Welcome back to students and families to the start of Term 4 after what I hope was a holiday with everything you hoped for! The last term of the year seems to creep up, making us very aware that the end of the year is fast approaching. This is true for all year levels, and particularly true for students whose days of secondary schooling are almost over, as is the case for our Year 12 students. Exams are approaching quickly for Year 10, 11 and 12 students and I know that all students appreciate the support and guidance they receive jointly from both home and school. We don't tend to wish our Year 12s luck, for we know it's effort and hard work that makes the difference, and so I wish our Year 12 students all the very best success during the approaching exam period. We need to believe in them and tell them that we do often, and I encourage families to do the same. Please know that their teachers are available and contactable during the study break and up to the scheduled exam of each study, a definite strategy in place to offer our Year 12 students extra guidance and support.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES
Thank you to the many families who participated in the student led conferences held at the end of term for our middle years' students. We have had the online appointment system in place for a full year, and we are getting so much better at using this.

COLLEGE CAMPS PROGRAM
Our Camps program has enhanced the opportunities offered to students within the college. Year 10 students returned from the Tasmania trip during the holidays after having a great time.

I acknowledge the input of staff into this camp, Ms Fran Smith, Ms Miriam Day, Mr Andrew Travers and Mr Dave Barker and also to staff who have contributed to the other camps that have occurred during the year. It's great to have a College Camps program, progressive throughout the college, offering a broad range of experiences to our students, which they really do appreciate.

TERM 4 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Parents/Guardians will also have received the term 4 calendar of events. Our aim in distributing hard copies of the college calendar with the information package at the end of each term is to give you an overview of major events with plenty of time to make the necessary arrangements. Enhancing our communication with families is high on our agenda, and this is one strategy in place to try to do this.

ONLINE COURSE SELECTION PROCESS
This is the third year in the college that students have very successfully completed their course selections online. Excellent work to everyone involved – families, students and staff! Very high percentages of students in each Learning Community submitted complete course selections by the due date. The course selection process in our college is significant; including Parent Information Evenings, students' personalised curriculum handbooks, online course selection processes, mentor support for students' course selections, connections with families. The next part of the process is the Course Confirmation Day which is on Wednesday 4 November. This will involve students and families currently in Year 8, 9, 10 and 11, confirming 2016 courses.
CONSISTENT EXPECTATIONS
To continue to improve our college, something we are very focused on doing, there are expectations that we have of all students and I seek the support and encouragement of families to make this occur for your child.

Lockers
Every student has a locker in their community. It is here that they place their belongings for the day, including their school bag, putting their bag in their locker at the start of the day and collecting it at the end of the day. We don’t allow students to have their bags in classes as this can present a trip hazard as people, both students and staff, move around their learning spaces. Teachers have explained this to students and will continue to remind them. Your support in clarifying this for your children when the opportunity arises would be helpful.

College Uniform Policy
The second item of focus is the implementation of our College Uniform Policy, which is set by College Council. There are 3 items that we are currently focused on implementing with consistency –

1. That students only wear college uniform items to school, at school and home from school. Any extra or different items cannot be worn as it detracts from the image of the students who attend Western Heights College.

2. That students wear black polishable school shoes with their school uniform. If you are purchasing new school shoes for the growing feet of your child, please buy school shoes that fit our College Uniform Policy.

3. That students, both boys and girls, wear white socks with their school uniform. While others may think that different coloured socks look good, our college uniform policy specifies white socks, not different colours. We are aiming to implement our college policy with consistency and I am seeking support from Parents/Carers to ensure that your son/daughter wears white socks as part of their school uniform.

Robyn Jeffery
College Principal

WARM WELCOME BACK!
I would like to welcome all students and their families back to the final term for Year 7, 2015. The focus of this term is to ensure that your child is ready academically, socially, emotionally and physically, for Year 8 in 2016.

Academically – We had an assembly this week whereby we recognised the hard work of students which has paid off in their results for Term 3. This is consistent with ‘On Demand’ results which have also improved for our cohort overall. There were many individual highlights for improvement and we congratulated students on their success.

