



Kawana Waters State College eNewsletter

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24 November 2023

P-12 College News

Executive Principal's Report



Dear parents, carers and community

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2023.

Our Year 12 students have now left us for a well-deserved break before they commence university or other further study, apprenticeships or full and part-time work to kick off their careers.

Their program of events, study and examinations over the past month has been gruelling and we now wait with anticipation for ATAR results to be released on December 15, as well as QTAC round 1 on December 21 and round 2 on January 11. Our current data tracking indicates all Year 12 graduates should achieve their Queensland Certificate of Education in 2023. All staff wish these students the very best in the future and we look forward to hearing about their achievements

and endeavours.

Final assessments and report cards:

Year 10 and 11 students are sitting exams and completing assessment with their final day being November 24. Prep to Year 9 students' final assessments will be taking place in weeks 9 and 10 of term. Primary student report cards are scheduled to be emailed to parents on December 7 and Secondary student (Year 7-11 only) are scheduled to be emailed home on December 8.

World Teachers Day:

On October 27, we celebrated world teachers' day. As he does each year, Jarrod Bleijie presented a gift to each campus. Thank you, Jarrod for your kindness and ongoing support.



College Strategic directions 2023:

As I have repeatedly shared, Kawana Waters State College students are doing very well academically with a pass rate above 96%. However, we believe that all students can learn and succeed. We will continue to strive for all students achieving a minimum of a 'C' standard (pass) as well as increasing the number of students achieving an A or B to above 65%.

How will we do this:

- Build staff understanding and skills to implement inclusive practices that ensure parity for all sub-groups and strengthen processes to remove barriers to success
- The Curriculum Inclusion Professional Learning Team will ensure case management of students not yet achieving a C in English and Mathematics, analyze student data and ensure supports are in place for identified students and their teachers
- Continue to invest in the pedagogical capability of all staff and leaders
- Clarify, communicate and quality assure the whole college approach to supporting student behavior, including a revised Student code of conduct and mobile phone policy
- Plan and enact the intended curriculum through moderation of curriculum, learning and assessment
- Enhance student and staff well-being by maintaining a sense of belonging, a positive environment, knowing our students, ensuring meaningful pathways, collegial engagement and celebrating success

Community Food Festival:

Our second Community Food Festival, hosted two weeks ago, was a huge success with a higher-than-expected

turnout of almost 1000 people. The event showcased an array of delicious food and drinks, combined with live performances across two stages, roving entertainment, thrilling carnival rides, an interactive gaming arcade, youth and children's activities, and much more.

Many thanks must go to the organising committee led by Ms Elly Gerbo and the P&C for the endless hours dedicated to ensuring the event was a success. We were fortunate to have a large number of staff and parents who gave up their time to help out. We want to also acknowledge the generosity of our sponsors. Lastly, we are grateful to our community who supported the event, we could not have done it without you.

Vaping research:

The University of Newcastle have developed a text message program, targeting parents and their adolescents, to prevent youth from vaping. They are currently recruiting parents and children (aged 12-15 years) to participate in a study to help test the effectiveness of the messages.

Parents and adolescents who participate in the study will receive a series of text messages (one per week for 12 weeks) that have been specifically developed to educate parents and youth on the harms of vaping, empower youth to say no to vaping through social support and teaching refusal skills, and facilitate healthy conversation amongst families. The text messages have been developed in collaboration with parents, adolescents, researchers and parenting experts.

If you would like to find out more or take up this offer, please go to vapingpreventionstudy.com

Finance:

Last fortnight details about the 2024 Student Resource Scheme (SRS) fees were emailed to parents of existing and future students and invoices were also emailed home.

- Minimum deposit of 20% due by January 31, 2023
- Full payment by March 31, 2023
- For payment plans or to vary from the above dates please contact Ms Charlie Vincent on 54369332 or email accounts@kawanawaterssc.eq.edu.au

It is important that these payment dates are adhered to, as staff cannot buy resources for students until funds become available. Students cannot be given subject resources until at least a payment plan is in place. If you do not wish to be part of the SRS, parents will be required to source all of their own texts, online resources and physical materials, amounting to many hundreds of dollars per subject. These are itemised by subject by year level and were in the SRS email you received last fortnight. For details go to

[Click here to view more information](https://kawanawaterssc.eq.edu.au/enrolments/resource-scheme)

<https://kawanawaterssc.eq.edu.au/enrolments/resource-scheme>

Please contact the college if you have any questions or concerns.

Happy holidays:

I wish all parents and students a fabulous festive season with family and friends and look forward to seeing all students on Day 1 of 2024, Monday, 22 January.

Brett Burgess

Executive Principal

Primary News

Primary Campus News from the Principal and Deputy Principal



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers play an integral part in your child's learning, and we at Kawana Waters State College wish to sincerely thank the myriad of people who selflessly give their time to support our students.

