Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another exciting school term. I hope you all enjoyed your breaks.

Last term was another excellent term for the school, with our students taking part in many community-based programs as well as continuing to produce high-quality work recognised by SDEHS.

Last term, Year 9 and 10 students took part in the Premier’s Volunteering Challenge at a local nursing home. Older students also participated in the volunteering, designing a garden and offering technological assistance (such as setting up Facebook accounts) for the elderly. The school is very proud of our students for giving up their time to help others in the community.

We also continued our fitness program with regular visits to ProTeen gym and a personal trainer from YMCA Caringbah visiting the school to run ‘boxercise’ lessons. These lessons proved to be quite popular, with more students participating than ever before.

This term, to continue our involvement in radio, the school has invited The School of Radio to train our students how to run their very own internet radio station. This is an excellent opportunity for any students wishing to begin a career in broadcasting services. Woniora FM will be available to listen to on our school website every Thursday morning.

Last term, our students worked with professional artists from Shopfront Theatre to create several pieces of art. The art was then exhibited at the theatre on Harmony Day, where our students met with students from four other schools in the local community to create more art for the Harmony Day celebrations.

This term, the NAPLAN is being conducted for Years 7, 8, and 9 during May. Good luck to all students, and we know that your work with Vicki and Roxanne in the literacy program and also Rani in the numeracy program will pay off.

We look forward to another successful term working with students and their families.

Regards,

Craig Smith
Principal
Sydney Distance Education Awards
Term 1, 2012

Mathematics Awards: Fiona x2, Marlon x3, Michael.H x1

English Awards: Maddison x1, Nathan x1, Amy x3, Kirah x2, Marlon x2, Michael.M x1, Jasper x4, Karly x2, Spike x1

Science Awards: Riley x1, Maddison x7, Amy x5, Kirah x5, Marlon x2, Michael.H x9, Jaime x1, Spike x1, Roy x1, Bradley x1

HSIE Awards: Maddison x7, Christian x3, Justin x1, Amy x4, Kirah x1, Marlon x1, Michael.H x3, Jaime x1, Jasper x6, Karly x2, Spike x1

Sport Lifestyle & Rec: Dylan x1, Aziza x1

Retail: Dylan x1, Fiona x1

Chemistry: Christian x2

Commerce: Karly x1

Language Awards: Michael.M x2

PDHPE: Maddison x3, Justin x1, Dylan x1, Kirah x1, Marlon x1, Michael.M x1, Jaime x1

Visual Design: Jasper x3

Economics: Christian x1

Early Childhood: Elisabethany x1

Textiles: Kirah x1,

Visual Arts: Amy x2, Marlon x1

Photographic Digital Media: Jasper x2

Bronze Award: Michael.H, Jasper, Amy, Kirah & Marlon

Principal’s Commendation: Christian x2

Woniora FM

This term, the school is beginning a new vocational program in the area of radio. Selected students will participate in the running of a new radio station, Woniora FM. The station will be run on a Thursday morning for two hours, and will be available through our school website. We have invited The Sydney Radio School to help us run the station. They will be teaching our students the skills needed to successfully run a radio station, such as news reading and writing, audio production and recording, panel operation, show producing, and other necessary skills. Additionally, the writing of articles to read on the radio will support our literacy program.

Community Supporting Youth Network

ATTENTION: Parents & School Students!
Welcome to the Community Supporting Youth Network.

Having trouble finding a community and/or youth service? Sick of wasting time searching the Net for the one that suits your needs?

www.communitysupport.org.au

Visit the website or for more info contact Stephanie @ CBCC on:
P: 9773 4933
E: Stephanie@careerconnections.net.au
The Monday fitness program continued at Woniora Road School in term 1 with some visits to ProTeen Gymnasium as well as school-run fitness sessions at Empress Reserve. The fitness program also saw boxing lessons incorporated for the first time with Anna, from YMCA Caringbah, visiting to provide six ‘boxercise’ lessons to the students. The sessions quickly became popular and it was great to see some students participating in the fitness program for the first time. The classes involved a mixture of aerobic exercises whilst learning different boxing techniques and combinations/routines. The classes will continue in term 2.
Alchemy at Shopfront Theatre

Alchemy was an art project run by Shopfront Theatre, a month-long art making process that culminated in a day of art activities (and a nice lunch) at the theatre. The day itself was a part of Harmony Day, a day which celebrates cultural diversity in Australia. Our students worked with professional artists and students from four other schools in the community and to create artwork using photography, drawing, animation, painting and drama. The artwork ranged from figures created by using collages made from video and magazines, shadow puppets for the Harmony Day centrepiece lantern, and autonomous art (created by allowing the subconscious mind control the hand) using chemistry and invisible ink writing. The project aimed to foster the ethos of Harmony Day and the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.