There is still a lot of hard work and commitment required from all students to finish off the year doing the best they can possibly do in all subject areas to now build upon the foundation they have set up for their future learning.

Socially – Our motto this term is to say something positive to your friends, peers, colleagues or say nothing at all. Students have been working on their skills of being a supportive friend, staying positive and supporting one another. Students did a magnificent job of their ‘BULLYPROOF’ inquiry projects in which they learnt about prevention of bullying, resilience and the role of the positive bystander. Students made significant impact on one another in their presentations of their inquiries on this serious matter.

Physically – We all need to get our balance of sport, work, recreation and even chores around the house! Students in Year 7 have been active participants in PE this year and many of them participate in sport outside of school. I encourage this for all students as it assists us with sleeping, stress relief and for us to function better academically. Well done!

Emotionally – Managing transition into Year 7, moving from Primary to Secondary College, dealing with moving from a child to an adolescent are big milestones. We have great support here at Western Heights College from firstly the mentor teachers, Mr Scott (Learning Community Support) and myself as Learning Community Leader. This support is complimented by our school nurse and youth workers. There is also further additional supports that can be accessed if required by contacting your child’s mentor and requesting this. This support is like none other than I have been involved in as a professional teacher at any other college. In saying this, the work we do and communication and relationships built between student, teacher and yourself as parents is the core for success. This gets us all over the line if and when difficult circumstances arise. I thank all parents for their ongoing support this year which has set us up for a most successful Term 4, thank you.
STUDENT LED CONFERENCES:
It was a fantastic note to finish on with student led conferences on the last Thursday evening and Friday of Term. It is always such a buzz when students get to ‘show off’ their learning to parents/guardians and mentor teachers.

Students talked through their data, showing evidence of their learning and gave parents an insight into how they have improved and achieved learning goals they have set for themselves.

The conferences were well attended and for those who could not make it on the night due to unavoidable commitments, we have caught up with you over the past two weeks this term. Our final conferences will conclude next week and we will then have met with all students and parents.

Thank you for your support in these conferences which highlight your child’s hard work over many weeks.

YEAR 8 2016 INFORMATION EVENING & YEAR 7 2016 INFORMATION EVENING
On November 11, all students will be excited to attend the 2016 Year 8 information evening. This night will also showcase your child’s work and what they have chosen to highlight from this year in their time as a Year 7 student. Save this date to come along with your child to view their hard work in action. More details will follow very soon when you receive your personal invitation.

On November 25, once again we will be inviting our Year 7 students to welcome our 2016 Year 7 students and inform them of their program next year. Again, save this date as it is most likely that your child will be with us showing off their work once again.

TEXTILES

Photos of student’s monsters.
Great to see the independent learner shining through with no two monsters the same.
Students are also showing off different levels of skills in their sewing.

Last term finished with a buzz. Students finishing off felt monsters, starting to use the sewing machines to make their own licences and bow ties. These tasks required the students to learn to safely set up a sewing machine, thread the machine, select and modify different stitches, follow patterns and even iron. The start of this term has been just as busy. They are now starting their design and construction of a cover for their slate or pencil case. This will require the students to consolidate what they have learned, to design make and evaluate their own designs. I am looking forward to seeing what they come up with. As always I encourage you to ask your children not just what they did, but what have they learned in these classes.

Luke Scott
Learning Community Support & Textiles Teacher

YEAR 7 MUSIC
Our Year 7 students finished off Term 3 by demonstrating their competence on the keyboard to their parents at their student led conference. Everyone was very impressed with how well they could play with two hands after only one term of tuition! The students are beginning this term with a song analysis task then they will be learning to play guitars. All the standard classics will be getting a work out – “Smoke on the Water”, “Sunshine of your Love”, “Iron Man”, “Peter Gunn” and many, many more…If you have a guitar at home that needs tuning feel free to send it along with your Year 7 student and it will come home tuned.

