



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

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

**From the Principal**

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

The Year 12 students have acquitted themselves very well in their end-of-year activities, entertaining the whole school yesterday at their farewell assembly with a couple of short videos. It was a surprise to arrive at school this morning to be confronted with barricades of gladwrap, a hearty breakfast and tired but happy students. The activities were, as they claim, intended to only 'trash the school in a harmless way'. I did not envy them the task of cleaning up! We wish the Year 12 students who still have exams all the best. They still have significant study and preparation to do and should ensure that they also eat and sleep properly if they are to do their best.

On Monday the School Reviewer, Bronwyn van Amerongen, will present the review to the staff at the meeting and then to the School Council in the evening. The Review assesses what the school has achieved, or not achieved, over the last four years, and then sets out the expectations and identifies foci areas for the next four. This is only one of the many ways in which State Schools are monitored and made accountable for improving student learning outcomes and we appreciate the guidance that

it gives us. It will necessitate some changes I am sure while reinforcing all the great things that happen at Heywood and District Secondary College.

**Important! Putting student learning at the centre of our work.**

There will be **changes to our end-of-year program** this year. After the Year 10 and 11 students finish their exams they will spend time beginning their 2010 classes. This head start will allow teachers to complete the introduction to their studies and to set meaningful work for the long holiday period. The final years of schooling are intense and require consistent work. This will also allow students to be on par with other schools across the state who begin their next year early and it will augment the programs already in place to support the students. Our Year 11 students are willing to take up this challenge and are to be commended for it. We are looking at ways that we can extend the length of this head-start for future years.

Year 7-9 will also begin their Year 2010 studies in the last three weeks of this year. Not only does it help the students with transition to the next level of their schooling, but it means that student learning continues until the final week of school. The last week will be activities, Presentation Night and the celebration day at Bridgewater.

Students are expected to be in attendance until the last day.

We will keep the community informed of more details closer to the time. The only date change is for the Presentation Night which will be held in the last week of term.

**Patricia Nunan**  
*Principal.*

**From the Assistant Principal**



Gosh, how the year has flown. Already we are bidding the Year 12's farewell. For many of them I know, the year has seemed interminable and for others it will have gone by incredibly quickly. We are sad to see them go, yet we know their adult life stretches before them. We know that we have done our very best to prepare them and give them all a strong foundation from which to achieve...it is now up to them. For VCE students the coming weeks are important in terms of exams, and preparation for these must be serious and sustained. Best wishes for those

exams. I believe passionately and deeply that we have played a vital role in what will be a lifetime for each of them, of being educated. **For education, as Brigham Young said, "is the power to think clearly...the power to act well in the world's work...and the power to appreciate life"**. I know I write on behalf of everyone, both teachers and support staff, in saying that we truly wish all of the Year 12 students all the very best on their journey in life.



As a school we are preparing our Student Engagement Policy document for 2010. This document is a school document that every Victorian government school will have in place by the beginning of next year. It will be unique to each school, setting out the rights, responsibilities and shared expectations of everyone in the school community, focussing on prevention and early intervention for students who are experiencing behavioural or attendance issues and also setting out how the school encourages appropriate behaviour and deals with inappropriate behaviour. We have a draft document ready for comment and I encourage parents to contact me for a

copy so you can have input into the final document. I do want to draw parents' attention to the school-wide strategy that we currently use as a foundation in creating a positive school culture, and that is Restorative Practice. This is intended to move the focus away from a punitive consequence for inappropriate behaviour. Rather, it seeks to value and support those involved so that they feel empowered to take positive action to address the situation and move forward. Restorative Practice is about being respectful of every member of our school community, encouraging responsible behaviour and actions and ensuring that personal pride and dignity is maintained. It involves the use of a Restorative Practice script, a Thinking Spot in all classrooms, and a staged response in dealing with inappropriate behaviour. Why? Because we want to encourage students to make positive choices about engaging in their learning, so that their outcomes are the best that they can possibly achieve. Next week I will outline in more detail the staged response.

