FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Student Leadership
Student Leadership has a very strong profile at Heathmont College. We focus on developing the skills of our students so that they may enhance their development and work effectively within our community. Last Friday, as part of this program, I accompanied Ian Gaertner and Benjamin Shield of Year 11, to a Deakin 200 launch with Michael Sukkar at the Whitehorse Centre in Nunawading. This was a breakfast for business people in the seat of Deakin. Julie Bishop, the Deputy Prime Minister, was the guest speaker and we enjoyed a very entertaining speech and Q & A session from her. It is always fantastic to see someone who speaks publicly as part of their profession with both the students and myself learning a great deal from what she had to say. There were several of her techniques in terms of ‘working’ the crowd which were very effective.

My thanks go to Michael Sukkar for giving the students such a unique and worthwhile experience.

Congratulations to the Year 8 Debating Team and Mr. Steen
The Year 8 Debating team under the able leadership of Mr. Steen continue with their excellent season. Last week they won against a team of Year 9 students from Lilydale High School. Congratulations to Moo Paw, Abi Neve and Peter Zamora. As an added bonus, Abi won best speaker! Well done to all the participants.

Examinations
As we finish the end of the first week of exams, I would like to commend the students on their excellent work ethic. Many staff members have commented to me on the positive attitude to their work which has been displayed by students. Behaviour in exams has been exemplary and there has been significant utilization of the study hall by students who are in V. C. E. Well done to all those students.

State Schools Spectacular
Tickets for this year’s State School Spectacular have now gone on sale. I commend this to parents and students at the College as a fantastic show. I was lucky to attend last year and have already bought my ticket for this year. Heathmont College has a large contingent of students in this as part of our vibrant Performing Arts program and I am sure these students would appreciate the College community seeing how talented they are. Mr. Barca and Mrs. McMurray have been working hard with the students in rehearsing them for the production and I would like to thank them for all their efforts.

Bookings can be made at Ticketek.

Johanna Walker
Principal

Friday June 20 is a student free day for REPORT WRITING

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During the second week of May, the 2014 Year 9 Advance Youth Class attended the Phillip Island Coastal Discovery Camp YMCA. Our goals for this adventure were to learn, to experience new things, to complete and accomplish new challenges, to help each other and to build up our strength to become leaders and work as a team. Mr Wright had organised this camp to ensure that we, as a group of students, would achieve these goals and he came up with a creative idea for us to learn to help one another. Just before we climbed on the bus Mr Wright asked us to pick a name from his hands, we were then told that we were that persons Secret Angel for the day, someone we had to help out throughout the day but were not allowed to tell them, or anyone else, who we were the angel for. At the end of the day we had to guess who helped us out. This exercise was both enjoyable and rewarding.

Over a period of three days our class of twenty one was split up into three groups of seven. We were each given a timetable that informed us of which activity and what time they would start. There were six different activities that concluded after two hours. These were surfing, snorkelling, bike ride, initiatives, a beach carnival and a service activity. Each activity included a series of skills and teamwork. The initiatives consisted of a range of games and challenges that could only be solved with teamwork. Some activities were frustrating at times but we all got there in the end.

Snorkelling, surfing and bike riding required the most skills. We had to make sure that we were breathing correctly whilst snorkelling, we had to create balance to be able to stand up on the surf board in surfing and we also had to pace ourselves whilst riding along bumpy and gravel paths during the bike ride. The service activity guided us through the different types of plants and trees in the camp, we also built a fire and cooked damper. On the last day, another series of activities were run as a beach carnival to conclude our camp. After we arrived home, the class reflected on how we went on achieving our goals, and I am glad to say that this camp helped us to realise that for our class, teamwork is the most important thing.

Hannah May Lawford. 92
ASEAN Ambassadors' visit to Heathmont College, Melbourne

On May 27 2014, a delegate of ASEAN Ambassadors, officials from DFAT, the Mayor of Maroondah Council and officials from DEECD visited Heathmont College to study the BRIDGE partnership between Heathmont College and SMPN1 Karangmojo in Yogyakarta. The event affirms the bond and mutual contribution that the BRIDGE partnership has made for both schools.

During the event, students and staff from both schools showcased this partnership and reflected on its past developments and future opportunities. The sessions demonstrated how language, learning and intercultural understanding have been greatly enhanced by active bilateral collaborative projects with partnered schools. The visiting delegates were shown examples of successful language projects that students from both schools have worked on collaboratively, did peer assessments and learnt from each other. In such collaborative projects, the separation between countries and communities becomes smaller, hence paving the way to closer ties and borderless classrooms.

