Welcome to Term Two after what I hope has been a holiday period that was everything you and your family were hoping for!

The holidays are a perfect time to reflect upon our achievements as a College, and for term one these achievements have been significant!

Our new House system has been implemented with all students and staff belonging to a house, led by student and staff house leaders, inducted into their leadership roles at our first college assembly in 2013, where we also enjoyed the company of many parents. The swimming and the athletics carnivals were highlights of term one; both for competitors and spectators alike. Many students gained access to their next level of competition through their participation in these carnivals.

We have begun the implementation of the SOAR positive behaviours matrix, designed by students for students and published in the Student Planner. Year 11 Visual Communications student, Lincoln Perdrisat, and Mr Glen Smith, collaborated to produce the logo design. This SOAR matrix focuses our attention on positively stated expectations, to which our students aim to achieve. The SOAR acronym represents Safe, Organisation, Achievements, Respect, the foundation for positive behaviours and expectations within our college.

Many schools have a process where families are invited into their school to formally discuss their child’s progress. I’ve been closely connected to many schools during my career in education and have not found a college with this process so well embedded into its practices as Western Heights College. I was most impressed with the commitment of parents, students and teachers towards our recently held student led conferences for Years 7 – 10 students and VCE/VCAL Parent Teacher Student Conversations. Making opportunities to celebrate the achievements of our students is done very well at Western Heights College. And we have many student achievements to be very proud of!

The implementation of our new college uniform policy is a highlight. I acknowledge the support we receive daily from parents and guardians as we work together to support students to wear their full college uniform proudly. I would like every member of our local community to share the pride we have in our students. The community does base part of their judgement of the quality of our students, rightly or wrongly, on the way they wear their college uniform!

Once again we have a full complement of College Council members, which includes a highly committed team of people with much expertise to share.
College Council for 2013 – 14

Parent representatives -
Mr George Taylor, Mrs Lisa Miller, Mr Steve Singline, Mrs Michelle Muir, Mrs Liz Everist, Mrs Janice Blain

DEECD representatives -
Mrs Robyn Jeffery, Ms Tami O’Hare, Ms Robyn Anderson, Mr Ivan Ludinic, Ms Fran Smith
(Mr Lu Temelkovski will attend and contribute as a guest)

Community representatives -
Mr Mark Donehue, Mr. Shaun Rawolle

College Captains -
Lachlan Blain, Jaimie Bellaart

I welcome the new members to our College Council for this year; Ms Fran Smith, Lachlan Blain and Jaimie Bellaart and look forward to their future contributions.

We continue to build connections between our college and our local primary schools. We welcome to our community the new Principal of Hamlyn Banks Primary School, Mr Daniel Vella. Our 2013 Year 7 students have made an excellent transition into our College, as ambassadors of our new College uniform and of our new MyLe (My Learning) Slate PC program. The Year 7s enjoyed their camp during term one, the product of the revised Camps policy supported by our College Council. Staff in the Year 7 Learning Community also enjoyed the connections they built with the Grade 6 teachers of our Year 7 students, to strengthen student transition into our college. We were most fortunate for the Principals’ of our local Primary Schools to join us during the term, reconnecting with Year 12 students who began their formal education in their Primary School and touring the Vines Road Campus Year 7 Learning Community, hosted by a Year 7 student from their Primary school. Building these connections assists us to strengthen learning for all of our students and provides further opportunities for our students to shine!

Term 2 eNewsletter edition dates:
10 May, 24 May, 7 June & 21 June.

Mrs Robyn Jeffery

THE ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT (RYPEN)

Over the Easter holidays, Joshua Trevethan and Magan Turner, both students in Year 11, attended The Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) camp held at Adekate Lodge Creswick. This was held between the 5th to 7th of April. The RYPEN camp gave our students an opportunity to take part in a program of weekend seminars for young people between the ages of 14 and 17 years. They were given an opportunity to further develop their initiative and leadership skills as well as form new friendships through activities focused on trust building, working in groups and building self-esteem.

