PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

School Attendance - Every Day Counts

We all want our students to get a great education and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future. A student missing a day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By year 10 they will have missed more than a year of school.

In 2015 the College has increased the minimum attendance requirements to 90%. Please ensure that you notify the College of any absences. This can be done in a number of ways.

- Send a note to the front office
- Phone the College
- Notify GP teacher or Year Level Coordinators via email, in person or phone.

You are able to monitor your child’s attendance using the Parent Portal. This can be accessed via the college website: http://www.wssc.vic.edu.au/?page_id=7689

Leaving the school grounds

We have a duty of care to know where students are at all times. Students must seek permission to leave the grounds at any time during the school day, including lunch time or recess break. Any student who wishes to leave the grounds, for any reason, MUST bring a note from home (signed by their parent/guardian). If they are attending an appointment or on business that cannot be carried out in lunch time, they should take their explanatory note to their Year Level Coordinator or Assistant Principal.

Students wishing to leave during the day even if it is to go home for lunch, must receive a Pass from the Year Level Coordinator or Assistant Principals and have both their note and form signed by the Year Level Coordinator. Once the Building works are complete exit and entry via Woodland and Brockley Streets during the school day will be accessed using your student ID card

Vern Hilditch
Principal

HELPING STUDENTS IN OUR REGION TO ACCESS UNIVERSITY

A forum will be held in the Wodonga Senior Secondary College (WSSC) Performing Arts Centre Woodland Street entrance on Tuesday 24th of Feb at 7.30pm to 9:00pm to discuss the myriad of ways that students in our region can access further education post school. There will be two purposes of the forum.

Provide info to parents so that they can best advise their children on accessing further education.

Michael Thorne will provide a presentation on pathways to university and answer all questions from participants about accessing university and using less obvious pathways to higher education. Michael, founder of UniOptions, is regularly invited to speak to parents and students at school careers evenings on these matters and in recent years has, by invitation, hosted the Herald Sun online discussion on university options that is open to all Victorians on the days that VCE results and university offers are released. He is knowledgeable, totally independent and passionate about communicating the power of tertiary education pathways - particularly for students in regional areas.

Gain insight from parents on some of the issues and barriers they see for their children when they exit school and are seeking a University Education.

All WSSC parents are invited to attend and there will be no cost. No bookings are required. All parents are also invited to complete the online survey to get an insight into what information parents want to help their children gain a further education.

The survey can be accessed at: http://www.unioptions.com/content/hume-higher-education-information-navigation-project

[CALENDAR]

Thursday 12th February
School Photographs

Thursday 19th February
House Swimming Sports

Monday 9th March
Labour Day Holiday

Thursday 12th March
Multicultural Day

Wednesday 18th March
College Athletic Sports

TERM DATES

Term 1 - 2015
29th January - 27th March

Term 2
13th April - 26th June

Term 3
13th July - 18th September

Term 4
5th October - 18th December

[YEAR LEVEL]

Year 10 Coordinators
Tim Lamb
Brydie Hind
Tim Bridgeman

Year 11 Coordinators
Chris North
Simon Webb

Year 12 Coordinators
Matt Moylan
Paul McMullen
**The Victorian School of Languages, Wodonga Centre is offering language classes in the following languages:**

- Japanese
- German
- Italian
- French
- Punjabi
- Spanish

Location: Wodonga Middle Years College
Mitchell Street Wodonga
Tuesdays 4.00-6.00 during Victorian School terms 1-4


Please contact Christine Varker
dvarker@bordernet.com.au or 0428310001 for more information.

In our efforts to provide better access and keep parents informed we have introduced a Parent Portal which can be accessed from our website [www.wssc.vic.edu.au](http://www.wssc.vic.edu.au). By clicking on the Parent Portal and using the username and password posted to you at the end of last year, you will be able to access your child’s absences, timetable, subjects, teacher’s email, coordinator’s email, book lists and fee schedule for 2015.

If you have forgotten your username and password contact the office on 6043 7500. New passwords are not given out over the phone and must be SMS to the family mobile number listed in the administration software. If these details are incorrect you must visit the school office to correct them.

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**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

The 2015 Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday 19th February at the Wodonga outdoor pool (WAVES). The events will commence at 9:00am and will conclude at around 2:30pm.

**Bus Travelers**

A shuttle bus will run from WSSC to the WAVES center from 8:45am and will return to WSSC at about 2:30pm. Non bus travellers will be dismissed and are to go directly home at the conclusion of the carnival (about 2:30pm). Alternative arrangements will require a note to be handed to a year level coordinator or an assistant principal.

**Remember:**
- slip, slop and slap (slip on a shirt, slop on some sunscreen and slap on a hat).
- Take advantage of the new shade shelters at the pool.
- Bring a drink bottle.
- Sausage sizzle available – bring some gold coins. Canteen facilities also available.

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**WSSC School Council Nominations**

To become involved in your College, nominations are now being taken for the 2015 Wodonga Senior Secondary College School Council. For more information and to get a nomination form please contact our Business Manager, John McVean.

Email: SeniorCollege@wssc.vic.edu.au or call the College on 60437500