Welcome back everyone to term 2, I hope we all had a great Easter break and are refreshed to take on a new term.

We had an exciting term 1, with a long 11-week term, we were able to do a wide variety of exciting and engaging things. The students had the opportunity to visit Taronga Zoo as part of their environmental and arts studies, as well as a Harmony Day excursion at SDEHS. The term was jam-packed with study days, including a Geography field trip to Homebush, several Food Technology practical days, and English, Science, ICT, Chemistry and Physics study days.

The term finished on a high with an excellent “3 on 3” whole school basketball competition, which was organised by Marlon and Riley. It was a sensational way to end a busy term and congratulations to the winners, Team Shrek.

Our vocational programs continued to grow with students commencing TAFE and VET courses, as well as five students being involved with joint work experience opportunities with other schools at Coles and Bunnings.

This term, we are embarking on an Australian first. We have been lucky enough to secure a grant to run a Room 13 Arts Program, which is an artists in residence program. More information about the program is on page 2. We will also be establishing a student leadership team for greater student input into the decisions of the school. All the usual programs will be running: volunteering, yoga, horticulture, community radio and music therapy will be run fortnightly, as Joanne has lecturing commitments and a trip overseas to a conference in Vienna to talk about the research program conducted at our school. We are still awaiting the results to be published, but a sneak peak has indicated that music therapy has had some outstanding benefits for our students.

Please note the Annual School report for 2013 is now on our website. If you would like a copy, please let us know at the school.

Regards

Craig Smith
Woniora Road School and Athelstone Public School will be the first two schools in Australia to adopt the Room 13 model. The Room 13 model is an international arts program established at Caol Primary School in Scotland in 1994. It was instigated as an artist in residence program, offering a studio space for the artist to develop their own work and also engage with and encourage students to develop their own artistic skills and interests. Room 13 will give the students a space for independent exploration outside of the framework of the school curriculum.

The program has received three years fixed term funding through Arts New South Wales Fresh Air Residency Program. The aim is to establish a studio in the school, set up an artist in residence and enable students to develop their own management committee. The program will cover artist fees, resources for the space and also provide a modest production budget for an end of year event/exhibition.

Shopfront Youth Arts will provide project management to establish the studios and set up each management committee in collaboration with the lead teacher. Shopfront will also scope a range of artists for students to interview as guest artists in residence to work in the school across a school term.

Shopfront and the schools will work together to document and share the work of the students with the local community and also with the Room 13 network via blogs and other online forums. It is envisaged that across the 3 years and beyond both parties will look for opportunities for the students to market their work, and grow Room 13 as an enterprise model and ultimately look to sustain the studio beyond the 3 year life of the grant. We can’t wait to start!
## School Events and Excursions Calendar

### MAY 2014

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<td>26 09:30 - 14:00 Year 12 Modern History Study Day</td>
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### JUNE 2014

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<td>11 09:00 - 14:30 Year 11 Chemistry Study Day</td>
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<td>27 Last day of Term</td>
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### Save the Date: School Fund Raiser at Bunnings Warehouse Rockdale

Woniora Road School is holding a sausage sizzle BBQ at Bunnings Warehouse Rockdale on Saturday, the 21st of June to raise funds for the school camp. If any parents could donate an hour of their time to help out with the BBQ, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact the school if you are available to help.
Zoo Report

On Thursday the 10/04/2014 we went to Taronga Zoo. It was funny, we saw a monkey doing all sorts of things and we saw an elephant playing in the water, they looked like they were having fun. Most of the animals were asleep or being lazy. The bird show was really good. They flew over the top of us and did lots of cool tricks. The weather was cold and wet. It was raining the whole time we were there, but we still had lots of fun. On the way back to the bus, we went back up in a gondola. The view was amazing. I loved seeing all the animals and would love to work at the zoo some day.

Alecia Year 10

Harmony Day Report

When we arrived at Distance Ed for Harmony Day, we were put into groups, which was good because we got to interact with other students from different schools. There were a few different activities such as collage, making pottery and poetry writing.

