

## Principals Report

We have heard a lot recently about violence and acts of violence in the Albury and Wodonga communities. Schools are not immune from the influences of their communities and, as such, the values embodied in those influences. Schools however, in their educative role, have an obligation to create a positive environment which reflects positive community values. This includes teaching strategies to create and maintain positive interpersonal relationships and ways to positively resolve conflicts.

Wodonga Middle Years College has adopted a policy of Restorative Practices to deal with the resolution of conflicts between members of our school community. Restorative Practices addresses the harm that has resulted from conflict and restores the relationship so that those involved can exist together harmoniously. The bottom line for us is that everyone is entitled to be safe at school and we all have a duty not to compromise the safety of others.

Wodonga Middle Years College does not tolerate acts of violence, nor the encouragement of violence, by members of the school community. Acts of violence, should they occur at school, are dealt with using a variety of strategies which may include Restorative Practices, but also more interventionist and punitive strategies when deemed necessary. Options available to us for dealing with students who commit acts of violence include: suspension from school for a period of time; expulsion from school; police involvement and possible criminal sanctions; and perpetrators of violence may be required to obtain counselling, and be actively attempting to redress their violence issues, as a condition of returning to school.

Communities work best when their members are secure and able to go about their business without their safety being threatened by others. They do not work well when their members behave with violence toward one another. We urge parents to discuss, with their children, the need for positive interpersonal relationships and conflict resolution and the need to be able to live peacefully and productively in their community, including at school.

If you have any queries concerning school-related violence, please contact any of the Principals or Year Level Team Leaders.

*Vern Hilditch*  
Principal

## Assistant Principals' Report

### Shoes

A reminder to all parents and students, the uniform policy states that shoes must be **completely black**. If you are having difficulty buying black shoes please speak to your A-Team teacher. Ballet flats will no longer be acceptable footwear in Term 3, shoes need to be completely enclosed. If you are purchasing new shoes, please keep this in mind.

### Finding Solutions Program Term 3, 2009

We are very pleased to be able to include a new and exciting program which will be available to many Middle Years students during Terms 3 and 4. This program commences at both campuses in Term 3.

The Finding Solutions program will be delivered jointly by the Wellbeing team at the College and professionals from Central Hume Support Services.

We warmly welcome Marcus Hutchins and Tahlia McCulloch to our College and look forward to working very closely with them. Marcus will be at Huon campus and Tahlia will be at Felltimber every Tuesday for Term 3, with every possibility of swapping the campus for Term 4.

This is an exciting opportunity to link education and community programs to assist those students and families who may need some help in engaging their sons or daughters in their education and life's pathways.

Should you require any further information please contact either Mandy Knight, Wellbeing Coordinator or Maree Cribbes or Alyson Miller, Assistant Principal's at the College.

*Maree Cribbes, Alyson Miller*

## What's Happening In My Class...

### Literacy Morning Tea

A lot of exciting happenings took place at Huon campus over the course of Education Week 2009. One of which was the 7C Literacy parents morning tea. Students invited parents, carers and significant others to share morning tea and highlight the work that they had produced over the past term and a half.

On Monday morning all of us headed to the Foods room to prepare our treats. On the menu was lemon cake dusted with icing sugar, rocky road slice, sausage rolls with zucchini, rum balls, without the rum of course and choc chip muffins. Whilst we did cheat a little bit with a packet mix everything was 'home made'.

Students delighted in producing the invitations, preparing the menu and cooking with set ingredients. Parents and carers were greeted at the office and escorted along A wing to room A 5 where their child warmly welcomed them with a cuppa.

Parents and carers were shown completed work, played a variety of educational games, including our own version of 'snakes and ladders', where you can only move the number thrown on your dice if you correctly answer a question relating to morphographs and were able to chat to other students and staff.

We thank all the parents, carers and others who took time out from their busy day to help celebrate Education Week. We all enjoyed showcasing the great work that this group of motivated and committed students have achieved. Well done to all.

*Jen O'Donnell*



## Year 7

### Great Girls and Brilliant Boys Day

Tuesday and Wednesday of last week saw all Year 7 classes participating in the Great Girls and Brilliant Boys friendship days at Huon Campus. Whilst the boys headed off to Beechworth for the day, the girls stayed on site and participated in a range of 'girlie' activities.

