2016 at DAYLESFORD SECONDARY SCHOOL

Year 7 students
Carly (left) and
Viydee (right)
Settling in to their first
Visual Communications
Class with Ms Gunders.

COMING EVENTS
House Swimming Sports – 16 February 2016
Parent Elevate Information Session - 6pm – 7pm 17 February 2016
Intermediate & Senior – Volleyball, Cricket & Tennis – 23 February 2016
Eureka Swimming Sports – 2 March 2016
Year 7 Camp – 9th, 10th & 11th March 2016
Welcome Back
Welcome back to another school year; and a special welcome to all of our new students, parents and teachers. It is certainly wonderful to be back at school and back with a positive but perhaps a little uncertain, outlook for 2016. I say positive because so many of our students, staff and parents have returned or entered the new year with high aspirations and expectations. I say uncertain due to the physical changes taking place around our school this year. Our students are ready to learn. Many have been reading novels, completing preliminary work and following up their Kick Start program in preparation for this school year. This is a positive and mature way to commence the school year. I am looking forward to continuing our work this year and continuing the improvement journey we are crafting for our school into the future. The vision of providing an engaging, supportive and effective school underpins our work this year.

Devastation During the Holidays
I am sure everyone knows of the devastating fire here at the College on Monday 28th December. The damage was considerable with the entire A-Block decimated and smoke damage to the B-Block. The good news is that the Department of Education acted quickly and removed the debris and thoroughly cleaned all of B-Block as well as repainted sections of the building. We have a science portable already in place and currently being used by students and we have re-purposed some of the spaces across the school to ensure a smooth beginning to the school year.

There is much more work to be done to reinstate everything to a high standard. We are currently replacing furniture, equipment, computers and a vast array of resources lost in the fire. This replacement will take some time however the work is in progress and will be completed as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, work continues on our $10million Rebuild program. The fire has not made any significant change in our Rebuild plans. We will continue working our way through the process. Some draft concept plans have been created and we are now at the stage of comparing our room entitlements to current facilities.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and cooperation during this trying time for our school. Offers of support have flooded in from many quarters and the strength and support of the community is palpable. I would like to thank those of you who have offered and provided support such as the float and collections during the New Years Eve celebrations.

New & Returning Staff for 2016
We welcomed many new and returning staff at our whole school assembly on Monday. I extend that welcome to all new and returning staff and wish them well for the future.

Welcome to the following:

- Mr N. Cowan (English & English Language)
- Mr L. Sherman (English & History)
- Mr S. Metaxas (Legal & English)
- Ms A. Long (Vis Comm. & Careers)
- Ms L. Gunders (Art & Vis Comm)
- Mrs S. Kennedy (Food Technology)
- Mr D. Colbert (VCAL, English & Humanities)
- Mrs M. Ainley (English)
- Ms K. Arndt (Maths)
- Miss Sarah Boadle (School Nurse)

Principal’s report continued…….
DAYLESFORD SECONDARY COLLEGE
WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK
THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY WHO HAVE
OFFERED AND PROVIDED SUPPORT TO THE
COLLEGE AFTER THE FIRE ON 28 DECEMBER 2015.
WE VERY MUCH APPECIATE YOUR HELP IN
GETTING US SUCCESSFULLY STARTED FOR 2016.

2016 HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS
The 2016 House Swimming Sports will be held on Tuesday 16th February at the Daylesford Swimming Pool. Please note students will not be allowed to leave the pool surrounds once the races have started and are encouraged to wear house colours.

All parents and friends are welcome to attend and there will be a BBQ for students and spectators to purchase food throughout the day.

NEWSLETTERS ARE GOING GREEN
From the start of Term 2 we will be emailing out electronic copies of the College newsletter and putting copies onto XUNO as well. As such we will no longer be handing out paper copies of the College newsletter. Going digital is part of our push towards being a more environmentally friendly and sustainable organisation.

We will still provide parents and students with paper copies if they request one.

To request a paper copy please visit the College’s web site (www.daylesfordsc.vic.edu.au) and complete the online form. If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact Mr MacPhail – ph. 53482367.
Principal’s report continued……

**Bushfire awareness – Code Red Days**
The weather has cooled somewhat this week however I am sure there will be more hot and windy fire-danger days before the summer ends. Daylesford Secondary College is in a designated Bushfire At-Risk zone. This means that the College will be closed on Code Red days. I have attached an information sheet to this newsletter explaining the procedures for school closure on designated at-risk days. Please take the time to read the information as it will impact on every student and family associated with the College.

