Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>Year 11/12 reports handed to students</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>Year 10 Parent Information Night for 2015 Choices</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 27</td>
<td>Year 8, 9 and 10 reports handed to students</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Whole School Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>STUDENTS LAST DAY OF TERM</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Parent Interview Day 10am – 4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>Online booking instructions will be emailed soon.</td>
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<td>Course Selections due for 2015 for Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 students</td>
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Taking Children Out of School

As a government school, we have been advised by Ms Sharyn O’Neill, Director General of Education in Western Australia to dissuade parents from taking students out of school during the academic term. We fully support this position.

Research recently undertaken by the Telethon Institute of Child Health Research, Student Attendance and Educational Outcomes: Every Day Counts has found a clear link between student absence and achievement in school. “Each day a child is absent from school has a direct impact on their education outcomes”.

The Department of Education in Western Australia has highlighted student engagement and attendance as priorities in Focus 2014, Directions for Schools. “Establishing and maintaining a positive attendance career for all students ensures success in their future study and career pathways. When a student misses one day per fortnight they will, by Year 9, have missed one entire year of school”!

Consequently, our Whole School Assessment policy states that absence due to students taken out of school for an in-term family holiday cannot be approved and will be recorded as an Unauthorised Absence.

Our students have access to moodle on the college website and can read their syllabus outlines, assessment outlines and supporting resources through the internet. If you have decided to take your child on an in-term holiday and your child hands in an assessment on the due date, it will be assessed by their teachers. A zero will be recorded for any in-class assessments missed.

Associate Principal in charge upper school, Ms Kristy Watson, and Associate Principal in charge of lower school, Ms Veronica Sutton may be contacted in the case of special circumstances. In this case, evidence must be produced and your family’s application for special leave will be considered. Final decisions cannot be challenged.

Thank you for your continued support of Woodvale Secondary College and our pursuit of excellence in our teachers and students.

Veronika Sutton
Associate Principal Lower School (Year 7, 8 and 9)

Phone App

Our Woodvale Phone app has recently been upgraded – both Google market and ITunes. Current users should receive a request to update or new users will need to go to their store to get the update. If updating, Android users also need to clear their app data/cache by going to the phone Settings Menu and choosing Apps/Woodvale SC then they can clear the app data and cache. With this upgrade we will be more able to ensure the information is up to date. We may schedule more push messages to select groups of parents/students and the new calendar is interactive, so events can be added to your personal calendar. Note, in order to receive the announcements you are required to select an announcement group.
From the Principal

It’s hard to believe that we are approaching the end of Term 2. Our Year 12 students are more than halfway through their final year of secondary schooling and our Year 8 students have made a fantastic start to their time at Woodvale.

Over the past few weeks, a large group of Woodvale staff participated in two days intensive training in Positive Education. Paula Robinson, an expert in the field, worked with staff on developing a strengths-based approach to teaching and learning. It has been exciting to see these teachers transfer this knowledge into their classrooms in the short period of time since they completed the training. As a part of our new business plan, we have made a commitment to implementing Positive Education across the school. Based on the work of Martin Seligman, Positive Psychology and Positive Education build on an individual or organisation’s strengths and virtues in order for them to thrive. Whilst still in the early stages of implementation, staff across the college is to be commended for the enthusiastic way in which they have embraced this approach. More information will be forthcoming as we move further down the road of implementation.

Students from Years 10-12 recently completed their exam block; they are to be commended for the way in which they conducted themselves during this period. During the same period, significant number of our Vocational Education and Training students took the opportunity to participate in Workplace Learning opportunities. These students gained invaluable practical experience and added to the positive reputation that Woodvale Secondary College has in the broader community.

Examination students are currently receiving feedback on their exam performance. This is a critical time for students to review their level of achievement to date and, where necessary, make the changes necessary to ensure improved results in the future. These changes may be around study and work habits, including attendance and engagement; they may be linked to course selections for 2015.

Our Year 10 students are about to embark on the very exciting process of making course selection decisions for 2015. This is a really important time for families to have conversations around a student’s strengths and aspirations. While it can be daunting for some students, there is a thorough preparation program being delivered in classes and parents are able to access expert advice through our Course Counselling Team. The upcoming parent information evening is a great opportunity for parents to access key information. It is absolutely vital that Year 10 students make the most of the preparation that is occurring this year.

Our specialist program teachers have been busy holding auditions, trials and testing for next year’s Year 7 and 8 intake. With two cohorts coming to the school in 2015, much organisation is already taking place to ensure a smooth start to next year. Students, parents and teachers have been sharing in the excitement of what the programs have to offer students.

