WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

A Leader in Girls Education

NEWSLETTER

August 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Student Achievements

Willoughby Girls have again made us proud through a number of outstanding achievements.

Samantha Pratt has received the Pierre de Coubertin Award from the Australian Olympic Committee for her achievements in athletics, swimming and triathlon during her six years of high school.

Ami Matsuo, also in Year 12, is off to the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China, for 3 weeks in August. She will be competing in the 50, 100 and 200 metres freestyle, and two relay events and leaves Australia the day after her Trial HSC examinations finish.

Beth Croft was awarded age champion at the Zone Athletics Carnival last month and finished fourth overall at the State Cross Country on 18 July.

The Willoughby Girls High School Dance Ensemble performed in the Sydney Eisteddfod at UNSW on Saturday 26 July. This was the girls' first competition and they finished two points short of a Highly Commended with very positive comments on their technique and coherence as a group. Their dance teachers, Ms Caitlyn Alfonso and Abbie Levy were most impressed with their performance and look forward to continuing with the girls to further develop their skills.

Thank You

Two of our parents, Mr and Mrs Dhanda, have kindly donated a laptop to the school as a contribution to the implementation of the new Bring Your Own Learning Device policy. We are very appreciative of this addition to our technology resources and know that it will be put to very good use.

Mr and Mrs Dhanda donating a laptop

Samantha Pratt has received the prestigious Pierre de Coubertin Award

Back to School

Willoughby Girls High School always celebrates Education Week with Back to School Day, where Year 7 parents participate in their daughters' lessons for a morning. This year's Back to School Day was held on Wednesday 30 July. Over thirty five parents thoroughly enjoyed retuning to the classroom to engage in activities ranging from being detectives and solving an ancient history puzzle, to learning to count in French.

Save the Dates

Important events occurring in Term 3:

- Fashion parade – Tuesday 19 August – 6.30pm
- Festival of Creative Arts – Friday 22 August – 6.00pm
- HSC Music performances – Wednesday 27 August – 7.00pm
  All parents and friends are encouraged to attend these events that showcase student work. You are promised an evening of excellent entertainment and insight into what our students achieve in their learning at Willoughby Girls.
- Monday September 1 - Professor Jennifer Hudson from Macquarie University is presenting an information evening for parents on helping your daughters develop resilience in their teenage years. Managing stress and minimising anxiety will be covered in this session and there will be an opportunity for questions. Further information will be emailed to parents in late August.

Ms E Diprose
PRINCIPAL

Director Generals Award for Leading Girls Education in Academic Excellence

Deputy Principal's Report

Subject Selections
Year 8
Students who are currently in Year 7 will be required to select a language (Chinese, Japanese or French) for study during the whole of Year 8. This selection process will occur in Year 7 language classes before the end of Term 3 or early in Term 4.

Year 9
Year 8 students received their elective choice sheets at the Subject information Night on Monday 21 July. They will be notified which elective choices they have been placed in as soon as this information is available. At this stage, I envisage very few clashes and most students should be successful in gaining their first three choices. If clashes occur then I will interview the students concerned and where possible allocate them to their fourth elective choice.

Year 11
Following the Subject Information Evening on 28 July, Taster Week and Year 10 interviews, Year 10 are currently completing their Preliminary Survey of Subject Interests sheets. These selections are to be handed in on Friday 15 August and they will then be processed by a software program and placed into six timetable lines so as to produce the least number of clashes. Year 10 students will receive a new selection sheet based on these timetable lines. It is unfortunate but inevitable that some students will find that their preferred subjects clash and, as a result, they will need to reconsider their subject selections. I am more than happy to talk to students and parents to discuss options for those who are finding that their selections are not possible.

Year 12
The Board of Studies requires the study of a minimum of 10 units in Year 12 for the HSC. As a result, current Year 11 students may discontinue a course going into Year 12 beginning Term 4 2014. Year 11 students will receive a Year 12 2015 selection sheet before the end of Term 3. They will need to indicate which course they will be discontinuing for their HSC. Students will only be allowed to discontinue this course after they have returned this sheet at the beginning of Term 4. Students who wish to take up an Extension course will need to obtain approval from the appropriate Head Teacher. Students would need to gain a mark of 75% or greater in their yearly examination to be eligible for an Extension course.

Mr S Leavers
Deputy Principal

Deputy Principal's Report

Cybersafety
Cybersmart has developed **Chatterbox,** an online platform that allows parents to 'tune' in to a series of short videos and conversations by ***Cybersmart*** experts on a wide variety of cybersafety topics and to ask questions. Each video and conversation, released monthly, addresses the specific issues, behaviours and safety essentials to help parents make sense of what's happening in their child's online world. Parents are encouraged to access the website at
www.cybersmart.gov.au/Home/Parents/Resources/Educate%20yourself.aspx

Leave
Families are expected to utilise the school holiday period to schedule vacations and therefore minimise disruption to their daughter's schooling. Requests for leave during term time must be submitted to the Principal at least two weeks prior to the intended leave. Not all requests will be approved, so please do not purchase airline tickets, etc. prior to approval being granted. If the leave is approved, students will be expected to liaise with their teachers to determine any assessment tasks and/or work to be completed during their absence from school. This work MUST be completed and submitted by the due date as advised by the teacher.

Leaving the school grounds safely
As previously advised, parents should not use the playground or car parks to drop off or pick up students, or to complete a U-turn, as such activities increase the possibility of an accident or injury occurring.

Students in rooms D7-D10 for the last period of the day may exit using the staff car park to Keary Street. All other students should use the laneway near the canteen and exit on to Keary Street close to the pedestrian crossing. Students should cross Keary Street by using the pedestrian crossing. Many girls have risked serious injury by crossing at other points. Students are reminded to cross the road in time to catch their bus – do not run across the road as the bus is approaching.

Winter uniform reminder
With the continuation of cold wet weather students should take all necessary steps to ensure that they have suitable uniform items to wear to school every day. Any student unable to wear school uniform should bring a note of explanation to Mrs Prowle or the Deputy Principals before school commences to obtain a Uniform Pass for the day.

Please remember: scarf should be navy; extra jumper/skivvy should be white and worn under the tunic or blouse. Jackets or jumpers with hoods are not part of our uniform and should not be worn.

