Welcome to the last edition of Gang Gang for 2017. We are now well into December and the end of the school year is almost upon us. Planning for next year is nearing completion and classroom activities are winding down. The Year 7 students for 2017 have been welcomed and our Year 12 students have been farewelled.

As is always the case, there will be a number of staff changes for next year as career paths lead in different directions. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to thank the following staff; Brod Ashmole, Mat Steed, Michelle Barry and Shirley Lu, for their contributions to Warrandyte High School and wish them all the best for the future: I will welcome our new staff in the first edition of Gang Gang next year.

VCE results 2017

Congratulations to the Year 12 class of 2017 on the excellent results they achieved in the VCE. The final results were the culmination of much effort and commitment by the students across a number of years, and also reflect the contribution staff and parents have made to support their learning.

In particular, congratulations to April Synhur, the 2017 Dux who achieved an ATAR score of 95.75 and the following students who achieved study scores of 40 or better, placing them in the top 8% of all students in that study. Andrea Fidock (Food Studies (50), Health & Human Development), Andrea also received our Literary Prize for achieving the highest score in English, April Synhur (Chemistry), Briquette Nassour (Psychology, Studio Arts), Callum Khaw (Sport and Recreation), Eilish Kelly (Food Studies), Georgia Siddall (Business Management, Food Studies, Health & Human Development), Keegan Scheller (Engineering Studies), Leah Hobson (Visual Communication Design), Madison Jennings (Sport and Recreation), Phoebe Joy (Sport and Recreation).

The Great Victorian Bike Ride

Just as we have for the past 14 years, Warrandyte High School had a team of students, parents and teachers ride in this year’s Great Victorian Bike Ride. This year the route took us from Wilson’s Promontory, through Foster, Yarram, Seaspray, Bairnsdale, Maffra and Glengarry* with a planned finish in Trafalgar*.

On Saturday 25th November, Day 1 of the ride, we set up our tents in the camping ground at Tidal River, along with more than 3000 other riders. Lovely sunshine, a beautiful beach and spectacular rugged views across the coastline and surrounding bushland greeted us. The night the weather became muggy and was punctuated by brief, heavy showers. Then the following morning, keeping an eye out for wandering wombats, emus and kangaroos, we enjoyed a wonderful ride over rocky spurs, past majestic lookouts and through beautiful pastoral land as we traversed the relatively brief 60km to Foster. This was Victoria at its best and why this camp is such a fantastic experience. This pattern was repeated day after glorious day as we travelled up the coast to the Gippsland Lakes then across the Great Dividing Range to Maffra on Friday, 1st December.

Unfortunately, this is where the ride came to an end this year. Though the weather we experienced on the ride this year was not unlike past years, other parts of Victoria were hit quite hard and the Police who were supporting the ride and controlling the general road traffic, were called away to support flooded townships further north. This left the ride organisers with no option than to finish the ride two days early. Though this was disappointing, it was completely understandable, and did not detract from the truly great experience and camaraderie of riding together over 400kms through spectacular country, enjoying the fantastic hospitality of Victorian country towns.

Next year the GVBR will travel from Bright to Benalla via Yarrawonga, and Team Warrandyte High School will be doing the hard work at the front of the peloton again.

Finally, I would like to wish all our students and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the break, stay safe, and I look forward to greeting you all on your return from the holiday period, refreshed for the year ahead.

