



This week at Heywood & District Secondary College

A part of your community.....

From the Principal

It is Week Four and the next few weeks will be critical for our Year 12's who will complete many outcomes and intensify their study for some mid-year examinations.

The Heywood and District Secondary College is looking to investigate ways of continually improving our curriculum to enhance our students' competency in literacy and numeracy. However, more and more, curiosity, passion, an understanding of ethics, politics, change and technology are important for each individual to navigate his/her world. Hence, this week we have embarked on the Year 11 Australian Business Week challenge to stretch these capacities of life-skills in our students. It has been exciting watching them in their teams develop strategies, be competitive and make decisions to move forward in a corporate setting based on a real-life scenario. After all, it is the global room that we all now inhabit that requires a capacity to not just know content and have knowledge, but rather to have an ability to analyse, understand and evaluate in

making decisions and thinking independently. Thanks go to Jeremy Prevett and Kate Sullivan for all of their hard work in setting this program up for the life-long learning journey that these students are experiencing.

We also showcased our College to the Glenelg Local Youth Network on Wednesday, with our students talking to youth agency workers with presentations of many of the programs that we offer, from the students' perspective. These presentations showed the high standard of our students' ability to speak in a public forum, confidently and competently representing their peers and acknowledging their pride to members of our school community. It was exciting to see their expertise in their delivery and pride in their involvement in the curriculum and co-curriculum activities that they outlined. Thanks go to these students who represent our College in such a fine light, and of course to the Catering class who always provide such wonderful morning teas for

such events under the direction of Ms. O'Dea.

As many of you will be aware, literacy and numeracy have been identified as a key area for improvement based on our data. We have instigated many programs to review and improve our Literacy and Numeracy levels, and put in place strategies that will ensure that our students are achieving at their best. We have a group of teachers working in a Professional Learning Team addressing Literacy, developing a Literacy Policy, and supporting the reading and "Green Literacy" programs that are in place. Another group are working in a Professional Learning Team to address Numeracy and are working with our Numeracy Teaching and Learning Coach to improve the curriculum material for Years 7 – 9. Our Years 7 and 9 students have undertaken the NAPLAN tests this week, being tested on language convention, writing, reading and numeracy. This data will help us determine our priorities in the future, as we continue in our self-assessment program in preparation for our review

and planning of our next Strategic Plan.

Next week is Education Week and we are having a special welcome to parents on Wednesday, 20th May during periods 3 and 4. We will have students conducting tours during this time and will commence with a morning tea at 10.45am. Please come and visit the College so that you can see your child's education in action and in person. We would welcome your visit and the opportunity to discuss and showcase the learning that takes place at Heywood and District Secondary College.

Have a fantastic weekend.

“After effort comes success” Anon.

*Fiona McKenzie
Acting Principal.*

From the Assistant Principal

This has been another busy and amazing week. Year 7 and 9 students have been participating in the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The results of the tests will be available in July and will provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals about student achievement which can

be used to support teaching and learning.



What an awesome week the Year 11 students have had whilst participating at ABW!



The red, green and blue companies have been focussed on all aspects of running a business, from product development and advertising to analysis of financial data and making decisions regarding their environmental impact. Seeing, and being part of student engagement and enthusiasm with hands-on learning, has been an absolute privilege for me. Well done to all the Year 11's. They will take away with them not only a new skill base but also better relationships with fellow students. Thanks to Mr Prevett and Ms Sullivan for their truly wonderful organisation and mentoring during the week.

Yesterday two Fresian calves were delivered to the school as part of the Cows Create Careers Program. I saw them arriving and couldn't wait to welcome them and take their photo. I have a soft spot for young animals and especially calves – they seemed pretty happy in their new home.



The aim of the program is to highlight the vast array of career opportunities available in the dairy industry and to promote the importance of dairying in the local community. Year 7 students will be caring for these three week old calves and monitoring their growth rate. The skills learnt and/or enhanced include animal care, feeding, measuring and liaising with local farmers and industry representatives. At the end of the program there will be a celebration to present findings and awards. It really is terrific to be able to host this program, which is supported by a number of dairy industry groups and local businesses.



