From the Acting Dudley Campus Principal

We have made an excellent start to the year in term one. The opening of the new play equipment has provided a new space for our students to let off steam at recess and lunch and has been very popular with students from all year levels.

On Thursday April 3rd, the last day of term one classes for students, we were able to celebrate the great achievements of many of the students at the school.

We started the day with our student leaders running the end of term assembly. The victorious house captains at both the swimming and athletic sports recounted their success to the student body. Tilly Sandbach and Nathan Tong, both award winners, spoke about the new Student of the Week awards. They were followed by a highly entertaining speech from Tom Mendes about the recent Shakespeare excursion and Nick Lawson updated us all about the production of Peter Pan which will be happening later in the year.

The year eight dance group then put on an entertaining performance, highlighting some of the great talent in the school. The performance was aptly followed by a brief talk about the upcoming Talented Students Concert which will commence auditions early in term two.

Marcus Toussaint and Jarvis Kilgour, two of our year seven students, stood up in front of the entire student body and spoke about the great things that they got to do at the year seven camp earlier in the term. They were followed by our recent Year 8 Beach Volleyball state champions – Taylah Turner, Alana McRae, Melody Notley, Ella Hughes and Hayley Balmer – who were acknowledged for their achievement and had the opportunity to tell the school of their success.

The final part of the assembly included a farewell to Mr Ferguson who has retired after teaching Maths at both Wonthaggi Tech and the Secondary College since 1981. Mr Ferguson was presented with a card signed by many of his students and colleagues and a pack of mars bars.

The assembly was wholly organised by the six student leaders – Nick Lawson, Tessa Sydenham, Kyle Ross, Caitlyn Taylor, Lyla Wilson and Flynn Anderson. The success of the assembly was a credit to them.

At lunchtime the Student of the Week award winners were celebrated with a special chip lunch. All 25 winners of the weekly awards were invited, as were the teachers who nominated students for awards. Some of the teachers brought in a plate and mingled with the students informally in the Flexible Learning Centre.

The awards have been introduced this year and have been awarded to students for such diverse things as helping year 7 students settle into the school, great work in the classroom and running with students to get them across the line in the 1500m run at the school sports. There were in excess of 130 nominations over the eight week period.

The celebration lunch was an excellent end to a great term at our school.

Glenn Sullivan
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

Important Dates

APRIL
Monday 28 - Wednesday 30 - Advance Camp
Tuesday 29 - State Swimming @ MSAC
- Year 8 Melbourne Museum & IMAX Excursion
Wednesday 30 - Year 9 Murrundindi Talk
- Top Class Drama Excursion
McBride Students

Friday 9 - Year 12 VCE Age Careers Expo
Tuesday 13 - Thursday 15 - NAPLAN
- Year 10 & 11 Cerberus Excursion
- Top Design Excursion
- Year 11 & 12

MAY
Thursday 1 - Gippsland Volleyball
Friday 2 - Indigenous students experience Monash University

Monday 5 - Friday 9
- ASIA WEEK
- Interschool Athletics @ Newborough

Tuesday 6 - Tertiary Information Session

Thursday 8 - Term 2 Sports Day

Friday 9 - Year 12 Top Arts Excursion
Wednesday 14 - Senior Japanese Excursion

Friday 16 - Year 12 Top Art Excursion
Wednesday 21 - Year 12 Ensemble Performance McBride 7pm

Monday 5 - Friday 9
- ASIA WEEK
- Interschool Athletics @ Newborough

Friday 23 - Year 9 Author Scot Gardner
Monday 26 - VCE Music Recital Night

Friday 30 - Interschool X Country

CONTACT US

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Photography Exhibition

Congratulations to Nick Lawson 9A, Jonas Marks 11F and Jasmine Chambers 10J for winning prizes in the Bass Coast School Students Photography Exhibition. This competition was a major feature of the Phillip Island Club’s 20th Anniversary held over the ANZAC weekend.

