It is incredibly hard to believe the first term of 2015, the first term of one college united on one site, is nearly over. We have been immersed in a very successful transition aided by the efforts of all staff, students, parents and the community. While there are a range of examples of opportunities provided by being on one site, it is the anticipated yet subtle changes of things such as seeing learning relationships and a sense of community developing between middle and later years’ students. They are initiating opportunities to learn together, and create a real sense of a welcoming, respectful and stimulating learning community.

Western Heights College continues to strive to improve existing curriculum and also to develop new learning opportunities for students which are embedded into student programs. The Geelong Tertiary Futures Program is one of these evidence of the college’s commitment to strong pathways programing. Our curriculum structure, enabled the program to be embedded into existing curriculum, based on what we know is best for Year 9 students. In the past two weeks, all Year 9 students have attended the program at a campus of The Gordon. They will attend for 10 weeks in total during Semester one, experiencing both the practical and theoretical parts of a course that they may be considering as a pathway to further education and work. Families and students who attended the Year 9 Information Evening in 2014 and who were introduced to the program, are aware of the ongoing significant work to ensure success. Feedback from students and staff has been resounding.

Our work continues in the MyLe program and we acknowledge the commitment of families to this. As a whole college, we are increasingly putting more of our curriculum and learning tasks online through OneNote so that students have 24/7 access.

You will be aware that we have a focus on students having a charged slate with them during all classes. While this is the responsibility of each student, I also ask for your continued support in reminding students of these expectations.

As detailed in the last Parent eNewsletter, this is an important time of the year in terms of college assessment and reporting. All families and students are invited to attend Student Led Conferences at Years 7-9 and Parent/Teacher/Student Conversations at Years 10-12. Students attend the conference or conversation having reflected on their achievements and their goals for the next stage of their learning. The parent portal is now open for bookings and students have been asked to remind you to log on and make a time. We look forward to seeing all students and families at these sessions. Should you have any difficulty in accessing a booking through the parent portal, please do not hesitate to ring the college office where assistance will be provided.

Two significant events held during this week have been the College Athletics Carnival at Landy Field on Wednesday and the 2016 Year 7 Information Evening on Thursday. The College Athletics Carnival always provides a great opportunity for both fun and a bit of healthy ‘House’ competition. Significant work has been undertaken in preparation for the information evening. I acknowledge the commitment and work of all staff and students involved in ensuring that both of these events were a resounding success and refer you to more details in this newsletter.

It has been an incredibly busy but rewarding term and I have no doubt the rest of the year will continue to be the same as collectively we strive for success. On behalf of all at the college, I trust that your child/children will have time with you over the break while also not neglecting that bit of study and preparation to set them up for a successful Term 2.

Tami O’Hare
Associate Principal
FOCUS ON LEARNING:
Students are working on their goals and assessing whether they have achieved the goals they have set for themselves. Students will present these goals at their student led conference. The goals each student sets will drive the discussion around whether they achieved their goals, discussing how they achieved their goals, or what factors inhibited their success in reaching their goals.

All mentor teachers look forward to the student led conferences which need to be booked online for either Thursday evening or Friday. Please check the information page that was provided to every student.

STUDENT LED ASSEMBLY:
Our student leaders led our last two assemblies. They focused on a number of things that they thought every Mentor Group could improve on. During the first student led assembly, four leaders discussed
1. Planners must be signed every Thursday night
2. Being punctual to class
3. Sports equipment – ensure we return it
4. Take everything with you to class.

Well done to the student leaders who took the responsibility of addressing the things we needed to improve. Your actions have made a very big improvement.

WRITING:
Earlier in the term, Year 7 students worked on ‘Biopoems’. They firstly created a mind map with information about themselves, their lives and their interests then they used this information to create a poem, following a set format. Below are examples of poems.

