

# talkabout

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## WELCOME TO 2019

A warm welcome to all our new and returning students and their families. Thank you for choosing WHS staff to educate your children. We look forward to yet another exciting, challenging and fulfilling year.

## WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

Welcome to Mr Brad Walker (Head Teacher, English) and Mr Patrick O'Loan (Music, joining Mr Collett). Welcome also to Mr Greg Hollands, who is on temporary contract in Maths, due to a vacant position yet to be filled.



## IMPORTANT! STUDENT EMERGENCY CONTACT AND MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Full contact details are being posted out shortly. Please return to confirm current information or amend information if there are any changes. This enables us to have up to date contact details in the event of an emergency.

All students who return their contact details by the due date will be placed into a draw for a \$30 Gift card.

## ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

**Year 7** - Parent information evening was held on 13th February 6pm Library.

**Year 8** - Emailed.

**Year 9 & Year 10** - Students have been issued with their assessment overview. Please ask for the copy and discuss with your child.

**Year 11** - Parent and student information evening is 19th February. Absent students must see Mr Trembath for the handbook.

## YEAR 7 VACCINATIONS

Vaccinations will take place on 14th March. Consent forms will be issued to your student. Please hand the signed consent form to the Administration Office.

## ALL WELCOME AT OUR FIRST P&C MEETINGS

The P&C will meet on Tuesday 26th February from 7 - 9pm in the Library. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month. The first meeting is a general meeting.

Please come and join our friendly, easy going P&C who work hard for your children.

## STUDENT ABSENCE

The SMS message system is used to notify when a child is absent from school for all years. This will enable you to explain the absence by return SMS for this text only. This is not a dedicated number for future use. Parents are required to explain absences no later than 7 days from the first date of absence. This is a requirement of the Department of Education. If the school is not supplied with an explanation within that 7 day period the absence will be recorded as unexplained and appear as such on reports. Please phone, email, write a note or respond to the SMS to explain student absence.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

- Calendar
- Book Lists
- Positive Participation Policy
- School Fees
- PD/H/PE Advice
- Canteen Menu
- Assessment information Years 7-12
- Mobile Phone Procedures
- Uniform Order

If parents wish a hard copy of these documents, please contact Administration.

There is much information in this edition. Please take the time to read it.

## WHS EXPECTATIONS

At our school we:

- Make Learning a Priority
- Are Respectful
- Act Safely

## KOREAN

All year 7 students are now engaged in their Korean studies and are enjoying learning the strange new characters in Hangeul (Korean writing). The students have learnt some of the vocabulary to introduce themselves, sing the alphabet and greeting song and are about to begin learning the number systems. They should be practising their new vocabulary at home.

As common practice in Korea, each Year 7 class has elected a class captain and vice-captain. Their responsibilities are to lead class greetings and assist the teacher with necessary duties. We congratulate the following students for term 1, 2019;

- 7E Captain: Zian Tim So-begic  
Vice-Captain: Mischa Messina
- 7I Captain: Levi Corrigan  
Vice-Captain: Max Hillman
- 7F Captain: Holly Mills  
Vice-Captain: Ned Atkins-Block
- 7L Captain: Corey Peterson  
Vice-Captain: Kurt Cheshier

Learning a new language is fun and we hope that all students enjoy learning Korean in 2019! Ms Fitzmaurice is our language teacher.

## THANK YOU TO PARENTS

Thank you to parents who have already paid voluntary contributions and subject specific fees.

Subject fees pay for the consumables used by your child in completing projects. Voluntary contributions assist with the purchase of textbooks, ICT equipment, learning resources, paper - in fact a multitude of things used to support our students.

We have EFTPOS and Payment on Line facilities to assist parents with payment options. Of course cash and cheques are still accepted!

Your support with early payment is greatly appreciated.

## SAFE INTERNET BEHAVIOUR

There is excellent information to assist parents on cyber safety on the following sites:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

<https://www.cybersafekids.com.au>

## OFFICE DUTY

Each day a student from year 8 will be on office duty. Students are notified in advance of their day on the Daily Information Sheet. Parents should speak with Mr Cutcher (Deputy Principal) if they have concerns about their student being involved in this school service activity.

