



WEST WYALONG HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

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Monday 1 November 2021

Term 4 Week 5

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Although we have had an extremely disruptive year in regard to COVID and a period of learning from home, school attendance is still the key factor in student achievement of quality academic, socio-economic and health outcomes. The research shows us that students with an attendance rate below 90% are educationally at risk.

Currently, our data indicates that we have approximately 58% of students attending at a rate greater than 90%. This statistic includes 100% attendance during the time students were learning from home. Clearly, as a school community, we need to improve the overall attendance rate of nearly half of our students. Our 58% needs to be closer or above the state average of 75%.

Most of our students are attending at a rate greater than 80% and we can easily shift our overall attendance if we exclude some of the "soft" absences. One day at home can have a huge impact on the continuity of learning and all absences should be accompanied by a clear, unavoidable reason such as illness or leave approved by the Principal. Students engaging in paid employment, harvest work and avoidable activities cannot be approved by the Principal.

I hope all of our parents/carers know the attendance rates of their children. An easy way to check your child's attendance rate is via the SENTRAL Parent Portal. You can view all absences and if you have any unexplained absences, this can be updated within the portal.

We want all parents to use this communication channel so we can share details about day/class attendance, literacy and numeracy targets, school surveys and other important correspondence. If you are unsure on

how to access the parent portal, please phone the school and one of our helpful staff will assist.

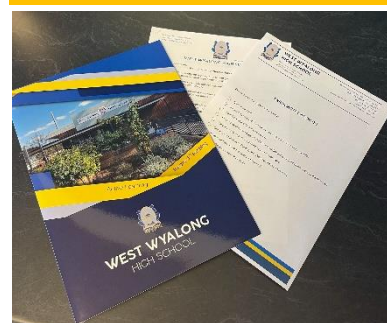
We have six weeks left in the year and I would like to encourage all parents to at least view the details within the parent portal, ask our staff questions and ensure your child has a very good reason when they miss any school days.

Mr Sheens

CALENDAR – TERM 4, 2021

WEEK 6	
Tuesday 9 November	HSC written exams start
WEEK 9	
Friday 3 December	Year 12 Farewell Assembly
WEEK 10	
Tuesday 14 December	Presentation Day 10:30am – Years 7 & 8 1:00pm – Years 9-11
Wednesday 15 December	Years 7-10 reports issued Last day for students

STUDENT ORGANISATION



Parents/Carers of students wishing to enrol in Year 7 2022 are reminded to submit their enrolment packages as soon as possible.

If you still require an enrolment package, please contact the school on 6972 2700 and we will happily post one out.

We look forward meeting all of our new students!



YEAR 12 REMINDER

With just one week until the HSC begins, teachers are available during usual class time to work with Year 12 students. All Year 12 students are welcome on school grounds. Please remember to sign in and out at the front office and follow all COVID-19 protocols when on site.

2022 LEADERSHIP CANDIDATES

Earlier this term, 10 of our Year 11 students put their hand up to run for the 2022 Leadership Team.

There was a question and answer session, testing their ability to think on the spot and speak in front of a crowd. Students then presented their prepared speeches to West Wyalong High School staff and students via a Microsoft Teams video conference. All candidates presented excellent speeches and conducted themselves with pride.

We congratulate each and every student involved in this process and commend their wonderful efforts so far. You have all proven to be excellent role models for our younger students.

Staff and students (Year 9 and above) have completed voting forms and we look forward to announcing the elected members of our 2022 Leadership Team soon.



IF YOUR CHILD IS SICK

From time to time your child may get sick and display symptoms that mean it's best to keep them away from school and see your doctor. Some of these symptoms include:

- A fever of 38°C or above
- Vomiting or diarrhoea
- Severe cold or flu symptoms
- Rashes of an unknown origin.



To find out more about when you need to keep your child home from school visit

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/wellbeing/health-and-safety/too-sick-to-go-to-school>.



Our School Support Officer, Ricky Bishop is making cheese toasties and serving juice every Wednesday morning. This initiative is directed at improving student wellbeing. This is free for all students.



As technology advances, there are many educational platforms that we use to enhance student learning. Currently at WWHS students have access to and are using:

- DEC Student Portal for emails
- WWHS Student and Parent Portal

- Google classroom
- Microsoft Teams
- ATOMI
- edmodo
- WWHS website
- ClickView
- IXL
- WordFlyers

The WWHS Parent and Student Portal is one site where students can log into and access all of the above through clicking on the relevant links.

