

WAIKERIE High School Newsletter



24 Blake Rd, Waikerie
Date: 28/05/2021

Principal: Craig Griffiths

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On Sunday 25th April, ANZAC DAY - Waikerie High School Leaders Jack Higgins, Emily Taylor and Vaine Guy represented the school laying a wreath at the Memorial Gardens Dawn Service. Pictured above with Loxton Waikerie Mayor Leon Stasinowsky and Principal Craig Griffiths.



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



RESPECT ♦ RESPONSIBILITY ♦ TRUST ♦ ACHIEVEMENT ♦ COMMUNITY

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Term 2 has again been busy with many events taking place to support learning opportunities. I continue to be proud of the many achievements and efforts our students display at school and within the wider community.

ANZAC DAY: It was terrific to attend the Waikerie ANZAC service and pay respects to all those impacted by war. Thank you to our Year 12 student Leaders; Emily Taylor, Vaine Guy and Jack Higgins for representing our school with the laying of a wreath.

STUDENT/PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS: As a follow up from reports, many parents took the opportunity to discuss student progress with teachers. Many interviews were conducted on the night which allowed valuable feedback to be communicated and directions for improvement. Parents/caregivers and teachers working together is critical to ensuring best outcomes for students.

TRAFFIC LIGHT DATA: This information is now uploaded to DayMap. The data will provide further feedback on student progress at this time and we encourage parents to discuss this with their children. Please contact the teacher if you have concerns.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY: It was fantastic to see students being acknowledged for their academic and sporting efforts in Term 1. Congratulations to those students who received a certificate. Another highlight of this assembly was the performance of our School Band. It is pleasing to see so many students contributing to the band. This assembly is always very positive for students and staff and it was terrific to have the support of the many parents in attendance.

NAPLAN: Year 9 students have just completed NAPLAN testing and I congratulate them on their positive approach to the tests. We look forward to receiving data to help support student learning. Thank you to our middle school assistant principal, Mr Higgins for coordinating the tests and Mrs Sparrow, Mrs Grieger and Mr Valentine for supervising over the week.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES: Cross Country Running has featured heavily in our calendar this term. Congratulations to all those students who show the courage to participate and give their best efforts. Well done to Randell House on winning the school event and a special congratulations to all medal winners and students that competed in the interschool event.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: We now have our new storage shed erected which will allow for areas to be opened up at our Agricultural Learning Centre. We are also currently renovating rooms 35/36 which will provide a modern teaching/study area for our senior students next year. We are very proud of our school environment. It is great to hear the positive feedback from students around their appreciation of the grounds.

YEAR 7 TO HIGH SCHOOL: Over the last few weeks I have had the pleasure of visiting primary schools and talking with our future year 7 and 8 students and parents. It is so exciting to be planning for our first group of year 7 students and ensuring we have solid structures and processes to accommodate and deliver best learning outcomes. I would like to thank the Primary Schools for hosting and thank Middle School Assistant Principal, Mr Dion Higgins and Year 7/8 leader, Mr Daniel Pierce, for presenting at the sessions. A big thank you to our SRC representatives who also attended to share their stories of life at Waikerie High School.

STUDENT FREE DAY: A reminder that our student free day will be on Friday 4th June. Staff will be involved in professional development and will continue working on curriculum and preparation for our year 7 students in 2022.



Craig Griffiths
Principal

TERM 2 2021 AT A GLANCE

MAY		
Week 6	Monday 31st – 4th June	Year 10 Work Experience
JUNE		
Week 6	Friday 4th	Student Free Day
Week 7	Thursday 10th	Adelaide Cross Country
Week 8	Monday 14th	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
	Tuesday 15th	Production 1:30pm to 3:00pm
	Wednesday 16th	Production 1:30pm to 3:00pm
	Thursday 17th	9 A-Side Football – WHS
	Friday 18th	Science & Engineering Challenge – Loxton HS
Week 9	Tuesday 22nd	Production 2pm
	Wednesday 23rd	Production 2pm
JULY		
Week 10	Thursday 1st	VET – Come & Try Day to be confirmed
	Friday 2nd	End Term 2 – 2:25pm Dismissal Reports available on DayMap Parent Newsletter on DayMap and Waikerie High School Web page

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SENIOR SCHOOL

Year 10 – Week 6 is work experience week. Work experience can reaffirm a student's decision to seek a certain career pathway but also importantly it can help a student decide that an area of work is not for them. I encourage all students to show initiative, ask questions and show a positive attitude during the week. Year 10s will have an additional opportunity for work experience at the end of the year to try another business or area of interest.

