



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kaya,

As hard as it is to believe, we are nearly at the end of the year.

I want to give you all an update on student attendance. Over this current semester we have started to see improvements in our attendance rates from Semester One, which is fantastic. Staff at Waroona District High School will continue to set high expectations for attendance throughout the rest of this semester and into 2024, as we look to continue to drive improvements in student attendance.

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October, Waroona District High School was honoured to have a visit from the Hon Sussan Ley MP and members of the Chamber of Minerals and Energy of WA. They came to observe some of our Year 1 and Year 2 students participate in a Chamber of Minerals and Energy Digital Technology Challenge. This was a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths), challenge using Bee Bots (programmable Bee robots). The challenge focuses on Automation and Data Science and is designed to help build students digital technology skills with a real-world application. In this challenge there was a link to the ongoing automation of the mining industry, and an insight into the work behind the scenes that takes place to program autonomous machines and robots. Our guests were impressed with the way our students took to the challenge and could see the benefit of this engaging curriculum-based activity and its real-world application.

It is again that time of the year where our preparations for the Presentation and Graduation Assembly begin and we start getting ready for our Year 6 camp (our Year 10 camp took place last week). Christmas celebrations and our Christmas Concert are also not that far away. I applaud all the staff who are working hard to pull together several school functions to celebrate the end of year and the achievements of our students. It is not that long ago that we were in the midst of a global pandemic and this year's graduates (Year 6 students and 10 students) have demonstrated an incredible level of endurance and resilience over their respective secondary and primary schooling. The impact of the global pandemic has undeniably impacted their journey through school. Yet, they have conducted themselves with dignity and respect and embraced the opportunities that have come their way. We all wish them the best for the next step of their educational journey. I am looking forward to celebrating their school successes during the upcoming events and hearing about their progress in the years to come.

**Mr Gareth Smith**  
PRINCIPAL



## FROM THE DEPUTIES Whole School Initiatives Deputy

Hello and welcome to Term 4 which will be a big one across the school. Term 4 offers the school and the community the opportunity to see the wonderful progress that our students have made. Teachers across the school are in the process of finalising the students results that will form the reports that are sent home at the end of the term. These reports are a snapshot of all the work students have undertaken across the year and students should be very pleased with the efforts they have made.



Forming part of this data is the comprehensive level of testing that we as a school undertake. Earlier this term, teachers took part in a writing moderation task where they looked at the continuum of achievement across their classroom and compared this to the work that other students had completed throughout the Murray Educational Network. I am pleased to say that the work from Waroona students stood out as being some of the best work that was examined at the moderation meeting.

Later this term students will take part in Maths and Reading progressive tests to give the school insight into journey of improvement that students have been on throughout the year. The testing will also provide valuable insight into the target areas the school will focus on in 2024.

In the coming weeks teachers will take part in a coaching exercise with the Shaping Minds group to further refine classroom practise and develop their skills around explicit instruction. This time is extremely beneficial to inform all the work on the Waroona District High School, Teaching and Learning Framework.

Finally, with the last term of the school year in full swing and the Christmas holidays nearly in sight. I would encourage everyone to remember that "Everyday counts" and to attend school every day. The school has several events coming up including the 90% attendance BBQ. So, we hope to see as many students at school as often as possible to take part in the wonderful things that are occurring at our school.

**Mr Matthew White**  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

**2023 TERM 4 FINISHES ON**  
**THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER 2023**  
**LAST BELL 3:00PM**



## Primary Deputy

I will take the opportunity in this Newsletter article to unveil what lies ahead in this very busy final term:



**Year 7 Orientation Day** for the Year 6 Students will occur next Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November. This gives the students an opportunity to visit the High School classrooms and meet some of the new students from other locations.

**Remembrance Day Town Service** will occur on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Students from Year 3 to Year 7 and our Student Councillors will walk down to the Town Memorial at 10:30am. Our Head Councillors will introduce the event and Lily Harrison will read a poem.

**LEAP into Learning**, our Kindy Orientation sessions, continue for the next two Fridays from 10:30 to 11:30am. This is a great way to prepare your young child for the first day drop off next year as the students will have already experienced a positive event in the school location.

