Dear Parents/Caregivers, Staff and Students

After taking Long Service Leave in Term 2, I am very happy to be back at Wirreanda. Although we were on the move and fairly hectic while we were away, I kept up-to-date with what was happening at Wirreanda through Facebook and Twitter. The term was clearly very busy and successful in terms of student learning, learner wellbeing, staff training and extra-curricular activities.

I would like to sincerely thank our staff for their work and commitment during the term. In particular, I would like to acknowledge Zoe Christopher for her great work as Principal, Caroline Fishpool for her excellent leadership as Deputy Principal and Rhoni McFarlane, who did a fantastic job in the Senior Leader role. Caroline is currently on Long Service Leave until the end of Week 6, after which Zoe will take leave for the remainder of the term. Rhoni will continue in her Senior Leader role during Term 3. Ashleigh Golding will continue her fine work as Coordinator of The Unit and Sally Nadebaum will be in the position of Senior Leader, replacing Shane Cunningham while he is on leave for 5 weeks. I would also like to thank Dan Gale for his excellent work as Year 8 Coordinator while Andrew Attwell-Gill was overseas competing in an International Ironman Competition.

We are fortunate to have many very capable staff at Wirreanda. When leaders take leave, it provides opportunities for other staff to gain leadership experience, and this builds the capacity of our school. I am very excited about the work we have started on Restorative Practices. Restorative Practices is about creating a culture based on respectful relationships, communication, personal responsibility, fairness and shared understandings. Creating and maintaining culture involves all groups within our school community – students, staff and families – and our approach will connect with each of these groups. We are working with Adam Voigt, a leader in Restorative Practices, to develop and implement a strategy for RP within our school. He has already led a full-day professional development session with teaching and non-teaching staff, worked with specific classes to model and give advice on strategies, and presented a session for parents. Adam is also working with our RP Planning Group. We are committed to developing Restorative Practices at Wirreanda, as a way of further enhancing our focus on positive psychology, effective relationships, and student achievement and wellbeing.

There are many innovative and exciting projects and events happening at Wirreanda that enhance our students’ learning and development as responsible and effective members of our community. Two examples of this are Projects Abroad and our Shoe Project. Later this term we have a group of 16 students heading off to Cambodia with Projects Abroad, supported by a number of teachers and other adults. This trip will give our students the opportunity to travel overseas, experience another culture and provide help and support for other people. The group has been led by staff members Camilla West, Jamie Maniero and Teresa Bruno, and has worked tirelessly to raise funds and prepare for the trip. They have been supported in this work by many people, both within our school and in the wider community.
Their most recent fundraising event was a highly successful Quiz Night, held in the Learning Hub, which attracted a great turn-out of families, friends, staff and students.

Our Shoe Project, *Walking Together Toward Reconciliation*, focused on the importance of recognizing our cultural backgrounds and building strong relationships within our school community and beyond. It was led and organized by our wonderful Aboriginal Education Team, Azra Rochester and Antony Yates, and culminated in a magnificent exhibition of shoe paintings created by staff and students, each representing a different culture. Another feature of this term, with an international flavor, will be the visit of *Koishikawa Secondary Education School* to Wirreanda. This year marks the seventh time that we have been involved in this visit and we are excited to meet our new group of students. As in previous years, Sue Bogumil, our International Education Manager, has done a tremendous job in working closely with our community to find Homestays for our Japanese visitors and to manage the program. Thank you to all of those families who have opened their homes so willingly to look after a Koishikawa student. Without your support these visits, which enrich the culture of our school, would not be possible. This year, Ralf Pirone and Alison Buse will be delivering the Koishikawa program and a group of enthusiastic and committed buddies will help the Koishikawa students learn and enjoy their time in Australia.

Course Counselling of students for 2015 will be the focus for much of weeks 1 to 4 this term, culminating in Course Selection Day on Thursday 14th August. Student information sessions have been held for Year 10 and 11 students and a well-attended Parent Information Night took place on Wednesday 30th July in the Learning Hub. Making the appropriate subject choices needs to be based on a range of information regarding career pathways and SACE requirements and a wide range of people and resources is available to support students and families. Please contact the school if you need further information or support.

We are very proud of our performing arts program at Wirreanda and our recent Music Night showcased, once again, the talents of our music students and their teachers. The Music Night, held on Thursday July 24th, was organized and run by Mel Duluk, with support from Tash Thornton and Vasily Mouzakitis. Special thanks also to Brett Whittaker who assisted and performed with the Boys’ Choir. We had many families in attendance to experience a range of excellent performances.

We look forward to sharing a positive and productive term with you at Wirreanda Secondary School.

