

WISDOM NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WISDOM COLLEGE



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

MR. DAMIEN BARRY

As we approach the end of Term 1 it is important to reflect upon what we have achieved already. We have completed the installation of new classrooms, new courtyards, additional seating, new pathways and landscaping. We launched our website and resurrected the publication of our fortnightly newsletter. We commenced a thorough co-curricular program that includes sport, music and a strong pastoral care program. We also implemented two platforms, these being Schoolbox and TASS. Both of which assist us with curriculum delivery and school operational management. To undertake such a significant change process requires committed, caring and hard working staff. I would like to thank all staff for the work they have done throughout this term. All of which was done amongst the backdrop of Covid and a severe weather event.

Ramadan also commences soon and I wish everyone who is acknowledging this important occasion all the very best. I am sure that everyone is also looking forward to the various Iftar dinners that will occur during this time. We have been organising two parent Iftars for the 23rd and 30th April to be held in our undercover area. We have some beautiful food to share amongst our community so it will be another lovely way to have inter-faith dialogue, to learn about different cultures and traditions, and to simply come together in union over a meal. Invitations have been sent out already for these two events.

Finally, our last day of Term 1 is today, Friday 1st April, and our first day of Term 2 is Tuesday 19th April. During these holidays we also have the Christian holidays and celebrations of Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Monday. For those families who observe these days we hope that this is a time of joy and reflection. I look forward to seeing everyone in the new term. Our office will be open during the school holidays. Stay safe.



Principal Damien Barry

HEAD OF PRIMARY

MRS STARKEY

It is certainly a wonderful feeling to reflect upon another term at Wisdom College. Our students have worked extremely hard and the "learning buzz", as I like to call it, can be felt throughout the school. Thank you once more for navigating the delayed start, for braving the unpredictable floods and for ensuring you are all following the Covid safe guidelines. Looking to term 2 we have a few important events coming up that you will need to be aware of.

Parent Teacher interviews will be held early Term 2, these interviews are a key opportunity to find out how your child is progressing with their learning thus far. Teachers will be providing you with information about the academic, social and wellbeing progress of your child. Interviews will be held during week 2 from Tuesday to Friday, please check your emails regularly within the coming days for further information about bookings.

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Year 1 Artwork



Mrs Starkey

Term 2 is also the time when the annual NAPLAN tests are taken. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be tested on their fundamental literacy and numeracy skills. NAPLAN is an assessment that helps teachers to identify where a student is talented and where they are needing extra support. All schools in Australia participate in this standardised test, however, the results are not a part of your child's classroom grades.

NAPLAN KEY DATES:

- NAPLAN practice test week 1 term 2, these are not marked.
- NAPLAN test: Week 4 of Term 2.
- Results are released by NAPLAN in September/October.

Before I get too carried away with what is happening in Term 2, let me wish you all a wonderful holiday. Please take this time to relax to reconnect with your children, and create some everlasting memories. To our families who are celebrating Ramadan, Ramadan Kareem. To those celebrating Easter, Happy Easter and to all of our families have a splendid holiday!

HEAD OF SECONDARY

MS. GILLESPIE

Term 1 2022 has come to an end and I'm not sure where the last ten weeks have gone. Life at school is always busy, however, the events which have unfolded so far this year have meant that we have had to adapt to our shortened timeframes by being succinct and efficient. I applaud all students for their efforts this term hope that you can all take a breath over the holidays and spend some quality time with family and friends.

One of our core values at Wisdom College is Excellence. We do not reserve this word only for those students who are obtaining marks at the top of their grade or subject. Excellence, to everyone, should mean pursuing a better version of themselves through hard work and determination. Not all students will achieve A grades on their upcoming reports, however, all students can show excellence by having tried their hardest to improve study habits, skills and understanding. We acknowledge excellence at Wisdom by awarding behaviour level certificates to students who are showing consistent excellence at school. I would like to acknowledge the excellence I have witnessed around the College this term. This includes teachers reporting back to me on a weekly basis about how hard students are working to complete work or understand concepts. We have students showing excellence by attending after school tutorials, and students working together at lunch studying and preparing for upcoming exams.



Secondary Students



Ms. Gillespie

Please take some time to reflect on your child's report cards and help them consider what improvements they can make to foster excellence moving forward. How we do one thing in life is often a mirror to how we do all things in life. This means that our habits ultimately dictate who we become as a person. Please discuss your child's daily routines and help them to implement schedules which lead to improving homework and study habits.

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We end this term with our inaugural swimming carnival, and hope that all students attend and show their support for their houses either by swimming or cheering for their fellow teammates.

The new term starts on Tuesday 19th April. I wish you all a safe and wonderful holiday!



Peer Mentoring Program

HEAD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

MRS. DOGAN

Dear Wisdom Family,

As the final hours of Term 1 draw to a close, I'd like to acknowledge the work done by so very many of our students, staff and parents in our College community. It has certainly been a whirlwind of a term, with so many unexpected disruptions and events that have really challenged not only our students but staff as we have diligently worked through our curriculum.

In particular I would like to congratulate and acknowledge all of our students and teachers for the extraordinary amount of work which has gone into the examination and reporting period. For teachers and students, it is certainly the busiest and most stressful time in a term. This year has been particularly challenging for our staff as we have adapted to and finally launched our new Student Information System - TASS. TASS has replaced what most of you remember as Coolsis. TASS has been a project that has been in the pipelines since mid last year and we are very excited to be rolling this new platform out to parents this year.



Mrs. Dogan

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It has certainly been a whirlwind of a term

This term we will be issuing our very first report cards through TASS and we have spent many hours creating our new look reports, and are eagerly awaiting to share this with you very soon. Reports will be issued via email during the first week of the Term 1 holidays and you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss their progress in Week 2 of Term 2. I encourage all parents to come along to these events as it is important that we continue to work together to improve the outcomes for our children.

