



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Well, if we had an unusual end to Term 1, we most certainly also had an unusual start to Term 2. As we all left for the holidays having prepared for remote and online learning in Term 2, it was announced mid break that schools would be resuming face to face teaching for Term 2.



As a staff we took the opportunity to reflect on the impact of COVID-19 and our provision of a remote and online learning experience. We look a back at Term 1 and all that we had achieved with an impressive range of new initiatives, new policies and practices and how far we had progressed in our improvement planning processes. And then along came COVID-19! Instead of viewing it as detraction or blocker to the good work that we had been doing, I highlighted to staff the key elements of a high performing school that I had seen from Waroona District High School during the online and remote experience. We were front runners in managing the change and our efforts to maintain continuity of learning was being recognised and acknowledged within the community as exceeding that of other schools. Staff had maximised the use of WebEx, Connect and Dojo and were providing consistent weekly overviews of content and activities, daily lessons and content and regularly scheduled teacher/student interactions. I saw us living our vision; I saw high expectations of students and staff and teacher efficacy. I saw high level accountability and high expectations of consistency. I saw collaboration, support, innovation and achievement. We were operating ahead of schedule and providing remote and online delivery from Week 8 to Week 10. I saw a community that valued and applauded the work that we were doing. I saw positive outcomes for our students.

Having said that though, we are all really glad to have our students back in the classroom. Attendance at school is now compulsory and we need to focus on getting all students without medical exemptions back to school. As things return to some sort of normality we are still unable to provide camps, excursions and extra-curricular events. Virtual assemblies will be in place until gatherings sizes increase from the current limit of 20. Whilst this is not ideal, it is the same situation in every school in the state.

I have to say as Principal, this has been a challenging, but also very proud period of time for me. I have seen my staff operate under extreme stress and adapt to immense change with little to no warning and they have embraced the change and accepted the circumstances as true professionals, in order to provide the best outcomes for our students. The teaching staff, support staff, cleaning staff, student services staff and executive staff have all responded to the increased workload, stress and emergency management conditions in the most positive and productive way. I thank them all most sincerely.

Our students also responded to the changing circumstances in a positive manner and embraced the remote and online environment to maintain continuity of their own learning. Supported by some very stressed, but patient parents to assist

them, our students have come through the journey with work completed and hopefully a new found appreciation for being at school. Again, I sincerely thank our students and our parents for their support in this challenging period.

The cancellation of NAPLAN testing for Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in 2020 now means that all Year 9 students will have to sit OLNA (Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment). Further details around this change will be provided to parents and students once details are confirmed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA).

Our recent OLNA results for Year 10 students showed significant improvement in student progress and achievement of OLNA. Students must pass OLNA to meet the WACE requirements in Year 12. We are delighted that so many of our students have already met this requirement.

On an exciting note, we are currently having our secondary toilets upgraded with a complete refurbishment. This has placed the toilets out of service for a considerable period of time. Due to COVID-19 we decided to hire additional toilets rather than sharing existing facilities. We look forward to seeing the new facilities once completed toward the end of this term.

The remaining funds that we received for classroom refurbishments has been targeted to an upgrade of the library facility. Although the funding is quite limited, we are hoping to get as big a bang for our buck as we can with some refreshments to the existing space. Our longer term vision is to create an ICT and resource hub with several modern learning spaces able to be used simultaneously by classes across the school.

Our School Council welcomes two newly elected staff members, Joanne Evans and Coranda Fee, as well as two new parent representatives who will be announced very soon. Brad Vitale, our recently elected Chair of the Council, and I have been working on our selection narrative to become an Independent Public School, an opportunity that will give us increased autonomy and flexibility to self-manage our school and cater to the specific needs of the Waroona community. The School Council this week endorsed our Positive Behaviour Schools Policy, an updated policy and processes for consistent management of student behaviour, which is a current improvement focus area for the school. The School Council also endorsed the Waroona District High School Strategic Plan 2019-2021 (Version 2). This plan is a roadmap for our improvement agenda and outlines our school vision – to be the school of choice in the local community, as well as our priority areas and targets. Following significant leadership change in recent years, we embraced the opportunity to revision the school and identify areas of strategic priority to enable us to achieve our vision. This document will hold us accountable to each other and to our community for improving the social and academic outcomes for our students. I commend this document to you and look forward to your enduring support as we continue on our journey of improvement.