We had a nice morning tea, and a sausage sandwich for lunch.

Paul B Year 10
**Geography Field Trip**

On the 3rd of April in term one, I went on a year eleven geography excursion to Sydney Bicentennial Park wetlands in Homebush Bay. Fellow Sydney Distance Education peers and I were guided by an education officer as we were led into the wetlands. We walked into the wetlands by boardwalks that were built to protect the mangroves from trampling - it really led us to sense what is really like to be in a wetland environment first-hand. We learnt about the impact of past and present land uses on the inter-tidal wetland environment at Homebush Bay, such as the reclamation work of nearby creeks and use of Bicentennial Park as a landfill site. These past uses have obviously had impacts on the natural wetland environment, and today it is a major conservation area. I learnt many new things about the wetlands environment and the day was a useful supplement for my wetlands field work task. I must say that I enjoyed it even though I was the only pupil from Woniora Road High School. I hope there will be more excursions for my other subjects this year.

*Angela Year 11*

**3 on 3 Basket Ball Competition**

On the last day of term, our school took part in a school-wide basketball tournament. The idea was conceived by Marlon and I with help from our principal Craig. The idea was inspired by our desire to bring a boom-box out to the playground at recess. It was then decided that this would lend itself well to a big B-ball tournament. So, as R’n’B’ hits of the 80s and 90s were loudly played, the students were divided into teams for 3 minute games of 3 on 3. Students showed great team spirit and positivity. Everyone had a great time, even those who did not take part. The tournament was won by team “Shrek” and was soon followed by a sausage sizzle. Prizes were then awarded to the winning team these included Westfield gift vouchers and Coles and McDonalds discounts.

It was such an overall success that we want to do it at the end of every term.

*Riley Year 12.*
Clean up Australia Day

It was an overcast day when 9 teenagers from Woniora Rd High School went down to Empress Park for Clean Up Australia Day. Paul, John, Emi, Marlon, Andonis, Nick, Michael and I went to Empress Park like it was a competition for who could clean up the most rubbish. We were all in groups as we went off from the starting line. Luckily my group won (Paul, John and myself) and by the time we all left the park it was looking much better than it did before we were there.

Finn Year 9.

On Clean Up Australia day we went to Empress reserve and cleaned all the rubbish and dead weeds. We worked in pairs, I worked with Marlon and we picked up rubbish from one corner of the park. Every one worked hard and filled a few bags full of rubbish. When we left the park it was all clean. Yeah the end!

Andonis Year 9.

Year 12 Update

Just a reminder to all parents that HSC exam timetable has been released and can be located at the Board of Studies Teaching and Educational Standards website (BOSTES), students personalised timetables can be accessed via Students Online. Students will be receiving their timetable and study and exam preparation fact sheets soon. Representatives from Kogarah Library have come to the school and spoken to all the senior students on the study facilities and support offered at the Library. All students received a brochure and support material. For parents, the school also produces a free booklet on tips and ideas to support your child while studying and preparing for the HSC. Please just ask at the front desk for a copy.
Cyber Safety : Parent Information

Woniora Road School is active in eliminating Cyber-bullying and the inappropriate use of social media. There are strict school and DEC policies when dealing with this issue.

As a school we have recently tackled this problem, via one on one student meetings and parent conversations. The school aims to embark on a series of lessons to promote the appropriate use of the internet and social media. These lessons are based on the DEC Digital Citizenship Program. The Digital Citizenship program has supports for teachers, students and parents.

It can be located at:

www.digitalcitizenship.nsw.edu.au/

As parents please assist us to support your children in the appropriate use of technology and please report any issues or concerns to the school, especially when it involves students from the school.

As well as the Digital Citizenship website, more detailed information on how to assist your child in the use of social media can also be found at the School A to Z website at http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cybersafety.

