YEAR 12 STUDENTS CELEBRATE

Last week we said goodbye to our Year 12 students from formal classes to settle down to study for their VCE exams. The spirit of the celebration was wonderful and the students were excellent models of our values. Their costumes on the last day were fantastic and it is wonderful that they could come together with their teachers and celebrate their secondary education with such joy. The week was capped off by the formal which was also attended by a huge number of current and former staff. Helen Burnett is to be congratulated for organizing a well thought out, entertaining and enjoyable evening.

WORLD TEACHERS DAY 2013

Friday 25 October was World Teachers Day – teachers were each given a handmade Apple shaped shortbread as a token of thanks for the remarkable work they do.

PARENT OPINION IS IN!

The results from the annual Parent Opinion Survey have been sent to us and for the most part parent opinion is at or above State Secondary School means and generally an improvement on previous years. Particularly pleasing were some of the comments. We will use the data from the survey to identify opportunities for improvement. Thank you to all the parents who participated in the survey.

ARTS FESTIVAL

A reminder that the Arts Festival will be held in Week 7 from Tuesday 19 November until Friday 22 November.  Add this to your diary…..so you don’t miss this showstopper!

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

At the School Council meeting held on Tuesday 29 October, the following were endorsed:

- The updated Curriculum Policy.
- The new Anaphylaxis Policy.
- The Parents Supported Materials and Service Charges 2014 for Years 7 to 12.

IMPORTANT DATES

We celebrate the success and achievements of our students and the Graduation of the Year 12 students annually at our Awards evenings. With December being such a busy time of year I encourage you to pencil in these very important days. The Middle Years Campus Awards Night is on Tuesday 17 December and the Senior Campus Awards Night is on Wednesday 18 December. Reports will be distributed on 17 December.

MELBOURNE CUP

Melbourne Cup day is on Tuesday 5 November. The day is a public holiday and students are not required at school. Monday is a normal school day.
ATTENTION YEAR 10 and YEAR 11 students
Early Reading Resources Available to Purchase for 2014

If you will be studying VCE ENGLISH, EAL or LITERATURE in 2014 you were given the opportunity to put in an ‘Early Resource’ order to ensure you get your texts delivered so you may read them over the summer holidays. This sheet was given to you by your current English teacher last week. If you missed the deadline and would now like to order this reading material it is recommended that you directly contact Landmark School Supplies as soon as possible to avoid any disappointment with late deliveries.

ALL English and Literature texts are expected to be read over the summer break. In VCE, your novels are NOT read in class. As each unit lasts for only a few weeks, we spend that time analysing key moments in a text. You are expected to have read the whole novel or play already. Failure to read these texts before you begin will mean you start the year significantly behind.

“OH WHAT AN EFFORT”

VCAL BBQ in aid of Wildhaven Sanctuary

The VCAL students held a BBQ to raise money for the Wildhaven Sanctuary in Andrews, an organization which rescues and cares for injured or orphaned animals. Mr and Mrs Reid, who run the sanctuary, have given up their jobs and their home to look after these animals. During the recent bushfires their home and the sanctuary were destroyed. Stella and Alan Reid have now rebuilt and spend every hour of their day managing and caring for animals in need of urgent care. They are a voluntary non profitable foundation. St Andrews provides excellent enclosures for these animals. In total we raised $495.00, with a profit of $230.00 being donated to Wildhaven Sanctuary. A big thank you to Ms Kerry Norton & Ms Eva Rivera for assisting us with this special fundraiser. Also a thank you to Cheryl van Amelvoort for bringing our attention to this wonderful sanctuary and to all those students who supported us by purchasing food. We had an amazing journey with this project.