Returning the next day I asked the 7C boys how their day was. The response from wide eyed happy faces was 'awesome'. 'What happened?', I enquired further. 'Ah can't tell you Ms O'Donnell. What happens on the trip stays on the trip', echoed some youngster. 'Aw come on', chorused myself and the rest of the girls. From then on, and for what seemed like ages all we heard was laughter, cheers and hoots as all the boys proceeded to tell us about the antics they and others got up to on their boys day out.



We heard about fire building, hot milos and damper with jam and honey. About gold panning and fishing, both which yielded 'zip'. There was caving and exploring of mine shafts and stone skimming competitions. There were shoes being lost in mud a foot deep and cries of laughter as one after the other the boys delighted in telling of some near misses. I'm sure there was some exaggerating going on! All in all the boys appeared to have had a wonderful day making new friendships and cementing those already established.



I asked 'do you think it's a worthwhile day'. "You bet" was the response. Some comments included – "The Brilliant Boys Day was a load of great fun. We got to get muddy and have fun. My favourite part was going down the big rock slide and into the dark caves. I also got to make heaps of new friends".

*Matt C*

"It was fun because we went in this cave and it had four tunnels and we followed them. We made a big slide out of rocks and we went down it. I crashed into a huge rock. We went gold panning. I found gold – not really. Just a shiny rock. Mr Z took it off me. Maybe it was gold. I also fell into a blackberry bush".

*Jaiyden L*

"It was awesome because we learnt how to make a campfire and make damper. The best bit was the gold panning. I did not find gold but I still had lots of fun and we went for a long walk".

*Logan A*

"It was awesome because we went into caves and went down a rock slide and played in the bush and mud". Jack K The girls on the other hand spent the morning reflecting on what makes a good friend. Interestingly all groups were able to identify the same qualities of honesty, trust, having fun,

respect and caring and support as the qualities they want in a friend and what they will do for a friend. We spoke about how friendships take work and effort and how the friendship wall can be damaged if these qualities are broken.



After recess we spent time talking about looking after our skin and some do's and don'ts about makeup. Then we applied some makeup on each other. I was rather brave letting Tegan White loose with the foundation and eye-shadow on my own delicate features! The end result was that less is more and many of our girls achieved this result.

After a lunch of pizza and soft drink – why does everyone like Hawaiian? – the girls made a pair of earrings or a bracelet with beads. Whilst this was very fiddly amazing results were achieved. The final session saw us grooving to the beat doing some hip-hop dance moves. We had Mrs Jennings come over from Felltimber and show us a few steps before a few dancers from Huon added their own moves to our routine. Some feedback from 7C girls –



"The Great Girls Day was fantastic and I loved the activities and the lunch. We had pizza and soft drink and I enjoyed the day. I would love to do it again some time soon". *Michaela M* "The Great Girls Day was fun. We did so many exciting activities. We learnt a lot of new things. When the end of the day came we all left the room happy, while wearing our new things we did and made".

*Kaitlyn Z*

"It was awesome because we got to make jewellery and we got to do our make up and we had pizza and soft drink. It was the best day ever".

*Maddison E-H*

Well done to the Year 7 team – a great day was had by all. Special thanks to Trish Maras from Huon and Lara Jennings, teacher from Felltimber who at short notice stepped in and ran a great session for the girls.

*Jen O'Donnell*  
Year 7 Team

## Community Notices



The Women's Centre would like to consult with women in the community to help plan its future services. We would like to know what you think are the

important issues for women's health and wellbeing, and how they may be addressed most effectively.

Where: Banksia B Room, Commercial Club, Albury

When: Tuesday, June 16 from 1 - 4pm

More information: 60411977

Or email [maree@womenscentre.org.au](mailto:maree@womenscentre.org.au)

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## Arts/Technology/LOTE

### Drama News

As we come to the end of Semester 1 Year 8 and 9 Drama courses, the students are gearing up for their major performance assessments. The fabulous Year 8's will be entertaining a Year 7 audience with comedy skits that they have created. Using their knowledge of *Commedia del 'Arte* characters and scenarios and the techniques of stage fighting, these students have put together a first class comedy show. This class has worked hard to learn how to be organized and prepared and they have been dedicated enough to rehearse in their own time as they fine-tuned their performances. I am very proud of them. I would really like to thank and acknowledge the Year 7 Coordinator, Reggie Glass, who has generously offered to assess these performances and to film the students' show.

