



Gang Gang

Warrandyte High School

Issue 15 | Term 3 | 2015

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In the past few weeks we have sent out letters of welcome to the new Year 7 students and their parents who will be joining us in 2016. We will continue

this conversation with them next term via further letters, visits to their primary schools, an information evening and the state-wide Orientation Day in December. It is an exciting time for all involved.

At the same time as we welcome these new students, we look at our Year 12 students nearing the end of their secondary schooling years and wonder where the time has gone. It seems like only yesterday that they too were being welcomed to their new school. Now we look and see young adults working hard as they negotiate the range of SACs (School Assessed Coursework) that the VCE places before them and preparing diligently for the upcoming exams.

The current break from classes is a very important time for these students as it provides an opportunity for them to revise and consolidate their understanding as they prepare for their exams which are now only a few weeks away. This is a message I am sure was repeated numerous times by their teachers at our parent/teacher interviews held in the last week of Term 3.

Parent/teacher interviews are important for students at all year levels and I hope all parents took the opportunity to meet with their children's teachers. Your child's learning is best supported by an active partnership between the school and the home. These discussions provide feedback on your child's progress, the

opportunity to celebrate effort and achievement, and advice for both you and your child with regard to your child's future learning foci.

School Captains

An outstanding group of young student leaders put themselves forward as potential 2016 School Captains and presented the selection panel with a very difficult task of making a final decision. The applicants were required to submit detailed written applications and each applicant was then interviewed by the panel. They were also judged on their public speaking skills. The panel's deliberations have now been completed and it is with great pleasure that I announce our newly appointed 2016 School Captains, Tylar Findlay and Ben Willis. Tylar and Ben have been student leaders throughout their time at Warrandyte High School and I have no doubt that they will make similarly outstanding contributions to the school next year. The unsuccessful applicants have agreed to join with Tylar and Ben to form a dynamic Student Leadership Team who will work with the teaching staff to take our school forward.

I would like to formally thank our 2015 School Captains, Hugh Prescott and Jessie Thomas-Connor for their contribution to the school over the past six years and especially during 2015. They have represented the school with distinction and been wonderful role models for our younger students.

Stephen Parkin
Principal

From the Principal

Diary Dates

OCTOBER

Monday 5 October

First day of Term 4

Monday 12 October

Principal whole school assembly

Tuesday 13 October

Year 7 & 8 cricket

Wednesday 14 October

Year 9 exams day 1 of 2

Friday 16 October

Year 12 celebration day

Saturday 17 October

GVBR training ride

Monday 19 October

Year 8 Science ALP start

Tuesday 20 October

Music Concert commencing at 7pm

Wednesday 21 October

Year 9 exams day 2 of 2

Principal: Dr Stephen Parkin
Assistant Principal: Joseph Caruana

School Captains:
Jessie Thomas-Connor, Hugh Prescott

Relay for Life

This year a group of eleven year 10 friends and I did Relay For Life on the weekend of 13 & 14 September. Ten of us go to Warrandyte High and together have raised almost \$4,700 for cancer research. Each of us have been touched by cancer in some way and all find this event very important to help find a cure for cancer. We held a cupcake stall late last term at school and made \$230 – thanks to everyone who supported us. Next year we hope to beat the amount that we raised this year and maybe even strive for a research award and get \$5,000.

Eilish Kelly
Year 10 student

Italy Trip 2015

The end of Term 3 continued to see many exciting opportunities for our students. The Italy Trip students and teachers departed for Italy on Saturday 12 August and by all accounts they are having a wonderful time. Attending Italian classes in Florence, experiencing breathtaking cities like Sorrento, Sienna and Rome are all a part of their mesmerising experience. The teachers are commenting on how this international experience is character building, language strengthening and confidence building for our students. Il cibo, indubbiamente, e anche buonissimo! I dolci poi.... Mamma Mia! We look forward to hearing some reports from the students upon their return.

Year 12 Students Heading Towards Their Final Exams

On the second last day of Term 3, during the morning of Parent – Teacher Interviews, our Year 12 students sat a full 3 hour practice English exam. It was very encouraging seeing so many of our Year 12s taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity to practise writing three essays in the three hours allocated. The final English exam comprises 50% of the English Study Score, hence the experience and feedback which students will gain is enormous.

