

Principals Report

Victorian State Budget

Last Tuesday we were informed that our College had been allocated \$15 million to complete phase one of the regeneration of our College facilities. The funding will allow us to build a Year 7 Learning Centre at Huon, refurbish all of the Felltimber campus and build a new Performing Arts Centre for Music and Drama.

We are delighted that the culmination of three years of planning has been recognised and we will see our dreams become a reality over the next eighteen months. Staff have worked closely with our architects (SKM) to design what will be a purpose built middle school which will incorporate a number of features that greatly improve the learning outcomes for all students.

We will be working closely with parents, students and staff to ensure that we are able to manage this extensive building program as quickly as possible, while at the same time minimising the disruption to student learning during 2010. Our students need access to specialist rooms in Art/Technology/foods, metal/wood/auto; Science, computers and library. Once the successful contractor has been determined we will work with them to determine the best way to achieve this. Our thanks to Damien Healy who coordinated the extensive consultation process that has resulted in us achieving this outstanding result. Phase 2 planning will see the complete rebuild of the Huon campus which will be funded in a future budget.

NAPLAN Tests next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

In previous newsletters we have informed you of the significance and importance of the upcoming NAPLAN tests. Students in years seven and nine will sit the NAPLANs this week. We ask you, as parents, to support your children in giving the NAPLANs their best effort. You can do this by ensuring they come to school physically and attitudinally equipped for the tests.

Make sure your child has a good night's sleep and a good breakfast on the morning of the test. Talk to them about the test and what they understand of its significance. Discuss what they found easy and difficult about the tests and importantly, what strategies they used or may use to help them answer the questions. (Note that in the past few weeks students have been attempting sample NAPLAN questions, and discussing strategies for answering them, in English and Maths classes.

Talk to your child about the need to attempt the test to the best of their ability, about not giving up after a difficult question and about the need to move on and attempt all questions to the best of their ability.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the NAPLANs please contact the years seven or nine coordinators, or the Campus Principal. The results of the NAPLAN tests will be reported to the school and forwarded to parents later in the year.

Grade 6 Parent Night

A reminder that the grade 6 Parent Information Night is to be held next Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30 pm in Galvin Hall at the Wodonga Senior Secondary College. Tours of both Felltimber and Huon Campuses of the Middle Years College will be from 4 – 6 pm on Wednesday, May 13. If you have any queries about enrolments at the Middle Years College, please call a Principal at either campus.

Vern Hilditch
Principal

Assistant Principals' Report

Supportive Relationships with Adolescents

Grunt...shrug...as if...whatever...dunno!

While many teenagers are articulate, cheerful, well motivated, and able to express clearly their needs, feelings and deep love for their parents, there are exceptions!

For parents, it can be quite a challenge to work out ways to communicate with their children during secondary schooling. Communicating with students during their secondary schooling is tricky. Firstly, you need to know that "whatever" means "yes" and "as if" means "no". You can only keep them talking to you trapped in the car for so long.

OK, so you could give up, downgrade your expectations or become content with the odd shrug and the occasional withering pout. The problem is that this is the stage of life when young people actually benefit most from speaking with their parents regularly.

Middle to late adolescence is a time of facing up to and making major decisions about life. It is also worryingly a time when many young people make critical decisions about drugs, sex and their career.

- Keep your child as busy as you possibly can
- As much as possible, try to keep them mixing socially with a range of friends (and activities)
- Never believe anything they tell you during an argument
- Never forget that a child has more energy to put into an argument than any adult. Choose your battles carefully!
- Speak as calmly as possible, remind them that people in this family speak in full sentences, expect to have a conversation

(Parent Partnerships – Parent involvement in the Later Years of Schooling DET)

Maree Cribbes, Alyson Miller
Assistant Principals

Education Week - May 17-23

The focus for Education Week, which is celebrated throughout Victorian primary and secondary schools from May 17 until May 23, is that all students have an opportunity "to shine". In other words to reach their full potential and perhaps achieve more than they thought possible.

