A major focus at Warrandyte High School over the past two years has been to develop and embed a Growth Mindset Culture. The leading academic in the study and understanding of mindsets is Professor Carol Dweck, the Lewis and Virginia Eaton Professor of Psychology at Stanford University. Professor Dweck is currently in Australia and earlier this week I had an opportunity to attend a presentation by her and also to take part in discussions with other school and business leaders about the implementation of Growth Mindset in learning institutions. Growth Mindset will continue to be a focus for the school as we build our students’ self-belief and faith in their ability to grow and learn.

A key ingredient in this is the type of feedback that we, as teachers, and you, as parents, provide to your children. Achievement should be celebrated, but it must be effort that is praised, not intelligence. Intelligence is not a fixed trait. It can be changed and developed. Praising intelligence leads to the need ‘to look intelligent at all costs’. This can lead to avoidance of challenging situations and problems. Praising effort leads to a ‘learn, learn, learn’ philosophy where it is much more important to learn than to simply appear smart.

School Self-Evaluation and Review

We are currently undertaking a self-evaluation which will lead to our regular four year review. This is a significant opportunity for discussion, consultation and leadership from students, staff and parents. The self-evaluation is a thorough analysis of how the human, financial, physical and information resources of the school have been deployed to achieve the school’s goals and priorities in student achievement, engagement and wellbeing.

Currently three staff teams, led by Barry Carozzi, Natalie Manser and me, are analysing the multiple forms of data available to the school. This includes various student achievement, engagement and wellbeing data, such as NAPLAN and VCE results; staff, student and parent survey data; attendance, retention and destination data; just to name a few. Staff and student focus groups are being set-up and a parents’ forum is planned for the evening of Tuesday 16 September. Please note this date in your diary.

Stephen Parkin
Principal
Change of uniform for 2015 and beyond

From the beginning of 2015 there will be a change in uniform for boys from Years 7-12. The boy’s polo shirt is being removed as a uniform item and all boys will be required to wear the white school shirt with the Gang Gang logo. This change is being phased in, with Year 7 boys in 2015 unable to purchase or wear the polo. Year 8-12 boys are still able to wear the polo shirt in 2015 and 2016, however, from the beginning of 2017 the polo shirt will no longer be an acceptable uniform item. Uniform supplier FCW will stock the polo until the end of 2015 or until current stock lasts. No new orders of the polo will be made.

There will also be a slight change to the girl’s winter uniform with black socks replacing white socks with the girl’s winter skirt at Years 7-12.

A reminder of this change will be sent out to families later in the year.

School nuts program

As mentioned in the last issue of the Gang Gang the Murdoch Children’s Institute, in collaboration with the Royal Children’s Hospital will be presenting a nut allergy seminar to all Year 7 and 8 students on 27 August. Students in these year levels should have received an information pack and consent form which outlines what is involved in the program. The program is made up of two parts, a research questionnaire which parental consent is required for and an information session that all students will attend.

The participation of Warrandyte High School in this program will greatly benefit the further research into the reasons for food allergy and why some children develop them while others don’t. So even if your child doesn’t have a food allergy, their participation in the program is invaluable.

Consent to participate can be made via the web (www.mcri.edu.au/schoolnuts), via verbal consent (0467 296 326) or through the consent form including in the information package.

All students who return their consent forms, even if they indicate they do not want to participate in the survey, will be put into a draw to win a double movie pass.

A further reminder will be given to students in the week prior to the seminar.

2015 course counselling

A big thankyou to the senior school counselling team who undertook the course counselling for all students in Years 9-11. Students discussed career options and subject choices with a member of the team with subject selection forms for 2015 submitted following this. Any students who have not submitted their forms are reminded to do so as soon as possible. Final course selections will be available to students during Term 4.

Amanda Silipo, Careers Leader and Kelleigh Lamb, Year 12 Level Leader, are now currently working on futures pathways with all Year 12 students.

Pamela Dunstall
Assistant Principal

Production 2014

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

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

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.
Everyone who wanders into the library will see a place filled with colour, inspiration and energy.

Junior students have been busily writing short book reviews for our ‘Warm Up to a Good Book’ display.

The colourful teacups look fabulous adorning the window. Each one contains a review of one of our library books…. Lots of recommendations for students looking for a good book to read.

This week sees the library celebrating Children’s Book Council Book Week with a range of activities organised for students. Look forward to the next edition of Gang Gang for a full report and photos of the decorated cake competition, the pizza & book lunch and the Melbourne Writer’s Festival excursion.

Students may want to borrow books shortlisted for book of the year:
• The incredible here and now.
• Life in outer space
• Fairytales for Wilde girls
• The first third
• Wildlife
• The sky so heavy

2013 Year 12 Studio Art student Georgia Grant is currently exhibiting as part of the “Artists on Were Street” in Montmorency.

LOTE News - From our Italian Assistant

I like living in Melbourne. I live in a nice house in Abbotsford, together with an Australian girl and a guy from New Zealand. I have a coffee maker in my kitchen and rosemary in my backyard, which means, I do not need anything. But sometimes I miss my hometown. A place you have probably heard of, set in the centre of Italy, its name is Rome, young people from the city like calling it “RHome”.

If you happen to get there, and you definitely must go there, here is a list of ten places you can’t miss and which are not as famous as the Colosseum.

