NAIDOC ASSEMBLY

Wollumbin celebrated NAIDOC Week in the second last week of term 2 due to this year's official program falling in the school holidays. NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life.

NAIDOC originally stood for ‘National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee and its acronym has since become the name of the week itself. Wollumbin celebrations included a meeting with Aboriginal parents to discuss revitalising the school’s bush tucker garden and a painting and story-telling session to prepare the signage for the garden and our official NAIDOC assembly.

Our NAIDOC assembly highlighted this year’s theme “We all Stand on Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate” – it aimed to highlight Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ strong spiritual and cultural connection to land and sea. Deidre Currie opened the assembly with Welcome to Country. Preston Campbell, with support from fellow Gold Coast Titans team mate Clinton Toupi, spoke of what it means to strive to achieve your personal best. Bilyana Blomley discussed the importance of NAIDOC Day celebrations in the reconciliation process. Congratulations to Jaidyn Larrescy for chairing the assembly.

A big thank you to Wollumbin’s Aboriginal Education team for their efforts helping us celebrate NAIDOC week.

WELCOME

We welcome the following teachers on contract for this term.

Mr Lachlan Glasby who will be teaching English and Drama for Ms Hall who is relieving as Librarian while Mrs Okunev is on leave.

Ms Kerry Williams has been taking Ms Watson's Art classes and will continue to do so for most of this year.

Mr John Lindsay will be taking Ms Hannam's Maths classes as Ms Hannam has taken up a teacher exchange position in India.

WE ARE MADDD!

By the time you receive this edition of the Talkabout we will have held our annual performance night showcasing the talents of our students. Congratulations to everyone involved - over half of our student population guided by a dedicated team of teachers. In the next edition we will feature MADDD.

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P & C Meeting: Tuesday 28th July 2015 at 7.00pm in the Library
CONGRATULATIONS DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S AWARD

Year 7 - Jordan Simkins, Madison Dorough, Katia Bell, Hudson McHugh, Ella Curtis, Krishna-Priya Dasi, Maddison Rix, Ryan Stanley, Nina Westwood-Card, Krystal Star-Cooney, Max Parker, Natasha Bozokian, Thomas Nelson

Year 8 - Zahli McKay, Monty Murray, Sarah Vasseur

Year 9 - Chloe Gear

Year 12 - Brooke Maynard, Kelsey Noble

CONGRATULATIONS PRINCIPAL’S AWARD

Year 7 - Samuel Goehr, Aurin Cahanovich, Garrett Kirkby, Keaty Chipps, Anisha Webster, Hudson McHugh, Amy Edmed, Hannah McConnell, Lochie Pansaru, Joel Mudge, Alexander Napper, Ryan Stanley

Year 8 - Rebecca Merton, Ayla Bowden, Zahli McKay, Amber Morrison, Calam Nixon, Jayanti McColl, Abby Johnson, Taylor Haw, Marlie Farmer-Foster

Year 9 - Chloe Gear

Year 12 - Brooke Maynard, Odette Miller, Kelsey Noble

CONGRATULATIONS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Year 7 - Ava Manuel, Karly Gear, Ashleigh Mayfield, Samuel Goehr

Year 8 - Ayla Bowden, Timothy Whippes, Taylor Haw

Year 10 - Hayley Hyde

Year 12 - Brooke Maynard, Kelsey Noble

Homework Help

When: Every THURSDAY after school until 4pm

Where: COMPUTER ROOM 2

Who: Miss Underwood (Science and Maths), Mrs Hirst (English) and Tulsi Blacka (Titans for Tomorrow)

Why: Homework help is a volunteer program run by teachers, designed to assist students in completing their homework, extra classwork and assessment tasks. It can help students establish a regular study routine, give them an opportunity to go over any work they need extra assistance with and build and support independent learners.

www.whiteribbon.org
GETTING DRAMATIC

It’s been an eventful semester in Drama! On the 1st of April, 50 Drama and Music students climbed aboard a bus and headed to a matinee performance of the musical *Wicked* at QPAC in Brisbane. The show was spectacular and the students loved the experience of attending such a big show.

On the 23rd of April, 70 students from Drama and English went to see the Bell Shakespeare performance of *Macbeth Undone* at the Murwillumbah Civic Centre. This intriguing look into the Shakespearean play ‘Macbeth’ not only gave students a new way to engage with the play, but also gave the Drama students a chance to gain more information about the art of acting with Shakespearean language and dialogue.

