

# Woolgoolga High School

## Newsletter

Issue 17 · 6 November 2020



### REPRESENTATIVE SCHOOL SPORT



#### North Coast Beach Volleyball Knockout



Woolgoolga High School students performed strongly at the North Coast Beach Volleyball Knockout, which was held at Jetty Beach. The morning posed unfavourable conditions with strong winds and over-cast weather, clearing to the afternoon with winds persisting.

The Senior Male team convincingly won round one in straight sets, and won their semi final. In the finals they faced Bellingen High School and were defeated in a competitive match. Our Junior Male team won their round one match progressing to their semi final, and were narrowly defeated by Orara High School.

It was a great opportunity to get back to competing in representative school sport. Well done gents.

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## From the Principal's Desk

Last Friday was **World Teachers Day**. I would like to acknowledge the expertise and excellent work our teachers do with our students every day. Thank you.

As I have previously mentioned, we will be proceeding with text messages advising parents and carers if their child has truanted a lesson. If you receive a text and believe it is incorrect, please let us know. Note that this is in addition to the morning text advising of a whole day absence, it does not replace this text.

While mobile phones can be a very useful learning tool, we are finding they have a negative impact in many classrooms as both a distraction from learning and a source of conflict when a teacher asks for a student's phone. As a school we are investigating the use of **Yondr pouches**. Several schools in our area are using them and we are engaging in consultation to see how they could work here. You can easily find out about them online. We will discuss them at next week's P&C meeting, alternatively, please email the school if you would like to provide feedback.

Kim Beedie hosted **Super Saturday** on the 24<sup>th</sup> October. This is the last big step for students in the selection process to be considered for the Excel Class, Year 7 2021. The toothpick STEM activity was

particularly challenging. Congratulations to the students for their excellent participation and thank you Ms Beedie and her team for their preparation and smooth running of the day.

Every fortnight we have a group of Year 6 students from our partner primary schools come to WHS for our **High School Headstart** Mathematics program. This is done in conjunction with the Mathematics Growth Team that Ms Winter works with. I was fortunate enough to spend some time with them this week. They were very engaged in the problem solving activity building a catapult.

A group of very enthusiastic, community-minded students have consulted with staff and formed the school **Environmental Group**. They aim to increase awareness for our local environment and are encouraging students to care for our school grounds and surrounding bushland. They have already conducted a clean-up afternoon and are planning more activities. This is a wonderful initiative.

Lu Nickell  
Relieving Principal



### Parents and carers

In the very near future we will be trialling a system whereby an SMS will be sent at the end of each school day which will notify you if your child has truanted class/es during that day.

Please be patient whilst we transition to this method of communication.

We welcome your support and feedback and also encourage you to contact the School Office on 66541500 if you believe (after speaking with your child) that our information is incorrect.

## Upcoming Events

Tue 20 October to Wed 11 November	HSC Exams
Friday 13 November	Year 12 Graduation Assembly
Wednesday 18 November	Year 12 Formal
Thursday 19 November	Year 10 Police Talks
Friday 20 November	Year 6-7 Transition Sports Day—TBC
Monday 23 November	White Card Course
Monday 30 November to Friday 11 December	Year 10 Work Experience
Tuesday 1 December	Year 6 Orientation Day
Wednesday 9 December to Friday 11 December	Yuragir Coastal Walk (TBC)
Tuesday 15 December	Annual Presentation Assembly
Wednesday 16 December	Last day Term 4 for students
Thursday 17 December to Friday 18 December	Staff Development Days

## Year 6 to Year 7 Transition

Roadshow visits involve Ms Rachel Bennett (Year 7 2021 Year Adviser), Mr Ian Cook (Head Teacher Wellbeing) and Mr Daniel Sweed (Student Support Officer) attending each of the primary schools, showcasing the activities and excursions that take place at our school and answering questions from the Year 6 students themselves.

### Orientation Day/s

**Thursday, 12 November 2020 ATSI students**

**Tuesday, 1 December 2020 for all students**

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, parents will not be able to attend on this day (other than to purchase school uniforms). An information session will be available via zoom at 6.00pm.

Orientation Day will be an incredibly exciting day for all Year 6 students. They will finally get a taste of high school, catching the bus to and from school, an assembly in our hall, a music concert and some mini-lessons run by high school teachers.

## From the department – Maths trains brains

Parents and carers can now explore the importance of mathematical skills with the new [Everyday Maths](https://woolgoolga-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/news/2020/10/maths-trains-brains-for-the-future.html) experience, featuring activities, resources and explainers targeted to year groups.

<https://woolgoolga-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/news/2020/10/maths-trains-brains-for-the-future.html>

# SMILE Chat Room 17

Drop in and meet your SMILE mentors

A safe place to come and chat life, school, relationships or anything on your mind.