Mrs J Watts
Deputy Principal

Willoughby Girls High School presents the Festival of Creative Arts 2014

Exhibition

Visual Arts and Photographic and Digital Media

The Creative Arts Faculty is pleased to announce the presentation of the annual Festival of Creative Arts

Opening: Friday 22 August at 6.00pm

Exhibition continues 25 and 26 August during school hours

WGHS School Hall
Mowbray Road, Willoughby

Image: Habeen Kim, Year 12 (detail) 2014

Performance

You are invited to the

HSC MUSIC PERFORMANCE and COMPOSITION evening

Wednesday 27 August 7.00pm

WGHS School Hall
Mowbray Rd Willoughby

Student Representative Council Report

We just want to say thank you to all students from the Year 8 homerooms who took some time out of their weekend at the end of June last term to bake some cupcakes. We all really appreciated the yummy creations.

The cake stall was a sellout! We raised $710.25 for Galston High. So thank you everyone for buying cupcakes on the day.

I also want to thank the SRC for promoting and organizing the stall and for setting up the tables. Hopefully, Galston High School will be able to rebuild their library and replace lost books and computers after the fire.

Chloe Spence
Year 8 SRC Representative

Students enjoying the SRC cake stall

SRC Leadership Conference
On Thursday 24 July, as members of the SRC, we took an opportunity to attend a leadership conference at Roseville College. The conference theme was 'Change'. We met lots of students from nearby schools who were also SRC members and we were treated to a lovely afternoon tea while we listened to the encouraging words of the guest speaker. They left a deep impression, telling us that one of the greatest positives of being a student leader is that of initiating change. His closing words of "The most fulfilling career choice is something that combines your dreams and the needs of the world" inspired all of the SRC representatives in attendance.

After this enlightening speech, we broke up into small groups. We met girls from MLC, Abbotsleigh and Roseville College. In groups, we explored ideas about how other SRCs operate and also how to encourage the involvement of the student body in SRC led activities.

We returned to our school, filled with excitement and enthusiasm to make our SRC great. All in all, the Change Conference was inspiring and encouraging. We felt that the presentation and the discussion with other SRC representatives has been a thought provoking process and we feel we have 'grown up' quite a bit.

We sincerely thank Roseville College and our SRC for providing us with this great opportunity.

Chelsea Kim and Odina Kilffen
Year 9 SRC Representatives

Senior Leadership Luncheon
On the afternoon of 9 June, both Denise Vicencio and I attended the Senior Leadership Luncheon at NSW Parliament House. We met the Student Representatives from three local high schools.

It was good to chat with the other students about future careers and endeavours, as well as our respective leadership roles. Parliamentary staff brought us into the Henry Parkes room where we heard the Honourable Gladys Berejiklian's working history. She is Deputy Leader of the New South Wales Liberal Party as well as Minister for Transport.

The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian hosted our luncheon, where we discussed the NSW budget released the previous day and other matters to be debated in that afternoon's question time, which we attended. Both Denise and I were glad to have the opportunity to represent our school and participate in this discussion of local issues.

Sophie Ellis
Year 11 SRC Representative

Science Report

We would like to acknowledge the following students for gaining the top results in their respective classes in Semester One. Congratulations to all of these students for their efforts and commitment in Science in Semester One.

Year 7 Science
7E Anna Thieben
7G Zoe Petratos
7L Lara Bezzina
7R Emily Savage, Natalie Orchard
7Y Jemma Ji San Chan

Year 8 Science
8E Bethany Wang
8R Pui Ling Yoyi Hui
8W Nishmi Kapoor
8B Zixuan Ariel Wang
8G Yukino Alyssa Nogi

Year 9 Science
9E Ellen Peattie
9W Megan Wyllie
9B Stephanie Curro
9R Odina Kliffen
9G Alexandra Bowers
9Y Harriet McLean

Year 10 Science
10E Na Yeon Lee and Helaine Liew
10B Tegan Plahn and Monica Patel
10R Madison Coffey and Yasmine Kumarasinhe
10W Natasha Reiss
10G Cathy Ho

Year 11 Biology
Claire Hanna and Eleanor Imlay

Year 11 Chemisty and Physics
Mahima Mandal

Year 12 Biology, Chemistry and Physics
Mona Khoshkhesal

Fifty six students from WGHS achieved very good results when they participated in The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) this year. 3 High Distinctions, 13 Distinctions, 29 Credits and 7 Merit awards were obtained. High Distinction award winners are in the top 1%, Distinction awards winners are all in the next top 10%, Credit winners are in the next 25% and Merit winners are in the next 10% of the State. The award recipients are listed below:

Year 7
Credit: Sienna Austin, Airi Fujisaki, Chloe Hannigan and Emma Pope.
Distinction: Chantelle Forder, Danielle Sacks and Lara Warner

Year 8
Merit: Megan Suthers and Holly Truelove
Credit: Georgie Bryden, Isabella Cavanagh, Isobel Haddow, Gloria Hung, Sarah Imlay, Nishmi Kapoor, Siobhan Lynch, Joella Marcus, Caitlin Stark, Jasinta Suardana, Shreyaa Sundararaghavan
Distinction: Jaela Barney, Amanda Crowe, Samantha Judd, Sarah McKinnon, Georgia Samuel and Hannah Young
High Distinction: Aditi Krishnakumar (top 1%)

Year 9
Merit: Rufi Armstrong, Emma Hannigan, Sansitha Iyer and Shino Takesako
Credit: Zoe Borkowski, Gloria Chan, Jessica Lantzke and Lucy Tulloch
Distinction: Odina Kliffen and Ayesha Ray-Kirsch

Year 10
Credit: Samantha Hefferan and Lauren Lai
Distinction: Isabeau Adamek
High Distinction: Lisa Moran

Year 11
Merit: Molly Young
Credit: Sophie Ellis, Elisa Han, Eleanor Imlay, Wanting Liu and Yicheng Xie

Year 12
Credit: Samantha Chhoeu, You Jin Jeong and Mary Xu Ran Li
Distinction: Emma Su
High Distinction: Brie Hamersley

The following students have gained top results in Semester 2 in their respective Year 11 senior Science courses: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Hence they have been selected to compete in the very challenging Science Olympiads. The dates for these competitions are: Chemistry Olympiad Wednesday 6 August, Biology Olympiad Monday 11 August and Physics Olympiad Wednesday 13 August.

