



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Welcome to the Term 4 issue of the newsletter. There have been many things happening in our school since the last newsletter. Of particular significance was the departure of Mr Paul Jones and my subsequent appointment to Waroona District High School. I am delighted to have taken on the Principalship of this vibrant country school. Having lived most of my life and been educated in the Murray region myself, I feel a strong sense of connection and commitment to this community.

I have 22 years' experience in Public education, 20 years of which have been as a senior leader, most recently as Senior School Deputy Principal at Melville Senior High School and previously as Middle School Deputy Principal at Halls Head College.

Although I have spent the last 18 years in two very large senior high schools, I am delighted to have been appointed to Waroona District High School. I am attracted to the smaller more intimate learning environment that Waroona offers. Smaller schools are better able to meet the diverse needs of each student, foster supportive relationships and ensure each child is nurtured to achieve their personal and academic potential.

My vision for Waroona District High School is to ensure that all students achieve both academically and socially, that they experience a high quality and enjoyable education. In partnership with our families, I want our students to thrive and be proud of the school and the community they serve.

I have high expectations of myself, our staff and our students. I look forward to working together to ensure that Waroona District High School is the school of choice for families in the local community.

The Year 6 camp to Busselton this term was a fantastic success and students enjoyed an action packed itinerary with the Dwellingup Trees Adventure, X-Cape at the Cape, the Yallingup Maze and the Busselton Jetty and Underwater Observatory. The camp signals the start of their transition to secondary school as they celebrate the conclusion of their primary years with the camp leading up to their graduation from Year 6 and into Year 7. This year the school has made some modifications to our end of year ceremonies. These changes have been made with two specific goals in mind; a continued focus on strategies to support a "whole school" emphasis, rather than a separate primary-secondary focus and a lift in prestige and adulation for our graduating students in Years 6 and 10.

On **Tuesday 17th December**, both the **Year 6 and Year 10 students will participate in a combined Graduation Ceremony at 9am**. At this ceremony all Year 6 and 10 awards and scholarships will be presented. We will also take this opportunity to narrow our focus onto the individuals of these graduating years.

**A Presentation Assembly will be held on the Friday 6th December at 9:00am.** All Primary Academic and Class Awards for Years 1 to 5 and all Subject Awards for Years 7 to 9 will be presented at this assembly. We look forward to the continued support we receive from our community at these annual events.

We have recently welcomed Mr Chao to Waroona District High School. Mr Chao comes highly qualified with a Masters of Engineering from UWA, specialising in Robotics and Artificial Intelligence. Mr Chao is extremely passionate about teaching Mathematics and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) and has taught Year 7 to Year 12 Australian Curriculum in Mathematics including high level ATAR Mathematics courses. He is highly skilled at guiding students to maximise their graduation potential and raise academic standards.

On that note, the release of the NAPLAN data in Term 3 demonstrated that Waroona District High School students performed well above Like Schools in all 5 test areas in Year 3 and Year 7. This is a fantastic achievement by students and staff who have supported their growth in Literacy and Numeracy. I would like to congratulate the students for completing the first year of NAPLAN online so successfully and thank the teaching staff at Waroona DHS for helping to make this happen.

At our most recent whole school assembly we acknowledged 24 students that had achieved 100% attendance for Term 3. A further 112 students that had achieved over 90% attendance as well as 23 students that had demonstrated significant improvement in attendance were acknowledged with a letter home. All students were rewarded with Vivo points and icy poles. It is fantastic to note this improvement in regular attendance.

If your child's attendance is less than 90%, not only is your child attending school less regularly on average than their fellow students but they are also placing themselves at risk of under-achieving. Success at school and attendance go hand in hand so please look at what you can do as a parent to get your child to school for an average of at least the 90%. I promise you that their performance will improve if they attend and complete their work.

We have a busy schedule ahead in Term 4 for staff and students with the School Dance, completion of course work and projects, tests, graduations and reports. Our school has now embraced electronic reporting and parents will receive notification of Semester 2 reports via email on or around Wednesday 18th December.

We have a beautiful school environment at Waroona District High School that is reflected not just in the spacious and well maintained grounds, but in the warm and welcoming culture of





our students and staff. Thank you to the staff, students, parents and community members who have already made me feel so very welcome. I look forward to meeting many more parents and community members at our upcoming school events, and working with you all in partnership to provide the very best educational opportunities for our students.

**Ms Jacquie Abbiss**  
PRINCIPAL

## PRIMARY NEWS

Last week I had the pleasure of spending some time with the Year 6 students at their **School Camp** in Busselton. The camp was a fantastic success thanks to the great organisation by Mrs Gwatkin. Students experienced several fun and informative excursions, including the Ngilgi Caves and the Busselton Jetty Underwater Observatory. A big thank you must also go to our merry band of adult helpers, Mr Paterson, Mr Thomas and Ms Dohnt. They were all a terrific help throughout the camp. Probably the most pleasing thing about the camp, from my perspective, was the feedback our students received from hosts and guides. Our school values of Consideration, Aspiration, Respect, Engagement and Safety were on display for all to see!



