



Girrawheen SHS February 2015 Newsletter



From the Principal

WELCOME

I wish to extend a warm welcome to the 2015 school year. Staff and I welcome back all students, in particular new students and families, and our Year 7 and 8 students. This is a brief newsletter to introduce new staff and important information for the beginning of the school year.

Last year ended on a good note with many positive student achievements and strong initiatives, further enhancing educational and career opportunities for our students. This year looks to be exciting and active with many programs ready to start.

YEAR 12 RESULTS

Once again public schools have attained excellent results across ATAR and VET. Our school community can proudly congratulate Loula Aden who achieved positive results in her ATAR, and is our School's Dux. Madeline Villa is also to be congratulated for achieving Dux as the highest achieving Vocational Education and Training Student.

Many of our ATAR students have achieved direct admission into University. Congratulations to these students for their effort.

I extend thanks to staff for their ongoing commitment to our students. Their expertise, dedication and the additional time they offer the students has been integral to all student successes.

YEAR 7 AND 8 ENROLMENTS

We especially welcome our Year 7 and 8 students to their first year of secondary school. Last year a strong transition program occurred in Term 4 with many of the students coming to the school to familiarise themselves with staff, school buildings and various curricular activities. Our students will also have a transition program over the first two weeks. This transition program is comprised of whole group and classroom based sessions and covers

topics including school rules and policies, counter bullying and study skills. The students have also had the opportunity to work with students in Year 9 and 10. This will prove beneficial, allowing students to settle into high school and prepare positively for their years ahead.

NEW STAFF

Contained within this newsletter is our staff profile. We welcome the following new staff:

Ms Suzanne Brown, School Work-Placement Officer; Ms Emily Birt, English (EALD); Ms Nicole Pearce, English; Mr Trevor Whittle, Science and Mr Mark Henkel, Science.

Parents and carers are invited to speak with staff to discuss their child's progress. Should you wish to do so we welcome you to make an appointment by calling the office on 9247 0555. We value and welcome our partnerships with parents.

VISITING THE SCHOOLS

For safety purposes I wish to remind parents and visitors that any person/s visiting the school are required to sign in at the Administration Office and wear a visitor's badge. In the event of an emergency this will assist us in knowing who is on school site, as well as for the safety of all our students.

ASPIRE UWA SUMMER SCHOOL

Once again, I congratulate and thank Mr Miln, for leading another year of the UWA Aspire Summer School program. Up to 50 students from our school attended this program at UWA. They were provided support in a number of learning areas, predominantly Mathematics. As well as academic support the students were greeted by UWA staff and students, and some of our former Girrawheen SHS students who attend UWA. The staff and students gave information sessions about Uni entrance and what to expect. ASPIRE UWA team have also provided financial support to make this program happen. Mr Miln and his staff also prepared

lessons for students. A special thanks is extended to Mr Miln, Ms Hutchings, Ms Woods, Mr Hughes, Mrs Shadbolt, Mr Sims, Mrs Rourke and the UWA Aspire team.

YEAR 7 & 8 PARENTS NIGHT

A Year 7 & 8 Parents Night will be held on 17 February @ 5-6:30pm. This provides parents with an opportunity to meet staff, P&C, a few of the School Board members and new parents. This has always been a successful night and well attended. We look forward to meeting with parents.

ATTENDANCE

A concerted effort and special emphasis will be placed on Attendance this year. Students are required to be at school 100% of the time unless they are sick or have exceptional circumstances that require them to be absent. Any absences that do not constitute illness, school based activities or exceptional circumstances will be noted as unauthorised absences. Late arrivals can also constitute absence. If students do not sign in before 10.00am their attendance will be recorded as a half day absence.

All absences significantly impact on a student's performance. Your support with enforcing your child's attendance will be extremely beneficial. We thank you for your support.