**School Captains and Vice-Captains**
Following an exhaustive process of selection I am pleased to confirm the following students have been appointed to the school captain and vice-captain roles for 2016.

School Captains: Zoe Ingham & Trent Eccles  
Vice-Captains: Tash Pasahidis & Blake LeLong.
Congratulations to these students. We all wish them well for their roles this year.

Left: Blake, Tash, Mr Holmes, Principal, Zoe & Trent

**Student Support**

**Student Support – Mentor Groups & Attendance Olympics** - This year, we have implemented Mentor Groups across the College. Mentor Groups will run on a Monday and Thursday morning for 22 minutes and are grouped in year level house teams. Throughout the year, students will partake in a range of activities aimed at their age group, helping to improve learning and relationships within the College. For example, middle school students will be continuing to take part in ‘Learn to Learn’ while senior students continue to refine their study skills and junior students develop an understanding on how to use technology safely. Each Mentor Group has been assigned 1-2 staff members who will work alongside students allowing them to continue to develop and gain meaningful knowledge from activities. Mentor Groups will also be taking part in competitions such as the Attendance Olympics. From next week, all Mentor Groups will go head to head in the Attendance Olympics. Over the following weeks, teams will build up points before heading into the finals. Explained absences will not affect attendance during the Attendance Olympics, so please ensure you call the office on 5348 2367 if you child is absent.

Keep an eye on Xuno and following newsletters for more information. Please contact me at the College should you have any questions or concerns.

Penelope Ellis – Student Support

**Junior Learning Community**

Welcome to our new Year 7’s for 2016. Students have settled in well with the assistance of staff and other students. Locker combinations and finding the right classroom proved challenging but the students have been supportive of each other to manage the situations well.

Cricket matches, football and soccer have been the focus of lunchtimes with many of the students, whilst others are getting to know each other.

The computer technicians and Mr MacPhail have been working tirelessly to organise computers and the students again are very excited to be working with them.

School camp is coming up on March Wednesday 9th until Friday the 11th. If you have not paid a deposit and your child is going to be attending please contact the office as soon as possible. Indemnity forms, an itinerary and further information will be coming out very soon.

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**COLLEGE NOTICES**

**The Education State Financial Assistance**

Please see at the end of the newsletter the attached Information for Parents notice regarding –
- Camps, sports and excursions fund (CSEF)
- How to apply and CSEF closing date.
Year 7 students Tasha Robinson and Taya Gust working on a task for Ms Gunders Visual Communications Class.

**Hands on Learning Week**
Our Year 7s and 8s finished the 2015 school year with Hands on Learning Week. A week of practical, key learning area inspired activities run as a house competition. Students accrued points through attendance, exhibiting the school values and accomplishing tasks.

Above top photos right: Daniel, Oscar & left: Tia, Kiara and from left Jona, Lilli and Chloe

Whilst each house experienced success in various areas, the overall winners were Sturt. Students who attended on the final day are reminded to collect their canteen voucher from Ms Williams. Thank you to staff and students who made the week a huge success.

**Leadership School News at DSC**

**CHINA News**
Late last year we finalised the students we will be sending to China for Term 2 this year. Congratulations to the successful applicants, Erin Card, Antigone Jonas and Oscar Ure, and we wish them good luck during their time away from family and friends. The rigorous application process saw many students miss out on a place, but all applicants should be applauded on their effort. You made our choice one of the hardest for many years on a selection panel!

**DINNER PLAIN**
Applications are now open for all 2016 Year 9 students! This is to apply for a place in the leadership school program to Dinner Plain for Term 3. Successful students will complete nine weeks of leadership training (during PRIME snow season), 10kms east of Mt Hotham. Keep an eye on the student notice board for the information session which will be held next week.

Sean Coleman, Leadership School Coordinator

**Science**

All students studying a Science VCE Unit 1 will need to purchase a logbook from the General Office for $5. Please note that students will need a logbook for EACH Unit 1 subject studied.