The camps aim is to broaden each participant’s horizons culturally, socially and academically, providing the inner foundations for a strong future. Western Heights College would like to acknowledge the work and support of Gordon Portway and the Geelong Rotary Club in sponsoring our students. Their on-going support is greatly appreciate both by the students, their families and the whole college community. Thanks to Mr Goran Gromilic who supported the applications of our students, provided transport and also attended the last day of the camp, participating in the sessions and supporting both Joshua and Magan in their involvement.

WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN

Once again this year the college is participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn promotion. Last year was a great success, and we were able to obtain a very large number of assorted sports balls for the students to use.

We would greatly appreciate your support again this year. If you are collecting the stickers please drop them off to either the Vines Road office or the Quamby office.

Thank you for your support.

Adele Eastwood
Administrative Assistant
Quamby Office
MyLE PROGRAM

It has taken quite a while but our slates have finally arrived and been handed out to some very excited Year 7s.

The Lenovo Tablet 2 had to satisfy some pretty strict criteria and was selected last year after looking at a wide range of new Windows 8 touch devices. Why Windows 8? Because it has been re-built from the ground up for touch based mobile computing. We wanted a dockable digitizer stylus that can be used just like a normal pen so students and staff can annotate their work. It had to have an excellent battery life to get through a full school day, more important than how powerful the CPU is. It had to be light and responsive, fun to use, with forward and rear facing cameras so students can make movies and presentations. It also had to be a “proper” computer when necessary with a keyboard and “mouse” option. We very purposefully did not want a device that was just about consumption, i.e. reading and watching things on the screen but could also excel at content creation. Last but not least it had to be tough to stand up to the rigours of the school day and adolescent enthusiasm. Remember, student PCs are taxis not family sedans.

Over 104 devices have now been distributed and we look forward to every Year 7 having one. Our Year 7 teachers are now rolling out the next phase of the MyLe program where students will use OneNote notebooks to deliver and record their course work, where teachers can collaborate on the notebooks. This is curriculum delivery with a modern twist. It sets Western Heights College apart from other schools. It is a bold move but the very implementation of this program is a learning experience for our 21st century learners in itself. This is the mobile, interactive, collaborative work place your children are preparing themselves for their future.

Video presentation here http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qqP9_YnCSCE

Click on the Parent eNewsletters link on www.whc.vic.edu.au to see videos.

Peter Good
Network Manager

NEW COLLEGE ABSENCE LINE

If your student is going to be absent please phone the new absence line.

5277 9793
WHC LIBRARIES

Term 2 has had a busy start in the Western Heights College libraries! On Thursday 18th April about 30 keen students from Years 7, 8 & 9 participated in a chess activity presented by Paul Power, the Geelong representative of Chess Ideas. He outlined the basic principles of the game and then got the students playing and practising. Finally, Paul played 11 different games simultaneously against either individual or small groups of students. Congratulations go to Damien Cavanagh 9F and Nicholas Stone-Moore 9E who held out the longest against Paul and won themselves a chess book each. It was great to see so many students showing interest in the skilful game of chess, a game which demands well-ordered thinking and sound decision making skills.

Luke Scott (staff), Nicholas, Damien and Paul

(Chess Ideas)

Sheyann Maher and Olivia Puglisi 7C

Additionally, this term has seen the launch of both the Premiers’ Reading Challenge and student book clubs at both campuses. The Reading Challenge is an annual event and students are encouraged to accept the challenge of reading 15 books from now until the end of term 3. The Challenge is supported by the Victorian government “to encourage families and parents to be more involved with supporting children’s reading” and to “promote the importance of reading among students in Victorian schools.” Students keep track of their reading by logging details onto the PRC website www.education.vic.gov.au/prc and if successful, receive a certificate and have their name printed in the Premiers’ Reading Challenge Achievers Honour Roll. Consent forms are available from the library or class teachers and further details can be obtained by emailing readingchallenge@edumail.vic.gov.au or speaking with the library staff.

Brandon Ciuffetelli of 8H won a prize at the inaugural Vines Road library student book club for suggesting a name for the new club. The Vines Road Bookworms will meet every couple of weeks to share their love of reading and to talk about what books interest them. Morning tea is an added incentive to attend and all students are most welcome to come to the next meeting in the library on Monday 6th May. The Quamby Literature Club met again this week welcoming new Year 10 students who all enjoyed discussing their favourite books. Many books were shared among the group along with chocolate frogs and goodwill! This group will also meet every couple of weeks in the Quamby library and new members are always welcome. Next meeting is Tuesday 7th May.