Unit 1 Biology – Rat Dissection

Three Unit 1 Biology classes had the opportunity to be the first to use the new La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science laboratory for a rat dissection. Our day began when we arrived at the University and were met by the La Trobe faculty staff who escorted us into the building where we were to carry out the dissection. Once inside the laboratory, our biology teacher Mr Beagles completed a demonstration rat dissection. The facilities that this new building offer meant we could all get a close up of Mr Beagles handiwork via the television screens that were projecting his demonstration. After a quick recess, we split up into pairs and started our own dissection. We began by pinning the rat down and making a small incision in the center abdomen. We then cut up to the diaphragm and pulled apart the skin to expose the organs. This was followed by a thorough examination of the internal organs which we then removed. Next we cut the diaphragm and rib cage to display the heart and lungs which we then removed. Once we removed the heart we cut it open and tried to identify the four different chambers. We then traced a path from the lungs up to the trachea and cut through a small portion of organ to observe the rings of cartilage that support it. A few people were feeling a little queasy during the dissection so luckily lunch was not far away.

Following lunch we finished our day with an Assessment Task (SAC) that included questions focused on our dissection observations as well as information we have learnt about transport and respiratory systems in class. All in all it was a great experience. Using the La Trobe facilities to complete a practical activity and assessment task in one day, was a unique opportunity that we would have otherwise needed to spread over several days if completed back at school. A big thank you to all the Mill Park and La Trobe Staff who facilitated the day.

Written by Hajar, Yassamin and Natasha
Exam Excellence

It is essential for all students to understand that in order to learn you must have the right attitude. That, ‘Attitude is Everything’!

We hope that your exams are progressing well.

Things to remember during each examination:

- Take your watch off and place it in front of you so that you can easily monitor time.
- Ensure that you write your student number and any relevant information that is required on the cover of the paper/answer sheets/answer booklets.
- Read through as much of the paper during the allocated reading time. Identify those questions that are difficult, frightening or time consuming. Leave these questions until last.
- Make sure you understand what questions you are required to answer i.e. is there a choice of questions to answer or do you need to answer every question?
- If you finish reading early and you are clear as to what is required of you then start to mentally plan your strategy for the first question.
- Never feel panicked if you do not understand a question after reading it once. You may need to read through questions few times before you understand its requirements and theme. Assist in the understanding process by engaging in self-talk and visualisation.
- Marks are commonly lost due to the failure of addressing key instructions. For example, not writing your answer to the correct number of decimal places. Underline key words and instructions as they appear. This will help you to identify the requirements of the question.
- Allocate the appropriate time to each question and in accordance to the number of marks each question carries. For example, if there are four sections with equal weighting on marks, divide your time equally between each section. **DO NOT** spend more time on a question than is allocated (unless you have completed as much of the paper as you can).
- Try to factor in 5 minutes at the end of the exam to check questions and to guess answers to those questions that you could not address.

Start each exam paper with the easiest question. This will ease you into the exam. Address your next best question next and then answer the remaining questions in order of preference, leaving your least favourite question to last.

**The Exam Excellence Committee would like to wish you all the best during the examination period.**

From the VCE Excellence Team

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**2014 TERM DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>29 January to 4 April</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>22 April to 27 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>14 July to 19 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>6 October to 19 December</td>
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Please remember that family holidays during the school term are counted as unapproved absences from the College. These can significantly impact on a student’s ability to achieve satisfactory outcomes in their subjects.
Year 7 – 9 Tests and Exams

As mentioned in the last newsletter, for the first time there will be a formal end of year test and exam period for all Year 7, 8 and 9 students. This will be held in week 6 of this term, from 11 to 15 November. The aim of the testing is NOT to rank students or to be the main measure of their year’s work, but to provide valuable experience of the process of studying and revising, as well as applying their knowledge and skills under exam conditions. A summary of which subjects and the length of the test/exam has been provided to students.

Public Holiday

Melbourne Cup day is next week on Tuesday 5 November. The day is a public holiday and students are not required at school.

Year 8 Tasmania Camp

Camp Indemnity and Confidential Medical forms have been distributed and must be returned to the General Office as soon as possible.