**Art**

**Collecting Artwork From Last Year**
Ms Low and Ms Matthews have a lot of Art and Vis Com work left over from last year lying around. If you think you have something to collect, please come to the Art rooms or Visual Communication rooms during lunchtime on Friday the 5th and Friday the 12th. Work will be displayed on tables for you to pick up. Any unclaimed work will be thrown out at the end of term 1. Please come and collect it!! Erin Low, Arts KLA Leader
Sports

2016 HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS

The 2016 House Swimming Sports will be held on Tuesday 16th February at the Daylesford Swimming Pool. Hume are attempting to win 4 in a row while Sturt are so close to a victory after going down by one point last year. Flinders and Burke are also keen to add their name to the trophy this year. All parents and friends are welcome to attend and there will be a BBQ for students and spectators to purchase food throughout the day.

Please note students will not be allowed to leave the pool surrounds once the races have started and are encouraged to wear house colours. Students will travel by bus to the pool after attending house meetings.

“Good luck to each house and all participants!”

HOUSE CAPTAINS 2016

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students on being elected House Captains and Vice Captains for 2016.

Hume: Kessey Pickering & Annie Williams
Cam Lovig & Sam Matheson

Burke: Mynette Sundblom & Jamison Purcell
Blake LeLong & Ethan Brown

Flinders: Zoe Pedretti & Kirstie Ford
Aidan Mayger & Trent Eccles

Sturt: Abbey Cooper & Dywana Gentric-Hilton
Mitch Steen & Jordy Barnes

2016 Snow Trip

Snow Trip 2016 - We’re excited to announce that for this year’s snow trip we will be travelling to Fall’s Creek and staying on the mountain at Halley’s Lodge. This is the first time that we’ve stayed on the mountain, so we encourage parents and students to come to the information night which will be held at the College on Thursday 25th February at 6pm.

There are only 40 places available on the camp, so students are encouraged to pay their deposit as soon as possible in order to secure their place.

Further information will be handed out to students or can be collected from the front office. Please contact Ms Williams if you have any questions.

Welcome to DSC New Teachers

Senior Learning Community

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS:

Induction Day

The Year 12 students spent their first day of the school year at a study and information day at Boomerang Ranch. It was a highly informative day and has set the scene for a successful 2016. Students attended a series of information
sessions that looked at; stress management, pathways beyond Year 12, VCE/VCAL important information and finally team building. Mollie from Elevate also presented to the group with a focus on study skills and building successful study habits for Year 12 and beyond. She pointed out the importance of having strong sets of notes/summaries and ensuring that revision is constantly occurring throughout the year. Mollie gave the students tips to avoid distraction such as the 'self control' app for android phones and mac computers, and 'cold turkey' for windows computers. 'Brainscape' was also suggested to assist with building study cards and other study tools.

**Year 12 VCE Parent Elevate Session**

All Year 12 VCE parents are encouraged to attend the Elevate Parent Information Session on Wednesday 17th March from 6 – 7pm in the Senior Centre. This will follow on from valuable information your child received at the Induction Day. Students do not need to attend the session.

**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.

**Signing In & Out**

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

**Tuesday Night Study Sessions**

Each Tuesday night the Senior Centre will stay open until 4.30 for students to study. The session will be supervised by staff and all senior students are encouraged to attend.

**Special Exam Arrangements**

Students sitting Units 3 & 4 exams can apply for special exam arrangements. Students may be granted special exam arrangements if they meet the VCAA requirements. Please note that while the college will assist with the process, the decision to grant or deny special exam arrangements is external to the college and requires all relevant forms, certified medical evidence and documentation to be submitted to the college by Wednesday 2nd March, 2016.

**VCE 2016 BALLARAT BOOK LIST**

*Kind Reminder:* The text “Winter’s Bone” (novel) was put on the VCE 2016 Ballarat booklist in error. **It is the film version of** “Winter’s Bone” that the students will be studying, *not the novel.* We are not including the DVD of the film on the text list as the film is freely available on Enhance TV and all students are now subscribers to this for 2016 and will be able to access it.

**TSSM's Conquering the VCE Units 1 & 3 Exclusive Charity Event**

TSSM is running a Complimentary Conquering the VCE Charity Event on February 20th and 21st, 2016. Each session is complimentary when students attend with their parent/s and when each student donates $10 to our chosen charity **Eddies BackPacks** for the entire event, upon enrolment.

