Open Night

On Thursday 17 March we held our Open Night. Each year we hold our Open Night a little earlier than many other schools to take advantage of daylight saving as this solves a number of parking issues and provides ready access to areas of the school not easily visited after dark. Open Night is an opportunity for prospective and current parents to visit the school to meet students and staff; examine samples of student work; view and discuss our program; observe students at work; and learn about new innovations and future directions for the school. The event was exceptionally well attended and the feedback we received on the night was very positive and rewarding to all those involved. We take great pride in our school and the work of our staff and students and it is wonderful to have the opportunity to showcase this to the broader community. On behalf of all the visitors who attended on the night, I would like to thank the staff and volunteer students who gave their time willingly to make the Open Night possible. A larger article with photographs from the night will be included in the next Gang Gang.

Sports Awards

The last few weeks have been a very successful period for our students’ sporting pursuits with a special mention to Cooper Goodman who not only received a Sporting Blue from School Sports Victoria, but was also the inaugural winner of the Lindsay Gaze Award. Cooper is an outstanding young man who gives 100% to everything that he does and we are very proud to call him one of ours. Make sure you read Katie Cook’s article in this edition of Gang Gang which describes Cooper’s achievements in more detail.

Maths/PE, Health & Science

The Maths, PE/Health and Science teams have been working extremely hard in term 1. Together, staff have been developing common learning tasks and putting these onto Compass which you may have already seen! If not, you will soon begin to see these when you log onto the Compass parent portal and it is a fantastic way for you to keep up to date with what your son or daughter has been doing in class!

In some specific Maths news, the Year 7’s have just completed their exciting Math’s ALP week. A couple of our wonderful students have written their reviews of the week.

“The ALP was like a camp of sorts but in a classroom and every activity revolved around maths. The whole year level was involved and it just had a camp kind of vibe to it. We were separated into teams and throughout the week, we played games and held competitions. My favourite activity was the Amazing Race. I loved it so much because it was a test of teamwork and maths skills. My team, ‘The Math Books’, worked really well together and we ended up winning. I really enjoyed the Amazing Race because in one activity there were many different qualities and skills you had to combine. Another thing I really liked about the ALP was that throughout the week so many things about Maths were involved that it made me see Mathematics in a different way. We took part in different activities and overall, I really enjoyed it.” – Portia Ting 7.3

“The ALP was really fun because even though we did the same subject for a whole week the teachers mixed it up a lot. My favourite activity was the Amazing Race because you got to be outside and win lollies. Some of the other activities I enjoyed were watching the movie ‘(Glory Road)’ and then doing some statistics on NBA players and comparing them to Dr J.” – Brady Poole 7.1

Stay tuned for the next PLTT update about the exciting things Warrandyte High School is up to!

Hello Everyone

Okay, I am now a couple of weeks older and getting bigger. I am also getting the hang of this toileting business. All good at school but at home I get a little forgetful.

My other learning tasks are to ignore food on the ground. I am learning that when Jill says ‘leave it’ I am to stop sniffing the ground and re-focus. This is tricky but I am getting the hang of it. I also respond to the word ‘come’ now which gets me treats as well.

I have started walking past very quiet shops but I am having difficulty with ignoring barking dogs. With the help of Katherine, my puppy advisor, Jill has some great techniques to help me. The best technique I like is getting treats as soon as I do the right thing. So when I walk well, toilet outside, ignore food and interesting smelly things on the ground I get treats. Yummy.

Next week I will be attending my 16 week puppy class and the most exciting thing about that is I will be receiving my guide dog jacket.

I enjoy all my visitors so please keep coming to see me.

Love Nerida

Principal: Dr Stephen Parkin
Assistant Principal: Joseph Caruana
School Captains: Tylar Findlay and Ben Willis

Chantelle Wilson
Maths/PE, Health & Science

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Monday 29 February (a leap day) was a very successful day for students from Warrandyte High School competing in the Intermediate Divisional Sports. Forty-five Year 9 & 10 students headed off to compete in Volleyball, Cricket and Tennis. All teams performed exceptionally well with 2 teams coming home victorious (boys volleyball and boys cricket).

**Volleyball**

Warrandyte High School entered three teams into the interschool competition. The boys A team were in the stronger group having to compete against Mulluana and Templestowe. Their first game against Mulluana was tightly contested but the boys played some excellent team volleyball and their team performance. The boys team started the day off with a win, however they came up against two strong teams before regrouping and playing their best volleyball in their final game to win and finish 3rd overall. The girls A team also started the day off well with a strong win, however with only 6 members in the team and limited rest periods, started to fatigue as they came up against some strong competition. To the girls credit though they continually strived to improve their performance, worked well as a team continually supporting each other and improved their skills throughout the day. Overall a very successful day out for the Volleyball players. Students had given up numerous lunchtimes to practice which was reflected in their performance on the day. They proved that with hard work, perseverance, determination, teamwork and a never give up attitude anything is possible. Well done to all members of the Volleyball teams – You did Warrandyte High School proud.