**Tuesdays and Thursdays -  
Breaks 1 and 2**





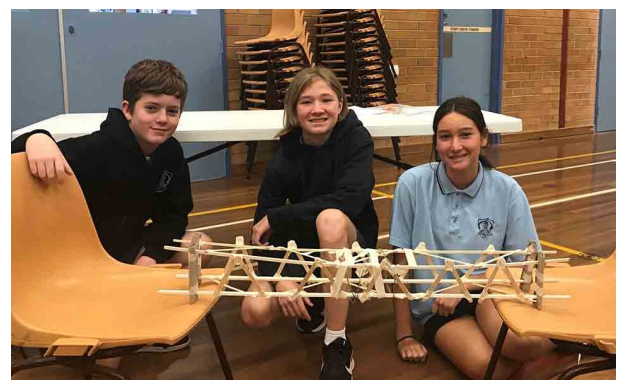
# SEC IN A BOX



*"Thank you very much (to the community groups) for covering the cost of 2020's SEC in a box, we appreciate it very much and had loads of fun!!" 7 RED 2020 WHS Students*



The regular Science and Engineering Challenge, which usually involves several groups of Woolgoolga High School students across multiple Year levels and groups of students from other schools in the region was, unfortunately, cancelled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some schools elected to participate in a variation called SEC in a Box. This is still a competition, but rather than schools competing together and risking possible infection, the activities were run in smaller groups by individual schools. The group results, if desired, could be submitted to the University of Newcastle, electronically via video, for eligibility for prizes. 7RED students were selected to participate in this year's competition. The event was held on Thursday 29 October, 2020. The students said they enjoyed the experience immensely and would like to thank our local community groups such as Woolgoolga Rotary and Lions Club of Woolgoolga for their generous sponsorship of this activity.



<b>Catapult</b>  Easy Build a mini catapult to launch a ball with the potential energy of elastic bands! 60 minutes + testing time \$49 (incl. shipping)	<b>Bionic Hand</b>  Medium Flex your construction skills by making articulated fingers that can give you a hand! 2 hours + testing time \$65 (incl. shipping)	<b>Bridge</b>  Challenge Design and construct a balsa wood bridge that can support heavy static loads! 3.5 hours + testing time \$99 (incl. shipping)
		

## SCIENCE



Year 7 are making model cells as part of their unit on Living Things. The edible one (pictured below) was more popular than the inedible one.



## SUPER SATURDAY



On Saturday 24 October a group of young, enthusiastic Year 6 students gathered to complete set activities as part of the application process for the 2021 Year 7 Excel class. The calibre of students was impressive as was their eagerness to be challenged as they participated in their range of activities.

The Excel class is an excellent educational setting to begin the journey of high school and it was once again pleasing to see so many students taking the chance and raising their hand to rise to the challenge of an Excel setting.

Many thanks to the amazing teachers and staff who spent precious time devising, implementing and evaluating the activities. Particularly Lisa Austin, Hannah Johnson, Aaron Newman, Rachel Stockton, Karen Dorahy, Lu Nickell and the 2021 Year 7 Year Adviser Rachel Bennett, who all donated their Saturday for the program.

Kim Beedie

Year 7 Excel Class Co-ordinator



# HSC TEXTILES AND DESIGN

Nine students studied Textiles and Design for their HSC this year and they have designed and constructed their Major Projects over the past year. These students have done an exceptional job and have used a variety of techniques including hand and machine embroidery, printing and dyeing, beading and sequinning, pattern manipulation, and creating hand made flowers.

All nine girls should be incredibly proud of their achievements.





## SWIMMING LESSONS

As we all know swimming is an important part of our Australian culture but for some of our newly arrived families it is a skill that will enable them to take part in many activities throughout the community. Some of our newly arrived students have started these important swimming lessons each Thursday during this term at Woolgoolga Swim School in Newman's Rd Woolgoolga. Thank you to Luke and Joan for their great support of our students.



## WORK BEGINS ON \$23.1 MILLION WOOLGOOLGA SPORTS COMPLEX RIGHT OPPOSITE OUR SCHOOL!



The ground was broken on Tuesday 3 November on the \$23.1m West Woolgoolga Sports Complex by Federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan MP, State Member for Coffs Harbour Gurmeh Singh MP and Coffs Harbour Mayor Councillor Denise Knight.

The project vision for West Woolgoolga Sports Complex is to deliver an inclusive, vibrant and healthy community space for locals and visitors to gather, play, compete, practice, learn, perform and celebrate. This facility will provide plenty of accessible opportunities for our school community such as: playing fields – to cater to AFL, cricket, with tournament overlay for touch football as well as multi use fields. The multi purpose centre comprises of two indoor courts (basketball and netball), stage, kitchen, multi purpose rooms and amenities. These facilities will offer a great alternative for our Wednesday School Sport program and for practical PE lessons.