**Kindy PrePrimary Assembly** is one of the most anticipated assemblies of the year. Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November is the big date. It should be choc-full of cuteness!

**Year 4-6 Swimming Carnival** will take place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. This year will be a much smaller event as the high school students will not be involved. Only students at Stage 5 or higher will be able to participate.

The **Primary Interschool Swimming Carnival** will occur on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Waroona District High School will be hosting both St Joseph's and St Anne's Primary Schools. This starts at 9:40am at the Waroona Recreation Centre.

The **Presentation Assembly** will take place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of December at 9am. This is an opportunity to award the hard workers and strong achievers in Years 1-5 and 7-9. We also unveil our Faction Captains and Councillors for 2024.

The **Year 6 Camp** will see the students bus off to Dwellingup starting Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December and returning on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. This will be a highlight of this cohort's primary experiences.

Our annual **Primary Christmas Concert** will be presented on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December. It should get underway around 6:30pm and will get many of us into the Christmas spirit!

Finally, the Year 6 and Year 10 students will participate in the **Graduation Assembly** on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 9am. This is an opportunity to celebrate this important transition milestone!

Wow, what a term! Looking forward to seeing many parents and carers at these special events!

**Mr Carl Carulli**  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

## Secondary Deputy

Attendance continues to be a focus for the whole school. Whilst improvements have been made on Term 3 data, some students still need to lift their weekly attendance rates to achieve regular attendance. Regular attendance at school is an important habit which transfers for consistent attendance at work. Employers rate regular attendance as a key part to keeping a job. I encourage parents and caregivers to support their child by ensuring they regularly attend school.



Our Year 10 students spent Week 3 at Walpole in the Great Southern region as part of their Bushranger program. They engaged in a variety of activities ranging from environmental river cruises in Albany to bushwalking at Mount Frankland, swimming at Two Peoples Bay and volunteer work with Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions plus many more activities.

The feedback from staff and student was incredibly positive, the school also received an email from an elderly couple that were on the same Albany River cruise. The email detailed how wonderful our students were and the respect they showed throughout the cruise. They were pleasantly surprised to the point they felt they needed to email the school. Well done Year 10 students in showing the community what wonderful young adults you have become.

**Mr David Mattin**  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

# TERM FOUR

# NO HAT NO PLAY

## HEALTH – LET'S TALK ABOUT ... COLOUR BLINDNESS

Children who are colour blind can see as clearly as other people but can't tell the difference between some colours or see colours differently from other people. Very few people who are colour blind are 'blind' to all colours – most often they see red and green as very similar.

It's good to know if a child is colour blind because they may have difficulty at school with activities that use colours, such as drawing and sorting blocks, and with computers. Please read through information on [colour blindness](#) provided by Raising Children Network.



If you have any concerns, colour vision testing can be performed by some General Practitioners (GP), eye specialists or optometrist. You can also contact your local Community Health Nurse, **Casey Hardman PH: 0457536132**



## ASSEMBLY MERIT CERTIFICATES

The following students received merits at our assemblies this term:

<b>Year 1</b>	AJ Harbour	Aliyah Poultney		
<b>Year 2</b>	Odinn Thomas	Shelby Mabbott	TJ Websdale	Cruz Smith
<b>Year 3</b>	Tyler Koever	Jude Purcell		
<b>Year 4</b>	Isobel Wilson	Jackson McLean-Hyman	Zayden Thomas	
<b>Year 5</b>	Emily Stone	Bayden Licciardello	Tauri Pisconeri	Ella Castafaro
<b>Year 6</b>				
<b>Year 7</b>	Zeb Tredgett	Savannah Bonham		

## P&C UPDATE

The Lions Club Monster Christmas raffle is running again this year and the Waroona District High School P&C have some books to sell for 100% of their sale as a donation.

If you would like to rehome a couple of books please get in touch and you are able to nominate your desired fundraising efforts – 2024 Year 6 Camp, 2024 Country Week, Early Learning Subcommittee or general P&C fundraising.

