



**This week at Heywood & District Secondary College**

*A part of your community.....*

**From the Principal**

It has been a very busy week at Heywood and District Secondary College – Anzac Day service, Parent/Teacher interviews, Beacon Light house Charter signing, immunisations, Western Zone Tennis Championship in Geelong and the South-West Zone Athletics in Warrnambool.

On Anzac Day, we had some of our students and staff march and represent the College at the moving and sombre ceremony which remembered and paid homage to those men and women who fought for our freedom.

Thank you to the parents who came along to speak to their child/ren’s teachers regarding their progress on Monday’s Parent/Teacher interviews. It is vital that this happens to maintain the home-school relationship. For those parents who may have been unable to attend, we would encourage you to contact the College Level Coordinators to arrange an appointment for a progress interview. If we work together we ensure success.

On Wednesday afternoon, we had the demonstration of a serious commitment by our Year 10 students in the signing of their individually-designed Charter to pledge to the “No Dole” Program. Thank you to those parents who supported their children in attending this event. It was a privilege to witness the leadership of our students, and also the quiet and solemn approach that they had to respect each other’s moment in signing. Acknowledging the need to cement the links for our students with their pathway choices and local businesses is paramount. A commitment to stay at school to be informed in the decisions that they make for their future is a collective imperative.

Congratulations to all students who have represented the College at a higher level in sport – a fantastic effort by all to reach these levels of competition.

As the weather is getting colder and there is a change into the winter uniform, we still need to work as a school community to support the College policies

– in particular, the uniform policy. Wearing full school uniform both in school and travelling to and from school is important. As a school we are proud of our uniform and what it represents – and that means not wearing the outer ‘hoodies’ as they are NOT school uniform. As a staff team, this will be closely monitored during this term.

“Your actions, not your words, are what count.”

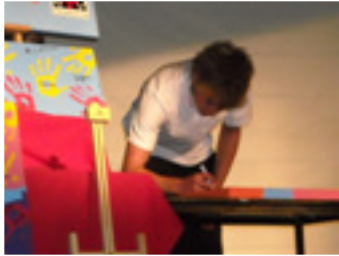
Anon

*Fiona McKenzie  
Acting Principal.*

**From the Assistant Principal**

This has been a week of activity and special events. On Monday afternoon we held our senior student parent / teacher interviews. These enabled parents, students and teachers to have those fruitful conversations with everyone “on the same page”, in terms of reflecting on achievements and setting goals for achievements to achieve maximum outcomes and improvements. For me, it reinforces that teachers

and parents want the best for all students, and we all work very hard to support students in this important stage of their lifelong journey in education.



Wednesday was a very special day for Year 10 students and their parents as they participated in the Beacon Foundation's "No Dole" Program. We have rebadged this program, "Rising up to the Future", with the symbolism of hands and balloons painted on canvases for the students to sign. The signatures were a pledge by each student for one year to pursue a pathway of either education, employment or training. I was extremely impressed with the leadership and sincerity shown by our young people as they made this commitment. Our thanks to Kerrie Smith for her fine job of organising the event, and I know that she was supported by a team of core leaders from Year 10 who are to be congratulated for a terrific job, well done. Certainly, this event would not have been possible without the Beacon Foundation and the LLEN. Our appreciation goes to Ben,

Pam and Rudi. The guest speakers, Allan Barrett, Mick Greenham and Sabrina Vandermey also provided much inspiration for our young people as they embark on their journey. Thank you.



Yesterday I spent some time with the Year 7 students as they worked diligently and excitedly on their music compositions as part of our Remote Music Project.



Mr Prevett's Humanities class have been working on some great projects as part of their World War 1 studies. Their display in Room 9 is a true testament to their research, thinking and presentation skills.



Leah Sullivan has begun work this week as our Wannik Tutor. She will be working with our Koori students as we work toward improving their literacy and numeracy skills. We are fortunate indeed to have Leah working with us.

***Robyn Sutherland***  
***Assistant Principal.***

### Coming Events

***May***  
Mon., 4<sup>th</sup> - Grade 6 Parent Information Night, 5 – 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> – Aiming Higher Celebration Evening 7.30 p.m.

Mon. 11<sup>th</sup> – Friday, 15<sup>th</sup>  
Australian Business Week (ABW)

Tue. 12<sup>th</sup> – Thur. 14<sup>th</sup>  
NAPLAN Testing Years 7 & 9.

Tues., 19<sup>th</sup> - School Council

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### Year 11 VCE O/Night Excursion

Last Thursday the Year 11 VCE students went on a trip to Geelong and Melbourne. We left the school at 6:30 am and drove to Geelong to have tours of Deakin University and The Gordon Institute of TAFE.

We went to both campuses of Deakin first. At Deakin we found out what courses were available, what the accommodation was like and what each course enabled us to pursue as a career. One of the classes that was running at the time we visited was first-year nursing. We got to see them learn how to make beds, take blood pressure, shave patients and practise proper hygiene techniques and procedures.

We also went to both campuses of The Gordon Institute of TAFE. One campus was for the classroom learning and the other campus was for the practical side. We learnt that at the practical campus the trade students build a house inside the TAFE facility which is then assessed and pulled down. This is a great way for the students to put theory into practice. The Gordon Institute of TAFE had many ways to ensure their students were equipped with the skills that they needed to pursue a career in their chosen profession. They had the brick-laying students work outside in all weathers as they would need to do in an actual work placement.

After we visited the TAFE we travelled to Melbourne to the Crown Casino offices. Here we sat and listened to a presentation about employment opportunities and the future of this massive business. This was really interesting and all students who went on this camp got something out of it.

After our big day we were glad to get to our accommodation in South Yarra. We changed and went to La Porcetta for a delicious meal, and then to the movies. We had many choices for movies but we ended up only being in two groups. One group chose '17 Again' and the other 'Fired Up'. Just before our movies we got 'distracted' by a local radio station holding a free karaoke session on Singstar. The girls battled it out while the guys laughed. After the movies we were glad to collapse into our beds for the night, ready for an early morning start.

On the Friday morning, we got up, had breakfast and made our way by train to the Caulfield Race course for The Age Career Expo. The expo had many universities, TAFES and other educational facilities all showcasing their courses and great educational pathways. We are now all more confident in our career choices. After this we met outside, had lunch and then made our way back to Heywood.

This trip was very worthwhile for all students considering further education. We recommend the Year 11 students of 2010 grasp this great opportunity and see what Geelong and Melbourne have to offer.

**Jenna Malseed & Eva Martin.**

### Parents & Friends

Do you have any ideas or suggestions for fundraising? We would love to meet you for an informal cuppa and discussion on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm. Please come along to the Library. Even if you have no suggestions, still come along for a cuppa and a chat.

*Vicki and Jenny.*

*P.S. If unable to attend and have some ideas, please give us a call.*

### Community Notices

#### HEYWOOD MARKET

Farmers Market and Trash & Treasure

*Sponsored by Heywood Lions Club*

**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2009.**  
*Village Green beside the Post Office.*

*9.30 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.*

Stalls available - \$10 per site.

Enquiries:

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