

WestNews

A Journal of Westfields Sports

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to Ms Ayas, the staff who acted as mentors and more importantly our Year 7 students who took part in last Thursday's "Night of the Notables". These students selected a famous person who has made a positive contribution to society, researched and dressed up as this person. It was a fantastic night and highlighted the creative talents of the students. Well done to all involved.

Even though we have already rolled over to our 2015 timetable, there are a number of students who have not completed their 2014 clearance forms. The signing out process requires students to return all outstanding textbooks and school resources and to pay any outstanding fees and charges. This is necessary so that we can issue textbooks and resources to the new upcoming year. This process must be completed immediately. If there are problems with the payment of fees, parents can contact me at school at any time to discuss payment options.

Unfortunately we have had a small number of Westfields' students behaving in an inappropriate manner whilst travelling to and from school and also at the Tasman Parade shops. This certainly detracts from the excellent reputation which we have established in the local community. I expect that all students when they are out and about within the community are excellent ambassadors for Westfields Sports. Parents can also assist by dropping your sons and daughters at school in the morning, not at the shops.

Our Year 12 students receive their HSC results on Wednesday 17 December and their university ATAR results on Thursday 18 December. We will be holding a morning tea for Year 12 at 11.00am on Thursday 18 to enable them to come back to school one last time to share their results with staff.

Yearly reports will be handed out on Friday 12 December. Wednesday 17 December will be a Literacy / Numeracy Enrichment Day instead of normal timetabled lessons and is also the last day of the school year for students. Thursday 19 December and Friday 20 December are School Development Days for staff only.

Another reminder about our Westfields 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. We hope that you will want to come on board.

Mr R. Davis
Principal

28 November, 2014

IMPORTANT EVENTS

1/12/2014
*SSW Blues
Dinner*

3/12/2014
*Year 7 Orientation
6:30pm*

5/12/2014
*Year 7 & 9 Vaccination
Catch Up*

5/12/2014
*NSWCHS Blues
Dinner*

9/12/2014
*School Presentation
Club Marconi
6:30pm*

Winners

International Olympic Committee

Sport and Youth Trophy 2008



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

An exceptional week to showcase the talents of our students has just passed. Tuesday evening saw the opening of our CAPA Visual Arts exhibition, which brought together excellent examples of art making from Year 7 through to Year 12. The work reflects a variety of media and approaches as students explore art making at increasing independence as they progress through school. This event enables our juniors to celebrate their success and aspire to meaningful bodies of work as they are exposed to the quality that Year 12 HSC students can produce. It is also an opportunity to engage with exciting learning that occurs in Visual Arts and Digital Media programs throughout the years. The event reflects the dedication and commitment of staff and students at Westfields. Well done CAPA staff.

Thursday evening celebrated student success with The Night of the Notables. The evening was the result of many hours preparation from students and mentors and presented the lives of notable people from history. This event saw the talents of students nurtured to professional presentations and an entertaining evening. We saw many notables celebrated. It is wonderful to see the students flourish with the mentoring of staff. Thank you to Ms Ayas and mentors for coordinating the evening.



Mrs S. Walker
Relieving Deputy Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

I would like to thank all the parents who came along to our Year 10 information night last week. We outlined the requirements for the 'Record of School Achievement' (ROSA) and gave details about the 'Bring Your own Device' program for Year 10 in 2015. Our goal for 2015 is to have every Year 10 student bring a digital device to school to support their learning. This is in direct response to the conclusion of the Digital Education Revolution laptop scheme in 2013.

There are several factors to consider when purchasing a device for your child to bring to school. Most importantly, it must operate with **802.11n 5Ghz** wireless. This is the standard for all school networks, but is not always clearly stated on the packaging of a digital device. Ask the salesperson, and get it in writing to state that the device you are buying meets the above requirements.

Secondly, the device itself must be suitable for use at school. Specifically, it must be large enough to comfortably read, study images and create presentations. Battery life must be sufficient to last the day and it needs to be in the most robust case you can

find. A keyboard, with individual, depressible keys, is also necessary.

Digital technology does not replace the school book. Students still need note books for each subject as the skills of note taking, summary and writing are critical to success at school. Digital devices are invaluable research and creativity tools that allow students to gain access to the most up to date information. The skills necessary to succeed in the 21st Century combine the traditional with the modern, and this is the motivation behind our move towards BYOD for Year 10.

If your child has not already done so, ask them to come and see me to pick up a BYOD user charter which outlines the conditions of use for the device, and the technical specifications described above.

Your support of our move to whole-year BYOD for Year 10 is essential as it is the best way we can prepare our students for the demands of the HSC and post-school work and education.

All year groups are welcome to 'BYOD'. Simply ask your child to come in and get a user charter from a Deputy, get it signed at home and start 'BYODing'.

Mr A. Rogers
Deputy Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

On Tuesday 25 November newly appointed Football Federation Australia Technical Director Eric Abrams visited Westfields Sports to meet with coaches and players from our Football program. Mr Abrams was very impressed with the quality of coaching our students are receiving and the technical qualities he saw during the training session he observed. Kory Babington and his coaching staff were also able to chat with Mr Abrams about a range of issues relating to elite youth development programs. The Westfields Sports Football program is always looking at ways to improve and deliver high quality training sessions. Mr Davis was also able to give Mr Abrams a guided tour of the school including the ice baths, weights room and medical centre.



