



Partners in Learning

Wanniassa School Newsletter





Wanniassa P-10 School

Preschool - Sternberg Crescent Wanniassa Phone: 6205 8055
Junior Campus - Sternberg Crescent Wanniassa Phone: 6205 7566
Senior Campus - Wheeler Crescent Wanniassa Phone: 6205 6200

www.wans.act.edu.au

December 2013

Junior Campus	Dates to Remember	Senior Campus
29 th November – JC Mini Fair		3 rd December – Year 8 Swimming Proficiency Test 12:30pm Year 10 Roundtables
13 th December – Christmas Assembly 11:30am KidsMatter Family & Community Lunch - 12:30pm		4 th December – Year 10 Roundtables
16 th December – Movies Excursion K – 6		5 th December – Year 10 Formal – Boathouse 6:00 – 10pm
18 th December – Year 6 Graduation Assembly 11:30am K – 6 Graduation Disco 7 – 9pm		6 th December – Year 10 Walkout Assembly 2:15pm
		17 th December – Year 10 Graduation 9:45am Year 7 – 9 Awards Ceremony 12:30pm
		19 th December – Year 7 – 9 Big Splash
Friday 20 th December – Last Day Term 4		
Monday 3rd February 2014 – Term 1 Commences Kindergarten (9am – 3pm) Year 7 students ONLY (9am – 3:05pm)		
Tuesday 4th February – Term 1 commences for ALL students		
 Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 		

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Carers

Term 4 is almost over – planning for next year is underway as we complete assessment and reporting processes and prepare for end-of-year celebrations and the recognition of the outstanding achievements of our students from Preschool to Year 10.

On 22 November, a **Cluster Cup Gala Day** was held on the Wanniassa Playing Fields oval. Year 5 & 6 students from Wanniassa School, Wanniassa Hills Primary School and Monash Primary School competed in Oz-Tag (boys and girls) Burroinjin (mixed) and Super 8s cricket. There was a wonderful spirit of competition and doing one's best demonstrated by all students throughout the day and they enjoyed the free BBQ. Special thanks to Mr

Nick Bond for outstanding efforts, organisational skills and eternal optimism despite weather worries, to the teachers who supported him and to the parents and student visitors who also came. Congratulations, Team Wanniassa, on the great win and regaining the Cluster Cup. Once again, the whole event was really was a win for the Wanniassa Cluster.

On 20 November, Year 6's competed in the annual **Burroinjin Games** that were held in Narrabundah. Wanniassa had two teams competing – Team 'A' missed the finals by one goal on a count back and Team 'B' missed out on the grand final in a penalty shoot-out after playing 3 games straight. Great effort, students!

The annual **Community Concert** was held on Thursday 7 November with both Junior Campus and Senior Campus students demonstrating their talents with singing, band and dancing performances. Special

thanks and congratulations to all of the students and to **Ms Sophie Chapman, Ms Kate Davoren and Mr Greg Pickering** for preparing them for the concert.

The **Year 6 Bandstravaganza performance** at the Llewellyn Hall ANU on Wednesday 20 November was an amazing showcase of musical talent and a culmination of two year's tuition in the long-running Instrumental Music Program for children in Government primary schools. Congratulations, Wanniasa School students, and conductor **Mr Greg Pickering** for your fine efforts.

Transition Sessions for Prospective Year 7 students and a very successful **Preschool Information Evening** for new preschool parents and families were held recently. The Wanniasa School community extends a warm welcome to all new students and their families. We hope that the networking already commenced will bring a wealth of friendships and wonderful school experiences for each of you.

Australian Council of Educational leaders (ACEL) 2013 ACT Awards

Congratulations to our teachers **Ms Judy Richards** and **Ms Cara Shipp** who received ACEL Excellence Awards recently at a dinner attended by the Education & Training Directorate's Director-General **Ms Diane Joseph**. **Ms Richards** was recognised as an outstanding preschool teacher for over 20 years, for her significant contribution to teaching and in leading the National Quality Standards recognition process and her success in piloting KidsMatterEarlyChildhood mental health & wellbeing modules for MindMatters Australia for which Wanniasa School has gained national recognition. **Ms Shipp** was acknowledged for developing quality teaching practices through embedding Indigenous literacy perspectives in school planning, organising fundraisers to support literacy and establishing an Indigenous homework centre for students in K through to Year 10.

