Diary Dates

**AUGUST**

**Thursday 7th August**  
Australian Maths Competition  

**Friday 15th August**  
Year 7 Boys Talk/Girls Talk  

**Monday 18th August**  
Year 8 Excursion ‘Italian Masterpieces’ at the NGV

**Thursday 21st August**  
Production: Aladdin commences 6.30pm show  
Year 8 Sport Round Robin Day

**Friday 22nd August**  
Aladdin continues 7.30pm show  

**Saturday 23rd August**  
Aladdin continues 2pm matinee and 7.30pm show

**Tuesday 26th August**  
Intermediate Boys and Girls Basketball and Hockey

**Wednesday 27th August**  
Deke of Edinburgh Afterschool Practice Hike

**Thursday 28th August**  
Year 11 Biology excursion to the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

**Monday 1st September**  
Divisional Athletics

**Friday 12th September**  
Taking the Challenge Day  
Year 8 Drug Education Day - DLC, Theatre

---

It appears that I spoke a little early about our cold snap in the previous edition of Gang Gang as this last week has seen snow falling in Melbourne suburbs, heavy frosts in the mornings and strong southerly winds bringing down branches and trees. For the skiers and snowboarders amongst you the wintry blast possibly brings visions of fresh snow and a winter wonderland. For recreational cyclists like me, it is icy fingers, slippery bridges on the trails and numb feet. However, the weather gods smiled on our staff and students who are taking part in this year’s Great Victorian Bike Ride when they undertook a practice ride from Eastland to the Fairfield Boathouse and back. This was the third practice ride for the team and the longest ride to date. Next they tackle a road ride from Hurstbridge Station to Strathewan and back with a few very steep side roads to test the calves. The 2014 GVBR starts in Albury and finishes in Lilydale, taking in 600 kilometres of the Victorian countryside including the Tawonga Gap and the Black Spur. This will be the fourteenth consecutive year that we have entered a team from Warrandyte High School with students from Year 8 to Year 12 taking part. It is a great adventure, which develops resilience, self-reliance, comradeship and an appreciation of nature. Not to mention ones fitness. This year will be my fourth GVBR and I find that the opportunity it provides for me to interact with, work with and just get to know students from different year levels, whether that be supporting each other on the ride, helping put up and take down tents or sitting down together at the table to eat, is priceless.

Last week I held my once a term Principal’s Assemblies. These assemblies may bear my title, but they are all about our students. At these assemblies we were treated to a performance by the Junior Band and the Choir. We heard readings from Scribbli. Year 12 students Dani Robertson and Jacintha Abandomitz-Lee spoke about the 40 Hour Famine Appeal. Camren Jones and Brigette Nassour from Year 9 treated us with a poetry recital in Italian. Year 10 students, Brittany Anderson, Olivia Kienhuis and Ryley Douglas spoke to our younger students about Work Experience and the opportunities it provides if you put in the early planning. We viewed this year’s school entry in the Eureka Prize competition which featured Year 11 students Jack Poole, Chloé Davies and Taylor Padfield. Kristen Robertson (Year 9), Chloé Marks (Year 8), Ben Davies (Year 8) and the Specialist Dancers then entertained us with a sneak preview of what this year’s school production of Aladdin has to offer and we were treated to two spectacular musical performances by Jackson Price, on guitar, and Jocelyn Barker, on piano. Both Jackson and Jocelyn are in Year 11 and their virtuoso performances demonstrated the fruits of their hard work, dedication and love of music.

Now, I am sure that you have all noticed that this edition of Gang Gang has a very different look. Once again I must give credit to a very dynamic group of parents. David Dyason, Lesley Ryall, Margaret Kelly and Belinda Martin who were the driving force behind our recently released new website and this time they have given their time and expertise to help the school improve both the look and the readability of our school newsletter. I am sure you will agree with me that the result is excellent. Our publication date will now move officially to every second Thursday morning rather than Wednesday to facilitate the few extra steps that are now necessary to complete each new edition.

---

Principal: Dr Stephen Parkin  
Assistant Principal: Pamela Dunstall  
School Captains: Jessica Brincat, Jonty Rushton
SchoolNuts allergy research is coming to Warrandyte High School

Researchers from The Royal Children's Hospital will be visiting Year 7 and 8 students at Warrandyte High School on Wednesday 27 August as part of the “SchoolNuts” program. Researchers are investigating food allergy, anaphylaxis and asthma - why are these conditions increasing and how do they impact children and adolescents? Even if your child does not have an allergy, your participation will help researchers answer these important questions.