Katrina Lynch
Music Teacher Year 7

DOJO & SOAR AMBASSADORS UPDATE 1 TERM 4:

SOAR excursions for silver will be starting this Term. We now have 27 students who have reached silver. Well done to these students who have chosen to attend Time Zone for their reward early next term.

A special mention to Tahlee Allaway and Paige Maher who have reached Gold Status and have joined Bella Wells and Claire Green. Well done girls! They will be the first to decide on the GOLD DOJO status excursion for their reward which will occur in the early part of next term.

We now have 97 per cent of students who are SOAR ambassadors. Well done to all of our SOAR ambassadors!

Ms Michelle Roth
Year 7 Learning Community Leader.
ACARA TRIALS:
Western Heights College is pleased to have been invited by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority to participate in an online collaborative problem solving series of trials which will occur with Year 8 students next week. Research from this will help curriculum writers and assessors develop effective ways to include collaborative problem solving into our national curriculum.
Twenty-one schools from across Australia will be participating in the trial which involves students being paired up to solve a set of problems together. With only three schools from Victoria involved, it will be very exciting for our Year 8s to be solving problems with students from around the country.

Mr. Nicholas Chudoschnik
Year 8 Learning Community Leader

As we begin the final stage in Year 8 for our students I would like to extend a warm welcome back from holidays to our students and their families.

This term our focus shifts toward consolidating a strong year with development toward student work as our students look towards beginning their studies in year nine during December. I remind parents that course confirmation day is on the November 4 and as there are no classes during this day, students and their families are expected at their appointments so that each student is prepared for Year 9.

This term our students will have the opportunity to participate in a number of interschool sports for the last time as Year 8 students.

On Wednesday October 7, our students had the opportunity to participate in an excursion to Kryal Castle in Ballarat. Our students came back with glowing responses and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. This excursion was linked to our MESH unit on conflict where we are looking at the Medieval Ages. Below are some accounts from students regarding the day.

“Amazing experience. Archery was the best.” – Macky
“Really good experience.” – Jacque
“I touched a goat.” – Joel
“It was interesting to learn about medieval times.”
– Simona and Emina
“Archery was great!” – Dylan W.
“I loved the archery.” – Ajlina
“I liked the lizards in the garden.” – Chelsea
“Sword fighting was fun.” – Bailey L.
“I liked the sword fighting.” – Blake
“I liked wearing the chainmail.” – Jemma
“We fed the goats, sheep and chickens.” – Lily
“The torture room wasn’t scary.” – Marcus
Year 9 News

The Year 9 team would like to welcome back all the Year 9 students and their families. We hope that you had a very enjoyable break and are looking forward to the start of the new term.

Students have started their final selections of their Personal Choice subjects. This has given student the opportunity to experience a large variety of subjects. This has allowed students to make an informed decision regarding their selections into Year 10. This has also given the students the opportunity to continue to use and experience the fantastic facilities Western Heights College has to offer.

The Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh students are completing their major journey this term to Aire River. This has a strong focus around team work. The Duke of Edinburgh students will also be completing a canoeing practice in Anglesea.

Mr Dean Greenhalgh
Year 9 Learning Community Leader

Year 10 News

Year 10 students have made a positive start to their final term. This term is another exciting and important period of preparation in their transition to Year 11.

In sporting news, congratulations to Year 10 students who continue to represent the College in sport, well done to the basketball players who represented the competed well during week 2.

Course conformation day for 2016 Year 9-12 students is on November 4. There will be no classes for Year 8-11 students this day. Parents/Carers and Students will meet with mentors and be given your 2016 Course Confirmation Packages. The portal opens on October 19 for bookings

As in previous terms all Year 10 students will be given a green light or red light gauging their progress in each subject prior to October 30. Mentor teachers will be contacting families of students with 3 or more red lights during week 5 starting Monday, November 2. Mentors will supply supportive and constructive feedback to each student so they can improve their progress in the subject and Year 10 over the rest of the term. This term during week 8, Year 10 students will have exams. It will be important that students respond in a timely manner to the feedback of a red light so they can be supported and prepared to perform well in their exam.

