Although it is only August and we are just over half way through the year, at Western Heights College we are preparing for 2014. It is the season of information evenings and transition! The transition of 2014 Year 7 students into our College has begun with enrolment offers sent to families last week with plans for their orientation activities. Our current Year 7 mentor teachers will visit our newest students during November to distribute our information package in preparation for the Orientation Information Evening (Wednesday 27 November) and Orientation Day (Tuesday 10 December). There were high quality applicants for our Year 7 scholarships for next year. It was a difficult decision for the panel and I thank Mr Shane Sachse, Ms Breana Boutillier and Taylah Spalding for their deliberations. I am pleased to announce the recipients of our scholarships for 2014:

**Academic Scholarship:**
Matthew Havard - Herne Hill Primary School

**Community Leadership Scholarship:**
Aleksandra Feldman - Bell Park North Primary School
Regan Meldrum - Rollins Primary School

Year 5 students from Hamlyn Banks Primary School shared Science Week celebrations with us when visiting the Vines Road Campus on Wednesday. The students were very excited to participate in a range of activities including science experiments and make a podcast during the day. Our Year 7 students delighted in sharing their learning community with the Year 5 students, providing lots of valuable advice about our expectations and routines at Western Heights College.

Herne Hill Primary School Year 5 students will join us next week. These visits by primary school students are an enjoyable way of introducing them to secondary education whilst reinforcing the partnerships between Western Heights College and our neighbouring primary schools.

The 2014 Year 8 Information Evening is on Wednesday 13 November. Year 8 students have attended their iNine information evening on Wednesday where they were introduced to their iNine, individualised Year 9 curriculum which includes a vast range of personal choice units from which to select. Next year Year 9 students will once again have the opportunity of enrolling in the Duke of Edinburgh Program. Mr Dean Greenhalgh and Ms Marli McCarthy have been successful in gaining six places for students in the School for Student Leadership: Alpine School Campus during term 2 which provides an alternative leadership development opportunity for our students.

Last week the current Year 9 students and their families attended the 2014 Year 10 Information Evening. The transition into Year 10 includes transition to our Later Years Campus with course selections around the students chosen pathway.

Presentations provided information about the guidelines for subject selections as well as the many other aspects of Year 10 life at the Quamby Campus.
The VCE Pathways Fair has also been held this week, to support students making informed choices about their subject selections. Significant support is provided to students and their families for these decisions by their mentor and members of the Pathways team, specifically during Advisory sessions. Subject teachers are also available to provide details of the units in their area and can provide practical study advice to students.

It has been pleasing to see so many students and their families at these events. This year a new look handbook has been developed for each year level by Mrs Kym Tyzack, which have been personalised and distributed by mentors at the evenings. Having so many of the student’s current and prospective teachers at the information sessions has provided a wealth of information for students and families to source answers to their many questions. These information evenings remind us all of the highlights that make each year level memorable; the Tassie trip for Year 10 students, the Charnwood Camp for Year 9, student leadership positions and membership of a range of sporting teams.

All information is disseminated to students and their families through a variety of media; student assemblies, web messages, Parent eNewsletter, WHC external website (www.whc.vic.edu.au), WHC intranet (accessible from the external website), letters posted home and fliers distributed at school. Our college website and intranet can be accessed from the computers at school or at home, and also from smart phones and tablets. Campus libraries are open each day from 8:30am to give students the opportunity to log onto the college intranet and check their web messages before the school day begins.

I encourage all parents and families to be involved in your students course selection and transition, by discussing the options available, working through the different possibilities and reminding students of the timelines for the course selection process. Mentors will be providing support to your student at school. If you have not been able to attend the information sessions please contact your student’s mentor teacher or current learning community leader for further information.

FAMILY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Thank you to families who have responded to the Family Financial Statements/Invoices that were sent out last term. Financial statements showing outstanding fees and charges including second semester charges, will be sent out in the next few weeks. The college now has the facility to offer Centrepay to families who are eligible to make payments for their school costs through Centrelink. We have families now using Centrepay to pay for the MyLe Program, camps and other school expenses.

