



Wadja Wadja High School

Newsletter

29th November 2022,

Issue 4

Ph: 4935 0158

From the Pen of the Principal

Mr Daniel Hoepner

The 2022 school year is nearly over and reflecting upon this I can say that, I am proud of what has been achieved in 2022 by the students & staff. We will say goodbye to the most successful Yr 12 cohort with 4 students achieving a Queensland Certificate of Education a QCE & graduating from Wadja Wadja High School. Congratulations Dakota Saltner, Thomas Gerald Jacob, Marcus Conway, and Michael Singho.

The work that the 10s and 11s have completed this year will be counted towards their Queensland Certificate of Education in their point total towards their future graduation.

The Yr 7,8,9 curriculum included a math program Math's Pathway & MyOn reading the same way program, used to support literacy & numeracy throughout the Junior cohort.

Thank you to ISQ for their generous donation. Of that new computers enabled the junior students to use these programs at each student's individual level.

To encourage student attendance a refurbishment of a classroom to a commercial kitchen will commence in January 2023. This will offer a certificate level in cookery and hospitality courses to broaden the range of VET courses that we have to offer to enable students to graduate, along with cooking classes for the junior high school.

In a calendar year crammed with activities and experiences for our students, Wadja Wadja High School has been super fortunate to secure two school camps in 2022. Week 3 at the Columboola Environmental Education Camp in Miles, where they run activities such as water ecology, canoeing, orienteering, high and low ropes, problem solving and team building. Week 6 is at the very popular Konomie Environmental Education Camp on North Keppel Island. The centre is operated by the Department of Education (DoE) where students will experience a rich diversity of real life experiences such as:

- Snorkelling over coral reefs
- Investigating sustainability living practices
- Kayaking
- Outrigging
- Marine studies
- Indigenous history

I would like to thank our school partnerships for their ongoing support again in 2022, particularly Graham Leeson from QLD REDS, Samana and Khanita Sukaserm from Community Spirit Foundation, Naomi Austin from Baralaba Coal Mine, John Coulombe from Drone Solutions and Queensland Health Aaron Holt, Friederike McCartney and Amber Pople. These partnerships have enabled students to participate in external camps, sports, work related opportunities and wellbeing.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas & prosperous new year. Be safe, well & happy & I look forward I look forward to meeting our new Yr 7's & Welcoming back our Yr 8-12's for 2023.

Newsletter articles

- Graduating students poster
- Queensland government Buy Smart Competition
- Excursions
- Community spirit foundation - horizon interstate program
- Grad camp
- Upcoming developments
- Retirees
- Student birthdays
- Columboola Environmental Education Centre camp poster
- Konomie Island Environmental Education Centre camp poster



MICHAEL
SINGHO



DAKOTA
SALTNER



THOMAS
JACOB



MARCUS
CONWAY



Congratulations!

GRADUATING
CLASS OF

2022

WADJA WADJA HIGH SCHOOL

Queensland Government Buy Smart Competition

September this year. We had entered a Buy Smart Competition by the Office of Fair Trading run by the Queensland Government. This competition was to help learn about marketplace issues and rights to become more informed consumers.

By doing this project the students will have learnt the skills and knowledge to:

- Recognise and avoid scams.
- Improve your financial capability.
- Use your consumer rights when you need them.

The Buy Smart Competition is a way to get the students thinking about these issues in a fun, creative way.

On the 28th of October. Shannon Fentiman MP (Member of Parliament) announced the winners for 2022 Buy Smart Competition, & Congratulations to our senior class for winning the Commissioner's School Championship. The Commissioner's School Championship wins the school \$750.00.