There are other features of the portal that allows parents and students access to NAPLAN results, school report comments and attendance data, all of which allow students to take ownership of their progress and learning as well as allow parents to be able to monitor their child's progress. WWHS reports are also distributed and accessed through the portal.

Parent and Student Sentral Portal instructions

This Quick reference guide can be used for both parents and students.

First time use and new user registration

The steps to access the Parent and Student Portal are:

1. All parents and caregivers, are emailed their Parent and Student Portal letters with their unique Access Key. If you do not have one contact the school.
2. Use Google Chrome to access the portal as some other browsers may not work as well.
3. Register for an account on the registration page
 - a. Enter in your username. This must be your current email address. Students are required to use their DEC username eg. jane.smith
 - b. Create a secure password. Note - This is not where you put in the Access Key.

You will now be taken to another screen

1. Enter in the Access Key from your letter

2. SUCCESS! You now have access to the WWHS Parent and Student Portal.



NSW parent and carer mental health education sessions

headspace National is hosting free mental health education sessions in New South Wales, for Parents, Carers and Community Members, on ways they can support their young person when they are concerned about their mental health.

The sessions aim to:

- Strengthen your understanding of mental health and mental health difficulties.
- Increase awareness of the impacts of COVID-19 on wellbeing.
- Strengthen your understanding and skills in how to have a conversation with your young person.
- Build awareness of local services and the various supports available.
- Strengthen relationships between local area mental health services, local schools, headspace centres and other community organisations.

Proudly funded by the NSW Government and delivered by headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation Ltd.

Session format

The format of the sessions will include the delivery of mental health-related content, followed by a panel of community stakeholders sharing information about the supports available to young people and how to access their services.

Mode of delivery

Sessions will be held online via Zoom or face to face.

Duration

Lunchtime sessions are 1hr and 15mins. Evening sessions are 1hr and 15mins with a panel.

How to register

Click on or copy the following URL into a web browser to locate upcoming sessions in your community: <https://bit.ly/3lchh8U>

Contact

For more information email: programsupport@headspace.org.au

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

PUBLIC NOTICES

CLEANERS WANTED

Applicants need to be available to work Monday to Friday between the hours 5:00am-7:00pm.

- Split shifts: 5:00am-9:00am and 2:00pm-7:00pm
- Day shift available from 11:00am-3:00pm

careers@jossgroup.com.au
www.jossgroup.com.au

BLAND SHIRE LIBRARY

CHESS CLUB*Expression of Interest*

ARE YOU A KEEN CHESS PLAYER?
PERHAPS YOU'D LIKE TO LEARN HOW TO PLAY CHESS?
ALL AGES ARE INVITED



Contact the library on 69790272 or
email: issues@blandshire.nsw.gov.au



UNISEX TWILIGHT TOUCH KNOCKOUT

SATURDAY 27TH NOVEMBER, 2021
3PM @ RON CROWE OVAL

\$100 per team to enter

*Max. 3 men on the field at any one time

*Eligible players: High school & upwards

*BBQ facilities will be available,

*No glass policy

Organise a team now for a great social
day/night of touch footy with the chance
to win prize money!!



players
must be double
vaccinated
and will be
checked
on arrival

Team entries must be received by November the 20th
via email: westwyalongtouchfootball@gmail.com

Team entry fees must be paid on the day before taking the field

GET READY!

Summer Reading Club 2021-22

40-day challenge

Bland Shire Library's annual Summer Reading Club 40-Day Challenge is on again!!!
The Summer Reading Club 40-Day Challenge is free for school students aged 5 — 16 years.
No matter what your child's age or level of reading, they can read as many or as few books as they like, as long as they READ! Their challenge is to read for a minimum of 40 days between the official dates of December 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022.
To help your child reach their goal, there will be rewards along the way and lots of fun activities! To find out more, simply visit Bland Shire Library or contact library staff on 69790272

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2021-22 SUMMER READING CLUB 40-DAY CHALLENGE

COMING SOON!

**West Wyalong Touch Football**

★ Favourites · 1 d ·

Touch Football 21/22 season info

Seniors Touch Football Competition:

Rego opens – Monday 8th November

Rego closes – Friday 19th November

Comp starts – Thursday 2nd December

Cost – \$400 per team

To be eligible to play in the senior comp kids must be in high school (yr 7 and above)

Juniors Touch Football Competition:

Rego opens – Monday 3rd January

Rego closes – Friday 21st January

Comp starts – Thursday 3rd February

Cost – \$10 per player

Yr 2 – Yr 7 eligible

Nomination information to be posted shortly

Start organising your teams 🏈🏃🏃