



# WOLLONGONG COMBINED CHURCHES EDUCATION BOARD

Term 1 2021

## Upcoming Events

### Term 2

**7th June:** Annual coffee and dessert night.

### Term 3

**July:** Annual Pie Drive

**6th August:** GRACE combined youth groups event

### Term 4

**November:** Afternoon tea and prayer event

The WCCEB high school ministry has started 2021 well, with all 4 teachers working across our 5 high schools; Wollongong, Keira, Smiths Hill, Illawarra Sports and Figtree. Yes, in 2020, we added Figtree High School to the boards ministry in partnership with the 2 Churches in the Figtree area.

2020 was a tough year for everyone and the effect COVID has had on the work we do in high schools was hard. With the process of students signing up for SRE classes more difficult administratively over the last 2 years, following up all students for notes and making sure they go to the right room at the right time for SRE is a challenge for our teachers.

Numbers across the state have been lower in SRE.

However our great team of teachers has adopted the 'lost sheep' mantra, making sure they love every student and do whatever they can to provide them the opportunity to attend SRE. Please pray many more students will choose SRE in our schools and that parents will see the value of religious education in public schools.

The board did a couple of fundraisers last year with the pie drive and the coffee and dessert evening via livestream in the form of interviews and videos, we called it 'WCCEB TV' and around 250 people watched the event online and donations

were quite strong. Can we encourage all the Churches and their members to please consider

"Our Great team of teachers have adopted the 'lost sheep' mantra, making sure they love every student"

praying for and financially partnering with us in this amazing ministry opportunity to teach a few thousand high school students about Jesus!!



PLEASE CUT THIS SECTION FRONT AND BACK THEN MAIL OR EMAIL TO US

Please accept my gift of: \$\_\_\_\_\_ in cash enclosed | OR \$\_\_\_\_\_ in cheque | OR \$\_\_\_\_\_ via Direct Debit (Set up online)  
I will pledge to give: Fortnightly \$\_\_\_\_\_ | Monthly \$\_\_\_\_\_ | Quarterly \$\_\_\_\_\_ | Annually \$\_\_\_\_\_ | One-off gift \$\_\_\_\_\_ Direct  
Debit: Wollongong Combined Churches Education Board | Westpac BSB: 032 702 Account Number: 98 0695  
Cheques: 'Wollongong Combined Churches Education Board' To: PO BOX 130 Figtree NSW 2525 ABN: 53 550 595 397  
Credit Card: Type \_\_\_\_\_ Number     Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiry Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_





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## Heather Sitpu WHSPA and ISH

By God's grace scripture has resumed and gained momentum. Despite COVID there have been steadily growing numbers. At Wollongong, Praise God for our Year 10 class that has doubled in size due to the bravery of one student who has brought seven of their friends along. These students are asking amazing questions and really thinking deeply about God. Please pray for me as try to chase students who have forgotten their notes.

At ISHS students are eager to get back into scripture and share their memory verses. Please pray as a we look to create seminars for Years 9 and 10 this year, and as we resume our lunchtime groups.



*Pray*

for our teachers as they struggle with student numbers after the opt-in note has arrived in NSW Public Schools

## James Ulrich Keira High

As I begin a new year at Keira High I am thankful for many blessings that God has provided. Despite the many obstacles of 2020, I am thankful for the hard work of my predecessor Johnny Hann, which has allowed me to hit the ground running. I am also thankful for the unexpectedly fruitful relationships I have developed with the Keira staff especially in the HSIE faculty.

Lunch times groups have also started with Year 8 and Year 7 students attending. Please pray for me as I seek to chase students' notes, and seek opportunities to care for students in SRE and lunchtime group.



*Pray*

for our teachers as they reconnect with their students after COVID.

## Samar Mikhael Smiths Hill High

It has been a great answer to prayer to be returning to SRE at the start of term 3 2020. After a three month pause the staff kindly welcomed me back and the students were excited and filled with questions. This term, students eagerly welcomed back an altered 'Snacks and Chats' and an outdoor lunchtime group. I have also had the privilege to reconnect with some of the year 10 students of their camp.

However COVID has exacerbated the anxieties and struggles of some students, please pray that God would bring peace to these students. Pray as well that we will be able to run the FiSH Camp after a year's hiatus.



*Pray*

for our Board as we consider using funds to generate a new SRE board for the Southern Illarwarra

*Pray*

for our students that they will come to faith and be connected in with our local youth groups.

## Naomi Lowth Figtree High School

Scripture has officially started at Figtree High! During terms 3 and 4 scripture resumed with seven Year 7 classes of 10-15 students. Praise God for being able to teach so many students the good news of Jesus! In our classes students have been looking at the bible as one big story and a few students have shown particular interest recieved a gospel of Luke. Pray that they would read and be transformed by it.

Please pray for me as I continue to navigate the different relationships with staff. Pray also for our new lunchtime group, that God would raise up committed leaders and helpers.



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**We need to raise \$130,000 a year! Consider... 100 people at \$1300 p.a OR 1000 people at \$130 p.a.**

[These are the figures to think about. If you already supporting and receive newsletters, disregard the form below.]

*I would like to support this ministry of scripture teaching in our local state high schools*

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ (you may choose to be anonymous, just add other details)

My address for newsletters is \_\_\_\_\_

My email address is \_\_\_\_\_