13 schools: Primary, Specialist & Secondary, both Government and Non-Government, contributed 121 entries which were judged by Paul Robinson. Results as follows:

**Years 7-9**

1st - “Country Mornings” Nick Lawson  Wonthaggi Secondary College
2nd - “Till and Freefix”  Jack Battaglia  Mary Mackillop CRC
3rd - “The Glowing Light Into The World” Jack Battaglia  Mary Mackillop CRC

**Years 10-12**

1st - “Warmth” Jonas Marks  Wonthaggi Secondary College
2nd - “Midnight Madness” Jonas Marks  Wonthaggi Secondary College
3rd - “World of Art” Jasmine Chambers  Wonthaggi Secondary College

Above: Nick Lawson’s winning photo, “Country Mornings”
Back Page: Jonas Mark’s winning photo, “Warmth”
Talented Students Concert

This year’s Talented Students Concert will be held at the end of Term 2 on June 25th at the Wonthaggi Arts Centre. This annual event showcases the Performing and Visual Arts students of our school. Acts are required to audition to be part of the concert and a high standard will be sought. Now is the time to start preparing for your audition. We are looking for a variety of high quality acts that involve a lot of people, so if you can sing, dance, act, play an instrument or do stand-up comedy, get together with your friends and start preparing now. Auditions will be early in Term 2. See Ms O’Donnell or Mrs Hooke for further information.

SEALS Program

Wonthaggi Secondary College has continued its SEALS (Surf Education and Lifesaving) Program with schools in the Bass Coast Shire. The program offers Grade 6 students from local primary schools and the Wonthaggi Specialist School the opportunity to participate in entry level surf lessons. The Seals Program is part of the WSC’s Transition Program. The lessons are run by Adrian Sorati who is the head coach for all sessions and is assisted by students in the VET Surfing (Certificate II Sport and Recreation) Course at Wonthaggi Secondary College (completing Level 1 Surf Coach Qualification). The first session was run in ideal conditions at Inverloch Main Beach with sunny skies, no wind and consistent waves excellent for learning. There were plenty of smiles and ‘high fives’ throughout the day as the students learnt basic surfing skills and progressed quickly under the guidance and coaching by the WSC students. The SEALS program will continue to work with local primary schools in the following weeks between Inverloch and Phillip Island. Big thanks go out to WSC, WSC VET students and the staff and students of all the schools involved.

Dudley Drama News

140 students in Year 7 and 8 Drama and Dance classes recently enjoyed a performance and workshop from Indigenous Infusion. Students listened to some Dreaming storytelling, then took part in a dance and storytelling workshop.

Year 9 Drama and Literature students attended an evening performance in the Botanic Gardens of Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream. By all accounts it was a fantastic night!
Cricket Report

On 19th of February both Senior girls and boys teams went through the district cricket round at Leongatha Secondary College. The Senior girls played just the one game against Leongatha. They scored 114 runs with Captain Holly Forsyth retiring on 30 runs then bowled Leongatha out. The Girls then went on and played Warragul on the 11th of March. We bowled them out on 111 then defeated them, 3/172. Loretta Chumbley made 39 runs along with Holly Forsyth on 31 runs.

At Leongatha the boys defeated Korumburra by 132 runs with James Honeysett retiring on 34 runs during their batting innings. We then defeated Leongatha by 26 runs with top scoring of Nathan Brayley retiring on 31 runs.

On the 6th of March the senior boys played against Sale and Tralagon. During the Sale match we bowled Sale out on 47 runs with Jakeb Thomas displaying a superb set of skills and diminishing Sale with 7 wickets for zilch runs. The boys then scored 64 runs to truly defeat Sale. Against Tralagon we narrowly defeated them by 5 runs with James Honeysett top scoring on 33 runs to push us ahead into the next final.

Both teams will now play at Yarragon on Tuesday the 1st of April for a chance to secure a place in the state finals. We congratulate their efforts to have gone so far already.

Year 7 Girls Super 8s Cricket

On Friday 28th of March, the Year 7 Girls Cricket team competed in a round robin tournament held in Leongatha. The team included Abbey McCaughan, Ashlee Moxey, Siobhan Griffin, Ruby Swallow, Tayla Wiggins, Rya Wade, Shaylee Wallace, Addy Pykett and Jasmin Rooks. Unfortunately, Ella O'Flynn was absent on the day due to illness.

The girls had a bye in the first round, which counted as a win. They beat Mirboo North SC by a solid margin in round two, 89 - 35. In round three they also beat South Gippsland SC (B), 103 - 70, placing them at the top of the leader board before the final.

They started strong in the deciding match against South Gippsland SC (A), however, the final batting pair for the opposition stole the game with a number of 4's and a 6 hit during the over. Our girls were disappointed at the loss, but should be proud of themselves for their excellent display of skill, team work and sportsmanship throughout the entire 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.

Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them.

William Shakespeare
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.

PRESENTATION:

LIFE AS A VCE PARENT: (SURVIVING YEAR 12!)
McBRIDE CAMPUS (ROOM 11)
Wednesday April 30th, 2014 - 7.00 – 8.00 PM (APPROX)

ATTENTION YEAR 12 PARENTS AND CARERS!