Students who do not have work experience during week 6 are expected at school. An alternative timetable is running and there are staff available to give support, especially for the PLP which is a compulsory subject for the SACE.

Year 11 – Exams will be held in Week 9 for several subjects. Normal timetable will run and exams will be in double lessons during the week. A full timetable of exams will be published to students on DayMap soon.

Compulsory SACE subjects – Year 11 students must gain a C or better in English and Mathematics to achieve their SACE. Students at risk in these subjects may be taken out of other classes in Week 6 and be provided with support to complete outstanding work. Teachers will contact parents to inform if their child is at risk of not passing.

Year 12 – There were many pleasing results from the first term and students continue to work well in Term 2. The volume of work to be submitted does not slow down so it is important for students to speak with teachers if they need support.

There are several subjects that will run holiday sessions in July. Students have been sent a timetable of subjects being offered.



Phil Valentine
AP Senior School

On Thursday 29th April, Mr Higgins Woodwork class competed in the CO2 Dragster STEM challenge. It was fantastic to see the engagement and the competition in the group. We had some wonderful entrants in the fastest category and the Show'n'Shine category.



Winner of the Fastest
CO2 Dragster:
Kieran 1.198sec over 20m

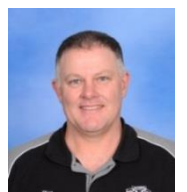
Winner of the Student Choice
Show'n'Shine:
Amity (Tape Measure)



Winners of the Principal's Choice Show'n'Shine:
Emma (Slinky Dog) and Latia (Flame Plane)



Some of the other creative entries:
Ice Cream - Nikita,
Bowling Pin - Claire
School Bus - Klancie



Dion Higgins
AP Middle School

M&S Charges 2021

Material & Services charges for this year are set at \$360. If you are eligible to apply for school card, please complete the school card application form either on line at www.sa.gov.au or contact the school for a hard copy. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

FRONT OFFICE

The front office is closed every Thursday from 2:30pm.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open **Tuesday and Thursday 8:30am-9:00am**. All uniforms need to be paid in full at time of purchase either by cash, EFTPOS or cheque.

Rugby tops have finally arrived and priced at \$62 each. They have been very popular with students and we have run out of some sizes, reordering is in progress and should be here by the beginning of September. If you wish to purchase a rugby top please come to the uniform shop when open.



**Felicity Ziegler
Business Manager**

BOOKROOM (Stationery and all payments)

The Bookroom is open **Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings before school 8:30am-9am**.

2021 SPORTS NEWS

Randell win the WHS Cross Country

Well done to the Randell house for winning the WHS Cross Country title. After finishing second in swimming and sports day, Randell House have broken through to win the Cross Country shield. This also means that each house has won a major trophy this year (King – Swimming, Cadell – Athletics, Ritchie – Sports Day). Participation was excellent across almost all age groups (helped by the fantastic weather we had on the day) and many students were able to complete the 3km course within 22 minutes to receive points for their house. The school would like to thank the Waikerie Football Club for the use of their change rooms, oval and BBQ facilities. Further thanks goes to the SRC who made sure no one went hungry after their run by providing BBQ food and drinks.