TSSM’s Conquering the VCE Charity Event is designed for students doing Year 11 or Year 12 in 2016. In this powerpacked weekend, students will be motivated and inspired to achieve their VCE goals by building the necessary skills and strategies that will empower them to attain the highest grades possible. For further information, contact Ms Williams.

**Careers**

**MIPS & Careers Update**

**Week 2 Term 1 2016**

**Term 1 2016**

Well despite the chaos of events in holidays we have had a very productive start to the 2016 year.

We were very pleased with the first round uni/TAFE offers for the Year 12s of 2015 and had the chance to catch up with many of them. We wish them all the very best with their ongoing studies.
Last week all the Year 12 students spent a wonderful day at Boomerang Ranch preparing themselves for the challenges ahead. The relaxed environment tempered the intensity of the group sessions and of course provided an interlude of riding. It was a great opportunity for us to make contact with the students and to outline the procedures and processes of applying for university, TAFE and apprenticeships.

Careers is now located in the Senior Centre, which is great for the Year 11 and 12 students, but other students are welcome to come in and make an appointment.

Year 10 students will be making arrangements for their Work Experience (last week Term 2 – 20 – 24th June). Any students who do not yet have a firm idea about their placement should make a Careers appointment as soon as possible. The Work Experience Arrangement Forms will be issued soon.

Year 11 girls – Those girls who have expressed an interest in attending The Mentor Breakfast should make contact with Marg Catttanach during the next week.

Our webpage! Still in development – other priorities took over in the holidays. Please have a look: http://www.dsc-careers.com/

**Student Support Continues Term 4**

**Lunch Time and After School**

**SCIENCE Help Mondays**

If you need a bit of help with any Science homework or classwork come along to a catch up and help session every Monday lunchtime in P2. **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.

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**Daylesford Secondary College provides to students**

**BREAKFAST TUESDAY MORNINGS**

At the school cafeteria 8.15am – 9.00am

**FOOD AVAILABLE FROM CANTEEN**

Please see menu and food prices attached at the end of the newsletter.

**DSC Uniform**

Daylesford Secondary College has a distinctive and smart-looking uniform. The official uniform, as approved by College Council, can be purchased at Daylesford Clothing who is the official supplier of our school uniform.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Daylesford Clothing does not have in stock Junior Size 12 or 14 Sports tops.

They have been ordered but will not be in the store until Term 2

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**“Inspiring” Quotes**

Clarity is power, the more clear you are about what you want, the more likely you are to achieve it.

Be the change you want to see in the world.

Sometime you win, Sometimes you learn.

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Inside Out Dance Theatre**-
MATHS Help

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

Don't fear maths!
Maths tutoring available. Thursday afternoons. All levels. $50 per hour & travel if outside Daylesford.

Call Lee Taylor on 0439326651. Qualified engineer with current Working With Children Check.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM for Sale

Seniors: 2 x V-Neck Black Jumpers in very good condition. Size 18 and 20. $35 each. Contact Irene at DSC ph. 5348 2367 or 5348 1361

2 x white short sleeve school shirts size 12 with logo. Both in excellent condition. $10.00 each. Phone Nicole Olver 0419 152 246

VOLLEYBALL at the ARC

New Volleyball season will commence on Monday 1st Feb at 6.30 pm with individual and team signups for both the social and open divisions. This will be followed by a round robin mini tournament so the main competition can start the following week.

Students, Teachers, Parents all welcome with no experience necessary. All you need is a willingness to have some FUN, make a few new FRIENDS and get a little bit fitter.

Cost once the competition starts is just $5.00 per week for 1 hour games. So come along to the ARC in Smith St Daylesford on Mondays. Colin Priest: 5348 7674, 0447 487 674

THE BALLARAT CYCLE CLASSIC - Ride for Research Fundraiser

The Ballarat Cycle Classic is just a few weeks away now. If you would like any other information, you can head to our website www.ballaratcycleclassic.com.au or contact me on Talitha@fecri.org.au

Thank you in advance for supporting our major fundraiser for all of our cancer research projects Cheers

Talitha Prendergast
Fundraising & Communication Officer
| M: 0475 383 687  | T: 03 53 313 101
The Fiona Elsey Cancer Research Institute
Ballarat Technology Park - Central
Suite 23, 106-110 Lydiard Street South, Ballarat
To learn more about our research and how you can support us please visit: www.fecri.org.au
CALLING FOR ALL UNICYCLISTS!