Year 11 Biology
Claire Hanna
Eleanor Imlay
Kerri Su

Year 11 Chemistry
Mahima Mandal
Sophie Ellis
Eleanor Imlay

Year 11 Physics
Mahima Mandal
Nishma Pradha
Kerrie Su

The Science Faculty wishes all of the candidates best of luck in these competitions.

Ms J Atchison
Head Teacher Science

Languages Report

The Year 10 Japanese class has been taking part in a series of video conferences with Nagoya Commercial Academy in Nagoya, Japan. Here is a report on the most recent conference by two students in the class.

Thanks to our amazing connections, the Willoughby Girls High School Year 10 Japanese class was able to host a video conference with another high school in Nagoya, Japan in order to show our skills in both the Japanese and English languages. By using the video conference system installed in one of the classrooms, our two classes were connected through technology and culture, and we were able to teach one another about the places we come from.

The Nagoya class, who were studying English, were first to present with an introduction to their school, highlighting their extra-curricular activities as well as some of the school's history. We were then allowed to ask the students questions, though most of us were too nervous to think of something witty.

It was then the Willoughby students' turn to speak. Our topics were all about Australian culture, with presentations on wildlife, landmarks, and, of course, our school; and both Year 10 and the class in Japan enjoyed it very much.

Currently, we are preparing for another conference with a school in Tokyo, and we are looking forward to spreading our school's ties with other nations. Not only this, but we are also expecting some Japanese students to spend time in our school to learn more about Australia.

Everyone is excited by these opportunities, which we all hope others may get to experience in the years to come.

Phoebe Moon and Klementyna Kuligowski
Year 10 Japanese students

The Year 10 Japanese class taking part in a video conference with Nagoya Commercial Academy in Nagoya, Japan

Sport Report

Sports Report
There have been some outstanding performances demonstrated during Wednesday afternoon grade sport. As the competition winds up for another year, Willoughby Girls grade sport teams have demonstrated that "we are here to win".

There are 3 more rounds left this term, with finals being held on 20 August and the SuperZone finals held the following week. Good luck to all teams involved.

Regional Athletics Carnival
Congratulations to all the students who competed at the recent regional athletics carnival held at Homebush last week. Willoughby Girls always send a fantastic group of students who displayed impeccable manners, respect and sportsmanship.

Congratulations to the following students who will be competing at the Combined High Schools State Athletics Carnival later in the year.

Nicola Haggerty-Mayers
Beth Croft
Emily Ralph
Amanda Crowe
Emma Hannigan
Alice Falconer

Pierre de Coubertin Award
Sporting achievement at Willoughby Girls' High School is alive and well. This was particularly echoed in the presentation of the Pierre De Courbetin award to Samantha Pratt in year 12. Named after the founder of the modern Olympic Games, the Pierre de Coubertin Award recognises students who demonstrate academic excellence and sporting prowess whilst exemplifying the Olympic values.

Samantha has reinforced these values whilst achieving outstanding results in a range of sporting forums. Most recently Samantha gained State representation in Swimming and is a regular member of the Zone and Regional Athletics teams and has represented the school in sports such as Touch Football and Netball. Samantha is able to balance her sporting activities with her academic studies quite well and submitted her literacy piece which focused on the theme "Youth and the future of Olympism in a digital world" to secure the award. Her proud parents attended the NSW institute of Sport where Samantha received this special accolade on Friday the 25th of July.

We hope that Samantha can inspire other Willoughby Girls students to do the same and pursue their sporting dreams.

Ms N Best
Head Teacher PDHPE

Visual Arts Report

Once again, as the annual Festival of Creative Arts Exhibition on 22 August draws near, students are busy completing their artworks for the enjoyment of parents and friends.

Year 12 Visual Arts students have explored a range of concepts, from the celebration of nature, architecture, portraiture and cultural identity to the more challenging and provocative exploration of issues such as body image, anxiety and power. The girls have worked conscientiously to layer and resolve their ideas in beautifully executed drawings, paintings, sculptures, photographs, digital images, block prints, ceramics and fibre. We invite you all to come along and to enjoy and congratulate the girls on their creativity and commitment.

Artworks from Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 will also be on exhibition, demonstrating the wonderful development of creativity and skill at Willoughby Girls High. Year 11 students will be exhibiting landscape paintings, Year 10 Visual Arts will exhibit portraits exploring psychological states, Year 10 Photographic and Digital Media students will exhibit works exploring the passage of time and movement, Year 9 Visual Arts students will exhibit paintings exploring the theme of 'Land, Sea and Sky' and Year 9 Photographic and Digital Media students will exhibit their series of photographs of traditional still life. Students in Years 7 and 8 Visual Arts have represented their interpretation of personal and imagined environments in exceptional paintings and ceramics forms.

The Exhibition will open at 6.30pm on Friday 22 August and there will be numerous prizes awarded to gifted and talented Visual Arts and Photographic and Digital Media students from all years. We look forward to seeing you all.

Ms I Stansmore
Visual Arts Teacher

Isobel Sanby
12VA Ceramics

Ashleigh Tallentire 12 VA Drawing

Music Report

Once again, our music ensembles have been busy representing our school at various performances around Sydney.

On 23 June the NSW Instrumental Festival was held at the Sydney Opera House. The Senior Vocal Ensemble was invited to perform 'Royals', accompanied by Sofia Jaunzemis, and Isabelle Palmer performed a solo on the recorder. All girls did a superb job and should be very proud of themselves. The Senior and Intermediate Concert Bands and Stage Band competed in the NSW Schools Band Festival on 27 July. The Senior and Intermediate Concert Bands achieved a gold award and the Stage Band achieved a silver award. An excellent result for these ensembles!

Our Year 12 Music 1, Music 2 and Music Extension students are busy practising performances, refining compositions and polishing viva voces in preparation for their practical exams in early September. We would like to extend an invitation to the entire school community to attend their HSC Music Performance Evening on Wednesday 27 August at 7.00pm in the Multipurpose Hall. Students from all courses will be presenting pieces from a wide range of styles on a variety of instruments. We would love to see as many peers, family, friends and teachers as possible.

