Welcome to the 2016 School Year!

A special welcome to our new Year 7’s and to all students new to our school. Also a big welcome to all parents who are new to our school.

Principal Mr Powell spoke to our new Year 7 students on Thursday morning about the year ahead. He urged them to accept the challenges presented to them, to live up to the expectations the school and their families have of them while also making the most of the opportunities available to them at Wagga High. This message of course, applies to all our students from Years 7 to 12.

Welcome to New Staff

Welcome to our new permanent teaching staff: Mr Boyd in Science and Ms Vanberlo and Ms Cashen in Mathematics. We also have a number of new temporary teachers at WWHS for 2016. In History we have Mr Noonan; in Mathematics, Ms Fairall and Mr Mannion; in Learning and Support, Mrs Whyte; in English, Ms Miskell and Ms Jolliffe; in TAS, Ms Ritchie, Mr Sarina and Mr Moffatt; in PDHPE, Mr Harris and in Music, Ms Hoy. We also welcome Mrs Cox and Mrs Board to our office staff. During Term 1 Ms Sheather will be acting as Principal of Willans Hill School. Mrs Yeomans will replace her as Head Teacher Special Education. Mr Harpley will be working as a Senior Pathways Officer for the Department of Education until the end of Term 3. During his absence, Mr Trenaman will replace him as Head Teacher Industrial Arts.

WELL DONE to all our 2015 HSC students

Congratulations to our Year 12 students who got the very best out of themselves last year. It was very pleasing to witness a significant number of students achieving extraordinary levels of individual success. More details about our best performing students in the Higher School Certificate will be published in next week’s Highlights.

P&C News

P&C meetings are held in the Ted Drake Room in A Block at 7:30pm on the 4th and 8th Mondays of each term. Please put the dates below in your calendar. All parents and caregivers are most welcome to come along and support the P&C, the school and of course its students.

Term 1: February 15 and March 14
Term 2: May 16 and June 6
Term 3: August 8 and September 5
Term 4: Oct 31 and Nov 28

There will be a welcome to new families BBQ on Tuesday 9 February at 6:00 pm in the amphitheatre. Families new to the school are invited to come along and meet our Head Teachers and P&C members, and take part in a guided tour of the school. To help us with catering, please call the school office to let us know if you are coming.

Moving up the levels

Congratulations to the following students who have moved up recently in our school honours system: Silver: Javed Nader Ali (Yr 10) and Gold: Katerina Janzon (Yr 12). Great work!

Presentation Night 2015 - THANKS AGAIN!!!

Last year’s Presentation Night would not have been the success it was, without the marvellous support and generosity of the following people and organisations. We are enormously grateful for the support we receive each year from local and out-of-town sponsors. Many thanks this year goes to the following businesses and individuals:

- Avis Australia
- Mr & Mrs Alts
- Thompson Family
- Ray & Pat Burton
- Cambridge University Press
- Criticos Family
- Daylight Sportswear
- Mr Fred Edwards
- Gasweld
- Gateway Bookshop
- Hardwick/Delves Family
- Joss Facility Management
- Lagana Family
- Olsen Family
- Rexwell Poole Memorial
- University of Notre Dame
- Wagga RSL Club Ltd
- Wagga RSL Sub-Branch
- Wicks Family
- Wollundry Rotary
- S&S Wholesale Pty Ltd
- Drs Ken and Cheryl Cheung of Morgan St Dental Surgery

Twilight Swimming Carnival

Thursday 11 February 2016 will see WWHS continue our Sun Smart initiative, with a Twilight Swimming Carnival. The intent of the timing is to reduce the risk of sunburn and dehydration for our students, staff and spectators.

Pool entry is $4.00 and it is beneficial if students do not require change. Students may come to school dressed in their house colours and we encourage all to do so, however, thongs and singlets are not acceptable until lunch time when the more extreme dress ups may happen. We are very much looking forward to the annual fashion parade. Please no crepe paper or hair spray.

Students will come to school for normal lessons on Thursday, but then walk under staff supervision (with all to wear a hat!) to the Oasis Aquatic Centre at approximately 2:40pm. The carnival will start at around 3:20pm and finish by 8:30pm. The carnival will be treated as ‘Friday’ i.e. students who attend the carnival will not be expected at school on Friday. Students who do not attend the carnival will be expected to attend school the next day to ensure they are not marked as absent for a day. Normally timetabled lessons will not run on Friday, but will be held in reduced number classes in each of the subject areas. The 2015 twilight carnival was a great success. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to attend the 2016 carnival and we ask that students are picked up promptly at 8:30pm. The 200mFS and 200IM will be conducted prior to the carnival with 200mFS at 7:45am on Thursday 4 February and 200IM at 7:45am on Tuesday 9 February. Interested students to sign up at the gym please.

