Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2014. Firstly I would like to extend another warm welcome to all our new students and families. The start of a new school year is always an exciting and sometimes unsettling time. This is particularly true for those students who are starting high school in a new setting. I am very pleased to say that the introduction to 2014 has been quite smooth. We work very closely with our new year 7s to make this transition as smooth as possible.


It was really good to see so many parents/carers at the information on Tuesday night. At this session we shared some general information about the school, programs and happenings in 2014. At the meeting I briefly outlined our priority areas for 2014 as:

- Curriculum – both the Australian Curriculum implementation and the senior secondary curriculum
- Quality teaching – continuing to improve our classroom practices and Community engagement – building on the links we have with parents/carers as well as the broader community.

We will also be continuing our work in the areas of ICT, pastoral care, behaviour support, and overall student and staff wellbeing.

ILP meeting weeks are coming up. This is our opportunity to start or continue the partnership with you around your young person’s education. These meetings and the ILPs that are generated are integral to the way we work with you and your young person. We will be inviting students to ILP meetings. ILP meetings do cause some disruption to regular programs as teachers and executive staff make themselves available throughout the day.

Communication with you is very important to us. All students have a personal diary that can be used to communicate between home and school on a regular basis. Emails are another excellent and quick way of sharing information. If you have not done so can you please provide your child’s PC teacher with an email address. Our new app Schoolbag will be increasingly used to communicate about happenings and upcoming events – it is available for any smartphone – just search “The Woden School” in the app or android stores. If you want to talk to your PC teacher please make an appointment. Penny and I and all executive staff are also available for meetings and discussions as needed.

Our collective aim is to make The Woden School the best school that it can be. We look forward to working with you to achieve this and to an exciting, productive year.

Warmest regards

Ian
It has been a great start to 2014 as Ben and I have been busy planning to continue some of our successful programs and events from last year whilst implementing some new ones. One new program many of us are excited about is the Wodwash car washing program on Fridays. We had our orientation and training on Friday week 2 (see pictures below) and look forward to continuing the program during the warmer months this year.

Singing club on Thursday afternoons continues to be complete fun, and we are aiming to perform for the wider community more this year. Lunch club also continues to be popular as students choose to drop in and socialise or play games when they feel like it.

SoSafe! Focus in PC classes this term
A major focus for the PC curriculum is to teach our students to be safe in the community. In an effort to teach about personal safety in regards to our bodies the SoSafe! program is used. All PC classes will be focussing on some core concepts from this program during Term One classes. For full details on the program please see the letter to parents in this newsletter that was sent home with each student in week 3.

Mentor programs
Our mentoring programs will continue in 2014 with Alfred Deakin High students working with our Year 9/10 sub school students and Marist College students working with our Year 7/8 students, and our senior students. I have conducted some orientation training with the Marist students during Week 2, and these students will have their first visit with students in Week 4 (24th February). ADHS orientation will take place on the 27th of February with a view to mentors meeting our students in week 5 or 6. I am hoping to expand the outcomes of the mentoring programs for all students involved this year, and this may include some of our students visiting mentors at their respective schools.
UNIT OUTLINES

By the end of week 4 you will receive copies of Semester 1 unit outlines for your son/daughter. The outlines have been carefully designed by teams of teachers at the Woden School in consultation with Australian National Curriculum documents. Different year groups focus on different content and within each class teachers cater for different levels and abilities. Unit outlines show:

- Name of course/unit
- Teacher names
- Brief summaries describing what will be covered in each subject area
- Identified learning outcomes that reflect different skills and abilities

Year 11 and 12 students are enrolled in Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) approved courses and units. Their unit outlines include course and unit codes as well as assessment requirements and other important BSSS information.

We hope that the information is helpful.

INDIVIDUAL LEARNING PLAN MEETINGS

Throughout this term students, families and Pastoral Care teachers meet for ILP meetings. Individual teachers will contact you to arrange a suitable time to meet. The meetings are collaborative and they plan individual goals and to talk about how we can support these goals. Student and family input is a key feature of these meetings. It is always helpful to have information and/or ILPs from previous schools for new students. Subsequent review meetings are coordinated by Pastoral Care teachers and occur as required. Meetings can be requested by families. We look forward to your participation.