**Cricket**

When I was asked to accompany our Intermediate boys cricket team to the interschool competition, I had no idea of the talent that lurked amongst us! Some outstanding batting and amazingly accurate bowling made light work of our opponents. My coaching skills were obviously the reason why we did so well. There has been talk of my promotion to the top job (national coach). Always the shirker of responsibility, I managed to procure the services of two gifted adjudicators to make my life easy on the day. Ben Willis and Liam Goldburg were excellent umpires. Their ability to raise the finger (especially when we were bowling) and point to the dressing rooms was a sight to behold.

Our batsmen were brilliantly led by our opening pair, Darcy Poole and Ben Davies. They softened up the opposition with some awesome hitting. Tyson Jaksic not only smashed the ball all over the park, his bowling was a frightening spectacle. I was actually fearing for the safety of the facing batsman! Callum Padfield was particularly successful with the ball taking a bag of wickets; he also managed to save our innings in our second game with the bat. Bailey Bowyer smashed some brilliant boundaries and took a ‘low to the ground’ pearler of a catch to rip the heart out of our opponents in the same game. Crucial stands with the bat and accurate bowling by Artie Pinder and James Mann showed the consistency of the talent in the squad.

Oliver Willis (yes, brother of our umpire) needed to use his handy batting and bowling skills as his brother refused to lift the finger in a nepotistic gesture of family love. Deacon Murray held up an end to save our innings in our second game with the bat. Bailey Bowyer smashed some brilliant boundaries and took a ‘low to the ground’ pearler of a catch to rip the heart out of our opponents in the same game. Crucial stands with the bat and accurate bowling by Artie Pinder and James Mann showed the consistency of the talent in the squad.

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**Tennis**

On Monday 29th February, the Year 9 and 10 students leaped at the opportunity to represent Warrandyte in the Intermediate Fast 4 Tennis Divisional Competition. Five boys (Finn, Tommy, Aidan, Tim and Harvey) played 3 matches and put in a great effort. They had some wins and some losses and overall finished 4th. The girls (Skye, Rose, Greta, Meg and Piper) played some great singles and doubles, winning two matches and losing one match to the eventual winner, Templestowe. After the round robin the result came down to a count back as three teams ended on the same number of wins. Unfortunately we didn't win enough sets to take out the day.

The Warrandyte students showed great sportsmanship and enjoyed the even competition. They look forward to having another go at tennis in 2017.

Michelle Barry

They are a sporty bunch at Warrandyte

— Ante Sunjo
Division Swimming Sports

On Friday 11 March, sixteen students represented Warrandyte High School at the Mullum Division Swimming Sports held at Aquanation Ringwood. All 16 students did an exceptional job in both individual and team relay events, coming 1st in four events, 2nd in eight events, and 3rd in five events with nearly every swimmer coming back to school with a ribbon. In total eight students will now progress through to represent the school at the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Finals.

In the individual events Alexandra Bloomer came first and set a new record of 35.21 seconds in the 50m butterfly and Tianah Cooper came first and set a new record of 34.86 seconds in the 50m freestyle.

Our students then grouped together in the relays to perform exceptionally well with the girls 13-14 year old 4 x 50m medley relay winning with a time of 2 mins 59 seconds. The team consisted of (Alexandra Bloomer, Tianah Cooper, Georgia D'Amico and Sienna Rohde). The 13 year old boys then followed up in the 4 x 50m freestyle relay winning in a time of 2 mins 59 seconds, 10 seconds faster than any other team. The team consisted of (Noah Willis, Noah Hunter, Benjamin Metcalf and Luke Myers).

An exceptional effort was put in by the 16 year old 4 x 50m relay team that actually consisted of three 13 year olds (Alexandra Bloomer, Georgia D'Amico and Sienna Rohde) and one 16 year old (Kassie Jones) who came second, only being beaten by 1 second in the last 5m. The boys 16 year old 4 x 50m relay team consisting of Josh Clinton, Luke Brincat, Callum Patfield and Harry Deakin also put in a gallant effort with the event being tightly contested with the boys coming in with a close second. These efforts really demonstrated the determination and strong mindset shown by all Warrandyte High School students on the day.

A special congratulations goes to Alexandra Bloomer who was the division 13 year old champion. On the day she competed in a total of six events (four individual and two relays) coming first in the 50m butterfly and medley relay and second in the 50m freestyle, 50m breaststroke, 50m backstroke and 4 x 50m 16year old freestyle relay. Congratulations Alexandra and all students who competed on the day.

We wish the eight students the best of luck as they progress through to the next round on Wednesday 23 March.

Warrandyte High School Parent Association

Do you want to make a real difference and contribute to your child's school?

Join the Parent Association and do a bit of work with other like-minded parents!

Minimum work required (not like when the kids are at primary school!) No heavy workloads - we only have ONE major fundraiser a year – the Trivia night in May.

We meet one night a month (the 2nd Thursday of each month), often over a casual dinner.

The Parent Association has raised significant funds over the years, and have paid for
• New Airconditioning and heating in the VCE centre
• raised garden beds for growing herbs and vegetables for the kitchen / food tech area
• lots of new seating and tables for students
• new carpet

To mention just a few of the latest benefits made possible by our fundraising.