Certainly, this theme is integral to our College's philosophies and practice. We aim to encourage self belief and "personal best". Thus Education Week, provides us with an opportunity to extend an invitation to all in the community, to experience first hand some of the exciting programs our College offers.

Improving the connections and relationships between the College and the wider community is seen as invaluable and the benefits for the College, the students and the wider population are immeasurable.

We hope that the week provides opportunities for all involved and encourage all to be involved as much as possible. The Felltimber campus has an Open Day on Tuesday, May 19. They look forward to the community taking advantage of "coming in to class rooms".

The full College programme will be published in forthcoming newsletters, however it is worth putting Wednesday, May 20 in your diaries as an exciting evening at the Huon campus. Science will definitely be "alive", with workshops exploring the sublimation of solid Co₂. Science lovers will also explore how new technologies can collate, interpret and analyse data.

The technology area will also be "buzzing" again with the "Ride on Mowers" and solar cars. There will also be a photography workshop held between 4pm and 5pm which promises to be very interesting.

Music lovers can also enjoy a guitar ensemble, various rock bands and year nine performances, including a piece from the Year 9 Vocal Group aptly titled, "Shine" during lunch time, on Wednesday, May 20 and during period six and seven. Again we encourage the wider community to attend the lunch time performance.

The College is also looking forward to Louise Arnold, from Arnold's Fruit Market, working with our students exploring "Healthy Eating" options.

The Readers' Cup will also be another highlight again this year and will be held in Huon's library on Friday, May 22.

The "Manga" club will be launched during Education week and Klub Indonesia will hold a "Krupuk Eating competition".

The whole program promises to be very exciting and will be finalised and printed in next week's newsletter with precise venues and times.

If you can be a part of it, don't hesitate help us to "Shine"!

Kim O'Shea

These are some of the interesting activities planned for Education Week:

Huon

We will commence the week with a "Fun Run" cross country. Wednesday the 20th, we will hold an open evening featuring:

- Science expo/open sessions on "Dry Ice" and using technology to gather, interpret and analyse data.
- Dads and Lads Night; Ride on Mowers
- Photography in the Arts.
- Readers' Cup on Friday May, 22.
- Library Quiz throughout the week.

Felltimber

- Year 7 classes will be inviting parents to participate in a range of classes on Tuesday, May 19 during periods 3, 4 and 5.
- Year 8 will present a parent/student Battle of the Minds on Thursday May 21 in periods 4 and 5.
- Year 9 students will take part in a Peer Reading program with Year 7 and 8 students and students from Melrose Primary School.

Kim O'Shea

Chess

Our club has entered the 8th week of competition with a small but dedicated group of players.

Results this round:

"Chess Master" likes to tell us all how great a player he is, sadly "Siren" found out!

"Dragon Fire" you put up a great fight and your enthusiasm for the game is commendable. "Shadow" earned the points this time.

A dark shadow was cast over "Dark Master" by "Adro".

"Cpt. Wart Hammer" enraged "The Storm" by taking the game from him.

"The Cube" diced up "Pie Master".

It's no myth that "Mythical" is a good player and sadly "Despair" found this out.

Three points for "Shadow Fang".

Well done everyone. See you next week.

Helen Boulton

Breakfast Club

Joe Cashman and Mandy Knight run the Friday Morning Breakfast Clubs at Felltimber (in the canteen) and Huon (in B7). All students are welcome to partake of pancakes, toast with jam and hot milo. Fridays 8.15am - 8.45am.

Our thanks to Henris Wodonga Bakery for donation of

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Year 9

This term is about establishing and improving the organisation and motivation of students. As teachers we are increasing the rigour in classes and students should be expecting to see a greater volume of essays, study and assignments outside of school.

It is encouraging to see the students using their binders effectively. The proper use of Cornell note taking is important to their continuation of studies over at the Senior College and also tertiary education.

This term we are also focussing on the importance of improving aspects of their Interim report in readiness for the half yearly report which is a full report of grades, behaviour, attitude etc.