Centrepay is a free direct bill-paying service offered to Centrelink customers receiving regular Centrelink payments

- Centrepay is voluntary, it is a service offered by the college to assist families in paying school expenses.
- Centrepay is free of charge.
- Payments can be stopped or started at any time.
- You allocate the amount of money to be deducted from your Centrelink payment.
- The minimum payment amount is $10.00 per fortnight.
- The money is sent directly to the college.
- Funds received by the college will be allocated to outstanding charges or you can nominate which outstanding charge you would like your Centrepay payments to be allocated to.

For more information on Centrepay go to:-


Parents wanting to apply can collect an application form from the college office or online from the above address. Completed forms should be returned to the college for processing.

If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the Business Centre at the college. Families can also contact the Business Manager on 52771177 to make arrangements to pay outstanding accounts in instalments.

Robyn Anderson
Middle Years Campus Principal

Marlene Barker
Business Manager
Enter our competition to win shopping vouchers!

To enter, simply find the answers to the questions below in the Western Heights College 2014 Later Years Curriculum Handbook or the iNine Curriculum Handbook. There are separate prizes for each handbook.

Prizes
First prize for each handbook is a $20 voucher and two $10 voucher consolation prizes will also be awarded for each set of questions.

Don’t have a copy of a handbook? If you are a current Year 8 – 11 student your personalised copy was distributed at your relevant 2014 information night. If you missed out see your mentor teacher.

Not in Year 8 – 11? You can still enter by accessing the handbooks from the course selection pages at the Curriculum tab on the college’s intranet. Ask a teacher or friend to show you how.

How to enter:
Entries are by email only
List your answers in the correct order in the email message screen.
Label your answers either ‘Later Years’ or iNine.
You may submit entries for both sets of questions
Winners will be notified and published in the next Parent eNewsletter
The judges’ decision is final
Submit your answers to western.heights.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
Write ‘Handbook comp’ in the subject heading and include your name, address and contact number in the message screen

Entries close at 9am Friday 23rd August

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Later Years questions</th>
<th>iNine questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. What does M.I.P. stand for?</td>
<td>1. What does the lower case ‘i’ represent in iNine?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. List the three web based pathways tools.</td>
<td>2. Where is the iNine camp held?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Which team plays a major role in counselling next year’s Year 10 students?</td>
<td>3. Which team plays a major role in counselling next year’s iNine students?</td>
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<td>4. What two subjects are compulsory for Year 10 students?</td>
<td>4. What is AusVELS?</td>
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<td>5. What does EEI stand for?</td>
<td>5. How long does Advisory run for each week?</td>
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<td>6. Where is the heading format error in the Year 10 section?</td>
<td>6. List the four Focus modules.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Who can enrol in a VET course?</td>
<td>7. Which Focus module is based around vocational pathways?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Which program pays students at an hourly rate?</td>
<td>8. What are the selection guidelines for Personal Choice subjects?</td>
</tr>
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<td>9. Over what timeframe does the newest Later Years program run?</td>
<td>9. How many food subjects are offered in the Personal Choice program?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. What documents are web linked to the VCE subjects?</td>
<td>10. What will you study if you enrol in Blabbermouth?</td>
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YEAR 10 LEAP INTO HEALTH
On Thursday the 1st of August, a group of Year 10 students participated in a Leap Into Health Program at Kitchener House and the Geelong Hospital. In the morning we were joined by nine other schools in the lecture theatre for a presentation and an introduction to health careers and where the profession is heading. Then we were given a demonstration on how to use a stethoscope and sphygmomanometer and got to have a go ourselves.

In the afternoon, after a lunch of subway, we split into groups. The groups rotated; some went on a tour of Geelong Hospital and the others participated in activities with current university students including, learning about first aid and CPR, learning about occupational therapy and getting insight into what different courses you can do in university and what different aspects of the health industry there are. Overall the day was very informative, interesting and we all enjoyed ourselves. Many thanks to Mrs Montano and pre-service teacher Ashlea Mouat for accompanying the students.

YEAR 10 – 2014 INFORMATION EVENING
The Year 10 - 2014 Information Evening took place on Wednesday August 7th. There was a wonderful response from our current Year 9 community with in excess of three hundred people in attendance. The Later Years Curriculum Handbooks were distributed and presenters communicated information on the Year 10 Program and subject and course information. The formal part of the evening was followed by the opportunity for informal conversations.

