



**WINDSOR**  
HIGH SCHOOL

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# November 2012

**SAFETY TEAMWORK ACHEIVEMENT RESPECT**



Year 7 Gala Day Girls Netball Team - Runners up - report Page 8

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Thank you!*

Term 4 is always a very busy term with student examinations, reports, planning for next year, evaluating programs that ran this year. None of this would be possible without the continued support and hard work of the teachers at the school and the parents/caregivers and office staff!

In particular, I would like to thank:

- \* Ms Calvert for her dedication to Vocational Education and Training. There have been huge changes required of VET teachers in the way things are done, to make sure all schools

and TAFEs comply with the new standards. To the immense credit of the teachers at Windsor High School, they have risen to the occasion and have been working very hard to ensure that we meet all these new requirements for our audit in 2013.

- \* The Welfare team who continue to work very hard to support the welfare and learning needs of students. In particular:
  - \* Mr Beedham who was Year 12 Adviser, had a crucial job in looking after these students at such a critical time in their school life;
  - \* Ms Kedicioglu (Year 7 Adviser for 2013), Ms Winter

(HT Welfare) and Ms Keir (Learning and Support Teacher) who have been visiting the Primary schools to talk to the teachers of Year 6 students who will be coming to our school next year and to get to know these children.

- \* The Presentation Night committee, who have been working hard for some time now to ready the school for our fabulous Presentation Night!
- \* The Transition Team, with the support of Mr Bonaccorso, Ms Calvert, Ms Kedicioglu and a number of teachers, who have been running wonderful programs across a number of weeks to introduce students to high school life and extend their opportunities for learning. A highlight of this is the recent Cheesemaking course involving Year 5 students from Windsor Primary School. These students now have the exciting title of "Master Cheesemaker".
- \* The Head Teachers for each year group and the relevant Year Advisers for organising the end of year student academic reviews. We have seen some outstanding work provided by students from each year as evidence of their hard work during the year. Well done to all involved!
- \* The curriculum team, headed by Ms Calvert and Ms Court, for their fine organisation and delivery of the Subject Information evenings recently held for parents at the school. These were well-attended and well-evaluated.
- \* Ms Winter and her team for excellent co-ordinating of our new reporting system. I am sure you will agree that the new reports are much improved over our previous reports.

### **Australian Curriculum**

There are many changes to the curriculum that will be introduced from 2014 onwards. Teachers at Windsor High School have begun working on interpreting the new curriculum and on planning for its implementation. I will keep parents informed of progress and of changes to their child's curriculum over the course of 2013.

Later in this newsletter is a Parent/Caregiver Information bulletin from the Board of Studies. Please take the time to read this and contact the school if you wish to discuss these changes. Lastly, thank you to you, the parents, for your ongoing support for the outstanding education

provided by Windsor High School. As a team, we can truly work towards achieving our vision of the best educational opportunities possible for the young people in the Hawkesbury region!

### **Attendance at School**

*All the research shows that children who attend school regularly do better at school!*

This is not surprising, as it is through the discussions with the teacher and the interactions in the classroom, directed at the work presented by the teacher that leads to a deepening understanding of the skills and contents of subject. Most of our students have an excellent record of attendance and are to be congratulated on this! A few however, have developed some poor attendance patterns and it is adversely affecting their academic achievement. Your child needs to be at school every day that the school is open. This applies to students from Year 7 to Year 12, including those who are over 17 years old. For students in Years 10, 11 and 12 in particular, continued absence from school results in a determination of Non-completion of course requirements for the RoSA, Preliminary or HSC course. If the child is over 17 years of age, then they can be expelled for lack of participation in schooling.

### **What happens if my child has poor attendance?**

If a child's rate of attendance is below 85%, then the school will request a meeting to discuss plans to ensure improved attendance. If this is not successful, then a referral to the Home School Liaison Officer will be submitted for students who are under 17 years of age. Where a child is over 17 years of age, the Principal will request a meeting with the parent and student to form a plan to improve attendance. If there is no improvement, then the student may be expelled for lack of participation in schooling. Achieving a good result at school is important for your son or daughter's future. Good attendance at school is a habit! Children should be in the habit of coming every day. Thank you for your support with this important area!

