FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

Year 7 Camp

This week our year 7 students have been at the Phillip Island Adventure Resort on their annual school camp. The weather conditions have been ideal for the camp.

Our students have had a great opportunity to build bonds and relationships with their classmates and many of their main year 7 teachers. During the day they have been involved in activities on the High Ropes, Giant Swing, Flying Fox, Initiative Course, Team Rescue, Raft making, Canoeing, Archery and Beach Activities.

A highlight of the camp was when 7E were able to get Mrs Sullivan to go on the giant swing for her first time ever after years of coming to the camp.

During free time they got to play with the sports equipment on the courts, play table tennis, kick the footy and just spend time with their friends.

While on camp each group have had to do a duty, either preparing the dining hall for a meal or cleaning up afterwards.

The night time activities have been held in the hall. On Monday night the students were split into two groups with one taking part in drama type activities run by Ms Hradsky. Ms Blundy split the other half into 8 teams to take part in “a minute to win it” type activities. On Tuesday the students got to relax and watch a movie in the hall.

There has been a lot of emphasis on teamwork at the camp and all of the kids attending have had a great time.

Here are some comments by the year sevens:

“Adventure Resort Camp has the best camp food” – Taylah

“Adventure Resort has the best rides to have fun with” – Micky

“Camp has been fun on these hot days jumping in the pool” – Campbell

“I have enjoyed splashing the teachers with water and getting sprayed with Mr Close’s water pistol” – Alex

“The range of different activities was great” – Jasmin

“It was a great opportunity to meet lots of new people and become closer with old friends” – Emily

“It was an experience and it was fun to meet other kids” – Ella

“It was lots of fun on the giant swing and it was good feeling when the wind was blowing in my face. The only part I didn’t like was when everyone laughed at me because of the way I screamed” – Kylie

“The camp is a good experience and a lot of fun for everyone” – Jacob, Aaron and Keanu

**Photos on page 4**
MARCH:
Tuesday 11th - Surf With The Boys Excursion
Tues 11-15 - Day Excursions to Wilson’s Prom for Year 9
Wednesday 12th - Gippsland Swimming @ Sale
Friday 14th - ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ excursion
Monday 17th - Susan McLean - Cybersafety presentations
                   - McBride Leader Investiture
Wednesday 19th - Beach Volleyball @ South Melbourne
Tuesday 25th - House Athletics Carnival @ Dudley
Friday 28th - Girls Super 8s Cricket & Boys Tennis @ Leongatha

APRIL:
Thursday 3rd - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews at Dudley 4:30pm—7pm
Friday 4th - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews at Dudley 9am—1:30pm

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

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.
HAPPY KIDS ARE SUCCESSFUL KIDS

Our school believes that being ‘happy kids’ enhances overall success at school. Over the years we have placed a lot of resources into programs that support the transition and welfare of our students, so that they will have an attitude and confidence to take advantage of all of the educational opportunities that the College has to offer.

It is with a great deal of pride that we have been able to enhance our welfare program at the Dudley Campus in 2014, through a new partnership with the Grantville, San Remo and Cowes branches of the Bendigo Community Banks. The Directors of the banks, and the College, have embarked on a project which has lead to the employment of youth worker, Gareth Rowe to assist the Dudley Campus Welfare team. Gareth has been volunteering at the College for the last couple of years, running lunchtime activities and the breakfast program for our students, along with other volunteers who are trainee youth workers from ‘Edge Youth’.

Gareth’s role is to offer support to students predominately from the ‘Waterline areas’ so that their transition or welfare issues do not become an impediment to them experiencing success at school. Gareth will also be involved in many of our current welfare programs that are conducted at the Dudley Campus such as the Year 7 Camp, the ‘Rock and Water’ program and the Wonthaggi Secondary College ‘Values Program’.