In an exciting year at Western Heights College where the new house system has already achieved great success in generating school spirit, all students who willingly participate in these college activities will also earn points for their College House. So whatever your interests are, consider joining in one of these fun groups to share those interests and earn points at the same time!!

Susan Harrington, Kerrie Sirotich, Vivienne Dugdale
Year 9 Community

The year 9 students have begun the term with great enthusiasm. They have started their new subjects for Personal Choice, giving them a great opportunity to try new things and focus around the areas leading to their future.

They are finishing up their first Focus unit for the year “I am”, which looks at risk taking behaviours, cause and affects around drug and alcohol use and sexual education. They will soon be starting their new focus unit “I can be”, which focuses around career paths. There will be guest speakers from a variety of vocations in to discuss their roles.

The Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh students are in the process of preparing themselves to complete their Level 2 First Aide Certificate. We are also looking at the preparations for their hike.

Year 9 students are preparing for the term 2 sports, where they have the opportunity to participate in Boys football, Girls football and Boys netball.

I like coming to Year 9 because every day you learn something new, you create great friendships with peers and teachers and the whole experience for me is positive. The teachers push me to do my best and always help when I ask. They are great to talk to about anything and are passionate about what they teach, which makes it easier to learn and makes me want to learn.

Year 9 has a variety of subjects that you can do, and you choose what suits you best; what you want to learn. My favourite subjects are the Dance classes, because I have a lot of fun and while we dance, we actually learn. It’s my favourite subject because I can do what I want with my own music, make up a dance with my friends and I learn new routines from the teacher, who also makes it a lot of fun and helps you create your own performance. It also keeps you fit and healthy. I look forward to it every week. I also enjoy Focus, Numeracy, Literacy and P.E

By Kayla Macleod 9C

Video Link: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Jq7P61b99M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Jq7P61b99M)
PATHWAYS AND TRANSITION NEWS

SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINEESHIP INFORMATION EVENING

A School Based Apprenticeship/Traineeship information evening is being held in the Quamby Library on Wednesday May 1st at 7.00pm.

Western Heights College is offering students the opportunity to learn more about the Australian School Based Apprenticeship/Traineeship Scheme. This is an individualised program for senior students; it enables them to continue with their secondary school studies in combination with a part-time apprenticeship or traineeship. There are a vast number of industries that are included in the scheme, including plumbing, electrical, building, concreting, painting and decorating, floristry, retail, business administration, information technology, hairdressing and horticulture. A number of Western Heights College students have been interviewed and secured positions in this program.

A flyer advertising this information evening has been distributed to all students in Years 10 to 12. If you think your son/daughter may be interested in becoming a school based apprentice or trainee I would encourage you to come along to this meeting.

UNDERGRADUATE MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES ADMISSION TEST – UMAT- registrations open early April. This admission test is required for some medical and health sciences courses. Year 12 students considering courses in these areas should register.

AT MONASH LECTURES

Monash University is offering a number of At Monash’ lectures;

Law: 1 May;
Health science/social work: 7 May; Teaching, Sport and outdoor recreation: 8 May & 27 June; Info/ registration: 1800 MONASH or www.monash.edu/ seminars

Experience Latrobe: Years 10-12 students/families - ‘Experience La Trobe’. Check out courses, facilities, workshops, meet staff. Bundoora: Fri 5 April; Bendigo: Fri 21 June. Free event with lunch and entertainment provided. Register at: www.latrobe.edu.au/experience

AGE VCE AND CAREERS EXPO:

The Age VCE and Careers expo will be open Thurs 2 - Sun 5 May; Caulfield Racecourse

INTERESTED IN STUDYING DESIGN?

