Minister Merlino, with Ceilidh, Cameron, Caitlin and Ms Mary Anne Thomas MP

Minister of Education, Mr Merlino visits Daylesford Secondary College to discuss progress of the College building plans

COMING EVENTS
Eureka Cross Country 27 May
Fab Food Day – School Canteen 28 May
Concert Band Music Camp 28-29 May.
Year 11 Exams 5, 9 & 11 June and GAT Exams 10 June
We have had a busy few weeks recently with a number of visits, many planning and review meetings, some national testing, a cross-country run and a visit by the Grade 5 and 6 students. It was pleasing to hear that students in Years 7 and 9 were prepared to put in the effort to do their best at NAPLAN last week. The results are a snapshot of achievement, yet help build a picture of individual and school attainment.

**YEAR 5-6 VISIT**

We had about 160 Year 5 and 6 students spend a day at our College yesterday. They participated in a range of activities throughout the day and, after breaking into groups, enjoyed a ‘normal’ school day. Judging by the comments of the students as they departed, they enjoyed the day and learnt a little about how secondary schools operate. Our Year 7-8 Learning Community Managers, Penny Ellis and Kerrie Brunt, have been busy showing prospective Year 7, 2016 students around the College. If you know of anyone interested in attending Daylesford Secondary next year, please contact us as soon as possible to arrange a tour.

**SELF-EVALUATION; YOUR SCHOOL, YOUR SAY.**

It was pleasing to note that quite a few parents took the opportunity to have input to our school self-evaluation by completing the online survey. We also had parents join us for a series of parent forums to gain views about current performance of the College. Key questions were addressed and wide-ranging discussions were held on how our school can improve over the next three to four years. Your ideas and comments will be added to the evidence being gathered for our self-evaluation. See the report at the end of this newsletter.

**STAGE 2 REBUILDING**

As noted on the front page, the Hon. Minister of Education Mr Merlino and the Local Member of Parliament, Ms Mary Anne Thomas MP visited us on Wednesday to discuss progress on planning for the $10million rebuild. In the short time since the announcement, a College Council sub-committee has been active in undertaking various parts of the planning process. We have also met with regional officers to discuss a range of ideas and I have attended a regional briefing on the next steps in our rebuild project. Many ideas and opinions are being sought and offered but no decisions have been made at this point in time.

**COMING UP**

Some important events and activities are coming up over the next few weeks. Of particular importance is the GAT (General Achievement Test). The GAT is a three-hour test of general knowledge and skills and must be undertaken by all students doing any VCE or scored VCE VET Units 3 and 4 study this year. All the best to our students involved in the GAT this year. We also have the music camp coming up next week. This camp, to be held at Kyneton, is a feature of our music program and is an exciting part of music at Daylesford Secondary College. Next week, also, we have a special Fab Food Day. This special feature is being organised through the SRC in conjunction with Hepburn Health Service and is designed to promote healthy eating. Orders have already been taken; it’s just going to be a matter of eating and enjoying next Thursday.
College Working Bee & The Green Team

The next College working bee will take place on Friday 29th May from 3:30pm-5:30pm. All parents and students are invited to come along and help out. This working bee will have an environmental theme to it and so make sure to wear your gum boots and bring along some gloves!

The working bee will also see the launch of the College’s new Green Team. Miss Taylor and Miss Woodrofe have assembled a team of eco-warriors comprising of 20 Year 7 to 12 students who are all passionate about the environment and sustainability. We look forward to seeing them in action at the working bee!

At the end of the working bee we will have a BBQ tea cooked for us by the SRC students.

Digital Technologies and Electronic Devices

It has been brought to our attention that some students may be recording students and teachers without their knowledge during school time. The College wants to make clear to all parents and carers that we take such behaviour extremely seriously. As per our Digital Technologies and Electronic Devices Policy “the use of mobile phones, iPads, MP3 players and similar devices can be very disruptive to the learning environment of some students. These devices are therefore not permitted during class time at our College, unless specific permission to use the device for the primary purpose of learning is granted by the staff member”. We are currently reminding all students of our Policy and highlighting to them the possible consequences. The College would very much appreciate it if all parents and carers could reiterate this message at home. If you have any queries or concerns about your son/daughter being recorded then please contact Mr MacPhail to discuss further.

