It has been an exciting start to Term 4 with lots happening. Our HSC students are currently in the midst of their exams and our Year 11 students have begun their HSC courses. Last Tuesday we conducted a Year 11 Parent/Teacher and assessment information evening. All the students and parents were given valuable information about BOSTES rules and school expectations. Parents then took the opportunity to discuss with teachers the progress of their children and some strategies to adopt for the HSC courses. Thank you to all of the parents that attended this important night.

Also, fifteen of our Year 10 students travelled to Penrith last week on a Rotary exchange and they were given the opportunity to carry out a variety of different work placements and other experiences. All the students gained a valuable insight into the lifestyles of a bigger town and the opportunities that exist outside of West Wyalong. Thank you to Mrs Markham for liaising with Penrith Rotary and helping co-ordinate the exchange.

Last Wednesday, Mr Meredith and Ms Bergan took a group of our Year 9 students on a history excursion to visit the Forbes museum and to find out about the life of Ben Hall, and visit his cave and his grave. All the students gained a valuable perspective of the life of a bushranger and some local history.

Many teachers, particularly Ms McInnes, and many students have also been involved in projects related to “Athens in the West” and their creative talents were displayed over the weekend. Our creative talents are also working behind the scenes on our 2015 school drama performance “Calamityville Terror”. Ms Forster, the cast and crew have been preparing for their performances on Monday and Tuesday 16th and 17th November.

Meanwhile, our teachers have completed further training and development in methods to improve student writing skills. Some of our teachers presented samples of student’s writing that showed impressive improvements due to the teaching strategies we have incorporated. Any parents that are interested in finding out more about the strategies can contact the school and talk to any of our head teachers. Parents can also search Youtube for “ALARM matrix” to gain a better understanding of this writing strategy.

Last Wednesday morning, in our professional development workshop, staff viewed the data available from a department software package and had the opportunity to review our 2015 NAPLAN results to obtain a better understanding of some of the positive trends in our school. We were able to evaluate individual strengths and weaknesses and we planned further methods to improve student results. Our school continues to develop expert teachers that cater for the wide range of student learning styles. We also encourage parents to maintain communication with our school about any matters that might impact on student behaviour and/or learning.

It is quite amazing the amount of activities and hard work that has been displayed in our first three weeks of Term 4. Thank you to all the staff and students.

Greg Sheens, Relieving Principal

WWHS P&C MEETING – NEXT WEEK
TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER
7PM IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY
Come along and see what is happening at West Wyalong High School
Mr Pat Mason, President

REMINDER-YEAR 12 DINNER
Reminder that names and payment for the Year 12 Farewell Dinner on Friday 6th November are due today for catering purposes. The dinner is being held at the S & C Sports Club, Tallimba Road and starts at 7pm.

OSCAR IS OFF TO NASA!

Oscar Mason proudly pictured with a sketch of his invention

CONGRATULATIONS TO JORDAN
Jordan Johnston has been selected once again in the 2015 NSW Public Schools State Choir and will also perform at the School Spectacular on 24th November 2015. This is the fifth year that Jordan has performed in the NSW State Choir and School Spectacular.

CHS BOYS TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS
Best wishes to Oscar Mason and Ben Cattle who were selected in the Western Region Tennis team. They travel to Broadmeadow this week.
PINK RIBBON DAY

This Friday the Year 9 leadership team will be fundraising to support breast cancer research. Students are invited to wear something pink for a gold coin donation and to buy a pink cupcake for $1.50 at lunch 1. Year 9 leaders Alex Schneeberger, Joshua Harvey and Hayden Lynch (pictured above) kicked off our fundraising efforts last week by dyeing their hair pink. To date, they have raised $1178 in sponsorship. This is a wonderful effort. Well done boys!

EXCURSION TO BEN HALL’S GRAVE

Last Wednesday the Year 9 History Elective class travelled the trail of Ben Hall. On a slightly overcast morning we set off for Forbes Museum where we were met by an enthusiastic group of volunteers who talked to us about the life and times of Ben Hall. We also looked at their displays on rural life and the ANZAC experience. We learnt lots! From here we travelled to Forbes cemetery to look at Ben Hall’s grave and Mr Meredith and Miss Bergan talked to us about Ben Hall’s life. The photo above shows us standing around the grave.

Lunch was at McDonalds where we helped the local economy by eating as much as we could. Miss Bergan then drove us over to the Weddin Mountains and walked for about 15 minutes to Ben Hall’s cave. By now it was raining however this just made the experience more realistic as we wondered what life must have been like for bushrangers during the colder months.

A huge thanks to Miss Bergan for driving the bus and organising the excursion.

CREATIVE MINDS EXHIBITION

Wednesday 11th November, 1pm-8pm in the MPU
Join us to celebrate our talented students!
(posted attached with further details)

THE CALAMITYVILLE TERROR

WHEN: Monday & Tuesday 16th & 17th November, 7pm in the High School MPU. Gold Coin Donation.
West Wyalong High School is excited to present “The Calamityville Terror” to the West Wyalong community. This full-length dramatic play involves a cast of eleven year 10 students who have stepped out of their comfort zone and taken on a new experience. These students have been working hard both in their own time and during class time to present this play. Audiences will be constantly laughing at the comic content of the play, and will be kept on the edge of their seats with suspense.

(USS ANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN TM THEATRICAL, EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY OF WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS).

WEST WYALONG & DISTRICT COUNTRY EDUCATION FUND

GRANT & SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
Applications are now open for the WWDCEF Scholarships. For information on these scholarships and an application form please visit the following website:
Applications close 27th November 2013
For information contact Michele Carnegie 0427 753 418

URGENT – RETURN OF TROPHIES

As the end of year fast approaches could all WWHS academic and sporting trophies please be returned to the school as soon as possible.

DONATIONS PLEASE!

During my extension class this year, I have been planning a sensory/Zen garden that will benefit students throughout the school. In order to complete this garden, I would appreciate donations of sensory plants such as, ornamental grasses, small shrubs and aromatic plants. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. If you can help please contact Mrs Meredith at the school.
Thank you, Shea Broomby – Year 10

HSC CONTINUES

Today-Morning-Modern History
Afternoon-Mathematics Extension 1
Tuesday 27th Oct-Afternoon-Physics
Afternoon-Construction
Wednesday 28th Oct-Morning-Business Studies
Afternoon-Metal & Engineering
NEXT WEEK
Tuesday-3rd Nov-Morning-Food Technology
Afternoon – Visual Arts