STUDENT ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES FROM SCHOOL

Please be informed that the school day begins at 8.40 am and concludes at 3.00pm, except for early close days (Tuesdays- 2.40pm). It is expected that all students come prepared each day, therefore they must utilise their morning time at home to organise themselves. Students are required to arrive at school at 8.30 am to

TERM DATES FOR 2015

SEMESTER 1

Term 1:

Monday 2 February – Thursday 2 April

Term 2:

Tuesday 21 April – Friday 3 July

SEMESTER 2

Term 3:

Tuesday 21 July – Friday 25 Sept

Term 4:

Monday 12 October – Thursday 17 December



Girrawheen Senior High School

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

39 Calvert Way GIRRAWHEEN WA 6064

Phone: 9247 0555 Fax: 9343 3099 Email:

Girrawheen.shs@education.wa.edu.au

SCHOOL VALUES

✓ Respect ✓ Responsibility ✓ Doing your best

SCHOOL PRIORITIES

✓ Numeracy/Literacy ✓ Positive Behaviour

get to classes on time. Staff will be preparing for their lessons therefore cannot provide a Duty of Care to students that arrive at school prior to this time.

Only students involved in before and after school classes are permitted to be on the school grounds out of hours. These are students within Homework Classes, The Maths Academy, NNEI classes, the Clontarf Academy, Sports Programs, Dance, Performing Arts, Breakfast Club and anything else that may be organised by teachers. In these instances permissions are required to be signed off by parents for students to be at school.

Students not involved in any of these programs are required to arrive at 8.30 and leave directly after school. We seek parent support to communicate and assist us to enforce this.

If your child has special circumstances requiring them to be at school please notify the Deputies or myself.

MOBILE PHONE AND ICT POLICY

A reminder to parents that Girrawheen SHS has adopted a responsible use approach towards mobile phone use at school. This means that students are permitted to use their mobile phones for appropriate reasons before school, at breaks and after school. Students are not allowed to use mobile phones in class time unless specifically allowed by the teacher. If a student uses their phone during class time it will be sent to the front office and the student will only be allowed to pick the phone up from the front office at the end of the school day. It is also a requirement for students to sign the School's ICT User Agreement. Students are reminded that ICT is not to be used to bully, harass or harm anyone or to be used to visit inappropriate sites. All ICT is to be used for educational purposes only. The school bans students from using social websites.

It is important to note that the misuse of telecommunications services by cyber bullying, stalking or using defamatory material may be viewed as contravening the law. Criminal charges can be laid.

A review of the ICT policy is currently taking place. More information about this will be conveyed to you throughout future newsletters. Please visit the Girrawheen SHS website for Policy information.

SCHOOL DIARY

All students from Year 7 to 12 have been provided with a school diary and information booklet free of charge. A significant amount of effort has gone into providing these diaries for students. Students are required to write down any homework, revision, assignments and due dates in their diaries. Parents are asked to check the diaries daily and sign the diary on a weekly basis.

Parents are also encouraged to use the diary to communicate concerns with the teachers at school and teachers may use the diary to comment on student behaviour and achievement. At times students will say they

have no homework, if this is the case students should be reading or reviewing their work or notes from their courses. Students can select books to borrow from our library or the community library.

Individual student achievement and success is strongly linked to their work ethic and organisational skills and the diary is important in this process. Your partnership and support with the use of these diaries with your child is valued and important.

Rosalba Butterworth

PRINCIPAL



DATES TO REMEMBER

Year 7/8 Orientation

Monday 2 Feb – Friday 13 Feb

P & C Meeting

Wednesday 18 February @6.30pm

Clontarf Induction Camp Year 7/8

Wednesday 18 - 19 February

Clontarf Footy Carnival Year 7/8

Friday 27 February

Labour Day Holiday

Monday 2 March

Year 8 Immunisation

Tuesday 3 March

OLNA Testing Year 10

Monday 9 March – Friday 20 March

P & C Meeting

Wednesday 18 March @6.30pm

Harmony Day

Friday 20 March

Clontarf Year 7-12 Goldfields Cup

Friday 20 March

School Ball

ARABIC COMMUNITIES INFO SESSION

Family Services would like to invite you to attend an **Arabic communities info session on Saturday 21 February** at the **Mirraboooka Multicultural Centre from 9am - 1.30pm** (registrations from 8.30am)

This information session is targeted to Service Providers and will be facilitated by members of Arabic speaking communities. The Arabic speaking communities residing in WA include the Palestinian, Lebanese, Jordanian, Syrian, Iraqi, Egyptian, Somali, and Sudanese communities.