On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November students from Year 3-7 and our Student Councillors will participate in the **Remembrance Day Town Service** at the town war memorial on Parnell Street. This is now an annual event and will involve two or three of our students participating within the service. Permission notes will be sent out in coming days via **Consent2Go**. Parents are also welcome to attend this community event.

A quick reminder to parents/carers that in Term Four we have a **No Hat, No Play** policy. We ask that parents ensure their child has a hat, preferably a black school hat.

Finally, as we move towards the busy time at the end of the year, I encourage all students to keep their heads down and strive to do the best work they are capable of. Now is the time when teachers are compiling their marks and starting to write comments for **Semester Two reports**.

All the best!

**Mr Carl Carulli**  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (Primary)

## SECONDARY NEWS

**Business-like in the High School** - I would like to commend our High School students on the way they have approached the first two and a half weeks of term. I have completed a number of class observations and the students are extremely engaged and focussed on working hard. This attitude and diligence is perfect for this time of year as it can make all the difference in achieving those extra marks, in order to receive a higher grade. Well done and keep up the awesome work.



**Planter on the Main Street** - Mrs O'Meara is arranging a group of students to head down to the Main Street and plant out the planter boxes for the Warroona Action group. The planters were made during our alternate timetable in Week 10 of Term 3. We received a call from the Action Group asking if the Bushrangers could help and they were more than happy to help our local community. I look forward to seeing the finished planters on the main street.

**Work place Learning 2020** - Our Year 10 students are being provided with an opportunity to complete workplace learning one day a week in 2020. The workplace learning program aims to enable students to spend a day a week – in a workplace of their choice, enhancing their classroom learning, informing their career choices and building their industry skills.

The program is relevant and benefits all students in Year 10 for some or all of the following reasons.

Workplace learning helps students to:

- test their job and career choices
- engage with the wider community
- complete course work in a relevant industry setting
- learn what is required from a worker in the workplace
- build general work skills like workplace communication, team work and critical thinking
- develop specific industry skills, including vocational education and training (VET) course competencies
- gain confidence, maturity and self-management skills through participation in an adult work environment
- make informed decisions when planning their transition through school and on to further education, training and work.

Mrs O'Meara has already started preparing our 2020 Year 10's (current Year 9 students) for their workplace placements. I ask parents to sit again, discuss and help secure a placement for your child. A letter has already gone home explaining the program and requesting information.

**Welcome Mr Chao** - I would like to welcome Mr Chao to the Mathematics staff in the High School. Whilst Mr Chao has been appointed as the core Math teacher he comes with many other skills around Science and Robotics. We will use these skills next year and provide for the High school an additional option called "STEM" (**STEM** is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics — in an interdisciplinary and applied approach). The upper primary will also benefit as we are looking at options to run short academic extension programs throughout next year with a "STEM" focus.

Mr Chao is very excited about the opportunity to continue teaching "STEM" as it is a way for students to practically apply some of the Maths taught in his core subject. Keep an eye out for a display he will be setting up in the front office over the next few weeks.

**Mr David Mattin**  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (Secondary)





## ASSEMBLY MERIT CERTIFICATES

The following students received merits at the last assembly:

### Year 1

|               |             |                   |
|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <b>Year 2</b> | Joel Kelly  | Dustin Bonnett    |
|               | Lucas Birch | Maddison McIntyre |

|               |                |                 |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Year 3</b> | Telisha Bamkin | Scarlett Wright |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|

|               |                |  |
|---------------|----------------|--|
| <b>Year 4</b> | William Butler |  |
|---------------|----------------|--|

|               |            |              |
|---------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>Year 5</b> | Ben Graham | Laura Totten |
|---------------|------------|--------------|

### Year 6

|               |               |                  |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| <b>Year 7</b> | Lachlan Birch | Makkiah Dittmann |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|

|               |                        |  |
|---------------|------------------------|--|
| <b>Year 8</b> | Joshua-Mitchell Parker |  |
|---------------|------------------------|--|

|               |                |                   |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Year 9</b> | Krystal Dillon | Catherine Righton |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|

|                |            |             |
|----------------|------------|-------------|
| <b>Year 10</b> | Brie Lloyd | Zane Dennis |
|----------------|------------|-------------|

## P & C Uniform Shop

**Open every Tuesday  
between 8:30 & 9:00am**

We encourage  
parents/caregivers to label  
your children's belongings to  
enable their quick return.

**2019 HIGH SCHOOL DANCE**  
**HOSTED BY: WAROONA DHS STUDENT COUNCIL**

|       |                           |
|-------|---------------------------|
| DATE  | NOVEMBER 21 <sup>ST</sup> |
| VENUE | WAROONA TOWN HALL         |
| TIME  | 6:30 PM – 10 PM           |
| DRESS | SMART CASUAL              |
| COST  | \$20                      |

Information about the school dance has been distributed to all high school students.