Yes….then the agideal 2013 Futures will interest you. Hear nine creative designers talk about their careers. Prior to the presentation there will be a Design Course Expo where information booths will be set up by tertiary institutions providing details of their courses. The program is for secondary school students and their families. When: Course Expo: 4-6pm; Presentation: 6-8pm, Wed 1 May; Where: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre; Info/Registration: http://www.agideal.net/uploads/DEFO041_Futures_Digital_Flyer_LR.pdf.

NOTE: Many courses in design at TAFE and university require presentation of a folio of work and an interview as part of the application process in Year 12. Attendance at design exhibitions, and the ability to talk about what you saw there, can be an important aspect of the interview process.

RMIT NEWS –

RMIT, like Swinburne and Victoria Universities, has both a higher education (university) division and a TAFE division. It is therefore possible, to move seamlessly from one to the other, gaining credits for relevant courses already undertaken. For example, an Advanced Diploma of Building Design (Architectural) can give a year’s credit towards the Bachelor of Architectural Design.

PSYCHOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY

In the Justice Sector, mental health issues are a common thread. Victims, survivors, offenders, witnesses and family may have some form of mental health issues prior to an event which is exacerbated by an event, or the event may be the catalyst for a mental health issue. RMIT staff wondered why don’t front line justice workers have a better idea of psychology and mental health? Thinking about this question lead to the new, in 2013, RMIT degree with two interrelated streams – the Bachelor of Arts (Criminology & Psychology). This degree brings together the Australian Psychological Accreditation Council (APAC) accredited psychology major and the criminology major which has been a centre piece of the Criminal Justice Degree at RMIT for over 30 years. The psychology major is required for entry into Honours in Psychology, a mandatory stepping stone to become a clinical psychologist (with Masters). Graduates could eventually specialise as a forensic psychologist. Criminology provides a pathway into honours and masters in justice and criminology. Possible careers: victim support, police, counsellor, investigations, drug and alcohol services, policy, research, courts, customs, immigration, security, intelligence and so on. In 2013, 45 Year 12 students were admitted to the course, but it is planned to increase this number in 2014. The clearly-in ATAR was 88.20.

RMIT SCIENCE IN THE CITY – LAB TOURS

Students and parents are invited to visit the state-of-the-art learning laboratories and see the range of sophisticated equipment and facilities and discover what science at RMIT is all about. Lunch provided! When: 1.30-4pm, Thurs 11 April; Register at: www.rmit.edu.au/appliedsciences/discover.

WHAT ABOUT GAMES AND GRAPHICS PROGRAMMING?

RMIT offers a multi-disciplinary collaboration between computer science and the digital arts & design in its Bachelor of Information Technology (Games and Graphics Programming) degree. The typical career pathway is games programming, specialising in a sub area like artificial intelligence,
Certificate in Hospitality
RSA, RSG, RSF, OHS, First Aid (Level 2), Coffee Making, Bar Operations and Waiting
Course Commencing Wednesday 24th April 2013
To enrol online visit www.hosptrain.vic.edu.au/hamlyn
Course Information
Hospitality Training Australia is offering their popular Certificate in Hospitality to Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 students, past students and friends of Western Heights College community, in the familiar surrounds of your school. This course has been designed to give participants the certificates and minimum skills needed to work in hospitality. Students receive recognised qualifications and skills in espress making, bar and beverage operations, waiting and more.
The course commences Wednesday 24th April 2013 from 3.30 to 6.30pm. The course will continue each Wednesday until completion, excluding school holidays.
Course Costs
Total cost is $105.00 per person or $52.50 with concession or $21.00 with Health Care Card.
How to Apply
Enrol online at www.hosptrain.vic.edu.au/hamlyn or Telephone Phuong Tran, Hospitality Training Australia on 1300 659 557.

What do I need to do if our family is going on a holiday during the school term?
Please contact your child’s mentor teacher to inform them of the dates as soon as possible. At times, extended absences may require a Principal’s consent. To ensure that your child does not miss out on valuable tasks and their education during this time, the earlier their mentor teacher knows, the sooner we can provide work that will be missed during this time. This way, your child can complete tasks early, at times even prior to their holiday to stay on track in all subjects.