Regards

Tony Lunniss
Principal

**FUTURE EVENTS:**

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<tr>
<td>Mon 18 – Fri 22 August</td>
<td>Science Week</td>
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<td>Fri 22 August</td>
<td>Due Date for all Course Selections</td>
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<td>Mon 1 – Wed 3 September</td>
<td>Year 10 Outdoor Education Camp</td>
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<td>Thu 4 September</td>
<td>Year 11/12 Music Night 7pm Drama space</td>
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<td>Mon 1 September</td>
<td>Finance Meeting 6 pm Governing Council Meeting 7pm</td>
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<td>Mon 8 September</td>
<td>School Closure Day Show Day</td>
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<td>Tue 9 September</td>
<td>Staff Conference – Student Free Day</td>
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<td>Tue 16– Fri 19 September</td>
<td>Year 11 Outdoor Education Camp</td>
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<td>Fri 19 September</td>
<td>Parent Newsletter distributed</td>
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<td>Mon 22 September</td>
<td>Projects Abroad depart for Cambodia</td>
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DECD STRATEGIC PLAN 2014 -2017  
NEW PLAN TO GUIDE OUR SCHOOLS
Helping young South Australians to achieve their best and to be healthy and safe are the priorities of our department’s new strategic plan.

The Department for Education and Child Development’s Strategic Plan 2014-2017 outlines how we will make our public education system even stronger over the next four years. The plan identifies six priority areas that seek to improve learning achievement, health and wellbeing, child safety, community engagement and timely access to services.

Our Chief Executive Tony Harrison says: “Our immediate priority is to lift the standard of service provided within our organisation and to the community. “We will strive for excellence, to earn trust, to build and strengthen relationships — especially with children and young people, their parents, carers and the community. “We will involve communities in decisions that affect them. Above all, we will listen,” Mr Harrison says.

Our school looks forward to working with you as we bring this new plan to life.

For more information, visit www.decd.sa.gov.au/strategicplan

WALKING TOWARDS RECONCILIATION MULTICULTURAL ART PROJECT EXHIBITION
Azra Rochester, Aboriginal Community Education Officer
At the end of Term 2 we saw the culmination of the Walking Towards Reconciliation Multicultural Art Project. The program had students participate in cultural presentations from staff and paint pairs of canvas shoes to represent different cultures and countries. The exhibition was an overwhelming success. We had presentations from both staff and students regarding the success and outcomes of the program, including an iMovie documentation.

We also had a range of Special guests including Ms Amanda Rishworth Federal Minister for Kingston, Ms Lorraine Rosenberg Mayor of Onkaparinga City Council, Mr Regg Ingram Aboriginal Cultural Consultant, Mrs Kerry Oates representing Ms Katrine Hildyard Minister for Reynell.

The students from the VET course catered and provided a fantastic arrangement of finger foods for our esteemed guests.

The Aboriginal Education Team would like to thank leadership staff for their support; teachers for donating both time and energy with assisting to present after school; parents, staff, and guests for attending our exhibition and the students for putting in hours of work both during and after school.

When we ran this program, we thought there would be a number of outcomes:
• Our students would authentically learn about cultures, countries and languages from around the world
• These would be enriched relationships between students and staff
• There would be Reconciliation between students of all cultural backgrounds
• Students would achieve a deep understanding around why bullying / harassment is so bad
• Students would be challenged

But we also had three unexpected outcomes:
We had students who would usually not agree or get along, spending time together, learning about each other and their culture, and really enjoying themselves.
We also had students going through a difficult time finding refuge in this project. Making and creating helped them deal with whatever issues they might be experiencing. It gave them a coping mechanism. Overall the project was an overwhelming success - stay tuned for the auction of the shoes. All funds raised will go to supporting our students. I would like to leave you with one final thought. “It’s amazing what we can achieve when we share who we are.”

SPINE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA – SCOLIOSIS
Scoliosis (curvature of the spine) is an important health problem for adolescents. Please visit the website www.scoliosis-australia.org for more information and to download an information brochure.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS
The Learner Wellbeing Centre is urgently in need of good second hand uniforms, particularly windcheaters for both the middle and senior school. They can be brought to the Learner Wellbeing Reception Area.

VOLUNTEERS IN THE CANTEEN
Sue Bogumil, Community Liaison Officer
The school is still looking for parent or community volunteers to help in our canteen. We have recently lost a number of long term volunteers due to family and work commitments and we need some extra help either once a week or fortnight. Please call me for more information on 8329 7220 or at Sue.Bogumil831@schools.sa.edu.au Your support would be greatly appreciated.

THE HAPPINESS CYCLE
Dan Gale, Year level Leader
On Friday 8th August, 29 of our students joined over 150 students from other local schools to be a part of The Happiness Cycle. The Happiness Cycle is a Bicycle Network initiative aimed at increasing physical activity in teenage students across the country. As part of the day the students assembled a bicycle that when completed they were able to keep. Students were instructed on road riding, bike maintenance and safety equipment. Wirreanda Secondary School students, Sophie and Shane represented the school as state and national BMX champions along with Sam Willoughby, the current World Champion.