Congratulations to all competition winners on the night.

Reminders
Open Days
Sun 11 Aug – ACU (Melbourne); Deakin (Geelong); Gordon (Geelong); RMIT
Sun 18 Aug – La Trobe (Bendigo); Melbourne (Parkville & Southbank - VCA)
Sun 25 Aug – ACU (Ballarat); Ballarat; Box Hill: Deakin (Burwood); La Trobe (Bundoora); Monash (Gippsland); Victoria; William Angliss Institute
Sun 1 Sept – La Trobe (Albury/Wodonga)

Occupational Therapy information evening:
5.30-8.00pm, Thurs 12 Sept; Austin Hospital, Studley Rd, Heidelberg; Register: email Monica.williams@austin.org.au

Herald Sun Careers Expo – 16 – 18 Aug; Melbourne Exhibition Centre; Info: www.careerexpo.com.au
Student and parent evening at VU – 7.00-9.00pm, Tues 13 Aug; Footscray Park Campus; Register: www.vu.edu.au/vce-information-evening.

OPEN DAY INFORMATION - The date of the Gippsland campus of Monash University Open Day is Sun 25 August the same date as the University of Ballarat. It is expected that the new Federation University of Australia will commence operations in 2014, comprised of the current University of Ballarat and the Gippsland campus of Monash University.

Make sure you check out Open Day details on websites before attending. Some universities will assist you to plan your day if you register your attendance beforehand. For example see www.latrobe.edu.au/openday or www.openday.unimelb.edu.au.

YEAR 12 STUDENTS APPLYING FOR COURSES FOR 2014 – VTAC applications for Year 12 students opened on August 5th. Applications can be completed on the website (www.vtac.edu.au) at a cost of $27. We are currently offering workshops to support students with this. Workshops are being advertised to students via web message and the announcements page.

Students have until Fri 27 Sept for a ‘timely’ application. After that a late fee of $91 will apply till 8 November, when the late fee rises to $116 (applies to applications made till 6 Dec). You will need to register as an applicant first. When applying you can list up to 12 courses, putting them in the order you most want them as you will be offered a place in the first course in your list for which you meet the requirements.

YEAR 12 SPECIAL ENTRY ACCESS SCHEME (SEAS)-
The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) 2014 Guide includes a section about SEAS (pages 28-42). You are advised to read this section to find out if you are eligible for any special consideration with your course application. Also see: www.vtac.edu.au/who/seas.html

NOTE: SEAS applications are made on the VTAC website, but can only be completed after first applying for courses (applications close: 8 October).
THINKING OF SCHOLARSHIPS?
Most institutions listed in the VTAC Guide have a number of scholarships available to applicants. Scholarships either require a direct or VTAC application. Read the Guide (Pages 43-48) or see the VTAC website.

ACCESS MELBOURNE –
‘Access Melbourne’ (University) provides educational opportunities for students from a diverse range of backgrounds enrolling in undergraduate degrees. The University has a selection guarantee for eligible applicants in the following Access Melbourne categories:

Disadvantaged financial background
Applicants from rural or isolated areas

Students who complete an Australian Year 12 or the IB in 2013 and are eligible for one or both of these categories, will be guaranteed a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) in the following undergraduate degrees, providing they meet the course prerequisites and achieve the following ATAR or notional ATAR: Arts, Environments or Science – ATAR of 78+; Commerce – ATAR of 88+; Biomedicine – ATAR of 95+. Even if a student’s ATAR falls below these levels, they will still be considered for a place. Applicants eligible of other Access Melbourne categories will be considered on an individual basis. See: www.access.unimelb.edu.au

THINKING OF ENGINEERING AS A CAREER?
As the workforce ages and the world shifts to an innovation economy, the demand for engineers increases. A report by Engineers Australia highlights the nature of Australia’s engineering skills shortage (not just Australia). According to the Times Higher Education it is estimated that UK engineering companies will have 2.74 million job opportunities between 2010–2020. The USA also has a great demand. Engineering ranks third amongst the ten best paying fields. Monash engineering:

/monash.edu.au/study-engineering.

AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERING WEEK –
This annual event is being held 5 - 11 August. Check out www.makeitso.org.au/australian-engineering-week/victoria.

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING –
Find out how women are making a difference across all fields of engineering. Engineers design, create, explore, innovate, and work in many different environments. Hear guest speakers Kylie Bishop, Environment Advisor with ExxonMobil, and Asintha Nanayakkara Aerospace Engineer with Fortburn Pty. When: 1-2pm, Sun 11 August (RMIT Open Day); Where: Storey Hall, Level 7, RMIT, 336-348 Swanston St, Melbourne; Info: www.rmit.edu.au/engineering.

STUDYING PSYCHOLOGY –
Psychology can be studied in many undergraduate courses offered by different faculties at different universities. However, only studies undertaken within an APAC (Australian Psychology Accreditation Council) accredited degree will lead to the further training required to practice/register as a psychologist in Australia. Students are strongly advised to check the latest list of accredited programs on the APAC website: www.psychologycouncil.org.au.

NEW SCIENCE DEGREE AT MONASH –
A science education complemented by skills in leadership, entrepreneurship and communication will be the focus of the new Bachelor of Science (Global Challenges) in 2014. The course targets those wanting to push the boundaries of possibility, effect change in the world, and use science as a base to establish themselves as leaders in their career. Students will take two internships, at least one internationally, financially supported by the university. There will also be a year-long project where students work with peers and mentors, partnered with an organisation to tackle an issue. Info: www.monash.edu/have-you-got-the-edge.

EARLY ACHIEVERS PROGRAM AT AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY –
ACU looks for students who understand the importance of working for the common good and a willingness to make a contribution to their communities. ACU wants to recognise them for their contribution and potential and grants them status as Early Achievers. One of the benefits of the program is that successful applicants receive an offer well ahead of the usual tertiary admissions announcements. Applications open: 13 Aug and close: 21 Oct. Brochure: Early Achievers Program (EAP) brochure (PDF, 474KB); Info: 1300 ASK ACU or futurestudents@acu.edu.au

INTERESTED IN A MEDICAL RADIATIONS CAREER? If so, you have the opportunity to find out more about the profession at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. Staff will conduct tours of the medical radiations department and provide important career and professional information. University course providers will also attend. See the latest in high-tech modern medicine. Where: St Andrews Place, East Melbourne; When: 10am-2pm, Sun 15 Sept; Information: 9656 1375, RTEducation@petermac.org, www.petermac.org.

APPS DEVELOPMENT AN EXCITING CAREER CHOICE –
Introduced this year, Deakin University’s Bachelor of Information Technology (Mobile and Apps Development) was designed to provide the knowledge needed for you to thrive in this fast-growing field.
VCE Biology

Year 12 Biology Gene Manipulation

On Friday August 2nd the Year 12 Biology class visited the Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC) at University High School in Melbourne. Our students carried out experiments related to their study of Biotechnology and Gene Manipulation. Using state of the art equipment and working with PhD students, they used restriction enzymes and Gel Electrophoresis to isolate and identify fragments of DNA. They then inserted a Jellyfish gene, which fluoresces under UV light, into the bacteria E.Coli. Our students really enjoyed working with the young scientists and gathering data to be used at school in their SAC. Back at school, we let the E.Coli incubate for a couple of days and we were eager to see if we had successfully transformed the E.Coli. This activity has given our students a taste of what it is like to work and study in the field of Research Biology.

Nicole Henry
Biology Teacher

Pathways & Transition

With the increase in the use of broadband and mobile devices, industries are developing new mobile apps. The focus is on theories, technologies and skills needed to design and develop apps on modern mobile platforms. Careers include iOS developer, iPhone application architect, Android developer, iOS web developer and app designer. Info: www.deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/find-a course/information-technology

LA TROBE UNI ASSISTS WITH YEAR 11 SUBJECT CHOICE –

Have a look at the following: www.latrobe.edu.au/year10; www.latrobe.edu.au/parents

ELECTRICAL APPRENTICESHIPS –

The Electrical Pre-apprenticeship (Cert 11 in Electrotechnology Prevocational) provides the basic skills making you job ready. NECA (National Electrical and Communications Assoc’n) has teamed up with Milwaukee, offering students who successfully complete their pre-apprenticeship a free Milwaukee Drill Kit (conditions apply). Info: www.370degrees.com.au or call 9388 0566. Also, Tenex is seeking to recruit Electrical Lineworker apprentices and Electrical Fitter apprentices. See: www.agaustralia.com.au, phone Matt: 04088 124 240.