NETBOOK PAYMENT REMINDER

For all Year 7 students who are currently leasing a College netbook this is a friendly reminder that the Term 2 payment of $50.00 is now due, if you haven’t already paid.

For all students in Years 8 to 12 who are leasing a netbook please make sure that Terms 1 and 2 payments are up to date.

The netbook lease is $50.00 per term, payable at the beginning of each term.

If you have any questions please contact the office on 5348 2367.

Thank You

Lisa Brewer
Business Manager
DSC’s Green Team

A big thank you to all those people who expressed an interest in being part of the green team and came along to our first meeting. The bigger the Green Team the more we can achieve together! Some of you offered to help deliver a PD to staff next week and we will bring you up to speed before then. Some of you will hopefully help with the next school working bee for a couple of hours after school on Friday 29th May.

The theme for the working bee is sustainability so see if you can encourage a few friends to work with us and let’s get started – we have lots of ideas!!

Sports/PE/Outdoor Education

Year 9 Outdoor Ed Camp

Recently the Year 9 Outdoor Education class attended an overnight camping trip in the Daylesford area.

Outdoor Education Camp:

Students had the experience of cooking their dinner on trangia's in the dark, rock climbing, spotlight tiggy, 7km bushwalk, canoeing and paddle boating. We were very lucky not to be washed out.

Luca and Alex - Lake Jubilee

Student highlights; ‘a couple of students capsizing in Lake Jubilee, ‘everyone working together to achieve a goal,’ ‘orienteering went slightly pear shaped when some students didn’t read the map properly,’ and ‘being woken up at 6am.’ All in all a great experience for everyone involved, as you can see by the photos. Thank you to Mr Roberts who also attended the camp and the owners of Jubilee Lake for their friendly welcoming.

Luca taking on a high challenge
PE: Eye in the Sky Program

Last Friday the Year 12 PE students, along with some Year 11’s and Year 9’s, participated in the Eye in the Sky program, ran by the Geelong Biolab. The staff from the Biolab visited the students at the College, following up on a previous visit to Geelong. The students participated in a game of netball with GPS devices attached to them, looked at movement patterns through the use of technology, and used Go Pro’s around the court to film the match. Students could look at their heart rate, speed, how far they had travelled, all whilst being on the side of the court. It was a brilliant program that we will now utilize the data back in the classroom. In coming months, we will be able to run programs across all year levels through the Biolab.

Gemma Gill - Outdoor Education.

Senior Learning Community

SENIOR NEWS:

- **Laptops** – all senior students are expected to have laptops in their classes. They can either purchase a school laptop or bring their own device from home. If students choose to bring their own device there will be a small fee to connect it to the school network. It is important that your child is bringing their laptop to each class to ensure they are not missing out on any important learning opportunities.

- **Exams** – Year 11 exams will be on the 5th, 9th and 11th June. All Year 11 parents should have received a letter about this and your child will have received an email with their exam timetable. There is also a Year 11 exam timetable at the end of the newsletter.

- **GAT (General Achievement Test)** – is compulsory for all students enrolled in a unit 3/4 subject. It will be held Wednesday 10th June from 10am – 1:15pm in the Senior Centre. All students enrolled in a unit 3/4 subject should have received a letter in the mail outlining details of the GAT.

- **Study help** – the senior centre is open Tuesday nights after school from 3.30 – 4.30 for senior students to study with assistance of staff. All Year 11 & 12 students are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

VCE English Tutor Available

Please contact Maureen Cooper for more information – 0433 938 701

Reminder: Permission To Drive To School

Students who want to drive to and from school must make an appointment to see Mr Holmes and will need all relevant documentation completed and filed at school.

Reminder: Signing In & Out

Students who have study periods for periods 1 & 2 or 5 & 6 and would like to study from home need to see Mrs Olver or Ms Kirby and have relevant documents filled out. Please note, students will not be granted an ongoing lunch pass.