Year 10 student Cooper Cannell is competing in The National Rodeo Finals held in Queensland, later in October. He has qualified in the top thirteen in Australia in the open age category. His event is the team roping. Cooper and his Dad are competing in the same event. We congratulate Cooper and wish them all the best in his event.

Mrs Pauline Doak
Year 10 Teacher

FITNESS FOR LIFE WOMEN:
Last term the class enjoyed three visits to Geelong Gym to partake in the following group fitness classes - Zumba, Body Step and Body Balance. The class had a lot of fun as well as improving their dance skills and general fitness.

Mr Gary Beasley
Year 10 Teacher

PERMISSION FORMS AND PAYMENTS

Please note that all sport/excursion permission forms and payments are to be returned to the college two days before an activity.

For planning purposes it is important that this request is met to ensure students do not miss out on these valuable experiences.
Year 10 News Continued....

VISUAL COMMUNICATION:
Year 10 Students have just completed a project using one point perspective.

Year 11 News

Welcome back to what will be a very full time of the year. Year 12 classes are rapidly coming to an end – as a result students completing a VCE unit 3/4 subject will be working towards their end of year exam. Teachers of Year 12 subjects will be in their class until the subject’s exam to offer support to students. Any Year 11 student completing a Year 12 subject will also be expected in this class for this time. This will be valuable revision time – and a time to practice reading and answering exam questions with the help of their teacher.

This week we are again moving our focus back onto uniform – especially white socks, black “polishable” shoes and sports uniform. With only a few weeks to Year 12 exams – it is especially important that all students are in complete uniform- as this is a requirement for entry into an exam. Also, a reminder that sports uniform is only allowed for students who are completing PE – which is Tuesday and Thursday only. At all other times correct school uniform is required.

At this time, many students feel the pressure and consider they are “failing” everything and have every excuse not to attend school. This is normally not the case, but can become a self-fulfilling prophecy if they begin to skip classes.

If you are concerned about your child in one or more subjects, please call the mentor or the class teacher to discuss these concerns. We are open to helping all students and there is still plenty of time to redeem subjects with a little hard work. Shortly we will be completing traffic light reports to gauge student’s process. This will again help us support the students to obtain success.

Most importantly, students need to ensure they are keeping up to date with their work and have completed all past tasks required of them. Have a friendly conversation with your child to ensure that they have the work in hand.

Next week we will begin the selection process for the 2016 college student leadership team. Expressions of interest will be called for the College Captain and House Captain positions. This process involves students writing an application, being interviewed and finally an election. The roles are an important part of the running of Western Heights College for the students including sports, community events, leading college assemblies, organising fundraising.

Wednesday, November 4 is course conformation day for students in Year 11. Mentor meetings will be held between 12:30pm and 7:00pm for students to receive their course for 2016. Please log onto the parent portal to book you interview times.

Ms Anna Hurley
Year 10 Teacher

Mr Brett Bullock
Year 11 Learning Community Leader
The final countdown to the end-of-year exams is well and truly on. During the term break there were a number of revision programs offered for students at school and locally. I would like to commend the students that made the most of this valuable learning opportunity and the staff who facilitated these activities.

END OF YEAR ARRANGEMENTS:
*Final Classes* - The final day of official classes is Monday October 19. This is followed by Celebration Day on Tuesday October 20. The Celebration Day activities begin at 9.00am and finishing at 12.30pm and we look forward to joining together as a learning community to recognize the end of formal classes for our Year 12 student cohort. The students have decided on the theme “It’s a bird, it’s a plane, it’s a……………..”

**SWOTVAC:**
Swotvac commences on Wednesday October 23. Students are not required at school during this time. However they are actively encouraged to attend school to access learning support from all their teachers. All Year 12 teachers will be in their learning spaces during their normal scheduled time for their subject from the beginning of SWOTVAC until the day of their subject’s scheduled end-of-year exam. This is to allow students to easily access their teachers for support, clarification and feedback. Each teacher has customized a subject based revision program in place and has communicated the details to students.