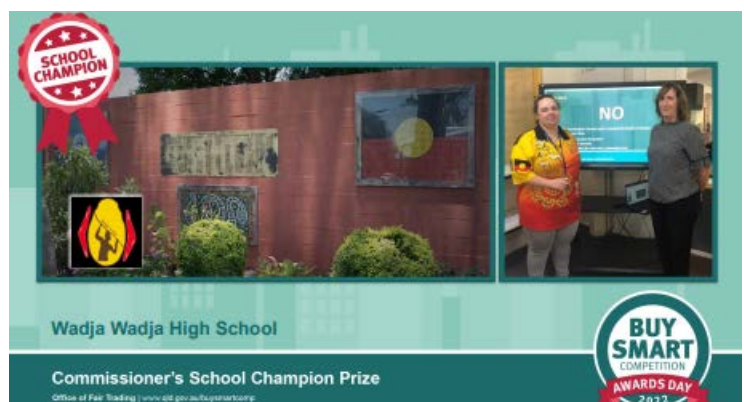
Well done to everyone who entered our Buy Smart Competition.

Buy Smart teaches young people how to be smart with their money, be savvy consumers and how to spot a scam.

Congratulations to all entrants including first prize winners:

- ★ Years 4–6: Chloe and Keina Wellers Hill State School
- ★ Years 7–9: Mei Mei, Wavell State High School
- ★ Years 10–12: James Ehrat Nambour State College
- ★ Commissioner's School Champion: Forest Lake State School & Wadja Wadja High School

Jimmy Sullivan MP
Brittany Lauga MP
Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Fair Trading Queensland





CQ HEALTH EXPO

Week 5 of term 2. Central Queensland Health Service held an expo based around mental and physical health. Wadja students was invited to get involved in the learning activities they had provided. The day was a great success and students enjoyed the learning experience.



LAND REJUVINATION WITH WOORABINDA RANGERS

On the 23rd of June and 22nd of July Mrs Lynette and Miss Kymberly accompanied Wadja students to go on a rejuvenation excursion alongside Uncle Milton. Uncle Milton did a variety of activities with the students. Students was learning how to do land surveys and analysis, see what is wrong with the land and see how they can fix it. To finish off the excursion Uncle Milton told the history and stories behind the Lily Creek land.



CSF MID-TERM ENGAGEMENT

Monday 7th of November 2022. Community Spirit Foundation held a sausage sizzle as a wellbeing session with Wadja Wadja High School students. Many attended and enjoyed the experience.



DRONES

Thanks to John Coulombe, the drone course has been going very well for the whole year. We have nine students finish their Certificate III in Aviation. Very exciting news we also have three students from Grade 12 receiving their Casa licence. This enable students to be able to fly drones anywhere such as parks and mine sites. Students are still very keen to learn more about it and to fly drones.

Community spirit foundation

Horizon Interstate Program

Horizons interstate program provides First Nations young people with the opportunity to join their peers from partner communities for a life changing educational experience. The program engages with a specific cohort of students from grades 5-12 from each of the partner schools, culminating in an Australian state and territory capital city camp.

In 2015, the Foundation hosted its first series of Horizons camps with students from all communities. With the support of the Federal Government and our primary partner, up to 80 students have had the opportunity to experience one of five trips to Brisbane, Canberra, Darwin, Melbourne or Sydney. Designed according to age group, the Horizons interstate Program balances fun and new experiences of city life with educational and employment opportunities that encourage the students to navigate their journey transitions through school and into the world of work. Exposure to various workplaces and corporate engagement, meeting people who work in diverse fields, mentoring sessions and workshops all provide First Nations young people with roles models and leaders. These experiences enable students to dream big and aim high.

Year 9/10 Trip to Melbourne 24th OCT to 28th OCT, 2022.

Three students from Wadja Wadja High School attended. Referred by Jenney Costello.

-Jasmine Miller

-Patrick Singho

-Rahkeem Williams

Accompanied by CSF staff Tyanna McInnerney. They were joined by the CSF staff, Partnering organisation - Cottage By the Sea Queenscliff, CSF teams and students from partnering communities CSF Palm Island, CSF Galiwin'ku, CSF Tiwi Islands Wurrimyanga.