The delegates also interacted with students as they skyped live with Indonesia. The visitors then chatted with the staff and students of SMPN1 Karangmojo. They talked about the advantages of BRIDGE partnership, including developing close relationships between the two countries.

As Heathmont College BRIDGE coordinator I gave an overview about this partnership, ending with a slideshow on the college’s BRIDGE journey. This was followed by a presentation of the college by the college principal, Johanna Walker, ending with an exchange of souvenirs. The event concluded with interaction with the college staff and a delicious high tea.

It was a very historic and productive day and everyone present really enjoyed themselves. We believe this visit has further enhanced the warm relationship between Australia and our closest ASEAN neighbours.

Prema Devathas
Head of Languages
Australia-Indonesia Institute reception at Parliament House, Canberra

Julie Bishop with Prema Devathas and Mel Douglas (Marlborough PS) in Parliament House, Canberra, 4-5 June 2014. The reception was organised by the Australian-Indonesia Institute, DFAT, to showcase the various bilateral programs between Australia and Indonesia, one of them being the BRIDGE partnership. Julie Bishop was very friendly and positive - she gave a very promising and inspiring talk on developing close ties with our nearest neighbours.

On Tuesday the June 3, Heathmont College’s debating team had a successful debate on the topic “that the media should not be allowed to report on the private lives of politicians” against Lilydale High School. Abi Neve, Moo Paw and Peter Zamora argued in favour of the ban, presenting persuasive and thoroughly supported arguments, demonstrating that their hard work and preparation is paying off. Abi Neve was awarded Best Speaker, complementing the achievements of the team. This win is particularly noteworthy as all the students in the team are in Year 8 and are competing in D Grade which is made up of Year 9 students.

Well done Abi, Moo and Peter and keep up the fantastic work!

Mathew Steen
Head of Humanities

Semester One Reports.

Parents are advised that the College has extended its use of the COMPASS portal to include the provision of comprehensive subject based Semester reports. These reports will be accessed in the same way as the term one reports. The proposed date for opening reports is the last day of term 2, after 3pm.

Parents will need to access both the attendance summary on their child and then the semester report to gain a full picture of attendance and progress. Students who normally receive specialised reports [PSD funded students], will receive their reports by mail. More details will be forwarded through the COMPASS newsfeed.

Amanda Rienits
Assistant Principal
Careers programs for secondary students

Keeper for a Day at Healesville Sanctuary
Come to 'Winter Wonderland' at Healesville Sanctuary these school holidays and get up close to some of our most precious and endangered alpine animals such as Mountain Pygmy Possums and our Alpine She-Oak Skinks. Keeper for a Day participants will work with Sanctuary staff, helping out our keepers and learning about one of the most rewarding jobs!

Vet for a Day at Healesville Sanctuary
Our Australian Wildlife Health Centre receives over 2,000 injured and orphaned wild animals each year. Come and work alongside our vets in a unique program on real life cases involving Healesville Sanctuary’s animal collection as well as injured wildlife brought to the hospital. These school holidays our theme is Winter Wonderland giving you the chance to also learn about our unique alpine species. Get up close to amazing animals such as Mountain Pygmy Possums and Corroboree Frogs as well as Birds of Prey and Snakes.

Keeper for a Day at Werribee Open Range Zoo
If you are keen to find out what it takes to work in a zoo, caring for the amazing array of different animals, then come out to Werribee Open Range Zoo next school holidays. Come and discover what a keeper’s day really involves! Keeper for a Day allows participants to work in the Zoo for the day, helping out our keepers and learning about one of the most rewarding jobs at a zoo!

All of the above are suitable for students in years 7 - 12

Bookings: 9285 9406

Your visit helps us save wildlife. Zoos Victoria is a not-for-profit conservation organisation.
I was very fortunate on Friday May 6 to join twenty three Year 8 students at Inter-School Badminton. The students had been very committed to lunchtime training sessions during which time I saw their skills develop. Their excitement grew as team lists were announced and they were ready to compete. But far more importantly, last Friday, all twenty three Year 8 students were committed to walk under the Heathmont College banner and represent our college and reflect our values at Inter School Sport.

During the day all students played their very best badminton both in singles and doubles matches. Serves, overhead smashes and drop shots came together as planned. Well most of the time. Students were very fair and considerate as they rotated singles and doubles positions during each round. Year 8 students sat on the court side lines and cheered each other on when they were not playing.

On the day the Boys A team and the Girls A Team were the strongest in the competition and moved through to Zone. They will represent Maroondah Region on August 22 2014.

