**WHAT'S ON****FEBRUARY**

- Thursday 21st P&C AGM Meeting

MARCH

- Thursday 13th P&C Meeting
- Good Friday 21st
- Easter Monday 24th

APRIL

- Thursday 17th P&C Meeting
- Weipa parent interviews 1st-4th
- Anzac Day

MAY

- Labour Day Holiday 5th
- Thursday 8th P&C Meeting
- 3/5/7/9 State Wide Testing 13th-15th
- U8's week 23rd-30th
- Education Week 26th—1st June

JUNE

- Weipa Fishing 6th—8th
- Queens BirthdayP/Hol 9th
- Thursday 12th P&C Meeting
- Aurukun TB testing 17th & 19th
- Reports Issued 26th (Weipa except Year 12)

JULY

- Mapoon NAIDOC Celebrations 10th
- Thursday 17th P&C Meeting
- Croc Fest Weipa 22nd-24th
- Weipa NAIDOC week 21st-25th
- Westpac Maths Comp 31st

AUGUST

- Athletics Carnival
- Thursday 14th P&C Meeting
- Cape Yr6 Leadership Camp 11th

SEPTEMBER

- QCS 2nd & 3rd
- Thursday 11th P&C Meeting
- Weipa Parent Interviews 15th—19th

OCTOBER

- Thursday 9th P&C Meeting
- SFD 20th
- College swimming carnival
- Mapoon Dare to be deadly transition trip to Cairns 27th-31st

NOVEMBER

- Weipa Senior Presentation evening 12th
- Thursday 13th P&C Meeting
- Senior Formal 14th
- Last day Yr 12 14th
- Mapoon Yr 6 Graduation
- Yr 10/11 Work experience 24th-28th
- Last day Yr 10 & 11 28th
- Reports issued 28th Yr 10 & 11's

DECEMBER

- Thursday 4th P&C Meeting
- Reports Issued 4th Prep-9

Term 1:	Jan 29	-	Apr 4
Term 2:	Apr 15	-	Jun 27
Term 3:	Jul 15	-	Sep 19
Term 4:	Oct 6	-	Dec 12

STUDENT FREE DAYS

APRIL: Mon 14th

JULY: Mon 14th

OCT: Mon 20th

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Weds: Fun Activities

Thurs: SOCCER activities

Times: 2.35 - 3.33pm

Meet in front of PE shed at HighSchool. Don't forget your **HAT & WATER BOTTLE**

**FROM THE DIRECTORS DESK**

This week I was going to talk about the Western Cape College Service Guarantee and considering the positive results from the 2007 graduates this would be a very good topic to discuss. Good news all around for the College and our students, I would particularly like to acknowledge the hard work of the Senior Schooling team for their tenacity in finding quality life pathways for every child who completed year 12. We are still working to ensure our guarantee is met for every child and will continue to do so until we have delivered on our commitment. This column was originally part of a commitment to demonstrate my accountability to the stakeholders of Western Cape College. I publicly set priorities, talk about College strategic directions and promote schools of thought I want the Cape community to embrace. For the first couple of years I believe this has worked well. It has achieved consistent communication with key groups, particularly with parents and community members, you can read about the College on the plane and in the shopping centre. However I want to take this medium one step further to ensure the relevancy of my column to you, the reader. Therefore, I want this to be a place where I still set College priorities, discuss strategic directions and contemporary issues and policies but I also want to ensure that this is relevant. I am introducing a new section in my column called

ASK IAN

This is where I will demonstrate true accountability by answering the questions you always wanted to ask. Within a reasonable time I will respond to your questions in my column to the best of my ability. So if there is something you have always wondered about, from timetables to subjects, to education policies, College initiatives and everything in between, ASK IAN. Please email your questions to emack49@eq.edu.au with ASK IAN as the subject for a more relevant 'from the Directors Desk'.

Mapoon Campus Open Day a Huge Hit!

It could not be more true that 'it takes a village to raise a child', and the Mapoon community demonstrated their strong belief in this philosophy on our Campus Open Day, held on Tuesday the 5th of February. The day was aimed at providing an opportunity for parents and family members to meet the teachers, gain valuable information about school process and programs, and see learning in action by spending time in classrooms. The Open Day was an amazing success with, not only parents, but grandparents, aunts and uncles also attending to show support for their child's education. Family members were informed about school and class rules, our You Can Do It! Program, learning goals for 2008 and much more! The session culminated with a BBQ that was enjoyed by all. The students represented themselves and the Campus extremely well on the day, and they did their families proud. It was a great way to kick off a new year of learning!

**NAPRANUM PCYC & WCC WEIPA
GOING STRONG**

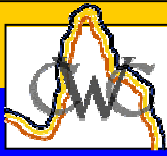
Napranum PCYC and WCC Weipa have met and solidified their strong partnership in assisting the children of the Weipa/ Napranum area. Over the Christmas break, the Napranum PCYC had significant programs running with children, utilising the Weipa Campus facilities. This partnership is set to expand with the school and PCYC investigating after school care and sports and social events. The PCYC also assists the school with re-engagement programs with children in the Napranum area. Pictured below are Juanita Davis from Cape PCYC, the PAFT team of Yvette and Leticia PCYC's Dave Bird and Tony Whybird.