Stephen Parkin
Principal
75 minute lessons in 2018
As 2017 draws to a close, a reminder that in 2018 we are moving to a 4 period day. Each of the 4 periods will be 75 minutes in length.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>9am - 10.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td>10.15am - 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recess</td>
<td>11.30am - 11.55am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 3</td>
<td>11.55am - 1.10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>1.10pm - 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 4</td>
<td>2pm - 3.15pm</td>
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When Does School Start in 2018?
Wednesday 31 January:
• for Year 7 students, the meeting point will be the Amphitheatre (outside the canteen);
• period 4: VET and VCE students (not including Year 10 students studying a VET or VCE subject)

Thursday 1 February
• all students in all year levels attend
• Year 7 and VCE students to go straight to their period 1 class
• Year 8 students – the Gym
• Year 9 students – the DLC
• Year 10 students – the Theatre

Year Level Awards Assemblies and WHS Awards Night
The end of the school year heralds the culmination of many student achievements. Recently we celebrated the many academic, sporting and community service achievements amassed by our Year 7 -11 students. It was wonderful seeing so many students winning academic excellence awards across a range of subjects. The academic culture and indeed the good citizenship philosophy which underpins our endeavours is flourishing here at Warrandyte High.

The WHS Awards Night was also a wonderful night of celebration, the zenith in the academic sporting and artistic calendar. 2015 Dux, Hugh Prescott (currently studying Science at Melbourne University) delivered a motivating and engaging speech to the many award winning students in the audience.

A huge thank you is also extended to the many wonderful community groups who continue to sponsor specific achievement awards. The Kiwanis Club of Doncaster and Templestowe; Michael Blake (past principal); Ryan Smith (the member for Warrandyte); Lions Club of Warrandyte; The Rotary Club of Warrandyte and Donvale; the Warrandyte Market Committee; Glennis Pitches (former principal)

Orientation Day
December 12 was a joyous and exiting day as we hosted our 90 incoming 2018 Year 7 students who spent the day with us. Our newest Warrandyte High community members came from a host of amazing primary schools including: Warrandyte PS, Andersons Creek PS, Wonga Park PS, Kalinda PS, Croydon Hill PS and Warranwood PS just to name a tiny few.

China Trip 2018
Couldn’t make it to our recent information night but you’re interested in our 2018 China Trip? Let the front office know immediately! Don’t miss out! Places filling! Open to 2018 Year 8, 9 and 10 students!

This is a wonderful opportunity! 3 weeks! September-October! Sightseeing! Cultural Immersion! Shanghai! Beijing! Xian! And more! Experience our sister school! Experience university life!

Want more information? Contact Claire Bloom or myself! First instalment is due in mid-February, 2018! Around $3000 covers all flights, accommodation, meals, attractions, activities…etc….
Here are some photos from our 2016 China Trip:

Wishing everyone a safe and merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year

Joe Caruana - Assistant Principal
**Taking the Challenge**

**The Year 9 City Experience Camp**

I thought that the camp was really good overall. The accommodation was pretty good and so was the whole facility. Our rooms were good and pretty spacious, and we had a good view out of our window. The bathrooms were nice as well. Walking around the city was also pretty good, except it was really hot. It was a good way to get more familiar with Melbourne. The food was also good. It was also good that we have two large shared rooms that we had plenty of space to hang out in. Overall, it was a very good camp.

**Chloe Wallace**

We got to see some good Melbourne places and historic attractions.

**Ethan Padfield**

I thought the camp was an overall great experience. The accommodation was wonderful and everything was clean and the bathrooms were nice. It was definitely the best camp food I have ever had. The common area rooms were large and had very comfortable seating.

**Matilda Hartley**

The Eureka was fun and the breakfasts and dinners were really good. I think the camp would have been much better if it hadn't been thirty degrees.

**Aiden Tyssen**

City camp (Gary Guo)

The camp is really good. The CYC camp is better than I expected.

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**Hello Everyone**

Wow, what a weekend I had. It was the weekend of the big rain.

My first trip on a bus, as in going places, was great. I have been on and off many buses but not actually travelled. We went into the city by bus and then caught a train to Ballarat. All new experiences for me. There was a big train station to get around and then a long train ride. I travelled up and back without a problem, just lying at Jill’s feet. We went to a fancy hotel in Ballarat and again I was on my best behaviour. Many people wanted to pat me and take me home so I must have been behaving.

When Jill has her sunglasses on people offer to help. That means they think I am a Guide Dog. Wow, how good must I be.

