



Gang Gang

Warrandyte High School

Issue 18 | Term 4 | 2015

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From the Principal

Diary Dates

DECEMBER

Tuesday 18 November

Year 11 (2016) Transition Ends

Friday 4 December

Year 10 Assembly 2:30pm

Year 7 (2016) Distance Morning Tea

Sunday 6 December

GVBR Returns

Monday 7 December

Year 7 (2016) Information Evening 7:00pm

Tuesday 8 December

Year 7 Fun Fields excursion

Year 7 (2016) Orientation Day

Friday 11 December

Year 9 Assembly 2:30pm

Monday 14 December

Year 7 & 8 Assembly 9:30am

Tuesday 15 December

School Awards Night 7:30pm

Activity Day – Bike ride

Wednesday 16 December

Activity Day

Thursday 17 December

Clean Up Day

Friday 18 December

Last Day of Term 4

Last week signified the end of an era for the Warrandyte High School Class of 2015. The final Year 12 exam was completed on Monday 16 November and the following night the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner was held at the Karralyka Centre in Ringwood. At this event we celebrated the achievements of our Year 12 students in 2015 with a range of academic, sporting and community awards. Special congratulations to Danielle Sharpe and Hugh Prescott who received the overall academic awards.

The departure of our Year 12 students heralds the early arrival of 2016 for our Year 10 and Year 11 students. On Monday 23 November they were officially promoted into Year 11 and Year 12 respectively, and commenced their studies, getting a head start on next year.

Another departure in recent days has been our Great Victorian Bike Ride cycling team. Our team, consisting of students from Years 8 to 11 along with teachers Ante Sunjo, Clare Rayner and me, is taking part in the 600km ride through the goldfields in a loop from Ballarat to Bendigo. We are all hoping for good weather, though we know better, but one thing we know for sure is that we are all in for a challenging and exhilarating week.

ebook bundles and why there is no second-hand book sale this year.

I apologise for any confusion that has taken place this year with regard to second-hand book sales. In 2016 we are moving from hardcopy text books to ebooks for our Year 7 to Year 10 core subjects. This will result in a saving of approximately \$200 per student at each of these year levels and will remove the need for students to cart around heavy bags full of books. Parents will be receiving detailed information regarding these ebook bundles in the next few days. There have also been significant changes in the text books to be used in VCE classes next year. This has been necessitated by the release of new study designs for a broad range of VCE subjects. These changes in texts across all years have greatly reduced the number

of 2015 books that can be re-sold for use in 2016. For this reason the annual second-hand book sale will not take place this year.

School procedures for the bushfire season



Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district.

Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and via the Compass Parent Portal. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. This will be done via a notice on the Compass Parent Portal Newsfeed, an email to families and through the information message on our phone system.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.

Continued next page

Principal: Dr Stephen Parkin
Assistant Principal: Joseph Caruana
School Captains:
Tylar Findlay and Ben Willis

School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located. Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our

newsletters and by checking the Compass Parent Portal regularly. If you do not know your Compass log in please contact the General Office on 9844 2749 who will be able to assist you with this.

- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- Talk to your child about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667..

Stephen Parkin
Principal

Curiosity and Powerful Learning

High Expectations are one of our core values at Warrandyte High School. Peer Observation is another one of our priorities. By Peer Observation we mean teachers observing teachers, teachers learning from teachers, teachers giving feedback to teachers and thus continually upgrading their craft. At the core of our values is that we are all lifelong learners. High Expectations is a whole school theory of action!

So... students will steadily become more and more accustomed to seeing peer observation happening, to seeing teachers observing teachers. Currently, teachers are participating in a peer observation cycle of inquiry period focusing, amongst other things, on High Expectations. What do "high expectations" look like in the classroom? One technique which helps to generate a learning atmosphere of high expectations is called "No Opt Out." Put simply, the underlining core principle of No Opt Out is: Their principle that "A sequence that begins with a student unable to answer a question should end with the student answering that question as often as possible." This is certainly a key whole school value at Warrandyte High School. It is one lens through which teachers are currently observing teachers. What is another lens? Ahhh – watch this space!

Uniform for 2016

Boys' shirts

A gentle reminder that there has been a small change to the boys' school uniform from 2015. The boys' polo top, both the VCE and Years 7-10 version, began being phased out this year in favour of the logo embroidered white shirt which is currently available and part of the uniform.

The polo will still be sold until the end of 2015 (stock

permitting) and may still be worn until the end of 2016. From the beginning of 2016 all Year 7 boys will only be permitted to wear the white shirt.