What can I do if my child simply does not want to go to school?
You can contact your child’s mentor teacher as the first port of call to get support from our college in order to improve their attendance. Our staff are more than willing to work with you in order to have your child regularly attend. Each day a child is absent, places more stress and pressure on all concerned including parents, the child and the child’s teachers. We have a team of staff that can support you and your child if necessary, using many proven techniques and strategies.

Thanks to all parents/guardians in advance for working with us to maximise your child’s education at Western Heights College and to make an overall difference to the achievements of each and every child.

Michelle Roth
Year 12 English
Year 12 English Students have just completed work on the novel, ‘The Reluctant Fundamentalist’. During Term 2, students will deliver a persuasive Oral Presentation on an issue of their choice. It has been gratifying to see students choose a wide range of current issues, which reflect an understanding and acknowledgement of the events that are occurring in the world around them. As we continue to progress through the semester, students will be compiling articles, news items and examples of Conflict; locally, nationally and internationally. Discussions at home about current examples of conflict will aid your son's/daughter's knowledge as we move to formal assessment later this term.

Mr Atherton and Mrs Tyzack

Year 12 Media and Theatre Studies
David Ward, a past Western Heights student, who is now studying Film at Swinburne University and recently won a short film award, came in to share his work with Media and Theatre Studies students last term. David discussed his approach to his studies while at school, his pathways since, and also shared some of his journey in creating his latest films. David's hard work, passion and determination are inspiring. It was a fantastic opportunity for all of us and many students have been following his progress as he waits to hear further results about his film ‘Womb’.

Year 12 Studio Arts
Multimedia Artist, Anna Reynolds, volunteered her time to share her working methods and many fantastic stories with the Studio arts classes in Term One. Anna, originally from Geelong, has won numerous awards for her photographic artworks and shared her exploits and life's journey with the students. For many, this was an eye – opener, considering Anna confessed that she could barely read at one stage. With great determination, passion and energy, she is successfully forging a career in her chosen field and hopefully offered inspiration to the students who were fortunate enough to attend these sessions

Ms Hurley and Mrs Hergstrom

Year 12 Theatre Studies
Students attended the Melbourne Theatre Company ensemble performance of the American hit play, ‘Other Desert Cities’ last Wednesday at the Sumner Theatre in the Southbank arts precinct. Students are studying the play and must analyse both acting techniques and the stagecraft used, such as lighting, direction, sound and costume. The contemporary play is set in Palm Springs and follows an intense 24 hours in the life of a family, struggling in their relationships with each other. All students agreed that the acting was exceptional and the set, clever and instinctive. The light and sound elements added emphasis to the play script and enhanced the overall performance. Students travelled to Melbourne by train and had time to browse along St Kilda Rd. which included seeing the famous Spiegeltent, the Dutch mirrored performance space, situated temporarily outside the Arts Centre. A great day was had by all!

Mrs Hergstrom
“Academic success is mostly hard work and perseverance”

The Pathways team will be providing ongoing information for later-years students and parents/guardians through the Later Years Support Page. If you have specific enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me by phone on 52771177 or email on hammond.kerrie.a@edumail.vic.gov.

A Plan to Study

Your son or daughter probably wants to make a success of their final year but doesn’t always know how to go about it. Few of us have the luxury of being able to just study – life has to go on as well.

Helping them have a plan could be the best way that you could support them. A plan would help them to study consistently (rather than giving up, or cramming in hours of work just before exams). But how can they make sure they actually stick to the plans which they’ve made?

Be Realistic
Firstly, be realistic. Many of us are prone to over-estimating how much we can get done – and studying is a high-energy, intense activity which requires a lot of concentration. We simply can’t focus at that level for hours at a time.

Sometimes, being realistic about studying plans might mean looking at the other commitments in our life. Do they need to ditch something else in order to have time to study effectively? Can they cut down on social activities or other commitments to give themselves a couple of weeknights free for studying?
Universities and TAFE Institutes hold annual Open Days for the public. They are an opportunity to visit, talk to staff and students, collect information and see facilities. As such, they are a great way to assist in deciding where you wish to study once you finish school. They are generally held in term 3, but many of the dates are supplied here so you can get them in your diary and make your visits a priority. Year 10 or 11 is a great time to start your visits; Year 12 is not too late.