Ms Jacquie Abbiss

PRINCIPAL

SAFE

ENGAGED

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CONSIDERATE

ASPIRING

RESPONSIBLE

PRIMARY NEWS

Hi Waroona

At last our school is starting to sound and feel like it did pre-pandemic! This week our total numbers attending has risen to just below what it was before we were placed into shutdown. Our cleaning staff are doing an amazing job keeping our school buildings and playgrounds regularly disinfected!

On Friday 8th May we ran a **Virtual Assembly** where the Student Councillors hosted the assembly via a Webcam. All classes tuned in on their Electronic Whiteboards to watch the event. The success of this first trial, and the fact that we are still not allowed to hold large assemblies, means we have again run a similar assembly today.

Primary Reports will look a little different this semester. Given the change to learning late last term and early this term, staff have conceded that allocating grades fairly and reliably is not possible. The Department of Education has recommended that, where schools are unable to provide a reliable grade from work assessed, a 'comment only' report be provided to parents.

Our **School Uniforms** look fantastic however, as the colder months begin, we sometimes have students attend school in all sorts of coloured jumpers. We ask parents to support our school uniform policy and ensure their child attends school in full school uniform.

Finally, I would like to publicly acknowledge the fantastic work ethic staff have shown since the start of term. Teachers were not expected to provide both face to face lessons and packages for home schooling, however Waroona District High School staff have managed to achieve both tasks in an attempt to keep all students on track. Our best interests for your children are paramount in our thoughts.

Enjoy the next few weeks now that our border restrictions have been lifted and a reminder not to send your children to school next Friday 29th May as it is a Development Day for staff.

Mr Carl Carulli

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (Primary)



SECONDARY NEWS

In a normal year I would be reporting to you about all the amazing excursions and activities taking place at Waroona District High School.

Unfortunately, this is not anything like a normal year. The Year 10 students would have returned from Rottnest with some wonderful memories, the Year 7, 8 & 9 students would be preparing for their Albany camp and some of the cadet units would have completed mammal trapping exercises in Dwellingup. The good news is that we have managed to move the Rottnest camp to Week 1 in Term 4 and the Albany camp to the end of Term 4. We hope that we will be in a phase of COVID-19 restrictions that allow for these camp to proceed.

Our Year 10 Student Work Placements are being organised, so we should see by the beginning of Term 3, our Year 10 students engaging with future employers on Mondays again. Up to date information will be provided to parents via Connect.

A positive outcome of the COVID-19 break has seen a large uptake of teacher, students and parents using 'Connect'. This type of communication is the modern way learning takes place. TAFE's, Short courses and Universities use these types of platforms to deliver their qualifications. We will continue to communicate via 'Connect' and encourage your child to keep up-to-date on 'Connect' with their education.

This week all students are expected to be back in class. I have been impressed by the way in which they have returned and have fully engaged in the teaching learning process immediately. I challenge all students to work with real purpose, right up to the last day of this term, in order to help offset lost opportunities from earlier in the year.

Mr David Mattin

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (SECONDARY)



The P&C Uniform Shop
Open Tuesday mornings
between 8:30am & 9:00am



This year, Waroona District High School is offering students the opportunity to participate in STEM challenges.

The first challenge requires students to build a robot using Lego EV3 Mindstorm. Students will remotely control their robots to fight each other. This needs students to come up with robots that are robust, fast and stable. If any piece of their robots falls off, or they get knocked over during a battle, they lose the challenge. The competition is expected to take place in Week 6 of Term 2.

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

Asking for help can be a leading prerequisite to success - Some of the most highly successful people and world changers have learnt the valuable lesson of asking for help.

Learning the value of asking for help can be one of the hardest lessons in life to learn.

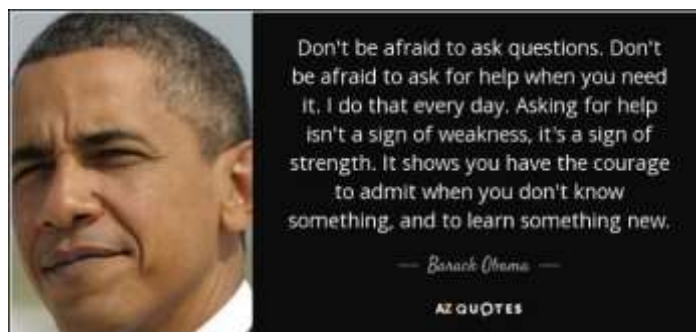
Our mindset and the way we look at life can hold us back from true success and from getting the help we need to overcome the problems we face in life.