Being a volunteer means that you are offering something – something that is not required nor an obligation. You do not volunteer for the pursuit of a monetary prize or recognition. You volunteer because the optimist inside you, perhaps the idealist, spies a glimmer of hope. You understand that you are helping.

We look forward to our Volunteer's Morning Tea on Tuesday 28 November – a special time where we can acknowledge the amazing contribution to our college community.



YEAR 6 CAMP

Last week, our Year 6 cohort travelled to the Gold Coast for their extended camp/excursion. Everybody (including teachers) came back tired and exhausted, but what an amazing experience for our students. They embraced the opportunity to work with others in a different setting, where everybody is given the chance to excel and grow.

Together they made memories, celebrated the impending

end to their primary school years, enjoyed learning new skills, and enthusiastically worked collaboratively to make this one of their best school experiences!



WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

It would be remiss of us not to mention the wonderful messages our teachers received recently from the school community for "World Teachers Day" – our staff really appreciate the sentiments.

We would also like to acknowledge the outstanding work parents do for the students – together we can make a difference!

STUDENT LEADERS 2024

With the end of the 2023 school year quickly approaching, we are in the process of selecting our Primary Campus' Student Leaders for 2024. Under the guidance of Miss Duffy, the students are thoroughly embracing the process and really stepping up in order to 'win' a coveted position.

This year, our School Captains (Mila, Bradley, Charlie and Madisson) along with the Primary Campus Leadership Team performed an outstanding service for our school.



Excellent role models, who consistently displayed our core REDE values – actively encouraging others to follow suit.

We are certain that next year's leaders will also uphold this fine tradition, and wish all applicants the very best of luck.

UPCOMING EVENTS

It goes without saying that the end of the year is always an extremely busy time.

Recently you received a one-page 'ready-reckoner' outlining the upcoming events over the next three weeks.

We encourage you to keep the reminders somewhere safe so you (and your children) don't miss out on all of the wonderful celebrations.

Week 8

3-6 Swimming Carnival

Week 9

P-2 Swimming Carnival
Volunteers' Morning Tea
Enrichment Showcase

Step In To Prep
Celebrations of Learning
Rewards Day

Week 10

Academic Awards
Step-Up Day
Year 6 Clap Out Parade



Garth Callaghan & Lyn Duffy

Head of Primary Campus & Primary Deputy Principal

Secondary News

Head of Secondary Campus Report



Secondary Newsletter

Graduation Ceremony

Our Year 12 Graduation Ceremony took place across Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December. The graduation began with formalities followed by our traditional clap-out that made its way through the primary and secondary campuses. Many thanks to the families that attended this emotional and significant culminating school event.

Young Academics Program

Our Young Academic Program for Years 5 and 6 students in our district again attracted enormous interest. We had the arduous task of working through those applications and selecting students for our 2024 program. Families will be notified today of their outcome.

Medical Immersion Program

This year marks the fourth year of the Medical Immersion Program. It's reputation and commitment to young peoples' medical/health career pathways remains strong. 49 students from around the state will join staff from Sunday afternoon to participate in career information, clinical workshops, visits to health institutions and universities and engage with like-minded students. The program concludes Wednesday.

Final Week Activities

Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students will soon receive the overview of the activities held in week 10. Monday 4 December and Tuesday 5 December will be regular timetabled days. On Wednesday 6 December our Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students who have performed well in class have been invited to attend an activity day at Alex Beach and/or Ten Pin Bowling at Alex. Students not going on this activity will participate in a program at school. On Thursday and Friday students will enjoy activities organised by each of the curriculum areas at school. Parents need to contact the school if their child will not be attending some or all of this week.

Orientation Day

Current year 6s enrolled to be part of our school for 2024 are invited to attend a full day program on Wednesday 6 December. **Only students who have**

handed in their enrolment paperwork are permitted to join us on this day. This will be an opportunity to experience high school life before the start of next year. Contact the college for more information.

Key Dates

Semester Two reports will be emailed out Friday 8 December. I would encourage parents to sit and review the details of this report with their child. No reports will be issued to Year 12 students as they receive a Senior Education Profile on the 15 December.

Also, ATAR results will be released 15 December. First round QTAC offers (major offer round) will be 11 January 2024 but Universities are offering outside of major offer rounds. As soon as a student meets eligibility and threshold, they will receive an offer.

