YEAR 12 – CLASS OF 2016:
Congratulations to this group for continuing to provide excellent leadership throughout the college during this term. This certainly is an important time of the year for these students as they prepare for the final examination and assessment period in early November. With only three weeks of term 3 left, final class units of study are already underway in many classes, which leads onto the initial revision phase of this important year. We certainly wish them the best of luck in the preparation phase leading up to their exams, final portfolios or vocational assessments. A series of revision classes will occur in the upcoming September / October break; as a further support to the end of the year assessments – make preparation time count.

Go For It!
As a new college initiative to celebrate the ‘Class of 2016’, we have organised for a set of pavers to be stamped with every student’s name in a special ornamental design. This Year 12 recognition strategy will be placed in the centre of the school and will be added to each year for people to enjoy and view. I hope to be able to bring you a photo of the Year 12 group around this centerpiece in the next newsletter. In addition, a framed Year 12 – 2016 jumper is being created and this will be presented to the student group at the Year 12 valedictory ceremony occurring in term 4. This will take pride of place in the VCE centre and become a centerpiece of the college as we develop a wall of graduating classes from Western Heights College. Watch this space … Exciting times ahead.

PATHWAYS FAIR AND YEAR 9 INFORMATION NIGHT:
Over the last few weeks; a series of special pathway sessions have been held across Year 7 -12 to support and inform students and their families of possible opportunities and options to be considered for 2017 at the college. It was sensational to see so many students and parents attending these informative presentations.

Please make sure you take the time and make the effort to engage in conversation with teachers and learning community staff about the best possible pathways options for your journey into the 21st Century. We know from wide ranging research that informed pathway choices in the school environment place students exceptionally well for employment and future prospects in life.

Enjoy the moment!!
COLLEGE FACILITY UPDATES ... APPROVE AND UNDERWAY:
The College will be upgrading the learning spaces in all the learning communities to further develop the flexible learning approach for students in Year 7 to 12. As previously mentioned, the work will undertake to place internal walls and partitions strategically throughout the Learning Communities that will allow classes to operate as individual learning spaces (like the traditional classroom), or open up to provide collaborative spaces for classes or groups that want to work together. Flexibility at its best!!
The placement of these new additional walls and glass panels will support even further the ability of students to access personalised learning possibilities, as teachers will be able to easily set up changeable spaces for classes of students to develop the best learning approach.
This work has been approved by College Council, a selection process of building contractors has been completed with Mantec Projects Pty. Ltd being assigned the capital works. Currently a building permit is being submitted to the City of Greater Geelong Council and we expect building work will be underway during the September / October School break. Watch this space for future developments .... 3 dimensional mock ups of the proposed work give you some idea of what will take place.

Mr Scott Dellar
Principal.
YEAR 8 WRITING TASK:
Historiated initial (decorated first letter) senryu poetry.

Anneliese Combridge, Katy Lewis, Zac Azzopardi, Claire Green, Naomi Watson, Sam Darmenia, Moireach Campbell
We are currently in a very exciting stage of term 3 where students are selecting their subjects and course for Year 10 2017. We had excellent participation at the 2017 Information Evening this week to commence this process. Students have now commenced the ‘Course Counselling’ process with their Mentor Teacher. Parents and guardians are encouraged to have discussions around their student’s Pathway. During Focus on Thursday of weeks 7 & 8 students will have individual counselling meetings with their Mentor Teacher during class to support their selections. Please email Mentor Teachers if you have any questions. The 2017 Later Years Handbook and 2017 Vet Taster information is available online. If parents require hard copies please contact the Mentor Teacher, these have been made available for students to collect.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES:
Conference will be held on Thursday 15th September 4.00pm to 7.00pm and Friday 16th September 9.00am to 1.30pm.

YEAR 9 CAMP CHARNWOOD SEPTEMBER 7 TO 9:
There are still positions available for students to participate in this camp. We would encourage every student to take up the challenge and experience the benefits and fun of this excellent program.