All Year 7 and 8 students will be invited to complete a questionnaire if they have parental consent. Upon completion all students will take part in an education session with allergy nurses from The Royal Children's Hospital. An information sheet and consent form will be sent home with your child soon.

Please complete the consent form via one of the following methods:

- Online: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CONSENT-SCHOOLNUTS-QUESTIONNAIRE
- Hardcopy – return the consent form to your child's school or post it directly to MCRI
- Verbally – phone 0467 296 326 and leave a message (listen to the prompts)

Even if your child does not have a food allergy we encourage you to complete and return the forms as this will provide invaluable information which may help future children with allergy.

Pamela Dunstall
Assistant Principal

With the cold weather really hitting us now I thought it was timely to send out a reminder regarding uniform expectations at Warrandyte High School. Warrandyte is a full school uniform school with all school uniform guidelines set out clearly in the student planner.

Although the majority of our students look lovely in full school uniform, there are still a number of non-uniform items creeping in. Some common infringements include:

- Hoodies and other non-uniform jumpers and jackets
- Black socks
- Facial piercings
- Runners or skate shoes

If you are unsure of whether an item is school uniform or not please refer to student planner, our website http://www.warrandytehigh.vic.edu.au/PDF's/Uniform_requirements.pdf or contact your child's level leader, Leigh Thomson, Head of Student Services or myself.

Production 2014

Currently our very talented students are in full flight rehearsing for our production of:

This is a very uplifting show and caters for all ages, log on onto the Warrandyte High School website www.warrandytehigh.vic.edu.au and click on the link on the home page.

Purchase your Aladdin Tickets Online Now

Performances are
- Thursday 21 August early show at 6.30pm,
- Friday 22 August show starting at 7.30pm and
- Saturday 23 August matinee 2pm and 7.30pm shows.

Tickets costs are
- Primary school age students $12.00
- Concession $18.00
- Adult ticket $22.00

Helene Butterworth
Executive Assistant

Gang Gang - Callocephalon fimbriatum, found in the cooler forests of Australia - so yeah!

2015 Student Diary Cover Competition Is Now Open

Start designing our 2015 student diary cover, how wonderful would it be to have your design on every student's diary! Your design may be in the form of any art work or a photo. The only rule is that it must incorporate WHS or Warrandyte High School 2015.

Submit your designs for the cover of the student diary 2015 to Mrs Butterworth in the General Office. The closing date is 29 August 2014.
Great Warrandyte High Bake Off

Here is your chance to show off your culinary, literary and artistic skills by decorating a cake inspired by a book you have read. Last year was our inaugural competition and the standard has been set HIGH!

We have several categories:
- best junior (years 7 -9),
- best senior (years 10 – 12),
- best cupcake
- overall champion!

Don’t forget to visit our Pinterest site for inspiration:
http://www.pinterest.com/jste0057/book-inspiration:

It has become a hive of activity with students enjoying chess, Connect 4, knitting and crocheting and of course reading and getting a head start into the library and GET CONNECTED!

So instead of shivering in the cold come into the library and GET CONNECTED!

Lunchtimes in the Library

During these cold, wet, windy days the library is a great place to spend lunchtime. It has become a hive of activity with students enjoying chess, Connect 4, UNO, knitting and crocheting and of course reading and getting a head start on homework tasks!

So instead of shivering in the cold come into the library and GET CONNECTED!

Melbourne Writer’s Festival

A library excursion has been planned for the Melbourne Writer’s Festival on Tuesday 26 August. Places are limited and students who would like to attend should see Ms Steel in the library as soon as possible.

Students will attend three sessions including SLAM poetry and a talk by local authors Cath Crowley and David Metzenthin.

Judy Steel
Library Leader

Education Maintenance Allowance

Information about changes to Education Maintenance Allowance as a result of the School Reform Agreement made between the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government.

What is EMA?
The Education Maintenance Allowance currently provides financial assistance to low-income families to help meet costs associated with the education of their children.

