FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Annual Open night was held on Wednesday at the College and was a huge success.

It was very pleasing to see so many prospective families looking at the College and all that it has to offer. The event was held in the Sports Centre and featured an impressive vocal performance from our Senior Girls’ Vocal ensemble, Jenny MacDonald and Caity Harwood, who sang Taylor Swift’s ‘Safe and Sound’ accompanied by Dylan Milosevic on guitar.

My thanks go to the School Council, staff and students for all of their support on the evening. The significant attendance rate from these groups indicates the importance that the College places on this event. It was a marvellous opportunity to showcase all the College has to offer to the students in the area.

Tours of the College will continue to run on Tuesday and Thursday morning at 9.15am for 2015 and beyond.

My congratulations go to Mr. Ferrier and his team of computer programmers who were very successful at the University of Melbourne last week.

They participated in the ‘Code Masters’ computer programming competition. As you can see, Heathmont College was very successful in this state wide competition, winning the overall prize. It is a prestigious event with competitors from State, Independent and Catholic Schools so the challenge was very rigorous. Well done to all those involved.

Junior Division:
First Place  Liam O’Sullivan  Matthew Kerford  Heathmont College
Second Place  David Trevorrow  Vivian Ngo  Braybrook College
Third Place  Brad Sullivan  Gavin Douch  Wanganui Park Secondary College

A formal welcome to Mr. Adam Watson who joins the College staff this week. An experienced and talented woodwind teacher, he will complement the musical program offered at Heathmont.

Johanna Walker
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

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HEATHMONT COLLEGE

A Waters Grove, Heathmont 3135
P 9871 4888  F 9879 4770  E heathmont.co@edumail.vic.gov.au  W www.heathmont.vic.edu.au
Rosie Rattle and Abi Neve represented the college at the Ringwood ANZAC Day commemoration on Sunday April 20 at the Ringwood War Memorial at the Clocktower.

**Indonesian Sister School Partnership**

Heathmont College's Indonesian sister school partnership has been recently selected as an exemplary transnational school–to–school partnership to showcase the nature and success of Australia-Asia BRIDGE schools in 'What Works 6' report on the Asia Education Foundation website.

Since developing a strong partnership with SMPN1 Karangmojo in Jogjakarta, Indonesia, our college's Indonesian students across all levels have had a range of authentic learning experiences, resources and tools. Using networking tools such as skype and partner edmodo and wikis, students have worked on authentic collaborative activities across both schools. This makes language learning more authentic, innovative and engaged with the communities in Indonesia. Over the years, we have also seen teacher exchanges taking place between Heathmont College and SMPM1 Karangmojo. This partnership enables students to develop intercultural understanding and Asia literacy skills which support teaching and learning objectives within the new Australian curriculum.

Please see link for full report on our college's successful activities related to this Indonesian sister school partnership: http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/verve/_resources/What_Works_6_report.pdf

Prema Devathas
Our students in Year 10 had been waiting all term to meet their German exchange partners, who arrived in Melbourne on Saturday 22nd March.

During their three and a half weeks in Australia, the students from the Integrierte Gesamtschule in Kaufungen enjoyed excursions to Sovereign Hill, the Mornington Peninsula and the city centre. The whole group also undertook a full day of special activities at Heathmont College, and another at Vermont Secondary College, where they had the opportunity to hold various Australian animals.

The staff at Heathmont provided a varied programme, including cooking, consumer Science (which included taste-testing various brands of chocolate) and a research quiz about Australian history, geography and culture. I am very grateful to Natasha Haggar, Andrea Poole, Terri Hammill and Amanda Rienits, who all generously gave their time to run their session on the day.

The students from our sister school also visited the different German classes, offering conversation practice and an exchange of ideas and culture. They even judged the Easter cards made by the Year 7 German students, and awarded chocolate prizes to the most accurate and well decorated ones. Congratulations to Irina Metlenko (1st) and Deng Peter Makuach from Mrs Tonkin’s class, and to Amy Nailer (1st) and Shobit Sahota from Ms Power’s class.

All too soon it was time to say farewell, and our hosts could hardly believe how quickly the time had flown by.