On behalf of the Secondary Campus, I would like to extend a very happy and relaxed Christmas break. To those families not returning we thank you for your support and commitment to your child's learning and wish you all the best. To our returning families we look forward to seeing you all Monday 22 January. Kawana Waters State College wishes you a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Elly Gerbo

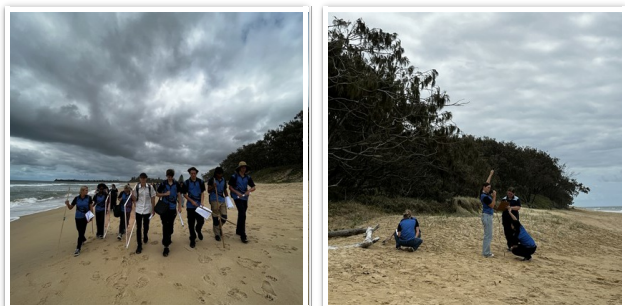
Head of Secondary Campus

Science Faculty

Year 11 Biology & Science In Practice Field Trips

On Thursday 2 and Friday 3 November, the Year 11 Biology and Science In Practice students attended an excursion at Kathleen McArthur conservation park (Currumbundi Lake), where they studied both abiotic and biotic components of the park and classified the ecosystem. The aim of this excursion was to take the knowledge learnt within the classroom and apply it to a real-life study out in the field where the students live. The scientific work completed was stratified sampling, the use of transects and quadrats to collect primary biotic (e.g. plant species) and abiotic data (e.g. temperature, soil pH, light intensity, wind speed, topography) on the sand dunes. This

data was analysed back at school and justified conclusions were drawn about the interrelationships that exist within this ecosystem. Thus enabling the students to better understand the importance of the sand dune ecosystem and its preservation.



Bridging Classroom Learning with Real-world Science: Year 10's SPARQ-Ed Excursion

On 8 November, Year 10 Biology students delved into the dynamic world of scientific research at the SPARQ-Ed facility, part of the Translational Research Institute in Brisbane. Applying their classroom knowledge of enzymes and the cell cycle, students explored real-world applications, focusing on lactose intolerance and advancements in cancer cell treatments.

Half the day unfolded in state-of-the-art laboratories, where students mastered micropipetting and spectral analysis, immersing themselves in enzyme inhibition studies. The remainder showcased an engaging session exploring the forefront of cancer treatment research and delving into timelapse microscopy. This included a brief chance for students to discuss these subjects directly with the researcher, Dr. Gabrielli.

This excursion wasn't just about labs and lectures; it was a journey into scientific discovery. Our students left not only with enriched subject knowledge but also with a deeper appreciation for the practical implications of their studies. As we nurture future scientists, these experiences lay the groundwork for a curiosity-driven exploration of the world of science.

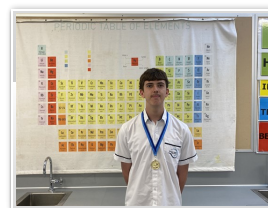


Top of Subject

The Science Faculty would like to wish all of our Year 12 Science students every success in their future and congratulate those who topped their subject, general and applied, prior to their final assessment.



Top of Biology & Physics – Sophia Mills



Top of Chemistry - Jack Brewer



Top of Psychology - Leah Pilkington, Sophie Harfoot and Lara Farquharson



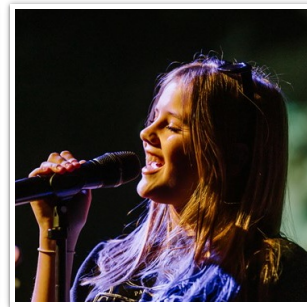
Top of Science In Practice - Milly Palmer

Janelle Greenhalgh

Head of Department – Science

Art Faculty News

Students in the Arts have shone bright this term. The term started off with SHINE an evening showcasing excellence in performance and 'shine' they did. The audience left the venue feeling elated and very impressed with the standards of our students. This event was swiftly followed by the Community Festival. The music student performances were professional and created the perfect ambience for the event. The drama students created interest with their street performances while the hip hop dancers had the audience excited by their energy and love of dance. Term 4 also showcased the exceptional talent of our visual art students who quietly work away in the art rooms creating very impressive tonal drawings and art works that will hopefully become gifts for loved ones. A big shout out to the Film Television and Media students who premiered their films at Caloundra Cinemas this month to a sold-out crowd. Amongst the audience were people from the film industry who were very impressed with the standard of the films. As the year comes to end and we start to pack away the costumes and equipment we are reflective of how much we have achieved and how much the students have grown in their chosen art forms. The Arts faculty are forever grateful to the families and the community who support these young artists.



Peta Boboe

Head of Department – The Arts

Kindness@Kawana 2023

Without these wonderful volunteers,

Kindness@Kawana would not have been able to run two breakfasts weekly on both campuses, provide lunches for primary students who need them, cook and freeze meals to be distributed to those in need, help pay for excursions, uniforms, formal tickets etc.