Travel Insurance forms can be downloaded from the College website at http://www.millparksc.vic.edu.au/. A Parent Information Night will be held in the Middle Years Campus Library on Monday 18 November from 6:00pm – 6.30pm.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Jack Williams on 9407 9700.

Air Pollution and Asthma

School age students and young children with asthma can often have breathing difficulties when exposed to air pollution. Air pollution can occur:

**Outdoors** - smog (made up of nitrogen oxides and ozone), bushfires, cigarette smoke.

**Indoors** - formaldehydes/resins (some building materials), volatile organic compounds (found in paints, furniture, cleaning products), cigarette smoke, poorly maintained gas appliances.

The most important way to reduce the impact of air pollution on your child’s asthma to avoid the pollutant completely if possible.

- Stay indoors on high smog days, close windows and external doors
- Make sure you have a bush-fire plan if you live in a bushfire prone area
- Make sure your child’s asthma is well controlled and that you and your child know what to do if their asthma gets worse
- Make sure your gas appliances are serviced regularly by a registered or licensed gasfitter and that there is adequate ventilation in rooms containing gas appliances
- Choose building items, furniture, paints and wood items that are certified to emit low levels of formaldehyde and volatile organic compounds.

For more information about air pollution and asthma, contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 ASTHMA (278 462) or visit www.asthma.org.au.
Welcome to International Students

Our Year 9 students in English as an Additional Language (EAL) welcomed back Anna Wang. She had visited family in Guangzhou in China for one month.

Here is an account of her trip.

On my last day of City School, I left Melbourne and travelled to China. When I arrived home, it was one o’clock in the morning and I was sleepy. On the next day, I went to see my mother and my cute little sister. We went shopping for jewellery and some amazing things, had my hair straightened and my ears pierced. I went to lunch at a five-star restaurant with my aunty and my father. The food was so delicious and I ate lots. My uncle took all my family to the beach. On the Moon-cake Day, I went to the playground with my cousins who are twins. Before I returned to Australia, my dad took my whole family to a restaurant for dinner.

Our Year 8 EAL class welcomed a new international student from Vietnam. Gia Man Nguyen is looking forward to making friends, learning English and experiencing school life in Australia at the Middle Years Campus. She is happy to share her ideas and interests with My Tho Van also known as Cici, who is another international student from Vietnam.

Penny Gillard
EAL Teacher

La Trobe University Excursion

By Chevonney Manaysay

On Friday 11 October 2013, 20 or so students, including myself, went on an excursion to La Trobe University.

One student from each Year 7 and 8 class was picked to go on this excursion. I was lucky enough to be chosen to have the opportunity to see what University was like and how their system works.

As I have not been to La Trobe, I thought it would’ve been small and regular, not different to any other University. But when we drove in, I saw that it was bigger than I expected. It had a big Japanese garden and a place they call “Agora”, which in Greek, means a place where friends meet up and hang out. The Agora was very big.

It had Subway, indian food, juice stands and other choices of food. They even had a bank.

We played a game called ‘Star Student’ which consisted of us getting into 4 groups of 7 and answering multiple choice questions, drawing and spelling.

After playing ‘Star Student’ my group and I walked around playing a puzzle hunt. Each location we went had a scan code which, if scanned, had a quiz question.

We walked around La Trobe, our time at Uni slowly finishing up.

When it did we waited for the bus to take us back to school as we ate our lunch.

It was a very informative excursion and I really enjoyed it.
LESSONS FROM THE OUTBACK

My family and I have seen and learned a great deal while touring the Australian Outback that I'd like to share as inspiration.

While travelling in the steps of explorers like John Mcdougall Stuart, Charles Sturt and across the steps of Burke and Wills, seeing the Stockman's Hall of Fame and looking at how many of our early settlers had to battle with a foreign environment and a lack of basic resources (including water) it is evident that the value of persistence cannot be over-rated. Never, ever, ever give up. What you can achieve with persistence is beyond your wildest dreams.