Mrs C Jarvis
Music Teacher

The Senior Vocal Ensemble backstage at the Sydney Opera House

Careers Report

It is a very busy term with many students thinking about their future studies and careers. I'd like to remind Parents and Students that the School subscribes to two different Careers Websites that can help with study and career planning. They can be accessed from school or home, although we ask that you keep passwords within the school community only.

www.careersworks.com *password* - **works**
www.jobjump.com.au *password* - **squirrel**

The UAC 2015 Guide has been distributed to all ATAR eligible Year 12 students (International Student Guides have not arrived yet) and parents/students need to be aware of the following:

- Application is online only and costs $29.00 and requires a credit card payment, PAYPAL or invoice may be taken to an Australia Post Outlet.
- A total of nine (9) preferences may be registered. This includes both Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP or previously referred to as HECS) and Domestic Fee-Paying (DFEE) Places. Commonwealth funded loans are available to Australian Citizens
- Students who anticipate that they will be absent during the admissions period can authorize another person to act on their behalf
- UAC must be notified of a change of address after confirmation of Board of Studies entries in mid-September, otherwise details of enrolment in a course offered may not reach you;
- Applications open on **6 August 2014** and on-time applications close on **Tues 30 September 2014**. Instructions are clearly laid out in the UAC Guide and online at the UAC website. Please register early as it can be very difficult to enter the website in the last week as it gets overloaded with thousands of other applicants who have left it to the last minute;
- Check prospective courses for additional application requirements eg. STAT test, questionnaire, audition, portfolio. Without these, the preference will not be considered;
- UAC pin number will be sent to students from UAC before or on 6 August. If you do not receive one, contact the University Admission Centre. http://www.uac.edu.au/
- EAS (Educational Access Scheme) applications for students who have experienced severe disadvantage throughout Year 11 and/or Year 12 may be eligible to apply through UAC. These application forms will be arriving at the school late July or early August and are available online at the UAC website. Evidence must be submitted and the application must be supported by the School. Please see Ms Morris if you think you qualify using the criteria on the UAC Website.
- The majority of Scholarships and Early Entry Schemes for Universities will close by 30 September. Please allow adequate time for application completion and for the School to endorse the application where required.
- Please encourage your daughter to attend as many University, TAFE or private college ***Open Days*** (August - September) as possible, to ensure that she makes the most appropriate choices.

Here are just a few links…..
http://openday.mq.edu.au/
http://sydney.edu.au/open_day/
http://openday.unsw.edu.au/
https://openday.uws.edu.au/
http://life-less-ordinary.acu.edu.au/come-along-to-open-day/
http://web.tafensw.edu.au/courses/find_a_campus/opendays/

Many universities offer credit transfer for Diploma courses completed at TAFE. If your daughter does not receive an offer of a university place, don't despair because TAFE courses produce eminently qualified and employable graduates.

Year 10
Thank you to Parents who attended the Year 10 Subject Selection Information Evening. The Senior HSC Subject selection process has commenced and students have received UAC Guides, the School's Subject Selection Handbook and various other materials to aid them in this selection. All Year 10 students will also be individually interviewed, beginning Week 5.

I would also like to thank Parents for their feedback on the Year 10 Work Experience Program. The main responses from Parents were;

1. "Earlier knowledge of the program" (Details given in Year 9)
2. "Help with Student's Placements into the community"
3. "Longer Time period to experience other work places"
4. "Parent Access to forms etc. online via the school website or emailed"
5. "More student support to apply and cope with rejections from potential Employers"

I am working to resolve these issues for the future.

Most common student feedback;

1. "Loved it- gained self-confidence"
2. "Helped with Career Selection"
3. "Work hours too long"
4. "Some tasks mundane"

Year 12 students Elena Ahadizadeh, Jasmin Lappan and Hannah Bridson with their UAC Guides

All Year 10 - 12 students please check your DET email account, Daily Notices and the Careers Noticeboards regularly for further communications regarding Study and Careers

Ms R Morris
Careers Advisor

Technology Report

Welcome to the hardest term of the year, but the most satisfying.

Parent Portal
Information was sent out with the reports about connecting with the Parent Portal. Parents must enter a valid email address for validation and before registration may take place. Please check the address entered is correct as I have found many incorrectly entered which means there will be no avenue for registration. If you don't get immediate access one may need to wait a day for me to manually link the accounts. Any problems please send a note with your daughter to Mr Devitt. Parents, who may need a separate access for a parent not living at home, may apply to the school through the school office in an envelope marked 'Parent Portal'. Full details of the circumstance including relationship to the student as well as contact details will need to be supplied. The Parent Portal will grow and become more useful as we increase its functionality gradually in the future. Next year I am hoping for all of the Parent/Teacher Night bookings to be completed online through the parent portal.

Student Portal
Students now have access to their own information area on our server called the 'student portal'. This is an in school area not associated with the DEC student portal. Students have easy access to their timetable as well as other information. Students should access the address below:
http://web1.willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

In the bottom left hand corner there is a link to the student and parent portal, in the new screen students should enter their username and password which they use on the desktop machines at school. If they don't get immediate access they may need to wait a day for me to manually link their accounts. Any problems please see Mr Devitt.

School Calendar
The school has provided access to the calendar function on the server for both students and parents. This area has be reconstructed since the last newsletter.

Access is through the following address:
http://web1.willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/webcal
BYOLD
Please take the time to peruse the following links:
http://byodsandpit.weebly.com
and for free software for your BYOLD
http://nsw-students.onthehub.com

Students must register on the site using their education email address before they can download. (username@education.nsw.gov.au)
Students are now able to access the school network drives from their BYOLD or DERNSW devices. (Areas such as STDINFO and Dropbox as well as their own secure storage site on the school's server.) They will need to gain access to a script which is to be found on the STDINFO or download a free App in the case of fruity devices. Students should see Mr Devitt for more details.