How it is paid?
Parents can currently elect to have their EMA paid in one of the following ways:
- paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into the parent’s bank account;
- paid directly to the school to be held as credit which the parent can use towards education expenses; or
- paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013 over 70 per cent of parents receiving the EMA chose to have their EMA paid directly to their school. Each school would then use the funds for a range of expenses for that child.

Who is eligible?
The EMA currently provides financial assistance to Victorian families on a low income to help with the cost of educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions.

It is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink or Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible.

What is changing?
In the recent School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government has changed the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

From 2015, the Government will distribute the funds previously used for the EMA directly to schools. DEECD will develop the arrangements to be used to distribute these funds to schools – consultation will occur with stakeholders about this.

Why?
Under the recent School Funding Reform an additional $12.2 billion will be allocated to Victorian schools.

Will my child be worse off?
No. Education funding for children will increase but will be delivered to your child in a new way through their school. The new agreement provides that schools with the most vulnerable students will receive the funding they need.

The students who will benefit the most from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.

Jill Treeby
Business Manager

LOTE News - From our Italian Assistant

If you happened to be in Carlton, last week, on 24 July, you might have come across some Warrandyte High School students going up and down Lygon Street, again and again, and not because they were skipping school and just strolling around.

All the Year 9 students were asked to meet in Argyle Place at Piazza Italia, which was their starting point, quite meaningful in its name, in order to explore the Italian suburb.

Students were divided into two groups and they followed two different walking trails, stopping at the shops and cafés indicated: they had to find the places, locate them, take some notes about their products and history and of course, about the related history of Italian migrants.

We also had the chance to visit the Italian Museum. The exhibition dealt with Italian migration to Australia, and the culture created by Italians in this country after their arrival in the Fifties. The museum explores the nature of contemporary Italian Australian identity, an identity which I discovered to be much more conservative than ours. In the display cabinets there were objects I have never seen before, only read about, and in some videos Italian Australian families showed all their skills and knowledge in collective practices we have probably forgotten a long time ago. Paradoxically, Australian people with an Italian background are often far more traditional than we are, at least in Rome.

I also discovered that the first Italian migrants to Melbourne were all musicians from Viggiano, a very small mountain village in the South of Italy, in the middle of nowhere. This is a place usually nobody knows, but where a close musician friend of mine is from.

Finally, we went to have lunch together, in an Italian restaurant naturally, where they served pasta and pizza.

Ludovica Lannini
Italian Assistant
Term 3 is a very busy time of year for Careers. We have started the process of subject selection for 2015 with course counselling for students in Years 9-11. Students in year 12 will also be undertaking the important process of deciding what they want to do in 2015, if they want to go to University, TAFE, take on an apprenticeship or employment. If you would like to stay up to date with Careers Information I publish a newsletter every few weeks with information about courses, careers and other important dates and events. If you would like to be included in this newsletter please send an email to careers@warrandytehigh.vic.edu.au and I will add you to the list. A copy of the latest Careers Newsletter is attached to this Gang Gang if you want to look through.

Term 2 was a busy term for Year 10 students as they organised their work experience, OHS modules and had careers talks from people in the local and wider community. Please read below Nick Wade’s encounter of his work experience placement.

Career Newsletter No. 9: August 4

Eastland Careers Expo Tuesday August 5 6-8.30pm

OPEN DAYS:
Sun 10 Aug  ACU (Melbourne), Deakin (Geelong), RMIT (Bundoora, Brunswick, City)
Sun 17 Aug  La Trobe Uni (Bendigo), Melbourne; Monash (Parkville)
Sun 24 Aug  Box Hill, Deakin (Melbourne), La Trobe (Melbourne), Victoria, William Angliss
Sun 31 Aug  ACU (Ballarat), Federation Uni (Ballarat & Gippsland)
Holmesglen – has ‘Open Wednesday’ each week – see their website to book a visit.

RMIT OPEN DAY – Plan your visit (10 Aug) by seeing www.rmit.edu.au/openday. Choose which presentations, information areas, displays and activities you will attend before your arrive on campus. A shuttle bus will run between the City, Bundoora and Brunswick campuses throughout the day. All university Open Day programs are on their websites.

KANGAN INSTITUTE OPEN DAYS – See what is offered at Kangan campuses.
When: 9 Aug – Docklands campus; 24 Aug - Richmond; 30 Aug - Moonee Ponds (10am-4pm).