Around The Traps

School Leaders for 2016 will be formally inducted at a special assembly in Currie Hall on Wednesday 10 February commencing at 10:25am. Parents and caregivers of School Captains, House Captains and members of the SRC are invited to the assembly.
School Contributions

Over the coming two weeks, all families will be issued with an invoice for both Subject Fees and Voluntary School Contributions. **Voluntary Contributions** are set at $60.00 for Years 7-9 and $80.00 for Years 10-12. Although these contributions are not compulsory, we appreciate payment, to assist us in further supporting students through the purchase of resources, which are not included in our regular funding.

**Subject Fees** are compulsory, as they allow specific resources to be purchased in order to conduct practical subjects (ie ingredients for Food Tech). These fees are due and payable immediately. Students who do not pay their subject fees may not be eligible to attend non-compulsory excursions and may be offered alternative work during practical lessons.

Payments may be made by cash, EFTPOS or cheque. We do not yet have the facility to accept direct deposits; however this should be available in the not too distant future.

Administration of Prescribed Medication or Students with Medical Conditions

If your child requires medication whilst at school please contact the school to make arrangements. It is a requirement of the Department of Education that only medication prescribed by a doctor be administered at school, by a suitably trained staff member. Alternately you may choose to come to school to administer this medication yourself.

Paperwork detailing dosage, time of administration etc must be completed prior to medication being given to any student by a staff member. This medication must be sent to school in original prescription packaging, showing your child’s name, name of medication and dosage.

Likewise, if your child has an ongoing medical condition, which may affect him or her whilst at school, we need to have an Individual Health Care Plan in place. This must contain endorsement from your child’s doctor and information about what steps to take in an emergency.

Important Messages to Parents/Caregivers

- **SCHOOL BUS ZONE – WARNING!!** Parking in a designated school bus zone is prohibited. If you do so you most certainly run the risk of a hefty fine. Double parking to ‘pick-up’ or ‘drop-off’ is also an offence. People have been fined recently. Please be warned.

- **DROP OFF/PICK UP:** Parents are able to drop off and pick up in the No Parking zone in Coleman Street at the front of the school. You must stop for no more than two minutes and if you exit your car you can be no more than three metres from the car. If you are displaying a Disabled Sticker you can stop for up to five minutes. Do not stop in the No Stopping zone as you may receive a hefty fine!

- **FAMILY HOLIDAYS** should be taken during school holidays, not during the school term.

- **MEDIA CONSENT** – under the Department’s media and child protection policies, it is necessary for the school to obtain permission from parents/caregivers for their children to be named, interviewed, photographed or filmed for publication. If you have not already done so, please request a Media Consent Form and complete and return it as soon as possible.

Important Note to Year 11!

There is no sports afternoon for Year 11 and therefore there is no sports uniform for Year 11s. What does this mean for you? Simple! Don’t wear anything to school except your normal uniform! This also applies to Year 12.

Change of Details

If you have moved over the holiday period, or if any of your other family details, such as phone numbers or email addresses have changed – please update your details by phoning or calling in to the administration office.

In the interest of your child’s ongoing wellbeing, it is vital that the details held at school are always kept current.

Uniform Reminder

Congratulations to all our students who have started the new school year wearing our uniform. At WWHS our uniform looks smart, is comfortable, easily obtainable from our uniform shop and not very expensive; we believe that it should be worn with pride by all students. Our Uniform Code can be found on our website. All students are expected to wear black leather shoes which cover the whole foot. More detailed information of acceptable footwear is available on our website.

In practical classes teachers cannot allow students to participate in lessons if they are not wearing the required footwear. The school can be prosecuted by WorkCover and possibly be subjected to significant fines for not complying with this policy. Unfortunately, students who are found wearing incorrect footwear will be given alternate work.

Parents can purchase school uniforms from our uniform shop run by Daylight Schoolwear which also has online ordering. The online ordering system is quick and easy. Simply create an account profile, place your order, pay and select ‘walk in’ to pick up your order from the School Uniform Shop on the next open day, (Tuesday 8.00 am -12.00pm and Thursday 2.00pm – 6.00pm). For further details please go to daylightsportswear.com/wagga or click on the link on our website.

WORLD BOOK Online Access

Our library now subscribes to the following award winning World Book Web products.

**World Book Student**—forms the foundation of an expansive reference database that includes over 40,000 encyclopedia and reference articles, thousands of links to outside web sites selected by World Book editors and contributors. It also includes an extensive Dictionary and Atlas plus audio, visuals and animations.

