



WINDSOR
HIGH SCHOOL

Week 2 Term 4 2018

SAFETY TEAMWORK ACHIEVEMENT RESPECT

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Mask Designs—Amber & Patrick - Year 8



Facebook:

www.facebook.com/windsorhighschool

Web Site:

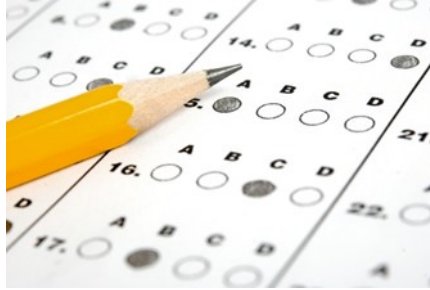
windsor-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

The 2018 NAPLAN results have finally arrived in the school for Years 7 and 9 students after a delay. Parents may already be aware, due to media attention, that this year's NAPLAN was administered in two different versions. Some students did their NAPLAN examination on line. These students when they answered a question and got it right, were then given a harder question next. Likewise, a student who got a question incorrect, would then get an easier question next. The second version was a paper examination, as given in previous years. This makes the allocation of Bands, comparing student's results from previous years, as well as evaluation of whole school results a difficult task as you are not comparing like with like.



WALKING TOGETHER - LEARNING TOGETHER

At Windsor High School, all students completed this task on paper, but consistency of results is still an issue as bands are allocated based on a comparison with schools who did the on-line task. We have been advised to take care in analyzing this year's NAPLAN results and adjusting our literacy and numeracy programs accordingly. Over the next two years it is envisaged that we will also move across to the on-line version of NAPLAN. Students in Years 7 and 9 should receive their individualized results by no later than early next week (week 3).



The Department of Education has requested that we remind all parents and caregivers that all students in Kindergarten to Year 11 are required to attend school until Wednesday 19th December, the last day of teaching for 2018. Prior to this date, at Windsor High School all students in all year groups will be engaged in meaningful work based on the curriculum and syllabus requirements.

Information about attendance is available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/school-attendance-policy>. If parents are seeking permission for their child to be absent from school for a period of time the [Exemption from School - Procedures](#) should be followed. A summary leaflet is included with this newsletter. Justified reasons for student absences include sickness, unavoidable medical appointments, religious holidays and exceptional or urgent family circumstances such as attending a funeral. Families are encouraged to only take family holidays during the designated school holidays.



Congratulations to Ms Flitter who had her name drawn out of the hat for allocating all of her VIVO reward points to students in the previous week.



Mr Philp spoke to the school about Space Camp and some of the students who attended were presented to the school. This was such a great excursion and opportunity for our students. Please see further in the newsletter a summary of the highlights of the trip in the words of the students.



Ms Mooney's Year 7 class have had some very engaging activities to complete as a part of their geography unit of work. They have been studying landforms and natural hazards. William made an amazing "edible Volcano" and Ethan created an outstanding "Tsunami Cake" - complete with a chocolate village that the wave is about to flood down on!!



Miss Talidu's 'Artist of the week' was awarded to year 7 student, Vasili. Vasili has displayed strong sketching skills and pays attention to detail when he is drawing. Well done, Vasili!



On Saturday night, we had the beginning of our Windsor High School 50th Anniversary Celebrations. As it has been 50 years since the first enrolments were received for Windsor High School. In 1968, the actual buildings had not been completed so the teachers and the staff went to Richmond High for the whole year. They acted like their own school within the grounds of another school. This was the beginning of our school community, so as such this was acknowledged with a dinner at Windsor RSL club. There were nearly 100 past students and teachers present.

The cake, made by Sandra Vassallo, who started at Windsor High in 1970 had the 4 house colours on it



The room was decorated in school colours and each placemat was a laminated photo from our archives.



Ms Tina Bennet, current Director Educational Leadership made a great speech about Windsor High School's great future.



Current teacher Ms Mooney and former student who started Windsor High School in 1968, Sharon Thompson-Ritzrow were a part of the organising Committee.



Mr Tim McCallum, former Head Teacher of English at Windsor High and current Executive Director of Schools Performance opened the night, fondly sharing his memories of his days at the school.



Mr Ray Whelan (past teacher) and Ms Thompson (current DP) attended.



