Year 10 –
The Year Ahead
It is the time of the year to think about subject selection for Year 11 next year. It is important for students to realise that subject selections in Year 11 are based on performance and not perceived ability. The Semester 1 Year 10 report is one of the crucial documents we use to ensure that student performance in Semester 1 Year 10 matches their ability so as to ensure appropriate subject choice counselling for subjects chosen in Year 11.

**Exams**

In Week 6 of Term 2, Year 10 students will be involved in a two day block of examinations. These examinations will be up to two hours in length in the four key learning areas of English, Humanities, Mathematics and Science. The exams are based on work covered over the full Semester 1.

The College holds exams for students for three reasons – to build capacity in all students to manage challenges, to learn to work hard towards meeting them and to prepare those students heading for a university pathway to practise the major form of assessment used by universities. Because of this, we make use of the Year 10 exam results to determine whether a student will be successful in Year 11 University pathway courses and we limit student enrolment in these courses based on achievement of minimum results (prerequisites) in the Year 10 exams.
You can support your child through this challenging school transition phase by encouraging them to do at least two-three hours of homework a night, five days a week. They need to understand the difference between completing an assignment or finishing off a direct task and study. Study means to go over your notes, take notes from texts/Moodle/Internet and make mind maps to retain the information. It really helps if the student is not distracted by mobile phones or social networking during this time – put the devices at the charging table in the house at this time. By first semester Year 10 we are expecting students to be able to focus for two hour blocks under examination conditions. For this reason it is vital that parents support their child by ensuring they can focus for increasing blocks of time without distractions. They must train to achieve this vital skill.

Parents can also support their children by ensuring they get at least eight hours of sleep every night. Research has shown that removing mobiles and switching off technology in the bedroom has led to significant improvements in adolescent sleep patterns and consequent improvement in school results. Research also tells us that students should not work more than six hours in part time employment if they are in10ding tertiary pathways.

Further information about helping your child with homework time can be accessed from the webpage listed above.
Pre-requisites

Students and Parents will need to read the Year 11 course pre-requisites. Listed on the College website under Student Services – Year 10 are the required standards (pre-requisites) for each Year 10 subject that students are expected to achieve at the end of the first semester in order to be recommended to study specific subjects in Year 11. As well as academic performance, we look at the overall profile of the student’s performance in all subjects including, work ethic, attendance and behaviour in order to judge course suitability. **Students will not be offered entry into subjects next year if they haven’t achieved the subject pre-requisite.**

Note: achieving a pre-requisite may not guarantee a place in a subject because we may have too many students for the number of places in a class. Students will be placed based on performance and fit with other subjects they have chosen on the timetable. Also, if students don’t achieve the pre-requisites by the end of Semester 1 they will have an opportunity to achieve the result by the end of the year, however; again class numbers will determine if vacancies are available. Students are put on a waiting list in these circumstances.

There will be a second **Year 10 Information Night** for parents on 23 June to explain the process of course selection and approval. Other activities occurring in the next weeks are listed below.
Note – Yr10 subject grades aren’t as useful at determining success in university pathway courses as much as Yr10 exam results. Why? The graph below is for Yr11 Physics students. Along the top line of the graph are all students who scored an A for Science in Sem 1 Yr10. The results along the horizontal are Yr11 Physics marks. Note the students to the left of the graph – students got an A in Year 10 and also got less than 50% for Yr11 Physics.
This time the Yr10 exam result has been graphed against the Yr11 Physics result. There is a much better correlation.
Know the minimum requirements to receive a WACE in 2018:
(this will be explained in more detail at the second parent evening late Term 2)

- demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and a minimum standard of numeracy based on the skills regarded as essential for individuals to meet the demands of everyday life and work in a knowledge-based economy. (OLNA or Band 8 NAPLAN)
- complete at least four units of an English course post Yr10 and studied over at least two years.
- complete a minimum of 20 units or equivalents – units are 6 months in length. Woodvale students complete either 22 or 24 units or equivalents.
- complete four or more Year 12 ATAR courses or complete a Certificate II or higher.
- achieve 14 C grades in Year 11 and Year 12 units, including at least six C grades in Year 12 units.
Year 11 Subject Selection Process

Step 1
In early Term 2, students will be offered information about future career ideas by their Health education teachers and students will be given selection information at assemblies.
Step 2

• Through English classes, teachers will deliver a program of work covering WACE and post-school options including Uni, TAFE and employment.
• The Year 11 Course Selection Handbook will be available from Week 9 Term 2 – This will be housed on the school webpage and in Moodle.
Step 3

• Parent Information Night
  
  Tuesday June 21 - Week 9 Term 2

• Woodvale staff will provide information concerning Year 11, further study, admission criteria etc.
Step 4

Formal reports with subject grades and exam results will be provided to the students in the last week of Term 2 so that parents and students can consider the information during the holidays.
Step 5

Parent Teacher Interview Day

**Wednesday July 27 – Week 2 Term 3 ...**

Parents can book interviews with teachers to discuss the Semester 1 report, exam results, work habits etc.
Step 6 and 7

• Draft **course selections** need to be submitted for next year

  **Friday July 22 – Week 1 Term 2.**

• Counselling staff will then look at these alongside Semester 1 reports and exam results to determine appropriateness of courses chosen

• If required, individual counselling interviews with select students/parents will occur on

  **August 2 & 3 - Week 3 Term 3.**
Step 8 and 9

• All final course selection sheets due on Friday August 5 – Week 3 Term 3.

• Students applying for INSTEP need to submit an application and sit an interview – Week 4 Term 3
Step 10

• During the timetabling process some students will be asked to re-select another course.

• Confirmation of Course enrolment will occur early Term 4.

• Semester 2 Exams – late Term 4

Please note, the viability of running a course next year will depend on the number of students selecting it and other whole school issues. The fact that a course is initially offered doesn’t guarantee it will definitely ‘run’. Also, students may not be placed into a course because the classes are full or two choices occur at the same time on the timetable.
Year 11 Subject Selections Summary

Students are encouraged to ask their teachers about Year 11 courses and even seek out their recommendations. The main steps in the process are:

1. In early Term 2, students will be offered information about future career ideas by their Health education teachers and students will be given selection information at assemblies.
2. Students will be taken through the selection process with their English classes in Weeks 9 and 10 of Term 2. During this time, each student will have access to online Subject Selection Handbook giving details of all courses and senior school rules for selection.
3. Tuesday 21 June: Yr 10 Parent Information Night where Woodvale staff present information.
4. Sem 1 reports will be given to students on 29 June. Exam results and grades will be provided.
5. Wednesday 27 July: Parent/Teacher Interview Evening where parents can make appointments to speak with their child’s teachers.
6. Friday 22 July: Draft Year11 selection sheets submitted via online system.
7. Tuesday & Wednesday 2/3 August: Counselling sessions organised for parents of select students - parents and students can meet with a subject selection counsellor to discuss final choices.
8. Friday 5 August final selection submitted.
9. Thursday & Friday 11/12 August: INSTEP interviews held.
10. Confirmation of selection choices will be provided to students in Term 4. Note, simply selecting a course won’t guarantee a placement in the course. Courses only run if sufficient students select the course. Also, some courses fill quickly and students have to be placed onto a waiting list.