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

## Coming Events

### ***October***

Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> – School Council.

Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> - Yr. 12 Exams commence.

### ***November***

Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Melbourne Cup Holiday

Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> – Yr. 11 Exam  
Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> week.

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> – Yr. 10  
Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> Exams.

Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> – Last Day  
Yr. 11's.

Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> – Yr. 12 Formal

Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> – Yr. 10

Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> Outdoor Camp

Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> - G.V.B.R.  
Friday, Dec., 4<sup>th</sup>

### ***December***

Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> - Gr. 6  
Orientation  
Day

Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> – Last Day  
2009, 2.30  
p.m. finish.

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## Australian Mathematics Competition 2009

### ***Distinctions were awarded to:***

**Year 7:** Jordy Greenham

**Year 8:** Casey Dixon

**Year 9:** Corey Davies

### ***Credits were awarded to:***

**Year 7:** Koen Hoggan, James Anderson, Monique Watson, James Lloyd, Nathan Schultz, Josh Uebergang and Kylie Hawker

**Year 8:** Tom Gorey, Steven Malseed and Mia Wilson

**Year 9:** Ashleigh Endacott and Sharni Lee

**Year 10:** Kellie Beatty, Maggie Greenham, Jamie-Leigh Poole and Kyla Spencer

*Congratulations to all students.*

**Maths Department.**

## Work Experience

In the last week of Term 3, I spent a week at Lonely Planet as part of the Year 10 work experience program. It was an awesome week and I want to go back again!

I was one of four students to go to Lonely Planet for work experience and together we went around to all the different departments, from graphic design and Lonely Planet images to editing and cartography.

My favourite parts of Lonely Planet were graphic design and Lonely Planet TV. In graphic design I searched through Lonely Planet's collections of images and put together covers for 'Mini City Guides' of Krakow, Ho Chi Minh City and Kathmandu. At Lonely Planet TV I watched the editing of a new travel show, 'The Odyssey', and watched as one of the editors tried to put on an American accent to voice-over a short travel piece on Las Vegas.

Everyone was fantastic to work with and I was always doing something interesting. It was also a great building, with a café on the roof and a nice view of the city. As well, it was on the Maribymong bike path so I could ride to work each day in preparation for the Great Vic Bike Ride.

I had a brilliant time and was lucky enough to pick up some great travel tips, place recommendations and a few great Lonely Planet guide books. If there are any Year 9's who would like to go there next year for work experience I strongly suggest it!

*Maggie Greenham.*

## Risk Factors and the Sun

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners has identified that people at highest risk of skin cancer are those with multiple moles and a personal or family history of melanoma. Those with fair skin, freckles, light-coloured eyes or hair are also at increased risk, as are people who had a lot of sun exposure or episodes of sunburn as a child. Many common medications can also put you at increased risk. There are a number of drugs from the contraceptive pill to antidepressants, antibiotics and acne medications that increase skin's photosensitivity (Cancer Council Australia). If you're on medication, speak to your doctor or pharmacist to see if increased photosensitivity is a side-effect. If it is, you will need to be extra vigilant with sun protection, as your skin may burn faster than normal. The only way to avoid sun damage is to stay out of the sun!

## OTHER NOTICES AND REMINDERS

SunSmart classes are still operating on a weekly basis.

Please wear your sun hat to avoid these classes. Reminder cards are placed in the home group roll. Take responsibility and turn up on time, with a pen.

When the bell goes at the end of recess and lunch, please make sure you keep your hat on until you enter the school building. Don't take your hat off as you are exposed to UV rays. THE BELL DOES NOT MEAN 'TAKE OFF YOUR SUN HAT'.

Sun hats are also compulsory for all PE classes and excursions. Casual hats and caps may be worn on an outdoor excursion that allows you to wear casual clothes. This is the only exception.

Please see me if your sun hat is damaged or needs repairing.