The Year 7's have been experimenting with tableaux and storytelling. This Semester's students have been energetic, focused and a delight to work with. They have shown an interest in physical theatre and have grasped the basics of mime very confidently. In performing to their peers they are experiencing a growing confidence and we really hope to see lots of them back in Drama next year.

The Year 9's will be undertaking their final community performance assessment on Wednesday evening, June 17 at school. Due to restricted seating space we are only able to invite family members to be in the audience. We are extremely proud of these young performers as they have spent the Semester undertaking an advanced course studying three of Shakespeare's plays. This has been a steep learning curve for all of us and witnessing the evolution of their skills and knowledge has been both exciting and rewarding. In tackling tragedy and social commentary, within Shakespeare's texts, these actors have gained an insight regarding the complex territory of human emotions, passions, motivations and choices. I cannot understate the degree of commitment and dedication many of these students have shown and I warmly congratulate them on an exceptional Semester's study.

**Avril Lambert**  
Drama

### RPM

Year 8 RPM class groups are getting closer to completing their mowers. Students have been rebuilding

engines this term and are also working on the paint work to make them look a little less like lawn mowers.



**Graeme Biggs**

### Foods

There have been lots of wonderful smells coming from the kitchen during this semester. Year 9 students have been baking and decorating cakes and planning and cooking their own healthy meals. Other year levels have been busy making scones, muffins (choice of sweet or savoury), chicken stir-fry, kebabs, spaghetti bolognese, Mexican beef, Chocolate Soufflé Pudding, fruit smoothies, Fettuccine Carbonara, Chocolate Caramel Slice and Tuna Mornay.



### Textiles

This term, Year 7 students at Felltimber who have been doing textiles have had to research, design and construct their own appliquéd cushions. The only limitation was size - no smaller than 30cm x 30cm and no larger than 60cm x 60cm. Once they had their design, they had to choose the materials, cut out and sew on the appliquéd designs before finishing the cushion. Year 7 textile classes at Huon made Zombie Dolls and cushions this term and the Year 8 textiles class made boxer shorts. Well done to all students on their creative designs.



**Marg Williams, Nadine Cox**  
Foods and Textiles

### Music Lessons

All instrumental music students should have received a letter regarding lessons in Term 3. The permission form and payment for Term 3 lessons must be received by the last day of this term if you wish to continue music lessons next term. If you have not received the letter, please see Mrs O'Connell or Mrs Taylor.

### Eisteddfod

The 2009 Eisteddfod will take place during Term 3. Both the band and choir will be performing. Students who are involved in these performances should attend all rehearsals. We would love to see parents and members of the College community attend the performances. Dates and times to be advised.

**Kerrie O'Connell**  
Music

## Footy Trip

### Hawthorn V Geelong - July 25

Get your scarves and beanies out! Come to the MCG on the footy coach Saturday July 25 for the Grand final rematch between a resurgent HAWTHORN and the MERCURIAL CATS. Experience the awesome feeling of being part of a packed MCG, being seated on ground level, under cover, almost behind the goals you will be in the thick of the action!! Places are filling fast, so get your permission forms from the front office at either Felltimber and Huon, invite your family and friends and get on board. Make your application and payment before the holidays.

**Lyn McNicol**

## Chess

The group are playing some great games. Unfortunately some of the games are declared draws as we run out of time. It's good to see the players planning their moves and strategies.

In the coming weeks a new challenge will be put to the students and teachers. We will play a 'Simil' where one player will play 3-4 games at the one time. There will be a team of students and teachers. More news later.

Winners this week: "Sandro", "Pie Master", "Chess Master", "St Henry" and "Shadow".

**Helen Boulton**

## Sport

### NEDSSSA Cross Country- Benalla, June 3

Our College team of nearly 50 students competed at Benalla in the District Carnival. The results were fantastic with our College winning the School Aggregate. Well done to Marion Patterson, Anna Avery and Brock Shirley for their assistance and guidance of the team.

