NEWSLETTER TERM 4 2013
This week we celebrated the graduation of our Year 12 students who after 13 years of education are leaving for further study or to earn their living. The senior students have been a wonderful group of young men and women and it has been a delight to watch them grow, develop, and learn whilst at our school. It was a very emotional time for them and I must say truly impressive, especially when Glenn Davidson and Jessica Wakelam gave their Valedictory speeches. Their messages to staff and students alike was most heartfelt and there was many a tear shed. We wish our Year 12 students every success now and into the future. I know that they will remember their time at Willunga High School with fondness. It has been a privilege and an honour to be part of their journey. I also wish to thank all their teachers, and especially their parents, who have worked in partnership with us to make sure that the students’ journey was as smooth as it could be.

2014: we are finalising our timetable, staffing, and student numbers. If your child is not returning to us next year, could you please let us know as soon as possible. We are very full and are only accepting enrolments of students in Years 9, 10 and 11 from our school zone. We are predicting that we will have over 230 Year 8 students starting High School with us next year. The Governing Council has decided that Year 8 and Year 12 students will begin their school year on the first day which is Tuesday January 28th 2014. We can then induct them into the school and its routines as well as set up the Year 12 students for the year. This will mean that Years 9, 10 and 11 will begin on Wednesday January 29th. It allows a far smoother transition for new staff, for the students, and also Year 12 students can begin the year as they mean to finish it. They will then be on task, clearly understanding the significance of the year and also their year is not interrupted with the transition program. It does mean a lot of organisation needs to occur during 2013 for this to happen.

Pupil Free Days: Pupil Free/Show Days for 2014: Term 1—7th March (Friday), Term 2—10th June (Tuesday), Term 3—15th August (Friday, also the Day of the Formal), 3rd September Show Day (Wednesday), 24th November (Friday). Where possible we have tried to line these up with the Primary Schools but this is not always possible due to the availability of speakers and trainers.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

FACILITIES: As we continue to grow in numbers we will need to increase our buildings. We have a very clear plan on improvement of the school grounds as well. In order to keep everyone informed this is what is occurring in the short term:

• A Capacity Audit was undertaken by DECD and we are a number of learning spaces short, so as a result of this and our growing numbers we will have: 2 new classrooms which have been approved to accommodate the growing numbers. We are expecting that these buildings will be completed by July 2014, so we will be very tight for space early in the year, (these buildings will be placed near the current Middle School complex).

• Two new Science Labs will be placed on the lawn area, near the gas tank (which will be removed) and close to the existing science facility.

• Tennis Courts will be relined and re-surfaced in early December ready for the new year.

• The fence continues to be erected with a number of issues having to be dealt with, such as shortage of fencing material, gates and access to the school.

• We are looking to secure a loan to build a new gymnasium in the near future.

CYBERSAFETY: 11th November we are using the monies received from the Parents In Education (PIE) grant to run a session for Parents on Cybersafety, flyer on Page 10 of this newsletter.

School Magazine: This will still be published but only electronically. We find that we make a significant financial loss as only a handful of people purchase it. We still want to chronicle the school year and if people wish to download it they can. We will print off some copies for our archived records.

Newsletters: All electronic and on the website.

Twitter Account: The school has a twitter account and in 2014 this will be another form of communication to parents  @Willunga_HS

End of Year Assembly will be: 22nd November starting at 1p.m. and finishing 3 p.m. The reason we hold it during the day is so that students are inspired to be just like the people achieving the awards. If we hold it after hours then we do not have the whole school in attendance. We wish to create positive role models.

Janelle Reimann – Principal
What a fantastic week. **Term 3, Week 2** saw the 8th Annual Snow Trip Participants jump on the bus for another memorable trip. The snow was good, as were the students and staff. For a change this year, we stayed in the Snowbird Inn. The Snowbird is right in the middle of Mount Hotham, and this provided quick and easy access to all areas of Mount Hotham.