**World Book Advanced**—tailored for the needs of older students, it includes encyclopedic content, integrates primary and secondary source databases plus more than 5,500 e-books in a single search, over 700 e-books can be downloaded to e-readers and iPads, and a wealth of research tools that allow students to customise and save their work.

**World Book Mobile**—a mobile-friendly version of the reference database.

Our World Book subscription allows us to give you and your family access to this valuable reference source at your home computers 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. We are providing this service to you at no charge!

We hope that your whole family will use the World Book sites often to help with homework, special projects, at-home learning and information seeking.

To access the World Book Web, follow these simple steps:

2. Type in the following user Login ID: wwhs1
3. Password: library

Please remember that login and password information is for students and their families only, and extending this information to people who do not live within the school district could result in loss of at-home access for our students.
2016 Homework Planner

Children and families run more smoothly when there’s a plan. The 2016 homework and study calendar includes key dates and school holidays. You can print it out month by month, or by the whole year.


Questions Asked

Q&A No. 1

Q: How can I be a winner, not a loser?
A: Aim for the merit levels, not the behaviour levels! To do this, you need to make wise choices, follow the code of conduct and the classroom rules and always try your best. The school motto ‘succeed through self-discipline’ is something you should always remember, because it reminds you that making good choices is your responsibility.

Q&A No. 2

Q: How do I know what teachers my child has this year?
A: At this time of the year we get a lot of requests from parents to explain the abbreviations [we call them teacher codes] we use for teachers on the student timetables. They are all listed below:

AND  | Miss D Anscome  | KEE | Mrs E Keely
ANY  | Mrs Y Anderson  | LAM | Mr A Lamb
ARE  | Mrs A Arenz     | LAW | Mrs K Lawson
ATK  | Ms L Atkinson   | LUC | Mrs M Lucas
BAI  | Miss T Bailey   | MAC | Mrs A Macintosh
BAK  | Mrs A Baker     | MAD | Ms T Maddison
BOU  | Mrs S Bourke    | MAG | Mrs M Maginness
BOY  | Mr S Boyd       | MAN | Mr I Mannion
BRO  | Miss M. Brown   | MAS | Miss S Maddox
CAR  | Mr G Carosi     | MCI | Mr J McKenzie
CAS  | Mrs K Cashen    | MCK | Ms S McKee
CLA  | Mrs D Clarke    | MER | Mr B Merritt
COL  | Mrs S Collins   | MIS | Ms H Miskell
COW  | Mr S Cowell     | MOF | Mr A Moffat
COX  | Ms S Cox        | MUR | Mrs L Murray
CUG  | Mr G Curry      | NEA | Miss E Neal
DAM  | Mr M Dare       | NOO | Mr P Noonan
DAV  | Miss S Davey    | NOR | Miss J Norris
DEL  | Mr C Delaney    | OLI | Ms K Oliver
DEN  | Mrs J Dennis    | PEL | Mrs N Pellow
DON  | Mrs D Donoghue  | POL | Mr T Pollard
ELD  | Miss M Eldridge | PRE | Miss A Prest
ELL  | Mr M Elliott    | PRM | Mr M Prescott
FAI  | Miss H Fairall  | RIT | Ms J Ritchie
FEL  | Mrs A Fellows   | ROL | Roll Call Teacher
FIS  | Mrs K Fisher    | RYA | Ms M Ryan
GIL  | Mr D Gillard    | RYH | Mr H Ryan
GOR  | Mr D Gorostiaga | SAR | Mr A Sarina
GUI  | Mrs L Guilfoyle | SER | Mr S Sergeant
GUK  | Mrs K Gunter    | SHU | Mrs P Shumack
GUN  | Mr N Gunter     | SMC | Mrs K Smith
HAC  | Ms C Harris     | SPO | SPORT
HAJ  | Mr J Harris     | TEA | Mr A Teakel
HAL  | Miss C Hale     | THO | Mr B Thomas
HAW  | Ms C Hawke      | TRE | Mrs K Trenaman
HEA  | Mr R Healy      | TRS | Mr S Trenaman
HEC  | Mrs R Heckendorf| VAN | Miss S Vanberlo
HEI  | Miss V Heinjus  | WAL | Ms C Walker
HEN  | Mrs T Henderson | WHI | Ms B White
HIL  | Mr S Hillam     | WHY | Mrs A Whyte
HOY  | MS J HOY        | WIT | Mr T Willis
HUG  | Ms S Hughes     | WOO | Mrs N Woolnough
JOL  | Miss C Joliffe  | WOR | Ms E Wordsworth
KAR  | Mrs T Karhu     | WRI | Mr D Wright
KEA  | Mr P KEARINS    | YEO | Mrs M Yeomans

Good attendance is vital

The law in NSW states that all children between the ages of 6 and 17 are required to attend school every day the school is open, unless they have a good reason for not attending.