Tickets will be available to purchase from the Front Office, during non-teaching times only. This event is a great chance for secondary students and staff to celebrate the end of the 2019 school year.

See you there!

## Stay WaterWise WA

Apply soil wetting agents to assist water penetration in lawns and garden beds. Wetting agents increase water absorption into soil, which encourages deeper root growth and ultimately less watering is required.

## SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

YEARS 7 TO 12  
YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO:

**\$350**

*towards school expenses*

DO YOU HOLD A:

- CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD
- (OR) • CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD
- (OR) • VETERANS' AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

Applications Close  
**Thursday 9 April 2020**

**Ask School Reception for More Information**





# PLAY CRICKET!

HAVE A BLAST PLAYING CRICKET! THERE ARE OPTIONS FOR KIDS OF ALL ABILITIES AGES 5-17  
— WHETHER IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME WITH A BAT OR YOU'RE A COMPETITIVE CRICKET STAR!



## JUNIOR BLASTERS

AGES 5-7 | 60 MINS | 6+ WEEKS

Learn new skills, including catching, throwing and teamwork, through fun game based activities.

Sign up now for your Starter Pack. Returning Junior Blasters score a Returner Pack with backpack and choice of bonus item!



STARTER KIT

RETURNER KIT



## MASTER BLASTERS

AGES 7-10 | 90 MINS | 6+ WEEKS

Everyone gets a chance to bat, bowl and field in short, modified games of cricket. For kids with basic cricket skills.

Sign up now for your Master Blasters Pack!



## JUNIOR CRICKET

AGES 9-17 | 2-4 HOURS

Play more shots, face more balls and take more wickets as you develop your skills through three levels of junior cricket.

SIGN UP NOW TO ALL-GIRLS LEAGUES

- ✓ Short, action-packed games.
- ✓ Enhanced game formats allowing for greater skill development.
- ✓ Develop teamwork in a fun and competitive environment.
- ✓ Join an existing team or join up with a group of friends.

\*\* Waroona Junior Cricket Club \*\*

Contact : Mat Thomas Mobile : 0410 610 839

CRICKET BLAST PROGRAM

\$65 | FRI | 4:30pm - 5:30pm

\*\*\* Waroona Oval \*\*\*



JOIN A CREW NEAR YOU TODAY

PLAY CRICKET

PROUDLY  
PRESENTED BY



## Positive Behaviour Support

In Term 4 every student will have the opportunity to win a JB Hi-Fi gift card that will be drawn at the end of the term – just in time for Christmas or Boxing Day Sales. Every VIVO a student receives for their CARES (Considerate, Aspiring, Responsible, Engaged, Safe) values will give them 1 entry into the draw.

This term we are focusing on the following:

### Week 3 & 4

We are **ASPIRING** when we apply useful feedback to improve ourselves.

### Week 5 & 6

We are **ENGAGED** when we ask questions if we're unsure.

### Week 7 & 8

We are **CONSIDERATE** when we communicate thoughtfully online.

### Week 9 & 10

We are **RESPONSIBLE** when we tidy and return borrowed equipment.

## Chaplain's Chat

Term 4 is off to a great start at Waroona District High School! At the camp for the Year 6 students they had a variety of fun activities and a chance to reconnect before the upcoming graduation from Primary School later on in the term! As we progress into the last term of the year, we think about change. The weather has become warmer, wildflowers are blooming, schools are brimming with activities. Students, especially those in Years 6 and 10 are starting to think about the many changes that will occur next year when they make the transition to a new school or high school.

Waroona District High School has seen quite a few changes this year. We've said goodbye to Cathy de Thierry. We've welcomed and farewelled Principal, Paul Jones and now we have a wonderful new Principal, Jacquie Abbiss to lead our wonderful school into the future. I am also in the middle of some changes. My son, Eddy, will be changing schools next year and I will have extra demands on my time in the mornings and afternoons. Because of this, I have looked into changing schools and was very pleased when a position opened up just across the street from my home. Unfortunately, this will mean that I will be leaving Waroona District High School. This hasn't been an easy decision as I so enjoy working with the students, staff and parents in this beautiful community. The silver lining is that a new Chaplain, Rodney Van Dongen has been found. He and his wife are personal friends of mine and I have the utmost confidence in him to provide activities and pastoral care to the Waroona District High School community. I know you will make him feel very welcome!

My last day will be Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. For anyone wishing to say goodbye, you can find me in the Moorditj Miya building at lunch time. Treats will be provided! I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at Waroona District High School for your support over the past 20 months. I take with me, fond memories, and pray that Waroona District High School continues to be a warm, caring environment committed to seeking the best for all who study and work here.

**Karen Burke**  
SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