This was the 19th consecutive year of our sister-school exchange and over the years our Heathmont families have established great connections and relationships with the students they have hosted. I would like to thank the families of Bethany Cowan Blackley, Shannon Pauer and Taylah Ramsay for hosting the students this year and providing them with a wonderful experience of Melbourne.

Lynette Tonkin
German Exchange Co-ordinator

German Exchange students visit Year 7 German classes

Today the German exchange students came into our class to talk to us. First we greeted each other and said our names. My group had Franziska. She first talked about Easter in Germany. Then we all spoke about how we celebrate Easter. Afterwards we read a sheet which had three poems on it – we worked out what each of them meant and how to say them aloud. There was an Easter card competition and the exchange students judged the cards. First prize was a big chocolate Easter bunny and second prize was a chocolate egg. I won first prize!

Irina Metlenko, 071

Today in class we got split into three groups. All of the groups had one of the German exchange students. Our group had Greta. Firstly we introduced ourselves to Greta, then we told her about the Australian traditions for Easter.

Jaimie Clutterbuck, 071
LEAP Activities

**LSAP Workshop Program**

Event code: LAW-03-005  
Date/time: 7 July 2014, 9:30am - 8 July 2014, 5:00pm  
Location: Victoria University (Melbourne) - two day workshop

For more information:  

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**Animal Career Discovery Day**

Experience our Animal Career Discovery Day. Gain insight from current industry specialists and unlock pathways to a fulfilling career with animals.

Spend the day at the RSPCA Animal Career Discovery Day!  
Hear from RSPCA staff currently working in the industry in various roles and gain helpful insider knowledge on planning pathways to a fulfilling career with animals.

**Details:**  
**Dates:** 1/ Thursday 12th June  
2/ Tuesday 9th September  
3/ Thursday 4th December  
**Time:** 9:00am – 3:30pm  
**Location:** Burwood East RSPCA  
**Cost:** $59 includes registration, morning tea, RSPCA career show bag, and all activity costs.

**Please note:** Places are limited!  
For more information and to download a registration form visit: [http://www.rspcavic.org/services/education/secondary-education/animal-career-discovery-day](http://www.rspcavic.org/services/education/secondary-education/animal-career-discovery-day)

Penny Edwards  
Administration Officer  
Education Department
Environmental & Marine Careers Expo

Ever been interested in a career within the environmental or marine science fields?

Join our experts for a comprehensive careers, employment and training expo at SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium. The expo will bring together professionals from a variety of industries and tertiary institutions. Students can attend presentations and chat one-on-one with exhibitors to find out about the diverse career, tertiary, training and volunteer opportunities related to the marine science industry.

We also encourage teachers, careers advisors and VCE coordinators to attend.

Dates: Thursday 7 August 2014
Times: Day session: 9:30am – 3pm
        Twilight session: 4:30pm – 8pm
Location: SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium
Cost: $20 per person for early bird
      bookings before 4pm June 27
      $25 per person after June 27

For more details head to www.melbourneaquarium.com.au/schools

BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES

Phone (03) 9923 5911
bookings@melbourneaquarium.com.au
www.melbourneaquarium.com.au/schools

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE: BOOK NOW!
Careers:

VCE AND CAREERS EXPO - ‘The Age’ VCE and Careers Expo is Victoria’s largest education and careers fair. Universities, TAFEs, private providers, and many others will have representatives there. Get your questions answered, collect information, and be informed. When: 9am-3pm, Thurs 8 & Fri 9 May; 10am-4pm, Sat 10 & Sun 11 May; Where: Caulfield Racecourse; Cost: $10 (family concession); www.vceandcareers.com.au

CHECK OUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE – If you would like to find out more about Melbourne degrees, you may wish to attend a ‘Focus on Melbourne’ seminar. Explore your options, meet staff and students, and hear about courses and careers.