In reflecting on the term, it is wonderful to see how much is occurring to provide even more opportunity for our students to achieve success in a safe and supportive learning environment.

Myles Draper

Update on College Uniform 2015

I am pleased to say that over the years we have made significant progress with the college uniform and we now consistently receive very positive feedback from students and the wider community about how smart, affordable and contemporary our uniform is.

Responding to the parent and student Uniform Review I conducted last year, we have now phased out the skirts and we are introducing a dress which will be available from Semester 2 this year. All Year 7 and Year 8 students will have a choice of shorts, track suit pants or the dress. For girls in Years 9-12, skirts will have a three year phase out time. However, our supplier Nell Gray is no longer making the skirts since the College Board approved the phase out in Semester 2 2013.

The dress, pictured, was designed by a team of twenty girls, four from each year group. They designed the dress and sought feedback from their year group. Hopefully with so much student input, it will be a very popular addition to the college uniform.
At the recent board meeting, the following changes to our school uniform were approved.

**Shirts**
With the Year 7 students entering the college next year, we have decided to divide year groups into Lower School Years 7-9 under Ms Veronika Sutton and Upper School Years 10-12 under Ms Kristy Watson. The reasons for this are that the majority of primary school parents surveyed would prefer a separation between the eldest and the youngest students in the college. Research has clearly demonstrated that Year 10 being linked to upper school better prepares students for the focus and rigour needed in upper school in order for a student to maximise their potential. We need to therefore inform all current Year 9 parents that there will be a compulsory change of shirt in Year 10 to the upper school shirt. These polo shirts can be purchased at the Uniform Shop for $30 and will give you three years wear instead of two.

**Tour Jackets**
Again, responding to parent concerns highlighted in last year’s Uniform Review concerning the cost of purchasing a number of school tour jackets that could only be worn on the singular school tour, we have introduced a standard tour jacket that may be worn as uniform. The tour jacket will be worn to all school tours with the particular tour identified by embroidery on the pocket of the jacket.

**Raincoats**
Responding to student feedback we have included a non-compulsory light rain jacket, thick navy tights and the Woodvale Secondary College school bag which is designed to support backs and reduce aches and pains. Our existing Uniform Policy 2015 will be changed to incorporate these changes.

Veronika Sutton
Associate Principal

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**Year 10 – 12**

Following the completion of our recent exam period, I have had the opportunity to speak with many of our students about their experience of the exams. Understandably, all the students I spoke with were pleased the exams are over. More significantly, I was pleased to hear so many of our students speaking about how they felt that they had achieved the best they could, that they had prepared well or that they had achieved at a higher level than last time. Exams can be a daunting experience; it was fantastic to hear students viewing them as a chance to demonstrate both what they had learned and their hard work rather than as something to be feared.

Having just taken over as Year 10 Associate Principal, I was delighted to spend time in the Year 10 exam rooms and witness students taking the process seriously and demonstrating a commitment to doing their best.

**Subject Selections - Upper School 2015**

**Current Year 11 students**
Subject selection information for current 11 students will be distributed to students over the next couple of weeks. It is important that all students carefully consider their choices for 2015. Results in Semester 1 2014 need to be taken into account in the decision making process. **It is important that students understand that if they do not complete Year 11 with a C grade average, and do not make significant changes to their subject selections for Year 12, they may be required to repeat Year 11 in 2015.** Students who select high charge courses must be up-to-date with their current charges and may be required to pay a deposit before being offered a place in the course. It is essential that students meet submission deadlines; failure to do so may result in students not having access to the full range of courses.

**Current Year 10 students**
The subject selection process for Year 10 students will commence later this term and continue into early Term 3. We will be implementing an on-line course selection program with this group; parents and students will still have the opportunity to meet with course counsellors if they wish.

The current Year 10 students will be entering Upper School under a new Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) model. As such, it is very important that as many parents as possible attend the Year 10 Parent Information Evening on Tuesday June 24 at 6:30pm in Building 32 at Joondalup ECU. [http://www.woodvale.wa.edu.au/about-us/newsletters/2014/ joondalup-ecu-parking-map/view](http://www.woodvale.wa.edu.au/about-us/newsletters/2014/joondalup-ecu-parking-map/view)

This information evening will cover:
- the new WACE requirements;
- Woodvale Secondary College Upper School Offerings;
- the course selection process; and
- what students and parents can expect in Upper School.

It is incredibly important that parents and students actively engage with this process and students choose courses in which they are likely to flourish.