Students are recognised for their school service with a Service to Others Outcome.

## SWIMMING CARNIVAL TUESDAY 12th FEB AT MURWILLUMBAH POOL

The carnival was very early this year but we congratulate our students for their participation and behaviour. Further information will be in the next edition. As this is a compulsory school day and students were expected to attend, non-attendance will require a note of explanation from parents.

## CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 12 2018

We congratulate Dux of Year 12, Ezekial Jacobson, who was also considered for inclusion in the prestigious ENCORE performance for outstanding HSC music achievement. Ezekail is a talented musician.



As a small high school we are proud of our HSC students who achieved a number of early entry offers to University.

## AWARDS NIGHT 2018

Congratulations to the ever increasing number of students who are achieving at a high level and therefore acknowledged at our annual Awards Night.

Thank you to the parents, special guests and staff who made the 2018 evening so special for our students.

## DONATION

Thank you to Mt Warning AM Rotary Club for the kind donation of funds to support student needs. We very much appreciate your thoughtfulness and the opportunities it will provide.

## STUDENT PLANNER

All students have been given their new planner. A replacement planner will cost \$10.00. Please take the time to look at the first few pages with your student as it contains valuable information about our school practices and awards system.

## CONGRATULATIONS GEORGE

George Townsend competed in the Lions Youth of the Year competition proudly representing our school. George attended an interview, responded to two impromptu speeches and gave a prepared speech.



## AEROSOL CANS

Aerosol cans (including deodorants) are banned in NSW schools. Students are not to bring these to school. This is a safety issue and the cans will be confiscated.

## LEARNING SUPPORT ROOM

Homework help is available for all students during break 2 in the Support Room on Mondays, Tuesday and Thursday.

We have desktop computers and laptops and a colour printer connected to the school network. Students are able to word process, search the Internet, consult reference material or receive help from staff in any subject.

If your child needs help completing homework, assessment tasks or projects or just time to catch up on class work tell them to come to the Support Room. They can bring their lunch with them.



"Guess what?" "You don't have any homework tonight - I finished it all in learning Support"

## AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK HELP

Homework help will commence Term 1, Week 4 and will run every Thursday afternoon from 3.05 to 4pm in computer room 2. We thank Mrs Hirst for volunteering her time to run Homework Help.

## DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN ENROLMENT FOR 2020 AT WOLLUMBIN HIGH SCHOOL

Please let them know to come to our Open House Tours from 3.30pm - 5pm.

Parent Information Session to be held at 6pm in the Library  
Both events are held on 5th March 2019

## UNIFORM

Students look very smart at our start to the year in their uniforms. Thank you to the Canteen Staff and the P&C volunteers who contributed to the smoother sales of uniforms this year. If parents/carers need financial support to outfit your children please phone the Administration staff for an Application for Assistance form. Black shorts are to be Wollumbin High School approved. Students with inappropriate shorts (including length of shorts) will need to ensure they commence wearing correct shorts.

## COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS

In addition to email and the website, we also communicate through our Facebook page and Instagram.



<https://www.facebook.com/WollumbinHS/>

These pages are targeted toward opening up further communication between the school, parents and the wider community. Please like, follow and share the page to help us build this new platform.



## WHAT'S ON

### Term 1 - February 2019

19th February	Year 11 Assessment Information Evening 6pm Library
25th, 26th Feb	Primary School Visits
26th February	P&C Meeting 7pm Library

### Term 1 - March 2019

5th March	Open House Afternoon 3.30 - 5.00pm
11th March	Year 7 Camp commences
14th March	Year 7 Vaccinations
26th March	School Photos

## SPORT INFORMATION

This term students will be very busy with many sporting commitments. Mr Lambert is the Sports Organiser.

### Upcoming trials and knockout competitions

- U15 Touch Football - 19th February
- U15 Boys AFL - 26th February
- Open Boys and Girls Basketball - 28th February
- U15 and Opens Boys Rugby League trials - 1st March
- Open Boys and Girls Hockey- 4th March
- Yr 7-9 Girls AFL - 6th March
- Open Boys and Girls Soccer- 7th March

Students are asked to watch the sport notice board near the canteen where future events will be listed. They will also be listed in the Daily Notices. Some knockout games are run as gala days, while others are just a one-off games against another school.