RMIT FLIGHT TRAINING OPEN DAY – Visitors can take guided tours, find out about booking a trial introductory flight, and get advice from flight instructors and staff on how to start a career as a professional pilot.
When: 10am-4pm, Sunday 31 August;
Where: RMIT Flight Training, Point Cook site, Building 202, Williams Rd, RAAF Base, Point Cook.

PHARMACY AT MONASH UNIVERSITY
The Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will kick off National Science Week with an Open House at the Parkville campus. This is an extension of open day, showcasing courses and demonstrating how fun and inspiring science can be. One lucky visitor will take home a $5000 prize pack including travel vouchers, a bicycle, Monash goods, an iPad and $2000 cash. Tours will include a journey through the drug discovery pipeline; see first-hand how pharmaceutical scientists create, formulate and test medicines. The event coincides with the University of Melbourne Open Day, a short distance away on Royal Pde.
When: 10am-3pm, Sun 17 Aug; Info: www.destination.monash/open-house/

YEAR 12 NEWS –
VTAC APPLICATIONS – Applications for university, VET and private provider courses for 2015 open on Monday 4 August through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre. Any Year 12 student wishing to apply for courses needs to visit www.vtac.edu.au. Timely applications close on 30 September. You can apply for up to 12 courses, placing them in the order you most want them. You will receive an offer in January for the highest course in your list for which you meet the requirements (eg ATAR). Make sure you check out prerequisites and the selection criteria for all courses for which you are applying.

Continued next page
In the last week of term 2 the year 8 students participated in the Science Active Learning Project. A primary focus of the Science ALP was on developing the student’s ability to both think and work scientifically.

The students undertook both independent and cooperative learning activities designed to engage and further develop the inquiry and practical skills developed in general Science lessons. There was a strong focus on developing the independent learning, persistence and learning resilience in the students. In addition, students participated in a specially designed workshop on improving memory through the use of memory techniques. These are all elements within our growth mindset framework at Warrandyte High School.

A major task within the ALP was for the students to work as a team to research, plan, conduct and report on a science investigation. The students were able to choose their own research question and had to design an experiment that would test their hypothesis. Some of the topics the students chose to research and test include:

- investigating the effects of caffeine/sugar on reaction time and heart rate
- investigating how the colour of food can affect the perception of taste
- investigating which methods/products are most effective for straightening hair
- investigating the flammability of fabrics and their applications
- which brands of paper towel are the most absorbent
- investigating if people can taste the difference in sugar concentrations of different soft drinks

The students were required to plan and conduct a fair investigation that would provide them with results that would either support or reject their hypothesis. The students then presented their research and results with their peers.

At the end of the ALP the students completed an anonymous online survey and the findings are as follows:

- 83% of the cohort enjoyed working as a whole year level
- 89% of students believed they worked effectively with their group
- 72% of students found designing and conducting their own Science investigation a valuable experience.
- 78% of the students are confident in their understanding of the Scientific method.

It was pleasing to hear positive feedback such as the comments below, from the year 8 students at the end of the ALP:

“I learnt things that I wouldn’t normally think of” - Emma Griffiths

“I learnt a lot of new things from other people’s experiments and from my group’s experiment as well” - Eliza Shiels

SPECIAL ENTRY ACCESS SCHEME (SEAS) – The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) 2015 Guide has a section about SEAS Check whether you are eligible for any special consideration for your course application (pages 30-43). There are five categories of disadvantage. NOTE: SEAS applications are made on the VTAC website, but can only be done after applying for courses (applications close: 7 Oct). www.vtac.edu.au/who/seas.html.

SCHOLARSHIPS AFTER YEAR 12 – Most institutions listed in the VTAC Guide have a number of scholarships available to applicants. Scholarships either require a direct or VTAC application. Read the Guide (Pages 44-50), see the VTAC website, and institution websites. Some scholarships appear in the body of the VTAC Guide course descriptions (eg Swinburne Information Technology (Scholarship Program), page 469.