Kerrie Hammond
Pathways and Transition Leader

Year 10

WORK EXPERIENCE

The Year 10 Work Experience Program which ran from Monday the 5th of August until Friday 9th of August was an overwhelming success. Students did their Work Experience placements across a variety of work places, including Deakin University, the Geelong City Council and the Sheraton Hotel. As a result of their Work Experience several students have already been offered part time work, while others are now pursuing the opportunity to take up School Based Apprenticeships with their host employers in 2014. The positive feedback from employers demonstrates once again what wonderful ambassadors our students are for the college when they are out in the community. We would like to thank parents for their support and commend the students on their behavior and enthusiastic participation in this compulsory part of the Year 10 program.

Deb Gee
Work Experience Co-ordinator

MANIFOLD HEIGHTS CRICKET CLUB:

Junior Registration Day
August 25th
1:30pm - 3:30pm.
All age groups from milo cricket thru to u/15’s
KOOWEERUP EXPERIENCE
My experience at Kooweerup was absolutely amazing, I loved every second of it. On Thursday late afternoon at about 4:30pm Mr G, Mr O’Meara, Jess, Nick and myself left for Queenscliff to catch the ferry to Sorrento. The ferry was about a 45 minute ride and it was freezing. When we got off the ferry we then had to drive to the Kooweerup Principal’s house; he and his wife would have to be two of the nicest people I have met! When we got to their house the principal greeted us at the door and showed us around their beautiful house! The Assistant Principal was there too and she was also very nice. We got to make really yum wood oven pizza and my bed was very comfy. In the morning we had to get up at 7:00am and get ready to go to Kooweerup College. When we arrived, there was a man who greeted us at the office and showed us a little bit around the school and then took us to a group meeting with heaps of teachers. He then took us to the classroom where we did our presentation. There were three groups that we had to present to and we had to talk about how our flexible learning spaces work. When we had finished we went with the teachers into a room where we played some activities. All the teachers had to plan a project that we helped with also. Next we went into their staffroom and had lunch and a chat with the teachers of the college. After lunch we went back into the meeting room where they had tables set out for all of us from Western Heights College and for their principal and two other important people from their school. All the teachers sat facing us and they asked any questions they wanted answers and directed the questions to whoever they chose. Talking in front of all the teachers and answering their questions really brought me out of my comfort zone and at the end of the day I was very proud of myself.

Tahlia Lewis
Year 9 Student

WHAT I ENJOYED, WHAT EXPERIENCE AND WHAT BENEFITS I GAINED FROM THE INFORMATION NIGHT
Being given the opportunity to talk in front the future Year 9s, gave me a chance to extend my confidence, to get up and give a speech to a large group. I enjoyed seeing all the future students getting excited about the next stage in their schooling. It was good to hear them talking about the subjects that some of them were interested in. It was also good to see how many students were interested in the Duke of Edinburgh Program. All in all, last night was a successful night and it was great to see such a fantastic turn out.

Nicholas Hamann
Year 9 Student

YEAR NINE INFORMATION NIGHT
The Year 9 information night had a great outcome with nearly 100 year 8 students and their families visiting the DAT centre. The current teachers spoke about the subjects they teach and the amazing camps they have coming up, like the Charnwood camp, and the Alpine camp. The current Year 9 students spoke about their experiences in Year 9 and the Duke of Edinburgh program. It was a very lucky night for some students winning the questionnaire competition.

The winners were-
1st place  Breannah Norman
2nd place  Caitlin Giles
3rd place  Aydin Dilipi

Taylah Spalding and Rebecca Hillbrick
Year 9 Students

INFORMATION NIGHT
To be part of the Year 9 information Night and being able to give a speech about the Duke of Edinburgh Program was a very beneficial experience. It has taught me to speak clearly and to give visual contact to the crowd. This experience has also made me appreciate what the teachers must go through to organise events and speeches.

