FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As always, it has been a busy time at Heathmont College. The increase in activities reflects our vibrant school community. These are some of our recent highlights.

Celebration Assembly
Last week saw the mid-year Celebration Assembly. It was marvellous to have the whole school together to witness the achievements so far this year. The recent successes of the College are directly attributable to the hard work of the students and staff and this was reflected in the large number of academic and sporting awards issued to students. My thanks go to the many parents/guardians who attended the event to support their children.

Pathways Information
Thank you to all staff, parents and students who attended the Pathways sessions at the College this week. These evenings have allowed the College to introduce our new subject selection platform to the school community. It is very important that the cut off dates specified at the evenings are adhered to by students and families.

Heathmont College offers a broad range of VCE/VET/VCAL programs and this is not possible without considerable planning from staff. Hence, it is vital that information is returned promptly.

School Production 2015
I am pleased to announce that planning has commenced for a school production of ‘GREASE’ for next year. Mrs. Sayer and Mr. Barca have been out looking at theatres to book for rehearsals and the production itself. Keep your eye on this space. We will be asking for members of the school community to assist with costumes etc. early next year and trust that some parents will be kind enough to volunteer.

Johanna Walker
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 11</td>
<td>Medieval Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 12</td>
<td>Excursion: IT. Go Girls, Deakin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 13</td>
<td>~ Excursion: Girls Positive Attitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 14</td>
<td>~ Excursion: Year 12OE, Skiing Mt. Buller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 18</td>
<td>Asian Intercultural Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 19</td>
<td>~ Year 7 Health Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 22</td>
<td>~ EZ Year 8, Badminton Final, Kilsyth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher De Jong</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysian Trip</td>
<td>4/S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaps &amp; Bounds</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Happenings</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Careers</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science &amp; Library</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News in Brief</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOURS

A reminder that College tours have commenced for 2016 Year 7 enrolments. Appointments can now be made via the website or by calling the office on 9871 4888.
Tours run Wednesdays at 9.15am
Congratulations to Christopher De Jong for progressing so far in the senior division of the Spellmasters event in South Melbourne. We are very proud of his accomplishment which is summarized in the following article published in The Leader Newspaper.

HEATHMONT College student Christopher De Jong’s worship of words spelt success during a spelling competition last month.

The young wordsmith came second in the senior division of a Spellmasters event in South Melbourne. Christopher’s second placing was enough to secure a seat in the Senior Spellmasters grand final. Participants are each given a word to spell and are disqualified if they get a single letter wrong.

“The competition was pretty strong that day,” Christopher said.

“The winner lasted nine rounds, which was surprisingly long because usually the events only last about five words.”

Christopher fell just short of first place after failing to spell “purport”.

“It was the only word I had never heard of before, so I asked for a definition and for it to be used in a sentence,” he said.

Tracing his spelling skill back to when he was just a toddler, Christopher still has extensive training sessions in the days preceding the competitions.

The Year 8 student said he was inspired by his fellow competitors.

“Everyone is just such a good sport,” he said.
Music Workshop

On Monday August 4 students from Year 7 – 12 involved in the instrumental music program at Heathmont College participated in a day of music at Glen Park Community Centre. The day consisted of combined activities, ensemble rehearsals (Choir, Concert Band, Percussion ensemble and Guitar ensemble) and performance workshops. The main aim of the day was to build connections between students across different year levels and from different ensembles. To keep them going students had a feast of pizza, muffins and lollies and a beautiful sunny day to enjoy during their breaks.

A big thank you to our instrumental music staff Sally Barkla, Lachlan Barratt, Travis Easton, and Adam Watson who worked tirelessly throughout the day.

I would also like to thank the students for their participation throughout the day, it was fantastic to see so many students involved!

**Upcoming Music events involving all instrumental music students:**

- Music Soiree - Wednesday 10th September
- End of Year Music Concert - Tuesday 14th October

Emma Avery  
Music Coordinator
Heathmont College Indonesian
Malaysia Study Tour 2014

Over the second term school holidays a group of seventeen students from Heathmont College and Vermont SC went on a combined two-week study tour to Borneo, Penang and Kuala Lumpur. They visited the cultural city of Sarawak in Borneo for the first five days, participating in various language and cultural activities. Students also visited a secondary college, practised their speaking and learnt some cultural games and dances, including a new French game called Petanque. Kuching is known for its natural wonders, protected national parks and home to many ethnic groups of people, each with their own distinct language and culture. Students visited the various local houses of the local natives including the Dayak longhouses where they interacted with the locals.