ACCESS MELBOURNE – ‘Access Melbourne’ (University) provides educational opportunities for students from a range of backgrounds enrolling in undergraduate degrees. The University has a selection guarantee for eligible applicants in the following Access Melbourne categories:

- Disadvantaged financial background
- Applicants from rural or isolated areas

Those who complete an Australian Year 12 or the IB in 2014 and are eligible for one or both categories, are guaranteed a Commonwealth Supported Place in undergraduate degrees, providing they meet the course prerequisites and achieve the following ATAR or notional ATAR: Arts, Environments, Science – ATAR 78+; Commerce – ATAR 88+; Biomedicine – ATAR of 95+. If a student’s ATAR is below these, they will still be considered for a place. Applicants eligible for other Access Melbourne categories will be considered individually: www.access.unimelb.edu.au.

FINE ARTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE – Some specialisations of the B. Fine Arts at the Southbank campus require VTAC applications to be completed earlier than the usual closing date (5pm EST, 30 Sept). Animation, Film and Television, and Screenwriting require applications by 5pm (EST) on 29 August. The Dance specialisation has a timely closing date of 29 August to guarantee a live audition. The final closing date is 5pm (EST) on 7 November and applicants will not be guaranteed a live audition.

WHAT IS INDUSTRY BASED LEARNING? IBL is a joint venture between university educators and employers offering students relevant paid industry experience. It is offered by several universities, sometimes taking place for six or 12 months prior to completing the final year of the degree. Monash offers IBL to IT students, with a full-time, paid ($17,000), 22 week placement at a leading company. This particular placement counts towards the degree. Swinburne offers IBL in a large range of their degrees. Check out other IBL opportunities at university Open Days. It is a great way to get work experience, perhaps leading to employment.

PARENTS AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION – Universities know parents play an important role in providing advice, information and support to their children as they plan the future and consider options. Melbourne University has some online resources for parents/guardians to help understand options, entry requirements and what is on offer. See www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/parents.

WHY STUDY PHYSICS? Physics explores our universe at a fundamental level. It provides the basis for many existing technologies (eg computers, lasers, medical imaging, power generation, and so on). It provides the basis for many emerging technologies (eg nanotechnology, quantum computing, atomtronics, and so on). Physics graduates are skilled in empirical reasoning, computational modelling, problem solving and analytical thinking, data analysis, and written and oral communication. Physicists find employment as acoustical physicists, accelerator physicists, astronomers, biophysicists, climate modellers, and so on. They work in industry, for government, in hospitals, universities, and the financial sector. Future careers that will use physicists are atomtronics, complex systems modelling, quantum computing, space industry, spintronics, synthetic biology, functional materials, energy technology, security and data protection. Amazing! For information about studying physics at Monash University, see www.physics.monash.edu. NOTE: The Melbourne University School of Physics has a lecture for VCE physics students called ‘Light...Waves or Particles?’ Based on the VCE study (Unit 4, Study 2), it will help you understand this topic.

When: 6pm, Thurs 7 Aug; Where: Hercus Theatre, School of Physics, Corner Tin Alley and Swanston Streets; Info: Max 4041990142.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY - ‘Explore Occupational Therapy as a Career’ at an information evening for those considering the career. Hear from OT’s experienced in spinal rehabilitation, hand therapy, mental health, neurology. When: 5pm registration, then 5.30-8pm, Thurs 11 Sept; Where: Education Precinct. Level 4 Austin Tower, Austin Hospital, Studley Rd, Heidelberg; Book: renee.bartlett2@austin.org.au by 5 Sept (max two attendees per reservation). Compiled by: A. Silipo and M. Walker

Amanda Silipo
Careers Leader

Sarah Boodle
Science Teacher
Growth Mindset

Warrandyte High School Learning Community has been developing and embedding a Growth Mindset philosophy and approach to teaching and learning. The staff and students have been learning about their capacity to build their brain and improve their memory through persistence. Approaching learning with a fixed mindset presents many problems as it sets limits around achievement. Students with fixed ideas about their abilities place limits around learning capacity whereas simple changes in a student’s belief system can have a dramatically positive effect on their learning and ultimately their performance.

The staff and students have been learning and approach to teaching and learning. Our Year 7 students were introduced to the principles of Growth Mindset in a workshop run during Term 2. Year 7 students are now about to commence their ‘Brainology’ unit within their Science classes, undertaking an interactive online learning program supplemented with practical lessons about the brain and learning.

Year 8 students have been introduced to the amazing capacity of the brain and how to improve their skills through practice and persistence. During Sport classes late in Term 2 we introduced juggling lessons to emphasize the power of positive attitude, persistence and practice in building brain development and skills. It was very inspiring to witness the visible growth in skills through effort and application.