Topics to be covered throughout the session include:

- Session on Islam
- Who are Arabic speaking Communities
- Which Arabic speaking communities have migrated to Australia
- Reasons for settling in Australia
- Challenges experienced when settling in Australia
- Participation in community life – how can we assist in encouraging community participation
- Cultural practices – sensitivities

Four members of the Arabic speaking communities will give brief presentations on their personal experiences (why they left their home country, their journey to Australia, visa processing – impact of detention), a Q&A Panel session will follow.

To end the session you are invited to stay back and share a Middle Eastern lunch alongside local members of the Arabic community.

Bookings are essential, to register please visit the link below:

<http://arabicinfosession.eventbrite.com.au>

Sarah Cairns

Family Development Officer

Family Services

City of Stirling | 21 Sudbury Road, Mirrabooka, WA, 6061

Direct Telephone (08) 9205 8586 | Mobile | Fax (08) 9205 8822

E: Sarah.Cairns@stirling.wa.gov.au

STAFF PROFILE

EXECUTIVE:

Principal
Senior School Deputy
Lower School Deputy
Business Manager

HEAD OF LEARNING AREAS:

Mathematics/Science
The Arts/English/Studies of Society
& Environment
VET Co-ordinator

TEACHERS IN CHARGE:

Design and Technology
Health and Physical Education
STEP Co-ordinator

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

Dean of Studies
Transition Co-ordinator
Positive Behaviour Co-ordinator 7 - 9
Positive Behaviour Co-ordinator 10-12
AEIO
Community Nurse
Chaplain:
School Psychologists
Workplace Learning Support Officer
Youth Worker

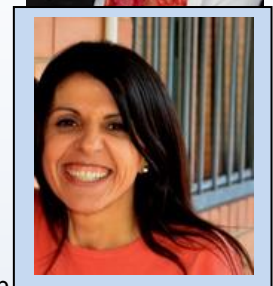
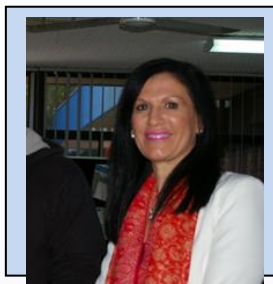
Rosalba Butterworth
Barbara Newton
Anna Italiano
Daniel Slavich

Russell Miln
Alan Hughes

Carol Gould

Dean Cantwell
Carlo Passera
Emma Bainbridge

Leigh Litten
Jenny Drpich
Dee Karman
Melinda Allen
Retz Oddy
Christine Sanderson
Jonathon Bughui
Cara D'Raine (Long Service Leave Term 1) & Philomena Rourke
Suzanne Brown
Sam Eaton



TEACHING STAFF

Art
Dance
Design & Technology
English/EALD
Health & Physical Education
History/SOSE
Home Economics
Mathematics
Media
Science
Technology & Enterprise

Shelley Green, Andy King
Heather Cargill
Dean Cox, Andy King
Jamila Faisal, Dee Karman, Melinda Allen, Emily Birt & Nicole Pearce
Adam Clarke, Megan Shadbolt & Eimear Beattie
Jackie Bolt, Gary Noack & Simone Alexander
Amanda Hales
Chandra Moravineni, Tracey Wood & Simon Lee
Mike Sims & Andy King
Charan Pabla, Gary Heldt, Geoff Ruhen, Mark Henkel & Trevor Whittle
Martha Williams

SUPPORT STAFF

Canteen staff
Education Assistants

Gardener
Head Cleaner
Home Economic Assistant
Library Officer
Office Staff
Science Technician
Study Centre