Previous teachers Anne Pigeon (HT TAS), Graham Hackett (DP) and Evelyn Hoogenboom (Mathematics Teacher) enjoyed catching up.



This is a photo of the foundation years ex-students, that is they were enrolled at Windsor High in years 1968, 1969 or 1970. Many had travelled great distances to be there on the night.



The oldest ex-student and the youngest ex-student cut the cake!



The first students who ever attended the school presented us with a plaque to remember the year we started.





These people were the first group to complete their whole high school education at Windsor High- the class of 1970!

The night was a great success and it was obvious that all who attended hold Windsor high School and their memories in high esteem.

In 2019, it will be 50 years since the first students and teachers actually entered the school grounds. During Term One the school was not ready, so they went to Windsor South Primary School. In May, the students who were at both Richmond High and Windsor South, all came together for the first time at the present site. We hope to commemorate this with an Open day in May 2019.

Regards

Jennifer Hawken
Principal

Our Space Camp Experience as Spoken by Ben & Patrick

Space camp was an amazing experience. The highlights of the trip for me were the activities at the Space camp in Huntsville, Alabama, alongside Disneyland, Universal Studios and The California Science Centre. We stayed at Space Camp for six days. Some of the activities included was the one-six chair, which made you feel like you weighed one-sixth of what you do on Earth. The MAT which would make you feel like you were free-falling without any control, the heat shield building, where we had to create a heat shield that would withstand re-entry into our atmosphere (made out of a variety of materials, including different metals and insulators). The best activity was building the rockets, which we would later launch. Ideally, your rocket would launch and as it was coming back down the parachute would eject from the top of the rocket and it would slowly fall back down to Earth. Although, only one out of our groups four rockets got close to achieving this. My group forgot to glue the engine mount in properly so when we launched our rocket the engine slid up the rocket a lot and due to the heat it was exerting, melted the plastic parachute together. Overall, it was a great bonding and educational experience and I would 100% recommend that anyone who enjoys STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) should definitely go on this once in a lifetime opportunity, and I am extremely appreciative that I have to go on this excursion.

By Ben

Space camp was one of the best experiences in my life. We went to Disneyland, California Science centre, universal studios and space camp. At space camp, we did a wide range of activities such as rocket designing and developing, Mars rover testing, learning to speak Russian, SCUBA diving, and much, much more. My group used teamwork and trust to overcome challenges. We had simulated Missions to the International Space Station, and each student had roles such as pilot, commander, mission specialist, communication officer and scientists. We had to land a space shuttle on re-entry from space and my group nearly crashed. The first time we landed with the doors open, second time we hit the water then landed, and the third time we hit a forest yet still landed on the runway. All in all, it was an amazing experience filled with excitement and I am so grateful to have been able to go.

Patrick



Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

The school leaving age:

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

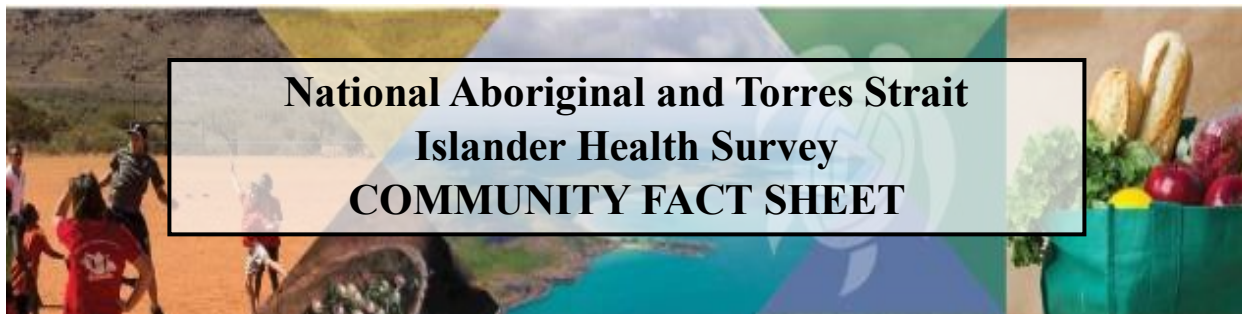
Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities



National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey COMMUNITY FACT SHEET

From July 2018, the Australian Bureau of Statistics will be visiting selected communities to carry out the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey.