**Nikki**
Sister of Kara
Lover of AFL, netball, and life
Who feels strongly that Australians need to keep their jobs
Who is very competitive
Who needs fresh air, motorbike rides and lots of sport.
Who fears needles, big, dark places and a glass block on the Eureka skydeck
Who would like lots of holidays and money
Resident of Geelong
**Dalitz**

**Naomi**
Sister of Hannah, Andrew and Chris
Lover of calisthenics, cooking and performing
Who feels that littering should be banned
Who needs art, my phone and a kitchen to cook in
Who is great at calisthenics, always in the kitchen and a striver
Who fears spiders, heights and sounds at night
Who would like to have no allergies and to travel the world
Resident of Bannockburn
**Watson**

**Harry**
Brother of Darcy and Caitlyn
Lover of AFL, sport, and reading
Who feels happy and sometimes short tempered
Who needs friends, sport and a phone
Who is very good at sport, reading and sleeping
Who fears chores, enclosed spaces and writing
Who would like to have no allergies and to travel the world
Resident of Geelong
**Lear**
HAPPY EASTER:
I wish all students and their families a safe and happy Easter break on behalf of all staff in the Year 7 Learning Community. The students have made a fantastic start to their learning which we look forward to discussing with you next week. I have been very proud of all of our students in the way they have conducted themselves this term, overcoming any challenges that come with starting secondary school life. A fantastic cohort of students to work with! Staff and students are working together to get the most out of the learning experiences for every child.

Anneliese
Sister of Joey, Katie and Jesse
Lover of writing, reading and watching movies
Who feels animals should be cared for and looked after
Who needs NOTHING because I have everything I need
Who is quiet, happy and sometimes funny
Who fears HEIGHTS and talking in front of a lot of people
Who would like to write stories my whole life
Resident of Lethbridge
Cambridge

YEAR 7 MESH:
This term Year 7 students were involved in learning safe laboratory procedures. Most of the students have received their bunsen burner licences. During their MESH inquiry ‘Making Connections’, they also learnt about Electrical Circuits and enjoyed making a model of a torch.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY:
It has been an exciting couple of weeks in Year 7 Food. Students have continued to cook some wonderful meals. 7BR has cooked up a storm on Tuesdays and fed the entire Year 7 cohort (students and teachers). We are well under way to finishing the Australian Food History investigative task. Most students have chosen to interview either their parents or grandparents about the foods that they ate as children and identified what influenced food choices in the past. This assessment task will be put on OneNote for marking by 27 March. This is a big part of the assessment process and this will be commented on in their reports. I strongly encourage all parents to have a look at the task and ask how their children are going in this task.

Please contact your child’s mentor teacher in relation to any queries you may have.
You can also write in your child’s planner to communicate messages. If you wish to make an appointment, please be reminded that this may take 48 hours to arrange unless it is an emergency.

Michelle Roth
Year 7 Learning Community Leader

Mr Luke Scott
Food Technology Teacher

BOOK CLUB

1st Wednesday of every month
7pm – 8pm
In the College Library
No set novel to read – come along, listen to what others have been reading, what we’ve enjoyed, what we haven’t enjoyed!
Borrow a book, have a cuppa and cake … and a lot of fun 😊
Year 8 News

This fortnight our students have been beginning new units for each of their classes. I would like to thank parents for their continued support around your child's learning and achievement.

This week we have had the athletics carnival and it was quite impressive to see our Year 8 students arrive dressed in house themes, colours and showing fantastic community spirit. One reason I enjoy our College sports carnivals so much is because of the opportunity they provide to our students to enjoy on a number of different levels.

A reminder for parents that Student Led Conferences are on the final two days of term, 26 and 27 March. Please ensure you book your time on line as soon as possible to come and see your child's efforts and achievements this year so far. Well done Year 8 students on a great start to the year!

Mr Nicholas Chudoschnik
Year 8 Learning Community Leader

Year 9 News

SCHOOL FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP
FINAL EXPO:
Day 1 saw us walking along the beach from "The Cutting" near Warrnambool to Killarney. Once we arrived in Killarney we set-up camp and then headed off for some beach play.
On the morning of Day 2 we had a little sleep-in and then packed up ready for our walk to Port Fairy. Everyone persevered really well with their heavy packs, and the sections of thick sand. Once arriving in Port Fairy, we dropped our packs and then headed to the beach for an afternoon surf session! We all had a blast, and we could see a real improvement in our surfing skills. After surfing there was a relaxed atmosphere back at camp as we made warm drinks and were tired in a contented way. Later that night we checked out the Port Fairy lighthouse and a few kids threw a fishing line into the river there on dusk.
On the final day we rode our bikes along the Rail Trail to Tower Hill...and we all powered the 23kms through to the end!
Will Homan, Jas Phillips, Jacob Donaldson and Hannah Vejzovic

Mr Dean Greenhalgh
Year 9 Learning Community Leader.

