Dear Parents, Caregivers, Staff and Students

One of the key focus areas at Wirreanda over the last few years has been Student Leadership and providing opportunities for our students to be involved in a range of activities and experiences, both within and outside the school. Our purpose is to develop students’ personal, social and leadership skills, as well as help students understand that they can influence and make a difference in their community and the wider world.

This year is the third year of our School Captains and Vice Captains and Cara, Ben, Bailey and Angus are continuing the tradition of providing excellent leadership for our student body. Last year was the first year we took students to Cambodia, something we plan to do every two years, and their experience and achievements were outstanding. Our Reconciliation group continue to do excellent work, this year in a project commemorating 100 years of the ANZAC tradition. The leadership of our House Captains was evident on Sports Day.

Another reason for our focus in this area is that involvement in leadership and extra-curricular activities has been shown to improve students’ engagement with school and their performance at school.

Recently, we have had a large number of students involved in leadership development activities, including:

- Southern Suburbs Youth Roundtable, organised through our Federal Member of Parliament, Amanda Rishworth – provided an opportunity for our student leaders to have a say about issues that interest and affect young people in the south.
- Year 8 Camps at Woodside – School Captains and Vice Captains discussed student leadership with our new Year 8 students.
- Peer Support at Year 8 Camps – Students trained in Peer Support spent a day with the Year 8 classes they have been working with, supporting activities and building relationships.
- Premier’s Southern Youth Forum at Port Noarlunga – an opportunity for a group of students to raise and discuss issues and areas of concern with the Premier, Jay Weatherill, at an event hosted by our Local Member of Parliament, Katrine Hildyard.
- St Peters Leadership Conference – our Captains and Vice Captains participated, for the second year, in the annual student leadership conference held at St Peters College.
- The United Nations Youth SA Camp/Conference, held at Nunyara Conference Centre – three of our students were among 90 young people from across Adelaide exploring and discussing global issues affecting future generations.
- Commonwealth Day Celebration at Pulteney Grammar – two of our students represented Wirreanda at an event to celebrate the 40th anniversary of PNG independence. Our students had the opportunity to be part of the formal occasion and to interact with other student leaders and Commonwealth dignitaries.

These events and opportunities have all taken place during the first eight weeks of Term 1. We are committed to providing our students with opportunities to develop leadership and to learn and contribute, both inside and outside the school.

I look forward to sharing further examples of our students’ leadership with you during the year.

Kind regards

Tony Lunniss
Principal
FUTURE EVENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 April</td>
<td>Open Night 4pm – 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 3 April</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6 April</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8 April</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews 3.30pm – 8.00 pm Early Dismissal – 2.30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 10 April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1 Early Dismissal - 1.15pm</td>
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<td>Monday 27 April</td>
<td>First Day of Term 1 for all Students.</td>
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<td>Monday 11 May – Friday 15 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN testing</td>
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WAR MEMORIAL PROJECT
Azra Rochester

Our War Memorial project is progressing well. On Friday 13 March we had the privilege of a guest speaker, Flight Sergeant Scott, come in and talk about his active duty in countries including Afghanistan and Malaysia.

We are also looking forward to hearing from Darren Hicks who has served for twelve years in the Australian Army. On Friday 20 March students spent time at the Morphett Vale RSL talking to members who served during several wars. Students will be exhibiting their work early next term and have been supported through this project by the State RSL and The Army Museum of South Australia.

The two fundraising events below will help our students go to Canberra to advocate for the establishment of a National Memorial to the Aboriginal men and women who served in the Australian Army. Tickets can be brought from the Finance Office. Get in quick before they all sell out!
The Year 8 Camp 2015 started the year in an exciting fashion for all Year 8 students and staff. What a wonderful week was had up at Woodhouse with Camp 1 and Camp 2. It is always a fantastic opportunity for students to build new friendships, deepen existing ones and for staff to see what great talents our new Year 8 cohort have.

With the addition of the Zipline to our camp program, students were kept busy participating in activities which included a rope challenge, bike challenge and an orienteering exercise. The camp ran smoothly and rostered student groups jumped into the kitchen with Ms De Garis on Camp 1 and Ms Cobiac on Camp 2 to cook up feasts of Spaghetti Bolognese with Garlic Bread, Baked Potatoes with fillings and the lunchtime sandwich bar. We had numerous night activities including video nights with popcorn, a quiz night and a night walk. We were very fortunate to have our School Captains and Vice Captains come and visit and share dinner, which was a buzz for students and staff.

Throughout the week, each of the groups collected images of their camp experience. These will be shown to each of the HG classes for editing and final selection to then be shared at assemblies, special events and to be displayed on the school monitor in the main front foyer. No doubt these images will provide all of the students with a selection of fond memories of their Year 8 camp experience.