Kristy Watson
Associate Principal
Year 11 Report
Congratulations on finishing the first upper school exam period. What a busy time we have all had – students sitting exams and staff marking them. For many, the exams will be a clear indication of the work that they have put in during the last 15 weeks as well as an indicator of what might need to be done over the next 15 weeks of Semester 2. A number of students have realised that in order to get the results that they desire in both ATAR and non-ATAR courses, it requires a lot of hard work both at school and at home.

The Semester begins as soon as school returns after the exam period and then there will be another holiday break. It is important that students start the term well as any marks missed will be difficult to make up during the second half of the year.

The student council is in the process of designing the 2015 Leaver’s Jackets and I hope that it will finalised over the next week or so with a final cost being available as soon as possible. The 2014 jacket was $115 and I hope to be able to keep it around the same price. I would also like get the order forms and sizes completed by the end of term so that the jackets can be distributed before the time the Year 11s leave in Term 4.

Mike D’Esposito
Year 11 Coordinator

Year 10 Report
Try A Trade
A number of our Year 10 students have recently been fortunate to have participated in the Try A Trade program at Trades North Clarkson which was organised by Ms Francis, Mrs Zekovic and Mrs Jarvis. Fourteen of our students were selected to be involved in this program and test their skills in various trades for three days. The students who were keen to tackle this challenge included: Jayden, Tyson, Hemi, Koby, Chandler, Tyson, Sam, Ryan, Bayley, Jacob, Joe, Yosi, Scott and Billy who enthusiastically responded to the challenges of coping with early starts for three days. Their dedication and keen attitude to learn beyond the school environment was commendable.

During the course of the program students managed to try their skills at bricklaying, plastering and tiling. Day one and the bricklaying skills seemed to be enjoyed the most by the students. Day two and a day spent plastering was also a positive experience for the boys. Day three required the boys to cut to size, glue and tile an area with the name of the college also proved engaging. To conclude the course, the students met Scott from Careers in Construction who presented an informative presentation about the Building Industry and how the students could maximise their success in a booming and successful industry. This information was highly beneficial and allowed the students to ask Scott questions about the Industry and various pathways they could take to reach their goals.

The facilities at Trades North are amazing and the staff who spent time teaching the students various skills were incredibly knowledgeable and helpful. It was also pleasing to have one staff member say: “We have had many students come through here but your students have shown respect right from the start. You have a great bunch of kids.” We hope that the students gained valuable knowledge and skills from this excursion and wish them all the very best of luck when they finally make a choice in career.

Kathy Jarvis and Tara Zekovic-Bosnjak
Year 10 Coordinators

Congratulations
Gold Intercultural Learning (GIL) offer a scholarship to Year 10 and Year 11 WA students for travel to Japan for 2 months studying at a local Japanese high school and staying with a host family.

The students will attend regular classes alongside local students and participate in after-school club activities. Students may be placed in a year level lower than their normal grade in Australia; this allows a chance for the student to keep up in class. Students will also receive regular Japanese language and cultural lessons that will help them settle into their environment and build on their existing skills.

This expenses paid scholarship was awarded to Scarlett H, a most worthy Year 10 student. Congratulations to Scarlett!!
Home Economics

This term has been extremely busy for the Home Economics staff and students. Certificate I and II Hospitality students have been involved in running coffee mornings and cafes. They have also been involved with the 5000 meals project where the Certificate II students have produced some 625 meals so far for Foodbank to distribute to people in need. We plan on producing 1000 meals as part of the project.

This project not only involves the production of meals for the needy but also an awareness of giving back to the community. Students are also learning about the importance of safe food handling along with packing laws and regulations. The students have also been treated to Master classes by two up and coming young chefs as part of the Future Now Ambassadors Program.

Due to upper school being on exam break, Year 10 Easy Entertaining classes have had the opportunity to use the Hospitality centre to plan, prepare and serve a three course dinner for their families. It was a pleasure to watch the students develop their skills and gain confidence during this very busy and challenging task. Apart from parents enjoying a night off from cooking and cleaning up, the comments we received from parents about the night included how much they enjoyed seeing the children working as a team and gain confidence during the function. With one comment being “I loved seeing the smile on their face as they succeed in their chosen area of study.” It also gave parents a chance to see and experience our fabulous Hospitality centre.

The Year 8s have been busy preparing morning and afternoon teas for parents. The students have produced a range a sweet and savoury treats that have been served to guests.

The Year 12 childcare students have been extremely busy with running their playgroup functions and these will continue with Year 11s for the rest of the year. This playgroup program is very well supported by community Mums and we constantly get phone calls at the start of each term enquiring about days and times for playgroup.