To top off our dramatic semester, on Friday 29th May, Rob Mills and Ellen Simpson came to the school to have a chat with our Drama students about life in the theatrical industry. Rob Mills achieved 5th place in the first season of *Australian Idol* and more recently has been the host of *Young Talent Time* and had leading roles in the musicals *Grease* and *Wicked*. Ellen is a dancer, actor and choreographer who has had years of experience, recently finishing a two and a half year stint on the musical *Wicked*. It was a tremendous honour to have these two come and speak to our students and we greatly appreciated their informal and friendly manner as they engaged with our students.

YEAR 12 TRIAL EXAMS

The Year 12 trial examinations commence on Monday 3rd August. A reminder that students need to be in attendance at school for scheduled lessons on Friday 31st July - absence will require a Doctors Certificate.

If a student is unable to attend an examination the school must be notified that morning. For illness a Doctors Certificate will need to be submitted. Should a misadventure occur supporting evidence must be supplied as per the WHS Assessment Policy. Where possible an alternate time to sit the exam will be organised unless a student will be absent for an extended period of time. However rescheduling cannot be guaranteed.

SUBJECT SELECTION (YEARS 11, 9 & 8 2016)

Mr Cutcher, Ms Ndegwa and Year Advisers are coordinating the process. Year 10 into 11 is underway. For other years, students will be provided with information booklets and selection sheets to discuss with parents/carers. A reminder that deadlines must be met.

YEAR 12 AND YEAR 11 SENIOR SUCCESS

We will not be running night sessions this term. Students will be advised of the reviewed approach we are taking to this program. We thank parents who have been attending our sessions throughout the year.

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**WHAT’S ON**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July 2015</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28th July</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st July</td>
<td>Cheongiu Foreign Language High School Visit Commences</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August 2015</th>
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<td>3rd August</td>
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<td>20th August</td>
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<td>22nd August</td>
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SPORTS

A large contingent of student will be travelling to the North Coast Athletics trials at Coffs Harbour on August 1st. We have a very strong team this year with almost half of our school team selected to represent the Far North Coast. We expect a great deal of success from our students as they have been training intensively under the keen coaching eye of Mr Larrescy.

Results for the North Coast carnival will be available in the next edition of the Talkabout.

Below are the representative students and the events in which they will be representing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lachlan Durrington</td>
<td>800m, High Jump</td>
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<td>Luke Johnson</td>
<td>Long Jump, Hurdles</td>
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<td>Meg Reynolds</td>
<td>200M</td>
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<td>Brody Campbell</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
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<td>Jaidyn Larrescy</td>
<td>Discuss, Javelin</td>
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<td>Zak Lateo</td>
<td>100m, 200m</td>
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<td>Talisha Atkinson</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
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<td>Briana Bradfield</td>
<td>Jurdles, Relay</td>
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<td>Abby Johnson</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Sheffield</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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<td>Laetani Brehaut</td>
<td>Shot-put, Relay</td>
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<td>Dane Peterson</td>
<td>Shot-put, Discuss, Javelin</td>
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<td>Sam Cook</td>
<td>Discuss</td>
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<td>Jack Dawson</td>
<td>100m, 200m, Tripple Jump, Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Larrescy</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
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<td>Briley Mulvihill</td>
<td>Hurdles</td>
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<td>Jack North</td>
<td>Long Jump, High Jump, Relay</td>
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<td>Bailey Lateo</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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<td>Drew Reynolds</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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<td>Livinia Currant</td>
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<td>Jake Kennedy</td>
<td>Long Jump</td>
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<td>Maddie Trew</td>
<td>Shot-put, Relay</td>
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<td>Zoe Wynd</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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<td>Ryley Farrar</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Turriff</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
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<td>Jaime Enselieit</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
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<td>Sam Naoum</td>
<td>Walk</td>
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<td>Ben Prestwich</td>
<td>Javelin, Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathan Draman</td>
<td>Long Jump, Triple Jump</td>
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<td>Brooke Maynard</td>
<td>Discus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alec O'Brien</td>
<td>800m, 1500m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Wells</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Billy Henderson</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isaac Pollack</td>
<td>Relay</td>
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</tbody>
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THE FAR NORTH COAST TEAM

OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL RESULTS/ PLACINGS FOR FNC

13 years – Jaidyn Larrescy – 2nd, Zak Lateo – 3rd
14 years - Dane Peterson – 1st
15 years - Jack Dawson – 2nd, Jack North – 5th

Overall school position - 3rd in the FNC, narrowly beaten by Byron and Kingscliff.