The ingenuity of Australians is everywhere in terms of inventiveness, creativity and resourcefulness under pressure. This was evident in the giant vacuum cleaners stuck on the back of small trucks, that suck the dirt out of opal mines in Coober Pedy, the vast array of safety (black box flight recorder, air traffic warning system, terrain warning system) and other devices that grace the Boeing aircraft we toured at the QANTAS founders museum, all invented by Australians. The tale of Hudson Fysh, one of the QANTAS founders, who crashed landed his plane, passenger aboard, but then repaired it using some wire from a fence and the returned the passenger safely (if not nervously) to their desired destination, is testimony to all of the founders who brought an idea to life with creativity and hard work. What good will come of your great ideas? Some of you are destined to be the next inventors or entrepreneurs of the future.

An inquisitive mind can lead to great discoveries. Richard Daintree a geologist used his inquisitive mind to find gold and other precious metals, but probably more usefully to direct the water poor farmers of the Hughenden area to the Great Artesian Basin. The mind boggling discoveries of local farmers around Richmond, Hughenden and Winton have led to the development of Australia's Dinosaur Trail. If not for their curiosity, when stumbling on an odd looking piece of rock here and there, many of the truths of our prehistoric past would still be hidden secrets. We have been lucky to see fossils of giant marine dinosaurs of the Eromanga Sea, which once covered the much of inland Australia, large and small dinosaurs that roamed the fertile rainforests bordering the inland sea and the footprints of a dinosaur stampede. Where is your curiosity going to take you? What great discoveries will you add to our world?

I trust my classes are working hard for Mr Zito and I hope the old “BW” crew (no I haven’t forgotten you) are busily studying and putting your best foot forward in your exams and your next step into your future, along with all the other Year 12 students. Good luck to students at all levels with your end of year exams- but remember persistence, ingenuity and curiosity will take you a long way.

Simon McRae
Middle Years Student Manager
Semester Two has certainly produced some memorable moments for the PE for Boys program at Middle Years. For the very first time in PE Boys SEPEP history at Mill Park, the students had made a clear intention that dodgeball was going to be the sport of choice.

Like every SEPEP competition, dodgeball games were delivered over 6 rounds, followed by a grand final. With every round presenting powerful throws and amazing evasive skills, players in both teams contributed in their unique way.

Throughout the competition, random players would be selected to cast votes for students whom they thought demonstrated excellent acts of leadership, sportsmanship, fairplay, teamwork, effort and support. Votes had been recently counted at the inaugural SEPEP medal vote count and presentation, which was held at the Middle Years Campus.

The following players received medals for their outstanding contribution and remarkably we had a three way tie for the SEPEP runner-up medal.

Max Garofalo - 2013 SEPEP Medal
Osama Al Saadi - SEPEP Runner-Up Medal
Michael Sega - SEPEP Runner-Up Medal
Bryce Kennett - SEPEP Runner-Up Medal
Billy Buckland - Most Courageous Medal
Marcus Dimovski - Achievement Medal
Zachary James - Achievement Medal
Max Garofalo - Classic Catch Medal
Bryce Kennett - Fair Play Medal
Michael Sega - Sharp Shooter Medal
Jye Gillespie - Sportsmanship Medal
CareerNews No15; 01.11.13

Reminders
- International students – appointments with University of Melbourne staff; Wednesdays, 2 Oct to 18 Dec; Information: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/international-yr12; Reg’n: ksnance@unimelb.edu.au

This is the last CareerNews for 2013. Hopefully you have found the newsletters helpful, and good luck as you move on to higher levels at school, or for Year 12’s, on to university, TAFE, a gap year, an apprenticeship or traineeship, or to employment. Remember that you are likely to have several careers in your lifetime, and be prepared to gain further education throughout your lifetime.

