A word from the Executive
Principal—Mr Peter Cochrane

We have had a pretty good start to 2011. I have been very impressed by everyone wearing school uniform and there have been plenty of positive comments from the community. Let’s make sure we keep it up!

This year we have welcomed some new staff. We’re very fortunate to have Ms. Jessica Sinclair as the new Assistant Principal at Warrena Street. We also welcome Mrs. Sally Grech and Ms. Anthea Kane. Two new Student Learning Support Officers also join us at Warrena Street—Ms Alex Dennis and Ms. Ally Nicolopoulos.

AT Arthur Street, we welcome Ms. Penny Field, Mr. James Grech and as the new District Guidance Officer, Ms. Pauline Allan.

This year, I expect all students to ensure they bring the necessary equipment to school every day, including books, writing material and if they’ve been issued one, their laptops.

Students are also reminded that they must return from breaks on time and be in class on time. Respect for each other is to be practised every day. Respect for our school means we don’t litter; don’t graffitii the school and we look after school equipment.

After getting some very good results last year, I urge all students to make sure that they are working as hard as they can in every class. Don’t allow others to distract you. Be aware of when your assessment tasks are due and get them in on time. If you need help please talk to your teachers.

Have a great year. Work hard and be pleasant to each other.

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 March</td>
<td>Aboriginal Language Course for AEO &amp; STLO’s continues—Thursdays</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>International Women’s Day Breakfast</td>
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<td></td>
<td>@ Sport 7am</td>
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<td>10 March</td>
<td>Girls Basketball at Coonamble</td>
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<td>10 March</td>
<td>Dental Visit at Primary-Warrena St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 March</td>
<td>Boy’s Basketball v’s Lightning Ridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 March</td>
<td>Community Services BBQ- Walgett Shire Building 9am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Contact Gail Simpson)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 March</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<td>23 March</td>
<td>Zone Winter Sports Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>Children’s Author “Too Cool” Books-Phil Kettle visits Warrena St. Site</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 April</td>
<td>Moorambilla visit</td>
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If anybody would like to be emailed a copy of the newsletter each fortnight just send an email to peter.m.nichols@det.nsw.edu.au and I will add you to our electronic mail out list ☺
Primary Report
Deputy Principal – Michael Clare Wareena St. Site
It has been an excellent start to 2011 here at our Wareena Street campus. There have been a few important staff changes, but I am pleased to say that classes have been running smoothly.
Firstly, we have a new pre-school teacher, Miss Anthea Kane, a new Reading Recovery and RFF teacher, Mrs Sally Grech, and a new Assistant Principal (Primary), Miss Jessica Sinclair. We also have new SLSO’s in Ally Nicolopolous and Alex Dennis (pre-school). They have all settled in well and already begun making a positive impact around our school with staff and students. I really believe that we are set for a great year.

For instance, it was pleasing to see how many of our Yr1-6 students returned to school in full school uniform and ready to start work. Student behaviour has been good and it has been a real pleasure visiting each classroom and seeing quality learning taking place. We also have more than twenty Kindergarten students starting school this year. Needless to say, it’s been a very exciting time for both them and us!

We intend to improve your child’s education in 2011. We have already begun a Gifted and Talented 2-4 class with Miss Sinclair and we are working on establishing our brand new Aboriginal 8 Ways School Rules Program. I believe this will help improve student behaviour and help keep children in classrooms. We are also looking at improvements to the way we are teaching music and sport.

As I said last year in this newsletter, our goal is to ensure that school is a positive experience for every student who walks in the front gate.

Swimming Carnival
On Friday 18th February Wareena Street students participated in a wonderful swimming carnival down at the local pool.

As the photos show, a great time was had by all.

There were competitive events for the more confident swimmers, 25 metre events for children learning to swim as well as novelty events for all the children.

