



WADJA WADJA HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Monday 28th
March 2022

Issue #1

Principal report

A warm welcome to those who are returning to Wadja Wadja High School for 2022 and welcome to the first newsletter of 2022. Our purpose is to keep the community updated with Wadja Wadja High School news and events.

Curriculum News

Exciting changes for the Grade 10,11 and 12 students with the VET programme.

VET subjects include:

1. FSK – work readiness programme. 4 points.
2. Drones – Certificate III. 6 points.
3. Math Short Course 1 point.
4. English Short Course 1 point.
5. Volunteering 4 points.
6. Kitchen Operations 4 points.
7. More subjects to come.

This ensures a realistic and achievable pathway for the senior students to gain a Queensland Certificate of Education.

Getting 20 points is key for Grade 11-12 students to be eligible for a Queensland Certificate of Education.

The priority for Grades 7,8 and 9 students is English, and Math delivered in new and exciting programs;

Online Learning:

- Reading – MyOn
- Math - Maths Pathway

Practical Literacy:

- Writing – Traits to Writing
- Spelling – Words Their Way

“Education is powerful”

Warm Regards,
Daniel Hoepner
Acting Principal

Uniforms

It is good to see that most students are wearing the uniform shirt. Many students are coming in either thongs or no shoes. Due to Workplace Health and

Safety requirements students must wear closed in shoes.

Parents, please assist us by ensuring your child has the appropriate closed in footwear for school each day.

Help us to ensure your child is kept safe and able to be involved in all aspects of school curriculum for their ongoing education.

‘Every student in uniform ready to learn every day.’

Darumbal

Darumbal will provide a uniform to students who are enrolled at Wadja Wadja High School. A special thank you to Darumbal and David Forder.

David Forder will be at school every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 10:00am.

Cathy Freeman Foundation

All parents and caregivers of WWHS students are invited to attend the Cathy luncheon to give parents and teachers the opportunity to connect and get acquainted.

Cathy Freeman Foundation ‘Mid-term Engagement’ Term 2, Date to be finalised.

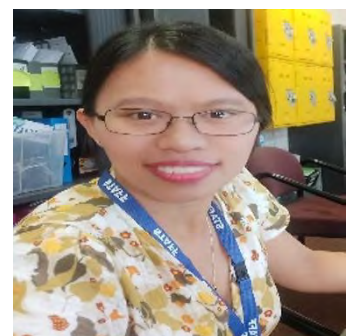


Teaching Team

Mrs Hoepner – Drones / Work Readiness

Mrs Hoepner has joined our team at the start of this year. To facilitate drones and the work readiness VET subject for Year 10,11 and 12.

About myself I come from Negros Oriental, Philippines which is 4,051 km from Australia.



I have a four-year Degree in Secondary Education Majoring in English. I am currently studying a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

I love working at Wadja Wadja High School, as I get to see the students be engaged, learn, and I get to teach them new things.

A thank you to John Coulombe from Australian Global Institute - our drone trainer.

Mr Rensburg – Hospitality

Mr Rensburg, a qualified chef, has also joined our team at the start of this year. He is currently studying a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment to provide training for VET students in Kitchen Operations and Hospitality for Grade 7,8 and 9.

All the recipes used are simple dishes and are selected by the students themselves.



Students are prompted and encouraged to get involved with the process from preparation to cooking and clean up.

Fun facts about myself. I am originally from Zimbabwe, which is located in Africa, over 10,490 km from Australia. I am delighted to work with children, especially in an industry that I am passionate about. It is most satisfying to experience the level of interest, engagement and spontaneity grow with each passing week.

Mrs Lynette Muntz – Yr 8-9

Mrs Lynette Muntz has excitingly joined Wadja Wadja High School at the start of 2022. She will be teaching the Grade 8/9 cohort.

First term, we have been busy doing lots of assessments. We are now beginning to focus on improving Literacy and Numeracy. Improvements in Math are already evident. I'm looking forward to the next 3 terms to see just how much they all achieve. Above all, the things I would love to see all students achieve is for them to come to school every day, on time.

In my class, students achieve a Deadly Award when they achieve certain criteria. We have 4 students who have achieved this already: Rahkeem, Steve, Jamaya

and Lesley. They are on their way to achieving our next Award which is Proud and Deadly Award!! Ask your kids what they have to do get these awards. It's all about coming in every day, being respectful and trying their best!!!!

I'm a proud Wiradjuri woman born in Griffith NSW and have been teaching for 40 years. I have taught in many schools in that time, but my last 20 years have been spent working in schools with students that have disengaged from school, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students. I worked as a teacher in a Cultural and Development Centre for disengaged Aboriginal boys aged 11 – 15 for 5 years. This was the most rewarding job of my career. I love to see the look on kids faces when they really start to re-engage, improve, and learn things they could never do before. I really hope I can make a difference in every student's life while I am here.