**Melbourne Central
Train Station**



Art Session

GRAD CAMP

BREAKING NEWS FROM OUR GRADUATING STUDENTS

HIGHLIGHTS

Our graduates of 2022 went on their last excursion as school students this week.

Dakota, Michael, Marcus, and Thomas all experienced some firsts and some lasts over the two day trip. With activities picked by the students we had lots of fun. Read on to see!



Kayaking for the first time



THINGS WE DID

Over the two days we did a lot, between Lunch, Kayaking, Swimming, Dinner, Fishing and getting our facials done there wasn't a lot of spare time. One look at these smiles though will tell you how much fun they had.

PEOPLE WE SAW

While we were on Excursion Graham Leeson from the Future Indigenous Leaders Program came to see us, paid for our lunch and invited all of the students to be leaders in December at the Reds camp.



Lunch With Graham

UPCOMING DEVELOPMENTS

NEW VET KITCHEN

In 2023 we are excited to announce we will have new refurbishment. The focus will be to offer the Yr10-Yr12's a Cert II in Cookery qualification. This kitchen will be commercial standard to give our students the best opportunity to achieve a qualification. In the hospitality sector. We look forward to keeping everyone up to date on the progress.

REFURBISHED ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

As some may have noticed there has been a lot activity in the school grounds with the refurbishments and gardens. By the end of term, we will have a new entrance to the administration office & you will be able access via the gravel driveway, which is located on the right of the existing school building on Munns Drive. Keep a watch for the beautifying Wadja Wadja project in 2023.

COMMUNITY BOARD

- Tuckshop will only be open to community for catering purposes start of 2023

Wadja Wadja High School

RETIREES

Wadja Wadja High School has had to say a few farewells to its well-respected long standing staff members. No words can explain the appreciation and gratitude for these hard working and well dedicated staff members for all their years of service.

KATHERINE BRADY

Katherine Brady (Aunty Kisses) worked tirelessly for 23 years in her role as Administration officer. "I started with Wadja Wadja High School in 1999, The Principal was John Taylor & I was very shy at first until I met a very dear friend Aunty Eunice Munns, Johnny McInnerney and Lindsey Jarrett. I worked as a teacher aide, which I enjoyed, plus I was learning what the students were taught. that was how I started bonding with the students and got to know who they were and their families. Years later, the school tuckshop was built. So I worked in the classroom and helped in the tuckshop for the next 5 years. I was than offered a position to be in the office, where I stayed until I retired. I learnt most of my computer skill off students, even though I was the teacher aide, but true that's how I learnt. Big thanks to Wadja students for my learning and skills, I believe my role working in admin was a blessing to me, as I've made a lot of friends with staff, parents and students. I was truly sad to leave, I wish Wadja Wadja staff and students all the best for CHRISTMAS & 2023, stay safe! ♥ ♥ ♥KATHYKISSES signing off with love from Me and My Brady Bunch mob ♥ ♥ ♥"



PAUL MIMI

We are sad to see Paul Mimi leaving after 6 years of service, working the night shift as a security officer. He had always made sure Wadja was kept secure and safe. A big thank you from staff and students we wish Paul all the best for the future.

GODFREY DOYLE

Godfrey (Jack) Doyle was the school's groundskeeper. He was in his job for 26 years and people will miss the site of him cruising around the grounds on the ride-on mower. He always made sure Wadja was always clean and well presented. For his service he will be dearly missed and wish him all the best for him and his family in the future.



Dear Wadja Wadja High School Students

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Grade 7:

- Raynard Rankin
- Sharkendra Miller
- Evarnia Williams
- Ivory Row Row

Grade 8:

- Caleb Williams
- Dar'anangan Pearce
- Sylvia Finlay
- Steven Williams Jnr
- Ngarie Cowell
- Frank Stanley
- Danielle Watson

Grade 9:

- No students in Grade 9 had their birthday this term.