QUEENSCLIFF EXCURSION FOCUS EXCURSION
‘I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE’:
On Thursday the 11th of August the entire Year 9 cohort set out on a community adventure, to tidy and respect the beautiful environment at Queenscliff. We shared plenty of smiles and giggles on the 40 minute bus trip to Queenscliff, and enjoyed the sensory outside. When we arrived the beach was calm and the weather delightful for an ideal trip away. We all interacted with one another and began to play many activities in the beautiful sun. There was volleyball, baseball, footy and of course the playground, which most of us adored! All together we had a marvellous time getting to know each other, and spending some time away from class. Finally the BBQ was ready, after our adventure playing around, we required a sausage or two to gain our energy once more. Everybody devoured the food and came back for more! Now it was time, for the major part of our day, the community project. First we gathered teams of two or more, and collected our empty rubbish buckets and tongs. We set off on a relaxing walk to pick up all the rubbish and bottle caps we could find. We successfully cleaned the local area of Queenscliff, and had some outright winners. Out of the two competition had finished, we counted our collections and decided on a winner. Mackie won the rubbish collection competition by finding 3 buckets full of rubbish! Jasmine, Gabriel, Maddie and Thomas were successful in winning the bottle cap competition, by picking up a total of 240 bottle tops! Overall everybody had a lovely day in the shining sun and we confidently made a difference to the environment! Well done to all the Year 9’s.

Jacque Worpel
Year 9 Student.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE YOU YANGS BUSHWALK
The Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh program has begun this semester. The group have had their first experience of the “journey” component of the award. Please see a piece from two students in this class:-

On Wednesday the 10th of August the class of Duke of Edinburgh Bronze went to the You Yangs to practise bushwalking for the hike that they will have to complete later in the year. The class of 19 enjoyed their experience as they took their time completing as many tracks as they could in the one day. They completed three tracks which were the East-West walk, Flinders Peak walk, and the Big Rock walk. The first walk they completed was the East-West walk which was a 4.5km walk. This walk started at the Turntable car park and took them on a loop around the You Yangs. The walk ended and they started the Flinders Peak walk, which is a 3.2km walk. This was an elevated path with steps every metre or so. Once they got to the top they had the chance to explore and have some snacks. After enjoying the view of the You Yangs the class went back down to the car park. From there they took a short bus ride to the Big Rock picnic area. Most of the students cooked their meals on a trangia, while the others enjoyed their packed lunches. While the boys were eating their lunch, the girls decided to make a fire in the barbeque pit. Once everyone finished their lunch, we put our stuff back in the bus and journeyed to the Big Rock. They first climbed the Big Rock, then went back to start the Big Rock walk. This walk took us around the Big Rock and back to the car park within half an hour. They then went back to the bus to go back to school and finish their journey.

By Faith Matthews and Lily Robinson
Year 9 Students

Mr Roger Conron
Year 9 Learning Community Leader.
The Year 10 Students have had the opportunity to complete a week of Work Experience. Our students worked through the process to develop a cold calling script and contacted potential employers. Our Year 10 students were able to pick their area of interest and gain a week of experience. Our students worked at a range of different industries like teaching, child care, mechanics, plumbers, carpenters, physios, in the law courts, hotels and many more. The College would like to thank all of the employers for their support of the program and also our parents for supporting your child with transport. Our students had a fantastic time and have come back to school very excited. Some of our students managed to get further opportunities from their work experience. We congratulate all for their fantastic work.

Our Year 10 students have the opportunity to attend Deakin to complete some activities and ask questions about the life of a University Student. Students will be bussed out to Deakin Waurn Ponds Campus for an activity and then transported to the Waterfront Campus of an afternoon session. Students have signed up for their program.

Mr Dean Greenhalgh
Year 10 Learning Community Leader.
VTAC APPLICATIONS:
It is terrific to note that a number of our Year 12 students have already registered with VTAC. You are reminded that applications for courses for 2017 are now open on the VTAC website. You will need your VCAA student number to create an account, the first step in the application process. Timely applications close on 29 September (cost $32.00). Late applications cost $100.00. Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) applications are also open and can be completed following a VTAC course application (close 4 October). Scholarship applications done through VTAC close on 14 October. You can change your VTAC course application as much as you wish at no extra charge.

We have had a number of workshops to support students with their applications and will continue to do so over coming weeks.

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<td>Monday August 29th</td>
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<td>VTAC Applications, Support Session- Lunchtime</td>
<td>Kerrie Hammond</td>
<td>VCE S1</td>
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<td>Evening – 7.00pm – 8.00pm</td>
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<td>Andrew McCarthy VGTC Local Employers</td>
<td>VCE Centre</td>
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<td>Tuesday September 6th</td>
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<td>VTAC Applications, Support Session- Lunchtime</td>
<td>Kerrie Hammond</td>
<td>VCE S1</td>
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<td>Thursday August 8th</td>
<td>Lunchtime</td>
<td>SEAS applications</td>
<td>Michelle Graham</td>
<td>VCE S1</td>
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WORK READINESS:
A number of our Year 12 students are planning to transition to employment in 2017. This can take many forms including full-time work, apprenticeships, traineeships and GAP year programs. We have a number of workshops scheduled in the near future to support students. Please note that there is an evening Work Readiness session for students and families on Wednesday August 31st, there will be a number of employers in attendance to provide an insight into employment, recruitment and selection.

