The Principal’s Report

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our students, staff and school community back to school in 2011. I have the great honour of leading our school as relieving principal while Dr Bailey is on Long Service Leave. Dr Bailey will decide over the next couple of months whether he will retire at the end of his leave. I would like to thank Dr Bailey for his leadership of Illawarra Sports High School over the 6 years that he was principal here. I have already had many people express their sadness that he may not be coming back. With that in mind, I am left with the task of leading and managing Illawarra Sports High School into the future.

There have been many changes on our staff. I was able to introduce our executive and new staff to our students on Tuesday, so I thought it would be appropriate to let the greater community know of the changes. Ms Zoratto is our new Head Teacher (HT) TABS, replacing Mrs Newberry. Mrs Campbell is replacing Mr Gerritsen who is on leave for term 1 and Mr Hughes is replacing myself. We have 6 teachers in relieving HT roles as well. Mr Collis is relieving for Mr Audsley in English, Mrs Thomas for Mr Balange (science), Mrs Lerch for Mrs Campbell (welfare), Mrs Pettit for Mr Hughes (PDHPE), Mrs Heffernan continues to be the visual arts HT and Mr Nunn is relieving for 3 days/week for Mrs Hill’s maternity leave. Mrs Hill, as noted already, is in 2 days/week. Mr Baker transferred to Nowra High during the holidays and we are sad to see him leave. It is a shame that we never had the opportunity to farewell him as a school. As a result of all these changes, we are all relying heavily on Mr Dawson, Mr Booth, Mr Thompson and Mr Davies for their experience at an executive level. I am looking forward to working with this group of executive teachers in 2011.

We also have many new faces on the teaching staff. In HSIE, Mr Gannon has returned and we also have Ms Starling and Ms Armitt. Mr Pilon and Mr Holliday join our mathematics faculty and Ms Stokes is now a member of English. Mr Gander and Mr Miller have extensive time with us in science and Ms Lennon is joining the Visual Arts faculty. Mr Dean has received a block in PDHPE and Ms Woodlands takes up her permanent position, also in PDHPE. These are a lot of changes for a school like ours and we are looking forward to new ideas and directions.

ATTENDANCE – IT IS NOT O.K. TO BE AWAY!
When students miss a class lesson, they lose the thread of the subject material. The result is that their ability to logically think through issues and processes is seriously impaired. Could you imagine leaving out a chapter of a novel that you were reading? How much sense would that novel make? To fill in these gaps, both the teacher and student have to set aside time outside class to work together to catch up. Unfortunately, despite the best of intentions, this does not always happen and you child’s learning is scarred. So when there is an opportunity to shop, or baby sit younger brothers or sisters, say NO to your child. The Continuity of his/her education class by class is all too important. When you receive your child’s report and there are areas highlighted in need of improvement, please reflect on how much condoned absences have contributed to the situation. Let’s all work together to make a difference to your child’s future. Say NO to absence. BE ON TIME. BE AT SCHOOL.

Keiran Spillane
Relieving Principal

The Sport Report

Welcome back to the school sporting year for 2011. We certainly hope that you enjoyed a relaxing Christmas and New Year break, as we have four busy and productive terms ahead of us. To our many new students in the Talented Sports Program, welcome to our ‘family.’ We trust that you will enjoy your time at the region’s only Sports High School, as there are many exciting developments and experiences scheduled for the year ahead.

To our continuing students, congratulations on the progress that you have achieved. Please ensure that
your excellent rate of development continues in 2011 and beyond.

New Sports Office
During the latter part of the holidays we were allowed to move into our new Sports Administration Centre. Whilst the moving process is not yet complete, the new building will bring many benefits to the school and its population. As of the end of this week, all student and parent sporting enquiries will be processed in the new building, which is located at the eastern end of the school hall. (Parents are reminded that they must sign in at the front office, regardless of the reason, before they enter any other school building.)