Elijah Robinson
Year 9 Student
BIOLAB EXCURSION
This week to celebrate Science Week, Year 8 students have attended the BioLAB in Belmont. Students had the opportunity to be Drug Testing Officers and test blood samples for the presence of banned substances. They also had the chance to be athletes and sports scientists monitoring the effects of exercise on their heart rate.

BioLAB was fun! We did what professionals do by sampling blood, even though it wasn’t real blood.

Kate Law
Year 8 Student

‘I liked testing the blood samples, my favourite part was using the pipettes’.

Liam Green
Year 8 Student

‘I loved using the heart monitor pads, I had the fifth highest maximum heart rate with 192 bpm’

Stephen Borserio
Year 8 Student

DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA AT GEELONG SCHOOLS MOVEMENT AND MUSIC FESTIVAL!
Congratulations to the Year 8 students who participated in the Geelong Schools Movement and Music Festival on Friday the 8th August. These students performed the dances they choreographed for their Performing Arts assessment task as a dance extravaganza medley. The students were chosen for their creativity and excellence in class. A big thank you to the parents who assisted students to attend rehearsals and performance. Well done to all involved!

Miss Cassi Aitken

YEAR 8 BASKETBALL
Congratulations to the students who participated in the basketball competition at Life Be In It on Monday 12th August. The students came up against some tough opposition and did their best, but no wins were recorded on the day. Congratulations to all students involved, you were great!

Ms. Michelle Roth

BOYS’ BASKETBALL
The boys played two games against fierce opposition. Though they lost both games, our boys had a terrific fighting spirit and demonstrated exemplary sporting behaviour when they were clearly the inferior team on the day. I congratulate all boys for this. In addition, the boys were fantastic at sharing court time and displayed excellent team work throughout both games. Respect for each other and the opposition was a stand out. The boys were gracious in defeat and can hold their heads up high. Thanks boys for the fun day.

Ms. Michelle Roth
This week’s contribution for Wellbeing and Engagement is about some of the work undertaken within the college by myself as college chaplain.

The Student Wellbeing and Engagement Team is multidisciplinary to ensure all students have access to a breadth of care and expertise to assist them in their journey through Western Heights College. Currently the team is led by a Leading Teacher, and comprises of two social workers, one health and wellbeing nurse and myself, the chaplain. In addition there is an on-site visiting psychologist plus a school based pre-psychologist on placement, not to mention the external agencies who regularly engage with the school community. It is vibrant, well-resourced and there is always something positive happening.

As part of the breadth of care offered through the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Team at Western Heights College, programs have been developed to assist students. These programs vary in length and content and share common elements – active student participation, active student leadership and an expectation of applying the gained skills /experiences into their learning.

It has been a privilege and highlight for me to be involved with several of these engagement programs in all year levels. Participation is through nomination by mentors and Learning Community Support/Leadership or sometimes students request to participate and so will approach their mentors. The current programs I have the joy of running are KYLO (Year 8 and 9), WOLFPACK (Year 8) and the FairTrade Awareness Group (Year 9).

KYLO – “Keep Your Lid On” – is a program that extends over four weeks. Its aim is to educate students on identifying, managing, and responding to strong emotions. The first session aims at establishing trust within the group, and the students themselves devise a Code of Conduct and expected outcomes. Emotions are identified, discussed and explained. Furthermore, the importance of personal responsibility in managing our own behaviour is set as the foundation for the program. In subsequent sessions students learn about their own personal “trigger points” and how to manage these, about power and trust, and finally a powerful session in which they learn about their own positive characteristics and abilities with the challenge of how these can be enacted.

WOLFPACK – now runs with two groups of Year 8 boys who have taken on the responsibility of maintaining, beautifying and developing the environs around the college. These students establish plans in conjunction with the principals for working on gardens, mulching, path clearing and even designing areas for future student use. The group is student led and designated roles are firmly established (e.g maintenance of tools, design experts, contact personnel for external contractors etc). The boys have been active in writing to Bunnings and Mitre 10, and have also been invited to share their experiences with the Mayor of COGG at a date to be set.