COLLEGE ABSENCE LINE

Please note that the college absence line phone number has changed.
Please phone 5277 1177 to report all student absences.
WEEK 8 YEAR 10 IN THE DAT:
The weeks have sped past, having almost completed a full term of learning and school activities. The last two weeks have seen students completing their On Demand testing for literacy and numeracy. Our students have been out competing in a range of sports representing the college, baseball, softball, tennis and volleyball.

WORK EXPERIENCE:
The Work Experience Launch took place on Monday, March 16. The Year 10 students were engaged by a presenter who challenged and inspired them to explore their future pathways. This special morning was a significant part of the focus of Term 2, preparing every student for their work experience.

VCE OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES:
The Year 10 superblock students completing Unit 1 Outdoor & Environmental Studies have completed their three day paddle down the Glenelg River. The students paddled over 34kms through at times challenging conditions, sleeping in tents and cooking on Trangia stoves. The students had a fantastic time and displayed a growing level of competence over the three days.

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT CONVERSATIONS:
Year 10 Parent Teacher Student Conversations are taking place Thursday 26 and Friday 27 March. Please book appointment online through the Parent Portal website www.whc.vic.edu.au. If you require assistance in making a booking please contact the College office. These appointments will be held in the VCE Centre.

CHEMISTRY/PHYSICS:
We recently finished a unit on Light. The students completed a practical activity on mixing coloured light and then used what they learnt to create three stage directions for different scenes of a play. We then went to the theatre, and the students went up to the light box and used the lighting system to create the lighting for the scenes they chose.

YEAR 10 ART:
Art students are busy working on the design and painting of their skateboard project.

10 ADVISORY:
The past fortnight of Advisory has been jam-packed! Students have been beginning the process to prepare for work experience with the writing of 'cold-calling scripts' that will support them to make contact with workplaces to potentially secure themselves a work experience place from the 3 - 7 August. They have also been learning how to use OneNote to support their learning and completing weekly tasks on current events to broaden their knowledge of topical issues and events.

LEGAL EAGLE:
Legal Eagle students are studying criminal sentencing and procedure. Part of this study requires the students to collect newspaper articles on various criminal offences.

VCE PREP BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY:
Students have finished the cells unit and completed their cell analogies poster. We have now started our topic on Classification and the Taxonomic system. Students have used physical properties to group objects and animals. They will use and create dichotomous keys to identify animals and plants.

Mr Roger Conron
Year 10 Learning Community Leader
As we approach the end of our first term in our wonderful new VCE buildings on Vines Road I would like to acknowledge the great beginning of the Year 11 students. The Year 11 team have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know all of the students as individuals and as a group.

Our recent teacher feedback process on individual students progress given us a good understanding of where each of our students are at in each subject. This has also allowed mentors a chance to provide strategies for some students so that every student in Year 11 achieves success. Conversations with parents and students in these situations have been both positive and supportive.

The overriding issue from these conversations has been the pressure students are under to remain on top of the increased work load of VCE. As a result, we are focusing on ‘Organisation’ in the Year 11 Learning Community in subject classes, advisory and tutorial sessions.

This includes having students complete a weekly organisation sheet in Advisory that lists each subject, work due in each subject and the next assessment task. Subject teachers will ask student to write in their study planners any PREP requirements for the week. Students who take their planner to each class will also be rewarded with a ticket in the raffle draw as part of our Positive Behaviours approach. This will allow students the opportunity to get into the habit of being organised – a key skill in being successful in VCE/VCAL.

If you do have any concerns on how your child is going in any subject, or would like to speak to each of your child’s teachers, this is good spot to remind you of the Parent-Teacher-Student Conversations. These will be held on Thursday, 26 March from 4.00pm until 7.00pm and Friday the 27 from 9.00am until 1:30pm. Bookings can be made through the parent portal or via the college office if you are having problems. However, as teachers, we are more than happy to speak to you at any time if you have a concern.

During the term break, Mikey McHugh and Amanda McCarthy will attend a leadership camp run by Rotary International. This camp allows for the development of leadership skills and involves teambuilding activities that Mikey and Amanda will enjoy and learn a lot from. Over the past few years, many of our student leadership teams have been given this opportunity.