What else can students do to fully prepare for their English exam? Well, Year 12 students, here are 3 hot tips:

1. Read, reread and re-reread all of the set texts. All the students who I have taught over the years who have received a study score in the 40s had one thing in common – they had all reread each of their texts, cover to cover, at least 3-4 times! In order to receive a high result, it is essential to know each of the texts inside and out. One reading alone cannot achieve the necessary level of analysis that will be required to score an 8, 9 or 10 out of 10.
2. Memorise quotes - it is essential to memorise around 30-40 quotes from each of the texts. Planning to write on the play, Medea? Then in addition to memorising dialogue, stage directions should also be memorised as they too reveal a lot about the author's intention. The best, most elegant quotes are often the very short quotes that get embedded into your own sentences
3. With Part C of the exam, (Language Analysis / Using Language to Persuade), always ensure you are writing about the author's intended effect. Use impressive verbs to achieve this. For example, "The repetition of the word "hungry" invites the view that....."

or "The saddened facial expression of the child, strengthens the idea that....." Use a highlighter and highlight every instance where you are talking about the intended effect of the writer/cartoonist...etc..... If you have not highlighted around 70% of your piece, then you have not sufficiently completed this task!

Young Victorian Leaders to China Program 2016

Our application is officially in. The Education Department will inform us if our application has been successful in late October. The Young Victorian Leaders to China Program where Year 9 students spend 6 weeks in China! 4 of those weeks are spent experiencing life as a student in China at our Sister School. 2 weeks are spent in cultural immersion activities, travelling and exploring! What a life changing opportunity! 15 of our current Year 8 families have officially opted in which is fantastic. Our Sister School in China confirmed their willingness and happiness to host our students. This is a program where the Education Department instantly contributes \$3000 towards the \$6000 cost per student. All will be revealed in late October. Fingers crossed.

I would like to take this opportunity to say, regardless of the ultimate outcome, the level of interest and excitement for this life changing experience amongst our students and parents has been absolutely wonderful!

Mathematics – Active Learning Project

All Year 7 students participated in the Mathematics Active Learning Project throughout the final week of Term 3. Activities and learning opportunities were far reaching. It was fantastic seeing our students working in small groups, large groups and independently as they investigated and applied a range of mathematical concepts and techniques including estimation, graphing and measurement. Mathematics is alive and vibrant at Warrandyte High School!

Curiosity and Powerful Learning

Did you know that all teachers, as part of our commitment towards continuous learning, as part of our commitment towards the continuous refinement of our craft, are engaging in an exciting professional development program called: "Curiosity and Powerful Learning?" Watch this space!

Joe Caruana
Assistant Principal

Art News

On Thursday the 10 September, the Year 11 Studio Arts class went on an excursion to the Tarra Warra Museum of Art to experience the Pierre Huyghe exhibition.

This exhibition is Huyghe's first solo exhibition in Australia. The internationally renowned contemporary French artist has presented works across a variety of media to create situations, events, films and installations.

The artworks were all very eerie and were considered to be quite confusing as a result. There was a large, plain white wall that is designed to have ants crawling across it, and spiders above them. There was a neon light work hanging from the ceiling with a few smaller scale framed artworks on the walls. In adjoining rooms there were hyper-realistic films playing with dramatic settings and sounds. There was also a psychedelic light box that would light up the smoke emerging from the bottom part of the box.

The theme of this exhibition was time, and commonly how different species of animals can co-exist around each other in harmony without any knowledge of the concept of time.

The films were very dark, yet so realistic and dramatic that they seemed hyper-realistic. The exhibition was a shocking yet memorable exhibition that confronted and confused some students. Huyghe's conceptual art was very unique and has opened up many opportunities for abstract thinking among the students

Sarah Nassour
Year 11 student

Gang Gang,
how smart art thou?
Let me count the
ways



Drug and Alcohol Awareness Program

On Tuesday 8 September all Year 8 students participated in the Drug and Alcohol Program organized by our wonderful Year 8 Student Leaders. The program included: • A two period workshop on Alcohol Awareness delivered by the Year 8 Leaders in the DLC. • A workshop on Cannabis Awareness delivered by Kate Wilde ('The Workshop' Youth Worker) • A Workshop on Smoking and the Impact on Your Health delivered by the YMCA • A two period workshop on Exploring Peer Dynamics and Peer Relationships delivered to the students by Krystina McCrory.