The School's major carnivals are Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics. The Athletics carnival is held in the grounds of Murwillumbah High. It is compulsory for students who study PDHPE electives to participate in these carnivals as this is part of their assessment. See your calendar for dates for these events.

**Monies** – Students pay for their sport weekly when travelling and receive a daily, colour coded bus pass. This is purchased on a Wednesday morning and will be collected as the student gets on the bus. Some sports also have additional fees which are collected on a weekly basis. We would prefer that you do not pay weekly sport fees online.

We expect sportsmanship from all students at any sporting activity. Failure to do so will result in a suspension from the game.

## YEAR 7 SPORT PROGRAM

**Term 1** - Students will take part in rotational activities within the school grounds. This will give them general guidance on sporting skills.

**Term 2-4** - Students are able to select their choice of sport from the range available. These selections are done electronically.

## PREMIER'S SPORTING CHALLENGE

Wollumbin students are all entered into the Premier's Sporting Challenge. This occurs in term 2 where students record their physical activities over a period of 10 weeks. They are then recognised with achievement certificates which can be included in their Quality Portfolios.

## SPORT AND PD/H/PE PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENT

Mouthguards are compulsory to wear in the following sports: Rugby League, Rugby Union, Australian Rules Football and Hockey. Student must supply a mouthguard to participate.

It is advisable that students also wear mouthguards for the following modified games: Gaelic Football, Gridiron, Australian Rules Football and Austag. As shin pads are compulsory in competition Soccer, Futsal and Hockey, Students must ensure they bring this protective equipment to participate.

## SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The WHS Swimming Carnival was held on Tuesday 12th February at Tweed Reginal Aquatic Centre. Congratulations to all swimmers who qualified for the Zone Carnival which will be held at Murwillumbah on February 22nd.

House captains for 2019:

### **Cedar**

Captains: Jack Dawson, Ngaire Bennett  
Vice: Keats Chipps, Casey Dawson

### **Grevillea**

Captains: Riley Hall, Abby Johnson  
Vice: Luke Johnson, Gloria Gal

### **Melaleuca**

Captains: Jaidyn Larrescy, Lauren Kirkby  
Vice: Kyle Lucas, Zali McKay

### **Tamarind**

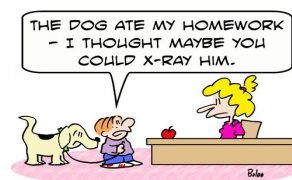
Captains: Max Radlovic, Amanda Swift-Devine  
Vice: Mitchell Walsh, Meg Reynolds

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A TUTOR?

Each year parent and community volunteers assist students needing help with their school work in our Learning Support Room. Tutors may help with class work, homework, projects, assignments, spelling or intensive reading programs.

Work is with individual students or small groups with the support teacher or class teacher setting all work. This has been very successful in the past with many tutors returning to assist each year.

We will need tutors Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you (or your friends, neighbours or relatives) have a day or a couple of hours to spare each week we would love to hear from you. Although some of our tutors have had previous experience, most have not. Training is provided, help is always available and hopefully we can allay any concerns you might have about tutoring High School students.





## MOBILE PHONES

Whilst Wollumbin High School recognises that mobile phones are everyday communication tools used in wider society, they have the potential to interrupt learning if used inappropriately within a school environment. The following procedures have been implemented at Wollumbin High School. If the Department of Education advises tighter controls then we will review and update our procedures accordingly.

It is therefore important that parents/carers are aware that students will only be checking their phones during breaks, before and after school. Should you wish to urgently communicate with your student please phone the Administration Office who will ensure your student is contacted on your behalf.