Absences

Ring the office on 5348 2367, any time after 8.00am if your child is going to be absent.

School Uniform

Hoodies are not to be worn at school. This includes before and after school.

Mathematics

**AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION**

The Australian Mathematics Competition is happening in Term 3. Students interested in participating in the competition will need to see their Maths teacher or Miss Violante. Cost of the competition is $4:00, which can be paid to your Maths teacher.

After School MATHS Help

Maths teachers are available to help students with their homework or other maths work after school every **Tuesday 3:30 to 4:30**. Students should bring their maths work and necessary equipment to B4.

MATHS CHALLENGE COMPETITION

The Maths Challenge Competition closed on Monday 18th of May. The Maths faculty will like to take the opportunity to congratulate the students who participated. Results will be available in early Term 3.
The Latest Australian Drug Foundations’ Alcohol and Drug Fact Sheet

Effects of caffeine

There is no safe level of drug use. Use of any drug always carries some risk. It’s important to be careful when taking any type of drug.

Caffeine affects everyone differently, based on:

- Size, weight and health
- Whether the person is used to taking it
- Whether other drugs are taken around the same time
- The amount taken

The following effects may be experienced between 5 to 30 minutes after consuming caffeine, and may continue for up to 12 hours:

- Feeling more alert and active
- Restlessness, excitability and dizziness
- Anxiety and irritability
- Dehydration and needing to urinate more often
- Higher body temperature
- Faster breathing and heart rate
- Headache and lack of concentration
- Stomach pains

Children and young people who consume energy drinks containing caffeine may also suffer from sleep problems, bed-wetting and anxiety.

Coming down

Some people consume drinks with caffeine so that they can continue working or studying at night. However, the after-effect is that they will feel tired and lethargic the next day. For more information on the below caffeine subjects go to the link below. Average caffeine content of drinks chart, withdrawal, using caffeine with other drugs, long term effects, overdose and reducing risk.


Andrew Netherway
Adolescent Health Nurse

FAB FOOD DAY on Thursday 28 May

Fab Food Day in the School Canteen

Thursday 28 May is a special day for Daylesford Secondary College.

The “Fab Food Day” is a chance for students to experience awesome food cooked by two outstanding local chefs; Christian Reuther’s from The Boathouse Cafe and Kylie Himmerman of Verde Providores.

The Daylesford area has a reputation for its wide range of food options. This Hepburn Health Service initiative aims to provide students with a unique opportunity to sample some of the best and most delicious local cooking at normal canteen prices.

Orders from students have been collected in advance of the Fab Food Day and payment is to be made on the day. Students were able to choose from a range of healthy, affordable but delicious soups, snacks, main meals and drinks that for one day will replace the everyday canteen menu. Therefore PLEASE NOTE the school canteen will not provide it’s normal menu and students will need to BYO food and drink for recess and lunch if a Fab Food Day order form has not been given to the office.

Hepburn Health Service would like to thank to Peppers Mineral Springs Resort and Verde Providores for supporting this project.
BEYONDBLUE - Guide to Youth Suicide Prevention

Beyondblue have released a Family & Friends Guide to Youth Suicide Prevention. Most suicidal young people don’t want to die, they are usually experiencing extreme distress and/or unbearable pain and can’t think of another way to cope. With support they can find better ways to manage their distress and get through the crisis. The link below will give you access to information about self-harm, anxiety and depression in youth, accessing help services as well as a short informative video on suicide. The video gives examples of what to ask. It is important to note that discussing suicide with youth does not invoke them to have self-harm or suicidal thoughts.


Andrew Netherway
Adolescent Health Nurse

Last week Marg Cattanach took a group of year 10 students to SMB (Fed Uni TAFE) for Discovery Day. It featured a range of pop-up workshops in a range of areas.