New Staff
A number of new staff have been appointed to ISHS during the vacation period. Along with welcoming everybody to the school, we would like to make special mention of four of the new faces at the school this year. Troy Pilon and Peter Holliday are two of our new Mathematics teachers who possess extensive sporting backgrounds. Troy was a professional basketballer in his earlier days, spending a number of years with the Wollongong/Illawarra Hawks. His expertise will certainly be of great benefit to the many fine young basketballers in the school. Peter’s playing and coaching achievements are with the “World Game”, with our Year 7/8 football squads the first groups to benefit from his role as their enrichment teacher. Guiding Peter and the other coaches in our football program this year is Glen Fontana, a coach and former player who needs no introduction within the local community. Glen is being employed by the school on Mondays and Thursdays in 2011, to continue our proud tradition in this sport. Finally, Josh Dean, a current player with Sydney in the National Baseball League, has also been appointed to the PDHPE faculty for 2011. As well as coordinating our highly successful baseball program, Josh has also been elected as the South Coast Schools Convenor. Along with our highly motivated and professional existing staff, these gentlemen will significantly add to the ongoing development and socialization of our athletes.

Swimming Carnival
Last Thursday we returned to Berkeley Pool for the first time in a number of years for our annual swimming carnival. Despite the downpour at the start, the day proceeded successfully, with a host of fine performances, particularly from our younger students. (Major results in our next newsletter). Next Wednesday 16th February, our school team will contest the Zone Carnival at Dapto Pool. Information and permission notes must be collected by all swimmers and returned by Friday 11th February to Room 11 (Ao1). Additionally, congratulations to all the swimmers from ‘Mercer’, who propelled your house over the line in the first house competition of the year. You have now overtaken McCann (leaders from the competitions held in November/December last year) in the battle for “The Les Murray Cup.”

First South Coast Representatives for 2011
Congratulations to Jeremy Bec, Brock Townsend, Blake Boehm, Luke Brown and Cooper Hass for your selection in the South Coast Open Baseball Team. You are our first representative players of the year and you have earned the right to participate in the NSWCHS Championships in Sydney next month. Well done.

Outstanding Achievements by Caitlin and Luke
Australian representative, Caitlin Foord, added another ‘high’ to her already distinguished career by producing a “Player of the Match” performance in Sydney FC’s win in the heat on Saturday over Melbourne. To be judged as the best player on the field, whilst still a schoolgirl, speaks volumes for her ability and tenacity. We wish her all the best in this Saturday’s final against Brisbane.

Another Year 11 student also excelling is basketballer, Luke Jamieson, who has just been selected in the NSW Country Under 18 Team. Apart from this being an excellent achievement of skill, the fact that Luke did not make the Illawarra team two years ago, reflects Luke’s high level of determination and persistence. Congratulations Luke on this fine achievement.

Compulsory Paperwork and Fees
As the Talented Sports Program (TSP) is a user pay system, fees must be paid for the service that is provided. This fact is not negotiable. What is negotiable, is the timing of payments if families/individuals are currently experiencing financial hardship. If this is the case, you must inform/meet with Mr Spillane to organise a payment plan. Additionally, all permission notes, athletes agreements, health forms and any other essential paperwork, must be submitted to Room 11 before any sporting activity can occur. As everyone is aware, this is a normal requirement for any school or sporting organization, so your support and assistance in promptly returning notes is greatly appreciated. These requirements are also applicable for regular recreation sport and the private Northern and Southern Buses that the school operates.

Finally, please feel free to contact either Mrs Hill, Mr Nunn or Mr McPhillips if you have any enquiry concerning sport. The more information and feedback that we receive increases our chances of making
everybody happy. Although challenging, this is our ultimate objective, so please feel free to help us in this endeavour.

Yours in Sport,
Sports Department

School Photos 2011

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 22nd and Friday 25th February. As in previous years, we are using Don Wood Photography. Payment envelopes outlining portrait packages and payment options will be given to students ASAP. All students will have their photo taken, however purchase of the photos is optional. Group photos of siblings and/or friends are available and require a separate payment envelope to be collected from me.

If you wish to purchase photos, each child will need to bring the completed envelope and the money (exact cash or credit card details) with them ON THE DAY their photo is taken. The payment envelope will be passed directly to the photographer prior to the photo being taken. Do not send money into the school before or after these dates.