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New Weipa Hostel in the Works

The Western Cape College has committed a Project officer to conduct structural consultation around the development of an initial 40 bed hostel. The new facility will enable students from across the Cape to access secondary schooling options provided at the Western Cape College Weipa Campus. The current hostel is running at full capacity and with the waiting lists increasing this new facility is much overdue and needed for the children of the Cape who deserve the funding and facilities to ensure access to secondary schooling options. The target communities involved in this consultation process will be Aurukun, Mapoon, Coen, Lockhart, Pormpuraaw, and Kowanyama. The Weipa Campus is an exceptional example of the integration on Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities with outstanding educational and employment outcomes for all students. This is highlighted by the Service Guarantee commitment that all year 12 students at Western Cape College will receive a quality life pathway. The Weipa community has access to all the key components for the successful development and implementation of a new hostel and the College, its partners and communities are very excited by this new development.

THRASS WORKSHOP

Improved Literacy outcomes for students has been at the forefront of the Junior school agenda for the start of this new school year. As part of this strategy, teachers and parents participated in a series of THRASS workshops last week. The workshops were designed to improve teacher knowledge about the teaching of phonics, spelling and handwriting whilst the parent sessions aimed at assisting parents to support their students at home. "Learning is a lifelong activity," commented Head of Campus, Mr Tony Whybird, "and we aim to give teachers the opportunity to update their skills and keep abreast of best practice initiatives wherever we can. It is also a College priority to offer parents the opportunity to participate in information sessions that will enhance their ability to support their student's learning. It was fantastic to see such a great turnout to Saturday morning's session despite the rain!" Similar workshops are expected to be offered again later in the year. In the interim, parents are encouraged to see the Head of Junior School, Mrs Kathy Street or Head of Curriculum, Mrs Mandy Whybird, if they have any further queries.



WESTERN CAPE COLLEGE WEIPA CAMPUS P & C NOTES.

First P & C monthly meeting for 2008 was a huge success, thank you to all old and new members who came along to support education at the Western Cape College. What was originally planned for a "tidy up" meet to prepare for the AGM turned into an informative session on signage around the college and it's appropriateness' and the installation of honour boards that will record the campus history and contributions of it's community. (A signage brief is available from the secretary Mary Hindmarsh on 40906236) Honour boards will shortly be housed in the new Resource Centre. Talks around why's and where fors of report cards being received after school had finished for the year, extensive use of movies and alternative program for last week of school were discussed. Mr Whybird and Mr Mackie both told the meeting that these programs were education related and that to organise report cards any earlier would mean finishing testing earlier and less curriculum time. The P & C endorsed the new Personal Electronic Devices Policy. Simply put it says that these devices are banned from the Campus and will be confiscated. Students who require Personal Electronic Devices whilst travelling to or from school should check the device in for safe keeping immediately to the relevant office. The device will be returned to the student that afternoon. If confiscation occurs Parents can claim the device during school hours or the student can reclaim the device the following Friday at the completion of the school day. The full Policy can be obtained from the Campus Office and will be on the web site soon. P & C members also approved funding for the junior and middle school applications made last year. The wish list from middle school staff includes Year 4 Lunch time class kits ie containers with board games, play bins, sports equipment. Year 5 Class set of 30 Heinemann dictionaries and a year level laminator. Year 6 Listening post set per room (10 sets of head phones, tapes player) curtains for computer lab. Year 7, 8 & 9 a data projector for each year level) P – 3 elected to pledge their P & C allocation into an application for a Prep Playground to the Gambling Benefit Fund. Fingers crossed we receive this grant! Senior school are still deliberating on their wish list. After all wish list items have been purchased the grand total contributed towards classrooms will be \$13 000. Thankyou to all of you who supported the P & C fundraisers last year. You made this happen! Calling all volunteers - early reminder for your diaries, P & C will once again actively involve themselves in the Weipa Fishing Classic scheduled for Queens Birthday Weekend 6 – 8th June. The leadership students have asked P & C to hold a disco, in order for this to happen we are asking for assistance please call Fiona Bielby if you can help on 40 906 406. The Annual General Meeting is on Thursday 21st Feb 2008 start time 7pm. The meeting will be held in the common room on the western side of the College. Meet & greet new staff over light refreshments followed by the election of P & C 2008. See you there. Jenny Aspinall - President

Motorists need to slow down near schools

All motorists should remember to slow down and drive carefully near College campuses. Sticking to the speed limit will help you prepare for the unexpected happening around the College. Drivers need to pay particular attention and watch out for children riding bikes, crossing roads, and out of cars. Being cautious and slowing down won't make much difference to your trip time, but it could save a child's life. Our College Crossing Supervisors do a very important and wonderful job ushering children safely across the road to schools. However motorists must still be careful when driving around schools as it only takes two seconds for a child to run from the curb to the centre line of a road. If driving your child to school, use the time to remind them of what they need to do to stay safe on or near the road. Explain possible dangers to your children and ensure they wear a seatbelt. Set a good example to children by always wearing your seatbelt. Not only does wearing a seatbelt improve your chances of survival in a crash, it will also mean you avoid a \$225 fine.