:

- Christmas food for festive meals:
  - Christmas cake
  - Christmas pudding
  - Tinned salmon

- Small packs of lollies
  - Long-life custard

Gifts for toddlers, children and teens:

- Toys
- Sports equipment
- Toiletry packs

Board games
- Gift cards

All donations are to be new and unused, thank you!

We also welcome cash donations, so those we help can choose the fresh food they would like for a special Christmas meal. To donate please:

Visit www.toystucker.org.au
Phone 13 26 22

SRC and some volunteers are coordinating the collection of "toys 'n tucker" for those in need in our local community. Goods are being collected and given to Anglicare to redistribute for Christmas. Donations of goods listed above are being placed under the Christmas tree in the library.

Thank you for your support and generosity. Any questions may be directed to Victoria Small, Mondays or Wednesdays.

Victoria Small
WHSPA Chaplain
RYAN PARK
MEMBER FOR KEIRA

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Collecting toys for more than one hundred local children who will spend Christmas in shelters and refuges. Together, we can spread some festive cheer!

Please drop off new, unwrapped toys to my office: 247 Princes HWY Corrimal 4285 1588
## SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 4 - 2015

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### MONDAY

- **5/10**: Art Collective Expo
- **12/10**: Faculty Meeting
- **19/10**: Focus Group Planning Meeting
- **26/10**: Faculty Meeting
- **30/11**: Faculty Meeting
- **7/12**: Faculty Meeting

### TUESDAY

- **6/10**: Exec P & D Interviews 2 this week  
  Art Collective Expo
- **13/10**: HSC Info Night for Year 11 students + parents at 7 p.m. in PAC1
  10 Art Exhibition
- **20/10**: 11 Reports to HT
  Musical Auditions
- **27/10**: 7 Music Showcase
- **3/11**: Finance Meeting
  Year Meeting Assemblies
  Musical Auditions
- **10/11**: 9 Reports to HT
  Dance Work Bump in Regional Touring Ens
- **17/11**: 8 Reports to HT
  8 VALID test
  Drama Showcase Rehearsal + Perf
- **24/11**: 10 Reports to HT
  Dance Work Rehearsal
- **1/12**: Finance Meeting
  10 Camp
  Dance Work Bump Out
- **8/12**: Golden Gong Awards
  Dance Showcase Reh
- **25/11**: 10 Reports to HT
  Dance Work Perf School Spec
- **3/12**: 6 Orientation Day
  Jammeroo Reward Excursion
  10 Camp
- **8/12**: Golden Gong Awards
- **9/12**: Exec Meeting
  Dance Showcase Matinee + Evening
- **2/12**: 10 Camp
  King Lear Excursion
- **10/12**: Sports Presentation
  P3
  Dance Showcase Matinee + Evening
- **8/12**: 7 Clearance P1
  7, 8, 9 & 10 Reports
  P4
  Presentation Night
  Musical Reh
- **9/12**: Dance Showcase Matinee + Evening
- **15/12**: HSC Results released
  Musical Reh
- **16/12**: HSC Results released
  Musical Reh
- **15/12**: HSC Results released
  Musical Reh
- **17/12**: Staff Development Day
  Staff Night Out
- **18/12**: Staff Development Day
  Luncheon by Science

### WEDNESDAY

- **7/10**: Art Collective Expo
- **14/10**: Exec Meeting
  11 Sign-out Period 1
  10 Art Exhibition
- **21/10**: 7-11 Auditions for 2016
  Drama Showcase
- **28/10**: Exec Meeting
  Music Ens Show-Case
- **5/11**: 10 Yearly Exams (core only)
  Drama Showcase
- **12/11**: 8 VALID test
  Dance Work Bump in Matilda Excursion
- **19/11**: Certificate of Achievement in Hall
  Dance Showcase Rehearsal + Perf
- **26/11**: 10 Reports download
  Drama Showcase
- **3/11**: Finance Meeting
  7 Reports to HT
  Dance Work Bump in Regional Touring Ens

### THURSDAY

- **8/10**: Art Collective Expo
- **15/10**: 11 ROSA Grades to HT Admin
  High Notes to Office
  10 Art Exhibition Opening
- **22/10**: State Drama Festival
  7-11 Auditions for 2016
- **5/11**: 10 Yearly Exams (core only)
  Dance Showcase
- **12/11**: 8 VALID test
  Dance Work Bump in
- **19/11**: Certificate of Achievement in Hall
  Dance Showcase Rehearsal + Perf
- **26/11**: 10 Reports download
  Drama Showcase
- **3/11**: Finance Meeting
  7 Reports to HT
  Dance Work Bump in Regional Touring Ens

### FRIDAY

- **9/10**: Art Collective Expo
- **16/10**: 11 ROSA Grades to HT Admin
  High Notes to Office
  10 Art Exhibition Opening
- **23/10**: 11 Reports download
  High Notes Out State Drama Festival
  7-11 Auditions for 2016
- **6/11**: 10 Yearly Exams (core only)
  7 Reports download
  7 IMAX & Aquarium
  High Notes to Office Drama Showcase
- **13/11**: 9 Reports download
  High Notes Out State Drama Festival
  7-11 Auditions for 2016
- **20/11**: 10 Yearly Exams (core only)
  7 Reports download
  7 IMAX & Aquarium
  High Notes to Office Drama Showcase