The day before we went into the city for lunch. The restaurant was very noisy and busy. I was able to tuck myself out of the way after I settled down. So many people came up to Jill to ask questions and pat me. Even when Jill asks them not to pat they still do. I try to do the right thing by ignoring them but it is very hard.

Guide Dogs Victoria are celebrating 60 years and one event organised was a stall at the Pines Shopping Centre last Saturday. I was invited to attend and this time it was okay for pats and cuddles. Many people stopped to pat me and ask questions. I caught up with my sister, Valentina. (Valentina and some of my brothers are in the 2018 Guide Dogs Calendar. Unfortunately, I was not asked but I will get over it.)

Both Jill and I wish you all a very merry Christmas.

Have a great holiday and see you all next year.

Love Reggie

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**More Taking the Challenge**

Students from the Year 9 ‘Taking the Challenge’ program have been working on an art piece for the front of the CFA’s Fill Point near Stiggants Reserve. Thank you to all the students involved especially Eli, Zach, Caitlin, Gary, Elee and Candice.

Ms Dale
Art Teacher
English/Humanities/Italian/ICT Powerful Learning and Teaching Team
– a reflection on 2017

Our team has a very long name so we prefer to call ourselves The Sapphires, for no particular reason other than it sounded like a good idea two years ago and it has stuck. There are fifteen of us in the team; a varied, dedicated group of passionate teachers. This year we have met and served up many challenges.

The Sapphires have had a very successful year, particularly in relation to developing a deeper understanding of what we teach, who we teach and how we teach. This has been facilitated through the deep investigation of the Victorian Curriculum: we reviewed and rewrote our entire curriculum documents... no mean feat! While this process was time consuming and at times frustrating it provided the team with many valuable opportunities to discuss what we teach and collectively develop our subject knowledge. The curriculum will continue to be reviewed each semester to ensure currency and relevance to our students.

Another significant focus was the development of our understanding and use of data to identify student point of need – knowing the learning needs of each student in our classes is necessary to ensuring that all students are being supported and challenged.

Much work was done on the differentiation of our teaching and learning and the use of the instructional model to guide our pedagogical practice. The Sapphires discussed and shared the ways in which we differentiate our content, practice and process for the different abilities of students in our classes. The instructional model introduced in 2017 provided us with a vehicle for investigating the structure of our lessons and we visited each other's classes to see the model in action. Peer learning through class observation and collaboration has been embraced by members of the team and will continue to be become an even more vital part of our practice as we head into 2018.

Throughout the year the team has been involved in so many aspects of school life, not just confined to the classroom. Team members have participated in camps, organised excursions and guest speakers, attended professional development and conferences and immersed themselves in the crazy world that is a secondary school. Above all what keeps us motivated is working with students; it keeps some of us young and cause grey hairs in others but the students are our reason for being here and we wish all of them and their families a happy and safe Christmas and holiday period. Before you know it, it will be day one 2018!

Judy Steel
PLTT Leader

Top Arts
Studio ARTS YR 12 Brigette Nassour has been short listed for TOP ARTS Exhibition at NGV 2018. We wish her every success in the final selection.

Ms Petrik and Ms Dale

run Warrandyte
Sunday 4th March 2018

With thanks to the Warrandyte Community Bank Branch, Run Warrandyte will be back in 2018 and participants will be encouraged to fundraise for their school, sporting club or charity of their choice. As an added incentive we have also added team based fundraising.

To be part of the event you can:
- Enter on-line at: www.warrandytesports.com.au
- Start your own team and ask other people to join
- Join someone else's team and compete for the fundraisers team prize
- Have fun raising money for your school, club or charity

As an individual or a team you can participate in any of the following events:
- Charlie Bins 15k
- Swift Caravan Services10k
- Warrandyte and Ringwood Osteopath 5k
- Quinton’s Supa IGA 2.2k, or
- Crystal Brook Tourist Park U8 Kids Run