• 27 May – Focus on Commerce
• 28 May – Focus on Environments
• 3 June – Focus on Science
• 4 June – Focus on Agriculture
• 10 June – Focus on Law
• 11 June – Focus on Engineering and IT
• 18 June – Focus on the Conservatorium of Music
• 25 June – Focus on the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA)

More information and bookings: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events2014

INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN IT, GAMES OR TELECOMMUNICATIONS? Box Hill Institute has an Information Night where you can learn about courses leading to careers in IT, Games or Telecommunications. You can also meet teachers and check out facilities. When: 6-8pm. Mon 2 June; Where: Room N1, G 32/33, Nelson Campus, cnr Nelson/Whitehorse Roads; Info/bookings: Ph 9286 9830, ict@boxhill.edu.au.

BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY SEMINARS The Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at Monash University (Parkville campus) is offering support to current Unit 3 & 4 Biology and Chemistry students. Seminars are designed to reinforce key learnings, delivered by qualified VCE teachers. Dates: Biology - 5.30-7pm, 4 June, 27 Aug and 8 Nov (one already been held); Chemistry: 4.30-6pm, 11 June, 3 Sept and 15 Oct (one already held). Where: Monash University (Parkville), 381 Royal Parade, Parkville; Cost: Free; Register: www.monash.edu/pharm/about/events/vce-seminars.html; Info: Tom Day, phone 9903 9594, tom.day@monash.edu.

PARENT AND STUDENT TERTIARY INFORMATION NIGHT – Deakin University is offering an evening where you can start to plan your VCE, university and career. Find out about courses, VTAC applications, prerequisites, costs, scholarships and pathways to university. When: Burwood campus – 6-8pm, Wed 21 May; Geelong Waterfront campus – 6-8pm, Wed 28 May.

A YEAR WITH THE DEFENCE FORCES – If you would like to earn good money, make new friends, and get great training, the Army is currently recruiting for roles with only a 12-months commitment. After a year you can chose to stay in the Army or use your training elsewhere. To find out more go to a One Year Roles Information Session. When: 5.30 (arrival time) for 6pm start (7pm finish), Wed 7 May; Where: Level 14, Reception area, 501 Swanston St, Melbourne; RSVP (essential) to: CPTVIC@dfr.com.au.
As part of their study for “The Nervous System”, the year 12s have been dissecting brains. With cutting edge knowledge, and some scalpels, the students have enhanced their own grey matter.

“Scientists do amazing things!” is the theme of this year’s Education Week, 18-24 May 2014.

The Education Week website now features information for parents and students about the value of science education, and the diverse study options and rewarding career paths it can lead to. It also features science-themed activity ideas.

To find out more about Education Week and where science can take your child, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/educationweek](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/educationweek)
The Big Issue

For most of us, feeling secure and safe is a feeling we take for granted but for thousands of people it’s their daily struggle. Can you imagine having nowhere to go after a day of work, not even a place to lay your head and feel safe and secure at night? For most that end up in this situation becoming homeless is not a choice; it is often the only way to escape a regular beating or abuse. At the Big Issue education program the Advance Youth class explored the issues around homelessness and how the Big Issue magazine helps these vulnerable people.

The Big Issue exists to help the homeless. They created a business where the homeless can earn money by selling a $6 magazine that gives them $3 profit with each purchase. This enables them to build up their self-confidence; learn social skills and how to work with other people that may very well be in a similar situation. It’s a way they can create a better life and regain some control.

The Big Issue organisation also runs an education program, in which the Year 9 Advanced Youth Group participated. It helped us become aware of homelessness and its the causes. The leader of the program ran an activity that demonstrated how hard it can be to work in a group of people with different abilities. The leader also informed us of homelessness and introduced us to a man named Peter. He spoke to us about his life’s story. He shared his strengths and weaknesses and told us how lucky he really was to have found The Big Issue. He had a strong belief that his life turned around once he started wearing his high visibility vest and selling The Big Issue magazine. It makes you think doesn’t it? That no matter how bad a situation may be, with help, some people are fortunate enough to find a way through. If you would like more information on The Big Issue and how to support their work you can find it at the following URL: www.thebigissue.org.au

Hannah May Lawford - Year 9

Wesley Mission Food For Families Appeal

A big thankyou to all who made a donation to the food drive run by The Advance Youth class during Term 1. We were able to hand over to Wesley Mission four large boxes of food and a little over $200. This will go towards helping those in our community who are struggling to make ends meet.