# CAREERS

## TAFE NSW Yes+ PROGRAM

The TAFE NSW Youth Engagement Strategy PLUS (YES+) **TAFE Tasters** program commenced on Tuesday, 20 October with 25 students participating. The program runs one day per week for six weeks at Coffs Harbour TAFE. Students are participating in a variety of courses including Plumbing, Carpentry, Bricklaying, and Pottery at the Glenreagh Street campus, and Animal Studies, Automotive, Hair and Beauty, Barista, and Early Childhood courses at CHEC.

Students at both campuses have been following rigorous COVID safety procedures, and I have been very impressed with the level of care and welfare shown to our students by the staff at TAFE. Our students were a little overawed and a bit nervous, especially at CHEC, but settled in quickly. All the students that I have contacted have been very positive about their experience.

The Yes+ Program helps students engage with learning in a hands-on environment as students get to engage in vocational taster courses. The program gets students out of the school setting into TAFE-style learning and is an innovative opportunity for them to test different job options while still at school. The TAFE Tasters program is funded by the NSW Department of Education Educational Pathways Pilot Program (EPPP), operating at Woolgoolga High School.

Craig Rutledge  
Careers Advisor



*Pictured L-R (courses conducted at Coffs Harbour TAFE): Talia Lonsdale and Zavia King (Carpentry); Rory Thomson and Bojae Woodgate (Bricklaying)*

## JOB VACANCIES & SCHOLARSHIPS

New **jobs** listed on the **Woolgoolga High School Careers webpage** this week include:

- Fulltime 1<sup>st</sup> Year Apprentice Chef and a Part-time Hospitality Trainee at Ground Earth Café, Woolgoolga
- Customer Service staff at Muffin Break, Park Beach Plaza
- Car Sales Trainees/Sales Cadets at Mike Blewitt Ford, Coffs Harbour
- 3 casual Bottle Shop Attendants at Woolworths BWS, Woolgoolga Bottle Shop and Liquor Store (must be 18)

New **scholarships** on the Woolgoolga High School Careers webpage this week include:

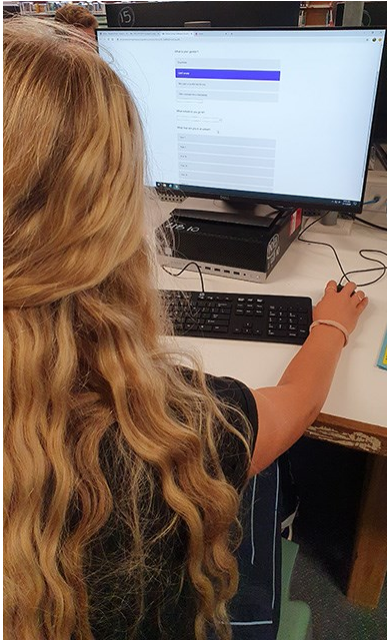
- International College of Management (ICMS), Sydney scholarships in Business, Event Management, Business Management, Hospitality Management, and Property.

Please visit the Woolgoolga High School Careers website to obtain further information about these new jobs and scholarships at <https://woolgoolgahighcareers.com/>.

### 2021 Elsa Dixon Aboriginal School Based Traineeships

Applications are now open for Elsa Dixon Aboriginal School Based Traineeships for Aboriginal students entering Year 11 and studying Certificate III in Health Services Assistance. The traineeships will suit any student wishing to pursue a career in Health or Nursing. Interested students should contact our school Careers Advisor Craig Rutledge to express their interest, then submit an application to [https://healthnswgov.taleo.net/careersection/nswb\\_discretionary\\_external/jobdetail.ft?lang=en&job=REQ189308](https://healthnswgov.taleo.net/careersection/nswb_discretionary_external/jobdetail.ft?lang=en&job=REQ189308). **Applications close on Monday, 16 November.**





## EPPP Student Pre-survey

Year 10 students have been undertaking an online computer pre-survey this week of the school's Educational Pathway Pilot Program (EPPP) programs that they have been involved in at the school. The NSW Department of Education has developed 10 EPPP pilot programs aimed at improving career development

services, vocational education and training pathways, and future employment outcomes for students. Student responses from the survey will be collated by a research team at Western Sydney University and will be used to inform the future improvement and expansion of the EPPP program.

Woolgoolga High School is one of 4 schools in the Coffs Harbour and Clarence Valley local government areas offering the EPPP program, a NSW Department of Education led initiative to improve career pathways and future employment outcomes for young people.

