



SENIOR NEWS

Every Student, Every Opportunity, Success for All

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome Back

Welcome Back! I hope everyone has had a relaxing break and is ready for what will be a hectic Term 2. Please welcome Kylie Virtue to the College. Paul McMullen will be on leave for term 2 and Simmi Kaur will be taking family leave for early in term 2. For the duration of Term 2 Simon Webb will be acting Year 12 Assistant Coordinator and Naomi Wattie will be acting Year 11 Assistant Coordinator.



What Next for Victorian School Funding

During the last week of term one, I attended a symposium at Parliament House in Melbourne on "What Next for Victorian School Funding". It brought together over 170 of Victoria's educators, parents, the not for profit sector, public servants and politicians. The event examined the state of equity in Victorian schools and the capability of our school funding model to provide an excellent education for all students.

Deputy Premier and Education Minister the Hon. James Merlino MP addressed the forum to outline his ambitions for the 'education state', announcing:

- In 2016 School budgets will include a line item which specifies how much funding has been allocated as a result of the Gonski deal between the state and federal governments
 - A full account of how Gonski deal funding has been spent to date
 - Funding to Victorian schools will be raised to bring them closer to the national average
- I welcome these commitments and look forward to seeing the detail in the coming state budget. I also want to see the Minister increase needs based funding and update the funding model to increase the equity component. At the symposium there was robust questioning concerning the recent legislation linking the non-government school funding envelope to government school funding. Many believe this undermines the core Gonski principle of sector blind needs based funding.

A report was presented comparing two groups of schools, one serving students from less advantaged families and the other more advantaged families. The report found that school-level education inequality rose in Victoria between 2010 and 2013, a change driven by shifting enrolment patterns. The report also highlighted the societal cost when students exit early from the school system. The report indicates that over the period since the Gonski Report was delivered in 2011, government funding (Victorian plus Federal) to government schools increased by 2.7% which is less than inflation. In the same period, government funding to non-government schools increased by 7.5% per annum, almost three times higher and well above inflation. Whatever the rationale for the disparity may have been, any substantive link to need or disadvantage seems to be missing.

*Vern Hilditch
Principal*

ISSUE NO: 11

**Monday 13th
April 2015**

CALENDAR

Tuesday 14th April
First Day Back for Students

Friday 24th April
WSSC ANZAC Day Ceremony

Friday 24th April
Year 10 Student Vaccinations

Tuesday 5th May
Pepper Restaurant - Night

Thursday 7th May
Pepper Restaurant - Lunch

TERM DATES

Term 1
29th January - 27th March

Term 2
13th April—26th June

Term 3
13th July—18th September

Term 4
5th October - 18th December

YEAR LEVEL COORDINATORS

Year 10 Coordinators
Tim Lamb
Brydie Hind
Tim Bridgeman

Year 11 Coordinators
Chris North
Naomi Wattie

Year 12 Coordinators
Matt Moylan
Simon Webb

JOINING FORCES AT WILLOW PARK

A local community group received a \$59,000 local landscape enhancement grant from the Victorian government and has recruited the extra muscle power in order to create a rock track next to the creek, improve existing seating, construct new tables and chairs in the barbecue area and mulch and plant.

The group meets every Wednesday morning and Wodonga Senior Secondary College students have committed to the project for the rest of the year to make up their 100 hours of community service for their VCAL subject.

Friends of Willow Park secretary Jenni Huber said it was part of the ongoing development of the park.

About 3000 people a week use the park, according to the group.

“It’s good for someone’s soul to get out amongst the green,” Ms Huber said.

Wodonga Senior Secondary College student Ben Kemp, 16, had not been involved in community work previously.

“It’s good making the park more attractive and improving its reputation,” he said.



*Olivia Lambert
Border Mail*

PEPPER RESTAURANT - TAKING BOOKINGS



Bookings Are now being taken for Pepper Restaurant.

Tuesday 5th May - Night
Thursday 7th May - Lunch

For more details please contact the College office: 02 6043 7500

CAREERS NEWS

Unique degrees at Australia National University: ANU has developed the following unique programs:

Research and development degrees in the areas of engineering, advanced computing and a Bachelor of Philosophy for Arts and Science students.

Flexible double degrees- you can blend any two degrees that are available!

Vertical degrees- you can start a masters program whilst still undertaking your bachelor degree.

For more information, go to www.anu.edu.au/



**Australian
National
University**

Interested in studying arts and humanities in the future? Monash University has a Facebook page for their Arts degrees. You will be able to explore their courses, watch videos of current students and contact key staff. You can join the page here- www.facebook.com/MonashArts

Event Management at Victoria University: Did you know that students undertake a minimum of 150 hours work experience as part of this highly sought after degree? “The tourism and events industry is one of Australia’s largest employers with the demand for conference and event organisers expected to grow strongly in the next five years.

Graduates can enjoy a diverse career working with festivals, conferences, exhibitions, and community and sporting events. Past graduates have found work overseas in places such as Doha, London and Singapore”, <http://tinyurl.com/nyps2ng>