



**WODONGA**  
MIDDLE YEARS COLLEGE

# Middle Years *my* news



**Newsletter No 26**

**Term 3**

**September 3, 2018**

## Principal's Report

### **Wodonga Arts Festival**

Congratulations to all our students who performed at the Wodonga Arts Festival last week. The Arts festival is a great way for our students to develop their confidence and to work as a team. The talent that was displayed last week was outstanding. Thank you to all the staff involved in preparing Art work, both visual and performing, for the event. Our visual art work was presented very professionally and it was a credit to staff and students alike.

### **Every Day Counts – School Attendance**

We are committed to ensuring all our students get a great education, and a fundamental to getting a great education begins with students coming to school each and every day. Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they'll have missed more than a year of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don't fall behind: Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up. Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan. Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with the House Leaders as early as possible. If you're having attendance issues with your child, please us know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

**Maree Cribbes**  
Campus Principal

## Art, Technology, Language

### **Robotics**

Congratulations to all the VEX teams, who traveled to Melbourne on the 18th, we had a great result with all our VEX EDR teams making it in to the finals but unfortunately they were all knocked out in the first round of semi's.

**Girl Powered**

A huge congratulations for the Huon Girl Powered team who were Judged winners of the Design Award in the VEX IQ class. This is the second highest award that can be won at a VEX robotics competition and has also qualified the team to compete at the Australian Nationals to held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre in December.



Girl Powered is an initiative from



VEX robotics to get more girls interested in STEM subjects and careers which have traditionally seen low numbers of girls. Our college's Girl Powered team 'The Valkyries' is made up of five Year 8 girls - Beth French, Gabrielle Knight, Monique Knox, Ky Rolton and Rhea Nicholls who are the first Victorian IQ team to book their Nationals spot. Well done girls.

Next we are sending teams to Canberra on Saturday Sep 15th to compete against the best teams from the ACT so good luck to all teams who are competing.

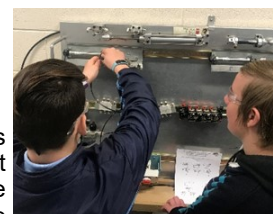
**Mr Rogers and Mr Glasson**  
VEX Robotics teachers

### **TAFE Visit**

On Friday August 24, 35 Year 9 students from both campuses attended a TAFE Experience Day. Students learned about the pathway that TAFE offers and heard from past and current students. Students got to experience 2 of the 5 vocations below:



- Allied Health and First Aid Essentials
- Patisserie and Outdoor Recreation
- Carpentry and Engineering
- Warehousing and Logistics
- Agriculture and Horticulture



It was great seeing the students getting in and having a go at different things and opening their eyes up to the different opportunities that are available.

Big thank you to Marg Benbow, and Will and Daniel from Geared for Careers for organising the day.

**Dan Kadaoui and Sam Stravakos**  
HOLP



### **Arts Festival**

The Wodonga and District's, 2018 Arts Festival has been a great success on many levels this year. The foyer looked resplendent lots of works including large charcoal pieces produced by the Flying Fruit Fly students and a stunning three dimensional mini



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circus village. There was also an array of very impressive art pieces created by Wodonga Middle Years students including abstract works, life drawings of animals, cartoon figures, skeletal heads and life pieces. It was great to see such a fantastic contribution from our students.



The audiences have been captivated by the students' performances and Wodonga Middle Years' music students have shone, with ensemble performances on three days; featuring the choir, concert band and funk band.



Some of our Year 8 and 9 drama students have provided fantastic backstage support, and they have in turn enjoyed the experience and learned invaluable lessons about the

complexities of backstage work, which could in turn even lead to future career interest.

The festival closed last Friday, and will surely go down as one of great success. It is timely, that we congratulate all of the students involved and their teachers for encouraging and supporting them. Thankyou to the organisers who work tirelessly to bring this festival together.

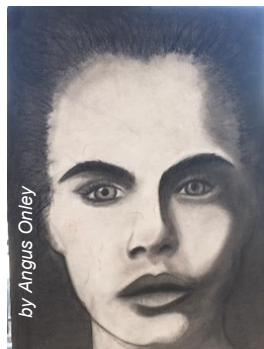
This is a report from Emma Frampton, one of the backstage workers:

From the 27th till the 31st of August, the Regional Arts Festival was held at Wodonga Senior Secondary's Galvin Hall, of which I worked backstage and around the hall two out of the 5 days. Working backstage is a completely different experience than performing or watching as you have almost complete control over what's going on. You pull the curtains, take props, instruments and other equipment on and off the stage (from behind the curtain and not behind it), all while having to do it in your restricted time zone of when the first performance ends to when the second begins. With the help of my fellow classmates and Baranduda Primary School music teacher, Brett Gilby, we successfully pulled off the 2 days I worked backstage, letting the kids and parents have great time and enjoy themselves immensely.

To say that working backstage is hard, would be a bit of an overstatement as it not extremely difficult, it just requires good coordination, time management skills, teamwork and a bit of determination. Although it's not extremely hard, you definitely feel the pressure for the first couple of acts as you suddenly find yourself thinking 'What happens if I mess up the timing of the curtains?' if you're working curtains or 'What happens if we forget to put something onstage?' if you're working on taking off and putting things on the stage. Luckily the schools give you their stage guidelines, so you have something to go off, and yeah, occasionally you may open the curtains at the wrong time or something like that, but it never really affects the act in general and is a great learning tool.

Besides, you get to spend time off school helping make other kids days as well as listening and watching the great acts. I believe that working at the Arts Festival was a great experience and would totally do it again. I would recommend it to anyone who is thinking about it, as you really haven't got anything to lose by doing it. You get to learn how a lot of things work backstage, help take things on and off, make kids and parents days and have a lot of fun doing it and besides you'll be doing it with people you know, so the only really hard thing to do is ask.

Emma Frampton, Year 8, Felltimber



by Angus Onley

**Kim O'Shea and Luke Harmon**  
Arts Leaders

## Year 8

### Fund Raising

Last Thursday the students of 8D at Huon campus, sold a variety of tasty treats to raise money for drought affected farmers. All the ingredients were supplied by students' families and the preparation, cooking and selling was done by the students themselves. Money raised = \$127.25



## Student Leadership

### Student Breakfast

Cathy McGowan, Independent Member for Indi was the guest speaker at the 2nd last breakfast for 2018. Cathy's message to the students was: to encourage them to develop strategies that could be called on, to enable them to have the courage required, to effect change for the better, in the areas that matter to them. Commitment and perseverance will ultimately bring rewards for effort. Our thanks for another positive and encouraging session for leadership development.



**Marg Benbow**  
Student Pathways

WODONGA MIDDLE YEARS COLLEGE AND SENIOR  
SECONDARY COLLEGE PRESENTS.

**BIG NIGHT OUT**

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH 7PM  
GALVIN HALL  
SENIOR SECONDARY COLLEGE  
WOODLAND ST  
WODONGA

COME AND HEAR OUR  
CONCERT BAND, CHOIRS AND VOCAL  
ENSEMBLES, SOLOISTS, ROCK BANDS AND  
FUNK BAND.  
NO CHARGE.

## Dates to Remember

Dates for 2017/18	Activity
September 4	▶ Vocal Concert - Felltimber PAC
September 13	▶ Casual Wear Day ▶ Big Night Out
September 17	▶ Student Led Conferences
September 21	▶ Last Day Term 3

*Every Student, Every Opportunity, Success For All*