PRINCIPAL TEAM REPORT

The 2017 School Year Commences
Welcome back to the start of the 2017 school year, and particularly to those students and parents who are for the first time becoming part of our College community.

It has been a smooth and positive start to the school year…. Western Heights College is proudly on display with a new learning space design that supports our strong culture targeted at SUCCESS and a platform based on developing our ‘$million student mantra’.

The College mission is to provide a student-centered learning community that offers exciting and extensive pathways to facilitate 21st Century learning.

The College motto ‘Learn … Believe … Achieve’ and the College values of ‘Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Achievement and Inspiration’ underpin all aspects associated with the high expectation agenda across the College. SENSATIONAL!!!

SCHOOL MOTTO
Learn … Believe … Achieve

MISSION STATEMENT
Western Heights College is a student-centered learning community that offers exciting and extensive pathways to facilitate 21st Century learning.

MORAL PURPOSE
Western Heights College … prides itself on the educational opportunities delivered for students, as we nurture the development of socially respectful and responsible global citizens.
FROM THE COLLEGE PRINCIPAL - SCOTT DELLAR

VISION FOR STUDENTS

Western Heights College students

- are innovative, adaptive and resilient learners, curious of the environment around them
- are motivated lifelong learners who strive to reach their full potential
- are socially responsible, being respectful, compassionate and tolerant for others
- are literate, numerate and technologically capable, able to adapt to a rapidly changing world
- work collaboratively to solve problems with a positive growth mindset

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLEGE COMMUNITY VALUES</th>
<th>DESCRIPTORS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>Treating ourselves and others with consideration, being courteous at all times and acknowledging diversity and rights of others.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Achievement</td>
<td>Striving to do our best, being dedicated to learning and reaching our goals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrity</td>
<td>Being honest and acting ethically, ensuring consistency between words and actions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td>Taking ownership of our behaviour and actions, contributing in a positive way.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspiration</td>
<td>Working together, communicating effectively to inspire and support each other.</td>
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Western Heights College – Student Support Structure

The strategic change embedded last year to our College structure continues to evolve in 2017, with the College now broken up into 3 ‘Learning Villages’, across the 7-12 framework. Students now have a set and structured journey through the school, with full knowledge of where to next as they for fill their six years of secondary schooling.

A staff team will be aligned to each group of students and provide a comprehensive Pastoral Care approach across the school, where staff at all levels of the village will have a strong knowledge and understanding of their students; both as an individual and as a learner in the 21st Century. The concept is based on strong evidence and research and follows the adage …. ‘It takes a Village to bring up a child’ … something we know provides high level success for the students of today!!

The ‘Learning Village’ platform has been put in place to further advance and support the school improvement strategies of our current College Strategic Plan (2016 – 2019); 2017 will see a stronger and more individualised learning culture continue to grow as we unpack further the vision that is Western Heights College.
College / Resource Upgrades
A lot has happened in readiness for the 2017 school year as outlined below:
Stage two of the School building program has been completed. This will be fantastic for our students as it completes the facilitation of the 3 learning villages across the college. ‘State of the Art’ facilities … Incredible earning and collaborative spaces … Magic stuff!!
Diversitat as a major Community training organisation has formed a long term partnership with the College and will develop an Adult learning facility. This will translate to a variety of increased opportunities for our students and the wider community. Work around this exciting vision is already underway and should be fully operational by the start of term 2; watch this space for further updates. Painting of classrooms across the college has been finalised, and has included a series of office spaces, specialised laboratories and student areas. This forms part of our ongoing maintenance program, which sees all internal walls and learning spaces painted bi-annually. All class rooms in the learning villages have had new ICT monitor upgrades, with the final areas being scheduled for completion in mid-February. Thanks to all involved.

College Student Leadership Executive Team – Year 12 group.
Congratulations again to this group. We look forward to working with them on a series of major school and student initiatives across the year.
The 2017 College Student Leadership Executive Team comprises of 14 Year twelve students; two Captains, two Vice Captains and 10 Student leaders.