The McBride Campus has also enlisted further support for its welfare team by employing experienced youth counsellor, Eric Swift, who will assist in guiding students through conflict issues in their lives. Eric will be not only supporting students personally but also referring students on to community support networks when that is required.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Directors of the Bendigo Community Banks for their support and assistance to the College and our students.

Below: Eric Swift (far left) and Gareth Rowe are new additions to the Wonthaggi Secondary College welfare team.

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.
On Wednesday, 19th of March Dudley Campus will be having an out of uniform day to raise money for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal, who have been fighting the bush fires in Victoria. This is a great opportunity to assist the people whose homes have been destroyed by the fires and support the fire fighters who put their lives at risk to help others. Please bring along a gold coin donation to participate and remember to dress appropriately.
CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Bass Coast Young Leaders Award recipients Tanya Milnes and Luke Michael.

These awards are a way to acknowledge Young Leaders in the Bass Coast community and encourage students to take on leadership roles. Young leaders will have the opportunity to be involved in relevant council and community events.

WSC TRIUMPHS AGAIN AT INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING

Close to fifty students travelled to Korumburra last week to represent the College at the Interschool Swimming Sports, competing against Leongatha, Korumburra, Mirboo North and South Gippsland Secondary Colleges.

The College, for the seventh year in a row, walked away with all the Boys Aggregate, Girls Aggregate and Overall School Aggregate shields for their outstanding performances.

Congratulations to the following Age Group Champions and Runners Up:
13 Years – Jacob Kiley & Ben Chapman (equal Champions) & Lily Robinson
14 Years – Jake Benson (R/U) & Melody Notley
15 Years – Kyle Spinks (R/U) & Chloe Moxey (equal R/U)
16 Years – Ben Riley (R/U) & Taya Murdoch (R/U)
17 Years – Surrey Fisher & Oliver Bates (equal R/U) & Molly Edwards
20 Years – Travis Zappa & Jennifer McFee (R/U)

Good luck to Ms Stoopman (WSC Swim Coach) and all 49 students who will represent the College at the Gippsland Swimming Titles to be held this Wednesday at Sale. This is the biggest team to represent the College in a number of years.

ACTIVE APRIL

Premier’s Active April is a fun way to get more active, more often – and win some awesome prizes too! The challenge takes 30 minutes doing physical activity each day in April.

When you sign up there are some great giveaways – 15% off at Rebel Sport / YMCA passes / entry into Melbourne attractions.

Students and teachers can sign up and link their entry to the school and then the school will be eligible for even more prizes including sports clinics and sporting equipment vouchers. Some classes may even join up and set up a team entry.

The challenge is open to everyone. All you need to do to register is go to: www.activeapril.vic.gov.au
**COLLEGE NEWSLETTER**


**CYBERSAFETY**

Wonthaggi Secondary College has been working towards becoming an eSmart school since signing on at the start of 2013.

A team of teachers from both Dudley and McBride Campuses have been working together on eSmart planning and implementation to ensure that the whole school approach to Cybersafety and the smart safe and responsible use of Information Communication Technology can be sustained.

We are starting our eSmart campaign this year with a Cybersafety presentation on March 17th, organised by Ms Davidson. The presentation will be given by Australia’s foremost expert in the area of Cybersafety and young people, Susan McLean.

Susan McLean, was a member of Victoria Police for 27 years and in 1994 took her first report of Cyber bullying involving a group of Year 8 girls. Having identified the then emerging problem of internet harassment and witnessed first hand the significant increase in issues relating to internet misuse over the past years, Susan began to research the issue and looked to the international arena for evidence of exemplar practices. Susan is unique in her vast knowledge and expertise in this area and is the only person in Australia with her specific background, experience and qualifications. She is a sought after presenter and advisor and has delivered key note presentations, written papers and regular provides professional development for those working in education and other key youth stakeholders.