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LATER YEARS INFORMATION EVENING AND PATHWAYS FAIR:
On Tuesday August 17th Western Heights College hosted our annual Later Years Information Evening and Pathways Fair. It was a wonderful evening and much of the success can be attributed to the many Year 11 and 12 students who volunteered their time to assist. These students arranged resources, acted as hosts and provided valuable student insights into particular courses and subjects for prospective students. Thank you to all involved your efforts were most appreciated.

PRACTICE EXAMS:
Unit 3 / 4 subject practice exams are scheduled for the last week of this term beginning Tuesday September 13th. Students will be distributed with a detailed timetable in the near future. VCAA examination rules will be applied to all practice exams. Students will be required to wear correct uniform.
REMAINING OPEN DAY DATES:
Sun 21 Aug – Box Hill (Lilydale campus); Deakin University (Waterfront & Waurn Ponds); University of Melbourne; Monash (Parkville)
Sun 28 Aug – ACU (Ballarat): Box Hill Institute (Box Hill); Deakin University (Burwood); Federation University; Victoria University (Footscray campus)

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE NEWS:
HOW CAN I ACCESS THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE? Students from a rural or isolated area or who have a disadvantaged financial background could be eligible for a guaranteed place at Melbourne by applying through ACCESS MELBOURNE – even if your ATAR is below the Clearly-in Rank. Eligibility checklist:
student must have completed an Australian Year 12 (or IB) in 2016
student is eligible for consideration in one or both of the categories ‘disadvantaged financial background’ and ‘from a rural or isolated area’
the student satisfies the prerequisite subjects for their chosen course
achieved an ATAR or notional ATAR of 78 or more for Design or Science, 80 or more for Arts, 88 or more for Commerce and 95 or more for Biomedicine.
See: https://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/access_melbourne_and_equity_programs

DO YOU HAVE AN AUDITION COMING UP?:
The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) and the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (MCM) offer Audition Preparation Workshops that will break down the audition process and equip you with information needed to succeed. These are practical sessions designed to provide you with the techniques and confidence to present yourself in the best light. Workshops are one or two day intensives and registrations are now open.
Available in: dance, jazz improvisation, music theatre and theatre. Go to:

MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS:
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE BERWICK CAMPUS OF MONASH? Monash has announced that it is closing its campus at Berwick. The good news is that it will taken over by Federation University (pending government approvals). Federation University is a combination of the former University of Ballarat and the former Gippsland campus of Monash University at Churchill. Federation University will offer 15 degree programs at Berwick in 2017 in the fields of business, education, nursing, IT and science. NOTE: Monash students enrolled at Berwick will continue to be taught by Monash staff and, subject to meeting the normal requirements, graduate with a Monash degree. Some Monash students may remain at Berwick in 2017, while others will transfer to Peninsula and Clayton campuses to complete their courses.

MONASH GUARANTEE NEW CATEGORY – As mentioned previously, Monash University offers guaranteed places in certain circumstances relating to where your school is located and to your financial circumstances. You will now be eligible for a guaranteed place at Monash if:
• you live in a low socio-economic area or
• your school is a Monash under-represented school or
• you have experienced financial disadvantage or
• you are an Indigenous Australian.
• You can enter your address into the Monash online calculator to find out if you qualify.
See: www.study.monash/how-to-apply/entry-schemes/the-monash-guarantee.

MONASH SCHOLARSHIPS – With Monash’s scholarship programs, students can access a range of services and financial assistance.
Merit scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement and have both financial and academic benefits. There is no application requirement as it is granted on the ATAR achieved, however, students must have Monash listed as at least one VTAC preference to be considered.
Equity scholarships are intended for those who identify as Indigenous Australian or Torres Strait Islander, or are currently experiencing financial hardships or disadvantage. Students must submit an application for equity scholarships through VTAC, along with necessary supporting documentation. Applications close on 14 October. See: www.vtac.edu.au/scholarships. For a comprehensive list and details: www.monash.edu.au/scholarships.
**MONASH PATHWAYS:** Pathway courses allow students who **may not reach the required ATAR or meet prerequisites**, to gain entry into Monash. The Diploma of Tertiary Studies (DoTS) and the Diploma of Higher Education (DoHE) are both equivalent to the first year of a university undergraduate degree and allow students to transition to the second year of their destination degree. Apply through VTAC. In addition, you must submit a Monash University Supplementary Information Form by 31 December.

