Congratulations and good luck to our Year 12 student group, some of who begin their VCE examinations on Wednesday, with the English exam beginning this three week period of external examinations. VCAL, VET and non-scored VCE students continue to finalise project work and develop pathway opportunities by updating various employment documentation and skill sets.

I would like once again sincerely thank every year 12 student for their efforts in leading and supporting student initiatives and the school community throughout the year.

The 2016 College Year 12 Valedictory evening will be held on Wednesday 16th November at Costa Hall and involves over 350 guests. This event focuses on the achievement of this group over the last six years of secondary education, and is always an outstanding time to view and discuss the many achievements of students while at Western Heights College.

Another new tradition will be unpacked during this night with the College presenting the ‘Year 12 College Student Leadership team’ with an official framed and signed 2016 Year 12 jumper. This will be hung in the VCE Learning Community of the college to commemorate the ‘Class of 2016’ into the future. A photo will be placed in the next newsletter for your perusal.

This framed jumper, along with the official ‘Year 12 pavers’ at the front of the school symbolise a growing celebration of achievement and recognition; as we evolve further the vision, that is Western Heights College.

**Year 12 Highlights during 2016.**

- Achievement Focus Day Deakin University
- Health Focus Day
- Birthday Morning Teas
- Elevate Education Seminars
- University of Melbourne SWOT Lectures
- Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea Fundraiser
- Pre-Movember Fundraiser
- Celebration Day
- Birthing Kits Community Project
- Senior Girls Sporting Teams – Hockey and Football
- Industry visits to Timbertruss and Avalon airport.
- Driver education programme with RYDA
- Magistrates Court Visits
- Barwon Prison Excursion
- Construction Induction Card

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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**Year 12 – 2016**

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 24th October</td>
<td>Duke camp Monday 24th to Wednesday 26th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 25th October</td>
<td>Year 7 Supatramp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26th October</td>
<td>Year 12 VCE Written Exams commence – English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3rd November</td>
<td>Course Confirmation Day 12:30pm — 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9th November</td>
<td>2017 Year 8 Information Evening — 7pm Red Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th November</td>
<td>Year 12 Graduation Ceremony — Costa Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7th December</td>
<td>College Awards Night — GPAC Playhouse Theatre 7pm Start</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**24 HR COLLEGE ABSENCE LINE**

Please phone 5277 1177 to report all student absences and select option two.
Western Heights College - YEAR 12 ‘CLASS OF 2016’ Graduates.

On behalf of the College community, we congratulate you on the great achievements you have accomplished during this twelve-month period and wish you well with the end of year examinations and final year reports.

We look forward to hearing what 2017 and beyond … holds for you all.

**A number of students who commenced in 2016 were successful in gaining full time employment throughout the year, and we continue to hear reports of success and accomplishment as they start their journey into a defined career. We would like to congratulate them on their successful transition into the workforce.**

**College Facility upgrades … Stage One works complete.**

The College has upgraded the learning spaces in all the learning communities this school break to further develop the flexible learning approach for students in Year 7 to 12.

This stage 1 works was completed over the September / October break, and has seen the placement of internal walls and partitions throughout the Learning Communities, allowing classes to operate as individual learning spaces (like the traditional classroom), or be opened 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.

Have a look at the photos of the spaces in action … Stage Two works will be completed over the Christmas break.
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT CONTINUED

Annual College Awards Night / Playhouse Theatre (GPAC) – Wednesday 6th December 2016
This year’s awards evening will again be a “night to remember” and we are looking forward to spending this wonderful night of celebration with you on Wednesday 6th December at 7:00pm; where we celebrate the sensational achievements of students across all levels of the college during 2016.

Mr Scott Dellar
Principal.

Course Confirmation Day

Is your child in Year 9, 10, 11 or 12 in 2017?
You are invited to make your appointments for 2017 Course Confirmation at www.whc.vic.edu.au
You will be aware that your child has previously selected their course for 2017, on line, towards the end of last term.
The students are all keen to find out their courses for 2017 and this will be done through a meeting with your child’s Mentor teacher on Course Confirmation Day, Thursday 3 November, 2016. During the 15 minute appointment you will receive course confirmation, resource and fees list for 2017 and details of the 2017 Transition Program later in the term.

Students currently in Years 8-11 will only attend school on Course Confirmation Day only for their appointment with their mentor and parents/guardians. Year 7 students will have classes as normal. Appointments are available between 12:30 and 7:30pm and are 15 minutes in duration. The appointments can be made through the parent portal www.whc.vic.edu.au under the Resources / bookings tab, from 8.00am Wednesday 26 October.

Course Confirmation Sessions will be held:
2017 Year 9 meet in the DAT (yellow building) West
2017 Year 10 meet in the DAT (yellow building) East
2017 Year 11 meet in the VCE Centre (red building) South
2017 Year 12 meet in the VCE Centre (red building) West

Please make a time that suits so that you are able to attend with your child as this will ensure both yourself and your child can prepare for 2017. If you have any queries please contact your child’s principal (Ms Robyn Anderson - Middle Years or Ms Tami O’Hare – Later Years) on 5277 1177.