During the Year 8 Science ALP, students participated in a specially designed workshop on the capacity of human memory and how using simple memory mnemonic techniques can be used to improve encoding and recall of new content.

- The ‘Human Brain’ workshop was also presented to all Year 9 students earlier this year through the Taking the Challenge Program. The program runs for the whole day and the students participate in a lecture and a series of cooperative learning activities to improve their understanding of the brain’s structure and function and memory and learning.

We are working to cultivate a growth Mindset in all our students. Here are a few of the explicit programs that have been implemented this year designed to educate students about the power of effort, the value of persistence and the amazing capacity of the human brain.

- Our Year 7 students were introduced to the principles of Growth Mindset in a workshop run during Term 2.
- Year 7 students are now about to commence their ‘Brainology’ unit within their Science classes, undertaking an interactive online learning program supplemented with practical lessons about the brain and learning.
- Year 8 students have been introduced to the amazing capacity of the brain and how to improve their skills through practice and persistence. During Sport classes late in Term 2 we introduced juggling lessons to emphasize the power of positive attitude, persistence and practice in building brain development and skills. It was very inspiring to witness the visible growth in skills through effort and application.
- During the Year 8 Science ALP, students participated in a specially designed workshop on the capacity of human memory and how using simple memory mnemonic techniques can be used to improve encoding and recall of new content.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fixed Mindset</th>
<th>Growth Mindset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intelligence is innate</td>
<td>Intelligence can be developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hide mistakes and deficiencies</td>
<td>Confront mistakes and deficiencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looking clever is important</td>
<td>Learning is important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning should come naturally</td>
<td>Work hard and effort is the key</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responds poorly to feedback from others</td>
<td>Learn from criticism and suggestions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can be threatened by the success of others</td>
<td>Seek strategies to improve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoids trying new things</td>
<td>Enjoys new challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finds it hard to cope with setbacks</td>
<td>Setbacks are opportunities to learn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blame others for their setbacks</td>
<td>Accepts responsibility for setbacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effort is a waste of time</td>
<td>People can only improve with effort.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is Growth Mindset all about?

Mindsets are beliefs - beliefs about yourself and your most basic qualities.

Your mindset defines what you believe about your intelligence, your talents, your personality. Are these qualities simply fixed traits, carved in stone... Or are they things you can cultivate, throughout your life?

Changing ones beliefs is empowering and can give the individual control over their future.

Girls Talk and Boys Talk

On 15 August all Year 7 students will participate in a fabulous program run annually at Warrandyte High School. This program focuses on adolescent development. The content is presented in a unique and highly engaging format; through a comedy drama performance (Class Act Theatre Company) and a workshop delivered by youth worker Kate Wilde. We look forward to the program, which has been a great success in previous years.

Luca Di Stefano
Year 7 Level Leader

G’Day USA

I have been lucky enough to be allowed to join up with a group of Warrandyte High School students who will be travelling to the USA at the end of the year as part of a student exchange program. We have five excited students participating. We will join with a larger group from Bendigo and Mornington SC’s. Fifty of us will form the “Sapphire” Travel Group. Overall, the travel company (EWT) will be sending some 1400 Aussie students to various parts of America over January 2015.

The tentative itinerary includes LA, San Francisco and a homestay in Seattle. Whilst in Seattle we will attend school for two days and tour the city and surroundings for the rest of our stay. A ski day is included, so you can imagine it will be a really amazing experience. Right now we are selecting our optional tours (ummm, will we do a night tour of San Francisco in stretch limo??) Accommodation in LA will be at Knotts Berry Farm Resort, nice and convenient to a number of attractions.

This program is not a Warrandyte High School activity, it is an exchange program organised by EWT which takes place during the school holidays.

Claire Bloom
ICT Teacher
Visual Art Excursion

On Tuesday 29 July, the Year 12 Studio Arts class ventured into the city to view the work of Chinese contemporary artist, Wang Gongxin, whose work is currently being exhibited at the National Gallery of Victoria. There we had the privilege of observing a range of unique installations by Gongxin of which included many aspects of large scale visual media. We were then given an informative lecture about Wang Gongxin by Michelle Stockley where we learnt about his cultural background and his subject matter.