Printing from BYOLDs has also now been resolved by using a web browsing facility called Websubmit. Students may access this at school by typing into the address bar of a browser: 10.26.16.19/websubmit

On a more general note there are many free online typing courses which enable students to enhance their typing ability. Use an appropriate search engine to find them, but trial them, to find one that fits the person using it. Of course, never provide any personal details and watch your internet usage as they can become addictive

Year 12 are busily revising for their Trial examinations, I wish success for them.

Year 11 will be finalising their preliminary course this term looking forward to the start of their HSC year. Year 9 students are delving into databases and finding out about the convicts from the first fleet. Year 10 students have completed their websites which they have coded using basic HTML. They have done a fantastic job considering this is probably their first foray into coding. We will now further their experience by coding a computer game. This week they will have a small taste of the HSC courses during taster days. Students should look at taking those courses they enjoy as they usually perform better in those courses. However, there is no pre-requisite for the computing subjects, which means one does not have to do computing in Year 10 to do the senior subjects. Computing has two subjects both of which offer students a good stepping stone to a university career:

Information Processes and Technology
http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/ipt.html

Software Design & Development
http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/software-design-development.html

Please use the above links to peruse the course syllabi. This is why we teach IPT
http://www.smh.com.au/national/shoppers-are-spoonfed-20110723-1hu39.html
http://www.smh.com.au/national/how-woolies-keeps-tabs-on-my-spending-20110723-1hu37.html

Computer Club
As we have so many students who are technically savvy another initiative has been started. It is a computer club which will be looking at a whole new spectrum of topics dealing with technology. I have been approached by students in all Years who wish to do more in this area, but especially Years 7 and 8 as there is no computer course in these years. Therefore, the computer club may be the place for you especially as a precursor for computing in Year 9.

Any student interested please see our resident technophile Ms Fernando in the PE staffroom who is busily unpacking their new programmable robot kits.

Mr P Devitt
Head Teacher Computing Studies

Technology and Applied Studies Report

Year 9 Design and Technology students worked on a unit focused on sustainability, called "From Chip packets To Handbags". They explored the issues created through waste, and the impacts of these on the individual, society and the environment, and in particular how this waste is recycled and upcycled by poorer communities.

After some experimentation with weaving techniques, students designed and created functional and aesthetically pleasing handbags, using empty chip packet bags. Who knew that eating packets of chips and collecting rubbish could lead to such a great end result.

Year 10 Design and Technology students investigated innovative product design in cosmetics. They looked extensively at product manufacturing techniques, packaging design and modern marketing techniques used to sell these items for profit. Students then used this knowledge to design and create a prototype of an innovative cosmetics product and point of sale display, for marketing.

The students really enjoyed the creative freedom this unit provided. The results speak for themselves. Watch out Coco Chanel!

Ms E Gleeson
Design and Technology Teacher

Year 9 Design and Technology students used empty chip packets to create handbags

Year 10 Design and Technology students investigated innovative product design in cosmetics

Year 9 Food Technology Excursion

On Tuesday 29 July, Year 9 Food Technology students participated in an excursion to the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, accompanied by their teachers Mrs Davies and Ms Kiely. The focus of the excursion was Bush Foods Heritage. During their walk of the gardens, students were given a perspective on living off the land, where they had the opportunity to identify a wide variety of local native plants, which were part of the diet of the Cadigal people, the original inhabitants of Sydney.

Students then returned to the Gardens Education Centre for a food demonstration and recipe adaptations to include native ingredients.

In addition to learning about native Australian bush tucker, students learned how the influence of global migration to Australia has led to the evolution of modern Australian cuisine. However, the girls agreed unanimously that the best part was tasting the scrumptious creations, including mountain pepper and bush tomato popcorn, lemon myrtle and macadamia toffee, wattle seed damper with Davidson plum jam and seared kangaroo with native tomato relish. Yum!!!

Ms D Kiely
Food Technology Teacher

Mahlia Garay, Michelle Allen and Charlotte Bridson enjoying the bush tucker at the Royal Botanic Gardens excursion

Social Science Report

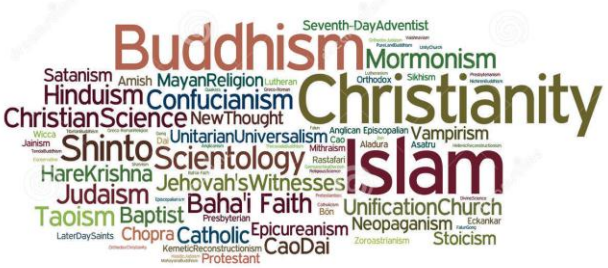
The Year 10 Geography Camp has been scheduled for Week 5 of 2015 between 23 and 25 February. A new location has been chosen which is the Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Camp on the Hawkesbury River. The site is in a secluded bush setting accessible only by ferry and will allow a full range of outdoor experiences for our students. During the camp, students will spend a day with the Gibberagong Environmental Education staff exploring Coastal Management issues at Palm Beach and undertaking fieldwork. Students will also work with the community organisation 'Take 3' which promotes local and practical solutions to marine waste management. Notes for the camp will be distributed towards the end of Term 4, 2014.

The faculty of Social Sciences is offering a new subject for Year 11 in 2015. The 2 Unit Studies of Religion course is currently seeking expressions of interest from Year 10 students. The course develops an understanding of the human search for meaning and belief from its most ancient origins to the modern world. It will provide students with a wide range of worldviews and help build an appreciation of the complex role of religion in the society today.

Over the last month, Commerce classes in Years 9 and 10 have been fortunate to have members of the community visit their classrooms to bring real world experiences to student learning. Year 10 Commerce had members of the Chatswood Police Station visit to discuss legal issues in relation to their topic "Law and Society." Year 9 Commerce classes were visited by Financial Planners to assist their understanding of the topic "Personal Finance."

Year 9 Commerce students are about to commence the Australian Share Market Competition and will be forming trading syndicates over the next week.

Mr M Palmer
Head Teacher Social Science



The 2 unit Studies of Religion is being offered to Year 11 students in 2015

Mathematics Report

Term 3 is the Mathematics competitions term. The Australian Mathematics competition is on Thursday 7 August and the ICAS competition is on Tuesday 12 August. Over 200 girls have entered the competitions and we in the Mathematics block wish them all the best.