All the students in the Advance Youth class are to be congratulated on their efforts in managing this activity. Particular mention goes to Hannah Lawford, Tania Koumanelis and Adam Wilson for giving up their time and selling raffle tickets throughout the Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences on the 3rd of April, a six and a half hour commitment.

The following lucky people were drawn out as the winners from the raffle:

$50 Cole Myer voucher – Scott Lewis Yr12
$30 Hoyts voucher – Zack Jones Yr11
$15 Coles Myer voucher – Rachael Mirtschin Yr 8

If you would like to make donations to the Wesley Mission you can take them directly to their Ringwood office at 8 Market St, Ringwood.

Marc Wright – Advance Youth Programme Teacher
Dear Parent/Carer

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2014 for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 13 May, Wednesday 14 May and Thursday 15 May 2014. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. During test week, catch-up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days. These students may undertake catch-up tests on the days in the test week after the scheduled test, up to and including Friday 16 May 2014.

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Large print, braille and black and white versions of the tests are available for students that require them.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year.

If your child is eligible for support due to disability or an exemption, you should discuss this with his/her teacher prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is granted. Please contact Alison Richards 9871-4888

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

Later in the year you will receive your child’s personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child’s particular skills in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

I am confident that the information you receive as a result of your child’s participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child’s progress in literacy and numeracy.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAP website at www.nap.edu.au

Yours sincerely

Johanna Walker
Principal
INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH PROJECT

Full Project Title: Separating cognitive processes underlying Effortful Control: Relations to internalising and externalising emotional and behavioural problems.

Aims: The aim of the project is to better understand what psychological processes contribute to children’s ability to control their thoughts, feelings and behaviour and how these processes relate to the development of emotional and behavioural problems.

Participation in the study: The current project requires 200 male and female primary school children. In order to participate in the study children must meet the following criteria:

- Be aged between 11 years 0 months to 12 years 11 months
- Have normal or corrected to normal vision and hearing
- English is his/her first spoken language
- No history of a learning disorder (e.g. Reading Disorder / Dyslexia)
- No history of a brain injury or psychiatric illness
- Not currently take any medications that affect his/her brain function (e.g. psychiatric medications)

What the research involves: For each child participant, a parent or primary caregiver will be asked to complete three questionnaires assessing their child’s temperament, behavioural functioning, and the presence and severity of any emotional and/or behavioural difficulties that may be evident within the home environment. The questionnaires are expected to take approximately 25 – 50 minutes to complete. Child participants will be asked to fill out a self-report version of the temperament questionnaire (if they are able to do so) and will have different aspects of their thinking skills assessed, including basic verbal and visual skills, memory and attentional skills. The assessment session will take approximately 2 hours. Assessments are being conducted over the school holidays and throughout 2014.

Benefits of participation: A benefit of your child’s participation is that their general thinking skills, attention, memory and emotional and behavioural functioning will be assessed (see over page). Results from these assessments will be provided to you within four weeks following testing in the form of a report. These areas of functioning are all important factors contributing to your child’s academic performance at school, as well as their ongoing social and emotional adjustment.

Further information: If you and your child are interested in participating, please contact one of the researchers on the details below to discuss the study with you in more detail. You can choose to participate in the project following receiving more information about the study. You and your child can also choose to withdraw from the study at any time.

Contact Details:

Jeggan Tiego - Student Investigator
Doctorate of Neuropsychology Candidate
Telephone: 0413 656 166
Email: jeggan.tiego@monash.edu

Dr Renee Testa – Chief Investigator
Senior Clinical Neuropsychologist & Post-Doctoral Research Fellow
E-mail: renee.testa@monash.edu

The research project and associated methodology have been approved by the Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria and Independent Schools Victoria.
Free testing of your child’s estimated intelligence, memory, self-regulation and emotional and behavioural problems!

Research on the processes underlying self-regulation in children

As part of the research participating students will be assessed in four important areas of functioning as shown in the figure above. Research has demonstrated that each of these areas of functioning has a significant impact on academic achievement. Results from each student’s assessment are provided to their parent(s) / primary caregiver(s) in the form of a brief report within four weeks of assessment. Results on these measures are not diagnostic, but may be useful for screening and identifying potential problems in any one of these four areas. Students identified with potential problems can be referred for further assessment and support.