Special Visitors

- **The Education Minister Ms Joy Burch** visited the Senior Campus on 1 November. The Minister met with students in the **Big Picture** program, those attending the **Wanniasa Enrichment Mathematics** workshops, and the **Wanniasa Achievement Centre**. Ms Burch has written to the school to share how impressed she was with "the passion and commitment demonstrated by staff and students working in the Big Picture program" and "the enthusiasm of students participating in the Wanniasa Enrichment Mathematics Program".
- **The Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) Manager of Curriculum Ms Deborah Palmer** and **VET coordinator in the Education & Training**

Directorate Ms Penny Butt visited the school recently. They reviewed the *Work Study* Australian Curriculum units of work being piloted for ACARA at Wanniasa School. This has also meant that the Big Picture Program students can gain credit for the large amount of 'real world' work they do.

Facility Update

The new Junior Campus Playground equipment is now installed and the extended **security fence** – Phase 1 (extension of the Senior Campus fence) is complete. Phase 2 – marking the new Senior School boundary – will commence in the New Year.

Finally, stay safe everyone – the end of the year is a time for celebration. Please join us for coming events such as the Junior Campus Christmas Assembly and our KidsMatterPrimary recognition celebrations on 13 December, as well as awards & presentation mornings for students P-9 on both campuses and the formal graduation ceremonies from secondary school and primary school (for Year 10 and Year 6 students), respectively.

The year's end is also a time for rest and relaxation after all of the hard work. I wish all students, families and staff happy holidays and thank you for an amazing 2013 together at Wanniasa School.

Karin Nagorcka - Principal

Finances

Excursion Acquittals

Excursion Acquittals - Semester 2 2013

Recycling Centre	
Funds In	\$140.00
Funds Out	\$127.27
	\$12.73

Farmyard Nursery	
Funds In	\$230.00
Funds Out	\$230.00
	\$0.00

Tidbinbilla Excursion	
Funds In	\$410.00
Funds Out	\$530.30
	\$-157.30

Boomanulla Oval	
Funds In	\$115.00
Funds Out	\$248.00
	\$-133.00
Music to Lake Tuggeranong	
Funds In	\$65.00

Funds Out	\$65.00
	\$0.00

War Memorial	
Funds In	\$435.00
Funds Out	\$435.00
	\$0.00

The TOPS Camp	
Funds In	\$11,537.45
Funds Out	\$11601.35
	\$-63.90

Maddie Mackay - Business Manager

2013 Voluntary Contributions

Many thanks if you have already made contributions – we really appreciate this! These contributions made each year enable us to provide an enriched learning environment for all of our children.

To make a payment you can pay by cash or cheque. EFTPOS is available from the Front Office at either campus. Alternatively payment can be made directly to the school account via Internet Banking.

The school account details are:

Westpac

Wanniassa School Management Account

BSB Number: 032-777

Account Number: 001869

When depositing money into the account please provide a meaningful description with the student's name eg: Volcons – Jo Soap

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me on: 6205 6200.

Ann Hayres - Finance Officer

Working with Vulnerable People

From Friday 8th November 2013 volunteers and other visitors to schools, unless they meet exemption criteria, are required to hold an appropriate Working With Vulnerable People registration with the Office of Regulatory Service to engage in activities involving contact with children.

Volunteers who regularly work with children in classrooms and other school activities will need to be registered.

Parents and members of the community make a valuable contribution in a diversity of roles.

Wanniassa School looks forward to your continued support in whatever capacity you choose. For more information and to download application/registration forms please visit

www.ors.act.gov.au/community/working_with_vulnerable_people

What the Working With Vulnerable People Act means for parents who volunteer at school

Since the introduction of the Working With Vulnerable People Act, some parents and members of the Wanniassa School community have been expressing uncertainty about the need for volunteers to register with the Office of Regulatory Services to provide volunteer services to the school.

