

What's on...

19th December
Last Day of Term

School Terms 2019

Term 1, 2019

SDD – 5 February

Years 7, 11 & 12 – 6 February

Years 8, 9 & 10 – 7 February

Last day Term 1 – 12 April

Term 2, 2019

SDD - 29 April

Students commence – 30 April

Last day Term 2 – 5 July

Term 3, 2019

SDD – 22 July

Students commence – 23 July

Last day Term 3 – 27 September

Term 4, 2019

Staff & Students commence – 14

October

Last day Term 4 – 18 December

SDD – 19 & 20 December

Strive for Excellence...

Batyr says 'Get Talking'

Wee Waa High School Year 9 students recently benefitted from an interactive and fun half day workshop with youth preventative mental health organisations, batyr.

The young and dynamic batyr team work with schools and universities across Australia to break down the stigma of mental health along with promoting the mental health services in the region and online.

The focus of batyr's work is on prevention by helping young people develop the skills and confidence to talk about what is worrying them rather than letting it build up to a crisis point.

Nick Brady, batyr's fundraising and events manager who accompanied his colleagues on their Get Talking tour of north western schools explained "We want to equip young people with the skills and knowledge around mental health that they can use throughout their life"

"Combining sport and talk is a great way to get young people opening up and communicating. Our partnership with NSW Rugby is very important for this reason as well." Nick added. Wee Waa High School's head teacher student wellbeing, Mr Josh O'Shea agreed, "Sport is a great equaliser, a great conversation starter and a space where people can feel freer to open up."

"The workshop has focused on five key areas" explained Mr O'Shea; "look out, get talking, listen up, reach out and take charge. "It's been pleasing to see the students' positive response to being given the tools to have the conversation-about mental health." I think it's really going to prove beneficial."



Term 4, 14th December, 2018

Wee Waa High School Newsletter

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Principal: Annabel Doust | Relieving Deputy Principal: Jacqueline Neil

Transition

It's not long now before our new cohort of Year 7 students commence. Last week we were pleased to welcome these future students to our second transition day. There was much excitement as the students got to experience a little more of what high school life will be like. This time students got to experience a science class, art, metalwork and English classes.

Mr James Vella, the 2019 Year 7 Adviser, said he was pleased to see the students getting along so well. "We have students coming to us from Narrabri West, Wee Waa Public and St Josephs, so some of the students don't know each other at all. This is one reason why transition days are so important. The other reason is so that students have a sense of what to expect, changing class rooms after each subject for example."

"I am really looking forward to welcoming my year group in February. I can see they are going to do well."



Strive for Excellence...

Presentation Night 2018

It was terrific to see so many parents and students, including former students at our speech night this week. Congratulations to all of our award winners with special mention to the following students.

Awards	Winner	Sponsor
P & C Encouragement Award	Emily Haynes & Braiden Collett	P & C
Year 7 Academic Excellence	Kirrily Johnson	NAB & The Courier
Year 8 Academic Excellence	Zoey Kiem	CSD
Year 9 Academic Excellence	Bryony Allen & Aleisha Conomos	Namoi Cotton & Wee Waa Bakery
Year 10 Bowling Club Bursary Award Academic Excellence	Alice Haire	Wee Waa Bowling Club
William Booby Award	Alana Bennett Clancy	Fred & Maxine Booby
Year 11 Academic Excellence	Emily Shearin	Growth Agriculture
2018 Sportsperson of the Year (boys)	Zack Doring	WWHS
2018 Sportsperson of the Year (girls)	Alisha Conomos	WWHS
Arthur Murray Award for Indigenous Leadership	N'Kayla Gaydon	Helen Wenner
Rotary Junior Citizenship Award	Georgia Smith	Rotary Club of Wee Waa
Rotary Senior Citizenship Award	Aleisha Middleton	Rotary Club of Wee Waa
Reuben F Scarf Award	Zoe Conomos	RFS
Caltex All-rounder Award	Aleisha Middleton	Caltex Australia
2018 Junior ADF Youth Leadership & Teamwork Award	Mackenzie Weaver	ADF
2018 Senior ADF Youth Leadership & Teamwork Award	Aleisha Middleton	ADF
Merten Lawyers DUX for Academic Excellence 2017	Abby Downes	Merton's Lawyers
Wee Waa High School Medal	Emily Shearin	WWHS



Principal's Message

This is our final newsletter for the year so it is only appropriate that I acknowledge the terrific effort our teachers have made once again this year. For the care, concern and education that you invest in all of our students, thank you. You really do make a difference.

To our students, thank you for the effort you have made not only to your learning and self-development but to the care of your fellow students. Looking out for one another ensures that we are creating a school we can all be proud of and where everyone knows they are valued.

With this in mind, Ms Neill and I were delighted to receive the following feedback from the Senior Research Fellow with the Pro Vice Chancellor's office at Charles Sturt University recently; "I just wanted to thank you both for a very productive and enjoyable visit last week. Your school again had that lovely "feel" to it that we often remark on, that is intangible, but very noticeable – and obvious through the research conversations with the staff and students. Congratulations to you both."

I'd like to acknowledge the terrific recent achievements of our School Captain, Emily Shearin who has not only been announced as a finalist in the NSW Deputy Premier's Regional Achiever Award but also the Wee Waa Lions Youth of the Year. Congratulations Emily!!

On behalf of all of the staff at Wee Waa High School, we wish you a very Merry Christmas. Be safe and we look forward to seeing you in February 2019.

Annabel Doust

Principal

Giving Thanks To Our Volunteer Readers and Writers

We were pleased to host a morning tea recently to thank our volunteer Readers and Writers for the wonderful assistance they have given to a number of our students during the year. They have made a terrific difference.

If you would be interested in volunteering as a Reader or Writer in 2019, please contact Carmel Schwager or Jocellin Jansson on 0267 954477.

You may be able to give just a few hours a year, or maybe more. Either would be appreciated.



Mighty Movember

Congratulations to our terrific teachers, Mr Riley, Mr Jones, Mr O'Shea, Mr Vella and to our Student Representative Council for their outstanding Movember fundraising efforts that saw over \$1,500 raised.

The Movember Foundation is saving men's lives through projects focused on prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention.