Some comments from our students included:
“Camp was great because I was able to spend time with my friends”,
“I made lots of new friends”,
“I was able to try things I haven’t done before like the flying fox”.
“The food was great!”
“Camp was a lot of fun. There was always something to do!”
SPORTS DAY
Our 2015 Sports Day was held on Friday, March 6th. House teams led by their captains and house banners paraded out onto the oval to their chosen song before the House Captains and Vice Captains officially opened Sports Day. The official opening is done with the lighting of the cauldron, which gets bigger and better each year!

Students actively participated in a number of events across the day including track and field athletic events and novelty events. The staff vs student novelty relay and bike race is always a favourite and despite a great effort from the student teams, staff remained champions of these events.

A warm thank you to the large number of staff involved in organising and running the day and thanks also to the House Captains and Vice Captains for their hard work and leadership. Very big congratulations to (Wheeler) House for winning the 2015 Sports Day Shield, their first since 2003!

Records on the day
- U15 Girls Shot Put Layla 10.88m
- U14 Boys 200m Dane 26.57sec
- U16 boys 200m Connor 00.24.61sec
- U16 Boys 100m Connor 00.11.88 and Brandon 00.11.62sec
- Open Boys High Jump Reed 01.86m

Age Champions 2015
- U13 Female Isabella (Jonker) 50 points
- U13 Male Ophir (Wheeler) 58 points
- U14 Female Tamya (Osborne) 43 points
- U14 Male Constantinos (Osborne) and Dane (Wheeler) 40 points each
- U15 Female Layla (Jonker) 68 points
- U15 Male Caleb (Wheeler) 40 points
- U16 Female Leah (Wheeler) 36 points
- U16 Male Brandon (Jonker) 56 points
- Open Female Paige (Osborne) 46 points
- Open Male Michael (Osborne) and Reed (Jonker) 40 points each

HOUSE RESULTS:
Wheeler 1535
Jonker 1398
Osborne 1052
INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY
Adrian Tamlin
Design & Technology Coordinator
Following the school’s direction to promote innovative technology, Wirreanda Secondary School recently purchased a 32 watt Laser Cutter. The unit is about the size of a modern photo copier and is connected to an air extraction system which removes any fumes from the cutting process.

The process begins with creating files or drawings which are made using the industry standard software, Adobe Illustrator. Images or hand drawing may be scanned and opened in this program. Once complete, the file is transferred to the computer operating the laser cutter.

The unit is very safe for students to use. Laser light is reflected and cannot damage eyesight. A cover over the unit has safety switches that will stop operation immediately it is lifted. This type of laser cutter is able to cut a variety of materials, ranging from paper, cardboard, timber, acrylic through to fabrics and even food such as a pastry sheet. While it will not cut metal, it can engrave it.

Laser cutting equipment is just one example of emerging technology that is expected to become commonplace in our students’ future lives. We believe that it is important to expose our students to 21st Century manufacturing skills.

In the past 2 weeks the Design and Technology faculty and Home Economics Department have been training in the use of a Laser Cutter. Staff have become proficient in the use of Adobe Illustrator, the use of the Laser Cutter and developing project application for the Laser Cutter. Very soon Wirreanda students will be bringing projects home to you that they have created using this amazing technology.

FINANCE OFFICE OPENING TIMES:
Monday to Friday
8:00 am to 11:30 am

THE LEUKAEMIA FOUNDATION’S WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE
Year 8 student Kayley and Year 9 student Ariiana have shaved their heads for The Leukaemia Foundation’s World’s Greatest Shave. Both girls have friends who have been diagnosed with cancer and they wanted to show their support by shaving their head and raising money for this wonderful cause. Ariiana said having a friend diagnosed with cancer makes you realise how quickly life can change.
We are very proud of both girls.

KOISHIKAWA HOMESTAY FAMILIES 2015
Sue Bogumil, International Student Programs Manager
Thank you to those families who have already agreed to host a Japanese student for 10 days in August but we are still looking for more homestay families. This is a fabulous event for our school and
one that we have been involved in for 7 years. If you host a student from Koishikawa Secondary Education School your child will also be involved in a specialised program that we run at the school including 2 excursions. They will not attend normal classes for those ten days. It is a chance for your child to make friends with a student from another country, and in many cases, a friend that they will continue to have for many years. Many of the students who were involved in the first program 7 years ago continue to be in contact with their Japanese ‘buddy’. Many have also had the opportunity to visit Japan and some Japanese students have returned to visit their Australian Family.

There is financial support to assist with the costs involved in hosting a student. We will be holding an information evening on Monday 11 May at 6pm in the Board Room. Please contact me on 8329 7240 or at Sue.Bogumil831@schools.sa.edu.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES:
Wanted Ladies for Tennis
Players for Southern Districts Mid-Week Tennis Club
Our club consists of approx. 80 ladies playing tennis the year round at the Morphett Vale Tennis Courts. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
All ages / All standards
Please phone: 0409678078 if you are interested.