Although small, it was a swimming carnival full of competitive spirit. Both houses, Namoi and Barwon shouted and barracked strongly all day to try and get their team ‘up’ as winners. There was plenty of great singing and dancing on the sidelines from both houses!

Our K-2 students came down to the pool around 10 o’clock and had loads of fun playing water games and wading around the small pool. Although hot, the weather was fairly kind to us and it was a great day spent in the cool water.

Perhaps the most exciting event of the day was the student v teacher novelty race across the pool. The main rule (devised by Mr Hunt) was that each swimmer had to put on a pair of shorts and flippers before they swam across the pool. In a very close race, the staff won narrowly.

The winning house for the day (by only six points - 320 to 326) was Barwon. Well done!

Finally, a big thank you to Mr Hunt for organising such a great carnival.

Results of all events are listed below.

**WSC Carnival Champions**
Junior Boy – Robert McGrady
Junior Girl – Shauri Carberry
Senior Boy – Jacob Thurston
Senior Girl – Teliyah Hickey

**North-West Region Representatives**
Shauri Carberry, Raylene Kennedy, Alyssa Murray, Caitlin Doolan
Gary Abel, Robert McGrady, Jacob Thurston, Harrison Hopcroft
Stage Two Report

During Term One, students in 3/4H will be learning the HSIE unit, ‘Celebrations’. So far this term, the students have been involved in an activity where they were grouped and given pictures to discuss the types of celebrations.

Kaleb’s group discussed all kinds of celebrations such as Grand Final wins, weddings, birthdays etc.

Shauri’s group had a lengthy discussion on places of worship. They looked at similarities and differences of each place.

Raylene’s group looked at celebrating ANZAC Day. They discussed features of photos from the past and now.

Alyssa’s group worked on celebrating the Royal Easter Show. They discussed the difference between the show in Walgett to shows in other towns and cities.

Selective high schools placement test – 17 March 2011

The selective high schools test is held annually for Year 6 students wishing to enter a selective government high school.

For key dates, online applications and more information for parents, see www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php
New Preschool Teacher

Hi, my name is Anthea Kane and I’m the new preschool teacher at Birraleegal Goondi. As you probably know by now, I have replaced Ms Shari Genoli for 2011.

I am enjoying myself here at Walgett. I moved from Newcastle to Walgett having recently completed my training in preschool education. Walgett offers a wonderful opportunity for me to begin a fulltime teaching career. I have settled in well to my new school and am looking forward to meeting new people and working closely with our local community.

I have a new assistant, Ms Alex Dennis, who is working hard to helping me make Birraleegal Goondi an even better place to send your children in 2011.

Early childhood is an important time in children’s lives and I’ll be making sure that children have a great time at Birraleegal Goondi learning new skills and getting thoroughly prepared for life at “big school”.

Walgett Students Represent North-West in Bowls

Michael Clare- Deputy Principal Warrena St. Site

Last Thursday 24th February, three students from the Arthur Street campus competed in the North-West Region Trial for the sport of lawn bowls. Despite some tough competition, I am pleased to report that WSC students, Shannon Tighe, Brent Richards and James Elms were successful in making the side.

They will now take on other teams from all around the state in Coffs Harbour in April at the CHS Championships.

Having three Walgett boys selected was a great effort given the fact that students from all over the North-West travelled to Armidale City Bowling Club for this trial. The selections process was a tough one with students asked to bowl to marked targets on the green. Each player’s points tally for accuracy was carefully measured and then compared with that of the other bowlers. Players were then put in teams and asked to play against each other while the selectors, Mr Dale Smith (Guyra High) and Todd Fuller (Armidale District Champion) carefully watched them perform under match conditions.

North-West has a proud record in this event having won the CHS title in 2010. In fact, a huge trophy with North-West’s name engraved on it was sitting there near the green for the students to see. It is worth noting that both Shannon Tighe and Brent Richards were members of last year’s winning side - a great effort. This year, however, they have been promoted to the important positions of playing skip (Shannon) and third (Brent) in the two teams chosen.