All workshops were received exceedingly well by our students.

Student Services Team

Alcohol Workshop

The Class Captains for the four year 8 classes worked hard for a couple of weeks in their spare time to create a workshop about alcohol. The 8 students prepared four different workshops featuring real life stories, videos, games, and other interesting activities to keep everyone intrigued. The whole workshop was a great success and we all learnt a lot from the experience.

Nic Dodds

The YMCA presented a talk on smoking to the class, giving us an overview on the dangers. Then we were split into two groups, one advocating smoking and the other talking about how bad it is. It was set up like a debate, with two students being the adjudicators. The for and against teams then presented their arguments, leaving the adjudicators to decide which team won. There were also two short, powerful films played at the end about the dangers of smoking.

Gemma Raso

Cannabis

The cannabis activity that we did on Drug and Alcohol Awareness Day was pretty interesting and humorous with Kate teaching us. I thought the activity was informative and very useful in terms of our future and the choices we will have to make one day.

Bardia Firoozi

In the afternoon the teachers decided to make it fun and relaxing so we did an egg protection task. We had to build protection for the egg so it wouldn't crack. My group's egg smash in an instant but everyone had fun and laughed when we heard the sounds the eggs made when they smacked into the ground. After that we went to the gym to play dodge ball. Everyone had fun.

Jarrod Paterson

The Great Warrandyte Bake Off

Thank you to all our fabulous entrants in this year's cake decorating competition.

The winner of the People's Choice vote was 'Winnie the Pooh'.

All entrants received a colouring book...one of those beautiful and intricate ones for adults, in case you were wondering. The winners of the People's Choice Award also received a big box of chocolates each.... It is definitely worth entering next year!

The Melbourne Writer's Festival

On Tuesday 25 August a group of budding writers headed off to Federation Square to the Melbourne Writer's Festival. Students attended talks by Hannah Kent, author of VCE text *Burial Rites*, so a perfect opportunity for Year 12 students to get some insight into the text from the expert; Andrew McDonald delivered a fascinating talk about death, the topic of his latest black comedy, *Son of Death*; Alice Pung and Will Kostakis both spoke about their experience, often hilarious, of being children of migrant parents and Abdi Aden, a Somali refugee spoke about how he fled Mogadishu at the age of 15 without knowing where any of his own family members were. All of the writers gave great insight into how their own experiences shaped their writing. As always the Warrandyte High students were engaged and asked great questions of the writers during question time.

I think all would agree it was a great day out and provided lots of creative inspiration.

Leanne Hall Writer's Workshop

Thirty five students from Years 8, 9 and 10 enjoyed a wonderful writer's workshop with local author Leanne Hall on Thursday 3rd September. Leanne shared some of her secrets of the trade and had students exploring the theme of 'War touches us all'. Leanne was a guest at our school courtesy of Manningham Libraries who are running a writing competition on this very theme. Entries are open to students who attend school in the Cities of Manningham and Whitehorse. The competition closes on 30th September and major prizes include a MacBook Air... so all students, especially those who participated in the workshop are encouraged to get writing and enter. Entry details at: www.wml.vic.gov.au

To read more about Leanne Hall visit her blog <http://thelongblinks.com/>

Holidays are a great time to catch up on some reading....

The library has books by all of the authors mentioned in this article so if anything has sparked your interest come in and have a browse and borrow.....