WHAT ARE THE KEY EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR YEAR 12 THIS YEAR?
WHAT EXTRA ASSISTANCE CAN BE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS IN NEED THIS YEAR?
WHAT IS AN “ATAR” SCORE AND HOW ARE THEY ARE WORKED OUT?
WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN LEAVING SCHOOL AT THE END OF YEAR 12?

WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR APPLYING FOR UNIVERSITY OR TAFE?
WOULD YOU LIKE ADVICE FROM A PARENT WHO RECENTLY HAD A STUDENT MOVE ON TO UNIVERSITY? ACCOMMODATION? COSTS? SCHOLARSHIPS?

OUR SUPPORT TEAM WILL BE HAPPY TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS AND ANY OTHERS YOU MIGHT WANT TO ASK AT THIS PRESENTATION!

PLEASE CONSIDER THIS OPPORTUNITY.

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF PARENTS AND CARERS WISHING TO ATTEND REGISTERED WITH THE GENERAL OFFICE BY TUESDAY April 29th - (5671 3700)

WE VALUE THE SUPPORT OF FAMILIES AS WE WORK TOGETHER TO ASSIST YEAR 12 STUDENTS DURING THIS IMPORTANT YEAR.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE
Homework Policy

**Rationale:**
- Homework helps students to optimise their learning by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

**Aims:**
- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits in order to prepare the students for future learning.
- To develop a responsibility for organisation and self-learning.

**Implementation:**
- The homework policy will be available through the school web site. A copy will be given to Year 11 and 12 students to put in their homework planners and it will be printed in the Year 7 to 10 homework planners.
- All students will be expected to carry and care for their homework planners.
- Any homework that is set will be appropriate to each student’s learning needs.
- Each set task must be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum. All homework activities may be assessed with feedback and support provided by teachers.

**Middle Years (Year 7 – Year 9)**
Homework will consist mainly of:
- Any work not completed in class.
- Independent reading on a daily basis and weekly spelling words in English.
- Weekly Maths homework plus a maximum of one Maths assignment each term.
- Research, project and assignment work in Humanities, Science and Health classes.

The total homework load per student will generally be between **60 and 90 minutes per week at year 7**, increasing to between **90 and 120 minutes per week at year 9**.

Through the use of planners, teachers and students will coordinate to avoid excessive work-load.

**Senior Years (Year 10 – Year 12)**
Homework will consist mainly of:
- Reading, research, assignments, assessments tasks and independent projects.

Homework schedules will be discussed within each class. Parents may discuss homework issues with the class teacher or year level coordinator.
- Students will be provided with formal opportunities to build organisation and planning skills, through development of individual work plans and working with teachers.

**Senior students, especially those studying their VCE, will be expected to complete school work over the summer break that is set as part of the Headstart Program.**

In order to achieve maximum success the following expectations are generally accepted statewide:
- **Yr 10** - In core subjects teachers will generally expect 50-70 minutes of homework per week. In elective subjects teachers will set additional tasks, revision or continuation work as necessary, not exceeding 60 minutes per week.
- **Yr 11** - In each subject teachers will generally expect a minimum of 80-100 minutes of homework per week.
- **Yr 12** - In each subject teachers will generally expect a minimum of 120-180 minutes of homework per week.

At peak times (eg prior to exams and major assessment tasks) homework may increase.

Teachers may be available at lunchtime and (occasionally) after-school, to assist students with homework.

It is commonplace for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.
Community Announcements

SUNDAY 11 MAY 2014
Walk or run for breast cancer research
9:30am from the Wonthaggi Golf Club
To register, shop or fundraise go to mothersdayclassic.com.au
All proceeds go to breast cancer research.

Understanding Teenagers with Terry Guilford

Learn positive strategies to communicate better with your teenager or pre-teen. Find out how better to deal with changes in behaviours, moodiness, defiance, anger and loss of self esteem which adolescents may experience.

Understanding Teenage Girls
Wednesday 28th May 2014, 7pm-9pm

Understanding Teenage Boys
Wednesday 4th June 2014, 7pm-9pm

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE
21 Shellcotts Road, Korumburra
Phone: 5655 2524 Email: milpara@dcsi.net.au

Cost: $10 (concession $5)
Bookings are essential
Sponsored by the South Gippsland Parenting Network

Above: Jonas Mark’s winning photo, “Warmth”