YEAR 12

CHANGE OF PREFERENCE PERIOD – After you obtain your results on Monday 16 December, there is a period when you can change your VTAC preferences. You may have changed your mind, or done better (or not as well) as expected. It is a good idea to review your preferences at this stage, up till 12 noon on Monday 23 December. Universities and TAFEs offer the following assistance to Year 12 students at this time.

- Australian Catholic Uni. – Hotline: 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228); Info. Expo: 3-7pm, Tues 17 Dec (Melb), 6-7.30pm, Wed 18 (Ballarat)
- Box Hill Institute – Change of Preference Evening: Wed 18 December; Hotline: 1300 BOX HILL or Andrea on 9286 9553
- Charles Sturt University - Call 1800 334 733
- Chisholm: Call 1300 CHISHOLM
- Deakin University - COP Hotline: 1300 DEGREE; Info evenings: Burwood 5-7pm, 17 Dec; Geelong Waterfront campus, 5-7pm, 18 December; www.deakin.edu.au/preference
- Holmesglen Institute: Hotline: 9564 2720; COP Event: 4-7pm, Wed 18 December
- Kangan: Hotline: 13 TAFE
- La Trobe University – Change of Preference Advisory Day, 11am-2pm, 18 December (Melbourne and Bendigo); Hotline: 1300 362 203; www.latrobe.edu.au/choices
- Monash University: Change of Preference Expo, 3-7pm, Building H, 900 Dandenong Rd, Caulfield; Hotline: 1800 MONASH (1800 666 874), or see www.monash.edu/cop
- NMIT – Hotline: 9269 1200
- RMIT University/TAFE – Info line: 9925 2260; COP Expo: 11am-3pm, Wed 18 Dec, Swanston Academic Building, Building 80, 445 Swanston St, Melbourne; visit Info Corner, Cnr Swanston and La Trobe Sts, Melbourne; info www.rmit.edu.au/cop
- Swinburne University/TAFE - Hotline 1300 275 794 (1300 ASK SWIN); 10am-4pm, 18 December; one-on-one interviews in ATC building (no appointment needed); appointments can be made on line for other days
- University of Ballarat (Federation Uni) – Info Day, 11am-3pm, Wed 18, Ballarat and Gippsland
- University of Melbourne: Course Information Day, 10am-2.30pm, Wed 18 December; see www.unimelb.edu.au or visit the Information Centre, Gate 3, Swanston St, Melbourne
- Victoria University/TAFE – Course Advice appointments – 1-6pm, 16-20 Dec; Change of Preference Expo: 3-7pm, Tues 17 Dec (Footscray); Hotline: 1300 VIC UNI (1300 842 864)
- William Angliss Institute – Experience Angliss Day; 2-5pm, 18 December

INTERESTED IN AGRICULTURE AND/OR SCIENCE? Are you passionate about agriculture, and want to undertake tertiary study in this area? Would you like to experience University of New England (NSW) life, and see the opportunities that the UNE School of Environmental and Rural Science can provide? Then, UNE’s GENERATION 2050 is for you. 100 passionate agriculture students from around Australia will be chosen to take part in UNE’s inaugural Generation2050: Project Feed the World conference. When: Sun 1 – Wed 4 December 2013; Where: UNE, Armidale, NSW; Cost: Free (residential college, meals, etc); Travel: UNE will subsidise this according to the distance travelled; Info: www.generation2050.com.au.

DID YOU KNOW? Many TAFE Institutes have articulation arrangements with universities. For example, upon completion of the Box Hill Institute’s Advanced Diploma of Engineering Technology, students will receive 18 months credit and so can enrol into the fourth semester of the Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering at Deakin University. This course
also leads to further study at other higher educational organisations. Similar arrangements apply to many other TAFE diplomas.

- **CHECK OUT WILLIAM ANGLISS INSTITUTE** – Interested in a career in foods, tourism, hospitality or events? You might wish to book an appointment with a Future Students representative for a tour of facilities, and to learn about programs and applications. **Contact:** Andrew Plisi on 9606 2480, andrewpl@angliss.edu.au or Alex Lloyd on 9606 2444, alexl@angliss.edu.au.