**END-OF-YEAR EXAMS:**
Students are to be commended for their approach to the recent practice exams. This was a valuable learning experience for all students as they experienced examinations under VCAA conditions. Students are reminded that full school uniform is to be worn for all exams, electronic devices are not permitted in the exam centre and water bottles must be clear. Each student has been given an individualized examination timetable. However, the general timetable can be accessed from the VCAA site at:
All exams will take place in the VCE Centre in VCE S.

**GRADUATION:**
A reminder that graduates are required at Costa Hall, Deakin University for the Graduation Ceremony at 2.30pm on Wednesday November 18. The Graduation Ceremony commences at 6.00pm followed by the Graduation Dinner at The Mercure from 7.30pm until 9.30pm.

Ms Kerrie Hammond
Year 12 Learning Community Leader
VCE English Texts

VCE English texts for Term 1, 2016 are available for purchase from November 4 (Course Confirmation Day)

Please purchase in time for transition classes:
2016 Year 12 — by 24 Nov, 2015
2016 Year 11 — by 1 Dec, 2015

Paperback books can be purchased from the College Office or see below for information regarding eBook purchases.

Year 11 - Jasper Jones
by Craig Silvey (paperback) $24
Alternatively ask a 2015 student to sell you their copy

Year 12 - Burial Rites
by Hannah Kent (paperback) $20
Alternatively ask a 2015 student to sell you their copy

Purchasing your VCE English text as an eBook.
The MyLe program enables all students to purchase texts as eBooks. The eBook prices are considerably cheaper than buying the paperback and can offer extra features that will aid in your deep reading of the texts. The Year 11 and 12 Term One texts are available from the eBook providers below, and possibly from others. The price varies slightly between them so you may want to check each store’s price if you haven’t already signed up with one.
Each of the suppliers provides eBook apps or clients that allows you to read your book on any of your devices, your slate or your phone. Which provider you wish to use is completely up to you. You must create an account and link a credit card to it or have access to an account to buy the books.

If, after signing up with a supplier, you have problems using the client on your slate, the network office may be able to assist.

Amazon/Kindle  https://kindle.amazon.com/
Apple  http://www.apple.com/ibooks/
Google Play  https://play.google.com/store

Jasper Jones by Craig Silvey
Burial Rites by Hannah Kent

Mrs Kym Tyzack
VCE English Teacher

Student Wellbeing & Engagement

WHITE RIBBON NETBALL CUP:
The start of Term 4 has been fast and furious but really enjoyable. Congratulations to the following students from Year 9 who represented Western Heights College at the White Ribbon Netball Cup on Friday, October 9 - Lachlan Horan, Joel Murdoch, Jas Philips, Zane Elzinga, Joran Erard, Stevi Govus, Joel Murdoch, Olivia Sardoz, Will Schepis, Hannah Vejzovic, Kaleb Washington and Keliea Wiffen. The students had a very busy day doing a number of workshops on Relationships, What a positive relationship looks like? How do teenagers promote positive relationships between each other? In the afternoon the netball games were played Can I say what a great job the students did competing and representing our college in such a magnificent manner.

Lisa Cooper (Health Promotions Nurse) has been very busy organizing the Docs and Teens Program for the Year 8, students in coming weeks. The program involves a series of workshops with a GP around growing bodies, fact and fiction and how to keep their bodies healthy. The program runs for 4 weeks this term.

SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT:
You will greatly help your child stay motivated for school if they believe that you think school and education is important. No doubt some parents will look back at their time in school with unfond memories – maybe that's you. Maybe you had a tough time in school for any number of reasons yet the challenge is to make sure your children don’t pick up on that.

If they know you used to skip school or that you didn’t do your homework then they will seize upon the fact and use it as the basis of their argument. “But Mum/Dad you didn’t do your homework so why should I do mine” will be their cry.

Here are some practical ways that you can make sure your child realizes that your view of school is positive, regardless of your own experiences.