TWEED VALLEY

The Tweed Valley competition commences 29 July. This means sport moves to the afternoon on a Wednesday during the competition period and requires a slight change in our bell times.

Notes for this have been distributed and are to be returned to the teacher for that particular sport. Any student who misses team selection must see Mrs Lofts to reselect. There are still some vacancies in Tweed Valley sports.

A reminder that students will not be able to represent the school if they are not in correct school sports uniform. Students not competing in Tweed Valley will be participating in a rotational sport program.

BUS FARES

When the Tweed Valley competition commences all sports travelling to town will be paying a $5 levy. Those travelling to Kingscliff or Tweed will have a $6 levy.

Problems are caused when bus prices are budgeted according to numbers and students fail to turn up for their sport. Please ensure that your student attends their sport as per departmental requirements.

COMING UP

Under 15 Basketball knockout – girls and boys see Mr Brooker to put your name down for this. The venue will be Byron Bay.
SPORTS cont…

CONGRATULATIONS
JACK DAWSON

Following his outstanding athletic efforts, Jack Dawson has been identified by the Institute of Sport and invited to participate in one of their athletic programs.

PIERRE DE COUBERTIN AWARD

Congratulations to Alec O’Brien on his receipt of the Pierre de Coubertin award. This was awarded by the Olympic Committee in recognition of his outstanding overall results in a variety of school representative sports. This is a very high honour and a reward for his efforts.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2016

It is amazing to think that the captaincy period for Odette and Billy is drawing to a close. They have done an outstanding job as ambassadors for our school. The incoming captains take up the position at the beginning of term 4, as the outgoing captains need to focus on their HSC.

The nomination process will commence shortly. Year 11 students seeking nomination will need to complete an application form (to be issued the week commencing 3rd August by Ms Smith) and submit the completed form to Ms Connell no later than 14 August. Late applications will not be accepted. Applications will be discussed by a panel with eligible students moving through to the interview process. Successful applicants will then be invited to address the school at an assembly prior to elections being run.

YEAR 11 QUALITY PORTFOLIO INTERVIEWS

Year 11 interviews will be conducted on the 3rd and 4th September, just prior to the end of course Preliminary exams. Students should be building their portfolios ready to discuss their achievements and targets as senior students. An invitation to our very valued parents and community members to be on panels is included in this edition of the Talkabout. Volunteers are vital to the success of our program. No experience necessary, nor does your child have to be in year 11, just a willingness to donate a day to the school to join staff and year 10 students on the panels.

ENGINEERING SUPER CHALLENGE

Wollumbin High School students were placed 7th in the Queensland section of the challenge. Well done!

SENIOR GOMA EXCURSION

Our annual Visual Arts pilgrimage to the Gallery of Modern Art in Brisbane took place on Tuesday 9th June. We enjoyed a fantastic day in the Queensland sunshine as we made our way to the Southbank Art precinct.

Students explored 3 floors of contemporary artworks including the very popular work of Japanese artist Yaiyo Kasuma. (In fact almost all of the students took photos of their experience in her Infinity room).

The OVERSIZED exhibition of Michael Parekowhai also made an impression with its undercurrent theme of rewriting a truthful history of Pacific Colonisation using links to surreal and dada art movements. His BIG, bright and fun TOY sculptures made a HUGE impression.

Students also browsed through the top artworks of Queensland's 2014 year 12 ... an eye opener and hopefully a bit of a hurry up for our senior students.

Our afternoon was spent in the Queensland Art Gallery after a relaxed lunch in cafes and on grassy knolls. This gallery offered a more traditional experience of paintings, prints and objects, although many of us were transfixed by a 32 minute animation Pursuit of Venus [infected] by Lisa Reihana looped on 4 large screens with soundtrack. An artwork that has been beautifully created; that moves, sways, educates and eventually confronts its audience. An experience impossible to recreate in a classroom.

Our students represented Wollumbin High School with pride and the most respectful public behaviour. It would be a pleasure to take all 44 students to the galleries again.

Trish Quantrill and Kerry Williams.
AVCAT 2016 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Australian Veterans’ Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT) is a national independent charity helping the children and grandchildren of ex-service men and women to a better future through higher education.

Scholarship selection is on a need and merit basis.

For more information please visit the website avcat@dva.gov.au or contact on (02) 9213 7999.