We regret to announce the Canteen will not reopen in 2023. Due to rising costs of supplies to maintain our traffic light system menu, lack of volunteers and increased expectations on food handling training, we are unable to run a reliable service to our families. If you have a quickcliq account containing credit you may access your profile to retrieve your money. Our uniform will be online using quickcliq by mid-term.

Our next P&C meeting will be announced in the coming weeks, please keep an eye on our Facebook page for notification. As this will be my last year as P&C President and as a member of Waroona District High School P&C, and the uncertainty of the P&C being formed in 2024 the current members will be working with Waroona District High School admin team to create a wish-list for items to spend the monies being held by the P&C. Any suggestions from the school community for what they would like to see purchased are welcomed – remembering money must be spent on the students to benefit the students.

If a P&C fails to be formed in 2024 our uniform shop may cease to operate, as well as no donations for Year 6 camp, Country Week and other school activities. If you have been thinking about joining the P&C please don't be afraid to step up and have a go.

**Gemma Lockyer**  
President



### CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

- Christmas food hampers are available to assist anyone who is finding it difficult to manage financially over the Christmas period
- Application forms are available from the Waroona Family Support and St Vincent de Paul
- Forms must be completed by Wednesday 29th November 2023
- All application information is kept confidential



### IMPORTANT DATES

**PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY  
FOR YEAR 1-5 & YEAR 7-9  
FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER 2023  
STARTS AT 9:00AM**

**GRADUATION ASSEMBLY  
FOR YEAR 6 AND YEAR 10 STUDENTS  
WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2023  
STARTS AT 9:00AM**



## COMMUNITY NEWS

Strengthen skills.  
Build savings.  
Take control.



Save \$500 and ANZ will top up your bank account with another \$500.

Income, eligibility and participation criteria apply, go to [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au) for more information.

1300 610 355 [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au)



Saver Plus supports people to develop life-long savings habits. It's delivered by Brotherhood of St. Laurence, The Smith Family and Berry Street. It's funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services, learn more [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au)



*'Cuppa with a Copper'*

Locals will have the chance to meet our neighbourhood officers, discuss any issues and get advice on crime prevention.

Tuesday, 7th November  
10:30am - 11:30am  
at  
Waroona CRC  
FREE lunch to follow

# TRAIL BLAZERS



**What is Trail Blazers?**

Trail Blazers is a 6 month mentorship program for teenagers who are keen to challenge themselves, meet new friends, and learn new things - especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering and/or maths (STEM).

Trail Blazers kicks off with a five-night residential camp in the school holidays. The camp is packed full of activities, guest speakers, and workshops that teach important life skills and inspire participants to think big about their future.

Thanks to our awesome sponsors, all Trail Blazers places are provided as a full scholarship (yep, participation is 100% FREE)... but places are strictly limited.



**Who can nominate?**

Young people who are;

- 13-17 years of age
- Live in the Peel region (Boddington, Mandurah, Murray, Serpentine-Jarrahdale, Waroona)
- Haven't previously participated in Trail Blazers;
- Interested in developing leadership skills;
- Curious to learn new things, especially in STEM
- Willing to push yourself out of your comfort zone
- Wanting a network of like-minded people and to make new friends
- Excited for a week of fun.

Contact us at:  
[info@peelbrightminds.com.au](mailto:info@peelbrightminds.com.au)

**PEEL BRIGHT MINDS**

**NOMINATE NOW!**

"My son has returned from camp with an ignited interest in STEM, a motivation to learn and a new level of confidence."

"5 out of 5 stars. An amazing program for inspiring young people"

"I think it is a brilliant camp and I am so happy he got to experience it!"

**TRAIL BLAZERS**

Got questions?  
Contact us at:  
[info@peelbrightminds.com.au](mailto:info@peelbrightminds.com.au)



# VAPING COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION



**WAROONA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE  
TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2023  
5.30PM - 6.30PM**

Are you concerned about your child/children and vaping?

Come and learn more about the harms of e-cigarettes, vaping, volatile substance use, nangs, and other substances. Increase your health and safety knowledge, and understanding of the issues among young people today. Learn how to have a safe and open conversation regarding alcohol and other drugs and find out about the resources and support available to both parents and carers, and young people.

\*Light refreshments provided