Individual Age Group top four results were:

13 Year Girls: 3rd Laura Collins, 4th Jemma Power, 5th Kaitlyn Zurek, 6th Alana Hurmen

13 Year Boys: 2nd Jason Colombera, 3rd Luke Hawkins, 4th Ryley Duncan, 5th Jacob Scott

14 Year Girls: 2nd Sinead Ryan, 3rd Maddi Kaindl, 4th Rachel Sebastian, 5th Ella Sharp

14 Year Boys: 6th Jake Wyatt, 10th Josh Jensen, 11th Dylan Leitch, 12th Alex Gorka

15 Year Girls: 1st Kelsey Pitts, 2nd Kiah Mack, 3rd Kelly Evans, 4th Sarah Hurmen

15 Year Boys: 3rd Brendan Zurek, 5th Kyle Vaivads, 7th Ash Holden, 10th Dylan Cangia

16 Year Boys: 4th Shawn Tarran

We have 48 students who have qualified for the Eastern Zone Country Cross Country Championships at Broadford tomorrow. We wish them well, particularly with the early start.

### NEDSSSA Badminton

Results have been submitted and congratulations to the Year 8 boys team who finished first. Team was: Beau Styles, Jordan Palmer, Seamus Quinn, Corey Prenter and Arin Kilpatrick. They will compete at the Eastern Zone Country Finals in week three next term. Well done also to the Year 7 girls and the Year 9 boys who finished second.

**Tim Williamson, Kirk Dunn**  
Sport Coordinators

### Junior Girls Football - Huon

On a cold and wet Wednesday, June 3, a group of very enthusiastic footballers travelled to Wangaratta to compete in the Junior Girls football. The first game was against Galen. After an early goal from Amber Jarrott we thought we were in for a good win but unfortunately the girls couldn't quite hold on. Next up we played Wangaratta but once again were defeated. Finally we played against Felltimber. After losing the first half by 20 points the girls managed to come back and win the second half by seven points. This however was not enough and they went down 44-31.

Best player on the day was Amber Jarrott and most improved was Ella Hales.

Congratulations to everyone who participated and to our "super coach" Joe Ziegelbauer.

**Nerae Anstee**



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## Year 9

### Final Weeks of Term Two

During the last two weeks of term 2, Year 9 students from both campuses have a number of things to occupy their minds. Felltimber students will participate in mock interviews this week. See timeline below:

Monday, June 15 - Extended A-Teams

Tuesday, June 16 - First round of Mock Interviews

Wednesday, June 17 - Normal classes

Thursday, June 18 - Second round of Mock Interviews

Friday, June 19 - Normal classes

Mock Interviews - students will be withdrawn from class with 15 minutes to get ready and prepare for their interview. They are allowed to wear their 'interview' clothes all day if they wish. Interviews last for approximately 10-15 minutes and except for that time they are expected to be in class working. The interviews will be conducted by business owners from the local area who have volunteered their time. Please note that this is not an excuse to wear casual clothes.

Huon students will have their mock interviews next term.

Felltimber students will follow this timeline below for the last week of term:

Monday, June 22 - Normal classes

Tuesday, June 23 - Normal classes

Wednesday, June 24 - William De John is visiting the AVID class

Thursday, June 25 - 'South of the Border' Day, celebration of all things South American.

Friday, June 26 - Year 9 are going to see "Land of the Lost" in the morning. Reports handed out after lunch.

### Camp

There are still places available for any students who want to go to Tasmania but haven't yet put their names down. Please see your Coordinator.

### Year 9 Team

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## Dates to Remember

Dates for 2009	Activity
Friday, June 26	► End of Term 2
Monday, July 13	► First Day Term 3
Thursday, July 16	► Presentations - Felltimber
Friday, July 17	► Presentations - Huon

## Canteen Roster - Felltimber

Monday, June 22	Katrina Dawes
Tuesday, June 23	Dot Wallace
Wednesday, June 24	Helen Deegan
Thursday, June 25	Dot Wallace
Friday, June 26	Marg Quine