## EPPP TV Episode 6

**Episode 6** of **EPPP TV** is now available for viewing by students and parents.

In this episode, the EPPP TV head back to the NSW North Coast to explore opportunities in **Hospitality and Tourism**:

This episode sees host and heavy vehicle mechanic, Liam Muldoon, travel to Alstonville outside Ballina to meet a manager who's investing in local youth. Christian Photiou from The Trident Fish and Grill has two school-based trainees (SBATS) from Alstonville High School on the books, and we hear what Blake and Chelsea have to say about their traineeships. Liam also talks tourism and hospitality with representatives from Destination North Coast NSW and Regional Industry Education Partnerships (RIEP), and meets a recent SBAT graduate who's making her mark on a marketing role at the Ramada Hotel in Ballina. With local tourism on the march and the region's food scene going from strength to strength, there are plenty of reasons to be hopeful about what the North Coast region offers VET students.

To watch the latest EPPP TV episode visit <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/career-and-study-pathways/educational-pathways-pilot-program/eppp-tv>.

## The Future - happening now! Engineering sessions

[The Future – happening now!](#) is a series of online informal interviews and Q&A sessions being held throughout November - featuring leaders in Quantum, Space and Biomedical Engineering who are key to developing new technologies and new industries!

This virtual series is open to students, teachers & parents.

**Wed 11 Nov at 5pm** - Sydney Quantum Academy: Quantum Engineering & solving the problem of "noise"

**Wed 18 Nov at 5pm** - Satellites, Microsatellites & the future of Australia's Space Industry

**Tues 1 Dec at 5pm** - Restorative Engineering & Nanoparticles - Biomedical/Medical Engineering



## Newcastle University Diploma in Engineering 2021

NEWCASTLE University is offering a new one-year Diploma in Engineering program during 2021 for students completing their HSC. Students undertaking the new diploma will receive up to 80 units of credit towards an undergraduate degree and guaranteed entry into all disciplines of the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) degree. The Diploma will provide students with a taste of two discipline areas within the university's 12 engineering specialisations, and prepare them with the appropriate academic literacy, research, science, mathematics and introductory engineering skills required for further study. It would be a great stepping stone for those students interested in Engineering, but who may not get the required ATAR marks for direct entry into an Engineering program. You can find more information about the new diploma and apply at [newcastle.edu.au/dip-engineering](http://newcastle.edu.au/dip-engineering).

## COVID SAFE EVENTS

Please be advised that we will need to comply with COVID Safe requirements for the Graduation Assembly and the Formal. While we acknowledge the inconvenience of these requirements we are grateful that these events can proceed.

### Year 12 Graduation Assembly

Date: Friday 13 November 2020

Venue: Woolgoolga High School Hall

- Send an email to [robert.pursch1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:robert.pursch1@det.nsw.edu.au) with the names of up to two guests who are attending, if students haven't already informed Mr Pursch
- Stay at home if you are feeling unwell, have any respiratory or COVID-19 symptoms
- Arrive from 9:15am for a 9:30am start
- Sign in at the tables near the canteen doors
- Please use the supplied hand sanitiser on entry
- Ensure a high-standard of hygiene at all times
- Ensure physical distancing is maintained. Maintain a 1.5m distance from people outside your family group
- Leave the venue quickly after the assembly has finished without mingling

### Year 12 Formal

Date: Wednesday 18 November 2020

Venue: Pacific Bay Resort

- Stay at home if you are feeling unwell, have any respiratory or COVID-19 symptoms
- Arrive from 6pm for official proceedings starting at 6:45pm
- If dropping students off, family members are encouraged to get a photo on the grass area at the northern side of the function centre. Guests not attending the formal will be required to leave promptly without mingling
- For students and supervising staff attending the event, they will need to promptly enter the venue along the footpath
- Signing in is required at the tables near reception
- Please use the supplied hand sanitiser on entry
- Remain seated during the event to reduce mingling
- Ensure a high-standard of hygiene at all times
- Ensure physical distancing is maintained. Maintain a 1.5m distance from people that are not sitting at your table



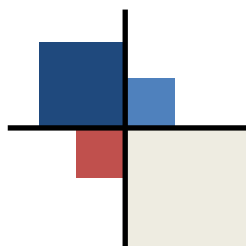
# Parent Online Payment (POP)

## Available At Woolgoolga High School

A secure Westpac banking facility has now been added to the Woolgoolga High School website to allow parents/carers to make online Visa or Mastercard credit or debit card payments for things like voluntary school contributions, excursions, sporting activities or sales to students.

To make a payment click on the link and go the "Make a Payment" tab: <http://www.woolgoolga-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

We hope you will find this payment option convenient. Payments can still be made at the Woolgoolga High School Office by cash, cheque or EFTPOS before school and during break 1.



## WOOPI HIGH CANTEEN

### fresh food daily

Volunteering in the canteen is a great way to give back and the students always love seeing their family members helping out. We are flexible with days and hours as any help is always appreciated. Ring the school on 66541500 to speak to one of the canteen team.

To view the menu and price list click [here](#)