Wirreanda students having finished putting their own bikes together with their class mates Shane and Sophie - Shane Aust U16 Champion, Sam Willoughby Australian and World Champion and Sophie SA Champion
PORT POWER VISITS
On the afternoon of Tuesday the 22nd July, Wirreanda Secondary School’s middle school students were visited by players from the AFL Port Adelaide Football Club. Players greeted staff and students, signed autographs and posed for numerous photos. Players highlighted and addressed topics such as health, dietary requirements, goal setting and resilience. To end the session the players opened up the forum and faced the heat by questions that any media press conference journalist would be impressed by.

NETBALL
Laura de Garis - Coach
On Tuesday the 29th of July, Wirreanda took two teams of keen netballers to the 8/9 and Open Boys knockout competition held at Blackwood High School. The first game was a big one – Wirreanda Open Boys against 2013’s reigning champions, Blackwood. The home team started strongly with height on their side and an aggressive, competitive streak. Second quarter saw the Wirreanda boys fighting back strong, with an even score going in to half time. Unfortunately, in the second half we lost state goal shooter, Clayton, to an ankle injury, and the boys couldn’t get past Blackwood’s rough defence and accurate shooters. The final score saw Wirreanda down by 15 goals. Special mention goes to Chris, not surprisingly, impressing everyone with his unbelievable vertical jump – pulling in intercepts left, right and centre. Also, Addison stepped up, leading the team from all positions on the court – impressive running and controlling of play from the school captain.
Heathfield then arrived for Game 2. Injuries meant we had to change the line-up, but the Wirreanda boys went out with all guns blazing. Having no break in between games, the fatigue was starting to show, but Alfredo kept spirits alive with his demanding voice on court, and all of the boys made an impressive fight to the end – finishing with a final score of 44-41, Heathfield’s way.
Then it was time for the 8/9 team – a nervous, but excited group of seven boys ready to give netball a go, facing the home side. They started strong and surprised themselves with excellent movement down the court. Unfortunately, plenty of fresh legs on the bench saw Blackwood boys powering through, leaving Wirreanda playing catch-up on the scoreboard. It was a 16-goal loss in the end, but a tough fight with positive support from the Open boys on the sideline. Special mentions to Jaiden, working very hard down both ends of the court, Brandon for powerful leads and passes, and Jake for running out a full game in Centre, with energy to spare.
Heathfield and Blackwood Open boys had an impressive fight at the end of the day, Heathfield coming out victorious and moving on to the next stage of the Open Boys competition. A great day was had by all; with all the boys proving that netball isn’t just for girls!

DIGITAL LEADERS
Zac and Riley
Year 9 Digital Leaders
On Tuesday Week 10 of last term, the Digital Leaders held a student run Professional Development session for teachers in conjunction with students from other classes who were showcasing the work they completed in the Learning Hub during its first term. This was designed to help teachers implement the use of various technologies and teaching and learning methodologies in the classroom.
The workshops/sessions covered a plethora of technologies, including Google Drive and Docs, Photoshop, movie making and even Twitter as a way of professional learning and connecting.

Students also showed off some of their work:
Geography classes showed their video news reports (which also used our new Green Screen in our Media Room) and infographics; Health and Tech shared their
stop-motion animations and some senior students showed how they had created a video teaching the English alphabet for Stage 2 Child Studies.

Overall it was an interesting and informative afternoon with staff saying that they really enjoyed having the students teach them! These concepts will help consolidate students' learning in many ways, including using the cloud to keep work, Photoshop as a means of everyday use, movie making as a form of presentation and Twitter to communicate.

I believe that using these techniques of teaching will bolster students’ learning and presenting abilities. Find out more by visiting http://learninghubwss.wordpress.com/

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

- **Science Alive** – Goyder Pavilion, Adelaide Show Ground. 9-10 August 2014 9am – 4pm on both days. Adults $15/ Concession $10/ Free for U18
- **Does your child have a sleep problem?** The Child and Adolescent Sleep Clinic in the School of Psychology at Flinders University is running treatments for adolescents aged 13 to 20 years who are unable to fall asleep and experience difficulty in waking up early for school. Please call 8201 7587 for more information or visit casc.enquiries@flinders.edu.au
- **Marion Learning Festival** (Friday 29 July – Monday 1 September). For more information please call 83756750 or email tracey.hornsblow@marion.sa.gov.au
- **Next Generation Taekwondo** World Class new Training Studio opening in Trott Park August, 2014. Toddlers, Children, Adults & Families welcome Call 1300 656 065 www.ngtkd.com

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Wirreanda Secondary @WirreandaSS 1/07/2014
Students leading staff PD #digitalleaders #DL #twitter

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Players Wanted Southern District “Stingrays”

Write the story of your story and try out to become part of the 906th graders erotic club in the southern area. The emphasis this season is to strengthen our already strong U18 squad and continue to develop the skills of our younger squad. Coaching will be

provided by our 1st 1 and 2 coaching staff. Trials will be held on the 14th & 15th of May at Maryborough Vale 26A. A full list of pre season dates can be found on our website.

“SUCCESS BREEDS SUCCESS”

Contact: Steve Miller
e-mail: stingraysmail@gmail.com
Website: www.stingrays.com.au