Again we are very thankful and appreciative of the Rotary Club of Geelong for the sponsorship and support of our students. The opportunities offered to the Year 11 through Rotary have been wonderful over the years and have given our students the chance to experience once in a life time events. Their backing will also allow two more students, Matt Kinnia and Josh Carter the fortune to be involved in camps later this year. Matt will be visiting Canberra as part of the Rotary Adventures in Citizenship program and Josh will visit either Perth or Canberra as part of the Youth Science Camp.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone of our students and their family a safe and relaxing term break.

Mr Brett Bullock
Year 11 Learning Community Leader

TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN YEAR 12:

In previous newsletters I have listed a number of external organisations that support Year 12 students to maximize their achievement. One of these is tsfx, once you subscribe they regularly forward students handy hints for setting themselves up for success. This week they provide students with hints on how to maximize their use of time spent at school, as on average students spend half of their learning time at school.

Here is the link to this week’s tip:
To subscribe to tsfx you should follow this link:

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT CONVERSATIONS:

Bookings are now open for Parent Teacher Conversations. A letter with instructions on how to book online was distributed to every Year 12 student. Year 12 Parent Teacher Student conversations will take place in the VCE Centre on Thursday March 26 and Friday March 27.

It is imperative that every Year 12 student books a meeting with each of their subject teachers. This provides an opportunity for an individualized conversation on student achievement, effort and areas for improvement.
FORTY PLUS CLUB:
Next Wednesday March 25 is the second in our series of Forty Plus Club workshops. The workshop will take place in VCE S beginning at 3.30pm and concluding at 4.30pm, afternoon tea is provided. This workshop will be based on the use of past exam questions to maximize levels of achievement.

The attendance and feedback from the previous workshop was excellent. This workshop was facilitated by Elevate Education. There are still places available in the program for any students who are enrolled in a Unit 3/4 studies. Any interested students should see Mrs Hammond.

Students at the first Forty Plus Club workshop

TERM 1 STUDY BREAK:
The Term 1 study break commences on Thursday March 26. It is important to note the use of the terminology “Study Break” as opposed to holiday. The forthcoming study break is an opportunity for student undertaking Unit 3/4 studies to catch up on any learning that was overlooked or missed during term 1, revise and study for forthcoming assessment. I strongly encourage all students to make use of past exam papers and examiners reports for revision purposes.

Some Year 12 teachers will be offering workshops in the term break. They will communicate with students on an individual subject-by-subject basis. As the details for these are finalized I will post this information in an announcement on the homepage next week.

Ms Kerrie Hammond
Year 12 Learning Community Leader

VET News

JONATHON JURADO - YEAR 11

Jonathon is studying Cert III Fitness at The Gordon. This course is designed to prepare students for work in the fitness industry. Modules include first aid, anatomy and physiology, healthy eating and instructing and monitoring fitness programs.

“I chose VET Fitness as it is a good fit for my future career.
The best things about the course so far are going to the gym to do a spin class and then a work out of our choice”

In 2015 there are seven students studying this Certificate: 3 in second year and four in first.

Mrs Carol Jansen
Later Years Principal / VET Coordinator

School Review

Western Heights College is currently in a review period. There is an opportunity for parents to meet with our School Reviewers on TUESDAY 14 APRIL in the Conference Room in the Administration Centre from 8.30am – 9.00am. All welcome – your input is appreciated and will assist to guide the development of the future direction of our college.

Mrs Robyn Jeffery
College Principal
On Friday, 6 March the senior boys’ cricket team was out at the South Barwon ovals, playing 2 games. In the first game, we won the toss and fielded. We had our opponents all out for 126 with the best bowler being Aaron Down taking two wickets. When we stormed out to bat we lost a few early wickets cheaply before Mat Devries and Rob Law were able to consolidate, in spite of their excellent work we fell three agonising runs short.

In the second game, we won the toss and batted first making 143 runs. Matt Devries batted well again, with he and David Riley each making 30. Malcolm Munro and Matt opened the bowling, with Malcom getting hit for the biggest 6 I have ever seen. In trouble, we gave the ball to Tyson Cornwill. His first ball was flicked to square leg, out caught by Brandon Jeffrey. Next ball, the batter tried to smash one and was caught behind by Rob. On the hat-trick ball Tyson threw up another juicy pie for the batter to hit, was hit up high with Aaron taking the difficult catch for the hat-trick. For the day Tyson ended up with 6 wickets for 13 runs from his 3 overs. Great bowling Tyson and well done to everyone in the team!