Careers News

Reminders- Year 12 students
UMAT Registrations by 5 June; Test Date: 29 July, 2015
Applications for 2016 MSRF scholarships are now open
http://msrf.org.au/apply
Focus on University of Melbourne – Commerce 26 May, Environments 27 May, Science 2 June, Law 4 June, Engineering 11 June, IT 11 June, Music 24 June, and VCA 25 June (most 6.30-8.30pm). Register attendance (essential) at: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events.
TIS – coming up on 25th June – remember your consent forms. (Bus cost ~ $5).

Years 10, 11 & 12 UPDATED !!!! 2015 Mid Year Holiday Opportunities
There is a wide range of activities coming up in the next holidays. These are a great way to see different universities and gain inspiration for your future studies and careers. All require REGISTRATION and places may be limited so get in early!
The list is posted on the school website under Newsletters.

Above: Miranda, Sean, Bethany, Oscar, and Owen learning bread making skills
Below: Tara learning some skills in brick laying

Above: Ethan and Sarah - Horticulture
Right: Aleph and Sean - IT
‘At Monash’ Seminars – Law 13 May, Teaching 14 May, Health Science (Radiation Science, paramedics, etc) 19 May, Nursing 26 May, Biomedical Science, Radiography, Nutrition & Dietetics 27 May, Engineering 28 May. Registration: www.destination.monash.edu/at-monash

Careers in Sports Medicine Evening
An introduction to the world of sports medicine for secondary students. It will cover sports medicine, nutrition, podiatry, psychology, massage therapy, physiotherapy and exercise physiology. When: 7.15pm registration, 7.30-9pm, talks on Wed 27 May; Where: AAMI Park Stadium, 60 Olympic Blvd, Entrance F, Gate 4, Corporate Entrance, Olympic Room 2 (see: www.opsmc.com.au for map); Cost: $25 per student (parent/guardian no charge); Enquiries: events@opsmc.com.au; Registrations (essential): http://www.trybooking.com/HCCF.

RMIT Folio Preparation Courses
RMIT’s portfolio preparation courses are intensive practical courses held in the school holidays. They are designed to help students seeking entry to art, design and architecture courses to produce their best portfolio of work, as well as an overview of the industry and selection procedures. Up-coming courses: Adobe illustrator and photoshop for fashion, Adobe InDesign for fashion, design jobs, portfolio preparation in 3D product design, graphic design, interior decoration, photography and in visual merchandising. Information: 9925 8111 or www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au/page/high_school_students.

Make Music with Technology - Monash University
Creative Music Technology (CMT) is an exciting new specialisation within the Bachelor of Music (VTAC Code: 2800328101) offered at the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music at Monash.

It focuses on the creative application of technology within professional music, sound, performance, broadcast, multimedia and research.

CMT is unique in that students are required to be musically trained as well as having an interest in the relationship between music and technology.

Entry requirements for the Bachelor of Music:

ATAR and audition. A minimum ATAR of 70 is required.

Prerequisites: 25 in English or 30 in EAL Extra requirements: Audition

Applicants will need to audition both on their chosen digital audio workstation (DAW) and on an instrument. A sound knowledge of music theory and aural skills will also be tested at the interview.

A traditional music background coupled with the ability to infuse technology into production will allow graduates to seek employment in areas of new media, composition, recording and performance creative industries. This includes careers such as sound engineering, computer music production and performance, as well as scoring and sound design for film and games.

Environmental & Marine Careers Expo
Find out about career opportunities in fields like conservation and research and education, consider what school subjects could be helpful, and examine tertiary options. Also find out the latest information about career diversity, training and volunteer opportunities in the environmental and marine industry. When: Exhibitor times - 9.30am-5pm, Wed 24 June; Presentation times: 11am – 7pm (every 20 minutes); Where: Sea Life Melbourne Aquarium, Cnr King and Flinders St; Cost: $20 before 4pm on 15 May, $25 after that; Bookings: 9923 5911, bookings@melbourneaquarium.com.au; Info: www.melbourneaquarium.com.au/schools.

