

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 Thursday, 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 2016 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 nineteen students selected to represent Australia, seventy-four selected to represent NSW in their chosen sports and Westfields won fourteen state knockout competitions. Last week at the Regional Sports Awards, ten students received SSW Sporting Blues as well as the prestigious President's Award for the most outstanding male & female athletes and the Sydney Markets scholarships. At the state awards three students received a NSWCHS Sporting Blues.

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 Casula Powerhouse, at Regional and State Dance and more recently at the fantastic School Spectacular.

Just today we received confirmation of a \$30,000 grant from the NSW Government, which along with a \$30,000 grant from Cricket NSW will be used to refurbish our cricket nets. In other refurbishment news, last week we commenced 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 to equip this new weights room extension.

In terms of technology, every classroom in the school has either an interactive data projector or an interactive whiteboard. In addition to this, we are suggesting that all students bring their own laptop or tablet 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.

Our Year 12 students receive their HSC results on Thursday 15 December and their ATAR results on Friday 16 December. We will be holding a morning tea for Year 12 at 10.00am on Friday 16 to enable them to come back to school one last time to share their results with staff.

Thursday 15 and Friday 16 December will be Literacy and Numeracy Days instead of normal timetabled lessons and Friday is also the last day of the school year for students.

I look forward to working closely with staff, students and parents next year to make 2017 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 Monday 30 January and Years 8, 9 and 10 return on Tuesday 31 January 2017. To help you keep up to date with everything happening at school, why not follow us on Facebook. Just search Westfields Sports High School and welcome aboard. We also have 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. You can also follow us on twitter @WestfieldsSport or visit our website, www.westfields-h.schools.nsw.edu.au.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support of our fantastic school, and please have a safe, happy and relaxing Christmas holiday break.

16 December 2016

IMPORTANT EVENTS

16/12/2016 School Finishes

27/1/2017 Professional Development Day STAFF ONLY

30/1/2017 Term 1 Commences Years 7, 11, 12

31/1/2017 Term 1 Commences Years 8, 9, 10

Winners

International Olympic Committee

Sport and Youth Trophy 2008



ATTENTION PARENTS

There have been recent changes initiated by the Education Minister Adrian Piccoli setting the minimum standards in reading, writing and numeracy NAPLAN tests. These changes impact student eligibility for the HSC:

Students with Band 8 results or above in Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests have already demonstrated the minimum standard, and will not need to sit the online literacy and numeracy tests.

Students at risk of not meeting the standard will be identified early and supported to improve their reading, writing and numeracy skills. If students do not meet the standard at year 9 NAPLAN 2017 onwards, they will be given the opportunity to meet the standard by passing the online reading, writing and numeracy tests, which will be available for students to sit in Years 10, 11 and 12 and for up to 5 years after beginning their first HSC courses.

Although students can complete the online test multiple times, the most ideal situation would be for students to achieve a band 8 result or higher in reading, writing and numeracy in Year 9 NAPLAN.

What can you do at home to supplement teaching at school:

- Encourage wide and leisure reading. Research suggests at least 20 minutes of reading day is the minimum requirement.
- Ask questions about what your child is reading to improve comprehension skills.
- Promote writing. Encourage your child to write stories or journals on a regular basis.
- Complete past NAPLAN papers: these can be purchased from newsagencies, bookstores or department stores. They can also be borrowed from the local library and school library.
- > Complete the public demonstration test:

http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplanonline/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site

For more information, visit the following BOSTES website: <u>http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/policy-research/stronger-hsc-standards/minimum-standard.html</u>

Ms A. Leone Head Teacher Secondary Studies

TRAVEL PASSES FOR 2017 Opal Network

Students are to keep their School Opal cards for travel in 2017. These cards will be automatically deactivated for school holidays and then reactivated for school travel in Term One. Current School Opal cards can be updated with changes of school, home address or operator.

> Ms D. Zanet Deputy Principal

GIRLS USA FOOTBALL TOUR 2016

Our talented football girls from Years 7-11 had the unique opportunity to travel to the USA from 19 November to 2 December to compete in the country's biggest football tournament - The San Diego Surf Cup. In conjunction with this, the girls also participated in The November Nights College Showcase.

In USA, womens football is very well organised and a sport in which young females can thrive in an environment that the family, community and governing body fully supports. This is evident in California, which boasts some of the strongest club teams and players in the USA.

Our girls did well competing with the American girls who are direct, athletic, apply pressure and get the ball forward quickly. It was great to see our girls play the Westfields style of football and there were many coaches who congratulated us for our style of football throughout the Surf Cup Tournament and November Nights showcase.

With an average age of just over 14.5 years for the group, our girls did fantastic against opposition who were all 16-16.5 years of age.

We finished the tour with 2 wins, 2 draws and 5 loses scoring 13 goals and conceding 23. We were competitive in every game, creating many opportunities to win more games but overall the players have all grown and experienced what football is like in the USA.

The group demonstrated and maintained high levels of maturity and professionalism on and off the field and represented themselves and the school proudly.