Volunteers who regularly work with children in classrooms or regularly make contact with children during other school activities will need to be registered. If you are unsure whether you need to be registered, please contact Karin Nagorcka.

Some volunteers may choose not to register but to continue supporting the school by reducing the number of days on which they work so as to avoid exceeding statutory limits. There may also be opportunities for volunteers to participate in forms of work which are not considered education activities or involve contact with children and do not require volunteers to be registered.

Where this is not possible, it may be necessary to apply for a Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card. There is no cost for volunteers.

The new Working With Vulnerable People scheme has meant that all volunteers, new and continuing, will need to complete a new School Volunteer Nomination Form and to sign in each day they work at Wanniassa School.

We are strengthening protection for children, but we depend on our volunteers in a variety of ways and look forward to your continued support in whatever capacity you choose.

Maddie Mackay - Business Manager

Temporary School Closure on days of an Elevated Fire Danger Rating: 2013 - 2014

Parents, carers and students need to be aware that our school will be closed on days when an elevated ('extreme' or 'catastrophic') fire danger rating is declared. This decision has been made following a risk assessment by the ACT Emergency Services Agency (ACT ESA) and the ACT Rural Fire Service.

The daily Fire Danger Rating is published by the ACT ESA and announced in the media.

An '**extreme**' fire danger rating means that if a fire starts, it is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving.

A 'catastrophic' fire danger rating means that if a fire starts, it is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable and very fast moving.

Further information is available on the ESA website www.esa.act.gov.au.

It is expected that an Elevated Fire Danger Rating of 'extreme' or 'catastrophic' will be declared by the ACT ESA Duty Officer around 4:00pm to be effective the following day.

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure students do not attend school (those identified for temporary closure) on days with an Elevated Fire Danger Rating of 'extreme' or 'catastrophic'.

Parents and carers should **not** expect to be contacted by the school and are advised to be aware of ACT emergency management communication channels such as:

Radio:

666 ABC Canberra AM 666

2CC Canberra AM 1206

2CA Canberra AM 1053

MIX 106.3 Canberra

FM 106.3

FM 104.7 Canberra

Television:

ABC TV Canberra

Prime TV Canberra

Southern Cross TEN Canberra

WIN TV Canberra

Press:

The Canberra Times

Telephone

Canberra Connect 13 22

Websites

www.esa.act.gov.au

www.canberraconnect.act.gov.au

If an elevated fire danger rating of 'extreme' or 'catastrophic' is declared, parents seeking information on school closures should refer to the Canberra Connect website www.canberraconnect.act.gov.au or call the Canberra Connect hotline on 13 22 81.

Junior Campus News

Rainbow Unit News

It has been all go in Rainbow Unit and the term is flying by (as Term 4 always does). The children have been busy creating gifts for their families so don't forget to come along to the Decoration and Giving Mornings. The Dolphins and Seahorses will have theirs on Tuesday, 10th December between 9.00 and

10.30 and the Penguins and Turtles will have theirs on Friday, 13th December between 9.00 and 10.30.

The children have also been creating mosaic artworks around the theme of our garden. Materials were purchased with money from our Children's Week grant. The artworks will be displayed at the preschool and will be viewed by many children and families in years to come. Thank you Dolphins, Penguins, Seahorses and Turtles for your creativity and your contribution to our preschool environment.

Library borrowing is coming to an end for the year. It's time for us to take stock of all of our books so please return all library books to the preschool. Each child who has borrowed this year will receive a special Borrower's Certificate in his/her portfolio.

We have commenced our school visits with all of the children who are going to Wanniasa in 2014 visiting Red Unit. There will be 3 visits to Red Unit and one visit to the canteen to buy a recess snack. All of the children have been confident and have enjoyed their visits so far. The Canteen Visits will be on Tuesday 3rd December and Thursday 5th December and each child will need to bring along a maximum of \$1.00 to spend. A note with a list of available snacks and prices will be sent home closer to the time.

We are approaching the end of the year and each year we have a big clean up. If you are able to help out with washing, book covering or other odd jobs here at preschool please let us know.