Team Results

PLACE	TEAM	POINTS
1 st	RANDELL	23
2 nd	KING	21
3 rd	RITCHIE	19
4 th	CADELL	16



Individual Medal Winners

BOYS	WINNER	RUNNER UP
U14	Mal Lloyd (RI)	Avreet Singh (KI)
U15	Blake Loffler (CA)	Thomas Waanders (RI)
U16	Jaxon Kipling (RA)	Hayden Fridd (RA)
Open	Marcel Waanders (RI)	Lachy Nitschke (RI)

GIRLS	WINNER	RUNNER UP
U14	Latia Loffler (CA)	Grace Borgas (RA)
U15	Natalia Hocking (KI)	Alicia Kratopoulos (RI)
U16	Stella Thomas (RA)	Taylah Gore (KI)
Open	Tegan Carter (CA)	Elisa Schiller (KI)



Interschool Cross Country



Waikerie High School was lucky enough to host the recent Interschool Cross Country event at the Waikerie Football oval and river front. This meant that around 400 students from Riverland Primary and High Schools attended.

Waikerie High School was well represented by almost 60 students who chose to compete in the event, as well as 20 students who volunteered their time to help out on the day with various jobs (cooking food, timekeeping and assisting on checkpoints).

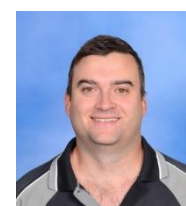
All students represented the school extremely well, showing a positive and helpful attitude when volunteering, or putting their best efforts in while competing.

Waikerie finished 4th overall in the high school event that was won by Renmark High School.

Notable individual Performances include:

Latia Loffler: FIRST, U14 Girls and Malachi Lloyd: SECOND, U14 Boys.

Students are now looking forward to competing in the upcoming State Cross Country Championships at Oakbank Racecourse in Week 7.



Matthew McDonald
HPE & Sports Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE WORKER

Thank you to all of our AMAZING volunteers!

During Week 4, Monday 17th May to Sunday 23rd May 2021, we celebrated National Volunteer Week (NVW). National Volunteer Week is the annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our nation's volunteers. In 2021 the theme is **Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine.** **Recognise**, celebrate and thank volunteers for the vital role they play in our lives. **Reconnect** to what is important by giving our time to help others and ourselves. **Reimagine** how we better support volunteers and communities they help.

Volunteers play a vital role each and every day; they make our communities stronger, especially during times of need, crisis or isolation. Waikerie High School is incredibly thankful for all that our amazing volunteers do in their volunteer roles within our school.

NATIONAL 17-23 MAY 2021
VOLUNTEER
WEEK
RECOGNISE. RECONNECT.
REIMAGINE.

We RECOGNISE,
celebrate and thank
volunteers
for the vital role they
play in our lives

I am on site Wednesday and Friday and am available to support parents, caregivers, students and members of our wider school community. You can contact me by email on janine.frost335@schools.sa.edu.au, or by phoning the school to book an appointment.

Janine Grieger
Pastoral Care Worker

MAIZE ISLAND LANDCARE PROJECT

Students are working with Landcare and National Parks and Wildlife on several projects to support the conservation of Maize Island.

Initially students took a guided walk with ranger Shara Coulthard and Karen Bishop from Riverland West Landcare looking at the environment, current interpretative signage on the island and noting the damage caused by feral animals and off-road driving.

Students have chosen to focus on four areas of conservation:

- Maintaining walking tracks
- Controlling vehicle access
- Developing self-guided activities/information about the park
- Researching birds/animals/reptiles etc.

This work begins this week with a hike to the wetlands and identification of bird species.



Gill Collins
Arts/Special Ed. Coordinator

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Students are well on their way to producing this year's musical *Shrek Junior*. Part romance, part twisted fairytale, this musical showcases the talents of our actors, singers, costume makers and set designers. There will be two shows Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd of June at 2pm, in the school Hall. Families, community and primary schools are invited to come along to cheer on Shrek, Boo Lord Farquaad and to laugh at Donkey's antics. *No cost involved.*



EDEN PRIZE

ThinkwriteWIN

How can understanding & applying mathematics make the world a better & happier place?

Write a 600-800 word response to this thought provoking question for your chance to win!

The Eden School Prize is open to all year 10 students in Department for Education schools. The prizes for the competition are provided from the 1956 bequest of John Joseph Eden who requested in his will that the Minister for Education conduct an essay competition for young people in South Australian public schools. In 2021, the focus of the essay is on how understanding and applying mathematics can make the world a better and happier place.

WHAT ARE THE PRIZES?

