



# Gang Gang

## Warrandyte High School

Issue 14 | Term 3 | 2015

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Our school production **"The Addams Family"** held its final performance on Saturday night. Once again our students put on a wonderfully entertaining show.

I hope that you were all able to attend at least one performance, both for your own enjoyment and also to show support for our talented students who have worked so hard to create such a great show. Each year I am amazed at the breadth and depth of talent that our students display and I would like to congratulate the entire cast for their professional performance. On behalf of the whole school community I would also like to thank all the staff, students and parents who worked in the background and gave up their time willingly to enable the show to occur. For a much more detailed insight into the show, please read Mr Caruana's review in this edition of Gang Gang.

Congratulations of the highest order to Year 10 students Tom Downie and Harry Bebbington on their exceptional achievement in taking out third place in the 'Sleek Geeks Science Video Clip' category at **The National Eureka Science Awards**. Congratulations also to teachers Clare Bloom and Dave Davies who provided support to Tom and Harry with the planning and production of their video. Please see the article by Clare and David in this edition for more detail about this wonderful achievement.

Next Saturday 12 September, 17 students accompanied by Ms Bitta and Mr Sunjo are off on a study tour of Italy where they

will be visiting **Rome, Florence, Sorrento and Venice**. Just a few of the sights they will see are the Colosseum, the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, the Leaning Tower of

Pisa, the Doges Palace, the Bridge of Sighs and the Basilica San Marco. The students will also spend time in an Italian school and get to practise their Italian language on a daily basis. Warrandyte High School offers this trip every two years.

### Student Drop-off outside General Office: Urgent and Dangerous Issue

Unfortunately this is an ongoing issue I wish to draw to your attention. Parents continue to stop their cars outside the General Office to drop-off and collect students from school. This is an incredibly dangerous practice as students exit from these cars into traffic. There is also the very real possibility of these illegally stopped cars being struck from behind by other cars entering the car park. This dangerous situation is being created by parents. There are drop-off areas at the top of the school on the service roads parallel to Warrandyte Road and also behind the gymnasium. **As parents you are role models.** Please put the welfare of your own children and the children of others before the few minutes saved by this dangerous action.

**Stephen Parkin**  
Principal

## Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

### Wednesday 2 September

VET Rec Sailing Camp – Day 1  
Year 7 Sport Round Robin

### Thursday 3 September

VET Rec Sailing Camp – Day 2

### Friday 4 September

VET Rec Sailing Camp – Day 3  
Anderson House Day  
Junior Poetry Competition

### Saturday 5 September

Year 10 AFL Umpiring Day at MCG

### Sunday 6 September

GVBR Training Ride

### Monday 7 September

VCE Health Day to RMIT

### Tuesday 8 September

Team Photo Day  
Year 8 Drug & Alcohol Awareness Program

### Wednesday 9 September

Division Athletics

### Saturday 12 September

Italy Tour leaves

### Sunday 13 September

GVBR Training Ride

### Thursday 17 September

Parent/Teacher interviews 12pm – 8pm

(Normal classes will not be held on this day)

### Friday 18 September

Last Day of Term 3  
(Periods will be shortened and the schoolday will end at 2.30pm. See Compass for revised bell times)

**Principal:** Dr Stephen Parkin

**Assistant Principal:** Joseph Caruana

**School Captains:**

Jessie Thomas-Connor, Hugh Prescott

### Congratulations to:

Lachlan Horsfield, Jake Hellings, Callum Hildebrand and Timothy Hogan.

The four Year 10 boys have been nominated to enter the **METEC Victorian Schools' Driver of the Year 2015 competition**.

Nominated by their driving instructors and lecturers after Warrandyte's day at METEC earlier this term, the boys were selected on their driving improvement, their interest, attitude and attention. The boys will demonstrate their skills against other Victorian students to be in the draw to win a range of prizes including \$500 for 1st place. The semi-final will take place on Sunday 18 October 2015. Good Luck Boys



From the Principal



### **The Addams Family: Warrandyte High School: August 27-29!**

Funny! Clever! Entertaining! On Thursday, August 27, I had the pleasure of attending the opening night of *The Addams Family*, the 2015 Warrandyte High School Production. Never having watched "The Addams Family" TV show and being new to the school, I entered the theatre with no preconceptions or expectations. I was left utterly impressed.

Despite the surface lightness of the storyline which often has the audience outwardly laughing, a serious undertone adds another dimension to this engaging play. The "normal parents" for example, reflecting on the loveless state of their marriage, enables the play to remind us about the importance of love and acceptance and the ease with which loving partners can take each other for granted.

Kyle Turpin consistently engages the audience as Gomez, the loving husband and father, struggling to please both his wife and daughter. His facial expressions and dance moves are hilarious. At all times we are invited to appreciate both his good heart and his dilemma. Nic Dodds and Kristen Robertson are perfectly cast as the "normal married couple." Both actors command the stage with their powerful singing voices. Their portrayal of a married couple whose happiness is really only outward is quite striking. Kristen's dinner table crawling scene is pure magic as it captures her character's bottled up frustration.

Stephanie Villani as Morticia is a constant powerful presence on the stage. Able to sing and dance, she is at the heart of the play's success. The calm, rational and amorous love interest, played by Josh Huntly, is thoroughly entertaining. His performance contrasts harmoniously with the love struck and fiery Wednesday Addams, played by the highly talented Laura Moorfoot.

Usually there is one character who manages to steal the show. In this production, several characters vie for this title. Kate Sharpe, the Year 7 student who plays Pugsley Addams is a future leading actor in the making – both her singing and speaking voice rivalled those of her older counterparts. Damon Moorfoot is hilarious as Lurch and Jake Newton who plays Uncle Fester simply wins the audience over – what can't he do? He sings, speaks and declares his love for the moon in a way that makes you notice only him on the stage! Actually, Claire Bice as Grandma Addams similarly makes you notice only her when she is delivering her lines. From start to finish, she is consistently in character. The scene when she loses control of her bodily functions is memorable.

Attention must be given to the many students who play the "ancestors." Their dancing and ever changing presence enables these dead characters to add extra life to the show. Lachlan, the director and co-musical director has every reason to smile as has the choreographer, Natasha and the assistant directors, Natasha and Sharon. *The Addams Family* is a bundle of light hearted energy with moments of seriousness that really get you thinking! Well done Warrandyte High School.

### **Victorian Young Leaders to China**

What a stunning turn-out we had! Over 25 Year 8 families attended our Information Night on August 26. Clare from the Education Department elaborated on this life changing opportunity for Year 9 students to spend 6 weeks in China in 2016. Natalie, a leading teacher who visited our sister school in China last year, gave an equally informative presentation which is also assisting parents with their big decision. Watch this space!

**Joe Caruana**  
Assistant Principal

Interviews will be held on **Thursday 17 September between 12noon and 8pm**. Compass will be open for booking from 9am on Friday 11 September. There will be no formal classes on this day; however students are expected to attend their interviews with their parents.

Please select your interview times carefully and allow 5 minutes between each interview to ensure adequate time to travel between appointments.

If you have any problems please call the General Office for assistance on 9844 2749.

### **Parents making a Parent/Teacher/ Student Conference Booking**

To access PTS Conferences log into the Compass parent portal using your Username and Password. If you are unsure of your log in details please contact the school.

On the Compass homepage a list of your students will be listed. If a conference has been opened for any of your students a link to the PTS Conference will appear under their name. Click on the link. This will display the PTS Conference Dashboard which includes a list of all of the conferences for all of the students linked to your parent account. If a conference is open for bookings 'False' will appear in the 'Locked' column.

Each event in the list is specific to one of your students, therefore if you have two or more students with conferences during the same event that event will appear once for every student in the list of Available events. To make bookings for one students' conference click on that Event in the table. This will display a list of all available booking times. A list of teachers linked to this student will be displayed at the bottom of the screen. To see when a teacher is available for an appointment you can click on their name in this list.

A teachers schedule for PTS Conference – this screen is read only; bookings cannot be made on this page.

**Helene Butterworth**  
Executive Assistant

The Addams Family was fantastic - well done to all involved



## Hi Everyone

I have some very good news.

If all goes well with my x-ray on September 1 and it shows the healing process is going as planned, I will be able to return to school. I will be then entering into the next six weeks of the rehabilitation phase. This means that I will still need to keep quiet but increase very slowly my walking times. The other treatments are still not known at this stage.

My muscles aren't as strong at the moment due to my restricted activity over the last six weeks. The Guide Dog's Vet will give me instructions as to how I can help my muscles to improve in strength.

Thank you for making Weston welcome and I believe he was very excited to return to his Puppy Raising family.

I still miss everyone and should see you all very soon.

**Quinn**



## Sleek Geeks

Tom Downie and Harry Bebbington, together with Ms Bloom and Mr Davies, were so excited to travel to Sydney last week to attend the Eureka Science Awards. As finalists, they won a flight to Sydney, with accommodation in a beautiful inner city hotel, and the honour of attending the award dinner. The Eureka Awards are held each year to award the top Australian scientists in a variety of categories. Primary and Secondary students are invited to enter the Sleek Geeks video clip contest, where they explain a scientific concept using film and/or animation in under 3 minutes. Tom and Harry's clip explained a number of concepts around the topic of Gravity.

Before the award dinner, we were invited to a luncheon at the University of NSW, where Adam Spencer and Dr Karl Kruszelnicki previewed the finalists' clips live in a video conference streamed to

a number of schools in NSW. Adam and Karl interviewed Tom and Harry, preparing them for the task of getting on stage that evening in front of hundreds of people and being asked a few questions about their science production.

The Sydney Town Hall was a wondrous sight, as the crowd arrived on the red carpet. Social Media was alive with reports and the hashtag #eureka2015 was trending top of the list. We took our seats at the very best table in the hall, and enjoyed the dinner spectacle. First course was a theatrical event with the entrée wheeled out and waiters literally excavating the food as though they were on a scientific dig. This set the scene for a first class meal. With increasing nervousness, our award announcement approached towards the end of the night. We were told the crowd of scientists and academics love the Sleek Geeks contest and always await it eagerly. With the clips shown on the large screen and each student interviewed briefly, the big announcement was finally made. We came an impressive third place. A mighty achievement as there are some 200 entries from around Australia, and we were the only government school to make the finals.

Congratulations Tom and Harry on this wonderful result. We look forward to next year's entry!

**Claire Bloom**  
ICT Leader





warrandyte youth  
theatre presents 

# ALL IN THE TIMING

5 brilliant plays  
by david ives

**25, 26 SEPTEMBER**

**2, 3 OCTOBER**

8pm, plus matinee  
2:30pm 3 October

at mechanics institute hall

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