Dear Parents,

The Senior Formal last week was another milestone in the final year of secondary schooling for our Year 12s. I was extremely impressed by the dignity and sophistication of these young adults; our soon to be graduates of Wavell High. Our Pre-Formal and Formal events were excellent and a credit to our student-run Senior Formal Committee, facilitated by our Co-ordinators Ms Mirchandani and Mrs Bowker and of course, fully supported by our parents.

There are now only ten days until Year 12 students sit the Queensland Core Skills test on Tuesday, 4 and Wednesday, 5 September. Our senior students have shown an improved effort in their second practice test and produced some great results. The challenge for them now is to maintain a serious focus and to continue this trend of improvement. This expected peak in performance should produce the very good OP results our school has come to expect.

Last Friday, 17 August, Wavell was proud to host visitors from the Nauru education system. This visit provided our school an opportunity to showcase Wavell State High School, which is a great example of a quality public school. The feedback from our visitors was very warm and impressive. I thank my senior staff led by Deputy Principal, Mrs Smeed, in the presentation of our school our programs and practices.

On Tuesday, 14 August the Year 12s made their way to the Victoria Park Golf Course for the Formal extravaganza. It was a fabulous array of fashion and all students looked elegant in their evening attire. The experience for our young men and women was an important one. No longer can they be seen as children; they have moved forward and grown into adults of the future. Thank you organising committee and all staff who assisted for a great event!

On Friday, 17 August Wavell welcomed visiting educators from Nauru. Pictured below: Cyrus and Jaula Jeremiah, Ms Fay Itaia (Director of Curriculum), Treenaiah Dabwido, Mrs Clarissa Jeremiah, (Principal of Nauru Secondary School) and Mr Peter Turner, (Deputy Principal).

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Full implementation of the Gonski report could see a dramatic increase of resources available to support the education of students at Wavell. It is essential that as many families as possible respond to this important survey, thereby ensuring the voices of Wavell High families are clearly heard.

On this issue will continue to be communicated to parents through our newsletter and regular P&C meetings.

“Living well and beautifully and justly are all one thing.”

Socrates

Middle School Literacy Olympics

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Middle School Literacy Olympics

Sixty four teams of middle schoolers converged on the Wavell School hall on Monday, 20 August, to participate in our annual Literacy Olympics. This event goes hand-in-hand with the Middle School Problem Solving Challenge held earlier in the year. Students represented eighteen state primary and secondary schools from the North Brisbane area. Students in Years 6 to 9 were invited to attend and formed teams of three or four to represent their school and participate in a morning of Literacy, Social Sciences and The Arts activities. Congratulation to all students who participated. Well done again to all involved. Pictured: Year 9 winning teams with Mr Bill McDonald, (Channel 10) Mrs Madden and Mr Major.

Field Study

Senior Geography students were lucky to have a beautiful day to study biodiversity on Stradbroke Island. They studied human attempts and plans to maintain biodiversity in a setting which had experienced sand mining, tourism, native land claims and National Park expansion. They heard from Queensland National Parks Rangers, Healthy Waterways and Redlands Shire Council officers on the planned cleanup of Myora Springs, in co-operation with the Quandamooka Elders. A new boardwalk and viewing platform will be built at Myora Springs. Students studied Armit Point, Point Lookout, Blue Lake National Park and Brown Lake.
The annual camp was held on Thursday, 9 and Friday, 10 August. Students investigated sand dune succession, mangroves and the impact of humans on the ecology of the dunes. The unexpected highlight had to be the discovery of a dead humpback whale on the beach. The wild koalas seen the next day were also special. Pictured below: Robynne Go and Courtney Lambert.

**RNA Music Performance**

Congratulations to the Showband and Stageband on their wonderful performance at the Urban Upbeat Competition on Thursday, 16 August. Both bands played exceptionally well and the music was enjoyed by parents and members of the public, especially the final song played by the show band (a Metallica number). A special mention must go to the talented soloists who sang with the show band. This was a polished performance from our students. Thanks to our teachers Mr Bell, Miss Piggott and Ms Jones for their work.

**Year 8 Debating**

The Year 8 Inter-Form Debating Competition moves forward with the quarter-final battle amongst the six remaining teams. Teams debated the topic, ‘Mobile phones should be allowed in schools’ with a variety of convincing arguments. Congratulations to 8D, 8E and 8K2 and wild card entry 8J! These teams won their quarter-final debate and move on to the semi-finals on today, 24 August. The semi-finals will see teams debate ‘The Internet does more harm than good’. Winners head to the Grand Final with the chance to win the coveted shield.

**Art Excursion**

On Tuesday, 7 and Wednesday, 8 August, students from 8K plus our Years 10, 11 and 12 Visual Art students went on excursion to experience the “Portrait of Spain – Masterpieces from the Prado” exhibition at the Queensland Art Gallery. Students appreciated being able to see, up close, the astounding skill and remarkable imagery of some of Spain’s leading painters of the 16, 17 & 18 centuries. Pictured: Heather Martin, 8K, enjoyed the interactive life drawing activity in La Sala del Prado.

**Ski Trip 2012**

Five days of sun, snow, and good times were had by the thirty seven students who descended on Perisher last week. With seven hours spent on the slopes every day, the students developed their skiing and boarding abilities through group lessons with experienced instructors, and by exploring the resort using the 48 lifts on offer. Without a doubt, this year’s trip was an outstanding success. Many thanks to teachers, Miss Pass, Mr Baker and Mr Osborn. The week created new friendships, plenty of laughs, and priceless moments that will not be forgotten by the group. Bring on winter 2013!

**Rugby League**

Year 8 Reds rugby league team played last Tuesday’s grand final of the Renouf Shield. Player of the match went to Jake Walmsley. Congratulations on a great season boys!

**Diary Dates**

- Monday 27 August
  - SRC Executive Meeting in Conference Room 10:45am
  - Perfect Nominations Due
  - Wavell Speaks Out Final in Library 7:00pm
  - Schools Year 11 & 12 Earth Science Field Trip to Noosa
  - Metropolitan North Track & Field Carnival - Day 1
  - Year 10 BCC Immunisation -Booster Dose 1 of 1 - 9:00am
  - Metropolitan North Track and Field Carnival – Day 2
  - World Challenge Triava Night in Hall 6:30pm
  - Metropolitan North Track and Field Carnival – Day 3
  - Year 12 QCS Test Day 1 in Hall
    - Morning: Writing Task
    - Afternoon: Multiple Choice 1
  - Metropolitan North Cluster Day-U14 Cricket
  - School Council Meeting 6:30pm
  - Year 12 QCS Test Day 2 in Hall
    - Morning: Short Response
    - Afternoon: Multiple Choice 2
    - Dance Night Technical/Dress Rehearsal in Hall 3:30-8:30pm

**Stationary & Clothing Shop Hours**

- Each Monday and Thursday 8:15am - 9:15am