Children are required to attend school each day it is open for students, and are expected to arrive at school and class on time:

This
• Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
• Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
• Give students time to greet their friends before class
• Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:
• being sick, or having an infectious disease
• having an unavoidable medical appointment
• being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
• exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.
Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with Mr King, the principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

My child won’t go to school. What should I do?

You should contact Mr King, the principal, as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the school may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school. Corrimal High School and the Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school. We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Mark King
Principal

SPOKEN WORD

At the end of last year, Ms Wood and I were approached by two of our senior students who have a love of spoken word poetry. These students expressed a willingness to work with other students and teach them about this interesting form of poetry. The students were Noah Rzeminski and Chad Shepherd. They showed a great deal of initiative to come up with this idea and Ms Wood and I were most impressed. The students they chose to work with were 7Blue. The day came and Chad and Noah arrived very well prepared. They had video clips for the students to watch, engaged the students in class discussions, shared some of their own poetry and then ran activities where the year 7 students wrote their own poetry. It was very impressive and Ms Wood and I learnt a lot. The Year 7 students wrote entertaining poems and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Mr Wellings was also part of the audience and was very interested. Although this was in the final days of 2014, such initiative and leadership should not go unrecognised. Chad and Noah were mature, enthusiastic and responsible leaders. They ran a fabulous lesson and I know 7Blue enjoyed themselves.

Lions Club Youth Of The Year

On the 11th February Ryan Foster and Jack Chalmers-Mulder represented our school in the Lions Club Youth Of The Year, hosted by Corrimal Lions Club. This is a wonderful competition where students are assessed based on their public speaking skills, citizenship and leadership skills. Both students were wonderful ambassadors for our school. Ryan presented a very informative speech on the use of technology in conservation and Jack presented a sophisticated speech on the nature of good and evil. I cannot commend these students highly enough. They were articulate, mature and thoughtful and I was immensely proud of their maturity and sense of responsibility. Although they didn’t win the competition, they were exceptional.

Congratulations Jack and Ryan.

Ms Mahon
Mathematics

On Friday the 28th of November, 10 students from Year 8 and 9 attended a special day hosted by the University of Wollongong. The purpose of the day was to encourage and motivate students who had performed well in Mathematics and show them how they can use Mathematics in the real world. The students were treated to morning tea, pizza and afternoon tea, and also had a tour of the University. Here are some comments from the students:

- “Useful information, great food, challenging and enjoyable.” Victoria
- “The Uni day was an enjoyable experience, mixed with interesting mathematics activities and an insight into university careers involving maths at UOW. Good facilities and food.” Ryan
- “It was a good day walking through the university learning about the buildings and courses available. The talk at the end of the day was by someone who worked in the area of finance and it was very interesting. Overall a good day!” Oscar

I was proud of their behaviour and participation in the tasks set, and their ability to socialise with other students from the various schools. Participants included Bulli, Woonona, Keira, Kanahooka, Dapto, Oak Flats and Lake Illawarra.

Activities included a maths relay, probability race and guest speakers.

Well done to Samantha, Ben, Chloe, Nicholas, Billie, Ryan, Victoria, Kye, Oscar and Jordan for a great day; they were excellent ambassadors for our school.

Ms Groves
Mathematics

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Once again the Mathematics department is running the Australian Mathematics Competition this year.

Entries are open now and until the end of first term. All students are encouraged to enter but especially those students in motivation/top classes.

The standard entry fee is $5.50, however, Corrimal High School is subsidising the cost so that each student may enter for a mere $2. All money should be paid to the students' Mathematics teacher.

This is a valuable learning experience and students will receive a certificate and detailed information about their performance in different strands. Employers look favourably on these extra activities that students involve themselves in while attending high school.

Ms Faulkner
Mathematics
School Swimming 2015

Students enjoyed a warm day at Corrimal Pool for the 2015 swimming carnival. With Year 7 plus competitors only from Years 8-12, we topped the 160 mark for attendance at the pool.

A number of events were held which included the traditional competitive events as well as 25 m races. The kick board relay and pool noodle races were very popular.

Congratulations to the following age champions and to ALL students who entered into a race on the day. Participation and fun was evident throughout the carnival which was fantastic to see.

The Illawarra Zone Swimming Carnival is on Friday 20 February at Corrimal Pool. Good luck to all our competitors, enjoy the day and have fun.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>BOY</th>
<th>GIRL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>Nikita Wiffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Kai Esdale</td>
<td>Shakira Hickson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Taj Bowden</td>
<td>Taylah Woolmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Jake Gardiner</td>
<td>Grace St George</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Patrick Vallance</td>
<td>Claytyn Gehrke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17+</td>
<td>Jack Chalmers-Mulder</td>
<td>Maddison Osborne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students rallied behind the theme of the day which was "Be Bright" and came along dressed in their brightest colours.

Best Dressed Seniors: Elise Colebrook & Charley Shepstone

Highly Commended: Bethany Wilson, Jack Chalmers-Mulder & Shannon Wakeling

Best Dressed Junior: Andrew Farrar

Age group relays were held on the day for a bit of fun and laughter. However, the competition got pretty serious. The Junior relay was taken out by the Year 8 girls, Erin Grimshaw, Maggie Esdale, Taylah Woolmer and Grace St George. Runners up were Fletcher McFarlane, Jake Gardiner, Josh Dawson and Angelo Madonanakis.

The staff took on the Senior relay event with the staff once again proving that age and experience always shines through. Winners were the staff team of Mr Wellings, Mr Abbott, Mr Tier and Mr Luskan. Runners up were the Year 12 boys’ team of Jack Chalmers-Mulder, Tristan Stevens, Shannon Wakeling and Jarrod Latimer-Charles.

Thanks to the staff who supervised at the pool all day.

Mrs B Arthur
Sports Coordinator
Shamrocks Junior Rugby

Registration Days 2015

Saturday 21st February 1pm – 3pm
Wednesday 25th February 5pm – 7pm

Wed 4th March – last registration, first training session
BBQ and meet the coaches – from 4.30pm

Free Shamrock beanie for new registrations

Fees - $90 (includes shorts, socks)
Age groups - U7’s to U17’s

New players welcome.
Registrations to be held at Ocean Park Woonona

Contact: Andrew
ph. 0432 944543

Birth certificate required for new players.

University of Wollongong hockey club is seeking new players

If your child is interested in playing hockey we are the club for you.
We have mixed teams in U7, U9, U11, U13, and U15 and we also have an U15 girl’s team.
Training starts on Tuesday the 17th of February and runs from 4:30 - 5:30pm
All children welcome, all abilities welcome.
Please call 0415940569 for more information.

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The Outreach Unit at TAFE NSW Wollongong Campus will be conducting courses for people who want to develop skills for employment or further study.

2. Certificate 2 in Skills for Work and Training (Employability/Work Placement) – commencing late April

TAFE fees and concessions apply.
Please contact the Outreach unit on 42290149
LOW COST Tutoring

PCYC Wollongong Tutoring will recommence Monday 9th of February 2015

Tutoring for K-12 will run Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week of term from 3.30pm to 5pm.

We can offer assistance with most subjects as well as homework and assignment help. Students are tutored by PCYC Staff and volunteers.

Cost for the Tutoring is $40.00 per term. PCYC membership is required. Junior membership is $10 per year.

Limited places. Bookings essential.

Please call PCYC Wollongong on 42294418 or email wollongong@pcycnsw.org.au