Brandon Jeffrey
Year 12 Student.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL:
On Wednesday, 18 March we had our second carnival for the year. The themes for each house were:

Vines - Fairy Tale
Minerva - Famous
Barton - Cartoon/Game Character
Quamby - Favourite Person

The colour and costumes on the day were fantastic and many people had put a lot of time and effort into this. Some of the stand outs were Barbie and Ken, the Teletubbies and Bruce Springsteen.

There was a small amount of rain to start the day however this quickly blew over into a beautiful sunny day. The program began at 10.00am which saw house leaders, competitors and staff spring into action. It was great to hear all of the cheering in support of those participating.

There were a huge number of records broken on the day. A full list of events with times, distances and records will be on the homepage for you to see.

The events were completed by 2.30pm and the very last relay was staff in each house vs the 20yr age males relay team. It was a very close finish.

Results were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRAND AGGREGATE</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Quamby 1,569</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Barton 1,267</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Vines 1,236</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Minerva 1,234</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE GROUP CHAMPIONS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>13Yr Female &amp; Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELLS, Isobella RED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEEL, Hugh BLUE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14Yr Female &amp; Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORPEL, Jacqueline BLUE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOURKE, Thomas YELLOW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15Yr Female &amp; Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OKANE, Georgia RED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STOKES, Thomas YELLOW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16Yr Female &amp; Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RICHARDS, Lara RED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHARP, Lachlan GREEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>17Yr Female &amp; Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLARIDGE, Rebecca GREEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAMMAN Nicholas RED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20Yr Female &amp; Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GORSUCH, Shaye lee RED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCOTT, Jake GREEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thanks to Staff for your help on all of the duties and Students for your participation, fantastic behaviour and house spirit.

**COMING UP - TERM 2:**

**Cross Country** Monday 4th May
**Senior Football** Tuesday 5th May
**Intermediate Boys Football** Thursday 7th May

**Year 8 Term 2 sport:**
boys Football, girls Netball, Badminton & Year 7 Soccer Tuesday 19th May

**Year 7 Term 2 sport:**
boys Football, girls Netball, Badminton & Year 8 Soccer Thursday 21st May

**Junior girls Football & junior & inter boys netball** Tuesday 2nd June

Marli McCarthy
WHC Sports Co-ordinator
Almost the end of Term One that is 25% of the year already done. May not be helpful putting it in those terms, especially as Christmas is still being discussed by people (as in, Christmas 2014). Mind you, there were Hot Cross Buns available from early January, so I think seasons are year events that happen to other people according to our major supermarket chains. It has been a big term, and that is always a good thing. Each term is very much indicative of the season in which it occurs, and in many ways therefore is shaped by this. Term one I find to be the Beginning – everything is new, the year is still ahead and exciting and there is a sense of the unknown. New friends, new classes – for us – new buildings – it all makes for a ripper of a start. Term 2 will build on this, so there is much to which we can look forward and expect.

I made an effort to learn more names this week. Names are important as I said last time, and speak a lot about a person. Some research I was looking into many years ago detailed how in our culture, if a new person is welcomed into a school or similar institution on their first day by name, and within 24 hours this is repeated, there is a staggering 80% more likelihood they will feel instantly included and part of that environs. A simple action can obviously make a massive difference.

As I type this I am having a break at the School Athletics Carnival – and it is so far a sensational day. The only aspect I find challenging is I am near the BBQ being run by Mrs Smith and Mr Scott – two cooking teachers who take BBQing seriously (bacon, eggs, sausages, gourmet rolls ….). I will be strong and I will resist! The atmosphere is great! It is a real community atmosphere. Community is important – we are all a community of learners: no matter if we are a student engaged in education, a teacher facilitating education-development, or staff who support both – no one is immune to learning.

Community is simply a social construct in which a group of people are united by common values. We are members therefore of many communities – including the faceless ones (such as social media or the like). Ever stopped to consider this? School as community? Well – have a think about our values. We have many at Western Heights College. It is an important community for us all, and it is based on learning.