Ballarat Cycle Classic - 21 February

Calling all UNICYCLISTS! How about we enter a unity of unicyclists into the Ballarat cycle classic on Sunday Feb 21??!! There is a 2.5 hr lake relay which could work well for unicyclists of different levels. We try to do as many laps of Ballarat lake as we can. Daylesford sprung circus kids are already on board but I know there are many more riders in these parts! The event raises money for a uniquely local Ballarat cancer research facility which depends completely on community support. They have top scientists there, doing world class work. Please respond soon if you or your child would like to take part! And pass this on to anyone you think could be interested too!

https://ballaratcycleclassic.com.au/events/25hr-lake-relay and my number is 047...

FOSTER CARE

Foster carers from all walks of life and diverse backgrounds are urgently needed. There is a huge demand for Foster Carers to be available to take on the care of children and young people in our region. Often meeting the demand for children needing care is not attainable. If you have ever considered being a foster carer, now is the time. Please consider taking up the challenge of Foster Care in an emergency, respite, short or long term capacity.

Contact Di Walker or Glenn Licheni at CAFS Ballarat on 53373333 for information on becoming a foster carer.

they group - launch your very own online marketing campaign

This February they group will be holding fast paced and interactive workshops in Melbourne and Daylesford. This is a perfect opportunity for business owners and managers who want to understand, develop and launch a Facebook and Google AdWords campaign for your business.

The one hour Facebook workshop will be a comprehensive step by step process of how to develop a successful campaign from how to identify your target market to how to accurately measure the success of the campaign.

The Google AdWords workshop will focus on developing, your knowledge, skill base and understanding of the benefits for your business when implementing an effective Google AdWords campaign for your business.

By the end of each workshop each participant will have the chance to launch a Facebook and Google AdWords campaign that is specific for your business.

Daylesford workshops
Facebook workshop: Friday 19th February
8:00am. Parish Hall (next to Christchurch),
54 Central Springs Road, Daylesford.
For more information visit - info@theygroup.com.au
Ph: 1300 316 815
If you have any dietary needs please see Canteen Staff at recess.

### RECESS - Hot Food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEESE ROLL</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAM &amp; CHEESE ROLL</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUTTERED ROLL</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIES VARIETIES</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAUSAGE ROLL</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEESE &amp; SPINACH ROLL</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEAM DIM SIMS x 3 for</td>
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### TOASTED SANDWICHES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HAM &amp; CHEESE</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEESE</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEESE &amp; TOMATO</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAM, CHEESE TOMATO</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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### DRINKS

<table>
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<th>Drink</th>
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<tr>
<td>WATER 600ml</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>WATER 750ml</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BREAKA MILK</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>OAK MILK 600ml</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>OAK MILK 300ml</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUICE</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRIMA</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLUSHIE Sm</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lg</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEA/MILO/COFFEE</td>
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### LUNCH - Hot Food

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOCCACIA – HALF</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBQ Chicken, Ham &amp; Cheese,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham Cheese &amp; Tomato, Salami</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOT DOG</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>PIE VARIETIES</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAUSAGE ROLL</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEAM DIM SIMS x 3 for</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOMEMADE SOUP (Term 2 &amp; 3)</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN SCHNITZEL BURGER</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILLI CHICKEN ROLL</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALMON &amp; VEG BURGER</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHICKEN STRIPS</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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### - Cold Food

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN WRAP</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAM WRAP</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN &amp; SALAD ROLL</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN LETTUCE &amp; MAYO ROLL</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAM &amp; SALAD ROLL</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FROZEN YOGHURT</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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### VEGETARIAN FOOD - Order at recess

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SALAD ROLL</td>
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<tr>
<td>VEG WRAP</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEESE &amp; SPINACH ROLL</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VEG FOCCACIA</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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### DAILY SPECIALS

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<tr>
<td>NACHOS</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAMBURGERS</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASTA BAKE (Tuna, meat or veggie)</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAKED POTATOES</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN NOODLES</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIED RICE</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAMB SOUVLAKI</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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# Price List from 5 February 2016
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and SMS. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus co-ordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.

For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef