FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

STUDENT LEADER INVESTITURE

This week saw the McBride Campus conduct it’s student leader election process. The process started with the students nominated for Year 12 Student Leaders presenting speeches to the student body. The student body then elected the following students to the 2014 Student Leader positions;

McBRIEDE:
Year 12 Student Leaders: Dominique Brown, Ayla Morris, Grant Hill and Cody Nelson.
Year 11 Student Representatives: Nikki Cengia, Bonni Garry, Maegan McMahon and Steven Wallace.
Year 10 Student Representatives: Jade Macdermid, Maddy Murray, Fergus McKittrick and Weston Sparkes.

Sports Captains: Madelyne Golby and Walter Hiatt.
Arts Captains: Hannah McKittrick and Jake Kershaw.

The Dudley 2014 WSC Student Leaders were formally recognised in their investiture ceremony last Tuesday with the guest speaker at the investiture being former student Kainen Schrape.

DUDLEY:
Dudley Student Leaders: Nick Lawson, Kyle Ross, Tess Sydenham, Caitlyn Taylor.

Dudley Peer Support Leaders: Dyarnah Bateman, Sheona Bugbird, Ally Cengia, Angelica Emery, Bradley Fowler, Chloe Gray, Jacob Horton, Seba Jacob, Ally Kershaw, Jacob Knowles, Sally MacDonald, Milli McFee, Tom Mendes, Chloe Moxey, Tom Robinson, Jorja Small, Patricia Sokac, Alex Szutta, Nathan Tong, Sarah Vradenburg, Lyla Wilson.

Dudley House Captains:

We would like to congratulate each of the above mentioned students for gaining an official leadership position for the 2014 school year and wish them good luck in their roles. We would also like to thank all of the students who nominated for our leadership positions as they went to making really competitive fields for each of the leadership positions. It is our hope that all of our students will show leadership this year and help support the leadership team to make 2014 another highly successful year.

2014 Dudley Investiture:
Lyla Wilson, Caitlyn Taylor, Kainen Schrape, Tess Sydenham, Kyle Ross, Flynn Anderson and Nick Lawson
LANDMARK SCHOOL SUPPLIES:
Parents/Carers please note that if you wish to purchase anymore school books you will need to contact Landmark School Supplies directly on 1300 658 641.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

**FEBRUARY:**
- Tuesday 25th - Interschool Swimming Carnival
- Thursday 27th - Immunisation Yr 7,9 and 10

**MARCH:**
- Monday 17th - Susan McLean—Cybersafety presentations
- Tuesday 25th - House Athletics Carnival @ Dudley
- Thu 3rd & Fri 4th Apr - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews at Dudley

EVERY DAY COUNTS – SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

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.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

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

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together 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 early as early as possible.

From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

DUDLEY STUDENT DROP OFFS

The Dudley Campus is not well set up for large volumes of traffic and this is why we ask parents to please keep their cars out of the school grounds at the busy drop-off and pick-up times. We are very mindful of student safety and this will assist in the smooth operation of the College. Thank you for your support.
**Bus Passes**

Please note that once again this year we continue to have very limited spare seating available on our buses and are not able to accommodate requests for bus passes. As a result parents, carers and students should consider other transport options. Requests of an urgent nature should be applied for in advance of the day through our Bus Coordinator, Robert Aitken, who is based at the McBride Campus. Regular bus travellers will continue to utilise the service as normal.

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**EMA Reminder - Applications close February 28, 2014**

Just a reminder to all eligible parents that you can still claim an EMA ($300 for year 7 students & $250 for year 8 and above). EMA is payable to eligible parents of students up to 16 years of age to assist with the cost of school books, uniforms, camps, excursions, school charges……

To receive your EMA you must complete an EMA application and lodge it at the school **BEFORE February 28th 2014**. Late applications cannot be accepted.

To be eligible to claim an EMA you must meet one of the following criteria:

- Holder of a Health Care Card valid as at 28th January 2014
- Holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card valid as at 28th January 2014
- Holder of a Pensioner Concession Card valid as at 28th January 2014
- A foster parent (documentation confirming status required)

**RING 5671 3700 TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT**

**EMA APPLICATIONS CLOSE FEB 28, 2014 - we can not take applications after this date.**

*Stephen Plumb - Business Manager*

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**School Immunisation Program 2014**

Immunisation for Year 7 students and Year 9 boys is on Thursday 27th February.

If you have not received immunisation information for your child please contact the school or local Council Immunisation Team as soon as possible.

How can you help prepare your child for immunisation day at school:

- Ensure that your child attends school on immunisation day.
- Ensure they have breakfast on the morning of immunisations.
- Remind them of the importance of having immunisations.

Missed doses of immunisations can be caught up at local Council community sessions or through your local Medical Clinic. Please notify Council if doses given outside of school to maintain your child’s records.
**ANGUS - TOP ARTS**

During 2013 Angus Wishart successfully completed his VCE at Wonthaggi Secondary College. During this time he set numerous goals for himself, from successfully performing the role of senior Arts Captain to coordinating the WSC Art show. He completed four major artworks in two folio based subjects, and was also presented the College’s prestigious Henry Hammond memorial art Prize.

One of the goals Angus set for himself was to apply for The National Gallery of Victoria’s “Season of Excellence ~ Top Arts”. Angus always took a compliment shyly and didn’t like to make a big fuss. But I, Miss Kristy Wilson, his VCE Art Teacher, always liked to make a big deal of his accomplishments and here we are again. I am very proud that Angus not only got short listed for Top Arts, but also made it through the process to gain one of only 50 places available in the state.

The VCE Season of Excellence is a five-month festival showcasing outstanding senior secondary student work from Victorian schools. In 2014 the highly popular Top Arts celebrates its 20th year at the National Gallery of Victoria. This exhibition of exemplary work, completed by VCE Art and Studio Art students in 2013, represents a range of themes and ideas explored by students, and a variety of media, including photography, drawing, printmaking, painting, textiles and screen-based work.

The Top Arts exhibition will run from Friday 11 April through to Sunday 20 July at The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Federation Square. The gallery is open daily 10am-5pm (closed Good Friday, 18 April, and Anzac Day, Friday 25 April 1pm-5pm)

Angus should be very proud of his achievements, as I am, and he is a great representative for WSC. I encourage the school community to take the opportunity to visit the gallery. Well done Angus!

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*Kristy Wilson - Art Teacher*
STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATE & SMS ATTENDANCE SYSTEM

Improving student attendances, and efficiently recording legitimate absences, are major goals at our College. Quite simply, students who attend regularly are more likely to be successful! With this in mind, we have an SMS attendance alert system, which will work in conjunction with our electronic roll marking system.

Initially the system’s main purpose will be to provide parents and carers with notification if their child has not arrived at school (before 10.30 am). Please note this will only be for unexplained absences and families with students with legitimate absences (e.g. due to illness) are asked to continue the current practice of notifying the school (in advance of the day where possible, or on the morning of the absence before 9.30 am – McBride Telephone: 5671 3700; Dudley telephone; 5672 0900).

At this stage, it is anticipated that the SMS for students with unexplained absences will be generated and sent to families at approximately 10.30 am. The SMS will have information about the absences and a number on which you can text a reply. A simple explanation of why your son/daughter is away is fine. The SMS will then be processed back at school and the rolls changed accordingly.

We look forward to your support with this important issue. Please contact the school should you have any questions or encounter any problems.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE – AMBULANCE COVER ARRANGEMENTS

Schools are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

DUDLEY LOCKERS

Each student at Dudley has been issued with a locker. During 2013 students were made more responsible for their own keys, however at Year 7, students are still supported by their Peer Support Leaders in taking responsibility for their keys

Students will still be able to get spare keys if they require them but once they have collected it, that key is their responsibility. Where possible staff will try to keep one key spare at all times.

If students lose a key it is now their responsibility to get spare keys cut themselves. They will need to make sure that any spares they get cut also have the number of their key stamped onto their new key.

If students lose all of their keys they will be required to pay to replace that lock before they will be allocated a new lock from the school. We do not want students buying their own locks as some locks are not tamper proof and we would like all student locks to be on the one system to make co-ordination of locker allocations easier.

If you have any queries or concerns please contact Glenn Sullivan (Acting Dudley Campus Principal) on 56720900
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS AT DUDLEY

During term one at Dudley we are experimenting with a Student of the Week award where teachers have the opportunity of nominating students for great work in the class, acts of kindness or any general outstanding behaviour at school.

In the first 3 weeks we have issued the following students of the week:

Year 7 – Ryan Hayes (7J) for his excellent listening and meeting all challenges.
Year 8 – Oscar Rogerson (8F) for his excellent contributions in the Humanities classroom
Year 9 – Angelica Emery (9B) for her work as a Peer Support Leader.

Year 7 – Abbey McCaughan (7A) for her outstanding work in Humanities and helping others.
Year 8 – Miora Trainor (8H) – 2 nominations—for her great work in both Humanities and Science.
Year 9 – Patricia Sokac (9I) for her great application and results after moving from support maths into mainstream.

Year 7 – Alex McEntee (7D) - 2 nominations – for his excellent work in Drama and Science.
Year 8 – Jackson Evans (8F) for enthusiasm and hard work in Maths and being the record holder in the 8F Maths times tables competition.
Year 9 – Nick Lawson (9A) for great organisation in computers and creating great discussion.

All of the students who get an award receive a certificate and will be invited to a special lunch near the end of term.

UNIFORM

A reminder to students and their parents that all students need to be in full school uniform every day that they are at school. If parents are unsure of what constitutes our College uniform, we encourage you to sit down with your child and go through the uniform policy that can be found in the front section of the student planners (diaries).

PARENT EMAILS

In recent years an increasing number of our parents have provided the school with an email contact. Most of the families at the school now receive this school newsletter by email as a result.

In 2014 the value of having an email contact has increased with the new Compass attendance program. Through the system teachers now have the ability to directly email parents and a number have been using the system with magnificent effect. Some staff have sent out introductory emails for their classes – explain items such as the class homework expectations. There have also been emails sent out about students not submitting work and, while the school does have a letter system in place for this, the email system is instant and lets parents talk to their children about it immediately.

Year 7 Coordinator, Mr Terry Close, recently was able to email out to most year 7 parents a reminder about the year 7 supper through the Compass program.

If you haven’t yet provided the school with your email address then you can contact the Dudley or McBride offices to do so, or you could email the school on wonthaggi.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
YEAR 7 SUPPER

Earlier this week Dudley campus held the annual Year 7 supper to welcome the parents and families of our new year 7 students into the school.

The evening was a great success with a good number of families represented and most year 7 teachers present.

Year 7 Coordinator, Mr Terry Close, and Assistant Coordinator, Mr Andrew McIntosh, worked hard to set up a very successful evening. Mr Close addressed the group and welcomed the families into the school, stressing the importance of keeping in touch with the school as the children move through.

The families were split into groups and taken on a tour of the school where staff had set up displays to showcase the work of the students. There were presentations by Mr. David Wingfield in a Science room, Mr. Allan Harris talking about the Technology program and Mrs Joyce Asa Leausa introducing the library program.

As the tours concluded everyone returned to the Flexible Learning Centre for a light supper and the opportunity for teachers and families to meet in an informal setting.

The supper was a great success and is a credit to Mr. Close, Mr. McIntosh and all staff who stayed back and helped to set up the event.
Inverloch Kongwak Football Club

U13’s & U11’s Training
Commencing Thursday 27th March 2014
4.15pm to 6.00pm
Further trainings will be Wednesday’s 4.30 - 6.00pm
Coaches U13’s Craig Reid & U11’s Brian Roylance
All new players welcome
Please contact Craig Reid on 0448 481 400 for further information

Wonthaggi United Soccer Club

REGISTRATION DAY
Sunday March 2, 2014 @ 10am
Wonthaggi Secondary College - Dudley
Players of all ages male and female welcome.
Call 0429 785 665 for more details
wonthaggisoccerclub.com

Keeping Kids On Track

FUNRUN

Kilcunda-Wonthaggi Rail Trail

Sat 15th March 2014
3km, 5km run / walk
10km, 15km + 21.1km run
enter online: www.basscoasttri.com