The Looking Glass Morning.

On Thursday 18 August the Warrandyte High School staff invited teams of teachers from five other secondary schools to take part in Looking Glass Walks at our school. The purpose of these Looking Glass Walks was to allow the observing teachers to gain insight into their own professional practice by observing others, and to provide feedback for WHS staff about the extent to which the Theories of Action: Set Challenging Learning Tasks, High Expectations & Authentic Relationships and Learning Intentions Narrative & Pace are evident in our classrooms. These are the first three Theories of Action in the Curiosity and Powerful Learning Framework which is the foundation of our continual improvement strategy.

Staff at WHS have been approaching the implementation of these three focal theories of action through trialling a range of strategies. These strategies are not mandated to be used in every lesson but are common across the school. They include: Threshold, Explicitly Communicated Learning Intentions, Do Now, Cold Call, Wait Time, No Opt Out, Writing Break and Exit Slips.

The day went exceptionally well and will now be implemented as an ongoing professional learning activity between the six schools.

Alice entering the Looking Glass. Illustration by Sir John Tenniel

In Wonderland, one astonishing episode leads to another. Alice wants to understand the outlandish beings she meets and the odd events in which she is caught. Her best strategy is to engage, to apply her existing knowledge, and to seek out new knowledge that will help to make sense of it all, to be curious. It is this curiosity which leads to learning and it is curiosity which we seek to instil in all our students.

The master was an old Turtle—we used to call him Tortoise—”

‘Why did you call him Tortoise, if he wasn’t one?’ Alice asked.

‘We called him Tortoise because he taught us,’ said the Mock Turtle angrily: ‘really you are very dull.

Stephen Parkin
Principal
Warrandyte High School’s Homework Club
The Warrandyte High School Homework Club is blossoming! Every Monday 3.30pm – 4.30pm in the school library! Volunteer year level captains offering their services! Volunteer teachers and senior leadership team students offering their services! Students studying and completing homework either individually or in small groups! Indeed it is exciting to see so many like minded volunteers participating in this exciting initiative!

Year Level Captains + Parents Morning Tea
Parents, grandparents and friends joined our year level captains for a delightful morning tea in the high school library earlier this term. It was an opportunity to formally include parents, relatives and friends as we formally acknowledge the wonderful leadership our year level captains are displaying.

What are our year level captains doing? Many are actively participating in our Homework Club. Indeed many are leading by example by either studying or tutoring others at our weekly Homework Club! How impressive, no? Year Level Captains have also been playing a leading role in administering a survey written by students, for students – this survey, which invites students to comment on aspects of learning they currently like and dislike, is currently being collated by our student leaders and will ultimately be presented by students as feedback for teachers. How progressive, no? Student voice and student leadership are two core priorities at Warrandyte High School!

Young Victorian Leaders to China Program
The time has arrived! 13 Year 9 students will be joining myself and Grace Johnstone as we head to China for 6 weeks! That’s right – 6 weeks! We don’t do things by half at Warrandyte High School. We depart on August 24 and return to Melbourne on October 4. We will be visiting cities like Beijing, Xi’an, Nanjing and Shanghai. Students will also be attending classes at our sister school in China and staying with a Chinese homestay family.

Students will also be studying at a university style campus whilst living in dormitories. Hence this life changing experience will involve 2 weeks of staying in hotels across different cities in China, 2 weeks of staying with a Chinese homestay family and 2 weeks of staying in a university style dormitory! What adventures we will have!

Shrek comes to Andersons Creek, Warrandyte Primary and Wonga Park Primary
Several cast members of our musical production, Shrek Jnr, performed a preview show at some of our local primary schools. We would like to thank our neighbouring primary schools for being so inviting and allowing us to come and bring a little of that ol razzle dazzle! Our students performed wonderfully and our primary school audiences were just amazing! Come and see the full version of Shrek Jnr, the Musical at Warrandyte High School! Our students are ready to razzle dazzle you! DATES: August 25 – 27!!!

Never a dull moment at Warrandyte High School!!!

Joe Caruana
Assistant Principal

Going for Eureka Gold
Once again, Warrandyte high has excelled in the Australia-wide Eureka Prize science competition.

The Eureka Prizes are the science equivalent of the Academy Awards. Prizes in about 30 different categories are awarded for outstanding scientific achievement. This takes place at the Sydney Town Hall in front of about 800 of Australia’s top scientists at a “black tie” dinner.

Two of our year 11 students, Tom Downie and Harry Bebbington have again made the top 3 in the category called the “Sleek Geeks” prize for secondary schools. This is a competition run by well-known TV scientists Dr Karl Kruszelnicki and Adam Spencer. It is for a 3 minute video that explains a scientific idea. There are hundreds of entries each year. Last year they won “bronze” and $1000 for their entry “Gravity Sucks”.