Please note, to make a payment after these two days, you will need to contact the photographer directly. As this is then classified as a re-order, an increased cost may be incurred and credit card and money order are then the only payment options.

Full school uniform is compulsory (white, grey or lemon shirts only). Sports uniform is not acceptable for the photo. Large items of jewellery (earrings, necklaces) and unsuitable hair accessories must not be worn.

Further details regarding organization of the day will be provided via the school’s daily greensheet notices.

L. Mahon – Coordinator

News from Mathematics

The staff of Illawarra Sports High School would like to announce a fabulous initiative introduced into our mathematics teaching programs. We have registered all of our students to use the fabulous teaching/learning resource at www.mathsonline.com.au. You may have seen the recent TV advertisements by their sponsors, McDonalds Australia, and it is through this sponsorship that the program, which previously cost its many thousands of satisfied clients $40 per month for access, is now FREE to our students.

Some of the features that this program has are as follows:
- Full lessons for each concept with a voice over and numerous examples of varying difficulty. Every lesson has a pause and rewind facility to help students grasp concepts at their own pace.
- Every lesson has an accompanying printable summary and worksheet to consolidate the concept, with full worked solutions provided also.
- A student’s ongoing use and progress in the program is stored for theirs and their teacher’s perusal at any time.
- The program can be accessed from any internet ready site, not just at school.
- The entire Year 7 to 12 program is available to every student, not just their particular year group or course.
- Parents may register to get weekly updates on their child’s program use and progress by clicking on the ‘Parents area’ tab within their child’s account.
- Many more features will also be made available on-line over coming months.

Given that the program covers most of the concepts that we teach, and as good as this resource is, the school wishes to make it clear that it was never intended by its creators to replace the wonderful work that our mathematics teaching staff already do. This program is best used as a support/supplement to the classroom teaching/learning experience.

All students will be issued with their unique logins and passwords over the next few days by their maths teacher, and are encouraged to use this resource as directed by their own teacher.

Any enquiries contact Mrs Wright, Maths Faculty

School Uniform Specials

Sports uniforms can be purchased from the school uniform shop which is open Wednesdays Only.

Hurry while stocks last at clearance prices. Sports Shorts $15. (Sizes XS and S SOLD OUT). Polo Shirts $15 - only available from M Adults up to 4XL. Track suits $50.
School Uniform Specials

School uniforms can be purchased from the following locations:

**Poppets Schoolwear factory outlet** at 31 Montague Street, Fairy Meadow. Monday to Friday, 8:30-5:00pm. (Closed 23rd Dec. 2010 & 3rd Jan. 2011). Phone: 42261611

**Poppets store**, Shop 2/14 Beverley Avenue, Warilla. Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm & Saturday, 9:00am-3:00pm. Phone: 42967720.

**Crystal Bears**, Shop 211 Dapto Mall, Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:30pm, Thurs night until 9.00pm, Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm & Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm.

Twitter account for parents

Visit [www.twitter.com/myschoolkids](http://www.twitter.com/myschoolkids) and follow My School Kids to see helpful and practical advice to support your child.

WEA ESSAY WRITING COURSE

This course is for year 7-10 students wanting to improve their essay writing skills.

**Where:** WEA Illawarra, 50-56 Auburn St, Wollongong

**Start date:** Tuesday, February 15 for 8 weeks

**Time:** 6.30-8.30pm

**Cost:** $169

To enrol or further enquiries
Visit WEA or ring on 4226 1622

**What's Happening in Our Community**

Zumba

At Unanderra Community Centre

currently Thursday nights at 7:15pm
Mondays at 9:30am
Goto - [www.julesfitness.net](http://www.julesfitness.net)
Ph - 0423129493
Bring your friends and family: everyone is welcome

Want to make some great mates and get fit at the same time?
Then why not join the Berkeley Sports Rugby League Football Club

*FREE REGISTRATION & INSURANCE*

*All Coaches are Qualified*
*We cater for ages from under 6s to under 16s*
*Venue-Berkeley Park [near high school]*

*Every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons*
*Time- 4.00pm to 5.00pm*

For more info ring Virginia on 0402526949
CATHOLIC CARE WORKSHOPS
Wollongong Term 1 2011