I drove the boys to Armidale last week and stayed overnight with them. It was a long trip, but a very happy one. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate them not only for their bowling skill, but for the way they represented their school and the local community while they were away. Their manners, sportsmanship and maturity were outstanding. Well done, Shannon, Brent and James.

We look forward to hearing how the North-West team perform in April.

WALGETT JUNIOR LEAGUE

Walgett Junior Rugby League 2011 will start term 2 this year.

To register you need to get a form from school.

Could all notes be returned to Jason Horan at the primary school and Erika Lampe at the high school.
Secondary Report  
Fran Pelloni- Head Teacher  
Special Ed, PDHPE

The Special Education faculty is set to have a busy year with lots of practical, hands on activities to supplement the curriculum in class. If you see a group of students working hard at the Agriculture Plot they are busy doing science based activities. Lawn bowls, swimming and hopefully bike riding will also take place as part of the Physical Development Health and Physical Education curriculum. The famous car wash will also continue on Friday afternoon's as part of the Maths and Work Education curriculum. The car wash is available to the public, sit back while your car is being cleaned knowing you are supporting our students at school.

I will be on maternity leave until term 4. Please support the relieving Head Teacher - Special Education as they support our students to engage in their academic and lifeskills learning. All the best for the coming months and to all our students - look after your carers, show respect to your carers and talk to your carers about ways to gain more from school and contribute more at home! 

Thanks

Maths- Science- TAS Faculty

2011 is already well underway, the Maths Science staff have moved into the new Science block and the Maths teachers have been busy organising their classroom and storeroom. We have 2 new faculty members this year, Mr Matt Clarke and Miss Tanya Coelho. Both staff have been at our School for a number of years, however, both are undertaking a retraining program in Mathematics.

Other members include Mr Gary Kerr (Science & Maths), Mr Dale Mate (TAS & Maths) and Mr David Thirkell (TAS). Mrs Martelli (TAS and Hospitality), Miss Erin Thompson (Maths) and Mr Bruce McConachie (Science) are also teachers who teach within our faculty.

Students are encouraged to attend the schools homework centre. Mr Kerr has offered his time to tutor and assist students to catch on missed work and experiments during this time.

For further information about homework centre please contact Miss Thompson or Mrs Martelli.

Melissa Ozoux.

Homework Centre - Arthur Street

Students in Years 7 to 12 are invited to complete their homework, study for exams and build literacy skills at the Homework Centre.

- Where: Library
- When: Wednesday & Thursday - 3.10 to 5.10
- Food and Drink Provided
- The bus will take students out to Gingie and Namoi Village at the end of the day.

Please see Miss Thompson or Mrs Martelli for more information.
Congratulations Grace Boney and Amelia Haley, both students have Traineeships. Amelia and Grace will both be completing Cert II Business Services, Grace’s host employer is the Commonwealth Bank and Amelia’s is Centrelink. Thank you to all the host businesses for supporting our students.

This year we will continue with the Adopt a School project with students working for 4 hours one day per week. We already have students at the Walgett Vet Clinic, Koolyangarra PreSchool, Walgett Pharmacy and CAFE 64 If any businesses or parents are interested in being involved in this work experience project or would like more information please contact me at the School on 68281022.

Melissa Ozoux

Sport Report
The year of Sport has already kicked off with a bang!
We had our High School Swimming Carnival on the 16th February and the weather was just perfect! Great to see so many students participate and have a go!
**LAWN BOWLS**
Brent Richards, Shannon Tighe and James Elms have been selected in the CHS North West Bowls Team. The boys will play in the CHS carnival in Coffs Harbour! Don’t forget to say g’day to Mr Ratu while you are there! A big CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

**FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA**
Football Australia will be working with students from Walgett Community School in developing their skills in Football or also known as Soccer. Kids will look at refereeing and coaching and learn fundamental motor skills. Great prizes to be given away! Tuesday the 8th of March 2011