- **MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS** –
  - Federation University Australia held its official media launch on 1 October. The new university amalgamates the University of Ballarat and Monash University’s Gippsland campus, and begins operations from 1 January, 2014. VTAC applicants who have included at least one University of Ballarat and/or Monash University Gippsland campus in their preferences are advised that these preferences will be for Federation University Australia, with the VTAC codes and university name automatically updated on their preference list. With the exception of the Graduate Entry Medicine and Surgery degree, Monash University will no longer assess or make offers for Gippsland courses, however, applicants who received an offer this year and deferred for 2013 will be able to enrol as a Monash student at Gippsland (some exceptions). **Info:** ph 5122 6767; see www.federation.edu.au.
  - **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS** – Year 12 students with Monash University course queries can book a one-on-one interview. **When:** 2-5pm, every Tuesday through to 17 December; **Where:** Monash University, Office of Future Students; **See:** www.monash.edu.au/international-course-advice-sessions/
  - **NEW ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATE ENTRY MBBS (MEDICINE/SURGERY) –** From 2014 there will be amendments to entry requirements for this course. If interested in pathway options to MBBS, register on www.med.monash.edu.au/medical/gippsland/mbbs-pathways.html to be kept up to date with the latest information. Details will be published on this website as they become available.
  - **PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES** – Students who do not meet the entry requirements to enter the Bachelor of Pharmacy direct from Year 12 can enter the program at third year as graduates of science-based degrees. This new entry point means that graduates wanting to become pharmacists will no longer need to commence their studies at first-year level and will qualify for their pharmacy degree in just two years. **Those eligible:** have successfully completed an approved degree with a 70%+ GPA in the following disciplines: pharmaceutical science, pharmacology, biomedical science, biomedicine, chemical engineering and science (conditions apply). A six-week summer bridging program will be required. **Info:** www.monash.edu/pharm/future/courses/grad-pharmacy/index.html
  - **SCIENCE EXPERIENCE AT RMIT** – This is a 3-day hands-on activities program for those entering Year 10 in 2014. Go behind the scenes in the world of science and technology. **When:** 21-23 Jan, 2014; **Cost:** $115; **Register:** www.rmit.edu.au/scienceexperience; **Info:** Sarah, ph 9925 9570.
  - **NEW NUCLEAR MEDICINE SCHOLARSHIPS** – The Dept of Health (Victoria) is offering scholarships of $10,000 for five nuclear medicine students in RMIT’s B. Applied Science (Medical Radiations) for 2014, 2015, and 2016 intakes. **Info:** evan.read@rmit.edu.au; www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships
  - **ELECTRICAL APPRENTICESHIPS** – NECA (National Electrical and Communications Association) Victoria has partnered with E-Oz Energy Skills Australia to provide industry with access to quality apprentices. You can undertake the Energise Oz readiness Assessment free of charge, and if you meet the requirements, your details will be sent to NECA members in Victoria for employment selection. To sit the Readiness Assessment, select the NECA Pre-selection session at: http://www.energiseoz.com.au/index.php/apprentice/register.

Compiled by: m.walker
Mill Park Secondary College
Art & Design Exhibition
19 - 22 November 2013
Opening Tuesday 19 Nov 7:30 - 9.30 pm

a contemporary exhibition
VCE & 7-10
City of Whittlesea 'Great Hall'
Ferres Boulevard Sth Morang
Open 9.00 - 5.00 pm (Fri 9.00 - 12.30)
Wed 20, Thur 21 & FRI 22 Nov

Middle Years Visual Arts Yr 7-9 MPSC Library Moorhead Dve, Mill Park
Senior Years Visual Arts Yr 10 MPSC Library Civic, Dve, Mill Park

Designed by: Tia Poyaoan Yr 12