After a quick bite to eat, our class was then escorted through Melbourne city to the trendy Flinders Lane Gallery. There we saw some the works by Michelle Molinari and Jon Eiseman and glimpsed how the exhibition space of a commercial gallery was organized and run.

Once our time in Flinders Lane Gallery had ended, Mrs Dale proceeded to take us into Degraves Street. There we were guided through the collection of artworks in an artist run space called ‘Platform’ located in the Melbourne Subway. The space featured a spread of differing artists and styles of mainly contemporary art. This gave us an idea of what pathways an up-and-coming artist can take in order to have their work exhibited.

Overall we had a fantastic day in the city learning about Wang Gongxin’s work and exploring the various galleries we visited throughout the day!

Ainsley Hyde and Bianca Bedford
Year 12 Studio Arts Students

International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Conference

Over the last holidays, I was lucky enough to attend one of the largest education conferences in the world – ISTE is held each year in different parts of the US, with thousands of teachers from around the world attending. I believe that this year there was something like 21,000 teachers and others associated with education and schooling. Although friends of mine had attended before, nothing could prepare me for the immensity of this event.

This year ISTE was held in the very hot, humid city of Atlanta, in the southern state of Georgia. I had heard bad things about this city. My roommate was rather surprised when making the train trip from the airport to our hotel, when a young guy got on the train with a large gun hanging from his belt. We later learned that carrying a gun is quite legal in Georgia as long as it’s not concealed. Other states make it legal as long as the gun is hidden!! Target was getting a lot of publicity (good and bad) for asking shoppers to please remove their gun before entering their stores. One of the areas of hot debate was a proposal by politicians in Texas to arm and train teachers to shoot. I think this proposal will be defeated, but I have never felt so glad to be an Aussie!

Overall though, I found people to be very friendly, helpful and welcoming. I had the chance to do a bit of sightseeing including the Martin Luther King National Memorial, which was very moving, the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, very beautiful and the newly opened museum of Civil Rights, which was fascinating. I also couldn’t resist popping into Margaret Mitchell’s house – she wrote only one novel but what a classic it was (Gone with the Wind), and was a very unconventional Southern Belle (a bit like her heroine, Scarlett)

The conference consisted of a choice of hundreds of sessions over the four days. I can’t go into each and every session I attended, but can only say, I rated them all highly and came back with lots of ideas to work on with my colleagues, and some tips to share in future editions of GangGang. The trade display was also amazing – a small city in itself, with each vendor running demos, lessons and competitions. 3D printing is a very big thing as was augmented reality, Google Glass and other wearable technologies. I was able to network and build contacts with teachers from all over the US and the World, including Canada, Israel, South Africa and the UK. It was a truly inspiring experience, and fingers crossed, I hope I can do it again because technology does not stand still.

Claire Bloom
ICT Teacher
Senior and Junior Rugby matches against St Monica's College

A great job from all our players. Our senior team lead by school captain Jonty Rushton played with tremendous effort and pride. It is really exciting watching the team play, full of enthusiasm, motivation and commitment. The senior team was winning by 2 tries in the first half, but due to lack of players we lost the second half. It is an absolute credit to the young men who keep playing and playing really hard. For some of the team it was their final match for the school so thank you for your efforts over the years!

The junior team also played with sheer determination and effort. Congratulations go to them as they won a very close game. The boys needed to listen carefully to coaches and really extend their game play in the second half and as a result they came away with the win after scoring a number of tries. Well done to all players and we look forward to more development leading to the junior boys tournament later in the term.

Warrandyte High’s first entrance to Victorian Schools Mountain Bike Championships

Four of our students took part in Warrandyte’s first ever school mountain bike team. They took part in the Victorian School Race 1 of the season at Redhill on Sunday 27 July. The course was fast and technical, with some parts proving quite slippery with wet, muddy conditions. All boys completed their events extremely well with the final results yet to be confirmed on the website.

There are two more races in the series. If you are interested in competing and would like more details please contact me during school time.

Once again well done Tristan West, Dylan Lee-Porcher, Harry Bebbington and Callum Hildebrand!

Clare Rayner
Sport Leader

The Canteen is selling hot toasted sandwiches at recess for $2.50, ham & cheese, and ham, cheese & tomato are available. Egg and bacon rolls are periodically available at recess as well. Volunteers are always welcome in the canteen.

If you are available we are seeking someone who can come in on a Friday whether it be every week or just occasionally.