Susan was recently featured in a story on 60 minutes about the consequences of ‘sexting’ titles “One Click from Disaster” which is now being used as a valuable teaching resource in schools. We are fortunate to have Susan here to speak to both senior and junior students and staff about Cybersafety. This will be followed up with an invitation for a select number of students to participate in a training workshop to become Student eSmart Representatives.

Parents, if you are interested in seeing Susan McLean please contact the school regarding seating availability.

There will be other opportunities to become involved with the schools eSmart journey and to attend other Cybersafety presentations organised by Mr Ross Bramley later in the year.

Further information will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.


**CRICKET VICTORIA CLINIC**

Rob Wood from Cricket Victoria came and ran a girls clinic for an hour and a half followed by a boys clinic.

Rob has come here for the past four years to put the students through their paces to either introduce them to the game or refine their skills.

Many students, both boys and girls, benefit from not only the improvement but making a connection to take their game to the next level.

Past Dudley students including Ella Cargill, Loretta Chumbley and Holly Forsyth have played cricket at the state level and some have had their beginnings through the schools program.

The students all enjoyed themselves and used Rob’s knowledge to assist in improving their game.
**DUDLEY STUDENT LEADERS & THE AFL UMPIRES**

On Tuesday we had Russell O'Toole, AFL field umpire Mat Nicholls - who wears number 15 – AFL goal umpire Chris Appleton and local goal umpire Graham Laird visited Dudley campus to run a session with the Dudley student leaders. Thirty of our student leaders, Peer Support leaders and House Captains attended the session on leadership.

The umpires spoke about leadership as an AFL umpire then had the students come up with some definitions about what attributes they believe a leader should have. It was great to see all of our student leaders working together and contributing throughout the session.

Matt led much of the session and had all of our leaders totally enthralled with some of his amazing stories and examples. One of his highlights was when he spoke about getting to have a one on one conversation with then Prime Minister Julia Gillard. There was a great mix of topics from the football world as well as wider stories on leadership.

At the end of the session Graham Laird spoke to the group about umpiring locally and the opportunities, as well as the great pocket money, that were open to young people who got involved with umpiring in the local leagues. He handed out flyers to those who wanted them. South Gippsland Umpires train each Wednesday at Leongatha and Mr Sullivan has more flyers for anyone who would like some information.

All of our Dudley student leaders left the session feeling much more positive about their leadership at the end of the session.

**DRAMATIC INCURSION**

**Cultural Infusion presents: Dreaming storytelling, dance and movement**

On Friday 14 March our Year 7 & 8 Drama and Dance students will be taking part in an Indigenous workshop presented by Cultural Infusion. This is part of our AusVELS curriculum development in the Arts. The school is to cover all costs through curriculum charges.

**HEADLICE**

Head lice have been reported to the school - please check, and if necessary, treat your family for head lice. There is no need to treat everyone if no head lice are found but you need to look for the head lice.

If you find head lice in your family please tell anyone who has had head to head contact with the family member.

Accurate information on treatment and control of head lice can be found at www.health.vic.gov.au
Community Announcements

SOUTH GIPPSLAND UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

South Gippsland umpires are looking for new recruits. The umpires train at Leongatha velodrome each Wednesday evening during the season at 6pm.

Umpiring is a great way to earn some extra pocket money with boundary umpires getting paid $45 per game. If you are interested in becoming an umpire then you can contact Grant Robinson on 5663 7661.

Join the 2013 Bass Coast FREEZAZA Committee

Organise Music Events in Bass Coast area (Cowes, Wonthaggi, Inverloch)
Learn and develop skills in Event Management as well as Social Media & Promotional work
Select Bands, DJs, Dance crews and Artists to perform at events.
Gain access to special events, training and internship opportunities.
Good addition to your resume

Requirements
- Interest in Music, Events, Media, Entertainment & Social Media
- Age: 15–25
- Committee made up of 10 young people.
- Fortnightly meeting (snack included)
- Able to meet deadlines
- Creative, team player, innovative.

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