DEFENCE FORCE RECRUITING
Defence Force Recruiting has a new Job Finder Tool on the website – www.defencejobs.gov.au. This is a fully responsive and interactive tool that will suggest roles to you based on your personality. The Defence Forces also has a list of priority jobs in all three forces. They include pilot, artillery combat systems operator, communication and information systems sailor and many more. Go to the website and look for ‘Featured Jobs’.

The University of New South Wales and the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) (Canberra) will host the annual road show in July and August. Senior staff from UNSW and ADFA will showcase current opportunities, the recruitment process, information for current applicants and their parents/guardians. Presentations will take place in a number of locations including Melbourne. See the website for details, or call Defence Force Recruiting on 131901.

Swinburne University information nights
When/Where: Wantirna campus: 3-5pm, Wed 26 May; Hawthorn campus: 4.30-6.30pm, Tues 2 June. Register here.
La Trobe University update
La Trobe will teach law in the JD in 2016.
Work integrated learning is being used more often in the Arts, Social Science & Commerce College, with 22 subjects having this as part of the program. It is expected that this will continue expand.
Under the world QS Rankings for universities, La Trobe ranks sixth in Australia for history teaching, seventh for sociology and ninth for communications and media studies. La Trobe is also in the top 100 universities in the world in these areas. It is also in the top 200 in linguistics, agriculture, psychology, accounting and finance, education, law and politics. In the Times Higher Education rankings La Trobe is 75th in the world, up 25 on last year.
The Aspire program is running again this year - applications open on 1 June and close on 31 August. More details later.

Architecture
If you want to become a fully qualified architect, you will need to study at university for five years. Architecture degrees are offered at Deakin (Geelong), University of Melbourne, Monash (Caulfield) and RMIT (City). You will usually commence with a three-year Bachelor of Architectural Design and then complete a two-year Master of Architecture.
Deakin uses the ATAR at select students (currently around 70.00), Melbourne requires students to first complete the three-year B. Environments (selected on ATAR, currently around 85.00), Monash selects students on the basis of their ATAR, a supplementary form and interview, and RMIT selects on ATAR, an information kit and interview. Although the required ATAR for Monash and RMIT are not specified because they also use other selection criteria as well, the ATAR required is high.
An alternative qualification which you are encouraged to consider is the two-year Advanced Diploma of Building Design (Architectural) offered at several TAFE’s including SMB (Federation UniTAFE). This qualification, while not qualifying you as an architect, gives graduates skills to work on designing quite major projects, up to three-stories high.
Employment prospects are quite good. See: www.joboutlook.gov.au.

Music News
Reminder of Upcoming Gigs and Concerts
Concert Band Music Camp to Kyneton, PGL Adventure Camps. Thursday and Friday, 28th-29th May. Forms have been given out to students and the deposit and/or full payment needs to be paid at the General Office. This camp is used to rehearse the bands program for the year. All students are expected to attend.
Concert Band Concert. Thursday, June 18th. DSC Theatre 5.30p.m – 7.00p.m for the school community. This evening is presenting the program worked on during the music camp.

Student Support at Lunch Time and After School
SCIENCE Help Tuesdays
If you need a bit of help with any Science homework or classwork come along to a catch up and help session every Tuesday lunchtime in A8. Bring your lunch and whatever you need help with of a science nature.

After School MATHS Help
Maths teachers are available to help students with their homework or other maths work after school every Tuesday 3:30 to 4:30. Students should bring their maths work and necessary equipment to B4.

Tuesday Night SENIOR STUDY Sessions
Senior students are invited to attend our senior school study nights on Tuesdays after school. Some senior staff will be available to assist students with their study during this time.

COMMUNITY NEWS
MATHS Help
Ms Arndt is available for help with maths. Call her on 5476 4420 to discuss your needs.