There will be three prizes awarded to the value of:

1ST PRIZE - \$1,250
2ND PRIZE - \$750
3RD PRIZE - \$500

ENTRIES CLOSE
FRIDAY 20 AUGUST 2021

To download the application form and competition details go to:
www.education.sa.gov.au/edenschoolprize

Government of South Australia
Department for Education



Gill Collins
Arts/Special Ed. Coordinator

New Dental Service to be offered to Students

We are proud to offer all students access to an onsite dental check- up at no out of pocket expense through the **Mobile Dental Care SA Healthy Smiles Bright Future Program**.

The *Healthy Smiles Bright Future* Program is run using best practice guidelines as set out by the Australian Dental Association.

Check-ups are scheduled to be performed at the school by selected local Dentists and Oral Health Therapists; each of whom have relevant professional training, clearances and equipment required to perform high quality dental services in a school setting.

Important dates/deadlines for the program are listed below:

TBC by School	Information pack sent home with students
Tuesday 15th June	Deadline to complete & return the below forms to Waikerie High School Administration Front Office
	- Patient Details and Consent
	- Patient Information Form
	- CDBS Bulk billing patient consent form.

Following the student registration process, dates will then be finalised for the following activities:

- Initial dental check-ups (to be performed at school)
- The Dentist will be visiting on 1st July**
- Follow-up treatment for relevant students (to be performed at school)

(Please note: **Mobile Dental Care SA** will be contacting parents/guardians to obtain verbal consent *prior* to any follow-up treatment being undertaken).

For further information about the Program, please go to our website:
www.mobiledentalsa.com.au or email mobiledentalcaresa@gmail.com

YEAR 7 TO HIGH SCHOOL IN 2022



Parent Update Week 5, Term 2 – 2021

A focus on your child's learning

As you probably know, high schools differ from primary schools in their learning structure and schedule. Your child has had one class teacher and classroom for most of their lessons in primary school.

In high school, they will move between different classrooms and be taught by a wider range of teachers who are specialists in their fields.

Readiness for a more mature setting

We know from our pilot program that year 7s are well and truly ready for high school.

The pilot involves three public high schools that began welcoming year 7s in 2020 to provide us with early insights on the move. Having listened to the experiences of their students, families and staff, we know the vast majority of year 7s quickly settle into high school and benefit from the new learning and social opportunities it offers.

Pilot program students have told us they enjoy the independence, peer interactions and responsibilities of high school, which also reflects the experiences of students interstate. All other Australian states already teach year 7 in high school. Queensland and Western Australia made the move most recently in 2015.

High school learning content

All South Australian school students learn the Australian Curriculum. This will not change as year 7 moves to high school. Teachers will support your child to adjust to high school expectations and will help them to build confidence in their learning.

Many students in our pilot program acknowledged there was an expectation they would work hard and complete assignments on time in high school. Parents were proud of how their children rose to this challenge. Students also said they felt supported to achieve by their new high school teachers.

"My teachers make me feel very calm because they reassure me that I can do the work and I'm not going to fail," – pilot school student.

Access to specialist teachers and resources

Under the Australian Curriculum, year 7 is designed to be taught in a high school setting, with access to specialist resources such as fully equipped science laboratories, performing arts spaces, kitchens and design and technology equipment. Many high school teachers also have additional training in particular learning areas.

Beyond the classroom, high schools offer extra-curricular opportunities to extend your child's social, academic and physical learning, such as sports, debating, clubs and music groups.

"You've got teachers that are teaching subjects they specialise in, rather than in primary school it's one teacher," – pilot school parent.

Specialist teachers

Our high school teachers are trained and have access to evidence-based approaches and professional learning to teach adolescent students.

We are bringing more than 100 primary teachers into our high schools and offering them additional professional learning to prepare for the year 7 to high school move. Students and school communities will continue to benefit from their extensive accumulated knowledge of year 7 curriculum and teaching methods.

Our high school teachers are also being offered additional professional learning in the lead-up to the move, to ensure they are confident and ready to teach year 7s.

Where to find out more

Stay informed through your school and the Department for Education's website: www.education.sa.gov.au/7toHS

Or share your feedback with the project team by emailing: Year7toHS@sa.gov.au