This year they have again made the top 3 with “No Place for Race”. Their video aims to show people that the concept of “Race”, and hence racism, has no scientific meaning. They explain how and where our ape-like ancestors developed into just one species: Homo Sapiens.

It is done in an original, humorous, but accurate way. They start with creation myths, fossils, dating methods and explain why we are all African. Even Pauline Hanson gets a brief spot! The science is all summed up by a 30 second rap song at the end.

The boys will soon be going to Sydney for the dinner on 31st August. Bronze, silver or gold? Regardless of the final result, this is a fantastic achievement. Let’s wish them luck!

Claire Bloom and David Davies
Sports News
Since our last sports news update a lot has been happening with interschool sport. In the last few weeks of term 2 both the Year 7 and 8 students represented the school in Football, Soccer Badminton and Netball. All students had a great day out showing excellent teamwork, sportsmanship and development of skills. It also was the chance to unveil the new interschool soccer and hockey uniforms that were purchased earlier in the year. The students definitely looked smart in the new uniforms and it gave them great pride to be representing the school looking professional. The Year 7 AFL boys and Year 7 Badminton girls both had success winning their division and going on to represent the school at the regional finals.
Term 3 has also started off busy with the Intermediate boys AFL regional finals, Year 7 boys AFL regional finals, Intermediate boys Hockey, Intermediate girls and boys Basketball and the Senior girls Hockey regional finals. In all the regional finals the teams went on the day with a positive mindset to give 100% and represent the school with pride. This they definitely did do and at times in difficult conditions. All teams faced strong opposition and much larger schools however they were not intimidated and continually pushed themselves and took on every challenge. A great effort from all those teams involved at the regional level.
On Thursday 4 August the Intermediate Basketball and Hockey teams went out and had great success. The boys Hockey team played two games winning the first and drawing the second to win the overall division day. We wish them luck as they progress through to the regional finals at the beginning of term 4. They will be training hard between now and then to continue to develop their skills ready to take on the opposition.
The four Intermediate Basketball teams also had a great day out. Three boys' teams and 1 girls team entered the competition. The girls team had a rough draw with 5 games in total and only 6 players however continually pushed themselves and improved throughout the day finishing 4th overall. The boys A team competition was tightly contested with them also playing 5 games. The boys started off well winning their first 3 games before losing their 4th game by a margin of only 3 points. This left them with the final game being against Templestowe – a must win game if they had any chance of being overall winners of the day. The boys worked extremely hard and pushed Templestowe to their limits however fell short by 6 points in the end. On a count back they ended up finishing the day as runners up. A fantastic effort.
The boys’ B and C team were in different pools and both had 3 games each. The B team played some great basketball and winning every game to finish top of their pool. The C team also pulled together winning all their games resulting in the two Warrandyte teams competing against each other to determine the winner of the B competition. Both teams hit the court defiant to win. It was a great game where all the boys worked well together and showed excellent sportsmanship with the B team being the eventual winners by 9 points. Overall a great day out.
Still to come this term is the Year 7 and 8 Hockey and Basketball day and the division athletics day. I am sure that all students involved in these days will continue the tradition of competing at their best, challenging themselves and representing the school with pride. Best of luck to all students involved.

Katie Cook
Sport Leader

Virtual Reality for Roy
Run by ACMI in Fed Square, Hothouse is a week-long intensive program for Victorian students in Years 10, 11 and 12, aimed at nurturing creativity and moving image skills. In 2016 ten students were selected and dropped into a fast-paced studio to gain hands-on production experience, contacts in the industry and career inspiration. Collaborating in groups to create a virtual reality piece, the week culminated in an exhibition of the students’ work, showing their creative endeavors to friends, family and teachers.
Our successful applicant was Roy Sisson of Year 10, who worked in one of two teams to create a Virtual Reality game. Roy was introduced to industry-standard software and hardware. Using software such as Unreal Engine and Blender, Roy’s job within his team was to create 3D objects. After a very intense week, Roy’s team created an X-files-type game involving an alien murder mystery. Players used a HTC Vive headset to play the game at its launch. Roy was also introduced to industry professionals each day, who talked about the emergence of this new media, its growth and careers potential. Roy found the whole week to be extremely worthwhile, and he plans to continue his involvement with ACMI, where he is already scheduled to create an animation for their Screen It program.
Although not sure of which area of media and technology the 2017 Hothouse will focus on, Roy’s advice to anyone interested in developing their skills in digital media, is to watch out for this program and definitely apply to join it.

Claire Bloom
Interactive Digital Media Teacher
(photos from ACMI)
I have just spent the last two weeks on a placement at the Whitehorse Manningham Libraries as part of my Masters of Education studies. It has been a fabulous two weeks and I have learnt a lot about the role of libraries and the services they offer and am looking forward to bringing this experience back to our Warrandyte High School library. I have worked at each of the branches and recommend students and families pay a visit to their local branch. Those of you who live in Warrandyte will be familiar with the beautiful space in the heart of the township, visitors to The Pines shopping centre can also duck into the library situated here or for a bigger library experience the Doncaster library at MC2 and Box Hill library are only a bus ride away. There are also branches at Bulleen, Vermont South, Blackburn and Nunawading if these areas are more suitable. One membership gives you access to all libraries and their resources.