Thank you to: Gina Probyn, Rebekah Craig, Susan Flanagan, Kate Beard, Greg Lally, Erin Anthony, Jessica Langman, Andrew Langman, Lily Carew, Jesse Churchward, Danny Howard, Mackenzie Sword, Joe Pollard, Jersey Pollard, Zara Goodman, Sarah Lewis, Denita Freshney, Rhondda Lynagh, Angie Blake, Michelle Quade, Tracy Goodes, Sonya Walker, Chris Humphreys, Lana Corby, Carmen Jones, Jade Bathersby, Marley Wood, Cobey Wiig, Sam Robertson, Alice Holden, Liam Walker, Darcy Grant, Joseph Garbot, Bradley Dawson, Zahara Stander, Caidance Chandler, Livi Fulford, Willow Gannon, Beaudhi Verdida-Cowan, Madelyn Hallmond, Sophie Harkness, Liam Duffy, Caiden Clark and Sonny Nicholson.

Highlights for 2023

15th March: Organised the World's Greatest Shave to support alumni Rebekah Stott in her fight against Hodgkin's Lymphoma. \$3166.16 raised this year.

28th May: Cooked 106 meals to be frozen and distributed

to needy families in the College community.

15th June: School Cleaners' Day- gave boxes of chocolates to our cleaners to thank them for their fine efforts around the College.

14th September: Distributed hampers to every staffroom to celebrate RU Ok Day.

November 13-17: World Kindness Week- organised staff buddies to look after for the week, in a particularly tough time of year.

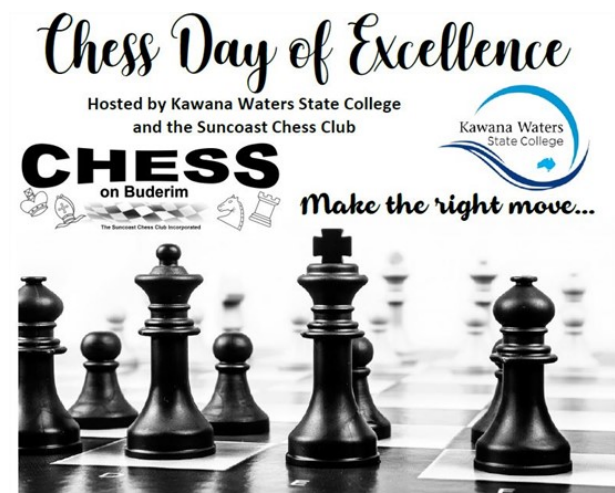
A huge thanks to Baker's Delight, Birtinya for kindly donating 20 loaves a bread per week for our breakfasts. Also, to Kawana Life Baptist Church and Kawana Uniting Church for their kind donations of meat for our Cook Up. We are indebted to Erica Henderson who has raised over \$2804.10 for K@K by collecting containers in and around the College. Thank you too to Allison Lloyd-Rowe for her generous donations. And finally, we are grateful to the staff and parents who donate to K@K to enable us to support so many people in the college community.



Chess Day of Excellence

Our annual Chess Day of Excellence will be held on Friday 1 December (week 9). The day will start with Chess Coaching from 9:00am - 10:00am, followed by a Chess Tournament with 6 or 7 rounds. Medals will be presented to the top 3 in each age group and a trophy to the overall winner in the Junior (U7

and U9) and Senior sections (U11, U13, 15 and Under) of the tournament, proudly sponsored by Jarrod Bleijie, State Member for Kawana. If you are interested in entering, please contact the Ms Cluer (dclue2@eq.edu.au). It will be great to see you there!



School TV News

This month on School TV – Gambling and Young People

The digital era has made gambling more accessible, and certain factors are elevating the risk of problematic gambling among young people. A new grey area is emerging, with smartphones at their fingertips blurring the boundaries between gambling and entertainment, especially within the realms of video games and social media. The current generation of young people are growing up in an unprecedented time and research highlights that a significant percentage of adolescents are involved in gambling activities.

Reports of young people gambling are frequent with many experiencing adverse consequences such as diminished academic performance and strained relationships. Today's youth are growing up in a digital age characterised by constant connectivity, and the gambling industry has evolved significantly during their formative years. Simulated gambling, such as in video games, can further increase the likelihood of teenagers transitioning to real-money gambling and developing future gambling-related problems.

It's crucial to foster open discussions about

positive media choices to help children navigate through responsible online gaming and gambling. By encouraging a balanced approach to screen time and promoting alternative activities, will help set some clear boundaries to avoid potential gambling-related issues.

This Special Report provides guidance on how to empower young people to make responsible choices in this digital age. We hope you take a moment to reflect on the information offered, and as always, we welcome your feedback. If this raises any concerns for you, a loved one or the wellbeing of your child, please consider seeking medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report

 [Click here to view the report](#)