Parent teacher nights are now over and a lot of parents have hopefully obtained some insight into their daughter's progress and attitude. Most girls will have some Mathematics homework every night after a Mathematics lesson.

Homework is a necessary evil, however, the girls need to also do a little revision/study every night as well. A good study routine always helps students to improve their understanding in Mathematics. I would advise any student to think of home work as a three prong event:

1) Come home, say hello, pat the dog, eat some food then summarise what you have learnt that day into study notes
2) Do your set homework
3) Go over your study notes prepared in the days and weeks before.

Terms 3 and 4 tests are coming and now might be a good time to put the above suggestions into practice.

Mr B Gates
Head Teacher Mathematics

Fashion Parade

A showcase of garments from Year 7 to 11 students

Tuesday 19 August
6.30pm-7.30pm
Tickets $5.00 available from the TAS Department

Limited tickets are available at the door

The TAS Department look forward to seeing many parents and friends at this year's event

History Report

Welcome back to another busy term. The European Excursion for Year 11 students is reaching a conclusion in our stages of planning. A pre-departure meeting will be held on 20 August, where students will be issued with all their travel documents. Twenty students and two teachers, including Mr Willmot and Ms Patten, will depart Sydney on 21 September. The tour will visit France, Belgium, Italy and Germany. Students are beginning to feel a great sense of anticipation about the trip. Meanwhile Year 7 students are gearing up for Medieval Day. This will be held in Week 9 of this term on 12 September. This incursion involves a full day of activities run by the 'Living History' group and consists of medieval games, artefacts and culminating in a Medieval Banquet. Students will have received permission notes for this event and should be returning their notes and money as soon as possible to the locked box.

Year 12 Ancient History students are also looking forward to their afternoon study session with renowned archaeologist Estelle Lazer on 18 August.

Senior students are progressing well through their studies and Year 12 are coming to the end of their assessment programs and have been completing their Trial HSC examinations. Year 12 Society and Culture students have completed their major works, the Personal Interest Projects, which are a 5500 word report. These students are to be commended on their excellent efforts in completing such a demanding task and producing such high quality projects. Similarly, Extension History students have completed their major works, a 2500 essay on a historiographical study of a personality, event or issue.

Once again students have produced excellent work and should be congratulated on their efforts.

Ms C Allen
Head Teacher History

Year 7 celebrate Medieval Day on 12 September

English Report

Term Three is a busy time for Year 12 students who are currently in the middle of their Trial HSC exams and at the same time, putting the final touches to their major works.

Our English Extension Two and Drama students will submit their projects in Week 6. Extension Two students have chosen to compose short stories, a critical response and a short film. Four Year 12 Drama students will submit design works for their Individual Projects and one student has made a video drama. Eleven Drama students will perform their six to eight minute monologues on 21 August for the HSC examiners, who will also mark the whole class in their group performances on the same day. Students have been working extremely hard, rehearsing and refining their pieces and on Saturday 19 July, they showcased their HSC work for their parents and friends. It was a great experience for the students and the audience.

On Saturday 2 August, Year 11 Drama performed their class production of 'And Then There Was One' for their families and friends. Students were entirely responsible for all aspects including; direction, production and design. This work is a major part of their 'Elements of Theatre in Production' topic.

Congratulations to the Year 10 Debating team who are Zone winners. They will now go 'head to head' with Hornsby Girls on August 11. Congratulations to the Year 9 and 11 teams, as well, for their excellent performance in Terms One and Two. The Year 7 and 8 teams have only just begun their competition and will compete against Ryde Secondary College in Week 5.

Ms S Brown
English/Drama Head Teacher

COMMUNITY MESSAGE BOARD

WILLOUGHBY CITY COUNCIL

What Willoughby Wants Survey

Willoughby Council is in the process of reviewing programs and events that we provide. We want to make sure that they are what our community wants and we would love to get input from parents and carers in our area.

We'd like to invite you to share your thoughts and experiences to help us design our future community programs and make them a success. Together we can create the tools and tips to help us all improve the way we live in Willoughby.

To tell us want you want, please fill out the 'Willoughby you want' survey at http://haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au/the-willoughby-you-want and you will go into the draw to win one of five double movie tickets (terms and conditions apply. See 'Have your say' for details).

Focus Groups

Council is looking for parents of young children to participate in focus groups. All participants will be rewarded with a free movie ticket. Registration is easy, just follow the link where you'll also find information about dates and times.
Willoughby you Want – focus groups: at
http://haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au/the-willoughby-you-want

Vacation care survey

The Children's and Youth Services Branch Willoughby Council is conducting a survey to determine if there is a need for a specific Vacation Care Program that caters for children 11-14 years of age.

Children often do not attend traditional vacation Care programs during Year 6 and there are no other programs of this nature available for children once they commence high school.

Parents of children in Years 6, 7 and 8 can find it difficult to find care arrangements for children during the school holidays. Please click on the link below and complete the survey. There are only a few questions and this will take just a few minutes. We appreciate your support in gaining this valuable information. http//haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au/vacation-care-survey

AN INVITATION

theparentingteenagerscourse
= great atmosphere + delicious meal + practical talks + group discussion times

Effective communication strategies
Setting boundaries
Build healthy relationships with your teen
Emotional health
Coping strategies for difficult situations
Build your confidence as parent/carer
Emotional health
"Hearing other parents is reassuring and finding the tools to use is brilliant" *Course guest*

For parents/carers of 11-18 years olds looking to strengthen their family life.

Five Thursday nights commencing 7 August 7.00pm – 9.30pm at St Stephen's Anglican Church cnr Mowbray Rd and Sydney St Willoughby $65 singles/$120 couples includes dinner each week and all materials

Registration and further information 9415 1727 or www.st-stephens.com.au

st stephen's

Willoughby Fauna Fair

Time: 10.00am – 3.00pm
Date: Sunday 24 August
Where: Willoughby Park, corner of McClelland St and Fourth Ave Willoughby 2068
Entry: Free
Information: 9777 1000 or www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au

It's all about wings and wild things at this year's Fauna Fair! We are anticipating the arrival of Zen, the Wedge-tailed Eagle for a must-see free-flight bird show. Zen comes with an amazing wing-span and an equally amazing story of survival. Also making a flying visit will be an endangered Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and the 'night guardian' - a young Barn Owl learning to act on his natural instincts. Hold on to your wallet as there may be a cheeky Sulphur-crested Cockatoo on the lookout for a coin or two. Leading animal trainer from Feathered Friends Animal Productions, Ravi Wasan, will provide us with an insight into the natural foraging habits of the birds, their extraordinary features and adaptations, instincts and survival techniques.

