

Principal's News

Issue: 8 26 May 2008

Congratulations must go to two of our Year 12 students who have been selected in the Logan Youth Music Exchange Orchestra- Matthew Angelino and Tierney Molenaar, who will be travelling to Japan to represent this district in September. Such success can only be achieved after hours of practice, excellent teachers, dedication to music studies and, of course, parents who are willing to support their students to achieve. I wish them every success.

Our Year 9 students have now finished the national literacy and numeracy tests and we await the results of these to inform teaching practise. Our school has been chosen to trial next year's test- the date for which has yet to be negotiated.

Shortly, some of our Year 8 families will be receiving a letter and information about the Even Start – National Tuition Program. This is a federally funded initiative to support students who did not meet the 2007 national literacy or numeracy benchmark in year 7. Eligible students will receive at least 12 hours of tutoring in either reading or writing or numeracy. Parents may choose whether you would like your child to receive tuition either here at Windaroo Valley SHS, or through an approved private tutor outside the school.

It is important that our senior students maintain their focus on achieving the Queensland Certificate of Education. Our year 12 students are the first cohort in the state to be eligible for this certification. Students must bank 20 points worth of credit to be eligible for the QCE. There is also a literacy and numeracy requirement.

Serena Koskela
Acting Principal

Deputy Principal's News**Uniform**

In the previous newsletter, parents and carers were reminded about uniform requirements. Unfortunately we have a situation in which several students are still arriving with incorrect cold weather dress. Students have now had ample time to procure the correct uniform. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, those students who are still arriving out of uniform with a note from home will now be given community service until they procure the correct uniform. If students are unable to meet the dress code requirements due to hardship, they are required to bring a note from home outlining their reason and the administration will endeavour to make alternative arrangements. The uniform shop currently has second-hand uniform pieces for sale for \$5.00 each. Failure to follow the school's dress code and processes will result in consequences being applied according to the school's behaviour management policy. Students who fail to complete their community service will be given an after school detention for not following school procedures. Parents and carers are urged to ensure that their students are correctly attired for school.

NAPLAN Testing

Students in Year 9 have now sat the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy tests. These have been forwarded on for marking. In late May, all schools will be surveyed to provide feedback on all phases of the testing program. The test results will be reported to the schools in August and will be used to guide future curriculum reform. Student reports for parents and carers should be available for distribution as soon as possible after this. Should you have any queries, you are asked to contact the school as the Queensland Studies Authority cannot give information about individual students.

Year 8 Camp

Approximately half the Year 8 cohort attended the Year 8 camp which was held at Tyalgum in New South Wales from 12th to 14th May. Feedback from students and staff indicates that it was a wonderful experience for all attendees. School camps are always an opportunity for students to grow personally in a variety of areas and I highly recommend participation in such activities to parents and carers.

Lynne Smith
Deputy Principal

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WINDAROO HAPPENINGS

Deputy Principal's News

Exam Block

Our Senior students will be entering into their Exam Block in a couple of weeks time. The dates for this are Tuesday the 10th June through to Friday the 13th June. All students have the chance to view the draft timetable for this during their Care class for the next couple of days. During this time every student needs to check to ensure that there are no clashes or errors for them. All concerns must be passed onto their Care teacher to forward feedback on to myself (Graham Ritchie), to make any necessary adjustments. Copies of the draft will also be posted onto each of the notice boards around the school. It is very important that every student take this opportunity to check thoroughly.

Students will be expected to attend school only when they have exams or timetabled VET Sessions.

Students will be expected to attend in full school uniform as if it were any other school day

If a student is absent for any item of assessment then they are **required** by the QSA (Qld Studies Authority) to supply a medical certificate

Any breach of Exam conditions during this time could lead to the cancellation of their Exam

Graham Ritchie

Deputy Principal

THE WINDAROO WOBBLERS

On 19 – 20 July this year four slightly mad teachers from Staffroom A will compete in the 96km Gold Coast Kokoda Challenge. This event will be held in the Gold Coast hinterland and is a race over some of the ugliest hills in the area. The Wobblers are aiming to complete the course in under 24 hours.



Who are the Windaroo Wobblers? The team consists of Messrs. Canty, T, Fabian and Puddey. Full of bravado, this foursome readily accepted the challenge of competing in this year's event, both as a severe test of their physical and mental stamina and also as an enjoyable(?) way of raising money for charity. Aha! Now we get to the reason why the Wobblers rate a mention in the school newsletter.