Parco Savello, known to Romans as ‘Giardino degli Aranci’ (Orange garden), is a pocket-sized garden on the Aventin Hill, with a panoramic terrace over the Tiber. In summer, theatre performances are sometimes staged among the perfumed orange trees.

Monti, the ancient “Suburra”, was the place where poor people lived during the Roman Empire, full of disreputable locals and brothels. Now, it is a beautiful area people go to just stroll around, especially at around 7.30 pm, the usual time to get an ‘aperitivo’. There are plenty of nice cafés you can get a drink in, or you can simply sit down in Piazza della Madonna dei Monti, on the fountain steps, and have a cheap beer outdoor. If you are keen on art and fashion, there are also interesting galleries, vintage stores and independent fashion boutiques in the area. In addition, the Monti district is the scene of an annual festival, called “Ottobrata monticiana” (first half of October). The program for this includes concerts, DJ sets, recitals in Roman dialect and stands selling typical food and wine.

Trastevere, with its characteristic narrow cobbled streets, lined by medieval houses, the ancient ‘Trans Tiberim’ (beyond the Tiber) is actually a very famous area. But you probably don’t know ‘San Calisto’, a small dirty café where old men from the neighborhood play cards during the day. At night, it turns into the place where the whole of the young Roman population meets. If you go there, you bet you will meet someone you know. If you haven’t seen someone for a while, you bet you will meet her there, sooner or later, whether you want it or not. It is also the only place in Rome where you can find an ice-cream, and a good one, for just one euro. The specialty of the house, though, is the so called ‘sgroppino’, a mixed drink composed of lemon sorbet, prosecco and vodka.

Foro Boario was the cattle market of Ancient Rome. Less known than the world famous “Foro Romano”, it is far less crowded as well. I often went there with my school, as archaeology was our main extra-curricular activity. I have never seen a tourist there, but if you are interested in history and art there are some beautiful temples which are worth visiting. One is dedicated to Fortuna, the goddess of luck and another to Apollo Medico, who protected the sick and guaranteed health, thus getting there could also turn out to be useful, you never know. – To be continued.

Ludovica Lannini
Italian Assistant
There has been a lot going on in the Music Department recently. The Music Camp was a huge success with a variety of performances and collaborations culminating in our Camp concert on return and the recording of our annual CD on site at Arrabri lodge.

Both our Year 12 VCE Music Investigation and Music Performance Students are rising up to the practical and theoretical challenges that are being set for them with the academic year drawing to a close.

Piano Teacher Georgia Bate has started a keyboard ensemble that rehearses Thursday lunchtimes. The Piano program is at capacity now, with a full day of Year 7, 8 & 9’s. The Program is progressing very positively with the keyboard ensemble collaborating with the guitar ensemble and choir on the recent Music camp.

Jocelyn Barker was given the honour of performing a solo piano piece for the Education Department’s North Eastern Victoria Region concert held at Hamer Hall last term. Her performance was spectacular and we hope to publish the DVD on our school’s website next term.

Congratulations also to Erin Theodore, Camren Jones and Keagan Scheller who rehearsed and performed in the Region’s Back In the Groove Concert band at Hamer Hall.

Kal Stavropoulos
Music Leader

Deakin University Work Experience
From the 16 to 20 June, Jasper Bremner and I participated in the Work Experience program at Deakin University in Burwood run by Michael Holmes, the Head of the School of Life and Environmental Sciences.

This program covered a very vast variety of sciences and was effectively a week as a uni student. It was a very practical based week, with some theory, of course. We spent a lot of our time in the laboratory doing experiments involving extraction and identification of DNA. We also did quite a few practical exercises in which we promoted the growth of bacteria, which we then looked at through the microscopes.

We studied and identified plants and insects and even skulls of animals like camels, horses and koalas. We also made (and ate!) ice cream in the chemistry lab.

We located buildings and statues around the campus with our GPS units, which we later mapped on a program on the computer. Finally, we went down to Gardiners Creek, which runs through the campus, and found out the flow rate, clarity, turbidity, PH levels and depth.

All in all, it was a very worth-while week which I enjoyed. I’d recommend it to anyone who is good at and really enjoys sciences like chemistry and biology and would like to see some of the technical practical sides of the sciences.

Brett Watkinson
Year 10

Daily Specials
@ $5.00
Ordering would be appreciated

Monday
Chilli Chicken Sub or Tandoori Wrap

Tuesday
Chicken Burger, Meatball Sub or Spaghetti Bolognaise

Wednesday
Fried Rice or Hot Dog, Cheese & Sauce

Thursday
Chicken Schnitzel, Nachos Box

Friday
Souvlaki – Chicken or Lamb or Fish & Wedges

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.

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

Cheryl Hart
Canteen Leader

The Fireball will honour our volunteer fire fighters and raise money for Warrandyte CFA stations. Money raised will help fund a new fire tanker.

Donate. Buy tickets. Sponsor a firie’s ticket at: trybooking.com

Remember to ask friends and business contacts to sponsor with cash donations, items or services & ‘like’ and ‘share’ our Facebook page posts.

18th October at Olivigna 7pm

The Fireball is a gala event with gourmet cocktail food & wine, live music & dancing, auction items, prizes & more! Tickets $120.