> Mr R. Bradshaw Football Coach

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Families are asked to consider donating any preloved school uniforms to assist our needy students at the school. Any donated uniforms would be greatly appreciated by our less fortunate families. Donated items can be deposited at the Front Office, A Block or directly to Miss Zanet, A Block.

The Uniform Shop will be open on Thursday 15 December from 8:00am to 10:00am. It will also be opening during the school holidays on Thursday 19 January and Friday 27 January between from 8.00am to 1.00pm.

We have a large quantity of lost clothing and shoes, both uniform and non-uniform articles. If your child has lost any articles please ask them to collect before the end of term. As always any articles not collected will be donated to charity.

> Mrs J. Sticker Uniform Shop



SYDNEY SOUTH WEST BLUES DINNER

The annual Sydney South West Blues Dinner was held at the Liverpool Catholic Club on Monday 5 December, 2016. A number of Westfields Sports students were honoured with Regional Blues.



Yadin Ngeng - Athletics Track Connor Marsh - Australian Football Shane Kelleher - Baseball Dragan Elkaz - Basketball Natalia Beaumont - Basketball Lorena Bugden - Football Olivia Rowntree - Netball Sean Keppie - Rugby League Dylan Valeni - Rugby Daniel Harrison - Softball

In addition to receiving their Regional Blues, *Shane Kelleher & Olivia Rowntree* were honoured with the Sydney South West President's Award as the most outstanding male and female athletes in the region for 2016 and *Yadin Ngeng & Natalia Beaumon*t were awarded the Premier's Sporting Scholarship

Congratulations to all students on their achievements at regional level in 2016.

Mrs J. Kenny Director of Sport

NSWCHS BLUES PRESENTATION

The annual New South Wales Combined High Schools Presentation held on Friday 2 December saw a number of Westfields Sports students honoured with State Blues.



Natalia Beaumont – Basketball William Graf - Hockey Blake Jackson – Softball

In addition to receiving a State Blue, *William Graf* was awarded the Premier's Sporting Scholarship Congratulations to these students on their achievements at state level in 2016.

> Mrs J. Kenny Director of Sport

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.

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

7Aqua - Lachlan Brook, 7Blue - Sonia Vojnovic, 7Crimson - Jasinta Haydardedeoglu, 7Orange - AJ lese 7Purple - Nicholas Spasenovic, 7Red - Amy Nguyen 7Silver - Phu Dat Huynh, 7Violet - Gabriella Farias 7White - Tiffany Nguyen, 7Yellow - Breanna Nguyen





Year 8 - Cindy Cao Year 9 - Emily Kenmare Year 10 - Susie Huynh Year 11 - Sibel Alca



Mrs K. Burt Relieving Head Teacher Welfare

DADS EXCURSION

After a wonderful year our Dance Program students were rewarded with an excursion to see DADS at Parramatta Riverside on 4 December. This was a contemporary performance by Dance Makers Collective, a fun exploration of the roles and characters of fathers, and 'dad' dancing. A great day was had by all!



Ms R. Fishburn CAPA Faculty



AN EVENING OF DANCE

Our annual showcase *An Evening of Dance* was held on 28 October at Casula Powerhouse. It was a spectacular event showcasing the hard work and talent of the entire dance program, and primary guests Hoxton Park Community of Schools Ensemble. Special mention must be made to Mr Ian McCourt, who in his retirement from Art teaching at Westfields Sports took the time to create a beautiful painting forming the backdrop for the second half of our show. We are so grateful! Congratulations to all staff and students involved, and thank you to parents, family and friends for your support in attendance.



Ms R. Fishburn CAPA Faculty

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

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

For all the latest information follow us @WestfieldsSport.



FROM THE SPORTS DESK Congratulations

- Senior Hockey Quickstix Schools Cup Runners Up
- Kristy Aguilar, Natalie Armstrong, Shelby Fulton,
- Sienna Kowaliw, Maddison Lach, Tayla Noble, Breana-Lee Palma and Gia-Luise Palma - SSW Softball Representatives

• Daniel Harrison, Tyler Kelly, Matthew Leuzzi, Zachary Raso, Zachary Roberts, Hayden Shaw - SSW Softball Representatives

- Hannah Darlington, Angelina Genford, Niyati Yoganand - SSW Cricket Representatives
- Zeeshaan Ahmed, Riley Allington, Joshua Baraba, Jackson Isakka, Creedence King, Koby Layton, Anirban Maitra - SSW Cricket Representatives
- Davidson Shield Cricket Westfields Sports drew The Hills SHS
- Davidson Shield T20 Cricket Westfields Sports (5/152) defeated The Hills SHS (6/129)
- Sports High School Plate Westfields Sports (5/155) defeated Endeavour SHS (8/152)
- Boys Basketball 15s Division 1 National Schools
 Basketball Bronze Medal
- Boys Basketball 17s Division 2 National Schools Basketball 4th place
- Girls Basketball Championship Division National Schools Basketball 8th place

Mrs J. Kenny Director of Sport



Westfields Sports are proud to be supported by :





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