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies, said Jojen. The man who never reads lives only one." George R.R. Martin, *A Dance with Dragons*

Judy Steel
Library Leader



Year 7 Basketball Round Robin

On Wednesday the Year 7 students ventured out to Nunawading Basketball stadium to compete in the divisional basketball round robin competition. Two boys and two girls teams competed and represented Warrandyte High School with their utmost pride and effort. The students were coached by the Year 10 VET Sport and Recreation students who showed brilliant communication in commanding their young charges to success. Our Girls A team made it to the semi-finals of their division where they lost a tight tussle to Templestowe. This team also managed to win one of their lead up games 72-0 which is a monumental thrashing deserving of a mention. The Girls B team finished with 2 wins and 2 losses from their 4 games which saw them come agonizingly close to a finals berth. The Boys A team finished with 2 wins and 2 losses as well. The highlight of their campaign was keeping toe to toe with Templestowe for a good 25 minutes before succumbing to defeat in the final minutes of the match. The tenacity and perseverance the boys showed in defence was immense. The Boys B team finished with 1 win and 3 losses. Overall every student played to their best of the ability and behaved immaculately on the day.

A special mention must be made to the Year 10 VET Sport and Recreation students who managed, coached, scored and refereed on the day whilst also training and coaching the students over the past two months in sport education. These students definitely developed some excellent coaching and leadership skills and we look forward to seeing them continue to develop these skills over the coming years.

In addition Warrandyte High School sent Trevor Edwards (Year 10) and Tom Davis and Matthew Baynon (Year 9) to referee the games. Feedback from the convener and staff/coaches from other schools on the day was the boys did a fantastic job. They were fair in their calls, professional at all times, explained to players mistakes they had made so they could improve and enabled the Year 7 students to play the game safely whilst also enjoying the experience. We thank Trevor, Tom and Matthew for taking on the challenge and definitely look forward to seeing them continue to develop their leadership skills as they continue through Warrandyte High School.

Year 7 Hockey Round Robin

On Wednesday 2 September the Year 7 boys and girls hockey teams participated in the division round robin. All students played very well showing determination and perseverance to keep battling in true Warrandyte High School style till the last whistle. The boys won their first match against Heathmont. At half time the scores were 1 - 0 Heathmont's way however the boys focused themselves, were provided with some excellent advice from the VET Sport and Recreation leaders and pushed up providing additional offensive pressure to score 2 late goals just before the end to win the game. A great job done by all the boys! In their second game they took on Auburn (the eventual winners) who they unfortunately lost to. It however was a tight contest and the boys gave 100% continually trying to find a way to break through the defensive pressure. The girl's only had 1 game against Ashwood which was a very even battle. Unfortunately they got caught on the surprise with Ashwood scoring the first goal and they just couldn't equalise. The girls continually applied offensive pressure hitting the post and having numerous scoring attempts however the ball just never seemed to find the middle of the net. A great day was had by all and the students came away feeling they had really challenged themselves and applied all the skills they had learnt throughout the term. Well done to all players!

The Year 10 VET Sport and Recreation students should be commended for their efforts in preparing and coaching the students on the day. They were very professional and supportive with their coaching

experience throughout the term enabling the students to gain the skills and knowledge required for the day. On the day the VET Sport and Recreation student's enthusiasm, tips and constant support was what enabled the Year 7 students to achieve the success they did and have fun. All teachers were very impressed with their mature, professional conduct; certainly a mind set and value we tend to expect at Warrandyte High School. We look forward to seeing these students continue to develop their leadership skills as they move through the senior school over the next couple of years.

Divisional Athletics

On Wednesday 9 September Warrandyte High School sent out a team of 36 students from Year 7 - 12 to represent the school at the divisional athletics. The morning started wet and cold with events having to be delayed and quick rearrangements to ensure all events could be completed safely. All 36 students from Warrandyte High School went into their events determined with a strong mindset to give 100% and represent the school with pride. Throughout the day some amazing results were achieved with 16 students being selected to advance to the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Finals (our biggest team in years!) A special congratulation goes to Michael Greenwood (Year 7) who was the 13 year old track champion and Josh Clinton (Year 8) who was the overall 14 year old age group champion. A fantastic effort by both boys.

Congratulations to all students who participated and we wish the 16 representatives the best of luck at the regional finals. Thankyou also goes to Michelle Kennedy for attending on the day and helping supervise the students and ensure they got to their events. Without the support of other staff these days are not possible.