Mrs A Cam - Principal

## DEPUTY'S REPORT

On the last day of Term 3 the Year 12 Formal was held at Penrith Panthers. This was a celebration of the achievements of our Year 12 students prior to the start of the HSC. It was fantastic to see all the students dressed in their formal outfits and conducting themselves as mature young adults. Congratulations Mr Beedham and Year 12 for a fantastic night.

The Higher School Certificate has concluded and students from Windsor High have been extremely positive in their preparation and the way they have conducted themselves throughout the examinations. I was extremely proud to wish you all the best on the first day of your exams and look forward to hearing about your success in the future. Congratulations once again Year 12 and the best of luck for your onward journey into further education or the workplace.

During the first week of this term Year 11 students participated in a three day camp at Gosford to complete the Crossroads program. I was lucky enough to be able to attend the camp along with Mrs West the Year 11 Adviser. I was very impressed with the way all students conducted themselves on camp and their level of engagement in all activities.

Students had the opportunity to challenge themselves and support each other through adventure based and team building activities.



There were also extremely positive comments made about our students by the team at Outdoor Adventure Camps and also the bus driver.

Congratulations to Mrs West for your excellent organisation and also to Year 11 for your outstanding representation of Windsor High School.

Recently a Subject Information Evening was held for parents of students who will be starting Year 9 or 10 in 2013. Parents received information regarding changes that have been made to the way the curriculum will be structured at Windsor High School under the new Record of School Achievement (RoSA). All students in Years 8 and 9 have been through a formal interview process where their choices and goals for the future were discussed and their selections were made. If your son or daughter has missed this interview could they please see Mrs Calvert or Mr Mudiman ASAP to ensure that they receive the elective courses of their choice.

The PBL team has recently started to focus on the way the students move in and out of the classroom. Students are being rewarded for being on time to class and will go into the major draw at this weeks formal assembly. Prizes will once again include vouchers from Hoyts and iTunes etc. So that you have the best chance of winning in this draw and those of the future make sure you get to **class on time**.

Mr S Mudiman  
Deputy Principal

### SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

We are approaching the end of the 2012 school year and I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/guardians that your son/daughter's elective fees are now due. If you have not already finalised your son/daughter's elective fees for 2012, now may be the time to consider finalising these fees. The unpaid elective fees for 2012 and previous years, will be rolled over to 2013 so avoid the shock of having a large outstanding elective fee for your son/daughter and settle your account now.

Thank you  
Administration Manager

## YEAR 12 FORMAL REPORT

On Friday September 21, Year 12 celebrated their Graduation Formal. It was a star studded event with the Year 12 students showing how well presented and sophisticated they really are. Breaking with tradition, photographs were taken in the landscaped gardens at Weir Reserve, next to the Nepean River at Penrith.

The glitz and glamour was evident in the haute couture of the young ladies, who had been planning their outfits for a long time, while the young gentlemen were a picture of sartorial splendour.

It was then into the limousines for a leisurely drive before a “grand entrance” on the concourse at Panthers. Of course this provided yet another photo opportunity as you can see. Then it was upstairs to the elegant surrounds of the Hunter Room.

The excited students mingled with members of staff while pre-dinner canapés were served. Everyone then moved to their tables for dinner, where they banqueted on a three course meal. Breaking up the evening were the obligatory speeches and “Student Awards” where some

good-humoured certificates that recognised the quintessential and sometimes quirky characteristics of each student were given out. Mrs Calvert and Mrs Pigeon then judged the elegant presentation of the students to give out some “Staff Awards”.

Then it was to the dance floor, where students and staff strutted their stuff for the rest of the evening!

I would like to thank all those involved, both staff and students who assisted in the planning and running of the formal, especially Dylan, Mikayla and Emma for their assistance with the finer details of the event. A good time was had by all.

Mr J Beedham  
Yr 12 Adviser



**RESPECT**



**ACHIEVEMENT**



**TEAMWORK**



**SAFETY**