Volunteer Program

At the nursing home, it’s my job to introduce the elderly to the internet, specifically Facebook. This is difficult for some seniors as they either don’t understand it or don’t feel confident with it. Some of the elderly I feel just need someone to talk to... and that is what I do. Its alright...

By Nathan

Every Friday, our school goes to a nursing home and we help with the gardening. We do weeding, tidying up the garden and planting new plants. While we work a couple of the residents come out and watch. I have fun talking with them and seeing them enjoy watching us. One week me and another student picked flowers for the residents and we went around and gave them to the residents. I really enjoy volunteering at the nursing home because I like seeing the residents smiling when ever we come.

By Amy
Kirah has written an excellent short story for English, and Amy and Michael M. have once again shown their artistry with two pieces of art (on the next page). So, without further ado...

**The Letter**

Those windows were the saddest squares of light. The house was derelict, abandoned, quite dwarfed by the huge trees leaning over the roof. I sat in silence and examined Nana Bonni’s house as if I had never been there before. Today was the day before the removalists came to take her belongings and send them off to second hand stores and greedy, distant family members included in her will.

I missed her dearly, the once familiar face of my grandmother was fading as I desperately tried to remember every fine wrinkle, her warm smile and rosy cheeks. Suddenly, in the middle of deep reminiscence I heard what sounded like a shelf collapse behind the wall. I had never noticed the secret door; I expected to be stashing teapots and floral doilies. But what I found was rather strange, a vintage travel suitcase covered in stickers with humble slogans—“home is where your heart is” and “nothing warms your heart up like love.” I lugged the suitcase into the kitchen and anxiously unzipped the ancient bag. Among many brooches and small jewels were crumpled letters delicately tied in pastel ribbons. Stained by tea and coffee I could just make out the tiny butterflies and animals drawn in the corner, and beautiful handwriting that read:

*My Heart – 1962*

*We are thus far separated – but after all one mile is as bad as a thousand, - which is a great consolation to one who must travel six hundred before he meets you again. If it will give you any satisfaction - I am as comfortless as a pilgrim with peas in his shoes. Our daughter Barbara believes her mother died long ago and as much as it pains me to watch her grow up without a motherly figure I understand Beatrice would be overwhelmed with the knowledge of a biological sister and stepfather. Please write in return, the silence deeply pains me. This union is love, true love... a religion, which defies the loved one, whose life comes from devotion and passion, and for which the greatest sacrifices are made. You know where to find me darling, 7 Ecelstone Crest Tasmanian.*

*Love always,*

*Victor Joyce.*

I remained still, but my hands began to shake. Every letter began with “my dearest” or “my beauty” and ended with the same location. I paced back and forth around the room, procrastinating. Until in my haste I grabbed the keys and anxiously typed 7 Ecelstone Crest Tasmanian into the navigation system.

*By Kirah*
Student Work

‘Untitled’ by Amy

‘Splat’ by Michael M.

NAPLAN Testing

The annual National Assessment Program testing for Years 7 and 9 takes place from 15th—17th May. Students are tested nationally in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar, and punctuation) and numeracy.

For more information including FAQs, a parent brochure and past results, go to:

www.nap.edu.au

For more information about our service, contact:

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83-85 Woniora Road
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Woniora Road School
Mission Statement
To provide a positive, supportive and engaging learning environment by promoting quality educational, student well-being and transition opportunities in which all students can develop academically, socially and emotionally.

Woniora Road is a place of learning that values and develops each student’s unique talents and academic potential. The School community relationships are built on mutual respect, tolerance and understanding. We develop cooperative, social and problem solving skills for students to become life long learners, and encourage students to develop a sense of responsibility, personal worth and independence, so they are empowered to reach their full potential.

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