The Boys B team won all their games in their pool and the Boys C Team were very competitive and great improvements were seen in skill and confidence levels as the day progressed.

I have never been so proud of such a large group of students who represented our college and truly displayed our values which are centred on Sportsmanship, Team Work, Participation and, above all, Respect.

All twenty three students are truly winners. Well done.

Mrs Agi Birchall
Physical Education Teacher
As part of their study of “Forces” the year 7s have been trying to place twelve nails upon the head of a single nail. So far none of the students have hit the nail on the head with this activity.

Who will master this balancing trick?

Next newsletter issue: End the suspense. Hang around for the solution.

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**Library News**

**Snow** reads are the new beach reads – books to get you through Winter

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Librarians: Wendy Averay & Elizabeth Downey
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**

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

**MATHS HELP**
- The library after school on Mondays till 4:00pm
- G3 lunchtime Wed, Thurs and Fri.

*Students of all year levels are welcome*

Friday June 20 is a student free day for REPORT WRITING

**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. Phone **9871 4888 then select 1**

**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.
PROTECTING PERSONAL INFORMATION

SAFEMinds
Schools And Families Enhancing Minds

Supporting Victorian schools to intervene early in mental health.

A range of mental health issues affect Victorian students and school communities each year, including early signs of anxiety and depression, self-harm, suicide ideation and suicide. The Victorian Government endorses a whole-school approach to mental health promotion which supports schools and communities working collaboratively to create protective and safe environments to optimise positive mental health. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) has partnered with headspace, the National Youth Mental Health Foundation, to develop SAFEMinds: Schools And Families Enhancing Minds, a comprehensive learning and resource package to support early intervention.

SAFEMinds aims to:

- enhance mental health support to young people in schools, specifically regarding early intervention for mild mood disorders (anxiety and depression) and self-harm;
- increase parent engagement with schools to support student mental health and promote early intervention strategies;
- develop clear and effective referral pathways between schools and community youth and mental health services.

SAFEMinds is underpinned by the NIP-2 in the buff: an early intervention approach supporting the whole-school community to:

- Notice: Changes in mood, behaviour or self can indicate a young person is having difficulty managing mental health.
- Inquire: Sincerely and confidentially, about your young person’s wellbeing.
- Plan: First steps and possible referrals within or outside the school setting to appropriately support the young person.

SAFEMinds for Schools

Online learning: Enrol in this buffet approach to supporting young people in your school.

When: Available from mid-May 2014

SAFEMinds for Parents

Online learning: Enrol in this buffet approach to supporting young parents.

What: Enrol in this buffet approach to supporting young parents.

When: Delivered between June and December 2014 on a regional timetable.

For further information contact:
Amanda Smith, headspace Project Manager: andrewhorwood@headspace.org.au / 0407 016 016 or
Carlin Greenwell, DEECD Project Manager: carlin.greenwell@deed.vic.gov.au / 03 9077 3065

PROTECTING PERSONAL INFORMATION

CYBER SAFETY TIPS

PRACTICAL SAFETY STEPS

Talk to your children about personal information - what it is and why it's important to be careful about sharing information. Explain why it's safer to only give first names, instead of full names, and the importance of opting-out of providing location details, such as when checking in on social media.

Stress the importance of not giving away personal information to strangers online or posting information where strangers can view it, such as on social media sites.

Ask them to tell you before they enter personal information at a website, so you can check it out yourself first.

Make sure you install software that stops hackers from stealing personal information, and keep the software up-to-date. Apply the relevant privacy settings on social networking sites, and install and use spam filtering software. Use parental control settings and turn off geo-location software.

Make sure your children are aware of phishing email techniques.

Ask your children to look for the “locked” symbol on any web page where they're buying with a credit card.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

For more information about staying safe online and getting the most from your digital experiences visit telstra.com.au/cyber-safety

Visit the Parents’ page on the Cyber smart website at cybersmart.gov.au/parents.aspx

Play Zipple's Astra Circus, with kids aged 5 to 7, to reinforce the importance of protecting personal information, cybersmart.gov.au/young%20kids.aspx

View the Cyber safety Help and Advice page or download the Cyber safety help Button onto your kids’ devices from cyber safety help.gov.au

Use the “Easy Guide to Socialising Online” to learn about safer ways to use social networks, search engines and online games at communications.gov.au/easyguide

Keep the family safe online with BigPond® Security’s Parental Controls and Telstra Safe Social™, to help protect your kids on social networks, bigpond.com/security