SOCIAL

Congratulations to Ms Smith and the SRC for running an excellent social. Thank you to staff, year 12 students and the SRC who ensured the set up, supervision, refreshments and clean up ran smoothly. Without such a team we could not run socials. Well done to the students who attended. Your behaviour made the evening very enjoyable. See photos on the back page.

ASSESSMENT AND QUALITY FEEDBACK IN SCIENCE

Research has shown that one of the top 10 influences on student achievement is quality feedback. It has also shown that when a mark is provided as well as comments, the students see only the mark and not the feedback. Sometimes this has a negative effect and the student feels that they cannot do the subject, or that they do not need to do anything to improve because they are already good enough.

The Science faculty have taken this research on board and are trialling the provision of quality feedback only to students on all tasks in Year 7 and 8 for the rest of this year. Marks and grades will be recorded for reporting purposes and to enable us to analyse data, however, the students will not be given the mark. Students will still be required to fill in the student reflection and where they think their task lies on the marking rubric.

We will evaluate this process at the end of the year, however, we do not expect to see major changes in such a short time and envisage that this project will grow into next year.

This will require the support and understanding of students and parents as we try to improve the outcomes of our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me.

Bronwyn Thomas

EARN & LEARN

Wollumbin High School is once again participating in Woolworth’s Earn and Learn program. Please collect stickers when you shop at Woolworths and glue them onto a sticker sheet. Sticker sheets are available from Woolworths, Wollumbin High School or online at woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn.

Students can drop their completed sticker sheets into the library at school. With your support, the school will be able to collect resources for subjects, sports and the library.

Say yes to those stickers!
LIBRARY NEWS

Year 7s have completed the Wollumbin Library Orientation program and they have their licences!

Students examined the library facilities and collections, used My Library from their DET Portal home page to identify resources, and then explored how to find these around the library. They have received their licence cards and certificates for the Quality Portfolios.

Families are invited to browse their booklet, which can now be taken home, to use for homework and assessment tasks. The Information Literacy and Steps to Success sections offer tips, strategies and online help links. The Just Read section encourages everyone to join in the Reading Challenges and win prizes.

The library is not just a space in the school. It provides access to resources beyond our walls and there is teaching and learning support outside school hours available from the online Wollumbin Library Links & Just Read! site http://www.jokunev.com/lib/WHSLibS/ which can also be found from their DET Portal My Library home page.

READ STUFF AND WIN STUFF

It is our pleasure to recognise and reward students who maintain a regular free choice reading habit throughout their high school years. We have weekly prize draws throughout the Readers Cup Competition, and even one title could produce a winning ticket! Prizes included books, games, DVDs, canteen vouchers, posters and trinkets.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

We have almost 1300 titles eligible for the Premier’s Reading Challenge in 2015 so any interested student should find lots of choice for their 20 titles. Students can logon to https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html to add to their Reading Log from anywhere, but should let us know in the library so that we can validate their records. We can help with logging in too.

We recommend that students create a list in their planners so that titles can count toward the PRC or to our own Wollumbin Reading Challenges which reward all reading.

RESEARCH SUPPORTS READING FOR PLEASURE

- Reading feeds the imagination.
- Reading feeds the imagination.
- Reading shares ideas and information across time and place.
- Reading is essential to get the best from the treasure and avoid the trash of the internet.

World-wide research shows that students who read regularly achieve better results in standardised school tests as well as develop better thinking and literacy skills, between the ages of 10 and 16, than those who rarely read. Strong reading ability helps students to absorb and understand new information.

How can our students get stronger reading abilities? Simply by reading more often. So everyone can improve their reading abilities, by just reading.

Additionally young adults reading fiction are also exploring human experiences, developing deeper appreciation and empathies for others, as well as engaging their minds creatively with a variety of possible realities.

CONGRATULATION
NINA BAUMER

We are watching with great interest Nina’s involvement in The Voice competition and wish her all the best. Nina has again been selected as a featured vocal artist in the NSW Schools Spectacular to be held at the Entertainment Centre late November. This is the third year in a row Nina’s talent has been recognised by her selection and is outstanding as selection is through a very competitive process.

CONGRATULATIONS
CHARLOTTE HALL

Charlotte has received a Certificate of Excellence in music performance at the Lennox Head Music Camp for Clarinet and camp choir. Charlotte is now off to represent Wollumbin High School at the Festival of Instrumental Music at the Opera House in August.