Facial piercings, hair and shoes

A gentle reminder that facial piercings are not part of the school uniform. Students are only permitted to wear up to three small studs or sleepers in each ear.

Students are also reminded that the uniform policy states:

"Extremes in terms of hairstyles, hair colour and facial hair must be avoided at all times. The Principal/Assistant Principal will exercise final judgement on such matters"

Finally, a reminder that students are required to wear "**black, leather, polishable, lace up or T-bar school shoes.** Boots, slip ons, zipped, canvas, suede, ballet style and runner/sport shoes are not acceptable"

One final gentle reminder

"Students out of uniform MUST OBTAIN the Uniform Pass from the Year Level Office at the beginning of the day before going to class. Failure to do this will incur a penalty with repeated breaches of this school rule treated very seriously"

Joe Caruana
Assistant Principal

Hello Everyone

This is my last article in Gang Gang. Guide Dogs Victoria is reclassifying me to a pet on November 24. As I have mentioned before because of my extensive surgery I can no longer become a Guide Dog or any other form of official assistance.

I am sorry not to be coming to school anymore and it will be really strange when Jill heads off to work without me.

My life will now be with Jill and her family as their pet. I will be keeping Jill's father company during the day and will have lots of fun with the other two dogs in the family.

Thank you to everyone who visited me and played with me this year and generally welcomed me into the school. You never know, you may see me around Warrandyte checking out the paths, parks and river.

Quinn



Canteen News

Please note that the Canteen will be open as normal this week and next week until 11 December, apart from the fact they will not be open for breakfast

Please place lunch orders to ensure you don't miss out on your selection.

Have a safe and Happy Christmas from the Canteen Staff

Year 8 Sport Education

Well done to all the Year 8's in their Term 4 Sport Ed competitions this week!

We took out teams for Futsal, Tag Rugby and Ultimate Frisbee and the day was superb. In all the sports we could mention incredible performances, but the names would take the rest of the page. All teams were a credit to the school, showing positivity, constant energy and determination to overcome the other teams. The Futsal Girls reached the semi finals and narrowly missed on a golden goal. The boys' futsal team made the finals, they worked so hard and almost beat the best team on the day. The Rugby teams were also fantastic finishing third in their competition. This doesn't sound much but every match we played was a battle and only missing by a try in the semi final. The team of the day however was the Boys Frisbee who matched the Year 7 students achievement and brought the victory home to Warrandyte; winning the final in a very tense match against Templestowe.

Well done to all the players from all teams, the Year 8 students have been extremely successful with the interschool competition. I hope this will continue for them as intermediates next year.

Vet rec 1 and 2 - Intrepid explorers!

Well done to our current VET Rec 1 and 2 group who completed their Wilson's Prom hike this week. They were an amazing group who constantly developed their growth mindset, consistently demonstrated independent minimal impact practices looking after the environment without being prompted!

Each individual coped very well completing the 35km three day hike carrying everything on their backs, ready to tent, cook and cope in the wilderness. Great work campers!

Clare Rayner
Sport Leader



Year 7 Water Safety Day

For the first time in a few years the weather was on our side for the year 7 Water Safety Day. On Tuesday 17th November year 7 students attended Sandridge Beach to participate in a water safety activities day run by Royal Lifesaving Victoria. Throughout the day students participated in a range of activities including learning how to respond to emergency situations, how to rescue someone, using the nipper and body boards as well as the highly competitive beach flags. All students should be congratulated on their efforts on the day. The day was fully packed with little down time however the students challenged themselves and gave 100% in all rotations. The feedback from the staff at Royal Life Saving Victoria was that the students were exceptionally well behaved, listened to all instructions and tried their best at all times. Well Done to all year 7 students.

Katie Cook
PE Leader



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





Wants You



We need players for all age groups:

Under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 both boys and girls

Come and join us and make some new friends

- Basketball is an indoor non-contact sport that can be played throughout the school year.
- Our committed coaches will teach you how to play basketball and in the process you will develop your skills, teamwork and fitness.
- Your team will train with your coach for an hour, once a week at our Graysharps rd stadium.
- Girl's games are held weekdays at the Diamond Valley Basketball Stadium, Civic Drive.
- Boy's games are all on Saturday and are held at either the Diamond Valley Basketball Stadium, Community Bank Stadium (Diamond Creek) or at Parade College.

**Organise yourself and your friends to go online
and register for next season**

For more information

Go to our website, download our team app or contact:

Kayleen Jones (President) **0417 522 059**

Kath Isaac (Development Officer) **0400 962 022**