**Friday Sport**
We are at the pool every Friday 9-11 for the remainder of the term. Please remember to bring:
- Towel
- Spare clothes
- Sunscreen
- HAT

**Up and coming sport:**
- Basketball: Open boys play Lightning ridge on the 10 March, Open Girls play Coonamble High School date yet TBA
- Football Australia Grass Roots program for years 7-10 on the 8th of March
- Zone winter trials for Netball, Rugby League and Football late March

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There will be a documentary airing on television about the Goodooga flooding situation. 4.30 PM on Sunday the 13 March 2011 on SBS1 “Living Black”.

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**Upcoming Secondary Assessments**

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<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Task</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yr 9 &amp;10</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Small Group Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Book review – novel study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Internet research task</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 9 &amp;10</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Metals</td>
<td>Practical task</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 9 &amp;10</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Visual Art</td>
<td>Practical Task</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 9 &amp;10</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Practical task &amp; dance Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Global issues presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>CompApp</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>E.E.C</td>
<td>Movie review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Legal Studies</td>
<td>Media file / topic test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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You are invited to the launch of the Euragai Goondi Healthy for Life Community Market Garden

Thursday, 14 April 2011
onsite, cnr Duff & Arthur Sts, Walgett

Walgatt's got TALENT
DO YOU SING ALONG TO YOUR FAVOURITE MUSIC OR WHILE IN THE SHOWER ??
DO YOU HAVE GREAT DANCE MOVES??
THEN COME AND SHOW US WHAT YOU’VE GOT
GROUPS—SOLOISTS—DUETS
WAMS is having a talent quest as part of their
25 Year Celebrations
12 April 2011 at No 2 & 3 ovals
Prizes for
Best Male and Female Primary School aged performance
Best Male and Female High School aged performance
JUDGING WILL BE BY OUR CELEBRITY GUESTS AT 4 PM
Registrations close 31 March 2011
Contact Donna on 6828 1611
Walgatt Aborginal Medical Service Corporation Ltd
17 Duff St. Walgett NSW 2838
Phone: 6828 1617 Fax 6828 1234 Email: wamc@walgett.com.au
Future Leaders
PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE 2011

The Future Leaders Photography Prize is designed to recognise young photographers.

Year 12 students are invited to submit digital photographic work (one photograph for each student). The work submitted can be on any theme.

The finest photographic submission will be featured on the Future Leaders Photography Gallery (www.futureleaders.com.au)

PRIZE
In 2011 the winner will receive $1,000.

SUBMISSIONS
Please send all submissions electronically by 1 July 2011 to: helen@futureleaders.com.au

“Doing Year 12 Photography made me realise that I could take another direction in a creative area in which I was very interested.” [Fine Arts Degree Graduate]

Future Leaders is a philanthropic initiative about leadership and our future. It seeks to involve, inform and inspire.

www.futureleaders.com.au

5 St Vincent Place, Albert Park 3206
T 03 9699 9596 F 03 9690 9740
helen@futureleaders.com.au
www.futureleaders.com.au

Want to be an energy and climate change leader in your community?

Get involved in Energymark

Volunteers are needed to lead discussions on energy, climate change, water and waste.

Help create a sustainable future – reduce your carbon footprint and save power at home.

You don’t need to know a lot about energy and climate change to participate.

Gather a small group of people (family, friends, neighbours or workmates) for discussions and receive support and discussion material from CSIRO.

Together explore what you can do to make a difference.

Plus, receive a FREE copy of the CSIRO Home Energy Saving Handbook!

To register or for more information visit www.energymark.com.au or call 1300 319 003.

Students, parents, community members and staff are welcome to put items in the newsletter. Just mail your items to Walgett High School P.O. Box 228 Walgett 2832 or email – nicola.vankuyk@det.nsw.edu.au