The duly elected 2017 Student Leadership Executive Group is as follows:

College Captains

Phuong Quach
Hannah O’Malley

College Vice Captains

Thomas Slee
Shannon Simpson

College Leaders

Ford Barnes (Absent)
Quentin Marshall
Cameron Platt
Matilda Wilson
James Woof
Hayden Lowther
Megan Taylor
Lauren Love
Adela Disher
Farzan Karkaria
Student uniform
As you are aware, Western Heights College has a Student Uniform Policy which has been passed by our school council and is current policy. All parents are asked to support this policy and to ensure that students attend our school in the correct uniform.

This policy, as seen below, very clearly details the dress code which is applicable to all students.

The purpose of the College dress code is:

- To enhance the reputation of the College.
- To assist in developing a sense of individual pride in students and promote development of their personal presentation skills.
- To promote a sense of collective identity within the College.
- To promote individual student safety, group security and reasonable standards of health and hygiene.

It is a condition of enrolment that all students wear the College uniform.
Summer or winter uniform may be worn at the discretion of the student.

**Personal appearance:** Please note this section

- Hair is to be neat and clean. In some circumstances students may be required to wear hair nets or other forms of cover for reasons of safety or health.
- All clothing is to be clean, neat and in good repair.
- Appearance and/or apparel to be such that they are not likely to distract any person from classroom learning.
- When wearing casual clothes, such as for an excursion or a mufti-day, it is to be appropriate to the circumstances e.g. an excursion may require solid footwear. Tee-shirts or other items are not to have extreme or offensive diagrams and/or statements.
- Watches and religious symbols such as a crucifix are permitted. No other jewellery is allowed.
- **Facial piercings** – small nose piercing consisting of a small stud only – no rings, lip, septum or eyebrow piercings. Taping of piercing accoutrements will not be accepted as a substitute for their removal, as taping can constitute a health and safety risk of equal magnitude to the accoutrement itself.
- A simple stud or sleeper for ear piercings.
- Minimal levels of make-up only.
- Only students observing the Dress Code or who have an approved exemption will be able to represent the College in the community.

College Blazers have been added to the dress code as an optional addition, ties will also be available later this term. Magic stuff!! These are highly subsidised until June 30 (mid-year) … normally they retail at $169.95 … but until mid-year will be able to be purchased at a subsidised price of $100. Great value. Thanks to School Council for supporting this new initiative.

Will Homan and Ruby Evans (Year 11) displaying the new WHC Blazers
New School Zone

The College Precinct site has been broken into two zones for easier and more effective use from the start of this year. An education zone (Western Heights College) and a community zone for various community user groups and public access. The Western Heights College zone will operate from the Community hub Library across the central open area (next to the VCAL community garden & PAF) then through the Southern end of the oval. The College car park now enters from Carey Street.

2017 Bike lock up area

As a result of the old bike rack facility now being part of the community zone of the precinct, we will now use the cage area at the DAT building (yellow) as the lockable area for bikes. This is more accessible for students and will provide a greater level of monitoring for student bikes.

Could you please remind your son or daughter to bring a lock for their bike each day, they can then be locked to the inside of the fenced area. This provides further protection and safety for these personal possessions.
**FROM THE COLLEGE PRINCIPAL - SCOTT DELLAR**

- **Student Hours of Attendance**
  All students are asked to be at school at **8:45am**, 15 minutes before the first lesson at **9:00am**.
  Students are to remain onsite until classes end at 3:20pm each day.
  The **School cafe** is now available for all student at recess and lunchtime.
  It should be noted, that students should not leave the school unless prearranged with the college and collected by parents.
  **Year 12 students have the special privilege** of being able to visit the local shopping area during lunchtime as part of endorsed school council policy. **This privilege for the Year 12 group only.**
  **All student in Year 7 -11** must remain onsite at all times during the school day (9:00am – 3:20pm).

- **School Council Elections**
  We are looking forward to working with you in 2017 to support your child/children to have a happy, fulfilling and successful school year.
  Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time to seek clarification, raise a concern or offer your support as a parent helper, parent support is always welcomed.
  Being on School Council is also a great way to be involved and to have a say in the operations and direction of the College responsible for the education of your children, so please give joining our College Council some serious thought.

**School Council elections** will take place over the next month. A parent nomination form is attached in this newsletter.