We have been stressing to students that this will be the report that they take to their part time job interviews.



Careers

Tax File Numbers

Any student who has not applied for a tax file number and wishes to do so should see Mr Carter at Felltimber or the office at Huon for a form.

Mock Interviews-Felltimber

Tuesday the 16th and Thursday the 18th June, Year 9 will be hosting mock interviews at Felltimber. All students will be required to attend an interview and they are also expected to dress appropriately for the interviews, eg, business shirt, ties, etc.

There will be more information coming out in assemblies.

Barista Course-Felltimber

This is a course offered to us in Melbourne for students to learn coffee making skills.

There are a few positions available and the cost is \$55 plus travel. The trip is on Thursday, May 28.

Please see Mr Carter in the Year 9 office at Felltimber for more information on the above items.

Camp

The Year 9 camp this year is to Tasmania. We will be looking at the historical sites of Port Arthur, night ghost tours, Cadbury Chocolate factory, Launceston and Cataract Gorge, Hobart and the Blow Hole, the Devils Kitchen, Tasman's Arch and Sorell.

The students will also enjoy some shopping time at Salamanca Place.

The camp runs for 4 days and will be at the end of Term 4.

Expression of interest for the camp was given to students on Friday. Don't miss out!. We can

only take 80 students from each campus.

Signed expression of Interest forms and the \$50 non refundable deposit need to be paid to the front office by May 22. Total cost of the camp is \$495.00



Naplan

The Naplan tests are upon us again. The students have had the opportunity in Maths and English to complete a practise exam. This was to inform students of the areas that they need to improve upon. Majority of these areas would involve going over written notes and putting aside some study time.

Brief finish...

This term is a busy one on terms of study, events and expectations. This is a time of positive results and also reaping the rewards of a positive attitude and behaviour.

Things for students to look forward to are the Camp, South of the Border Day, and Dodgeball.

There is also the positive reward system that Mrs Lees and Miss Smith have initiated for all of Year 9 and some great rewards at the end of term.

Will Pleydon

Year 9 English - A Mother's Day Tribute Poem

MUM

*Beautiful woman
Gorgeous hair
Delicate hands
Sparkling smile
Bright eyes
Caring mother
Loving daughter
INCREDIBLE COOK
Friendly person
Vibrant mind
Contagious laugh
Young girl
Inside a
Young lady*

Teagan Chalker

Sport

Shooting

On Wednesday, May 6, 46 WMYC students together with 4 teachers had their first practice day at the SSAA range in Wodonga. The day



was a great success with



some surprisingly accurate shooters showing off their talents. The students' behaviour was excellent They represented our College well.

Eastern Zone Country Golf Championships

A belated congratulations to Casey Wild of Year 8 who won the girls section of these championships held at Myrtleford on April 23 with a score of 91. Casey will now represent the College at the State finals in October. Well done Casey.

Soccer

The Year 8 boys went to Myrtleford on Wednesday, May 6 to play soccer. The boys had a strong team of seven players, who were eager to have a go. They played 4 games - 3 losses and a magnificent 2 all draw. Seamus Quinn and Ryan Lumby each scored 2 goals for the day. There was no best player as they all played really well as a team. Thanks to everyone who organised the day and to the team members: Seamus Quinn, Jordan Palmer, Zac Barter, Ryan Lumby, David McQuilton, Liam Potter and Tristan Edwards.

Year 8 Girls Soccer

Wednesday the 6th saw the Felltimber Flames Girls Soccer team travel to Wangaratta soccer fields to compete in a round robin competition for the day, playing four games in total.

The girls started very well beating Huon 2 nil, they then drew with Marion College in a very hard fought match. The Girls improved even more beating Galen 3-1 before drawing their last game against Wangaratta High. The girls played well all day and their behaviour was fantastic. Well done to all the girls who played their hardest and as a result they progress through to the Eastern Zone Country stage to be held at Wodonga. Thanks to all the helpers on the day Elsee Cox, Ben Russell and Mason Nhansana for managing the team for the day.