**LA TROBE UNIVERSITY’S HALLMARK PROGRAM:**
Due to recent changes made to the hallmark program, individual hallmark courses will no longer be made available through the VTAC system. The hallmark program is now exclusive to students who receive the Vice Chancellor’s Excellence Scholarship. Students who have studied their first year at La Trobe who achieve at least a 75% Weighted Average Mark (WAM) also have the opportunity to apply for the hallmark program to commence in their second year of study.

**Library News**

Our College Library was recently lucky enough to host a visit from author Andrew Daddo who spent an hour with Year 7 and Year 8 students. Andrew is an accomplished young adult author with 25 books to his credit, as well as being a star of stage and screen, including recent appearances on I’m a Celebrity, get me out of here and The Great Outdoors. Andrew spoke to the students about his new novel One Step which is a story based around a teenage boy and his family, and the ups and downs that come with adolescent life, both at school and at home. It is an hilarious yet painfully poignant and insightful story into Australian family life, and I thoroughly recommend it to both students and their families. Andrew discussed how he goes about writing his books; where his ideas come from and how he makes the story come to life. Our students helped him write a story based on their experiences as children, complete with sound effects and hilarious character development. It was a great morning and one which our students fully engaged in. Thank you Andrew!

**VCA L News**

A group of VCAL students are doing a fundraiser to try to raise awareness of men’s cancer for pre-movember. Students have had the opportunity to guess how many jelly beans are in a jar for $1.00 per guess (maximum of 5 guesses). We have already been to each Learning Community, but if students would like the opportunity of another guess, please come to the VCE Building during recess or lunch between now and the end of August.

**Year 12 News Continued**

Mrs Kerrie Hammond
Year 12 Learning Community Leader.

With Year 10 students recently completing a week of work experience out in “the real world”, our College Library was pleased to welcome WHC student Anthony Mercuri for his work placement. Anthony thoroughly enjoyed the experience, serving both our College members and community members in many ways. He enjoyed learning how to use our three databases, processing returns and loans, filling requests from our reserved notifications, shelving resources and a myriad of other day-to-day tasks. In fact, Anthony enjoyed his time here so much that he is now assisting us regularly during recess and lunchtime. It was a pleasure to have Anthony here, and the Library certainly benefitted from his assistance!

Ms. Kerrie Sirotich
College Librarian
Adult Learners’ Week is 1\textsuperscript{st} – 8\textsuperscript{th} September
Come and join in the activities at Vines Road Community Hub.

Vines Road Community Centre, Vines Road Senior Citizen Club and Western Heights College have organised some workshops for you to join in.

See VRCC reception staff for details and bookings.
Phone 5277 9027 or email info@vinesroadcommunitycentre.org.au

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Face To Face With Road Trauma

Luke Robinson was only 19 in March 2010 when he died in a car crash at Lovely Banks, that left three friends injured. Five years on, Luke Robinson's family still reels...

For Luke's parents Norm and Leanne and his brother Jai, the grief and pain caused by Luke’s decision to speed on that day, is constant. The Robinson family are committed to not allowing Luke’s death to have been in vain. They are dedicated to passing on the message to young people about making sensible decisions when they climb behind the wheel of a car.

Geelong West St. Peter’s Football and Netball Club would like to invite Year 10-12 students and their parents to join our club members as the Robinson family talk about their experience and pass on their driver safety message. This presentation will take place at the West Oval clubrooms, Weddell Rd. North Geelong, on Tuesday 13th September at 7.00pm.

For more information or to RSVP (essential) please call Paul on 0425851701 or email gwsppresident@gmail.com.

We highly recommend this presentation for all young drivers and their parents.
Community News

CIY.CLAB
CODE IT YOURSELF

School Holiday Programs and After School Coding Clubs for Kids

GAME CODING CAMP
Learn the basics of computer coding and game creation. We teach you how to make your very first computer game. In just one day you will be able to put together your own custom game including graphics and basic coding to make it interactive. You can take your game home and continue to develop it or join CIY.Club and continue to develop your game with the assistance of coding experts.

CAMPS: 9am-3pm
Game Coding Camp – Monday 26th September
3D Printing & Design Camp – Monday 19th September

CLUBS:
August 19th – September 16th, 5 weeks
Weekly club on Friday, 4:00-5:00pm session

WHERE:
Vines Road Community Centre
37-81 Vines Road
Hamlyn Heights, Geelong Vic 3215

Visit www.CIY.Club for more information and to book your place.
Limited enrolments available so book early!
NGSODA Theatre Collective presents

Do I really want to see?

by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul

Directed and vocally directed by Adelle Gregory

Shenton Performing Arts Centre
Sept 23rd, 24th and 25th 2016

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.