We are currently working to put together Semester 2 reports. You will receive these before the end of Term 4. These reports provide valuable information to receiving teachers so please pass a copy on to your child's 2014 teacher. We wish everyone success and happiness in their future schooling.

Judy Richards, Virginia Fanning and Karen Cooper

Red Unit News

Red Unit has been lucky enough to have visits from Kenny Koala and our local firemen this term. Kenny talked to us about being safe in the community and we got to see the flashing lights on his car. Five firemen came to visit us and one was called Sam! We learnt how to phone for help in an emergency and how to 'stop, drop and roll'. We also got to see all of the tools on the fire engine and some of us even got to climb into the fire engine! We are working on learning our address and phone number so we can give this information to someone in an emergency.

Red Unit became a recycling centre thanks to the contributions of many families. We sorted the items and the children were then able to visit the centre and select everything they needed to build their fabulous robots. Great fun was had by everyone and we are sure that lots of robots are still gracing the homes of many families!

The children have enjoyed being scientists and especially loved our dissolving experiments. Working in cooperative groups the children mixed coffee, sugar, sand, glitter, tea leaves and washing powder with hot and cold water. They were excited to see what would happen and had to record the results like real scientists! We also spent some time experimenting with items to see if they would float or sink – ask your child what happened to the blu tac!

We are busily practising for the Christmas concert – notes have been sent home about our Santa hats and we look forward to seeing you on Friday 13th of December at 11:30am!

Vicki Gough and Ashley Coutts

Blue Unit News

Wow! This term has gone so quickly and Blue Unit have been busy learning about lots of wonderful things. We have been busy writing a lot of exciting procedures in both 1G and 1/2H and we are now so good at procedures we can write them by ourselves! Each class has been cooking delicious healthy snacks including fruit salad, pikelets, mini omelettes and healthy snack faces. We had to make sure we remembered all of the ingredients and the steps so that we could write a procedure about what we had made.

In maths 1G have been busy reviewing lots of the exciting things they have learnt this year including shapes, time and measurement. The students have shown excellent understanding of these concepts by playing a bunch of different games and working in small groups on activities. 1/2H has been focussing on our multiplication tables and reviewing our addition and subtraction strategies.

1G have been taking part in technology lessons where they have been designing, making and appraising different objects including boats and towers. The students have been working either individually or in pairs to design an object based on the description given to them. Then using the materials given to them they have to use their design to actually make the object. In the end the students got to discuss and share their design and decide whether they think their design worked or didn't. The students have had a

wonderful time using the different materials to make lots of exciting things.

1/2H have finished our unit on Australian Geography – we have learnt all about the Australian states and territories, their capital cities and many of Australia's significant geographical features such as Uluru, the Great Dividing Range and the Great Barrier Reef.

1/2H have nearly finished our buddy visits with the students from the Endeavour Class at the Senior Campus. The students really enjoyed the Year 9 and 10's visiting us and teaching lots of new games and activities and will miss meeting with the each week.

We have finished our healthy bodies unit where we learnt all about different ways to keep our bodies and minds healthy and why it is important. Not only have we learnt all about healthy food choices and exercise but we have also talked about the importance of having a healthy mind too. We discussed different ways we could keep our minds healthy including relaxing, spending time with friends and family and laughing. We are now looking forward to our next unit on celebrations

It has been a busy and wonderful term so far and we look forward to all the exciting events that will be happening in the next few weeks.

Sally Gore-Johnson and Tracey Hanson

Green Unit News

We in Green Unit can hardly believe we are at the end of the year so soon. It only feels like yesterday we were welcoming a group of rogue Year 2's and 3's, and now we have to let them go. It has been a great year with so much created, learnt and experienced for all students who seemed to be growing in height and maturity with every passing day.

This term Green Unit have put on their David Attenborough discovery hats and investigating how animals are classified according to their characteristics. We have researched their unique appearance, habitat, status, life cycle and hunting prowess of earth's mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles. We are now researching and writing reports of our favourite animal. The kids can't wait to share their learning and wow you with some interesting facts.

Lights, Camera, Action is also the new topic on the lips of our budding actors and actresses prepare for Green Units Got Talent. We are busily learning our lines, running around making props and costumes ready for our big performance day in front of Red Unit.

