



SENIOR NEWS

Every Student, Every Opportunity, Success for All

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Parent Information Evening

If you missed the Year 9 into 10 transition information evening, the full presentation can be viewed on the College website: <http://www.wssc.vic.edu.au/?p=107>

CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund) Update

CSEF payments to schools commenced on 17 July, with further payment runs to occur regularly during term three. Schools are still able to accept and process CSEF application forms up until the end of term three (18 September 2015).

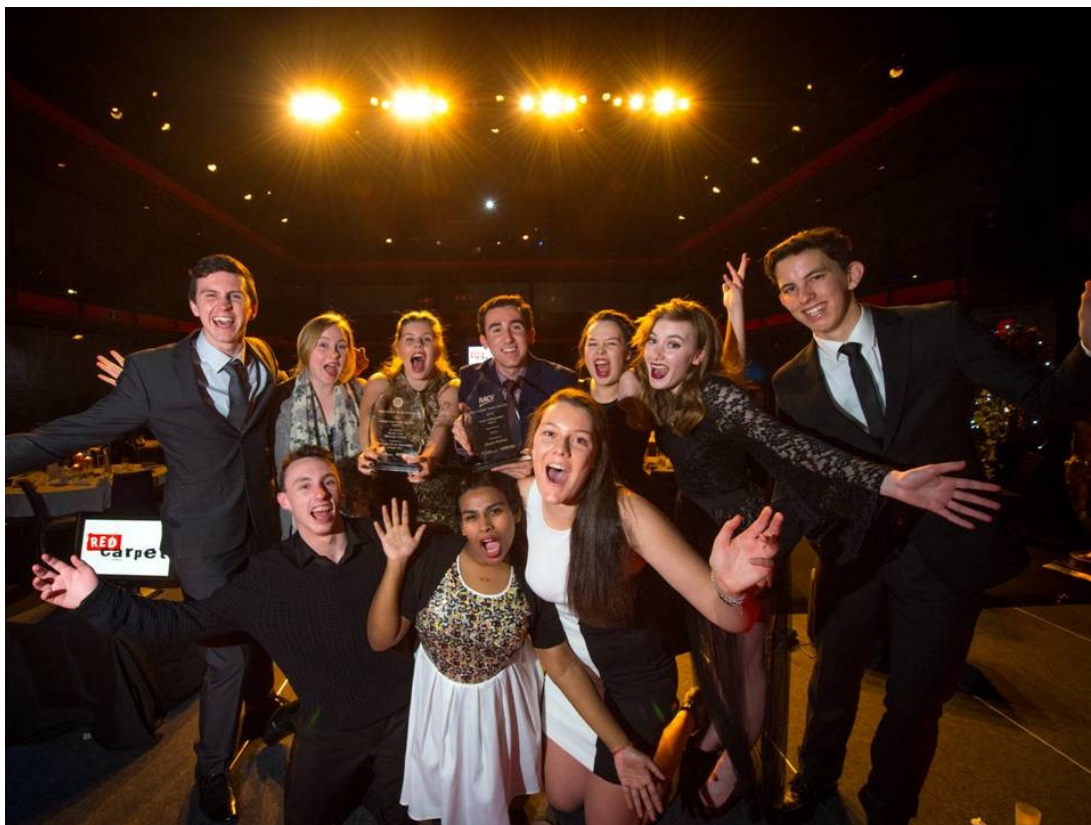
For more information visit the College website: <http://www.wssc.vic.edu.au/?p=24200>

New Careers Office

As of last week the College careers office has relocated into a new space in the Pathways/ International building (Old library).

Red Carpet Youth Awards

The 2015 Red Carpet Youth Awards were held on Friday 7th August, this was a night dedicated to celebrating the achievements of the local youth. Congratulations to all award recipients



Above: Students representing WSSC at the Red Carpet Youth Awards
Back (Left to right): Quinlin Retallack, Rebecca Goodvinn, Ashley Whitehead, Jacob Mildren, Rebecca Willcox, Katie Hilditch, Brody Pattison
Front (Left to Right): Michael Willcox, Mary Sathiyamoorthy, Jane Cook

Vern Hilditch
Principal

ISSUE NO: 28

Monday 17th
August 2015

CALENDAR

Monday 17th August

WSSC Online Course Selections Open

Monday 7th September

Year Level Assemblies

Thursday 17th September

Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday 18th September

Last Day of Term

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
Simon Webb

Year 12 Coordinators

Matt Moylan
Naomi Wattie
Paul McMullen

TEJU CHOUHAN IN GENEVA

I have recently returned from an international meeting in Geneva Switzerland. I was amongst the three refugee advocates selected by the Refugee Council of Australia to be part of an Australian delegation to attend United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees meetings in Geneva from June 24- July 1, 2015.

Prior to leaving for Geneva, I had the opportunity to attend several planning meetings face to face and through tele-conference with the Australian delegates from different organisations in preparation for the Geneva meetings. The major focus of these meetings were to discuss advocacy strategies and relevant issues to be raised. We also attended several consultations with refugee communities in Australia and abroad to identify issues facing refugees in their country of asylum, families in their country of origin or diaspora communities in the resettlement countries. I was also provided with an opportunity to be a guest speaker at a ministerial function at Parliament House in Canberra before I left.



This trip was special for me in a number of ways, it was my first international trip on a passport an Australian passport. I have never had an opportunity to acquire citizenship of a country or travelled on a passport. To put this in context, I became a refugee as a child when my parents fled persecution and were stripped of their citizenship of Bhutan in 1991. I spent 18 years in a refugee camp in Nepal before becoming resettled in Australia in 2008. I was naturalised on May 25, acquired citizenship on June 5 and left for Geneva on June 20.

The UNHCR meetings I attended were high level international meetings with a wide range of representation from some 90 countries, 250 NGOs and 500 delegates from around the world.

I attended three main conferences altogether and a number of bilateral and side meetings over two weeks. It was very busy, working through advocacy issues, strategies and organising meetings with relevant UNHCR Bureaus and agencies.

One of the meetings I attended was the 63rd UNHCR Standing Committee Meeting from June 24-26 at the Palace of Nations, Geneva. This is the meeting where governments from over Ninety countries and UNHCR debated on issues of global displacement, protection and resettlement and the challenges UNHCR faces and seeking member states' commitment to solutions.

NGOs and their representatives like me, can only attend this meeting as observers. However, NGOs have the opportunity to deliver their Global Statements on specific issues discussed at the meeting. It was special for me to attend this meeting personally because I was provided this opportunity to read the "Global NGO statement on Statelessness" as I had the lived experience of being a stateless person for eighteen years. These kind of statements are conventionally read by a NGO representative in Geneva.

Teju Chouhan
Multicultural Aide