Some of the things that stop us from asking for help can be:

- I should already know this.
- What's wrong with me?
- They will think I'm stupid if I ask.
- I don't want anyone to know I feel sad/worried about this.

If we can change our mindset we will be more willing to ask for help. A better way to think would be:

- It would be silly to think I know everything.
- Asking for help is a responsible choice, not just for me but for others also.
- The more I ask, the quicker I learn and the sooner I will resolve this problem.
- Asking for help is a prerequisite for success.



Do you know of any other empowering thoughts/beliefs that will help you ask for help when needed? Write them down and go over them when you need to ask someone for help. If you do this, you will teach your mind that it is okay to ask for help.

Here at Waroona District High School we care. We care about your education, future and mental wellbeing. We encourage you to make not just good choices but great choices. We hope you will have a successful and fulfilling life.

Be empowered and courageous. Be willing to ask for help if you have a problem. Whatever the problem is, we will do our best to help. Remember a problem shared, is a problem halved.

See you all next time ☺

Rodney van Dongen
CHAPLAIN



Our **Year 7 students** have been busy in the Science Laboratory as they investigate whether a mixture of salt and water forms a solution. They went on to find out how many substances were soluble in water.



P&C

Our P&C is a big part of the school and makes a substantial contribution to our students, staff and facilities every year. It's operated by a dedicated team of parents and community members, and they would love to have YOU join them for a once-off or occasional volunteer spot in their activities. No meetings, no ongoing commitment.

Are you willing to have a member of the P&C contact you to ask if you're available to help in a specific activity? It could be canteen duty, fundraising activity, or other similar event.

If so, please contact the P&C directly by email: waroonadhspandc@gmail.com or phone: 0411 496 025

ASSEMBLY MERIT CERTIFICATES

The following students received merits at our assemblies this term:

Year 1	Zayden Thomas Amber-Lee Pickett Zaye Smith	Margaret Mendoza Emily Clarke	Toby Lockyer Dustie Ireland
Year 2	Evelyn Woodley	Alex Gliddon	Shane Finley
Year 3	Rebekah Thomas Rylie McCavanagh	Isla Fardella	Heath Collyer
Year 4	Alex McBlane	Stevie Sutherland	Harper Bevan
Year 5	Sianna Dittmann	Lachlan Hemopo	Jordon Dinah-Wood
Year 6	Lexie Griffiths Ryan Grant	Blake Boyd-Collard	Skylerstar Kyle
Year 7	Callum McKenzie Samid Wilson Richard Fry	Ashlee Skinn Jake Pich (x2)	Jake Paterson (x2) Baylee Jenkins
Year 8	Thomas Scott (x2) Saverio Jetta (x2) Cianne Griffiths	Faith Websdale Erin Jackson Bailey Sharland	Ashton Parker Odin Lindley
Year 9	Zoe Scott (x2) Sophie Tyler	Jazmyne Birch (x3)	Joshua Ingram
Year 10	Joey Wheeler (x3) Bethany Ingram	Taj Parker (x2) Jordan Lloyd	Catherine Righton



TUNING IN TO KIDS Parenting Workshop

A FREE SIX SESSION PARENTING PROGRAM FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN HOW TO:

- Communicate with your child more effectively?
- Understand your child's needs?
- Help your child learn how to manage those difficult emotions?
- Prevent behavioural problems in your child?
- Help your child to problem solve and develop resilience?

Where: Zoom Online Application- Please download to device (which has audio and video) prior to start date.

When: Every Thursday 14, 21, 28 May & 4, 11, 18 June 2020

Cost: FREE

To Register:

Phone: 9581 8581 or (0402 517 339

Email: peel.pcwa@anglicarewa.org.au

Once registered Zoom meeting ID and Password will be sent via text message before workshop starts.

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Our **Year 9 & 10 Bush Ranger** students have been building a water filtration system using simple materials such as grass, charcoal, fine sand, pebble and rocks.

In this particular activity, students developed outdoor survival skills for when they cannot access clean water because of a natural disaster or because they are in a bush area where clean water is not readily accessible.

Some of our Bush Rangers succeeded while others need improvements. Students are expected to use their STEM skills to improve their design after their first trial and have another go again in Week 9 of Term 2.