**The 2013 Snow Season** started off very poorly with little snow. Schools who went during the school holidays again missed out on snow. We were lucky enough to get snow just prior to our departure. Most ski lifts were open for us, although we were restricted to where we could ski and board.

**For the first time this year**, we had more snowboarders than skiers. First timers are always a worry on snowboards, but this year’s crew did well. Most were up and running after a couple of days.

**We combined with Kangaroo Inn Area School** this year. This was a fine opportunity for Willunga students to meet, and mix with, students from another school. **Staff leaders** were Stephen Moore and Shantel Wreford. Students who attended the trip were Khye Barrett, Rachel Brouggy, Hanna Brown, Jaidene Brown, Lochy Brown, Ethan Calvert, Zarah Chomel, Toby Coulter, Kerry Geyer, Kelsey Gilbert, Jake Hassink, Seb Hooper, Brayden Irish, Lauren Kotz, Andy Martin, Hayden Mayes, Todd Milford, Tyler Morgan, Rachel Neave, Andy Pahuru, Stacey Scott, Madoc Williams and Kurtis Wooldridge-Wright.

**This year we also had some ex students join us.** It was great to see Sarah Donkin, Molly Ross, Nicole Campbell and Ben Allen come along. All had participated in previous snow trips, and went through the Outdoor Recreation Program when they were students at Willunga High. This allowed them to provide leadership and assistance to this year’s students.

**What did the students have to say about the trip?**

**Lochy Brown**

“It was a great time, I had a lot of fun and wish to go again next year.”

**Zarah Chomel**

“I had heaps of fun and it was a great trip to meet lots of new people. I even got a tour of the bus depot with some nice people.”

**Jake Hassink**

“It was the best time. I loved learning to snowboard and the whole atmosphere at the snow. I want to go again.”

**Tyler Morgan**

“I enjoyed snowboarding. I am already saving for next year.”

**Stacey Scott**

“I had a great time on the snowtrip, I really enjoyed the night boarding.”

**The annual Snow Trip** again proved to be a highlight of the year for some students. We have already discussed options for the 2014 trip. There is talk of visiting ‘Perisher’ in New South Wales. Stay tuned!  

**Steve Moore - Teacher**
BULLYING

A partnership approach to reducing bullying is valued at Willunga High School to ensure our school environment is friendly and free of bullying behaviours.

It is important that parents have strategies to effectively help your children deal with bullying.

It is natural for parents to feel upset and want to protect their children if they are being bullied. However, an upset parent can often increase the involved child’s distress.

Parent responses that have been found to be helpful are to:

- Encourage your children to discuss the situation.
- Be aware of your own responses and react in a calm, helpful and supportive manner.
- Believe your children - It is important that your children feel confident talking to you about problems.
- Tell your children that bullying is wrong and remind your children that they have the right to feel safe and happy.
- Encourage your children to make friends. Having at least one good friend has been shown to reduce likelihood and impact of bullying.
- Make sure your children know how to get help from school.
- Talk to your children’s teacher.
- Ask your children what they would like you to do.

Phil Boyle ~ Senior Leader

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

South Port Nippers would like to invite you to come ‘n’ try any Saturday from the 19 of October 2013 till March 2014.

Please contact Graham, our Parent/Membership Officer at grahamjoyce@adam.com.au for further information.

South Port SLSC is located on Weatherald Terrace [Across Footbridge] Port Noarlunga South.

For children aged between 5 & 14 years who love the beach and have an interest in life saving. Great way to exercise and make new friends.

Please arrive at 1.30pm for a 2o’clock start. Sausage Sizzle to follow. Please bring bathers, hat, thongs, towel, water to drink, top to cover shoulders and make sure you have sun cream on.

A parent or guardian is expected to stay on the beach during afternoon.

The South Coast Police are urging the community to keep an eye on their valuables whilst at the beach.