School Canteen Program 2014

Student work team starts this week!

We are pleased to confirm that the school canteen work team has been finalised and the canteen will be open every Friday from this week.

John Nathan Reid, Liam Canney, Atilla Kaya, Matthew Coghlan, Katie Waugh, Jack Savoy, Damon Meli and Connor Lee

will prepare, serve and manage the canteen operations under the support and guidance of a teacher and an LSA.
NEW SCHOOL APP!

We would like to let you all know that from now on we have our own App.

It is free from the app store and it can be downloaded into your iPhones or iPads.

At the moment we are trialling it to see if it suits our school, but as soon as we purchase the full version, it will also be available on “Android”

I hope you like it.

Gonz
BULLYING AND HARASSMENT
Thank you to the few parents who have contacted me to report bullying incidents this year. All reports are taken very seriously and followed up immediately. We have a huge range of abilities and skills at this school and we strive to maintain an environment that is positive and SAFE for all our students. Students who are bullied may feel frightened, unsafe, embarrassed, angry and confused and may not know what to do about the problem.

All staff are committed to ensuring a safe and caring environment. We all take the physical and psychological well-being of students seriously and our partnership and communication with you is vital. We have an awareness of signs of distress or suspected incidents of bullying and we make efforts to remove occasions for bullying by active supervision during recess and lunchtime and the provision of supervised lunchtime games on the oval and clubs on selected days.

We actively promote tolerance, inclusivity and diversity. Through our Individual Learning Plan process we promote individual teacher student relationships and a strong pastoral care culture. Please be assured that while we work hard to change bullying behaviours at school, we will contact parents of repeat offenders and other consequences may be necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of students.

Below are some descriptions of bullying behaviour. Please encourage your young person to speak about it if you suspect it is occurring and notify us immediately if you have any concerns.

Penny Mims (Deputy Principal)

Bullying is when someone likes to:
• Have power over you
• Hurt you with their words and actions
• Do the action again and again, sometimes without reason.

Bullying is an act of aggression causing embarrassment pain or discomfort to another:
• It can take a number of forms: physical, verbal, gesture, extortion and exclusion
• It is an abuse of power
• It can be planned and organised or it may be an unconscious act by the perpetrator
• Individuals or groups may be involved

Some examples of bullying include:
• Any form of physical violence including hitting, pushing or spitting on others
• Interfering with another’s property by stealing, hiding, damaging or destroying it
• Using offensive names, teasing or spreading rumours about others or their families
• Using put-downs, belittling other’s abilities and achievements
• Writing offensive notes or graffiti about others
• Making degrading comments about another’s culture, religious or social background or sexual orientation
• Hurtfully excluding others from a group
• Making suggestive comments or other forms of sexual abuse
• Ridiculing another’s appearance
• Forcing others to act against their will

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE
On Friday, March 21 ACT Education Directorate will host the National Day of Action Conference at the Hedley Bare Centre for Teaching and Learning in Stirling.
To: Parents and Carers  
From: Jarrod McGrath, Pastoral Care Coordinator

SoSAFE! Program in Pastoral Care lessons

Students will be learning about social safety through the SoSAFE! program. SoSAFE! was developed by Sexual Health & Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT) to reduce vulnerability to sexual abuse and improve the quality of social life for people with Moderate to Severe Intellectual Disability and/or autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

The authors of SoSAFE! recognise that individuals with disabilities have sexual feelings, needs and identities, and believe that sexuality should be seen in the context of human relationships. They believe that people with disabilities have the right to have privacy; to love and be loved; to develop friendships; to learn about sex, sexual exploitation, sexual abuse and safe sex; to marry and make informed decisions concerning having children; and to develop expressions of sexuality according to age, social development and cultural values.

The SoSAFE! program promotes social safety through:

  simplified models of different categories of people
  the verbal and physical intimacy behaviours appropriate for different categories of people
  the use of simplified or visual communication tools for reporting physical or sexual abuse,
  the skills to maintain a support network"

Woden staff completed training workshops about the program. Selected content will be delivered according to year level and the skills and abilities of individual students.

If you have any questions regarding the SoSAFE! program please contact Jarrod McGrath – 62055966. A link to the sexual health and family planning website is included for your interest (http://www.shfpact.org.au/)
Incontinence Pad Scheme

Incontinence Pad Scheme (IPS) is a program for children and funded by the Disability Services Commission. A product subsidy of up to $490 per year is available to assist families with meeting the cost of continence products. Families must be in receipt of a child carer’s allowance to be eligible for the scheme.

Eligibility criteria:

• Child must be between 3 and 16 years of age with a disability • Child must be an Australian citizen, a holder of a permanent visa, or a holder of a special category visa subclass 444 (for New Zealand citizens) • Child must be a permanent resident of Western Australia • Family must be in receipt of Carer Allowance (caring for a child under 16 years must be verified) • Families or carers must produce a letter from a general practitioner, continence nurse or medical specialist stating the child has incontinence.

Children may access the Incontinence Pad Scheme and the Commonwealth Continence Aids Payment Scheme (CAPS) simultaneously. Families/carers need to complete the IPS application form and the medical form.

SPECIAL OFFER:
If you reach your limit of government funding for the year, you can still continue to purchase the same products at the same contracted price directly from Independence Australia. Please contact us for more information.

Independence Australia Head Office

For general enquiries about our range of services.

208 Wellington Street
Collingwood VIC 3066
Telephone: 1300 704 456
Facsimile: 1300 704 451
Email: theteam@independenceaustralia.com

Student possessions and Lost Property

We want to support students to keep track of clothing and equipment and we know that replacement costs are expensive for you. However, it is impossible for staff to take care of all student belongings without your assistance. Regular drop offs to charity organisations will have to be scheduled to deal with the large amount of unnamed clothing accumulating already.

Please ensure that all student clothing and equipment is clearly labelled.

Thank you for your assistance 😊
Free Therapy ACT Parent Workshop

Hands On: Fine tuning hand skills at home

Does your child have difficulty:
- tying shoe laces or doing zippers and buttons,
- using a knife and fork,
- writing or having pain when writing or
- opening pockets or drink containers?

Hands On is a free and interactive 2 hour workshop for parents designed to explore the skills necessary for the development of fine motor skills. Hands On is designed and run by Therapy ACT Occupational Therapists who will explain the underlying skills necessary when completing fine motor activities as well as providing practical activities that can be easily completed within everyday routines.

Bookings are essential as numbers are limited. Please call the Therapy ACT administration staff on 6205 5261 or 6205 1888 for bookings and enquiries.

2014 Workshop Dates
- 19th February 6.30-8.30pm: Therapy ACT, Holder.
- 14th May 1-3pm: Therapy ACT Swanson Plaza, Belconnen.
- 5th Aug 6.30-8.30pm: Therapy ACT, Holder.
- 21st October 1-3pm: Therapy ACT Swanson Plaza, Belconnen

Register your interest in ENGAGE Sports

ENGAGE Sports is the dream of two Year 9 Students who wanted to start a Sports inclusion program at Marist for students on the Southside of Canberra. ENGAGE Sports aims to provide students who have a disability with an enjoyable experience of sport and also interaction with our students at Marist from Year 9-12. We feel that the talented students will also gain a greater appreciation for the diversity of people within our community, and a better ability to engage with people who have special needs.

**ACTIVITIES**
- Focus on all students engaging in fun, well organised, safe and structured sports, matched to participating students’ ability and interest.
- Regular sports, involving teams comprising of Marist Students and the participating Students.
- Table Cricket
- Cricket
- Volleyball
- Bocce & Softball

**PROGRAM DETAILS**
ENGAGE Sports will commence again on Wednesday 12th March and run each Wednesday for 8 weeks. ENGAGE Sports will not run in the School Holidays.
- The venue is the Marist College Canberra Junior School Hall.
- The program will run from 2.20-3.30.
- Students are required to wear appropriate sports clothes and footwear.
- There is no cost for this activity.

