Issue 6

18th May 2020



MESSAGE FROM MR GUY WRIGHT PRINCIPAL



Over the past two months, I have been working with staff and students to look at what works well at Wollumbin High and where we as a school should head in the next few years.

During my teaching career, I have been fortunate to have visited many leading schools across NSW, Australia and the World and have worked with many leading educators throughout my long career in Education.

Personally, I have encouraged many students to gain Band 6 HSC results in a variety of subjects. Whilst teaching at Kingscliff High, one of my students achieved a rating of 3rd in the state out of 10,000 students in Business Studies and another a result of 8th in the state in Computing Studies. I do believe, I do have a deep understanding of how students learn.

Looking back at the 2019 HSC results for Wollumbin, many students achieved a high number of band 6 results. Wollumbin High School is indeed a high achieving school. I would like to say that the teachers at Wollumbin High are first rate, as good as any with whom I have worked. Likewise the students at Wollumbin High are also of a similar high quality.

Our plan moving forward is to add to the rich culture of the school by further embracing academic achievement and to engage students through the latest in technologies e.g. we have already ordered another 100 laptops.

Last week I had the privilege to meet the local primary school Principals, Ms Vicki Roach - Chillingham, Mrs Lynette Kane - Crystal Creek, Mr Joshua Stephens - Dungay, Ms Joanna Henderson - Murwillumbah East, Mr Les Daley -Murwillumbah Public and Mrs Janelle Cloherty - Tyalgum. Our Executive staff, Ms Kathryn Perry, Mr Brad Walker, Mr Christopher Ellis, Mr Chris Brooker, Ms Bronwyn Thomas and Mr Sean Larrescy were also in attendance. I had the opportunity to share some of our vision and that was cocreated with our leadership team. I do like the work done by John Fischetti and the table on what students retain is included at the bottom of this page.

It is my first aim to focus on learning at Wollumbin High and to encourage both staff and students to fully understand how students learn best. As a teacher, I constantly told my students that I only really understand something when I teach it to someone else. Even now as a Principal, I gather a wide amount of information from many sources and I still find that it is not until I speak and teach to someone else that I fully understand the content. And just like learning to ride a bike, you never forget what you have taught to someone else.

Yesterday, I met with the Captains Ava Manual and Keats Chipps and showed them the table. I asked them to name two of their teachers who spend time in the 90% range. The two teachers who came to their minds were Mr Boyle and Mr Ellis, two of our Mathematics teachers. It is important that both our students and staff fully understand how people learn.

Ava and Keats also commented on the importance of teachers having passion for teaching young people and passion for the subjects that they teach. Kath Perry was the example used by Ava and Keats as a passionate teacher. I am looking forward to having many more discussions about learning with all of the staff and students at Wollumbin High and adding in more perspectives from parents and caregivers to our school direction once we can allow more adults into the school. It also excites me to continue working with our partner primary schools and the great Principals in each of these schools.

Finally, I would like to also remind all parents, caregivers and students the importance of keeping safe during the COVID-19 time. The school is supplying soap and sanitisers for students and staff use. There is also extra cleaning in the school and staff are social distancing themselves. I also believe that the more we all distance ourselves and follow the information given to us by our health officials, the quicker we can return to normal.

Our school website is always updated with the current information and sometimes on a daily basis. The school website is the point of truth for our school.

Professor John Fischetti University of Newcastle		
Learners retain		
90% when they teach someone immediately	(SAY and DO)	
75% when they practice what they learn	(DO)	
50% when they engage in group discussions	(SAY)	
30% when they see a demonstration	(SEE and HEAR	
20% when they learn from an audio-visual	(SEE and HEAR	
10% when they have learned from reading	(READ)	
5% when they have had a lecture	(LISTEN)	

CONGRATULATIONS DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

- Year 7 Kohen O'Neill, Tashi Krasna Wollumbin, Noah Secomb, Ruby Wright, Fraser Sunter, Cheyenne Manson, Bruno Freeman, Lily Edmed, Wade Doueihi, Eva Rose Kolk, Charlie Everuss, Danni McDonald
- Year 8 Zian Tim So-Begic, Hayley Taylor, Jaslyn Wilkes, Arianne Atchison, Levi Corrigan, Avril Fedele, Matilda Golds, Dylan Woodgate, Stephanie Conroy
- Year 9 Hope McDonald