**OPEN DAY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (10am – 4pm)**

- Sat 3 Aug – Monash Uni (Berwick, Gippsland, Parkville, Peninsula campuses)
- Sun 4 Aug – Deakin Uni (Warrnambool); Monash Uni (Caulfield, Clayton); Swinburne (Uni & TAFE) (Hawthorn)
- Sun 11 Aug – Australian Catholic Uni (Melbourne); Deakin (Geelong) RMIT (Uni and TAFE)
- Sun 18 Aug – La Trobe Uni (Bendigo); Melbourne Uni (Parkville & Southbank - VCA)
- Sun 25 Aug – ACU (Ballarat); Ballarat Uni; Box Hill Institute: Deakin (Burwood); La Trobe (Bundoora); Victoria Uni; William Angliss Institute
- Sun 1 Sept – La Trobe (Albury/Wodonga)

Note: Holmesglen has an Open Day every third Wednesday of the month; visit on your way home from school or during the day; see [www.holmesglen.edu.au/showcase/events/open_wednesdays](http://www.holmesglen.edu.au/showcase/events/open_wednesdays)

**EXPLORE COURSES AND CAREERS AT RMIT**

Back by popular demand in 2013, is a range of ‘Experience Day’ holiday programs for Year 10-12 students. Get a hands-on and interactive experience of courses on offer at RMIT, and find out about careers in accounting, engineering, fashion, justice, medical sciences, media, advertising, environment, IT, and art and design. To register interest and to be notified when events are on go to: [www.rmit.edu.au/experiencedays](http://www.rmit.edu.au/experiencedays).

**WANT A HEAD START IN FINDING YOUR IDEAL COURSE?**

Explore your options early by attending the ‘At Monash Seminars’ to hear from current students, graduates and staff. Gain an overview of the university experience, courses, and careers. **What, when and where?**

- **Arts** (Humanities and social sciences): Wed 22 May (Clayton)
- **Law**: Wed 1 May (Clayton)
- **Health science and social work**: Tues 7 May (Caulfield)
- **Teaching, sport and outdoor recreation**: Wed 8 May (Peninsula), Thurs 27 June (Clayton)
- **Medicine**: Mon 13 May (Clayton)
- **Education and nursing**: Tues 21 May (Berwick)
- **Biomedical science, radiography, and nutrition and dietetics**: Wed 29 May (Clayton)
- **Engineering**: Thurs 30 May (Clayton)
- **Performing arts and music**: Tues 20 Aug (Clayton)

All seminars: 6.30-8.00pm; Information/registration (essential): call 1800 MONASH or [www.monash.edu/seminars](http://www.monash.edu/seminars). Places are limited.

**WANT ADVICE FROM SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OR TAFE?**

Appointments are now available for secondary students throughout the year. You can book a time that suits you to meet a course advisor face to face, receive course advice, ask questions and receive application assistance. Info: [www.swinburne.edu.au/study-at-swinburne/events/](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/study-at-swinburne/events/)

**MONASH ARTS LAUNCHES FACEBOOK PAGE**

This page provides VCE students with a chance to learn about studying at Monash in an environment where you fell at home. **Features:** current students describing experiences; staff providing insights into their study areas. ‘Liking’ the Monash page is a great way to begin to get a feel for university life and to ask questions in a comfortable setting.

See: [www.facebook.com/MonashArts](http://www.facebook.com/MonashArts)
GEELONG GUILD ATHLETICS

Geelong Guild Athletics Club Inc is offering coaching sessions at Landy Field specialising in all running events, hurdles and long jump. Starting on Saturday 4 May at 12.30pm. Cost is $5 per session. Further details are available from Matt: 0410 475 422 or Mandi via text on 0416 622 379.

Our coaches are qualified and have registrations with local and Victoria Athletics.

HAMLYN BANKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Takes pleasure in inviting you to the opening of the new Arts Centre with a whole school exhibition.

This exhibition will showcase student work from Prep to Grade 6

Venue: The Arts Centre, Hamlyn Banks Primary School
2-24 Chaucer Street, Hamlyn Heights

Date: Monday 29th of April 2013

Time: 5.00 - 7.00pm