Not to be outdone by big wings, we have little wings too. Dr Megan Halcroft from Bees Business will show us how to help local, native bee populations by providing them with appropriate homes and food in our backyards. Get up close and personal with some intriguing stick insects from Insektus, or a native animal that walks, crawls, jumps or slithers from Australian Wildlife Displays.

Bring your dog for some obedience training and enjoy a great range of games and activities for the kids, as well as information and displays about the wildlife living around us, how to create fauna friendly gardens and how to care for our feathered, furry and finned friends.

Kind regards,

Eugenia
Public Relations and Environmental Communications Officer
Willoughby City Council

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

Health Psychology Unit

Managing HSC Stress Program

The Higher School Certificate can be stressful for many students. However there are things that you can do to get through Years 11 and 12 with less stress and reduce the impact that stress has on your academic performance.

The UTS Health Psychology Unit has been running ***Managing HSC Stress*** programs for many years now and is pleased to be able to offer this program in ***Term 3, 2014***.

When? 25th August, 1th September, 8th September, 15th September

Time? 4 – 5.30pm
Afternoon tea will be provided.

Where? Health Psychology Unit
Ground Floor, 174 Pacific Highway
Greenwich
The Health Psychology Unit is a 5-10 minute walk from St Leonards train station. Buses 252 and 290 stop right out the front. Metered & time-limited street parking is available in surrounding streets.

Cost? $90.00 for 4 weeks
Private Health Insurance may apply.

Register? Registration is essential as numbers are limited.
To register call 9514 4077 or email Health.Psychology@uts.edu.au

Please advise us if a student needs a particular dietary requirement.

Personal Details & Payment

Name: _____

Age: ___ Year at School: ____

Address: _____

_____

Email: _____

Student phone: _____

Parent name: _____

Parent phone: _____

Payment method

□ Cheque, payable to the Foundation for Life Sciences

OR charge my □ VISA □ MasterCard

Amount: $_____

Card Number: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Expiry date: _ _ / _ _ _ _ (MM / YYYY)

Card holders name: _____

Card holders signature: _____

☐ Please tick here if you plan to claim a rebate from your private health insurer.

Foundation for Life Sciences www.fls.org.au ABN: 73 001 286 399
PO Box 156, St Leonards NSW 2065

ADOLESCENT SCOLIOSIS
SPINAL CURVATURE

The National Self-Detection Program

Information for schoolgirls in years 7 and 9 and their parents

A health promotion program recommended by the Spine Society of Australia. The program is endorsed by the Paediatrics and Child Health Division of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

WHAT IS SCOLIOSIS?
Scoliosis is a lateral or sideways curve of the spine. The spine also rotates on its long axis as it curves. It usually develops during early adolescence (age 10-13 years) when growth is most rapid.

WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF SCOLIOSIS?
The cause is unknown, but 80-90% of cases occur in otherwise healthy adolescents. This is called idiopathic (cause unknown) scoliosis.

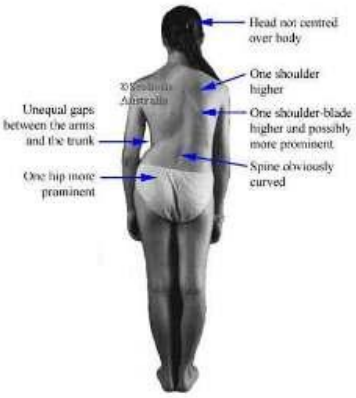
We know that scoliosis is NOT contagious and NOT caused by bad posture, a soft mattress, carrying a heavy school bag or junk food.

WHY IS EARLY DETECTION IMPORTANT?
While very small curves are common and of no significance, about 2% of girls have a curve which warrants medical observation during the growth period. Three girls per 1,000 will require treatment during the growth phase. If treatment is required, the earlier it is undertaken, the better the long-term result. This is the basis for screening since in the early stages scoliosis produces no symptoms. The way to detect scoliosis is to look for it!

WHY THIS BROCHURE HAS BEEN PRODUCED
This brochure is designed to make parents of schoolgirls aware of the outward signs of scoliosis. From time to time all government and non-government schools in Australia will be asked to download this brochure from **www.scoliosis-australia.org** and to distribute it to girls in Years 7 and 9 (11 and 13 years of age in most states and territories).

If after reading this brochure you or your parents think you may have this condition, please consult your family doctor.

WHAT ARE THE OUTWARD SIGNS OF SCOLIOSIS?



HOW SCOLIOSIS IS DETECTED
Apart from the outward signs with a teenager standing as illustrated, the reliable **Forward Bend Test** is used in the diagnosis of scoliosis. This simple visual examination requires the teenager to stand with the feet together and parallel and bending forward as far as she can go with the hands, palms facing each other, pointed between the two big toes. In scoliosis, one side of the upper chest (thoracic) region or the lower back (lumbar) region will be more than 1cm higher than the other. The prominence is most often on the right side in the thoracic region. If the difference between the two sides is less than 1cm, it is highly unlikely that a significant curvature is present and the difference is simply due to asymmetrical growth of the two sides of the body. This is called torso asymmetry and is of no significance.

The Forward Bend Test

WHAT ABOUT BROTHERS AND SISTERS?
Scoliosis tends to run in families. When a curve is detected in one member of the family, other children should also be examined by the family doctor. If there is a history of a blood relative, especially a female cousin, having been treated for scoliosis by brace wearing or surgery, then this strengthens the case for spinal examination as a regular health check between 10 and 13 years of age.

Scoliosis which requires treatment is far less common in boys than in girls. The ratio of boys to girls requiring treatment is about 1 to 10.

IS TREATMENT SUCCESSFUL?
Yes, modern methods produce excellent results when a curve is detected early. In most cases an inconspicuous spinal brace is worn. Surgery is needed in only one out of three cases which require treatment.