### Implementation

- Mobile phones owned by students are brought to school at their own risk. The school does not accept responsibility for damage, loss or theft and will not compensate for such. Student phones should be clearly labelled with their name.
- Mobile phones bought to school by students must be kept out of sight and **turned off during lessons**.
- Mobile phones are not to be used by students during mentoring, assemblies, meetings or events identified by the school.
- Mobile phones, including the use of headphones, may only be used in learning spaces, Library, PDHPE and Sport under direct instruction and supervision of teachers for educational purposes. The phone must be visible to the teacher.
- Mobile phones are not to be used when moving between classes.
- Use of mobile phones in senior student study periods is to reflect the School Expectations.
- Use of mobile phones before school, during break 1 or break 2 and after school, unless otherwise directed by a teacher, is permitted in line with the school expectations of safety and respect.
- On excursions and at carnivals, students must follow the explicit instructions of staff regarding mobile phone use.
- Under no circumstances is a student to take a call or SMS message during lesson time.
- A parent/carer wishing to contact a student should do so via the Administration Office. Office staff will follow school communication procedures.
- Charging of mobile phones is not permitted at school.
- Mobile phone usage must follow the Technology Code of Conduct guidelines.
- Inappropriate use of a mobile phone:

	Consequence
Phone used during learning time without teacher permission or not as teacher instructed.	<p>1. <u>Non Compliance of Procedures</u> Phone turned off by student and handed immediately to the teacher. Student to collect and sign for phone at end of day from Administration Office.</p> <p>2. <u>Repeated Non Compliance of Procedures</u> Phone turned off by student and handed immediately to the teacher. After school detention and suspension warning letter issued by Deputy Principal.</p> <p>3. <u>Persistent Non Compliance of Procedures</u> Phone turned off by student and handed immediately to the teacher. Suspension imposed for Continued Disobedience. Parent to collect device.</p>
Phone used inappropriately as per Technology Code of Conduct	WHS Discipline Procedures followed.
Student refusal to comply with teacher instructions	WHS Discipline Procedures followed.

## **RICHMOND TWEED REGIONAL LIBRARY.**

Wollumbin High School students are given e-access to Richmond Tweed regional libraries to access ebooks (fiction and nonfiction), emagazines, streamed films, encyclopedias, dictionaries, and research and study databases. Year 7 are given their e-access cards late in term 1. These are linked to the school's address; the only data we provide Richmond Tweed regional library is student names and dates of birth. If students wish to borrow physical resources, they need to visit their local library with a parent to sign up for full membership. Explore Richmond Tweed's impressive range of online resources at [www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au).

## **BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)**

Students who intend bringing a device to support learning and will need to access the Department of Education internet, must meet the BYOD requirements. If parents are thinking of buying their student a device to use at school we strongly recommend it be a laptop and that the specifications outlined in the information leaflets are followed. Not all devices will log on to the Department of Education internet nor are some devices capable of meeting the learning access demands. BYOD is not mandatory and we have some banks of laptops that students can use in class with their teachers. Students wishing to BYOD will need to complete the agreements outlined in the student guidelines booklet available from Administration and return the agreements to school.



## **WHAT HAPPENS IF A CHILD IS ILL AT SCHOOL**

Please do not send students to school if they are feeling ill or have uncovered wounds. It will require us to phone you to come and collect your child.

If a student presents with an illness or injury during the school day we will contact you.

If your child phones you on their mobile to say they are ill advise them to follow school procedures and to go to Administration to be assessed, and the school will call you. Please do not ask them to meet you out the front of the school. It is very important we are aware of their circumstances and that they are collected from the Administration Office.

## **Dear Parents and Carers of Year 12**

You are invited to a workshop  
**for all Year 12 students**

If you have any questions about University or TAFE they may be answered at this workshop which has been organised to inform Year 12 of a variety of future options.

**When:** Thursday 21st February 2019

**Where:** Wollumbin High School Library

**Time:** 11.45am to 12.35pm

**Who:** Year 12 Students and their Parents or Carers

Universities and TAFE will be in attendance at the workshop to provide the most up-to-date information.

## **Year 12 University Showcase**



**COMMUNITY  
kickbacks**

**rebel**  
active

Wollumbin High School continues to participate in the Rebel Sport Community Kickbacks Program. Under this program, our school can earn 5% of your purchases at Rebel Sport as in-store credit to spend on our sports program.

All you need to do is join Rebel Active (in-store or online), select Wollumbin High School from the list of participating groups and swipe your loyalty card every time you make a purchase.

Spread the word to all your family and friends. The more supporters we have, the more credit we earn. This is a great program for the school and over the years, we have enjoyed building Wollumbin PDHPE and Sport programs with Rebel Sport donations.