Team members: Jasmine Kohne, Kiera Taylor, Natasha Williams, Emily Flanagan, Sheridan Casley, Tiegan McGuire, Jade Kiffen, Sinead Ryan, Jasmina Radoicic, Sarah Tilev, Kaitlyn Murdoch, Cassandra Lee Hanna, Katherine Greene and Rachel Taylor.

Goals: Cassandra Lee Hanna- 3, Natasha Williams- 1, Emily Flanagan- 1

Brock Shirley

Athletics

Last Friday WMYC sent an athletics team to Albury to compete in the District Athletics Carnival. Our College finished 2nd overall to Wangaratta High School in the school aggregates. A fantastic effort. Our students competed very well, supported each other and were very responsible in their behaviour throughout the day.

Special mention must be made to Jemma Power who was named age champion for the 13 year girls and for equalling the 13 year girls long jump record at 4.46m. Another special mention must also be made to Kylie Whitehead for winning the 15 year girls age group champion.

Results from the day show 1st and 2nd place getters. As a result of this all 1st and 2nd place getters qualify for the Eastern Zone Country Athletics that is held in October.

1st:

Jemma Power (13yr-High jump, long jump, 400m); Kylie Whitehead (15yr-100m, 200m, 400m); Kelsey Pitts (15yr-800m); Danyl Woods (15yr-1500m); Brad Davison (14yr-Discus); Joshua young(15yr-Javelin); Amber Jarrott (15yr-tripple jump, long jump); Rachel Sebastian (14yr-high jump); Laura-Meg Collins (13yr-100m); Jenna-Lea Hynes (15yr-high jump); Jason Colombera (13yr-400m), 13yr girls 4x100m relay; 14yr girls 4x100 relay

2nd:

Brad Davison (14yr-shot put); Joshua young (15yr-100m); Kyle Vaivads (15yr-triple jump); Danyl Woods(15yr-800m); Zoe Gow (14yr-javelin); Ryley Duncan (13yr-1500m); Nida Mollison (14yr-1500m); Kelsey Pitts (15yr-1500m); Joel Heiner (13yr-400m); Katrina Stojanovic (13yr-discus); Alana Hurnan (open 3000m); Ben Greer (15yr-discus); Rowan Daniel (13yr-100m); Shannon Harniman (14yr-100m); Maddison Kaindl (14yr-800m); Tyler Browne (14yr-high jump); Uba Ebube (13yr-shot put); Laura-Meg Collins (13yr-long jump); Kellie Evans (15yr-high jump); Josh Star (13yr-long jump); Luke Davison (14yr-discus); Jeremy Jacobson (15yr-javelin); 14yr boys 4x100m relay; 15yr girls 4x100m relay

Well done to all of those who competed in an event on Friday and congratulations to everyone who made it through to the next stage.

Tim Williamson
Sport Coordinator

What's Happening In My Class...

8F Huon

On May 5, 8F were engaged in making ANZAC biscuits as part of their Gallipoli studies. Over the past two weeks, the class has been completing an assignment on the battles that took place and the reasons why we remember those

who have fought for our country.



Kirk Dunn



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Dates to Remember

Dates for 2009	Activity
Tuesday, May 12 - Wednesday, May 14	► NAPLAN Testing
Tuesday, May 12	► Information Evening for Year 6 students in PAC at WSSC - Woodland Street at 6.30pm
Wednesday, May 13	► WMYC Open Afternoon at Huon and Felltimber for Year 6 students 4 - 6pm
Tuesday, May 19	► Year 7 Soccer
Friday, May 22	► Year 9 Squash and Table Tennis

Canteen Roster - Felltimber

Monday, May 18	Katrina Dawes
Tuesday, May 19	Anne Whitehead
Wednesday, May 20	Helen Deegan
Thursday, May 21	Dot Wallace
Friday, May 22	Marg Quine