PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

It is with much pride that I announce my permanent appointment as Principal of Wakefield School. Prior to this appointment, I was Assistant Principal at Irrawang Public School, teaching students with Emotional Disturbances and leading the Special Education Support Classes.

Term 2 has been a very busy, short 9 weeks. I have enjoyed getting to know staff and all the students throughout the term. Students have had many opportunities to participate in a variety of programs which encourage engagement, sportsmanship, self regulation and self awareness.

Once again, Active After School Sports was run on Mondays with Athletics’ Skill building at Lambton Park and on Thursdays, Rock Climbing at Pulse Rock Climbing. Wednesdays saw the continuation of the gymnastics program run at Glendale Sports Centre, specifically focusing on a variety of trampoline and other gymnastics skills.

A select group of senior students participated in the Food & Friendship through Job Quest. This has provided opportunities for students to experience work skills.

We will be collecting information already available in the school about the support that is being provided to students who require learning adjustments or additional support. This information will be passed back to students home schools.

The data will have no direct impact on your child and they will not be participating in any testing process. To ensure privacy and confidentiality of all students, no individual student or school will be identified.

Next term will continue to see the AASC sporting program begins week 2 Tuesdays—Cycling, Fridays—Indoor Sports.

With regards
Shauna Gillett
Principal
Assistant Principal Message

Firstly I’d like to welcome Mrs Gillett to our school. She has taken over from Mr Gately and has already become a friendly and familiar figure amongst staff, students and the wider Wakefield community. We have already seen many positive changes made to the way that Wakefield operates. This will only be totally beneficial to the students as they prepare themselves for return to mainstream schooling or life in the work place.

Room 1 will see Mr Loy and Deb work with some of our senior students, Room 3 will have Mr Higgins and Tanya work with our junior students, Room 4 will have Mr Herron, Mr Lewis, Edna and Jen work with some of our senior students and Room 5 will have Mr Quodling and Kylie work with some of our senior students.

C.A.R.E.S by Ross Loy

On the 16th of June, a group of Wakefield students went down to C.A.R.E.S at Palmdale. C.A.R.E.S (Community and Road Education Scheme) is a NSW police initiative that educates students about bicycle road safety. The day comprised of 4 sessions led by Senior Constable Marsh and the participation level by all students was outstanding.

During the classroom session the students had their bicycle knowledge tested through a series of interactive activities and games. It was great to see all the students partake and attempt to answer questions.

The next three sessions saw the students on their bikes and putting the new road safety rules into practice. After all helmets were safely fitted, Constable Marsh demonstrated the ABC checklist for a safe bike:

A - air (make sure tyre pressure is correct)
B - brakes (ensure brakes work properly)
C - chain (ensure chain is not too loose)

The students then moved onto the track with a full twelve point bicycle license. The aim of this session was for students to apply their new cycling skills and knowledge to ride around the simulated road without committing any traffic offences. Of the nine participating students, a big congratulation must extend to Kile Farrow for successfully keeping all twelve points. Well done Kile!!
Senior Students Headline

Mr Schmeider is once again with us on a Monday and Thursday and we have a number of senior students who can’t wait for time with him in the wood craft room. Our junior students, with some invited seniors, will be able to participate in cycling on a Tuesday and indoor sports on a Friday which has been sponsored by our Active After School Commission sports program.

We have a number of seniors participating in work readiness programs as well as work experience programs during term 3. Reece and Cory are doing work experience with Charlestown Toyota and Dog Overboard and we thank both companies for allowing our students this brilliant opportunity. Through Job quest we have four students participating in the Food and Friendship program. This has allowed these students the opportunity to build their self-esteem and confidence while working with the community in the area of Food preparation and retail. These students are Blade, Ty, Courtney and Jimmy. Well done to these students as it can sometimes be a very daunting prospect to work with the community.

ANZAC Day by Ross Loy

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Wakefield staff, students and honoured guests who attended our ANZAC Day service on Wednesday 30th April. The weather was not on our side that day, so we moved to plan B and held our service for the first time under our new COLA. As the catafalque party took post Mr Ron Mitcherson of the Toronto RSL Sub branch spoke and reminded all of the sacrifices made by Australian soldiers from 1915 through to the present day. Personally, I thank Mr Mitcherson and the members of the Australian Armed Forces Re-enactment Heritage Unit – Mr Alan Sheldon, Mr Darryl Cox & Mr Barry Wilkinson for their contribution to our remembrance service.

NAIDOC Day by Kylie Morley-Davies

This year’s NAIDOC theme honoured all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who fought for our country. All have served with honour and pride for Australia in engagement’s across the globe.

We proudly highlighted and recognized the role they played in shaping our identity and we paused to reflect on their sacrifices. We celebrated and honoured their priceless contribution to our nation.

Wakefield students researched an Indigenous soldier, then presented at assembly, the information they had gathered. The students enjoyed the short video on an Indigenous soldier before going outside to participate in some Indigenous games.

Theses games helped students to gain an understanding of how they helped Indigenous children develop particular skills required while growing up.

“Students thoroughly enjoyed the reenactment and opportunity to chat with the gentlemen!”

Students participating in art activities.
Wakefield School
37 School Rd
Wakefield, NSW, 2278

The first half of 2014 has been a dynamic semester of science and technology learning at Wakefield School. Weekly Science lessons have seen the senior students in rooms 4 & 5 explore basic physics with their investigation of 'Invisible Forces!' Experiments investigating: high and low air pressure, atmospheric pressure, buoyancy, friction, spinning and rotational forces has had their heads spinning with fascination. The invisible yet attractive forces of magnetism and electromagnetics forces has resulted in the students getting stuck into their learning and I believe that we have uncovered a number of 'bright sparks' this semester in science classes.

The technology classroom have been just as intriguing for the students at Wakefield. Apart from the standard projects which form the 'Wood Technology Program' Senior students embarked on furniture refurbishment, mechanical locking devices (lawn mowers & whipper snipper motors), small furniture construction such as Dawson's coffee table, Michael's amazing ability with electronics, and the incredible talents of Kile & Bryce working with timber.

I take this opportunity to say 'good on you' to all the students who have consistently applied themselves to the learning tasks and experiences which Wakefield offers, you guys are so impressive...well done! Parents and careers I ask that you ensure that term fees are paid for the technology classes each term.

These fees help us to provide cutting edge and relevant learning experiences for the Wakefield students.

I look forward to the second half of 2014. I know that it will bring many great experiences for the students Wakefield School.