



This week at Heywood & District Secondary College

A part of your community.....

From the Principal

Welcome back to all staff and students. I hope that you all had a refreshing break to prepare for a term that requires students to knuckle down to the set tasks and concentrate on performing to their best after the identification of the areas for improvement, as outlined in the reports distributed last term.

Term Three has started positively with the news that we were successful in our Federal application for a \$1.97 million Science Learning Centre to support the teaching and learning in more flexible learning spaces for our College. Thank you to the team of staff who supported me in establishing such a vibrant opportunity for our students in the promotion of sustaining viable links with science across the curriculum – environmental, biological and much more. This creates a positive sphere for our future, alongside the work that has been completed in the holidays to our existing classrooms.

Colourful rooms with new carpet, whiteboards and dividing walls are an exciting beginning to the

overall improvement that is planned for our College to enhance the learning environment for our most important component – our students!

Year 12 students realistically have only 13 weeks of actual class time to draw together the culmination of their secondary schooling, along with decisions to be made for their options for future directions before their final exams.

The agenda for this term is full of significant events like Year 10 work experience, Year 9 camp and, in particular, the planning and selection of subjects for students for 2010. This also takes into consideration the elements of VCE/VET/VCAL choices, which mean your participation at Information Evenings that will be run to discuss your children's future options is an imperative.

Yesterday morning, I was privileged to attend a breakfast in Portland to celebrate the 2009 Future Leaders of Industry Scholarship Launch. We had eight successful recipients: D'Arcy Crossley, Sabrina

Vandermeij, Shannon Fitzgerald, Ryley Jackson, Andrew Pomery, Charlie Woodford, Jenna Lipscombe and Ella Mizzi. Each of these young leaders needs to be congratulated, not only for being successful recipients, but also for the way they presented and represented our school in the wider community. I was certainly proud to be there to see them stand so tall!

Our welcome back at our assembly reinforced to our students that this is a place of learning, and that our expectation and focus this term of them as learners is “**persistence**”. This means that we clearly articulated high expectations in their attitudes to success, letting them know what we expect of them as workers in the classroom. As parents it is important to recognise and reinforce that our society demands and respects effort and a positive attitude to hard work. Those students who work consistently and steadily will achieve success.

“People with purpose create their own lives”, *Michael Morgan*.

Fiona McKenzie
Acting Principal.

From the Assistant Principal



Welcome back to everyone. Already our term is shaping up to be a busy one. The Year 10's are on work experience next week and we have a Year 9 Ski Camp coming up soon. The Deb Ball will be at the end of August, and this will also be the month when we work intensively with our school reviewer. At our general assembly on Monday our theme was on persistence. Persistence is about sticking with things or "keeping at it", and especially when things seem hard or boring and you are feeling frustrated and feel like giving up. Of course **persisting is easier** if you have a natural talent or aptitude for something. But the reality is that as we go



through life persistence will reap more rewards than only focussing on what you feel you are initially good at. The Habits of Mind that research indicates are characteristic of students who have a Persistent mindset are: Giving Effort – thinking that the harder you try, the more successful you will be, and that success is caused through internal factors (learned skills, effort) not external factors (luck, ease of task); Working Tough – thinking that in order to be successful, you sometimes have to do things that are not easy or fun. In practising Persistence, we also need to recognise and deal with negative thoughts and mindsets, such as: "I Can't Do It" – thinking that when you are not successful you are hopeless; Giving Up – thinking that you have no control over success (it was due to luck, easy, or because someone liked me); "I Can't Be Bothered" – thinking that everything should be easy, fun or exciting and that you can't stand doing things that are hard or boring. I encourage families to practise persistence at home too so we can all get better at this very important skill.



On the first Monday of the holidays we had a great day at Mt Clay shooting those elusive clay pigeons. The support from parents, our Police firearm expert and members of the Tyrendarra/Mt Clay Field and Game Club members was really fantastic. Thanks to Ms Dridan for organising the event. Ashleigh Endacott spent many hours over the holidays developing a Power Point Template for use by our school. I'm sure you will agree that it is outstanding. Unfortunately, our Newsletter being in black and white, does not do it full justice – still, this photo will give you an idea of what Ashleigh has come up with.



This week saw the first get together of Ms Borowiecki's Ag. and Hort. Semester 2 class. And didn't they really look like a 'can do' crew in their blue boiler suits!

The news over the holidays about our new Science Centre is awesome and a tribute to Ms McKenzie's ability to persist. What an exciting addition this will be to our school learning environment.

This first week has been a wonderful start for the term.

Robyn Sutherland
Assistant Principal.

Coming Events

July

Monday, 20th – Friday, 24th
Yr 10 Work
Experience Week
Sunday, 26th – Friday, 31st
Year 9 Bogong Ski
Camp.

August

Tuesday, 4th – School
Council Dinner
Meeting 6.00 p.m.
Monday, 17th – Friday, 21st
Year 11 Mt. Hotham
Ski Camp.
Friday, 28th – Deb Ball
Monday, 31st –
Parent/Teacher
Interviews 2-7 p.m.

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'Crazy Hat & Scarf for a Laugh Day'

Friday, 31st July, '09.



On Friday, the 31st July, the SRC is organizing a casual day with the theme, "Crazy Hat and Scarf for a Laugh Day" to raise money and awareness for International Sarcoma Cancer Awareness Week that runs from the 18th-26th of July.

Sarcoma Cancer affects one in five people in Australia. All proceeds for our day will go to the Peter McCallum Cancer Hospital in Melbourne.

Heywood Secondary College teacher, Mr White, will be shaving his head and beard to help raise awareness. Mr. White's nephew, Paul Fraser, passed away last year from Sarcoma at the age of 31.

On Friday, 24th July, a fundraising dinner is going to be held at Kokopellis Cafe from 6:00 pm onwards. There will be live music performed by "Gap". Staff will be donating their time with all the proceeds going to the Peter McCallum Hospital.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

The second instalment of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) payment is due from mid August onwards for those parents/guardians who have chosen the EFT payment option on their application form at the start of the year.

Parents and guardians who lodged an EMA application at the beginning of the year do not need to lodge another EMA application to receive the second instalment EMA payment.

Any parent/guardian wishing to change from a cheque payment to an EFT payment will need to submit a new application form to the school for processing. Applications close on **Friday, 7th August, 2009.**

Parents/guardians who have chosen the cheque payment option will receive their payment from late August/early September.

Further information can be obtained from:
www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/ema/default.htm

Contact the College Office for application form and further information.

Key Dates:

- Eligibility day – **13 July, 2009.**
- Parent Applications close – **7th August, 2009.**
- EFT payments – **Mid August, 2009 onwards.**
- Cheque Payments – **Late August/Early September, 2009.**

Community Notices

**PORTLAND
NETBALL
ASSOCIATION
AUTUMN
TWILIGHT
COMPETITION**

*Registration Night –
Monday, 3rd August.*

Grades: Masters, Open,
15/Under, 13/Under, 11/Under
and Netta.

Team sheets available by
ringing 5523 5483.

Netta Registration will be 6.00
p.m.; others by time on team
sheets. If not in a team please
come at the 6.00 p.m. timeslot
and we will hopefully place
you in a team.

Competition to commence on
Monday, 10th August, 2009.

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