To register your interest in ENGAGE Sports, please complete the form below and return to the Mail Office or fax to Marist College Canberra (02) 6209 7224 by Friday 7th March 2014.

I hereby consent my child ____________________________ (full name) to participate in the ENGAGE Sports program
Name of Parent/Guardian ____________________________ (Parent/Guardian)
Signature of Parent/Guardian ____________________________ Date
Special needs or requirements ____________________________

Contact Telephone ____________________________ Mobile

Lara Jean Association Inc.
Invites you to

"BOWLARAMA"
Sunday 13th of April 2014
AMF Belconnen Ten-Pin Bowling Centre
1 Emu Bank Belconnen ACT 2617

Doors open at 9.30am

Tickets are free and have been generously sponsored by local businesses and individuals.

Please email your request for tickets to adom.palmer56@gmail.com or fax order to 02 8544 8071 with your details. Should you have any further enquiries please contact Project co-ordinator Adam Palmer on 0429840574.

Number of tickets: ____________________________
Name: ____________________________
Organisation: ____________________________
Postal Address: ____________________________
Email Address: ____________________________

Please note that by ordering and attending this event you also agree to allow us to take your photo that we may include in a collage that we distribute to local businesses who sponsor the event.
Woden School Canteen
Summer Menu 2014

Recess  (counter sales, available at recess only)

- Home Baked Biscuits    $1.00
- Jelly Cups              $0.60
- Fruit of the day        $0.60
- Ice blocks (fruit based) $0.50
- Chocolate Frogs         $0.50
- Muffin                  $1.00

Drinks  (available for purchase at lunch and recess)

- LOL Fruit drinks 250mL  $1.50
- 100% fruit juice box 250ml  $1.50
- Bottled water 350mL       $1.00
- Milk 300mL (chocolate, strawberry, banana) $2.50

Lunch  (only)

Sandwiches, Wraps & Rolls (extra 60c for Roll/Wrap)

- Ham /Cheese /Vegemite    $2.00
- Ham &Cheese/ Ham & Tomato /Cheese & Tomato $2.50
- Salad (lettuce, tomato, red onion, cucumber, carrot) $3.50
- Salad with Chicken or Ham $4.00

Lunch Bags  $0.10

Gluten free, lactose free and vegetarian alternatives provided. Please let staff know when ordering.

How to Order

Lunch orders must be placed in the basket at the front office on Friday mornings. Please clearly write on a paper bag, name, year group, lunch order, amount included and any food allergies. Lunches will be delivered to each Sub School at the start of lunch.
**Labelling**
Please remember to label all items of clothing, lunch boxes and drink containers.

**DIARY’S**
Please check your child’s Student Diary for important forms and communication from staff.

**No Heated food**
Please ensure students do not bring food to School that needs heating as staff cannot heat food for students.

**ALLERGY FRIENDLY SCHOOL**
Please remember to ensure no products made with peanuts/cashews are brought into the school as The Woden School is an ALLERGY FRIENDLY SCHOOL.

**School Hours**
9am to 3pm  
Recess 11:00 to 11:30  
Lunch 1:30 to 2:00

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### Voluntary Contribution 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>One Student</th>
<th>Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yearly contribution in full</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term instalments</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Uniform

- School T-Shirts $33
- School T-Shirts (long sleeve) $36
- School Hoodies (jumpers) $38

Please order through the front office — 62055966

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### Subject Contribution 2014

The annual subject contribution of $60 per student will cover the costs of your student’s use of the following resources:

- Art supplies
- Home economics’ consumables
- Stationery
- Wood technology materials

These items are used frequently to support teaching and learning in all sections of the school.

Your contribution is much appreciated and will ensure that we can continue to provide them for your student throughout the year.

In addition it is expected that all students will provide their own individual pencil cases containing essential pens, pencils, glue sticks, sharpeners, coloured pencils, texts etc.

### EFT for payments

- BSB: 032777  
- Account Number: 001893  
- Account Name: The Woden School

Please include reference: Student’s name then item you have paid for, e.g. ‘J SMITH Stationery’

Thank you for your support

Please note that this has replaced the stationery contribution of previous years.