The libraries offer physical resources such as print text, audio, DVDs and CDs and also many e-resources accessible from their website such as audio and e-books, music and magazines. They also offer a lot of other programs such as a coding club after school at Doncaster library, various talks by guest authors and an upcoming a coding club after school at Doncaster library, various talks by guest authors and an upcoming games night at Warrandyte. I encourage you all to get behind this local initiative and sign up for games night at Warrandyte. I have learnt a lot about the role of libraries and their services they offer and am looking forward to bringing this experience back to our Warrandyte High School library. I have worked at each of the branches and recommend students and families pay a visit to their local branch. Those of you who live in Warrandyte will be familiar with the beautiful space in the heart of the township, visitors to The Pines shopping centre can also duck into the library situated here or for a bigger library experience the Doncaster library at MC2 and Box Hill library are only a bus ride away. There are also branches at Bulleen, Vermont South, Blackburn and Nunawading if these areas are more suitable. One membership gives you access to all libraries and their resources.

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Hello Everyone

I have had an exciting time since I last updated you on my life.

I went on the ‘Tram Travel and Puppy Walk’ in Kew last Monday. We, about twenty other puppies and their raisers, met just outside Woolworths in Kew. Unfortunately we were not allowed to play with each other nevertheless there was some barking back and forth. When I become a Guide Dog I am not to be distracted by other dogs. I have been learning this on my walks with Jill because some dogs behind fences cause me a bit of uncertainty when they bark.

I did very well on my tram ride. I hopped on without any hesitation and lay quietly. The strange movements of the trams were fine with me. However the return tram ride was a little trickier because it was an old tram with steep steps. On the second try I jumped up the steps and then lay quietly.

Jill took me to Lilydale train station on the weekend. I think the idea was to get on a train. We saw three trains come in and go but I was not on one of them. Jill spent a lot of time trying to coax me on to the train but I was too nervous, they are big and scary things. I need to become accustom to trains so I guess eventually after more visits to the train station I will go for a train ride.

Last weekend I had a big day out at Beleura, Mornington. Again I had to be quiet and sit still. There were a lot of people who were very interested in me. At some stage it was all too much and I let out a bark. I have improved and am learning to sit/lay quietly for longer periods of time. At Beleura they have a very large lawn area where Jill did let me off the lead for a good stretch of my legs. That was great.

This Friday I have another puppy walk with Katherine our Puppy Advisor. We are visiting Mitcham this time which will be busier. Most likely Mitcham train station will be on the to-do-list. mmmmmmmm

Please come and visit me, I love the attention and it is really good for my socialisation.

Love Nerida
**Coloursful History**
The Historical Society’s Design and Colouring competition ran as part of our 40th Birthday Celebrations over 2015/2016. We would like to thank the art department of Warrandyte High School, who in late 2015 arranged for the students to design the wonderful posters that reflected Warrandyte’s history. After a selection process the posters were distributed to the primary schools and the difficult job of selecting winners from their colouring entries was undertaken.

The design and colouring entries are now on display at the Warrandyte Historical Society’s museum at the Old Post Office, 77 Yarra Street Warrandyte. Our opening hours are Saturday and Sunday 1.30-4.30. Entry is free and parents, staff, supporters and students are all invited to visit the museum and see the work on display.

Margaret Kelly, Warrandyte High School parent and President of the Warrandyte Historical Society

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**Raising Resilient Teenagers: A Free Online Program for Parents**
Researchers at Monash University and the University of Melbourne are pleased to offer parents of students aged 12 to 15 a free online parenting program designed to empower parents to make sense of adolescence and parent their teenager with confidence. This program provides strategies for parents to raise a resilient teenager, which are supported by research evidence and international experts in the field. It is based on Parenting Guidelines that were published in partnership with beyondblue and have been accessed by thousands of parents internationally, many of whom have found them very useful.

If you are a parent or guardian of a child aged 12 to 15, you may be eligible to participate in a free trial of the program. After completing a survey, you will receive your parenting program, comprising of either a personalised feedback report and interactive online modules, or a set of five factsheets about parenting adolescents. Participation will take a few hours of yours and your child’s time over 12 months. Both you and your child will be reimbursed for your time.

To sign up for a free trial of this program, please visit: [www.partnersinparenting.net.au](http://www.partnersinparenting.net.au)

If you have any specific queries about the program, please do not hesitate to contact the Partners in Parenting team via email, med-partnersinparenting@monash.edu or phone, (03) 9905 1250.

Thank you,
Dr Marie Yap
NHMRC Career Development Fellow
Senior Research Fellow and Psychologist
School of Psychological Sciences