We would like to thank the parents for their support over the year. We would also like to extend that to our hard working kids who have had a non-stop year with heads down learning and experiencing all that Green unit has offered and I speak for everyone when I say we are all looking forward to some down time of relaxing and playing with their mates in the holidays.

Amy Byrne and Justan Fuller

Orange Unit News

We in Orange Unit can hardly believe we are at the end of the year so soon. It only feels like yesterday we were welcoming a group of rogue Year 3's and 4's into Orange Unit, and now we have to let them go. It has been a great year with so much created, learned and experienced for all students, who seem to be growing in height and maturity with every passing day.

This term 4W experienced their first camp and for some the first time away from home. The setting for this ground breaking experience was Birrigai. For those who thought they would get a little homesick didn't have time to think of home as we hit the ground running and experiencing the bush life (with some luxuries) from the moment we hopped off the bus. We had barely gotten off the bus and we were straight into activities. We learnt how to work together on 'Team Initiatives' and how important it is to support one another on the Low Ropes course. Without a doubt after reading many recounts of the camp the favourite experience had by all was the Big Swing and toasting marshmallows by the campfire.

We would like to thank all the students for their wonderful manners and their behaviour over the two day camp.

The Year 5's have been working so hard to complete all their end of year assessments and have made Mrs Booth so proud with their outstanding personal growth and achievements. They have just had their final visit with their Rainbow Unit buddies and are looking forward to exchanging Christmas cards through Santa's Mailbox in the next few weeks. In Literacy lessons, 5B have been looking at Procedural Writing and will have the opportunity to cement their writing skills by documenting a series of Science experiments we are conducting this week and next.

We were so pleased to see such an incredible turnout for our latest assembly! The kids worked hard to 'put on a show' and really appreciated the support!

It has been a pleasure teaching Orange Unit this year and we would like to wish all the students the best of luck in Year 5 and 6.

Jessica Booth and Helen Wilson

Yellow Unit

It is now well into Term four and all students have been working very hard to complete units of work and assessment tasks as well as readying themselves for end of year events.

Over the past few weeks many students have represented their school in some very successful sporting events. Year 6 was invited to play in the Buroinjin Gala Day which saw teams play in divisional pools. Our two teams were in different pools, however both did remarkably well achieved a semi and finals berth.

Year 5 and 6 students competed in the first annual Wanniasa Cluster Cup Gala Day last Friday. The students competed in Oz Tag, Buroinjin and cricket against Monash and Wanniasa Hills Primary Schools. Wanniasa remained undefeated on the day and were presented with the winner's cup at the end of the day. It is displayed in the front foyer of the school for our community to proudly share.

Our Year 6's have completed their oral and written presentations to conclude our biological science unit. This unit focussed on animal adaptations and how they assist in species survival. Their organisation and motivation throughout the process was inspirational which culminated in some outstanding personal efforts and presentations.

Our Year 5's have been investigating countries and their global geographically location. Their investigations have also included population, neighbouring countries, infrastructure, cultural identity and icons. They will be partnering-up with other year 5 members to present their chosen countries in a range of displays and formats

Year 6 Graduation is rapidly approaching and the date to remember is December 18. There will be numerous notes going home with students over the coming weeks and your immediate attention to these would be greatly appreciated.

Nick Bond and Greg Pickering

Japanese News

In the Japanese room this term Orange and Yellow units have been looking at Japanese food and the dos and don'ts of table manners! With O'Leary Sensei the student teacher the students enjoyed making onigiri (riceballs) and tasting some Japanese food. "We had lots of different snacks and the onigiri (riceballs) were pretty cool" AA. "The snacks had a funny flavour but I liked them quite a lot. I wish I could have more" JB.

Did you know that people from different countries around the world think that animals make different noises? For example some Americans think that a dog says 'bow wow', Australians think that they say 'woof woof' but Japanese people think they say 'wan wan'! Blue and Green Units have been learning how to talk about animals they like and the different noises all kinds of animals make. Be sure to ask them about it!