Students experienced the beauty of a multi-cultural community and visited many historical buildings including the Colonial Law Court, Clock Tower, Charles Brooke Memorial, Post Office, Square Tower, Chinese Temples, the Grand Palace and the Malay Villages on the waterfront. They practised their Indonesian oral skills at the Satok Market and saw the various ethnic groups in Sarawak selling their produce.

Students also visited the Semenggok Wildlife Centre to view semi-wild orangutans that have been rescued from captivity and trained to survive in the surrounding forest reserve. They also saw sun bears and other endangered rare species of animals. After that they visited a Land Dayak longhouse and experienced life there and mingled with the locals.

Students also visited a local secondary school for classroom interaction, cultural and language activities. After the school they visited the Sarawak Cultural Village to learn all about the seven replicas of Sarawak’s major ethnic traditional houses: Chinese Farm House, Malay Stilted House, Melanau Tall House, Penan Hut, Longhouse of the Bidayuh, Iban and Orang Ulu. They had a go at the blowpipes and then proceeded to the village theatre to participate in a cultural dance presentation. Rahni Williams was invited to the stage to participate in a blowpipe shooting demonstration. She did very well!

In Sarawak, we were invited to participate in the Gawai Dayak festival where we were treated to a delicious local lunch and witnessed traditional dances. More information can be seen on the Sarawak Tribune link as below:
Up2Me Year 10 Program

Over three Fridays this term, eight Year 10 students have participated in an Up2Me leadership course. The students worked together in team activities and were challenged through a variety of high rope courses at the Leaps and Bounds site. On Friday August 8 the group facilitated forty five Year 7 students in games where they were required to give all instructions and motivate student involvement. All of the participating students have shown a high level of cooperation, determination and leadership qualities. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Chloe Adams, Sophie Croft, Zoe Decker, Harry George, Alex Vance, Jacinta Gastin, Billy Norris and Dakoda Cannon for their outstanding effort and enthusiasm. I would also like to thank Mrs Andrea Carydias for her much appreciated involvement in this course.

Mrs Melissa McMurray
The Great Debate

On Tuesday the 22nd of July the Heathmont College debating team concluded their first season of debating with another victory, this time against Our Lady of Sion College. The team made up of Abi Neve, Moo Paw, Peter Zamora and new comer Chris de Jong have had an incredibly successful season and Tuesday’s debate topped the season off. Our team of Abi, Moo and Chris successfully argued in favour of the topic “We should ban examinations in schools”, putting forward a well-structured and supported argument. The whole team was supported by their parents and extended family who all came along to watch a great debate. Concluding the season with 3/5 wins the team has finished equal third out of the twenty one teams in their league. They are excited to continue their success next year in what will no doubt be an even more successful year. Well done team!

Mathew Steen – Debating Coach

New Pedagogies for Deep Learning

On Monday the 28th of July Mathew Steen and Johanna Walker attended the official launch of New Pedagogies for Deep Learning at the MCG. This exciting global initiative involving over 1000 schools from Victoria, Tasmania, Canada, Netherlands, Uruguay, U.S.A, Finland, France and Japan. The focus of the initiative is to explore new ways of teaching, specifically on making school more relevant to the skills demanded in the 21st Century. Heathmont College will be taking part in this initiative, with Mathew Steen’s appointment as Deep Learning coordinator. Over the course of the next 3 years the school is going to move towards 21st Century teaching methods with a heavy focus on technology and deep analytical thinking. This is an exciting opportunity for the whole school and the official launch at the MCG is a symbolic moment in the push for continued improvement at the college.

Our wonderful Victorian State School Spectacular students have been working very hard in preparation for their big performance in September at Hisense Arena. On Tuesday August 5 the students participated in their final regional rehearsal in Bayswater. This caps off four all-day rehearsals that have been consistently positive and rewarding. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students for their ongoing hard work and dedication over the rehearsal season - Amelia Barry, Meka Cogan, Mia Grundy, Elise Guest, Loz Heatley, Kassie Hendy, Jordyn Humphries, Brooke Jackson, Emily Kefford, Maya Kolevich, Tania Koumanelis, Hannah Lawford, Irina Metlenko, Georgia-Lee Miles, Abbi Neve, Hannah Sali and Lisa Steinman. We’d also liked to thank their parents for their support and encourage throughout the process, in particularly Chantell Taylor for assisting us in the administrative tasks. Lastly, we’d like to thank Mrs Agi Birchall for enthusiastically taking the participants to their final rehearsal this week.

We look forward to the 2 full-day rehearsals at Hisense Arena and our 2 performances on Saturday September 13. If you would like to come to support our students, tickets are still available through TicketTek.