- Spend time getting to know your son/daughter’s teacher. Talk to them about your expectations and hopes for your child and express any concerns you might have. Be open and be willing to listen to their advice as well as ask any questions you may have. After the initial parent/teacher interviews why not suggest that you keep in touch via email so that either of you can voice concerns as well as celebrate success.

- Get involved in the programs that the school runs. If your child is part of a school drama production, for example, make sure that you attend. If possible go and support the athletics days, trivia quizzes, fund raisers or whatever is available. Consider offering your time and talents as a volunteer to help children read or get involved in practical ways around the building, organise fund raising events.
• Make sure that your child is always able to do their homework when they are required to do so. That may mean that you create a quiet zone where other children aren’t allowed to watch TV or play noisy games; it may mean ensuring that they have access to the computer for research or that you always have adequate materials – papers, pens etc available to them. In a positive way this shows that you value their work and it also has the benefit of removing a number of excuses from their repertoire!

• It will benefit you both if you know what assignments are due and when. Not that you need to take the responsibility for them being done but rather you can support them and be sure that you have done everything you can to help. Whenever you talk about school find ways to do so in a positive way. Even find ways to praise the teachers or discuss the usefulness of what they are learning. Your involvement and support will encourage your child to be more focused and motivated to complete their tasks – not just for the teacher but for you too.

Attendance – your child/children cannot engage if they are away! Even though it is term 4, we will continue to targeting attendance and ensuring our students have the supports, means and confidence to be at school right up until the final school day of the year!

Have a great term.

Mr Paul Rogers & the Student Wellbeing Team

Performing Arts News

Andre Jewson Visit: Andre Jewson’s visit to Western Heights was one of the most engaging talks at the school all year. It was fascinating hearing about his journey in the performing arts, not to mention inspiring. Andre was entertaining and was able to keep his audience involved. His encouragement of the pursuit of performance was heartening and his persistence in the field even more so.

Talking to Andre was a great chance for all the students in the Performance Academy. It was a refreshing opportunity having someone from our school to come in and talk about The Arts. A gigantic thank you to Mrs Kerrie Hutchinson for organizing the event, and also to Andre for being so willing to answer questions and making time to visit us out of his hectic schedule. I’ve probably mentioned that his talk was inspiring, but it’s worth being stated at least 100 times.

For someone who wishes to follow a career in the performing arts it is at enlightening to talk to someone with real experience, and further more success. Andre is a brilliant performer and it was an absolute joy to have him come in and present.

Katy Newell
Year 11 Student

Andre also presented us with a fully autographed and framed poster with a special message to our College which will be displayed proudly in the PAF.

LION KING EXCURSION:
On Wednesday 26 August, the students of Western Heights College Performance Art Academy and Senior Theatre Studies students took a train trip to Melbourne to watch the Lion King live at the Regent Theatre.

It was a really entertaining and intriguing show. It gave the audience a different perspective of how to portray a story or character. I think they presented the characters and animals in a really unique way and I really liked the way they used patterns and backdrops. Each animal was created using either full puppet costumes, extensions like stilts, long arms or headdresses and the singing was beautiful. Andre Jewson played ‘Ed’ the Hyena in the Principal Cast.

Overall it was an amazing show and opportunity and we all gave Andre an extra cheer during the curtain call.

Shaylah Reynolds
Year 9 Student
Course Confirmations.

Parents now have the ability to book school events on-line. The online booking facility available on the College Parent Portal enables parents to make quick and easy bookings at a time that is convenient for them. An important upcoming event for 2016 Year 9 to 12 students is Course Confirmation.

Confirmation session will be held on Wednesday 4 November 2015, with 15-minute appointment times available between 12:30 – 7:30pm. These sessions must be booked on-line, instructions follow. These are very similar to booking Student Led Conferences times. Parents who have made bookings in the past will be familiar with the procedure.

HOW TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR YOUR CHILD’S COURSE CONFIRMATION SESSION:
To access our Parent Portal visit our www.whc.vic.edu.au page and click the link at the bottom. Once there, please save it in your favorites for easy access later on. You will need your logon details, which were mailed to you either last year or earlier this year for new parents.