HEY DAD
This course is for separated fathers
This course is designed for men to explore the challenges of fathering:
- Understanding children as they grow
- New directions in discipline
- Men as parents in today’s world
- Effective communication between fathers and children
- Dealing with strong emotions like anger
- Managing difficult behaviour
- Not having enough time with children
CatholicCare, 25-27 Auburn St, Wollongong
6 Wednesday Evenings 7pm - 9:30pm
23 February, 2, 9, 16 & 23 & 30 March
Workshop Fee: $60

KEEPING KIDS IN MIND
A post-separation parenting workshop. Learn how to deal more effectively with the emotional and practical issues of parenting after separation. Explores loss and grief in parents and children, communication with your ex-partner, anger, assertiveness, power grabs and impact on children.
CatholicCare, 25-27 Auburn St, Wollongong
5 Tuesday Afternoons 12noon - 2:30pm
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 March
Workshop Fee: $40

PARENTING TODDLERS & INFANTS
Two sessions full of information, skill building and sharing. The course will look at growth and development of toddlers and pre-schoolers and what parents can realistically expect and do.
Farmborough School Community Centre, Farmborough Road Public School, Farmborough Road, Unanderra
2 Monday Mornings 10:30am - 1pm, 14 & 21 March
Workshop Fee: $20

123 MAGIC & EMOTION COACHING
This time tested workshop provides easy-to-follow steps for disciplining children aged 2-12 years without yelling, arguing or hitting.
CatholicCare
25-27 Auburn St, Wollongong, 3 Monday Mornings 10am - 12:30pm, 21, 28 March & 4 April. Workshop Fee: $30

WORKSHOP BOOKINGS
For bookings or information call:
Wollongong 4227 1122
Nowra 4421 8248
Other courses may be available on request. Limited childcare may be available for some workshops.

CATHOLICCARE WORKSHOPS
CatholicCare also offers the following workshops:
- Raising Resilient Kids
- Turbulent Teens
- Seasons for Growth
- Parenting Children with a Disability
- Challenging Behaviours
- Rollercoaster
- Hey Dad!
- Parenting Toddlers and Pre-Schoolers
- Ideas for Parents
- Pre Marriage Education

ABOUT CATHOLICCARE
CatholicCare is the Social Services agency of the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong covering the Illawarra, Shoalhaven, Macarthur and Southern Highlands Regions.
We work together to make a difference in people’s lives by offering opportunities for growth, healing and hope.
CatholicCare is an inclusive organisation and education workshops are available to everyone, regardless of religious beliefs.

CatholicCare’s Family Relationship Services Program is funded by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA)
www.catholiccare.woll.catholic.org.au

NSW Energymark
Want to be an energy and climate change leader in your local community?
Volunteer for NSW Energymark and reduce your carbon footprint and power bills. CSIRO and the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW are looking for 500 volunteers to lead small group discussions on energy, climate change, water and waste.
You don’t need to know a lot about energy and climate change – simply gather a small group of people (family, friends, neighbours, workmates) for discussions using support and discussion material from CSIRO and NSW Government.
To register or for more information visit www.energymark.com.au or call 1300 119 003
Co.As.It Extra-curricula Italian Lessons

Enrolments are now available for Italian lessons to begin in 2011 at Figtree High Centre every Monday afternoon from 3.45pm to 5.45pm. Classes have already commenced (7th February, 2011) and are open to students of all backgrounds. We teach from pre-elementary level to high school level (ages 5-16).

For information on tuition fees or to enrol your child, please contact Maria Capobianco at Co.As.It on 95640744, or go online to www.coasit.or.au and then into Language Services, click on Out of School Hours Italian Program.

Enrolments are open until the end of February 2011. If you require more information on how classes are run, please contact Maria Capilli (Coordinator of Figtree Centre) on 0411810590 or via email mpaola@iprimus.com.au.

FREE ENGLISH TUTORING

We are offering FREE English tutoring again starting 2011.

If you have any question or enquiries please feel free to contact me at the youth centre during office hours. My email is emasters@wollongong.nsw.gov.au