Mr D. Barrett
Deputy Principal

UNIFORM SHOP - OPENING HOURS

The Uniform Shop is open every Thursday during the school terms from 8:00am to 11:30am. It will also be open on 3 December from 4pm till 6:15pm.

Mrs J. Stickler
Uniform Shop

PRESENTATION NIGHT

Each year Westfields Sports acknowledges and celebrates its high achieving students at the school's Presentation Night. This year we will gather for this grand event on Tuesday 9 December, 2014, at Club Marconi. The evening is especially organised for a group of high achieving students from Years 7 to 11 and their families. Recipients must be in attendance and seated by 6.30pm for the evening to commence promptly.

Students will be recognised and awarded for excellence in one or more of the following areas: academic studies, sport, debating, public speaking, performing arts, citizenship and scholarship.

Students who are recipients should have by now received their invitations and are asked to return the RSVP slip by Tuesday 2 December to either their Year Advisor or put it in the clearly labelled box outside the PDHPE staffroom.

Mrs S. Taylor
Head Teacher Welfare

PEER SUPPORT LEADER TRAINING

This week 50 Year 11 (2015) students began their training as Peer Support leaders for next year's Year 7 cohort. These students were hand selected and invited to be leaders and the majority of the invitees took up the offer and appear excited at the prospect of working with Year 7 early next year. Students discussed the importance of being excellent role models for Year 7 and making them feel welcome and supported in their new environment when they start at Westfields Sports. Our Year 11 students were also lucky enough to be able to spend some time listening to Brett Murray who talked to them about life influences, leadership and bullying/anti-bullying.

Mrs S. Taylor
Head Teacher Welfare

HOMEWORK CENTRE - SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

The homework centre, based in the school library is available for all students from 3.15pm to 4.15pm 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

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STANDTALL

This year's Standtall Event at the Knox Grammar School was centered on choices and consequences with inspirational speakers from all over the globe and performances from the Voice and X-Factor star Taylor Henderson.

It was a exciting and beneficial for Year 10 as they come to the tail end of 2014. Through the lineup of speakers they were given tools and skills to better handle choices they will face in the coming years. I am glad to hear from students that they feel better equipped to engaging their future dreams and aspirations.

Here are what some of them have to say;

- "I loved the Stand Tall event, the interaction with many other schools was awesome!"
- "The performance by Taylor Henderson and the others was nice and entertaining to watch. Just when it was starting to get good, we had to leave. I wish we had more time. The free ice cream was nice too!"
- "I enjoyed the speakers who motivated you to believe that anything can be done through hard work and determination."
- "I enjoyed the vast amount of free food and the location it was in!"
- "It was an awesome experience, there were some good motivational speakers there that gave some good messages to me."
- "I enjoyed getting to interact with other schools and experiencing their school environment."
- "The toilets were beautiful. I wish our toilets were the same. Please!"



Tony Hoang
School Chaplin

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

SYDNEY SOUTH WEST BLUES DINNER

The annual Sydney South West Blues Dinner was held at the Liverpool Catholic Club on Monday 1 December, 2014. A number of Westfields Sports students were honoured with Regional Blues.



Simon Borchardt - Baseball
Andrew Urigwe - Basketball
Jack Fulton - Football
Ashley Valeni - Netball
Joshua Tupuola-Leato - Rugby
Joseph Ratuvakacereivalu – Rugby League



In addition to the above Blues recipients, *Clare Woods* -Football received the Sydney South West President's Award as the most outstanding female athlete in the region for 2014

Congratulations to all students on their achievements at regional level in 2014.

Mrs J. Kenny
Director of Sport

TUCKER SHIELD INTERHOUSE COMPETITION

The Inter-House competition is now closed for 2014.

The results are being collated and the winning team will be announced during assembly in Week 10. Mr Davis will present the 'Tucker Shield' to the winning girl and boy house captains during this time.

Mr C. Jarvis
Head Teacher PDHPE



WESTFIELDS
S P O R T S
First in Australia

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Gymnastics Hall Phone: 9604 3773
Sports Stadium Phone: 9604 9361

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

APPLYING FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

From time to time, students may need to be out of school for short and occasionally long periods for medical or for travel reasons. When this happens caregivers are asked to contact the school in writing, requesting that leave be granted. This letter should explain the reason for leave and clearly state the dates the student will be absent. This letter should be given to Miss Lam, Head Teacher Administration.

It is important that before any decision to take a student out of school, consideration be given to the impact on the student's education.

If leave is for more than 15 school days special approval is required and a pro-forma letter will be issued. Leave greater than 20 days will require a copy of an itinerary.

It is a student's responsibility to discuss with their teachers what arrangements can be made to catch up on or complete work missed while on leave.

Missed work or work not satisfactorily completed by students in Years 10, 11 and 12 may place the award of a ROSA, Preliminary HSC or HSC in doubt.

Miss T. Lam
Head Teacher Administration

Westfields Sports are proud to be supported by :