CONGRATULATIONS PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

- Year 7 Aurelia Bennett, Cheyenne Manson, Bruno Freeman, Danni McDonald, Wade Doueihi, Eva Rose Kolk, Noah Secomb, Kohen O'Neill, Fraser Sunter, Tashi Krasna Wollumbin, Ruby Wright, Ballin O'Heart, Lincoln Bulluss, Talin Hall
- Year 9 Hope McDonald





CONGRATULATIONS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

- Year 7 Aurelia Bennett, Wade Doueihi, Fraser Sunter, Kohen O'Neill, Noah Secomb
- Year 8 Sophie Haley







HOMEWORK HELP

When: Every THURSDAY after school until 4pmWhere: Computer Room 2Who: Mrs Hirst and other staff on a rotational basis

WHAT'S ON

Term 2 - June 2020	
23rd June	P&C Meeting 7pm Library (TBC)
30th June - 2nd July	Matilda Musical (TBC)
3rd July	Last day students
20 July	Staff development day
21st July	Students return
27th July	School Photo day
28th July	P&C Meeting 7pm (TBC)

SPORT

JUNE 11TH - JUNE 30TH

Sport and physical activity programs will continue to focus on non-contact sports. Inter-school sport competitions such as zone sport, state wide competitions and knockouts, gala days or inter-school carnivals are not permitted.

TERM 3

All school sport, including contact sport can resume in alignment with relevant health restrictions. Students will be making their term 3 sport choices in weeks 8 and 9 this term. Sports available for term 3: League Tag, Soccer, Indoor Hockey, Netball, Cycling, Walking, Springloaded, Surfing, Fishing, Skating, Basketball, Table Tennis, Gym, Archery and Yoga.

DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

4 tips to help your child build a positive online footprint.

- Before you post a photo of your child on social media, ask them if it's okay to share. Not only will you give them control over their digital footprint, you'll be showing them what you expect them to do with photos of other people.
- 2. Discuss with your child the importance of using privacy settings on their apps and devices. Ask them what information they feel comfortable sharing. Explain the importance of keeping certain information private or limited to a small group.
- 3. Search yourself. Look up yourself and your child using a search engine and a social platform. Talk about the information that's "out there," and whether you're both comfortable with that.

Information from Common Sense Education.



SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

School photo day is happening on Monday July 27th. Please try to locate the envelope your child brought home in early March. If you're unable to find it, the school has some blank envelopes and a list of the shoot keys. Please send your child to the library or front office to collect these.

SCIENCE

So, we are all back at school and into routine again.

Year 7 are busy learning about our local environment. Take the time next time you go near a beach to look at the sand dunes and ponder their importance. Look at the areas of erosion in our area. Even go for a walk along the track that goes from the Sewage treatment works to the end of Rous River way. There is already signs of erosion in the blue metal gravel that has been placed there.

Year 8 are studying living things and body systems. A good time to have a look at our diet, are we getting the nutrients we need, maybe grow some veggies at home.

Year 9 are coming to the end of a unit on Sustainability. We are all responsible for the health of our planet. Family talks around the dinner table can involve how we use our electricity; what options do we have to improve the footprint we leave. We will be beginning Communication or Electricity soon.

Year 10 have rotated and are on their second core course. They should be talking to their teachers about the courses that they want to choose next year. Discussions with parents are also really important at this time.

Year 11 and 12 are progressing well. Depth studies are being completed or will be started soon.

The chickens are back at school after their holiday at various homes and are starting to lay. Gardens are getting back up and running after the need for a bit of digging over and weeding after the time of Learning from Home.

Marine students have begun studying a unit on boat building. They are now designing and building self-propelled model boats as well as maintaining the fish tanks. They will begin some breeding experiments soon.



I would like to take this chance to remind you that all students should be wearing black, fully enclosed leather shoes every day in Science laboratories. If students are having issues with this, please contact me to discuss.



WEDNESDAY SPORT













AROUND OUR SCHOOL





The "Welcome" sign in the Library in English and Korean.

The Library's book return is getting a makeover. Keep an eye out for the finished product!



Isaiah Donatini-Garcia of year 8 working on his Digital Media piece.



Digital Media students Max Hillman & Dylan Hawthorne taking some shots for a project they are working on.