Donna Walmsley, Diane Cross, Allison Ford, Debbie Grubelich
Adelle Browne, Anna Criddle, James Iskander, Sue Nicotra,
Janine Raszakawski, Adele Riley, Paula Wearing, Louisa Wilson,
Travis Walling & Laura Appleby
Tan Van Le
Amelia Livingston
Hilda Levett & Mary Della Franca
Annette Atkinson
Kris Crew, Kathleen Drennan, Yvonne Kerns, Karen Meyer & Loan Tran
Elaine Snow
Suzanne Brown

CLONTARF FOUNDATION

Director
Operations

Andrew McGovern
Wayne Young

NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS/STUDENTS

SAFETY REMINDER TO ALL STUDENTS WHEN TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Periodically there have been incidents in nearby suburbs that require reporting to our students to support them when travelling to and from school. Recently there has been a reported incident in the vicinity of Girrawheen. Often we cannot inform parents and carers of these incidents immediately; therefore the following is relayed to students by teachers, along with a description of what they should be cautious of.

It is recommended that you reinforce with your children safety processes when travelling to and from school. Below are suggestions for you to discuss and emphasize.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS WHEN WALKING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Students are reminded of the following safety precautions when travelling/walking to and from school and to report anything suspicious to your parents, the school and the Police. Telephone 13 14 44 to report an incident to the Police (and only use 000 in an emergency) or 1800 333 000 to reach Crime Stoppers.

Following are suggestions to help you stay safe:

- Always travel in a group.
- Walk on the right hand side of the road so you face oncoming traffic.
- Wherever possible, leave space between you and the roadway.
- Stay in areas that are well lit.
- Stay in view – avoid going into areas that are hidden from view (such as parkland bush or behind shopping centres) and plan trips to avoid such locations.
- Be alert – earphones and headphones can reduce awareness considerably.
- If you have a mobile phone, have it turned on and ready to dial an emergency number.
- If a passing car stops nearby, never get too close.
- Do not hesitate to run from a situation in which you feel at risk.
- Provide this advice to brothers and sisters, especially if younger.
- Report suspicious behaviour to parents, the school and the Police, noting number plates of cars and/or clothing or distinguishing features of individuals.

ZERO TOLERANCE TO VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATING BEHAVIOUR

At Girrawheen Senior High School the safety and well-being of our students is valued. Unity is our strength and is represented in our school's logo. To this end, our school continues to progress into Independent Public School status with a clearly defined Positive Code of Conduct expected from students.

The school's Behaviour Plan encourages improved behaviour among our students. This is a reminder to inform members of our school community that students who create fear or intimidate anyone, will not be tolerated. We continue targeting violence and intimidating behaviour, and will take serious action against students who demonstrate these behaviours.

This school has followed a procedure of serious consequences for fighting and violence. This has included suspension, followed by a "Return from Suspension Interview" with the student and carer to develop a behaviour plan to assist students.

Students who are repeat offenders demonstrate a breach in trust and impact negatively across the school. As a result, consequences for any students demonstrating or inciting violence and intimidating behaviour will include restrictions at break times for an extended period of time (up to one term, depending on the incident). Students will only return to normal school yard privileges when they can clearly demonstrate they can be trusted to behave appropriately.

If a student is absent during this time the restricted access across the school will be extended to make up for any absences. If a student deliberately fails to follow the restriction, an additional two days will be allocated for each day missed. This additional measure does not replace or circumvent the usual counselling, reconciliation and restorative practices which underpin our School's Behaviour Management and Pastoral Care plans. All too often students bring issues into our school that occur out of school hours and this will not be tolerated. Students are taught clear processes of communicating conflict issues with support staff. We continue to encourage parents to communicate behaviour and learning concerns to us.

The purpose of this is to ensure that everyone understands that our school community is determined to focus on a safe and caring school environment and that behaviour contrary to this focus will not be tolerated.

Rosalba Butterworth
Principal