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<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>a) Notice of election and call for nominations</td>
<td>Wednesday 6th February 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Closing date for nominations</td>
<td>Thursday 23rd February 2017 @ 4pm</td>
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<td>c) The date by which the list of candidates, nominator and seconder will be displayed</td>
<td>Friday 24th February 2017</td>
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<td>d) The date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed</td>
<td>Friday 24th February 2017</td>
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<td>e) Close of ballot</td>
<td>Friday 3rd March 2017</td>
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<td>f) Vote Count</td>
<td>Friday 3rd March 2017</td>
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<td>g) Declaration of ballot</td>
<td>Friday 3rd March 2017</td>
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<td>h) Tentative first council meeting to appoint Community members (the principal will preside)</td>
<td>Monday 20th March 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>i) Tentative second council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)</td>
<td>Monday 20th March 2017</td>
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Scott Dellar  
Principal  
Western Heights College
I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the Western Heights College Council.

Name...........................................................................................................................................

Residential address .........................................................................................................................

....................................................................................................................................................

Home phone: .................................................................................................................................

Business phone: ............................................................................................................................

Email: ...........................................................................................................................................

I am the parent/guardian of ......................................................, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training:

   Yes / No (please circle)

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above named College Council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate: ............................................................ Date: .............................................
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.

The Wednesday Breakfast Program

Western Heights Secondary College (8am-8.50am) is presented in partnership with Western Heights Douglass St. Uniting Church via Mission Outreach. Nominal charges apply. Toasties, fruit juice pack and fresh fruit cost $1.00 per serve.

This program would not be possible without the long standing generosity of Brumby’s Bakery Minerva Road & now also North Geelong Food Bank.
KICKSTART AND ALL NATIONS REGIONAL TRIAL DAY

Note: Please bring runners for training

To be eligible for the Kickstart program, participants must come from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background.

To be eligible for the All Nations program, participants must be born overseas.

To be eligible for both programs, participants must be between 14-15 years old (born 2002-2003)

Website: www.aflvic.com.au/indigenous
Facebook: www.facebook.com/aflvictoria.indigenousprograms

Website: www.aflvic.com.au/multicultural
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AFLMulticulturalProgram
Twitter: https://twitter.com/AFL.diversity
The details of the program are below for your reference.

**What: Kickstart and All Nations Programs**

**Where: Deakin University Sports Precinct (Soccer Pitch)**

**When: Wednesday February 15th 4pm – 6pm – a bbq will be provided after the trials.**

The purpose of Kickstart is to increase the participation of indigenous footballers in the TAC Cup program, therefore providing them with the best chance at progressing into the AFL. Kickstart is now in its 8th year, and Victoria has provided many young talents into the AFL system through this program. These young men include the likes of Jay Kennedy-Harris, Jarman Impey, Jade Gresham and several more.

All Nations began in 2014 (in its 4th year) and is based off of the Kickstart model, however targets overseas born participants. All Nations also targets at increasing the number of players born overseas in the TAC Cup program.

Both the Kickstart and All Nations program have been specifically designed to use football as a vehicle to promote awareness in participation, health, education and employment to Indigenous communities. What makes these programs stand out from the rest is it not only focus on football. Culture and identity is another aspect that makes this program so strong.

AFL Victoria, in conjunction with AFL Barwon and the Geelong Cats are hoping to get as many eligible participants (see flyer for eligibility) to the trials as possible. This trial will also help AFL Barwon and the Geelong Cats Next Gen Academy programs identify talented indigenous and multicultural talent that may participate in programs throughout the 2017 season, on top of KickStart and All Nations.

If there is any other questions please feel free to contact Will McGregor on 0407 310 907. AFL employee David Rodan will also be available to provide quotes and comments on the overall program if you wish to contact him (0405 956 767).

Please find the link to the AFL Victoria website that hosts all trials [http://www.aflvic.com.au/blog/2017/01/31/kickstart-nations-trial-dates-announced/](http://www.aflvic.com.au/blog/2017/01/31/kickstart-nations-trial-dates-announced/). This will also be added to the AFL Barwon website and promoted through our social media channels, football clubs and all contacts today and tomorrow.

If anymore content is required please feel free to let me know. AFL Barwon very much appreciates if this can be promoted for us.