ENGLISH Help
Experienced English and VCE English tutor available Monday or Friday daytime (if you have study periods) at the Daylesford Library, or Monday and Friday evenings from 4pm at the Daylesford Neighbourhood House. Call or text Cate for details and bookings on 0450 413 540
Dance and Drama Classes

Dance and Drama classes start for Term 2
Creative Dance, Ballet, Boys’ Dance, Drama,
Adult & Child, Contemporary, Adult Creative
Dance, African Dance & Studio Hire.
Enrol online at: www.insideoutdancetheatre.com.au
Enquiries: 0417 592 522 or jo@insideoutdancetheatre.com.au
Factory 2 / 39 East St, Daylesford

National Families Week

Regards,
Kathryn
Community Engagement Co-Ordinator
Via email or mobile
NB: If a matter is urgent or requires attention by COB please call 0407 438 118
Ballarat Family Relationship Centre
www.ballaratfamilyrelationshipcentre.org.au
34 Peel Street North, Ballarat 3350
PO Box 2537, Bakery Hill 3354
0407 438 118
kathryn@centacareballarat.org.au

Trentham Play Golf Clinics - Introduction to Golf

On Sunday June 21 for 5 consecutive weeks (10:30am to 11:30am) Golf Victoria and the Trentham Golf Club are running Level 1 Golf Clinics introducing new female and male participants to the game. Any adult, or secondary age student is eligible to attend the clinics.

Trentham Golf Club
54 Falls Road, Trentham
Men’s & Women’s Level 1 Clinics*
Sundays 21st, 28th June, 5th, 12th & 19th July 2015
Time: 10:30am - 11.30am
Light refreshments provided
*Level 1: For complete novices or people wishing to return to the game

Equipment provided – Dress comfortably (flat shoes) – Giveaways
Registration forms online at www.golfvic.org.au
(Click tab - Play Golf, Clinics)
For enquiries, please contact:
Veronica Maher on 0411 179 096 or
Doug Hartwig on 5424 1046

Circus Classes

Heaps of great gear to try out tricky acrobatics, acrobatics, aerials, developing flexibility and strength, work on acts & performances – as edgy as you want it to be – adults class suitable for teens. For further information contact:

Contact: Mara - 0477 499342 or
Eric - 0407 819 677
www.sprungcircus.net
Thank you to all the parents who participated in the recent focus groups or responded to the online parent survey about the school’s performance. Your responses, along with similar data from students and staff will help us to determine how well we are doing as a school, what we are doing right and where we can improve. Your feedback and insights are also important to us as we develop our strategic plan for the next four years during the coming months.

The survey was designed to query your perceptions of the school's performance in regards to student engagement, achievement and wellbeing. Year-level themes within the survey included the transition to Year 7, middle school electives and senior pathways. School-wide themes included student achievement, communication, homework and homegroups.

Responses to individual questions often varied considerably – what some parents saw as a positive others viewed as a negative, however the key findings can be summarised as follows:

1. The parents of Year 7 and 8 students were overwhelmingly positive about the way the school had supported their child’s transition from primary to secondary school.

2. Parents were split regarding the offering of a wide range of electives in the middle school years. While many appreciated the choice this offered to students, some were concerned that electives were being emphasized over core subjects and that this might have downstream impacts on subject selection and pathways in the senior years.

3. Parents of senior school students primarily had concerns around subject choice and timetabling issues.

4. Parents were also split around the question of student achievement. Disruptive or unmotivated students were seen by some as negatively impacting on their child’s achievement. Several parents mentioned the need to extend academically oriented students.

5. Parent’s attitudes to homework were quite variable. Not all parents actively monitor their child’s homework but amongst those who do, a number mentioned a lack of integration or continuity between homework and classwork. Several parents expressed a desire for the school to develop and communicate a clear strategy on homework and independent study.

6. Attitudes to homegroups were also quite variable. Not all parents were aware of the structure or purpose of homegroups. A number of parents recognised the potentially positive socialising influence of the multi year-level structure but many recognised that this didn’t appear to be working. The short homegroup times and a lack of structured activities were also identified as issues.

7. Most parents were positive about the school’s communication with them and their communication with the school. Many parents mentioned the value of the school newsletter and the SMS alerts and reminders. A number of parents would like to be able to contact staff directly (via email) more readily.

Despite the number of issues raised in their responses to the questions, many parents expressed their overall satisfaction with the school. Recent improvement to the school grounds were noted and appreciated by a number of parents.

Terry Judd
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