They are urging all beach goers to take on the following security tips;

- minimise the valuables taken to the beach
- consider securing valuables in the boot of the car out of sight
- take it in turns and ensure one person remains with the belongings at all times

Report any suspicious behaviour to police on 131 444.
As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, the Willunga High School Orchid Club (WHSOC) entered plants for judging in two competitions at the Royal Show. In the Horticulture Competition run by the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society (RA&HS) the students entered two plants for judging, and took out First Prize and Second Prize ribbons. A great achievement for the club’s first attempt in this section. **In the Orchid Club of South Australia (OCSA) Spring Show**, plants were entered into a joint display with Mount Barker High School, another ‘Orchids in Schools’ participant. This is the first time that schools have entered enough plants to be able to build their own display. From this section WHSOC won First and Second prizes. The students organised a small display in the School Admin foyer that includes some of the winning plants.

**Not only did the students compete successfully** they also co presented on the ABC stage. They worked with myself and students from Mount Barker High showing the public their deflasking and potting skills. The presentations were well received by both orchid growers and the public. Radio and TV coverage of ‘Orchids In Schools’ hopefully will see more schools enter the program.

**The 2014 Royal Show competition** will be run by the RA&HS with assistance from OCSA. To celebrate the 175th anniversary of the RA&HS a new orchid competition will be run. Once again, plants will be presented for judging, this time with increased prize money and RA&HS prize cards and ribbons. This competition will be against other schools. The new format also has a new competition which will see schools building competitive orchid displays. This not only tests their orchid growing ability but also their artistic talents. With more schools likely to join the ‘Orchids in Schools’ program in the near future, these competitions will be hard fought affairs with school pride at stake.

**The students that were part of the Orchid Club in 2013** will take on leadership roles next year. The Willunga High open day identified students starting high school next year that were interested in growing orchids, and we should see an increased number of students participating.

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Trevor Garard

Orchids on display at The Royal Adelaide Show
Murlin Remphrey was the winner of the Monthly Sport SA Award for the Southern Region for September. The award recognises his achievements in Athletics.

Kristen Rothwell represented SA in an Academy Representative Team at a netball carnival held at ETSA Park in the school holidays.

Peter Steffe was presented with a plaque to recognise his efforts in the U17 State Football Team. The plaque was awarded at the annual ‘Knuckey Cup Best and Fairest Event’ held at South Adelaide Football Club.

Joel Astle and Trent Ormsby represented the State in both the U16 and U18 Rugby Union Teams, while Kurtis Wooldridge-Wright also represented the state in the ‘U18 Rugby Team’. The teams competed in Sydney during the school holidays.

Vanessa Moana represented the state in the ‘U18 School Girls Rugby 7’s team’, which competed in the Gold Coast during the school holidays.

Willunga High would like to wish Kegan Osborne all the best for his journey over to England to try out for a number of league clubs. Kegan has shown a strong passion for soccer in his time at Willunga and it is exciting to see him reach his goals. Good Luck!

Megan Dienelt - Teacher
During early Term 4, the Aboriginal Students from Willunga High participated in a 2 day camp in the Victor Harbor region. Students were involved with all aspects of the planning and preparation for the camp. Practical activities included kayaking, fishing and surfing. Students also had the opportunity to discuss school as well as other issues affecting their success at school. The camp gave students and staff the opportunity to bond as a group, and this will have long term positive benefits for the rest of their educational journey at Willunga High.

Student participants were Sheyne Bilney-Campbell, Jordan Coomber, Jai Davies, Caitlin Greenland, Angus Jefferys, Freya Joseph, Jess Lloyd, Sarah Lloyd, Kaitlin Purcell and Kyi Taylor. Staff involved were Stephen Moore, Emma Venning, Janine Anninos and Vicki Northcott.