Robyn Sutherland
Assistant Principal.

Sharp Shooters

The shooting students travelled to Portland/Heywood Field and Game Fields on Tuesday, 12th May. Students have made a lot of progress over the last two weeks of practice. Some steady results include: Pat Parker 7/10, Jydan Haines 5/10, Steven Malseed 7/10, Blake Rogers 9/15 and Brad Emmersen 8/15, Alicia McCabe 5/5 and Kylie Hawker 3/5 .

I'm extremely impressed with all the shooters' behavior and attitudes towards the program. I look forward to heading to Tyrendarra next week. All parents are most welcome.

A big thank-you to Vicki Gallpen, Glenn Malseed, Bruce Toleman and Ross Macklin for all their support.

Kim Dridan
Co-Ordinator.

Coming Events

May

Tue., 19th - School Council
Wed., 20th - Cultural
Performance

June

Tue., 2nd - Yr. 7 PING Melb.
Symphony Orchestra
Concert
11.00 - 12.30 p.m.

Mon., 8th - Queen's Birthday
Holiday

Tue., 9 - Thur. 11th -
Year 11/12 Exams

Friday, 12th - Pupil-Free
Report Writing Day

Friday, 26th - End Term II.

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Beacon Charter Signing

On Wednesday, 29th April, the Year 10 students at our school signed a Charter stating that for the next 12 months they were going to continue their education or find an apprenticeship.

The event was a great success with inspirational guest speakers, Ben Cooper, Sabrina Vandermey, Michael Greenham and Allan Barrett. Kass Caldwell, Jenna Malseed and Rebecca Nunn also performed an amazing dance routine which was one of the many highlights of the event.

The success of the day is a credit to the Beacon

Leaders Maggie Greenham, Kellie Beatty, Stuart Eather and Alayna Jackson - who, with help from staff members, planned every aspect of the day.

On behalf of the leaders and all the Year 10 students, I would like to thank everyone who attended the event, and I hope that all the future Year 10's take up the opportunity to commit to this important pledge.

Karley Beatty.

Great Victorian Bike Ride

The Year 9 Aiming Higher program is focusing on The Great Victorian Bike Ride. We are currently looking for any- one who has, and would be prepared to lend, a mountain or road bike that students could use for training, and this event.

Kim Dridan and Year 9's.

Parents & Friends Fundraiser



You are invited to a
Meal & Music night
at the Heywood Hotel on
Friday, 19th June at 7pm

Tickets \$25 per person.
This includes a 2-course meal
and music by **Top Choice**
Entertainment (Jeff Mizzi).

For tickets contact:
Jenny Gorey or Vicki Gallpen
5271303
Karen Mizzi 55271891

For Sale

A Spartan navy blue backpack. Brand new. \$60.00



From Your Library

Don't forget that the Premier's Reading Challenge is still running. Keep reading and recording those books. If you have any problems, see the friendly staff in the Library.

Also: The latest Book Club is out. Brochures are available from the pedestal outside the Assistant Principal's Office or from the Library.

Invitation to Parents

Parents Victoria will host its third online conference, sponsored by the Office for Government School Education, from 18 to 24 May, 2009.

The conference provides a forum for all parents with children in Victorian government schools to discuss key issues such as school attendance, cyber bullying, sexuality education and parental engagement.

Parents can join in this free online discussion at their leisure via an internet-connected computer with a browser.

The conference will be open from 6.00 a.m. on Monday, 18 May until midnight, Sunday, 24 May, 2009.

Parents wishing to participate in the conference are required to register online at: <http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv09.htm>.

The conference website will open on 18 May at: <http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv109>

Further information can be obtained from the Parents Victoria website at: <http://www.parents victoria.asn.au/>



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LEARN HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN FILMS AND SUBMIT TO THE **10MMM YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL!**

FREE!

Tuesday 19TH May

At the Portland DiscoverIT Centre, 38 Bentinck Street
4pm - 8pm



To RSVP or for more info, phone 5522 2326. Transport can be arranged

FOR PEOPLE AGES 25 AND UNDER AND FOR THOSE WHO WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

DINNER PROVIDED