Maybury Sensei

Library News

Book Fair

What a fabulous Book Fair we had this year! Due to the generous support of our school community, our commission this year works out at \$1,000 – an amazing amount. We will be able to use this money to buy items for our library in 2014.

A HUGE thank you to all those students and families who supported our Book Fair - we couldn't have done it without you.

End of year Library stock take

As the end of the year is fast approaching, we are asking all students to return their library books so that we can begin our annual stock take of library resources in the last two weeks of term. Your child may be given notices to take home with details of any books they need to return to the library.



Please check their bags for these!

Your support in ensuring that your child has returned all outstanding loans is greatly appreciated.

There will be a prize for

the first class in the school to return all their library books!

Please contact me if you are unsure if your child has any books on loan.

Elaine Hine - Teacher-Librarian

KidsMatter

Community Sausage Sizzle

For the first time KidsMatter is officially recognising 20 schools around Australia. Wanniasa Junior campus is one of the schools. To celebrate we will be having a sausage sizzle for our students, families and our community helpers. It will take place straight after our Christmas Assembly on Friday 13th December. Students will join their families in a free

sausage sizzle. Meat sausages as well as Halal sausages will be available for lunch. The P&C will also be selling drinks and ice-creams from the canteen. Balloons and KidsMatter tattoos will be available for children on the day free.

We hope to see you there.

Jenny Tatham and Sonya Maybury.

Parents & Citizens Association

The Parent & Citizens Association is looking for expressions of interest in the position of Canteen Manager &/or Assistant for 2014. The role involves preparing food & operating the canteen for business, ordering stock and purchasing.

Requirements – Working with Vulnerable People clearance & Food Safety Supervisor Certificate. The P & C would be open to negotiations of the payment to cover these requirements.

Award Wages – National Fast Food Retail Award 2000 as detailed on www.fairwork.gov.au
Hours – ACT school calendar year. Minimum of 4 days per week 9.30am to 2pm.

Please email your expression of interest and resume to Rosie Chisholm at rchisholm@inet.net.au

Lynette Sanchez

Senior Campus News

Pastoral Care Team

Ann Hill - Coordinator - 62056178
Trevor Preston - Youth Support Worker – 62057855
Robert Walls - School Counsellor (Mon & Wed) 62056179
Anita Sutherland - Indigenous Education Officer 62057855

Absences

If your student is absent or late for any reason, please let the school as soon as possible, by phone 6205 6200 or email to info@wans.act.edu.au.

All 'Unexplained Absences' on students records may affect any **Centrelink payments, Secondary Bursary payments** and the **receipt of Year 10 Certificates.**

If your student is late to school (that is arriving any time after 9am) you need to sign your student in, or either, provide them with a note or ring the school, explaining their late arrival.

Fiona McKellar - Absence Officer

Mandatory Procedures for all High School Students in ACT

As of Jan 2013 all students are required to participate in the Swimming Proficiency Testing procedures. This is an annual procedure which allows students to participate in all unstructured water activities for 12 months from the date they passed the test. Year 7 completed the test before they went to Camp, and the rest of the school is in the process of being tested before the Big Splash excursion at the end of the year. Regardless of your child's attendance at Big Splash, all students are required to participate in the scheduled proficiency test session in November or December 2013.

Students who **do not** participate or pass their scheduled session will be unable to participate in unstructured water activities until the next round of annual testing – November 2014. Year 7 students who did not attend camp plus all students in Year 8 & 9 have been issued a note containing the schedule and all necessary information.

Please ensure your child returns the note to their PTG teacher and brings their \$5.00 to be paid directly to the pool upon entry on their scheduled day.

NB: Unstructured water activities essentially means 'free time' in the water. Unstructured activities commonly occur on excursions, school camps and at school swimming carnivals when events have concluded.

Lisa Price

Literacy News

The end of another school year is fast approaching and as we start to wrap things up for 2013, we are also hard at work preparing for the new year ahead. 2014 will be an exciting year for Wanniasa Senior School as we look to implement a new literacy program for all teachers and students.

Writer's notebook allows students to take in the world around them and document their daily lives. It provides an easy, informal way to start thinking about new topics and ideas. Students are encouraged to write freely and take ownership of their writing.

The notebook is a place where students will record impressions, observations, and ideas that will eventually serve as the basis for more formal writings, such as essays, articles, stories, or poems.

Using Graphic Organisers as part of the Writer's Notebook process allows students to organise their thoughts and draw out what they are thinking and feeling. Teachers, will model the way in which to use a range of graphic organisers during the Writer's Notebook sessions so that students can see the benefit of them.

Writer's notebook provides a structure to investigate and choose appropriate text types. It supports students in making decisions about their writing as they have ownership over their choices regarding topics and text types.

Kaleen High School implemented this program two years ago and have had much success across the board. Student's attitudes towards writing have improved, student's have learned how to plan out their writing and all students have developed skills in thinking about and discussing topics to aid them in their writing.

All of our teachers are keen to be a part of this new program and I look forward to reporting to you all on how it is going.

Kellie Keffe - Literacy Field Officer

English/History/Geography News

Year 10 has ended the year in English and History by completing their student pathways, planning for college and beyond, and preparing for their roundtable reflections and speech about their journey at Wanniasa High. We look forward to viewing these roundtables in Week 8.

As assessment draws to a close for Year 7-9, please remind your students to complete their journals for the Wide Reading Program if they have chosen to participate in it. It is a program where students can gain extra credit for all the reading they do outside of class, and will be available for students to access in 2014 too.

Our Year 8 English classes have impressed us with their mature and thoughtful approach to the new 'Independent Reading Unit', developed by Lisa Hammond and Kellie Keffe. In this unit, students read a novel of their choice and work at their own pace through a number of key reading comprehension and analysis skills. These skills will lay the foundation for great success in Years 9-10 as they begin to work toward their Year 10 Certificate from 2014.

Our wonderful history teacher, Doris Owusu-Ansah, coordinated this year's Remembrance Day assembly with the assistance of Natalie Guilfoyle (Year 10) and Matthew Jolley (Year 8). Natalie and Matthew impressed staff and students with their wreath-laying ceremony which remembered those who have fought and died for our country at war.

To cap off the year, we will be holding an Enrichment challenge for junior students (Yr 6-8) across the Tuggeranong Network which will involve reading and responding to the novel 'Jali Boy' and then engaging in a writer's workshop with the author, Rick Macourt. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday.

Indigenous News

We had an open morning on 25 November for parents to come and see the bushtucker garden and Ganbra room, as well as some of the art that students have produced over the year. During this morning, we also had Winnunga Nimityjah come along and set up a stall with healthy lifestyle information in the foyer during recess. If you would like to arrange a visit at any time, or to talk to us about Indigenous programs, please contact Cara Shipp on 6205 6298 or Anita Sutherland on 6205 7855.

We have been working with REAL Community connecting Year 10 students to ASBA opportunities, with 3 of our Year 10 students considering some of the opportunities available with Department of Health and Department of Family Services.

Below are some advertisements for community events coming up, including info about the Gugan Gulwan holiday program.

Have a safe and happy break and we look forward to working with you in the New Year.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM - JANUARY 2014

Week 1: Monday 13th to Friday 17th January 2014
Ages: 8-10 years old Co-ordinator: Amanda Allen
(AmandaA@gugan-gulwan.com.au)

*please direct any queries directly to Nick for this age group

Week 2: Monday 20th to Friday 24th January 2014
Ages: 11-16 years old Co-ordinator: Nick Hawley
(nick@gugan-gulwan.com.au)

Names are now being taken for the Gugan Gulwan School Holiday Program.

The program is split over two weeks; The first week is for school aged children aged 8-10 years old and the second week is for school aged children from 11-16 years old. If you would like to book a place for your child to participate in the School Holiday Program please register on our Website:www.gugangulwan.com.au<<http://www.gugan-gulwan.com.au/>> or contact the Co-ordinators on 6296-8900.

NO BOOKINGS WILL BE TAKEN AFTER THE 6th DECEMBER 2013.

All program participants must be at Gugan no later than 9am and must be picked up by 3pm each day. Transport to Gugan in the mornings or home at the end of the day cannot be provided by Gugan.

[Next Aboriginal Women's Business Workshop - Sunday Dec 8th Canberra](#)

FIRDA is running another Aboriginal Womens Business Workshop for this year - this is a one day workshop on Sunday Dec 8th 10-5pm in Yarralumla

at FIRDA's office. Please see attached flyer and any non-Indigenous women are welcome. Early Bird prices are also available. If you are on a limited income please email us or ring me as we will give a special discount to Aboriginal women on low incomes and family groups. Children both boys and girls are welcome. All food and drink is included in the cost. All proceeds go to FIRDA to run our volunteer programs.

These workshops are to share cultural Law, spirituality and women's knowledge, dances, songs which we have permission to share. You'll enjoy it so give yourself a great cultural gift and learn more about our wonderful culture and spirituality. If you are non-Aboriginal and you work in an area of Indigenous community engagement or require increased competency skills this workshop is a beginning and we can offer Certificates for workplaces.

Assistant Professor Tjanara Goreng Goreng
Indigenous Studies, University of Canberra
PhD Candidate CAEPR ANU
MSoc.Admin, PDipMgt, Grad.Cert.Soc.Sc.(Couns.)
Founder and Chair FIRDA
Foundation for Indigenous Recovery & Development,
Australia

Canberra ACT & Uluru NT Australia
P+61262828803

M+61(0)458239480

Etggoreng@gmail.com

Efirdainc@gmail.com

W www.firdaustralia.com

Canteen News

The last trading day for the Senior Canteen is **Wednesday, 18th of December**. We want to thank the School Community for supporting the Canteen; from the students to teachers and staff, as well as School Management. A special thanks of praise goes to our wonderful student volunteers who have been efficient, reliable and trustworthy. We depend on this support and would welcome more volunteers for next year.

We want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. To those students in Year 10, all the very best with your future and look back upon your high school years with a smile (especially when it comes to canteen comfort food).

Merry Christmas,

Annie Hallett

Senior Canteen Convenor

Tania Dawes

Manager

Contact Details

Wanniassa School is a sustainable school and as such reduction of paper usage is a priority. The newsletter is a valuable communication tool and we are

introducing two options in which to access this information

The school newsletter will now be sent to you via your mobile phone/email as a link to our website.

It is important that the school has current contact details for parents and guardians, especially up-to-date phone numbers, email addresses, and postal address. <http://www.wans.act.edu.au>.



For Peaceful Parenting and Resilient Children
PARENT EFFECTIVENESS TRAINING (P.E.T)
Supported by Parentline ACT

P.E.T.:

- helps you yell less - stop those arguments before they start!
- enhances your relationship with your children, to last a lifetime
- offers you an alternative to using rewards and punishment - to help your child develop inner discipline.
- helps you raise confident, considerate children in an atmosphere of mutual respect
- offers you the “how to” of helping your

child become resilient and emotionally intelligent.

· is evidence based and extensively researched

The course consists of three-hour sessions, once per week, for eight weeks. Booking is essential.

\$290 pp for the course (investment includes a workbook and textbook).

Course begins: Tuesday, 11th February, 2014

Time: 6.30 pm to 9.45 pm

Place: Weston, ACT.

For more information, phone Canberra’s most experienced accredited P.E.T. instructor:

Larissa on **0413 451 607** or email info@parentskills.com.au

Vinnies is looking for volunteers to help in our retail centres and/or warehouse over our very busy holiday period. We get a large volume of donations and are looking for people to help us out with the sorting and/or centre duties. All the money raised in our centres goes to supporting the homeless in our community.

If you are interested, please email Katherine at Katherine.horak@svdp-cg.org.au or call 6234 7348.

The school, its staff and the Territory are not aware of, and make no representation as to, the truth or accuracy of the information provided in advertisements appearing in the publication. Readers should make their own enquiries in relation to the information.

Because I know what it's like to be alone.

THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF REASONS TO DONATE. YOU ONLY NEED ONE.

Do Something About It. Donate to Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Call 13 18 12 or visit vinnies.org.au/dosomething

donate now

Vinnies good works