VET Sport and Recreation 3 & 4

On Wednesday 2 September the VET Sport and Recreation 3-4 class set off on our three day sailing camp at "The Victorian Sailing School" located along Eastern Beach, Geelong. The camp comprises theory lessons on sailing and water safety, plus practical sailing experience. Only one of the class had any previous sailing experience, however by the end of the camp all were able to rig the boats, read weather conditions, and sail the "Envy 4.3" sail boats in 3 man crews.

On Day One, after the morning's theory lesson, the students rigged their boats with small main sails and set off on Corio Bay in 10 - 15 knot North winds. This made sailing a tricky prospect for novices. With a few boats capsizing due to the conditions and limited sailing experience of the group. The students as a whole did a great job, due to them paying careful attention during the morning's theory lesson.

Day Two we were presented with stronger winds (15 - 20 knot southerly winds) and the boats were rigged with full size mail sails. With these strong winds and full size sails the students were able to experience some fast challenging sailing.

By the time Day Three rolled around, all of the group members were now capable sailors, being able to rig, tack, jibe, beat, navigate through congested waters and race a small sail boat.

I'd like to thank Sarah Boodle for accompanying us on the camp and I commend the behaviour of the group who were at all times a credit to Warrandyte High School.

Martin Yates

VET Sport & Recreation 3 & 4 Teacher

Year 10 Sports Leadership - AFL Auskick Umpiring

As part of the Year 10 Sports Leadership elective students complete their level 1 AFL umpiring course. As part of this course schools are selected to umpire the Auskick grid games at half time at the AFL games. 16 of our students were lucky enough this year to walk onto the MCG to umpire these games. All 16 students represented the school with pride and were extremely professional in their umpiring. Dealing with girls and boys aged 4 - 10 all wanting to kick the football at the same time can at times be difficult. The students however challenged themselves, took on their umpiring responsibility with integrity and ensured all of the 12 players they were umpiring had a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Through the experience the students have developed strong leadership and communication skills, an understanding of patience and experienced the enjoyment of seeing the faces of 12 super excited Auskick players as they ran onto the MCG. I congratulate Brilee Barrow, Chelsea Black, Tom Downie, Trevor Edwards, Cooper Goodman, Damon Mustafa, Ryan Van Middlekoop, Megan Wiltshire, Jordan Balemian, Mitchell Baruta, Harry Bebbington, Emma Coldrey, Liam Goldberg,

Camren Jones, Lachlan Pinder and Adam Smith for stepping out of their comfort zone, taking on the challenge, applying and advancing their skills and representing the school with the upmost dignity and honour.

**Katie Cook
PE Leader**



Parent Presentation at Warrandyte High School on the Impact of Video Games on Children



Most kids play video games these days, some for many hours every day. But what do we know about the impact of these games on our children?

Steven Dupon is the Founding Director of the Institute of Games, author of the Video Games Report and manager of Manningham YMCA Youth Services. Steven will present on the positive and negative effects of video games on your children.

As the Manager of Manningham YMCA Youth Services, Steven has initiated a range of video game related events, workshops and programs. These include the READYS award winning Video Game Project, The Lab (game development for young people with Autism and Aspergers) and Pixel Arcade; engaging hundreds of young people in positive, safe and social video game play. Manningham YMCA also works with young people who present with gaming disorders to find a better balance between gaming and 'real life' responsibilities.

Despite the benefits games can provide, there are also a number of concerns. While promoting healthy video game play, Steven explores the risks of excessive video game use and their addictive nature, the increasing convergence of video games and gambling and the inappropriate content (sexism, violence) featured in video games.

At this parent information session Steven presents both the positive and negative impacts of video game technology. You will learn how to use video games as a positive contributor to your child's development; how to avoid video game addiction, keep your kids safe online and get advice on how to deal with the inappropriate content that often features in video games.

Location: Warrandyte High School

Date: Tuesday 13th October (Week 2, Term 4)

Time: 7:00 to 8:00pm (1 hour presentation followed by question time)

Cost: Free

RSVP: Please register your expression of interest by contacting the General Office at Warrandyte High School on 9844 2749 or emailing office@warrandytehigh.vic.edu.au

Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be provided.