Ms Robyn Anderson
Middle Years Principal.
**Year 7**

It has been an exciting semester in cooking so far. Students have made triple decker steak sandwiches, fried rice, chicken souvlakis and French toast just to name a few items. The students confidence and skills are growing and the quality of the food has greatly increased. We have just concluded the scone design challenge, where students designed, made and then evaluated their own flavoured scones. There were a few interesting creations, the blue scones with white chocolate, mint and BBQ sauce was an interesting combination. The next assessment is the mystery box challenge, this will be a fun one. As always, please ask your children what they are cooking and encourage them to practice at home.

Luke Scott

**Year 8**

8C Single Writing Session – Descriptive Writing

The flames danced upon the ceiling, silently licking the walls, engulfing them in its scorching embrace. The shrill cry of the smoke alarm echoed around the house, alerting anyone who could hear, but it was no use. The golden orange hue was glowing in the night, the dangerous flames were so pretty, burning the house. The walls were caving in, crumpling to the ground in puffs of ash and fire. A beautiful disaster.

Emily Peacock

Flames were spreading fast. Nowhere to get out, trapped in my room, metres from death.

Patrick Stewart

Millions of tiny snowflakes fell from the sky, dancing delicately in the wind. Children ran from their warm homes to play in the cold snow. They dragged along small sleds in the hope of finding a hill they could slide down. They ran, giggling and laughing, wearing jackets and mittens to protect them from the freezing wind.

Laura Dimovski

Beep’, as I sit in the hot car. Oh, the summer’s day; sweating, panting. Cars beeping, people yelling, cars hardly budging.

Jai Diprose

**Year 9**

Year 9 Students are completing interviews for Special Entry Programs leading up to Course Conformation day later this term. This day will be class free with students required to come in with parent or guardian to receive their 2017 year 10 program, parents will be notified of this date in the coming weeks.

Port Program excursion Wednesday 2/11 – all students will have be completing a half day excursion that provides information about shipping in Corio Bay. Students will be on a boat for part of this excursion.

On Wednesday 7th October, twenty seven Year Nine students left for their yearly camp, this time to Charnwood which is one hour from Mansfield. We participated in many fun activities such as abseiling, orienteering, bike riding and bush walking. At abseiling we walked about 2km into the bush to a giant rock where some of us abseiled down. It was quite a nerve inducing experience. We also enjoyed some fun night games including hide and seek in the wonderful forests of Victoria or a sensory walk. In the sensory walk you were blindfolded and held onto a rope where you were in partners you had to make you way through the forest using your other senses. Personally this activity was my favourite.

Everyone slept in cabins equipped with bunk beds and an ensuite. For breakfast and dinner there was a duty group who set the tables and organised the meals. Our meals consisted of spaghetti bolognaise and a chicken roast for dinner, pies and hotdogs for lunch and eggs and pancakes for breakfast. To supervise us we had three camp members; Dave, Paige and Bec who were great fun. Overall it was great fun and would definitely do it again.

Holden Earl, 9E.
The end of the year is coming quickly and the Year 10 students are busy completing all of their assessment tasks. Support sessions are being run during lunch times to support the year 10 students with their learning.

Year 10 exams will run Wednesday 23rd, Thursday 24th and Friday 25th November. The exam timetable is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 23rd November</th>
<th>Thursday 24th November</th>
<th>Friday 25th November</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00-10:40</td>
<td>9:00-10:40</td>
<td>9:00-10:40</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 English</td>
<td>10 ADVISORY</td>
<td>10 Performing Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 English</td>
<td>10 ADVISORY</td>
<td>10 English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Health for Life</td>
<td>10 ADVISORY</td>
<td>10 Chem/Physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Dance</td>
<td>10 ADVISORY</td>
<td>10 Racquet Sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Indoor Furniture</td>
<td>10 ADVISORY</td>
<td>10 Fitness for Men</td>
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<td>10F2</td>
<td>10 Mechatronics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>FOSTD</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:10-12:50</td>
<td>11:10-12:50 Revision</td>
<td>11:10-12:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Math A</td>
<td>UNIT 2 FOOD TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>10 Math B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Math B</td>
<td>UNIT 2 BUSINESS MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>10 Math C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Science</td>
<td>UNIT 2 STUDIO ART</td>
<td>10 English Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Art</td>
<td>UNIT 2 PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>10 Modern World and Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Metal Joining</td>
<td></td>
<td>10 Food and Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:40-3:20</td>
<td>1:40-3:20 Exam</td>
<td>1:40-3:20 Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 ENGLISH</td>
<td>UNIT 2 BUSINESS MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>10 Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 ENGLISH</td>
<td>UNIT 2 BUSINESMANAGEMENT</td>
<td>10 Games Sense</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 MATHS B</td>
<td>UNIT 2 STUDIO ART</td>
<td>10 Media and Magazine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Legal Eagle</td>
<td>UNIT 2 PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>10 Cooking for Pleasure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Outdoor Furniture</td>
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<td>10 Metal Processing</td>
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Year 11

Welcome back to what will be a very full – and in some cases a very stressful time of the year. This week we are again moving our focus back onto uniform – especially white socks, black “polishable” shoes and sports uniform.