This fortnight – take some time to think about the communities you are in, and what they value or what unites you all in them. And then consider our school community – you are all here because you are entitled to be, you are all worthy and valued members. Without any of you, the community is weaker. So, learn names, use the names you learn, be grateful for the multi-million dollar facilities we are blessed to have, and start to see the community in which we are all a part.

Have a great fortnight, and I am looking forward to running into you all at the Student Led conferences next week!

Marcus Allport
College Chaplain

Anybody realise it is nearing the end of Term 1? We didn’t. Probably a good thing, only because it is indicative of a productive and busy work environs, so whilst we are absorbed in the daily throes of assisting our students in their engagement alongside the high calibre of teaching staff, it is perhaps quite OK to forget some small facts. The details however are certainly not forgotten, nor are our key focus areas! As we have been meeting and reflecting on these past weeks, a common theme of new beginnings has been prevalent, and we are rightly proud of all of you – having witnessed much growth even over these relatively few weeks.

One of our highlights has been welcoming our newest staff member, Ms Natalie Sitka – the College Youth Counsellor. Natalie is a clinical psychologist who before joining our school wellbeing team was a practitioner and consulting psychologist with Ballarat Community Counsellor. Natalie is a clinical psychologist who before joining our school wellbeing team was a practitioner and consulting psychologist with Ballarat Community Mental Health. We are thrilled to have Natalie as part of our community. Please introduce yourselves to her! Natalie is full time at the college and her desk is located in the DAT.

There is still a lot happening around the college, even in these final days of the term – In celebrating with you, we remind you of the Year 7 to 9 Student Led Conferences & Year 10 to 12 Parent Teacher Student Conversations on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th March. Please book in a time with your student’s mentor teacher to come in and hear from your student together with their mentor about their achievement this term. We ourselves will be around to listen in as well.

We also remind you about attendance. Yes, it is a firm part of the agenda. Please be here. We are still willing and always will be willing to go over and above to assist your child be here and engage in their learning.
We understand that this is something we mention every single time you hear from us….and of course Cicero (BC 104 – 48) undoubtedly was writing about us when he complained –

“Quo usque tandem abutere, O Student Wellbeing et Engagement Team, patientia nostra? quamdiu etiam furor iste tuus nos eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata jactabit audacia???”

(So how far are you going to push our patience, Student Wellbeing and Engagement Team? How long will you mock us with your insanity? How far are you going to go with your uncontrolled boldness?)

See? We have been harping on about this for over 2,000 years. Some tips for starting the conversations on attendance –

1. **ASK** – have that conversation directly with your child. A straightforward question will often bring a straightforward answer.
2. **LISTEN** – sometimes the act of listening is itself more than enough.
3. **SEEK** – to understand how your student is feeling, what is happening for them and their perspective
4. **PARTNER** – with your student in solving the issue. Perhaps contact the mentor teacher together. Or perhaps call one of us. Or perhaps write out a plan.

This week we were excited to showcase our college at the Information Evening and also the School Athletics.

We hope you have a fantastic week!

---

**Student Wellbeing & Engagement Continued...**

---

@ THE LIBRARY:

It's been a very busy couple of weeks in the College Library! Students are enjoying our fantastic facilities both in class and at recess and lunchtimes.

It is wonderful to see all Year Levels mixing together at one of our three Clubs, or just playing Uno or other games for leisure.

Congratulations to Ben Platt of 9MT who was the winner of our Craft Club’s ‘Getting to know you’ competition’, and thank you to all the students who entered!

Recently our Craft Club began an activity to create poppies for ANZAC Day. For the Western Heights College annual ANZAC Day assembly, our Club aims to create one poppy for every student to place in our garden in Hamlyn Plaza. We decided this would be an excellent way for our students to mark the centenary of this moment in Australia’s history.

Our Term 1 writing competition ‘Write a Limerick’ closed recently. We received a lot of entries, many of which are extremely funny! It is difficult sometimes coming up with rhyming sentences which still tell a story, but our students are proving to be very adept at it! I will publish the winning Limerick from each Year level in a future edition of this newsletter for us all to enjoy.

Bookworms Book Club assisted in the selection of novels which the Library will purchase for all students to borrow. There was a great deal of discussion over what books were on offer, with all of us realising that personal taste and interest have a lot to do with what each of us like to read.