Please consider spending a little of your time to make a BIG difference and contact the school office (and they will pass on your details) or contact Fay:0412 156 566

Margaret Kelly
Music Support group

Warrandyte Festival 2016

Warrandyte High School was well represented at the Warrandyte Festival over 19 & 20 March 2016.

The School Captains, Tyla Findlay and Ben Willis, ably represented the school in the Parade on Saturday morning. On Saturday afternoon the Concert Band and the Ukulele Ensemble played on the main stage. On Sunday morning Claire Bloom and Dr Stephen Parkin took on the challenging task of judging the Dog Show and Pet Parade.

And all weekend the Music Support Group, with the aid of fantastic parent volunteers, cooked and sold sausages, raising valuable funds for the Music Program.

Despite a shaky start with rain on Saturday morning, the weekend proved really worthwhile, well supported and lots of fun.

Margaret Kelly
Music Support group

Sisters Chloe and Chelsea are patrolling members of the Gunnamatta Surf Lifesaving Club and on February 14th Valentine’s Day it was a historic occasion for the Club. The girls formed part of the first ever “all female pink patrol” to help celebrate the achievements of women in lifesaving. With the help of 21 volunteers and urging the need to swim between the flags, the beach was kept incident free on the day. The girls have always had a passion for Summer and the beach so they started at the Club as Nippers many years ago to learn all about water safety, first aid, rips and tides. Their achievements now include obtaining their Bronze Medallion, Advanced Resuscitation and Spinal Management certificates. Gunnamatta Surf Beach is their home away from home and that’s where you’ll find them most weekends, doing what they love best, helping others and serving the community. This is something they are very proud of. Gunnamatta Surf Lifesaving Club this year celebrates 50 years of saving lives and serving the community 1966-2016
At the end of last year after many years of success in his chosen sport of Baseball Cooper Goodman was nominated for a School Sports Victoria Sporting award. Cooper was first selected for a School Sport Victoria team when he was in grade six. He was named in the under 15 Australian International Baseball Federation World Cup team in 2014 and the School Sport Victoria team in 2015.

Cooper has made significant contribution to both community and school sport. He coaches T-Ball and runs softball clinics; has captained his school’s baseball team since Year 7 and coaches and umpires junior baseball teams at interschool competitions. In 2015 Cooper was an inspiring guest speaker at the School Sports Victoria 12 and under softball presentation dinner.

Cooper was a very deserving winner of the award and on Tuesday 15 March, Cooper, members of his family, Dr Stephen Parkin and Katie Cook attended a formal presentation ceremony held at the MCG Members Dining Room. The Master of Ceremonies for the event was Nicole Livingstone. This was a very special event with many current elite athletes in attendance providing insightful knowledge to everyone about the life of an athlete, what it means to train hard to reach your personal goals and the important life skills learnt by participating in sport. Nicole Livingstone even made special mention of Cooper’s inspiring presentation as a guest speaker at the Sports Victoria event held in 2015 as she had been in attendance with her own son, an aspiring junior softballer. Nicole said that her son was so enthused by Cooper’s message that he still mentions Cooper today.

What made the event even more special was that at the beginning of the night they announced that there was another award being presented. This award was in honour of Lindsay Gaze (a legend of Australian Basketball and member of the International Basketball Hall of Fame). This award was being presented for the first time and would be given to a student, coach or administrator who demonstrated an outstanding contribution to sport at both a school and community level. The recipient of this award was Cooper Goodman. To say that Cooper was overwhelmed was an understatement as all of a sudden he was up on stage with Lindsay Gaze and being interviewed in front of 300 people by Nicole Livingstone about his success in baseball and what it meant to win the award. I think it is the first time I have seen Cooper speechless before. It definitely was a proud moment for Cooper and his family and recognised the enormous effort, determination and hard work he has put in over the many years. Cooper represented the school extremely well and was very honoured to receive the award.

I personally congratulate Cooper on his fantastic efforts and all members of the Warrandyte High School community should be very proud of him. We also wish him the best of luck at his next big competition where he has been selected to be a member of the u17 Victorian State team which will complete in WA in May of this year. With his continued dedication and passion I am sure he will achieve everything he wants in baseball. Congratulations Cooper!
Put it in your travel diary
May 21st – a trip of a Lifetime!!

A What?
Come along to the Parent Association annual fund raiser, the WHS World Tour Trivia Night. Our 2016 theme is all about world travel and cultural exploration; so pack your suitcase and buckle up, as we take off for an evening of fun, games and lots of laughs for everyone.

When?
Saturday May 21st, 1900 hours (7pm for 7.30 start)

How?
Make up a table of 10 fellow explorers, or let us match you up with other solo travellers. Either way, we promise you a wild ride!
Feel free to dress up and/or decorate your table, if you wish. Special prizes for Best Dressed and Best Table.
Book and pay for your first class ticket/table at the School Office. At only $25 a seat, you won’t find a better bargain on Trivago!

Why?
• Lots of prizes
• Fantastic silent auction
• Games to play
• Trivia questions to suit all levels
• Great company
• Support your wonderful school