Parents must send their child to school every day unless:
The child is too sick to go to school
The child has been injured
The child has to go to a special religious ceremony
The child has an infectious illness eg (chicken pox, mumps or measles)

There is a serious family situation, which requires the child’s involvement.

IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR PARENTS TO KEEP THEIR CHILD AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR ACTIVITIES SUCH AS: Birthdays, pension days, shopping, minding other children, haircuts.

IF YOUR CHILD IS HESITANT ABOUT GOING TO SCHOOL OR REFUSES TO GO FOR SOME REASON PARENTS PLEASE LET US KNOW. We may ask a Home School Liaison Officer to contact you to provide support and discuss the issues.

2016 Junior and Senior Dance Ensemble Auditions

This year’s auditions will be held in this week, Week 2 at the following times:

Tuesday 2 Feb – Junior Dance Ensemble (Years 7, 8, 9) 3:30pm – 5:30pm
Wednesday 3 Feb – Senior Dance Ensemble (Primarily Years 10, 11, 12) 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Junior dancers are allowed to audition for both ensembles; however, they must audition for the junior ensemble as a priority and be aware that if successful they are to commit to both ensembles. Some dancers may also be invited to audition for Senior ensemble after they dance at the Junior audition.

Throughout the year the ensembles will train at the following times:

Senior Dance Ensemble - Tuesday from 3:30pm – 5:30pm
Junior Dance Ensemble - Wednesday from 3:30pm – 5:30pm

There are many performances throughout the year and the dancers are often called in for extra rehearsals throughout the week and some weekends closer to these performances.

We look forward to an exciting and busy year!

2015 School Spectacular Ensemble

Parents Pool their Tips

Ask your child to write all their teachers’ names on their timetables and make a copy for the fridge. If they have a mobile phone, have them take a photo of their timetable so they have it with them all the time. Read more tips from experienced parents.

Accident Insurance for Students

From time to time there are media stories about whether children are insured for injuries they sustain during school-related activities, both at school and at events outside of school, such as excursions, sporting or other events.

The NSW Department of Education however does not provide, nor has it ever provided, accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools. We do hold ambulance cover. Rather, the department is insured so that it can meet the financial impact of any legal liabilities arising from its activities. For example, if the department or one of its staff is negligent and this causes a student to be injured, then the student will be able to legally recover damages from the department (and the department’s insurance will cover the cost). However, if an accident occurs at a school and it is not caused by any wrongdoing or omission by the department, then the department’s insurance does not cover the student.

The NSW Treasury Managed Fund provides cover for the department’s day-to-day activities. The public liability component covers breaches by the department in its duty of care to students that result in claims for compensation.

Supplementary Sporting Injuries Benefits Scheme

The only cover provided by the state government is through the Supplementary Sporting Injuries Benefits Scheme. The Supplementary Scheme covers all students should they be permanently injured or die while participating in authorised school sporting or athletic activities such as school lessons, training and competitions. The Supplementary Scheme provides a capital benefit for particular permanent injuries meeting the minimum disability threshold or death. Benefits are paid regardless of pre-existing conditions or negligence. You do not need legal representation in order to make a claim for benefit. The Supplementary Scheme does not cover dental injuries, reimbursement of medical expenses, legal expenses or costs.

For more information on the benefits paid and how to make a claim please visit the website, www.sportinginjuries.nsw.gov.au or call 4321 5392.

In addition, there are various forms of insurance for parents wishing to insure their child against accident including:

Private health insurance

Parents have the option of taking out private health coverage for their children. This is usually limited to the reimbursement of medical expenses and will not generally provide the breadth of cover provided by a specific student accident insurance policy.

Thanks to:

Fiona and Andrew Crakanthorp, and Maureen Meiklejohn, for putting together and selling student book packs this week. Your help with this important fund raiser is appreciated.

Complaints

Parents/caregivers are reminded that if you have a concern about anything to do with our school, you are encouraged to come to the school and tell someone so that your concern can be resolved. It is our aim to work with all of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to ensure a productive, safe and enjoyable experience for our students. However, should you feel that you must raise a concern formally, the NSW Department of Education has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. A brochure which provides information about how to lodge a complaint and a Complaint Form are available from the WWHS office. Further information is also available in the Department’s Complaints Handling Guidelines which includes a guide to Lodging a Complaint. These documents can be accessed on the DoEs internet website at https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/