Happy Reading, until next time!

---

**Library News**

---

**Ms. Kerrie Sirotich**

---

Students enjoy a game of Uno in the College Library at lunchtime.
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS:
Most institutions offer school holiday programs to Secondary School students and this is a great way to experience University life as well as finding out some helpful information about the different courses that are out there. Below are some examples of the different activities that are on offer, however most institutions will have a program available. I would encourage you to check out the different institutions websites to see if there is a program that might suit your son/daughter this school holidays.

EXPERIENCE LA TROBE:
La Trobe are inviting Year 10, 11 and 12 students and their parents to join us on campus to be a uni student for a day this Easter holidays.
At Experience La Trobe, students will have the opportunity to attend workshops, lectures and seminars of their choice to find out about career options, areas of study, pathways and student life while parents will be able to participate in our special ‘parents program’.

Registrations for the first two events are now open and places are limited so get in quick to design a personalised program for the day.

To view the event program and to register, please follow the below links:
- Melbourne Campus, Thursday 9 April
- Bendigo Campus, Friday 10 April
- Melbourne Campus, Thursday 9 April & Thursday 9 July
- Bendigo Campus, Friday 10 April & Wednesday 8 July
- Albury-Wodonga Campus, Friday 19 June
- Mildura Campus, Friday 3 July
- Shepparton Campus, Thursday 2 July

LEAP SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS:
FREE* Holiday Events. Applications Open

Your child may be interested in applying for these FREE workshop events, to be held in the upcoming Term break.

Interdisciplinary Drawing Workshop (Y10-12) - 1 day event
Victorian College of the Arts, School of Art, Southbank, Melbourne - 1 April, 2015
Thinking seriously about studying at uni for a career in art or design? Then this hands-on creative workshop is for you. Explore VCA and more... You'll be guided through the School of Art studios by current students and staff for a first-hand look at the facilities, pay a visit to the Australian Centre of Contemporary Art (ACCA) and practise your skills in a fun, hands-on workshop. Read more and apply online now || Download Event Flyer.

Advanced Engineering Workshop^ (Y11-12) - 2 day event
La Trobe University, Bundoora campus - 8-9 April, 2015
Explore different engineering disciplines in depth and the pathways to studying at uni. Hear career presentations from practising engineers. In groups, address a model problem, consider the issues, test materials, design solutions and produce proposals. Your proposal will be assessed by an engineer and you'll get to build and test the solution to see if it works. Each day you'll have the chance to choose a different field of Engineering. Read more and apply online now || Download Event Flyer.

^This activity requires students to currently be undertaking VCE Maths Methods. Students also studying Specialist Maths and/ or, Physics are particularly encouraged to apply.

The Business of going to university (Y11-12) - 1 day event
Deakin University, Waterfront Campus, Geelong - 9 April, 2015
Thinking about studying at uni for a career in Business? Come along and learn about career options, demystify uni life, hear from uni staff and students. We'll give you tips and hints about how to get into uni, what happens on campus, how it's different to high school and how to get the most out of uni! We'll also let you in on some secrets along the way. Read more and apply online now || Download Event Flyer.

LSAP Workshop (Y10-12) - 2 day event
Victoria University Law School, Melbourne (CBD) - 9-10 April, 2015
In two days, you'll get insights into studying at uni, legal profession career options, and more. Sessions include:
- Look at the process of examining a witness in court.
- What it's like to study at university and what's actually involved in law related courses. Plus, pathways to the legal profession and studying law at uni.
- Negotiation techniques and how to apply them.
- Policy and politics - law in context. Find out how laws are made and propose changes in the law that you'd like to see.
- Hear from someone who works in the law and can answer your questions about what it's actually like. They might be a barrister, solicitor, magistrate, police detective, court registrar or youth justice officer. Read more and apply online now || Download Event Flyer.
Next Step - Health Workshop (Y11-12) - 1 day event
Alfred Hospital, Prahran, Melbourne - 10 April, 2015
Which Health profession is right for me? What subjects do I need? What is university study like? Can I do it? What courses are there? If you are in VCE, thinking about these questions this workshop is a must. It will help you to understand where uni and a career in the Health industry can take you. Guest speakers from the Department of Health, current uni students and a leading university academic will answer all your questions and give you a glimpse into your future as a Health professional. Read more and apply online now || Download Event Flyer.