With only a short time 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. At all other time 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. This is especially the case for English, as passing three English units is a prerequisite for being eligible for a student to be awarded VCE.

If you are concerned about your child in one or more subjects, please call the mentor or the classroom 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.

Most importantly, students need to ensure they are keeping up to date with their work and have completed all past required tasks. Have a friendly conversation with your child to ensure that they have the work in hand and it is not causing undue stress.

Finally, as we head towards exams – it is a good time to give a few helping steps to ensure the preparation is as best as it can be.

1. Do practice exams – most teachers will give out previous exams or they can be found by googling “VCAA exams” and the subject name. Also, students should be reading the examiners reports as they give some good bits of information.

2. Sleep – students need to ensure they have enough sleep – not too much not too little - to ensure the brain is working efficiently.

3. Water – dehydration can decrease the brains working power by up to 30% or even more.

4. Study without distractions – keep the TV, Phone and Music out of the equation to ensure focus is on the course work.
Year 11

VCAL students work with Nathan Feldman on the kitchen garden complete with wood fired pizza oven. This week the class has managed to light their first test fire in the oven – well done!

This year in Intermediate VCAL we have been working on building a community kitchen garden that includes a wood fired pizza oven. In the first three weeks of this term we have been able to successfully build our wood oven. We are all looking forward to being able to start cooking some pizzas in the oven! We now are working towards finishing the garden for the grand opening in November.

Cooper Cannell
**Year 12**

**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: [http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/pages/vce/exams/timetable.aspx#written](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/pages/vce/exams/timetable.aspx#written)

All exams will take place in the VCE Centre

**Graduation**
A reminder that graduates are required at Costa Hall, Deakin University for the graduation ceremony at 2.30pm on Wednesday 16th November. The Graduation Ceremony commences at 6.00pm.

**Slate De-Commissioning**
All Year 12 students are required to have their slates decommissioned. This requires students to book an appointment at the Network Office between October 28th and 30th. This process takes 45 minutes.

**VET Dance Assessment**
Congratulations to Adam Freestone and Kayla Macleod who completed their final assessment for Certificate II in Dance. This involved each student performing two solo dances before assessors at Danceworld Studios in Melbourne. Both Kayla and Adam enjoyed the experience enormously and received positive feedback.

Congratulations on your efforts.

**VCE Theatre Studies – Performance Exam**
Year 12 students attended their Unit 4 Theatre Studies Performance Exams at the ‘Court House’ Geelong on Wednesday 12th October.

Students were required to interpret a chosen prescribed monologue through acting or design. They then performed their interpretation for a panel of assessors for their exam.

This was a very nerve racking experience for the students involved and they are congratulated for their efforts.

Two students who prepared and performed exceptional interpretations were Katy Newell and Alex Blain. They worked tirelessly throughout the semester to develop their re-contextualisations of the classic ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ by William Shakespeare.

Katy presented her monologue as ‘Titania’ and Alex chose ‘Oberon’, both presenting a framing statement and five minute monologue. An impressive effort!

Mrs. Kerrie Hutchinson
EVENTS

Hamlyn Banks enjoyed participating in the Readers Cup and Science Spectacular

We had “IRON CLAY” play for us last week
PARENT/CARER INFORMATION SESSION
WHERE: VINES RD COMMUNITY HUB

WHEN: 27th OCT 2016  630-830pm  (light supper provided)
Target audience-Parents/Carers of students in year 5 to year 8

Alcohol energy drinks and other drugs are part of the world we live in. Both their lives ‘living directly’ and ‘online’ see them exposed to images, themes and language that often includes alcohol energy drinks and other drugs whether legal or illegal. This session is a chance for parents and carers to come together and look at how drugs are portrayed in our community as well as exploring themes and strategies that can help them discuss alcohol energy drinks and drugs as a family. The session runs for 2 hours is interactive and aims to answer all your questions- if we can’t we will do our best to pass you on to someone who can.

TOPICS INCLUDE
Looking out for your mates, facts and myths, the importance of strong role modeling, conversation starters for home, the impact of drugs on Young People and their developing brains

WHAT PARENTS/CARERS WHO HAVE ATTENDED OUR SESSIONS IN THE PAST HAVE SAID……
‘Very friendly & refreshing’ … ‘Open and nonjudgmental’ … ‘Thank you on such an informative evening’ .... ‘Very well presented and related back to ‘normal’ situations’.... ‘Having a plan/ what is normal starting the conversation/realising you can contact a professional’.... ‘How to open the conversations that I knew I wanted to talk about but didn’t know how to start’ .... ‘What is your plan!!’

To book please use try booking online link below: (highlight link then click on open hyperlink. Go to BUY TICKETS, type in Creating Conversations then follow the prompts). This is a FREE event.
https://www.trybooking.com/235560?_ga=1.263997898.798966280.1475806985

Any queries contact Leigh at BATForce via email ryac@batforce.org.au.