The COURSE CONFIRMATION link appears at the top of the home page under BOOKINGS. This link can be accessed now but bookings cannot be made until October 19 at 8.00am. Please logon to the portal and read the instructions on the page in the meantime.

TO MAKE A BOOKING:

1. Click on BOOKINGS
2. Click on COURSE CONFIRMATION
3. Click on Make Appointments Wizard Automatically
4. Select the child you wish to book for
5. Select the date and time
6. Select a your child’s 2015 Mentor teacher
7. Click on continue
8. Click on make booking.
Problems with your MYLE device today?

Did you remember to charge it?

Have you been to the library to get a day loan?

Have you seen the Techies?

Can you work with someone who has a slate? You can record your responses on paper and scan them in later.

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@ the Library

The Library provides many important services to all of our users, and that of course includes our Year 12 students who finish classes next Tuesday.

During the Swatvac week, and until the completion of exams, all Year 12 students are welcome to use the College Library as a quiet place for study and research. The staff here are experienced in assisting students in this way, as well as soothing any worries or concerns students may have.

For Year 12 students wishing to use the College Library for studying purposes, we are open from 8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday, with a closing time of 8.00pm on Wednesdays.

We are also open Saturday mornings from 9.00am to 12.00noon.

Ms. Kerrie Sirotich
College Librarian
Before the school holidays I went on a building excursion with six other kids from different schools. We spent the day listening to builders, bricklayers and other people talking about what they do. Afterwards we went to the Gordon and had a BBQ lunch and had a tour of the Gordon. We also got a show bag afterwards containing shirts and different stuff. Overall, it was a great day.

Dylan Cowley
Year 9 Student

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP OR TRAINEESHIP?
Check out last week’s update on the Careers@WHC Blog, featuring:
• Apprenticeship Vacancies
• Great resources from Apprenticeship Centres

Current Year 12 students who are looking to start an apprenticeship or traineeship once they complete their schooling this year can contact me via web message or by visiting the Careers Centre to set up an appointment with an Apprenticeship Centre to register their interest.

VTAC INFORMATION:
Missed the SEAS deadline?
The SEAS application and submission of supporting SEAS documentation closed at 5.00pm, Tuesday 6 October.

Although there is no way to submit a SEAS application or SEAS documentation after the closing date, there are other options available to you if you would like to add information to your course application about how your studies have been affected or disadvantaged by circumstances out of your control. This can be done through the VTAC Personal Statement.

The VTAC Personal Statement is an application found in your User Account when you login. Question 3 in the VTAC Personal Statement allows you to outline circumstances that have affected your academic performance. You can also post supporting documents to VTAC using the Personal Statement cover sheet.

The Personal Statement is not a replacement for SEAS.
The Personal Statement is not equivalent to submitting a SEAS application, however it is an opportunity for you to outline impacting circumstances.

What if I applied for SEAS online but I have not been able to supply my SEAS supporting documentation before the closing date?
If VTAC receive your SEAS documentation after the closing date, we will still add it to your application so that course selection officers at institutions have access to it but only in the VTAC Personal Statement section. In this case you should also fill in the VTAC Personal Statement online. It will then be up to the selection officers at the universities to decide if they will take your circumstances into consideration.

What if something arises after the SEAS closing date that affects my studies?
If your education has been adversely affected after the SEAS closing date you have a couple of options:
- Complete the VTAC Personal Statement. Once again, you can mention any circumstances that may have had an adverse impact on your study through question 3 of the VTAC Personal Statement.
- If you’re a current Year 12 applicant, you may be eligible to apply for ‘special provision’ (previously called ‘consideration of disadvantage’) with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). The VCAA is the body in charge of curriculum in Victoria and the assessment of the later years of secondary schooling. For more information on ‘special provision’, visit the VCAA website here.

Note: The closing date for the Personal Statement online and supporting documentation is 5pm, Wednesday 11 November for Graduate Entry Teaching (GET) courses and 5pm, Monday 4 December for offers in January and February.
PATHWAY OPTIONS:
All Universities will have a pathway option to the course you are interested in. This might be in the form of a private college, TAFE or Associate Degree. If you don't get the ATAR you are hoping for, remember that there is always another option. It might be worth researching these options just in case. Check with each of the institutions you are interested in to see what pathways they offer.