Throughout the year, staff will continue to be involved in a range of data analysis and improvement planning processes that focus on the needs of individual learners, and I encourage all parents and families to continue to work with us as key partners in the education of our students. I wish every one of you a safe, happy and restful holiday break and look forward to welcoming you all back in Term 2.

Happy Easter to those celebrating and Ramadan Kareem to our Muslim community.

HEAD OF CO-CURRICULAR

MRS COSKUN

Dear Wisdom Families and Students

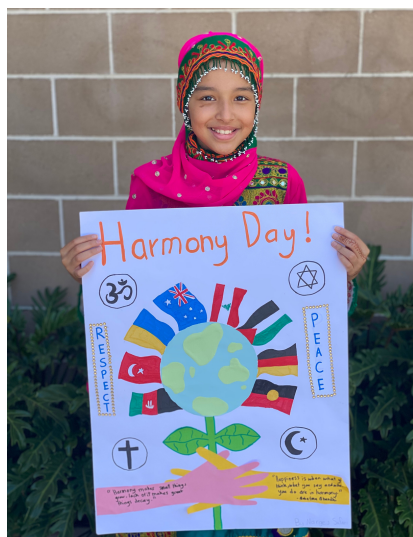
It feels quite surreal that we are already at the end of our first term of school. I feel proud of what our College has accomplished in this short amount of time and of the amazing work from our teachers, students and College community.

The Co-Curricular department has had a very busy Term 1 with the initiation of our Clubs and Activities, and the coordinating of our whole school events such as Harmony Day, Bullying No Way, and International Women's Day, just to name a few. We are excited to be running our very first Swimming Carnival this term and look forward to seeing our community come along and cheer our students on.

Our rich and engaging Music Department has given students opportunities to develop their mental processes and problem solving skills as well as sparking their creativity. A huge thank you to Ms. Genevieve Matthews for the tremendous effort she has put into our music curriculum, and for introducing our College to specialist guitar and violin lessons. Our students are loving these lessons and we are receiving great feedback from parents.

Next term we endeavor to launch our Service Learning Program as we begin to pull together our 'Wellbeing at Wisdom' framework which aims to support students' social emotional learning. The framework will be shaped by our College priorities and will be specifically designed to reflect our Wisdom values with a commitment to holistic education. Watch this space for great things to come!

I would like to wish all those celebrating a blessed Ramadan and to all of our Wisdom community I wish you all a restful break.



Harmony Day



Mrs. Coskun



Girls Pastoral Care Club



Brilliant at being Resilient Incursion

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Family Trivia Night by our Community Engagement Department

SENIOR BIOLOGY CAMP

MRS ANNE-MARIE LOPEZ



"Bringing nature into the classroom can kindle a fascination and passion for the diversity of life on earth and can motivate a sense of responsibility to safeguard it." -David Atten borough

For three eventful days in Week 9 of Term 1, our senior Biology students stepped out of the comfort of their school science classroom and emersed themselves into the ecosystems of Hastings Point. What an opportunity this presented; observing first-hand the diversity of nature, the beauty of the land we are so fortunate to live on, and the important part we all play in protecting our planet.



It was also an exciting opportunity for the senior Biology students to put their classroom theory to practice. Students undertook field studies on three distinct ecosystems in Hasting Point: mangroves, rocky shore, and sand dunes. A kayak through the lush mangroves, with an expert guide was the first activity on the trip. Here we learnt about the effect the recent floods had on the waterway, and the adaptations native plants have developed to survive in such conditions. After a few accidental falls, some ill maneuvered kayaks into trees, and a lost shoe, we were off to our next adventure onto the rocky shores.



At the rocky shores we observed a plentiful assortment of organisms of all shapes, sizes and colours. Here we used our ecological surveying techniques, including transects and quadrats, to quantify species biodiversity. The local sea squirts were a pleasant surprise to a number of our students.

Our very last stop on our ecosystem expedition was the sand dunes. Here our local guide discussed the human impact, past and present, on this particular area. It was an avid reminder to the students of the fragility of our ecosystems, and how the simplest of species can act as the most valued keystone. Well done to the biology students for their attentiveness and enthusiasm during this trip. They have no doubt left with some valuable information and some fond memories to last a lifetime.



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CALENDAR

KEY DATES

APRIL

- FRIDAY 1ST Swimming Carnival Year 4-12
- FRIDAY 1ST LAST DAY OF TERM 1
- TUESDAY 19TH TERM 2 START
- FRIDAY 22ND Anzac Day Ceremony P-12 2pm
- SATURDAY 23RD & SATURDAY 30TH Wisdom Family Iftars
- MONDAY 25th Anzac Day HOLIDAY
- TUESDAY 26TH-FRIDAY 29TH Parent Teachers Interviews
- THURSDAY 28TH RUOK DAY

MAY

- MONDAY 2ND Labour Day HOLIDAY
- TUESDAY 3RD Eid HOLIDAY
- TUESDAY 10TH-THURSDAY 13TH Yr 3,5,7,9 Naplan
- MONDAY 16TH & TUESDAY 17TH Naplan Catch up Day
- MONDAY 16TH-WEDNESDAY 18TH Yr 11&12 Camp
- MONDAY 23RD - FRIDAY 27TH Under 8's Week
- WEDNESDAY 25th-Friday 27th Year 7&8 Camp

JUNE

- THURSDAY 2ND Wisdom College 10 year Anniversary Event
- TUESDAY 14TH Prep Open Night
- WEDNESDAY 15TH Year 12 Formal
- Thursday 16TH Qurban Festival
- Friday 17TH Cross Country Carnival P-12
- Friday 17th LAST DAY OF TERM 2