FREE TESTING OF ESTIMATED INTELLIGENCE, MEMORY AND EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS FOR MALE AND FEMALE STUDENTS AGED 11 YEARS 0 MONTHS TO 12 YEARS 11 MONTHS

Research is being conducted through Monash University and the Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre to better understand the processes underlying self-regulation in school-aged children and any links to emotional and behavioural problems. A benefit of your child’s participation is that their estimated intelligence, memory, as well as their ability to self-regulate and any emotional and behavioural problems will be assessed and the results will be provided to you within four weeks following testing in the form of a report. These tested areas of functioning are all important factors contributing to your child’s academic performance at school, as well as their ongoing social and emotional adjustment.

The research involves completion of three questionnaires by each participating child’s primary caregiver, which assesses the child’s temperament, behavioural functioning, and the presence and severity of any emotional and/or behavioural problems. Each participating child will undertake a 2 hour testing session that will assess their general verbal and visual skills, attention and memory. Testing can be arranged to suit, e.g. after school hours, in your own home or at one of our research centres.

In order to participate children must meet the following criteria: 1) Normal, or corrected to normal, vision and hearing; 2) English is his/her first spoken language; 3) No history of a learning disorder (e.g. Reading Disorder / Dyslexia); 4) No history of a brain injury or psychiatric illness; 5) Not currently take any medications that affect his/her brain function (e.g. psychiatric medications). To register your interest or for more information please contact:

Mr Jeggan Tiego
Phone: 0413 656 166
E-mail: jeggan.tiego@monash.edu

The research project has been approved by the Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.
Uniform Shop Hours

SCHOOL TRADING HOURS
Tuesdays 2.30pm – 5.00pm
Thursdays 12noon – 2.00pm

Uniforms can also be purchased directly from
Klad Sports 2/9 Macro Crt. Rowville Tel: 9763 0266
Monday – Thur: 8:30am – 5:00pm.
Fri: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Saturdays: 9:00am – 1:00pm
~ Cheques are not accepted ~

SELL YOUR SECOND HAND UNIFORM ITEMS
KLAD sports now offers a second hand uniform service.
Uniform items of good quality can be submitted for sale on consignment
Take your freshly laundered quality uniform items to KLAD Sports at either the College uniform shop or to their Rowville store. Set a price and a sell by date. If the items are sold KLAD Sports will contact you and arrange payment. If items are unsold you will be contacted to collect your items
For more information please contact KLAD Sports on 9763 0266

STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents are requested to ring the College absence line before 9:00am if their student is to be late, away due to illness or for any other reason. We encourage parents to use the College’s Compass Parent Portal to register absences. Unfortunately late arrivals cannot be registered.
Thank you for your ongoing cooperation in this matter.

HEATHMONT COLLEGE TOURS

Parent tours are conducted on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:15 am.
This is an opportunity to meet the principal Johanna Walker and view the College facilities. Please contact 9871 4888 to make a booking.

MATHS HELP

Where: Library
When: After school till 4:00pm
Who: Students of all year levels are welcome

Lost property can be collected from the general office on Wednesday lunchtime.
**Talking Teens**

An opportunity to talk and ask questions, meet other parents and share ideas that work.

- Do you wonder why they aren’t listening to you or how to deal with their anger?
- How do we talk so they will listen?
- Do you want to maintain a connection with them?
- Take some time out for parents.

**Details:**
- The Anglican Diocese of Ballarat: Warrnambool
- Warrnambool Secondary School, Bedroom 3/6, Warrnambool
- Wednesday 9am to Wednesday June 11
- **Type B – weekly**
  - **9am – 11am**

**For more information contact:**
Jess: 0421 505 451
03 9731 1177 / jessicabogar@uych.org.au
Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

**Why it’s important**

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

**Getting in early**

It’s never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when attendance rates are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts. Schools are there to help – if you’re having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

**What we can do**

The main reasons for absence are:

- **Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

- **“Day off”** – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

- **Truancy** – When students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy, the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development