There is no scientific evidence that physical therapy (exercise programs) and spinal manipulation (chiropractic adjustments) will either correct a scoliosis or halt its progression.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF SCOLIOSIS IS NOT TREATED?
The curve may increase unnoticed during the growing years. Moderate and severe curves may also increase in adult life. Some curves may increase with pregnancy. Severe pain, physical deformity and wear and tear arthritis may occur during middle life. Early detection is important for a healthy future.

HOW DO YOU DETECT SCOLIOSIS?
Simply look for it!
It only takes 30 seconds

scoliosis australia

Visit our website
www.scoliosis-australia.org

©Scoliosis Australia is a project of

The National Self-Detection Program is supported by **Medtronic**

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

BROADEN YOUR HORIZONS. EXPAND YOUR MIND. MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE.

SCHOLARSHIP FOR CURRENT YEAR 9 STUDENTS

S.C.C.E. is offering a 5-month Program Scholarship

January - June 2015

Experience the first semester of Year 10 in

France, Germany or Italy!

Return to finish Year 10 in 2015

Join thousands of S.C.C.E. returnees in their decision to make a difference to their future!

Scholarship valued at $4,475 towards the full program fee

Scholarship is based on 50% off the full program fee. It includes:

- Return flights to destination country on Singapore Airlines
- Domestic transportation in host country and Australia
- Selected host family
- Attendance at overseas local school
- Full 24/7 support in host country
- S.C.C.E. professional support
- Fully comprehensive insurance cover
- Program departure date: 20 Jan 2015
  Returning: 1 July 2015

How to apply:

Email your name, address, phone number and name of your school and year level to scceaust@scce.com.au

Ask for a scholarship application kit or enquire at www.scce.com.au

You will need to submit a 1,000 word essay (max. length) on a particular topic by 15 September 2014.

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

BROADEN YOUR HORIZONS. EXPAND YOUR MIND. MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE.

YEAR 11 & 12 SCHOLARSHIP 2014

S.C.C.E. is offering a 2-month Program Scholarship
December 2014 - January 2015
to your choice of country:

France **Germany** **Italy**

Join thousands of S.C.C.E. returnees in their decision to make a difference to their future!

Scholarship valued at $3,925 towards the full program fee

Scholarship is based on 50% off the full program fee. It includes:

- Return flights to destination country on Singapore Airlines
- Domestic transportation in host country and Australia
- Selected host family
- Attendance at overseas local school
- Full 24/7 support in host country
- S.C.C.E. professional support
- Fully comprehensive insurance cover
- Program departure date: 27 Nov 2014 Returning: 23 Jan 2015

How to apply:

Email your name, address, phone number and name of your school and year level to scceaust@scce.com.au
Ask for a scholarship application kit or enquire at www.scce.com.au
You will need to submit a 1,000 word essay (maximum length) on a particular topic by 1 September 2014.

Northern Sydney Parent Engagement Strategy

CALD community

为中国家长举办的 HSC 学习国语座谈会

讲座主题:

* HSC 学习策略
* 上大学的多种选择途径
* ATAR 计算方式

主讲张学丰先生是拥有丰富经验的悉尼大学教育顾问

- Q&A 会话
- 将会提供点心

日期：7月31日星期四

Hornsby Council Chambers

地址：296 Pacific Highway Horns-

日期：8月7日星期四

Dougherty Community Centre

地址：7 Victor St Chatswood

两个座谈会均在 晚上 5:30－8:30 举办

如欲登记，请联系 John Woodward, Willoughby Council

97777993 0402744378 john.woodward@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

Northern Sydney Parent Engagement Strategy

CALD community

Chinese Parents Forum: HSC study

Forum delivered in *Mandarin* on,

- **HSC study strategies**
- **Alternate pathways to university**
- **ATAR calculation**

Keynote speaker Xue Feng Zhang is a highly experienced Education Consultant from the University of Sydney.

Q&A session to follow.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Thursday 31st July

Hornsby Council Chambers

296 Pacific Highway Hornsby

Thursday 7th August

Dougherty Community Centre

7 Victor St Chatswood

Both forums scheduled 5:30 - 8:30 PM

For Registration please contact John Woodward, Willoughby Council

97777993 0402744378 john.woodward@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

Get Your 2014 WEP Classroom Poster & Handouts

www.wep.org.au/info/teachers

CALENDAR

WGHS NEWSLETTER INFORMATION FOR 2014

Next Newsletter – 11 September 2014

P & C MEETING
Tuesday 26 August 2014
7:30 pm in the Staff Common Room

You can access online via web1.willoughby-h.school.nsw.edu.au. Click on student and guest access link

Parents/Community invited to the events highlighted in red

AUGUST SEPTEMBER	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
5B	**10**	**11** HSC Trial Examination Year 9 Music Excursion Year 11 Biology Olympiad	**12** ICAS Mathematics Competition	**13** Year 11 Physics Olympiad 	**14**	**15** SRC Mufti Day 	**16**
6A	**17**	**18** Fashion Parade Rehearsal FASHION PARADE 2014	**19** Fashion Parade FASHION PARADE 2014	**20** Years 11 & 12 Religious Seminars	**21** HSC Drama Performance Senior Band Opera House	**22** Festival of Creative Arts Ensembles Breakfast Year 7 Peer Support Year 11 CAFS Excursion	**23**
7B	**24**	**25** Festival of Creative Arts	**26** Festival of Creative Arts P&C Meeting 7.30pm in the Staff Common Room	**27** Years 7 & 8 Religious Seminars HSC Music Evening	**28** Year 10 Welfare Day	**29** School Development Day	**30**
8A	**31**	**1Sept**	**2** Year 12 Drama Excursion	**3**	**4**	**5** State Athletics Year 8 English Excursion	**6**
9B	**7** 7th Cammeraygal Festival	**8** Year 9 Geography Excursion	**9**	**10** Years 9 & 10 Religious Seminars	**11** Year 7 Peer Support 	**12** Year 7 Medieval Day	**13**

Year 11 Yearly Examinations

Year 11 Yearly Examinations

Ph: 9958 4141
Fax: 9967 2174

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www.wghs.nsw.edu.au
Email: willoughbg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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