What is the Kokoda Challenge? Apart from a horribly long walk, it is a charity fundraiser with all monies donated going to the Kokoda Challenge Youth Program. This program aims, through a 12 month period, to instil the qualities and skills that matter in life to young Australians who may be at a crossroads in their lives – often, but not exclusively, in some form of trouble. Tolerance, discipline, self worth, teamwork, purpose and leadership. All this culminates in a chance to actually walk the real Kokoda Track and gain some insight into the sacrifice that an earlier generation made. More information can be read if you go to www.kokodachallenge.com on the internet. While there you can also follow the prompts to make a donation online in order to help the Wobblers reach their target of \$800 in funds raised. The team has already paid the \$200 entry fee but they must now find a further \$800 as a minimum donation before the event.

Remember, all charitable donations over \$2 are tax deductible and a bona fide receipt will be emailed to you when you donate. Alternatively you can send money to school – team members have a receipt book, if required.

Please have a look at the website; hopefully it will answer any questions you may have before making a donation.

Thanking you in advance

The Windaroo Wobblers

JAPANESE HOMESTAY FAMILIES URGENTLY NEEDED

Windaroo Valley High has once again been asked to host 19 students fro Seiryō and Kaimei High Schools. Seiryō will be with us from 19 July—29 July while Kaimei will be with us from 3 August—14 August. This is a wonderful cultural experience for all concerned. We are hoping that a number of students taking Japanese as a subject will be hosts tis year as there will be a trip back to Japan in 2009. Our students will be hosted by Seriyō on the return visit. Families are paid \$30 per night.

We URGENTLY NEED your help

For more information phone Leigh Muller or Heather Kucks on 3804 2336 if you are able to assist.

Leigh Muller

HOD Social Justice

COMMUNITY NEWS

Centrepay Deductions

Centrepay is a free direct bill paying service available to customers who receive a Centrelink payment.

Windaroo Valley SHS is now registered as a provider to offer this service to the school community. It is the easy way to ensure your school financial commitments are met.

For further information please contact the Business Services Manager at school, Centrelink, or visit the Centrelink website at www.centrelink.gov.au.

Karen Marschke
Business Service Manager

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea (fundraiser for the Cancer Council) was held by the staff at Windaroo on Friday 23 May.

The Cancer Council advises that $\frac{1}{3}$ of cancers are preventable with a healthy lifestyle.

This includes:

- Don't smoke and don't expose yourself to passive smoke
- Alcohol in moderation only
- Diet low in fat and sugar, high in fruit and vegetables. Limit unhealthy takeaway food. Set an example for your children.
- Exercise everyday—take the stairs, don't take the lift, if possible try to walk more than drive. Find physical activities that you enjoy.....walk the dog
- Maintain a healthy body weight

Nicole Capel
School Nurse

WINDAROO VALLEY STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Applications are invited for the position of Administration Officer, Windaroo Valley SHS, 19 hrs per week in the Text & Resource Bookroom. Position description and work profile are available from the Administration at 240 Beenleigh Beaudesert Road, Windaroo.

All applications must address the key selection criteria of the position description and be forwarded to Business Services Manager, Windaroo Valley SHS P.O. Box 1427 Windaroo Qld 4207.
Marked "Private & Confidential"

The closing date for receipt of applications is 5:00pm Friday 13 June 2008. Applications will remain current for 12 months.

The Commission for Children and Young People Act 2000 requires the preferred applicant to be subject to a Working with Children Check.

Education Qld actively supports and encourages workforce diversity and equity.

AUDITIONS

We are looking for students who wish to audition to be a member of the "Variety Kids Show Group". We need singers and dancers to perform in film clips and concerts throughout South East Queensland on behalf of the Gold Coast Variety Club. This is a not for profit performance group who will be assisting Variety in their fundraising efforts for needy children.

Applications by Email or Australia Post only. Send details of name, age, Email & postal address with all phone numbers to varietyauditions@live.com.au or write to:

Variety Auditions, P.O. Box 1901 Sunnybank Hills Q 4109.

We will call you to inform you of the audition place and time.

Variety is the international children's charity begun by stars of showbiz.

**Windaroo Valley High
Absentee Note**

Students Name: _____

Student Id #: _____

Care Class: _____

Date/s Absent: _____

Reason: _____

Caregiver
Name: _____

Caregiver-
Signature: _____

Today's Date: _____

Office Use Only

Entered By: _____

Date: _____

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