Melissa McMurray & Nick Barca

Victorian State School Spectacular Coordinators
ATTENTION
YEARS 10, 11 & 12 - 2015

Course selections for 2015 have taken place in the College this week. Students who haven't received their information pack, please see Mrs Ling in Senior School.
As part of their study of “Solids, Liquids and Gases” the year 7s have been building rainbows. Using drinking straws, hot glue, coloured salt water and the experience of density, the students have seen the full spectrum of the light.

Librarians: Wendy Averay & Elizabeth Downey
Dear parents and students of Heathmont College

I write to inform you that a student in our school community is currently recovering from a life threatening illness. The student participates actively in the normal school program without any major limitations. A major concern, however, is if this student develops measles, chickenpox or other serious infections, they can become seriously ill. I seek your cooperation in preventing this situation.

If your son/daughter has or may have measles, chickenpox or any other contagious illness, I request that you do not send them to school during their illness and notify the school as soon as possible.

Rita Chiodo
Student Wellbeing

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

Desperately needed!!!

We need empty ice cream containers or similar sized plastic containers for a combined VCAL/Art Mosaic project. Eat lots of ice cream and donate to the school – win/win!

Students, please bring them to Mrs Carydias in J Block or Mrs Sayer in the Middle school. Thank you, we are grateful for your help.

For those of you who remember Tom Mahony, a student teacher form last year who also helped out with tutoring many of our kids, I received a message last week:

I’ve got some exciting I somehow got chosen as one of three finalists in a competition where I get to film/record my version of an Australian song and win $10,000. The only catch is I need votes to win!! So I’m getting the word out to everyone I know to vote for me. All you have to do is click a button and the link is http://countmein.telstra.com.au/2ndchancesong

So please have a look and vote for Tom. Thanks on his behalf.

Jeanette Barton
**Notice Board**

**Klad Sports Spectacular**
**HISENSE ARENA, MELBOURNE PARK**
**SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2014 / 1PM & 6.30PM**

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

**Knitting Club**
Visit our knitting club on Tuesdays at lunchtime in G3.

Knit for charity and learn a new skill.
Wools and needles provided.

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

*Students of all year levels are welcome*

**Uniform Shop Hours**

**SCHOOL TRADING HOURS**

Uniforms can also be purchased directly from
Klad Sports 2/9 Macro Crt. RowvilleTel: 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*

**Needed Urgently**
Empty ice-cream containers or similar
for Mrs Carydias (J block) or Mrs Sayer (Middle School).

Thank-you.

---

**Maths Help**

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

*Students of all year levels are welcome*

**Uniform Shop Hours**

**SCHOOL TRADING HOURS**

Uniforms can also be purchased directly from
Klad Sports 2/9 Macro Crt. RowvilleTel: 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*
Want to learn some new ways to discover yourself?

*Circle Of Girls* is a program for young women experiencing difficulties dealing with their emotions, struggling with significant relationships and many other issues.

The program runs once a week over six weeks and covers topics such as: communication, feelings and emotions, self-esteem and confidence, assertiveness, strategies for getting past anger, and relationship building. A parent forum after the final session is also an important element of the program.

**Who:** Young women in Grade 6.

**Where:** Yarra Ranges Youth Services, 1616 Burwood Highway Belgrave

**When:** Thursdays during Term 3, 2014. (31 July. 7, 14, 21 & 28 August. 4 September).

**Time:** 9:00am to 11:00am.

**Cost:** Free.

**Contact:** Lea Young, Group Work Facilitator, Connections 9724 2222
Education Maintenance Allowance

Information about changes to Education Maintenance Allowance as a result of the School Reform Agreement made between the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government.

What is EMA?
The Education Maintenance Allowance currently provides financial assistance to low-income families to help meet costs associated with the education of their children.

How it is paid?
Parents can currently elect to have their EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into the parent’s bank account; or
- paid directly to the school to be held as credit which the parent can use towards education expenses; or
- paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013 over 70 per cent of parents receiving the EMA chose to have their EMA paid directly to their school. Each school would then use the funds for a range of expenses for that child.

Who is eligible?
The EMA currently provides financial assistance to Victorian families on a low income to help with the cost of educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions.

It is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink or Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible.

What is changing?
In the recent School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government has changed the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

From 2015, the Government will distribute the funds previously used for the EMA directly to schools. DEECD will develop the arrangements to be used to distribute these funds to schools – consultation will occur with stakeholders about this.

Why?
Under the recent School Funding Reform an additional $12.2 billion will be allocated to Victorian schools.

Will my child be worse off?
No. Education funding for children will increase but will be delivered to your child in a new way through their school. The new agreement provides that schools with the most vulnerable students will receive the funding they need.

The students who will benefit the most from this funding agreement are those who are the most vulnerable.