JOIN US AND EXPERIENCE A DAY AT MELBOURNE
This special event is designed for Year 10 to 12 students and their families. You are invited to come and explore our vibrant Parkville campus and find out more about the range of study options available. Hear from current students about what it’s like to study at Melbourne, and attend tailored sessions to learn more about entry requirements, course structures and other opportunities available to Melbourne students. A tour of our Southbank campus will also be included in the program for those who wish to visit the Victorian College of the Arts.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT:
Undergraduate degrees and graduate pathways at Melbourne
Unique opportunities to enrich your degree such as concurrent diplomas and going on exchange and study abroad
Admissions and entry requirements
Access Melbourne and Melbourne Scholarships
Accommodation options
How parents can help with the transition to university.

EVENT INFORMATION
A Day at Melbourne
University of Melbourne
Parkville campus
Friday 10 April 2015
Friday 10 July 2015
For further information please call:
13 MELB (13 6352)

REGISTER NOW
futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/a-day-at-melbourne

STUDENT PATHWAYS AMBASSADORS
I would like to introduce the new Year 10 Student Pathways Ambassadors, Lauren Love and Thomas Slee. Lauren and Thomas helped with their first activity as Student Pathways Ambassadors on Monday when they assisted with the Year 10 Work Experience Launch and introduced Darren Pereira to their peers. Lauren and Thomas will be involved with planning and consultation around the Pathways program and events at their year level as well as keeping information up to date in their Community. I would encourage Year 10 students to speak to Lauren or Thomas if they have any ideas or suggestions about pathways activities in their Community.

We are very lucky to have Lauren and Thomas as Student Pathways Ambassadors and I welcome them to their new role within our College and look forward to working closely with them this year.
I am still looking for Student Pathways Ambassadors at Year 9 and Year 12 so if your son/daughter is interested please ask them to send me a web message to register their interest.

CAREERS@WESTERN HEIGHTS COLLEGE BLOG
Make sure you check out the blog and subscribe to receive updates as they are posted. There’s lots of information from Universities as well as extra work experience programs and jobs. As I receive information I will post it on the blog, so this is a great opportunity for both parents and students to receive information as it is made available.
www.careerswhc.edublogs.org

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE:
Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences - Course Information Day - Saturday 21 March 2015
For more information visit:
www.fvas.unimelb.edu.au

Miss Tracey Jeffery
MIPs Co-ordinator
YMCA Girls Surf Camp 2015

Week 1 School holidays
Monday 30th March - Thursday 3rd April

What better way to spend your school holidays than to meet new friends, learn to surf, or perfect your existing technique!

Camp Wyuna’s 4 day surf camp is targeted at 12 to 16 year old girls and provides a perfect opportunity to learn and hone surf techniques. Tuition provided by some of the region’s best regarded surf teachers from Mark Phipps surf school, Point Lonsdale.

Our purpose is to provide a warm, friendly atmosphere and the safest possible environment for participants to experience the joy and adventure of surfing.

Our aim is to make this one of the best surfing and holiday experiences of your life!

- A unique coastal environment
- Meet new friends
- Quality accommodation
- A marine environment focus
- Healthy, nutritious meals (all meals provided)
- Explore Bells Beach & Torquay Surf Shops
- Fun, experienced & knowledgeable Instructors
- All meals, wetsuits, boards and bedding included
- Great camp staff to make the camp awesome

$585 per person
Maximum 24 surfers - book early to secure your place!

Contact Andrew or Anna on (03) 5258 1656 for registration pack, a detailed program and further details.

71 Flinders Street, Queenscliff 3225
(03) 5258 1656
campwyuna@ymca.org.au
www.geelong.ymca.org.au
www.facebook.com/YmcaGeelong
Northern Bobcats Basketball Club is looking for players for the u12 and 14 and under Girls competition at GNBC, South Geelong on a Monday night. Games are usually played between 4.30 and 6.30pm. Please contact Brett Williams, on 0400 561 781 for further details.

CORIO COMMUNITY SPORTING CLUB
We are currently looking for U14 players. Training is on Monday and Thursday night at 4.30pm @ Shell Reserve.
For all enquiries call or text Bondie on 0478 167 633 or Callum on 0403 556 072