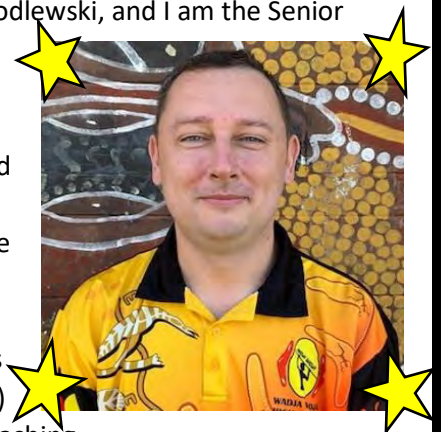


My aim is to get to know everyone, how they learn, what they like, what they are good at, and all the things they have achieved, and all those that they are still trying to achieve. Being able to read, write and do Math is so important to me. These are the things that they need to get a job.

I look forward to speaking to you and meeting all of you at some stage. My door is always open, and I would enjoy an invite for a cup of tea and a yarn!

Mr Adam Podlewski - Senior

My name is Adam Podlewski, and I am the Senior teacher. I have lived here in the community since March 2021. I moved from Melbourne leaving behind a wife and three young children. I have a Bachelor of Business (International Trade) and a Master's in Teaching.



What I love about Wadja, is watching the children grow and their excitement and engagement in the new literacy and numeracy programs. I also love the people I work with every day; they bring expertise,

care, and a good work ethic. What I strive for in my teaching, is making sure students are improving in their learning, they are happy, assist them in making good choices and guiding them to become respectful, empathetic, and confident citizens.

Mrs Jenney Costello – HOC junior / Learning Support

My name is Jenney Costello, and I have been with the school since July 2021. I am married to Hector Costello

who has been helping at this school for the past 3 years especially with the Year 11 and 12's. I have 3 grown married children and 3 grandchildren. I



love my family very much and are always looking for ways for us to be together.

I came to Wadja Wadja High School to assist with the Learning Support needs of the school. While in the position, I was quickly directed towards establishing a curriculum process that would help teachers and students curriculum and learning opportunities. and have introduced self-paced curriculum to the classrooms. It is exciting the engagement of many of the students with the new programs. We continually encourage all students to do their best and remind them that there are life rules that we all need to follow to be the very best we can be.

It is a privilege to be available to be a part of a great team here who are all dedicated to wanting to see the bar lifted and students reaching for some goals through the opportunities that are provided.

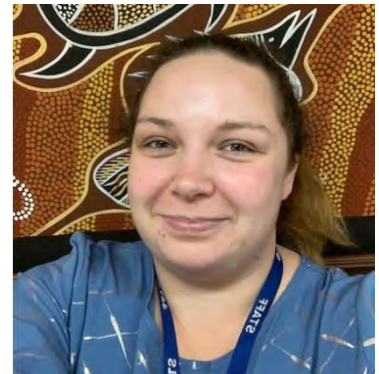
Ms. Kymberly Perks – Yr 7 / ICT

My name is Kymberly Perks, I am the year 7 and ICT teacher. I am an indigenous woman from the Darug mob in NSW. I have a certificate three in education support after being part of the Djinggi program encouraging Indigenous people to become teachers. I then went on to the University of Wollongong and graduated 4 years later with a bachelor's in education and a minor in Technology.

I have worked here since March 2021 and have recently celebrated my 1-year anniversary working in this beautiful community.

I moved up from the sunny shores of Shellharbour in NSW (about 2 hours south of Sydney) and this year I brought my sister back with me to live in Baralaba!

I love working with the kids in Woorabinda. To support them in every way possible, I look forward to seeing the new year 7 students grow and become young adults with the capacity to be empathetic and confident within themselves.



I love to have a chat, especially if it is about education, and I'm always passionate about including indigenous culture into the curriculum. If you have any suggestions or would like to talk to me, please feel free to come up anytime class is not in session to have a talk. I look forward to getting to know you all.

Headlice Awareness

Headlice has been detected in our school. Please see attached link for further information at the end of the newsletter.

<http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/media/pdf/14/165/351/head-lice-v4>

Tuckshop Term 2

Open to the public **ONLY every Wednesday and Thursday** via Saunders Lane.

Date Claimers

End Of Term One – Friday 1/04/2022
Start Term Two – Tuesday 19/04/2022
Anzac Day – Monday 25/04/2022
May Day – Monday 02/05/2022
End Of Term Two – Friday 24/06/2022