It has articles on: Keeping Kids safe Online, Keeping Facebook Private and Ten Cyber safety Tips for Parents.

Additional Parent Information Support

Additionally the Cybersmart website also provides activities, resources and practical advice to help young kids, teens and parents safely enjoy the online world. Developed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, Cybersmart is part of the Australian Government’s cybersafety program.

Link: http://www.cybersmart.gov.au

Commonsense Media also has lots of useful resources to help - from movie and game ratings to articles like this one on setting screen time limits that are realistic enough that your children will actually follow them.

Read the article here: http://bit.ly/1pBIfmk
**P&C Charity Ball**

**P&C Meeting Announcement**

The next P&C meeting is scheduled for week 6 Tuesday on the 03/06/2014 at Woniora Road School at 1.30pm. All are welcome, please just let the school know in advance if you are coming for catering purposes.

Thank you.
Drug Education and Prevention Workshops: hosted by St. George Youth Services

As part of the school curriculum and drug education programs the school will be conducting drug awareness and prevention workshops hosted by St. George Youth Services. The content of the workshops is in accordance with the DEC policies on drug education and the school has also requested student input into topics.

The workshops will be divided into boys and girls workshops and will be conducted on Tuesday the 27th of May and Tuesday the 3rd of June.

Youth workers will visit the school and lead discussions with students about the many issues surrounding drug and alcohol use. We'll be looking at alcohol and how it’s marketed to young women. We will compare alcohol ads to community service ads to get to the truth about excessive drinking and the associated risks. We’ll be looking at cannabis, including synthetic cannabis, and its short and long term effects—particularly mental health risks. Finally, we’ll look at alternatives to drug and alcohol use and practice some refusal skills.

If you would like more information about the day or do not wish your child to attend please contact the school.

St George Youth Services also runs a drug education program called READY (Resources & Education on Alcohol & Drugs for Youth). READY provides information and referral for young people aged 12-25 and their families who need support with alcohol/other drug issues.

READY also provides community education on drug and health related issues.

Parents, carers, and students are welcome to call them on 9556 1769, or to visit their website at http://www.stgeorgeyouth.org/ready/

Cannabis & Today’s Young Persons

Free Parent Workshop by St GEORGE Youth Services

Where? Parkview Bowling Centre
(next to Aquatic Leisure Centre) Cnr King Georges Rd & Percival St Penshurst

When? Tuesday 29th July 6.30 to 8.30 pm (Light Refreshments will be provided)

Presented by: Ngaio Chandler - Drug and Alcohol Youth Worker and Project Officer for the READY Project at St George Youth Services

for enquiries or bookings contact:
Traci Sii - YouthZone 9580 800 OR Traci.Sii@youthzone.com.au
Volunteering Program Art Work

As part of our regular Volunteering Program on Wednesdays the students have built a great rapport with the residents at Fairmount Nursing Home. The school has combined Volunteering and Art Curriculum studies in this program. Recently the students asked the residents what they liked and what was important to them in their life. The students then, in their regular Art classes represent these ideas and words into images, collaborating to produce the outstanding colourful Art work titled Tapestry of Traits.

Well done to all the students and our amazing Art Teacher Dushan.

Celebrating Student Success

Congratulations to those students who have demonstrated outstanding academic success this term. A special mention must go to our Year 12 Student Kirah who’s Assessment results have reflected her consistent efforts. In a cohort of 27 of students, at Sydney Distance Education H.S, Kirah achieved 1st place in a Biology Assessment task and 2nd place in an English Assessment task.

Congratulations Kirah!

For more information about our service, contact:
Craig Smith, Principal
Phone: 9580 6818
Fax: 9580 6376
Web: www.woniorard-s.schools.nsw.edu.au
Email: woniorard-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Address: Woniora Road School
83-85 Woniora Road
Hurstville, NSW 2220

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 School 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 lifelong learners, and encourage students to develop a sense of responsibility, personal worth, and independence, so they are empowered to reach their full potential.