Keep up the good work.

*Thanks, Miss Kate Sullivan.*

## Community News

### *Eating Disorder Parent/Carer Support Group*

Portland Hospital, Specialist Centre, Staff Training Room.

First Tuesday of the Month  
7.30 – 9.30 p.m.

For more information contact Carol on 5523 3410.

## WEP's Student Exchange Programs - Early Bird Special



What better way is there to learn about the everyday realities of culturally diverse and human encounters than by learning to live in another culture?

Once our exchange students return to Australia, it is not a question of whether they will cope at university or in the workplace, but instead a question of how high they are willing to set their goals.

World Education Program Australia (WEP) is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the education departments and now accepting new applications for students to travel overseas in 2010/11 as exchange students for a summer, semester or year.

### **Emily M. from QLD spent a semester in Italy in 2009:**

"I was put with a great family and a great location – couldn't have been better. I was able to travel with them and learn Italian.

I learnt that I have to be independent and take responsibility for myself and that even if you can't speak the same language there is always a way to communicate."

### **Early Bird Special**

WEP is offering a \$500 discount towards a semester or year program (leaving July-Sept '10) for applications received before 30 November '09 to any of the following countries:

Brazil, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Norway, Turkey, Thailand or the USA

Students must be in years 9 – 11 to be eligible for this discount.

To receive a free information pack and find out more:

- Visit [www.wep.org.au](http://www.wep.org.au),
- Call 1300 884 733 for the cost of a local call
- Email: [tessallaway@wep.org.au](mailto:tessallaway@wep.org.au)

# The Great Victorian Bike Ride 2009



*The who, what, when, where and how about the Great Victorian Bike Ride!*

Currently, in Aiming Higher, Year 9 students (as well as some Year 10's and 11's), are preparing themselves for the Great Victorian Bike Ride, which is in six weeks! We are training hard to complete the 500km Challenge. If completed, we receive an award. The Great Victorian Bike Ride is a 9-day, 550km ride raising money for diabetes research. This year the ride is from Portland to Geelong. We have just ordered our jerseys and jumpers, which we can't wait to wear.

Without the support of the community and the many people who have helped us towards our goal, we would not be able to do it and we are very grateful.

On Saturday morning, the 24th of October, we will be having a cake stall in the main street of Heywood. We hope to see you all there!



## Thank-you for your support!



### People participating in the Great Victorian Bike Ride:

#### Riders:

- Rebecca Aitken
- Kassandra Caldwell
- Talitha Cameron
- Freya Crossley
- Corey Davies
- Ashleigh Endacott
- Emily Gallpen
- Katie Gallpen
- Maggie Greenham
- Jydan Haines
- Ashley Hann
- Stephen Harris

- Ryley Jackson
- Stephen Keiller
- Sharni Lee
- Emma Lynch
- Jessica Lynch
- Andrew Pomery
- Leah Sullivan
- Freya Price
- Keely Price
- Jada Williams

#### Media:

- Jayden Coustley
- Anna Hamilton
- Talara Harrison
- Thomas Johnstone
- Brodey McIndoe
- Lachy McKinnon
- Jordan Moore
- Sarah-Rose Mutch
- Stephanie Rowney
- Katelyn Schultz
- Tabitha Scott

# GVBR/ HDSC RAFFLE Prizes!!

The following prizes have been donated to support sending the Year 9 Aiming Higher class on the Great Victorian Bike Ride to raise money for diabetes. *Thank you, sponsors.*

1. Charter Fishing Trip/ Joe O'Connor
2. Body Pamper Pack/ Heywood Pharmacy
3. Bottles of Wine/ Susan Rowney
4. Stationery Hamper/ Heywood Newsagency
5. Our special Jersey
6. Load of Wood (green)
7. Surprise Prize/ Bakery
8. Famous Photo signed by the Year 9 Aiming Higher class.
9. Elijah's Sports Power (surprise).

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