Selected households will have the chance to talk to us about their health so that government and health care services can make decisions that will help you, your children and your community live long, healthy lives.

What is the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS)?

The NATSIHS collects information about the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people all over Australia.

Your answers will help governments and healthcare services decide where to spend money on things like health clinics and health education. The answers you give us help to make sure money is being spent where it's needed most.

Health rating 2012-13
(15 years and over)



Percentage of daily smokers
(15 years and over)



What is involved?

The NATSIHS asks people questions about their health and lifestyle. One of our friendly interviewers will ask some questions about your health which include:

- What you eat and drink
- Exercise
- Smoking
- Your culture
- Any health problems like diabetes



We will also ask to measure your weight, height and blood pressure and ask you to complete a hearing test. This is first time that NATSIHS has had a hearing test. We will give you a copy of your test results so you can look at them again, or you can take them to your community clinic to talk to the nurse about what they mean.



Do I have to do this survey?

Yes. A lot of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people across Australia are going to be asked to do this survey and, because everyone is different, it is important that we find out about your health.

The ABS is trying to find out which health problems affect your community. We want to help health service providers give you and your community the best chance to live healthier lives by showing the government where, and what help is needed.



Autism Community Network

AUTISM SUPPORT FOR HAWKESBURY

The Autism Community Network provides free support during school terms for families living with autism conditions. If you would like to meet other carers who understand you or find social opportunities for your ASD child and their siblings, please contact us or come along to our free support group meetings

RICHMOND SUPPORT GROUP

When: Meets second Wednesday each month 10am to noon

Venue: Richmond Golf Club

WINDSOR YOUTH CLUB

When: First Friday of the month 4.30 to 6 pm

Venue: Deerubin Centre in Windsor

For more information :

www.autismcommunity.org.au | info@autismcommunity.org.au | 9543 9036



2019 HAWKESBURY SISTER CITY STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM



To Kyotamba, Japan or Temple City, California USA



STUDENTS IN YEARS 9, 10 & 11 IN 2019.

Information Night 16TH October
7:00M-8:30PM, Deerubbin Center,
300 George Street, Windsor



**Applications Open 17TH October &
Close 30TH October**

Pre-Selection Meeting Saturday,
10TH November 2018

**Interviews, Sunday, 11TH November
2018**



"The most memorable trip I have been on. This program enabled me to build strong, lifelong memories and friendships, as well as expanding my appreciation for other cultures, as well as reflecting upon my own. I loved teaching my host family about the Hawkesbury" – Hollie, 2016, Japan



"This program widens your perspective of the world and yourself with the added bonus of making great friends." – Tom, 2015, USA

"The host family experience is something money can't buy and is so different to travelling and staying in a hotel. You learn your strengths and weaknesses and you can share the beauty of Australia, especially our wonderful hometown, the Hawkesbury." – Laura, 2016, USA

**CHECK OUT THE FACEBOOK PAGE
@HAWKESBURYSISTERCITYASSOCIATIONINC**

**CONTACT SECRETARY BRIDGET SMITHERS ON
secretaryhsca@gmail.com for further information!**

CALENDAR TERM 4

RESPECT

ACHIEVEMENT

TEAMWORK

SAFETY

Monday 29th October	HSC Exams
Tuesday 30th October	HSC Exams
Wednesday 31st October	HSC Exams
Thursday 1st November	HSC Exams Panthers on the Prowl Sister Speak FYA Awards
Friday 2nd November	HSC Exams Year 9 Leadership Day
Monday 5 November	HSC Exams
Tuesday 6 November	HSC Exams
Wednesday 7 November	HSC Exams
Thursday 8 November	HSC Exams Panthers on the Prowl Sister Speak
Friday 9 November	HSC Exams
Monday 12 November	Year 9 & 10 Exams Pop Up Globe Theatre Excursion
Tuesday 13 November	Year 9 & 10 Exams
Wednesday 14 November	Year 9 & 10 Exams
Thursday 15 November	Year 9 & 10 Exams Sister Speak
Friday 16 November	Year 9 & 10 Exams
Monday 19 November	Year 10 Exams
Friday 23 November	White Ribbon Day
Tuesday 27 November	P&C Meeting
Thursday 29 November	Year 10 Formal