Grade 10:

- Clinton Williams
- William Gulf

Grade 11:

- Latrell Munns

Grade 12:

- Peter Oakley
- Michael Thaiday

COLUMBOOLA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE

CAMP



5 DAY EXCURSION 6TH FEB 2023 - 10TH FEB 2023

WHERE: COLUMBOOLA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE
25 Boort-Koi Road, off Warrego Highway.
Miles Qld 4415

COST: \$20 per student

WHAT TO BRING:

- Hat
- Clothing to last 5 days
- Joggers (closed in shoes)
- Thongs
- Swimming clothes
- Pillow
- Sleeping bag
- Water bottle
- Spare bag for wet clothes
- Toiletries

 North Keppel Island

Koonomie Island Environmental Education Centre **CAMP**

**27TH FEB - 1ST MARCH
2023**

WHAT TO BRING:

- Waterbottle
- Hat (broad brim)
- Sun protective clothing to last 3 days
- Joggers (closed in shoes) & thongs
- 2 x towels
- Toiletries
- Pillow & sleeping bag
- Spare bag for wet clothes

WHERE: North Keppel Island
Environmental Education Centre
North Keppel Island QLD



Term 4, 2022 Date Claimers	
17 th – 18 th of November	Year 12 Graduation Camp
24 th of November	Student Awards Day
25 th of November	Last day of school for students

Term 1, 2023 Date Claimers	
Monday 23 rd of January	First day back at school
Thursday 26 th of January	Public Holiday – Australia Day
6 th – 10 th of February / Week 6	Columboola Environmental Education Centre whole school camp
27 th of Feb - 1 st of March / Week 6	Konomie Island Environmental Education Centre

Term Dates for 2023	
Term 1	23 rd of January – 31 st of March
Term 2	17 th of April – 23 rd of June
Term 3	10 th of July – 15 th of September
Term 4	3 rd of October – 24 th of November

Department of Education

2023

School calendar

Queensland state schools

DECEMBER 2022 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	JANUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	APRIL S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
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 School terms	 School holidays	 Public holidays	 Staff professional development/student free days
 Part public holiday after 6 pm			

There are 195 school days in 2023.

Semester 1, 2023 commences for teachers on 19 January and for students on 23 January 2023.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Staff professional development days for teachers are 19 and 20 January, 13 and 14 April and 1 September 2023. Schools are able to decide when they undertake the required hours for professional development for the flexible days, as long as they are on the flexible days, in the school holidays or out of school hours.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Queensland public holidays are set by the Industrial Relations Minister.

Public holidays for local show days are not shown due to diversity of dates across the state.

FINAL DATES FOR STUDENT ATTENDANCE

17 November is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement. 24 November is the final date for student attendance in Years 10 and 11.

Some schools in regional, rural and remote areas will close for the summer holidays on 1 December.

The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change.

For more information and the latest version of this calendar, visit

www.education.qld.gov.au



BEST PART OF THE YEAR

MY FAVOURITE PART OF THE YEAR IS THE MINE EXCURSION. IT IS MY FAVORITE BECAUSE I GET TO SEE BIG MINE TRUCKS AND LEARN ABOUT NEW JOBS OPPORTUNITIES . I GOT TO SEE VIDEOS OF EXPLOSION AT THE MINES, IT WAS COOL. I WOULD LIKE TO GO SEE MORE MINES IN THE FUTURE, IT WAS GOOD.



2022

By Patrick Singho



BEST PART OF THE YEAR

My favourite time at school this year was when we went on a excursion to laser tag at Funzone Rockhampton. I really enjoyed that excursion because i had fun, playing old games and laser tag. Later on that day we ate pizzas. We went back into laser tag with some more people. This time we played teams, which made it more fun. That had to be our last game because we had to head back home. So laser tag was my favorite thing i did this year.

By Steven Williams