Preparations are now underway for a Central Australia Cultural Experience in 2014. Students will be involved with tree planting early in the year to help fund the camp. The camp will visit Coober Pedy, Uluru, Kata Tjuta and the Pitjantjatjara Lands as part of the experience. Students will experience some great sightseeing as well as mixing and interacting with remote and traditional Aboriginal people of Central Australia. A fantastic opportunity and something exciting to look forward to in 2014.

Stephen Moore
Aboriginal Education / VET Outdoor Recreation Certificate II
Early in Term 4, the VET Outdoor Recreation Students participated in a 3 day camp in the Victor Harbor Region. The weather conditions were cold and windy but the students were all actively involved. Middleton was the primary location, but some sessions were held in Horseshoe Bay at Port Elliot. The instructors from the Victor Harbor Aquatic Centre ran informative and fun sessions where students showed great skill development.

Students tried both surfing and bodyboarding and all enjoyed the challenge of trying to stand up on a surfboard. The waves at Horseshoe Bay were big and students loved getting rides right up on to the beach. Students also had surf rescue sessions which could be a valuable skill for them later in life.

Student participants were Dylan Archdall, Khye Barrett, Matt Bergamaschi, Rachel Brouggy, Lochy Brown, Jaidene Brown, Indra Carey-Burrows, Zarah Chomel, Jordan Coomer, Toby Coulter, Lisa Denny, Joel Docking, Nicholas Duinker, Cameron Ferguson, Kerry Geyer, Jack Goodacre, Jake Hassink, Ryan Haverty, Lincoln Hill, Braydan Irish, Chris Keegan, Megan Kelly, Mike Lindquist, Hayley Madden, Ben Mayne, Todd Milford, Tyler Morgan, Shayla Murray, Marc Otto, Andrew Pahuru, Kaitlin Purcell, Murlin Remphrey, Mason Richards, Kristen Rothwell, Aiden Scotford, Stacey Scott, Kane Sears, Madoc Williams, Chris Williams and Kurtis Wooldridge-Wright.

Thank you to old scholars, Nicole Campbell and Sarah Donkin, for giving up their time to join us. Both completed the VET Outdoor Recreation course while they were students at Willunga High. They provided leadership and experience to the students currently doing the Certificate Course.

Congratulations to the 19 students who completed the 2 year VET Outdoor Recreation course this year. The increase in confidence and the ability to plan and work independently has been evident during the two years. The course continues in 2014 and those students enrolled next year can look forward to the practical activities of snorkelling and bushwalking.

**Stephen Moore**
VET Outdoor Recreation Teacher

**Kristen Rothwell**
It was a good experience to try a different sport that we wouldn't normally do and to meet new people. This camp will be something to remember for a long time.

**Joel Docking**
I loved getting back in the water again after a long winter although the water was still a little cold. Fantastic experience, would go again.

**Rachel Brouggy**
It was great fun. I learnt a lot and am glad that I didn't drown myself.

**Mason Richards**
The surfing camp was great fun and I got to learn some cool new things. It was a great experience. The sun and waves were nice and I got to try something I have never done before.
VET OUTDOOR RECREATION—SURFING/BODYBOARDING CAMP

SUCCESS   FAIRNESS   SAFETY   RESPECT   RESPONSIBILITY
You are invited to attend a community CyberSafety Evening hosted at Willunga High School to hear about safe and responsible Internet use from a school, parent and police perspective.

With the advancements in social media, this message is very relevant as all parents must make the transition from the offline world to the online world with their kids.

If you are interested in attending please phone Kylee at Willunga High School on 85562105 or kylee.weakley@whs.sa.edu.au

Monday 11th November 6:30-8:30

SUCCESS | FAIRNESS | SAFETY | RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY
YEAR 12 GRADUATION

“Glenn Davidson and Jessica Wakelam gave their Valedictory Speeches. Their messages to staff and students alike was most heartfelt, there was many a tear shed. We wish our Year 12 students every success now and into the Future.”

Janelle Reimann Principal