THINKING ABOUT STUDYING AT TAFE?
Make sure you check the requirements for enrolment. Your course might have a compulsory information session coming up in the next couple of months or extra requirements and if you miss it you might not be able to apply.

A chance for high school students to meet with established women in Physics
My name is Shanette De La Motte and I am the Diversity Officer of the Physics Students' Society (PSS) at the University of Melbourne. In conjunction with the School of Physics, the PSS will be hosting the "Celebrating Women in Physics: A Careers Evening" at 6pm on Wednesday October 21st at the Hercus Theatre, Melbourne Graduate School of Science, University of Melbourne.

We strongly believe that the practice of Physics should be open and inviting for anyone, regardless of race, sexuality and particularly gender. For this reason we hope that such a night will inspire young women to pursue further study in Physical sciences. The night will offer a chance to meet and learn about successful Women in Physics. It will consist of a panel discussion with Physics students and graduates, followed by a break with light refreshments and a chance to chat with panelists.

Our panelists thus far are:
Innes Bigaran, Fourth Year Undergraduate in the Bachelor of Science (Physics) Diploma of Maths (Pure)
Justine Corso, PhD Student in Optics and the Centre for Advanced Molecular Imaging
Cate Guenther, Postgraduate in Masters of Science (Physics) Experimental Particle Physics Group
Dr Anthea King, Postdoctoral Researcher (Astrophysics) with more speakers to be confirmed.

We would like extend an invite you, your students and their parents to attend the night. If you have any questions or would like to confirm attendance and any dietary requirements, please do not hesitate to ask! Looking forward to hearing from you! Please book your free tickets at https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/celebrating-women-in-physics-2015-university-of-melbourne-tickets-18709107444

YEAR 10, 11 & 12 MANAGED INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS (MIPS) APPOINTMENTS
I am endeavouring to catch up with the students that I have not yet seen for their Managed Individual Pathways appointments this year before the end of the year. If students would like to schedule an appointment they can do this via the home page as below.
Pathways News Continued....

Miss Tracey Jeffery
Mips Coordinator
LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Lions Youth of the Year is designed to encourage students interest in leadership and the qualities required to take an active and constructive role in the community. A high level of academic, leadership, sporting, public speaking and citizenship achievement is sought in its potential winners.

By emphasizing these qualities it hopes to provide outstanding role models for the youth of Australia and an overall increase in the confidence of young men and women.

More information is available at: www.lionsclubs.org.au/yoty

Bell Park Cricket Club
2015-16 Junior Program
MILO PROGRAM

Our club will run the Milo program for children aged 5-9 again this season on a Thursday night starting on 22nd October starting at 5pm.

Registration is $80
REGISTRATION
Saturday, September 19, 11am at Hamlyn Park, Calvert St at the clubrooms
Contact: President Rod Brown 0409 211 308 or email: rbrown@gordontafe.edu.au

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
AT WESTERN HEIGHTS SECONDARY COLLEGE

We’re looking for volunteers like you to help facilitate Western Heights Secondary College’s ‘Literature Circles’ program!

Are you looking for a volunteering opportunity that will ignite a passion for literacy?

Volunteers are needed for at least two hours a week, for a minimum of six months.

Full training will be provided and all sessions are supervised by teachers who will provide guidance and support.

Please contact Sarah Segal at sarah.segal@ardoch.org.au or on 03 9537 2414 for information about Literature Circles and how you can become a volunteer.

www.ardoch.org.au

RON NELSON MEMORIAL JUNIOR FISHING CLINIC
SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER, 2015
9.00AM - 1.00PM
DEAKIN UNIVERSITY
PIGDONS ROAD
WAURN PONDS
FREE ENTRY - BYO BAIT

For further information phone:
Ian Pickering 5211 1008
Or
John Hotchin on 5248 6817