FairTrade Awareness – this group was founded in Year 9 as a parallel to the wolfpack, a chance for students to engage with their environs and community from another perspective. The participants have been researching and learning about fairtrade, contacting local fairtrade providers looking to the goal of setting up a stall at a community market in Term 4, and an excursion to the Urban Seed engagement team in the heart of Melbourne later this term.

In addition to group work I also get to meet with students individually for pastoral care and support, offering another perspective to assist them in their wellbeing and engagement in their learning. My aim is to foster greater relationships between students and their mentors as well as other staff, and to enable students to be proactive and empowered with their own self-care and educational participation. It is great to be able to hear student stories, share their achievements and challenges, and be part of the holistic approach that means they can thrive in these important years of formation.

It is a great school and a great team and I for one find great satisfaction in being the part of the overall mission that is Western Heights College.

Marcus Allport
College Chaplain

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**NEED TO HAVE DOCUMENTS WITNESSED BY A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE?**

**J.P. Service is now available at the Vines Road Community Centre**

11.00am—1.00pm

**Wednesdays**

**In the Boardroom**
Recently we have been doing some exciting and productive work with two very different groups of learners.

Just this week we had forty Grade 5 students visiting us in the Year 7 community to take part in our “Lab Rats” program, which is one of the many things we are doing here at the college for Science Week. These keen young people learned about non-Newtonian fluids and how rain is made, using hands-on activities in our learning areas. They also got their hands on computers and microphones and, working together in teams of around twenty, these students made a high quality episode of our school podcast about exciting science. Students took on a wide range of roles, including producers, script writers, presenters, and time keepers. It was a hectic forty minutes, but they worked brilliantly and seemed very proud of what they learned and created.

Our teachers and support staff had a very similar experience at our recent professional development day at Western Heights College. Just like the Grade 5 learners, we broke into group of around twenty and created high quality objects, including a video about the different roles for teachers in our flexible learning spaces. Our producer for this project, Fiona Hergstrom, is still putting the finishing touches on this video, which I hope to share with you in the next newsletter.

These experiences are the sort of thing we are planning to do more with students across the college, engaging them in genuine teamwork and making objects that they can share and be proud of.

You can listen the podcasts made by the Grade 5’s and the Western Heights College staff at:

http://whclearn.libsyn.com

Mark O’Meara
eLearning Leader and teacher

Over the coming weeks we are organizing some Grade 5 students to visit Western Heights College from many of our feeder primary schools. This week we were fortunate to have Grade 5 students from Hamlyn Banks Primary spend some time in the Year 7 Community conducting our ‘Lab Rats’ program. We had students rotating through a variety of activities which included making clouds, making oobleck and creating a podcast. We had some fantastic students assist with the activities on the day and the feedback from the primary students was great! Thank you to everyone involved and we look forward to Herne Hill Primary attending next week.

Shane Sachse
Year 7 Community Leader
TOUCAN FOOD COLLECTION APPEAL

It’s that time of the year again, when the Geelong Food Relief Centre appeals to schools throughout our region for support in their Toucan Food Collection Appeal.

Each year the Geelong Food Relief Centre assists more than eight thousand people in Geelong, who through a variety of circumstances, are unable to provide enough food for themselves and often their families.

The Geelong Food Relief Centre provides a dignified facility where fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy products, bread and groceries are available for those in need.

We would like to invite parents/students and staff, to donate non-perishable grocery items for the 2013 Toucan Winter Appeal.

A collection box has been placed at the Quamby General Office and also at the Vines General Office.

As well as tinned food, donations of breakfast cereals, milo, vegemite, tea and coffee are particularly appreciated.

The Appeal finishes on Monday 9th September.

This is a very worthwhile appeal and your support would be greatly appreciated.

Adele Eastwood
Administrative Assistant
College General Office

Invites you to an Information Night on:

Stress and Anxiety

Are you suffering from stress and anxiety? You are not alone. Join us for an information evening learning about the nature and prevalence of anxiety and how to manage the symptoms.

Wednesday 21st August, 6.30-8.00pm
At: Kardinia Health 2 – 18 Colac Road, Belmont

Presenters: Glenn Little (Psychologist) and Dr Frankie Maxwell (GP)

RSVP essential: by Tuesday 20th August
email: admin@kardiniahealth.com.au
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