PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Subject Expo Night & Regeneration, Building Opening
Both events were greatly appreciated by our community and highly successful. The Minister Martin Dixon was genuinely impressed with the “feel” of the place. He commented on how we felt more like a University than a school – even though our students were in uniform. Thank you also to those who have passed on their feedback already. I would be interested in any feedback about either event.

ESO Month
The month of August is ES month within all Victorian schools and the month is dedicated to recognising and respecting the many diverse roles that Education Support staff perform within schools. Wodonga Senior Secondary College has 26 ES staff who are employed in the school each week. These people work in many roles which include; business manager, canteen staff, chaplain, HR manager, kitchen assistant, integration aides, IT staff, library staff, maintenance staff, office staff, laboratory assistant, software staff, sports trainee, wannik and koori support staff, website staff and welfare officers.

The College is privileged to have such a diverse and supportive range of people who fill these roles and it is wonderful to be able to acknowledge the vital roles that they play within the College on a daily basis. Many thanks to all of you.

Chinese Students Visit
Twenty students were hosted by the college for four days last week. They had a wonderful time, enjoyed the Homestays and the classes they attended during the week. Special thanks to Di Larkin for coordinating the event and being the perfect host for these students. Steve Garro, Lyn Zieng, Wendy Van Kalken and Andrew Box provided fantastic support during the week which was greatly appreciated by all visiting students and staff.

We have of course been invited to Weihai next year and run a Homestay program with Chinese families. Lyn assures me we are now in a position to provide a very competitive tour of China for students who may be interested. I would be delighted to hear from any teacher or class who would like to consider conducting a tour next year.

“Back To” Celebrations
All are welcome to the “Back To” reunion to farewell the old school building on Saturday 30th August between 10.00am to 4.00pm.

Vern Hilditch
Principal
SNOW TRIP

Our EAL students were invited by Falls Creek Resort Management and YMCA for ski lessons, snow shoeing, tobogganing and general snow play on a beautiful and at times quite warm Thursday 14th August.

I am pleased to say that our students were well received by staff at the resort and by all reports had a brilliant time. We had YMCA ski instructors telling Mark McKenzie, Teju Chouhan and myself that they would happily teach our students again because ‘they are so friendly, they help each other and don’t whinge or moan, not like school x we had the other day’ – not naming names (cough, Shepparton, cough J).

Lauren Adams, Emily Woolford and Corey Montagnat should be commended for assisting with the organisation of activities and student groups for the day, where Lauren Adams was interviewed on camera praising our school’s Graduate Program for giving adolescents an opportunity to develop leadership skills in running student led sporting activities such as this. As a result, Falls Creek have invited our group back up in summer for more activities.

Special mention should go to Ski Plus Hire in Mount Beauty for donating snow boots free of charge, along with our Outdoor Education Ski Group for inviting our group to travel on their bus - and putting up with some late arrivals (sorry!). Thanks as well to fellow colleagues who lent gear and placed their trust in the students and myself for not losing their family’s jackets, gloves, trousers etc.

Feel free to talk to the following students about the day if you see them: Jeevan Kharka, Bhakta Bhattarai, Sagar Kharka, Laxmi Khanal, Kunti Khanal, Maya Khanal, Lal Magar, Bikash Kharka, Eaistar Rai (Bina), Yashoda Gautam, Devi Bhattarai, Chandra Chauhan, Shreejana Magar, Bhima Thapa, Tara Sapkota, Lionel Masudi, Rjey Jornadal, Jeric Balban, Ayana Ezou, Tika Bhattarai, Suk Bhattarai, Sajit Bhattarai, Lauren Adams, Emily Woolford and Corey Montagnat.

Anthony Brewergray

INTERESTED IN PHARMACY OR LAW?

Interstate students who enrol in the Bachelor of Pharmacy at The University of Tasmania in 2015 are eligible to apply for a $2000 relocation bursary to assist to the costs of moving to the University. Interstate students enrolling in a law degree are eligible to apply for a $5000 relocation scholarship. For information, go to www.utas.edu.au/scholarships

BACHELOR OF FILM AND TELEVISION AT SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY

Film and Television graduate Lucy McKendrick has just been accepted into the American Film Institute Conservatorium at Los Angeles. Read about her story here- www.swin.edu.au/media-centre/news/2014/05/ and about the three year Bachelor of Film at Television at Swinburne, Hawthorn campus- www.future.swinburne.edu.au/courses/

Tamara Mason
Career & Post School Options

Full Report on the Website
The Forever Friends Year 3 Girls Bullying Group

As part of their impact project, every Thursday for 5 weeks, Year 11 students, Emily Woolford, Paige Deery, Ashley Whitehead, go down to Wodonga Primary School at the end of lunch to be apart of mentoring some students. The group of students is called Forever Friends that consists of year three girls who have had trouble with friendship issues. As older students and role models they are there as a peer support and to guide the students for their future. The Year 11 students so far have shown them ways of how to deal emotions, feelings and problems the girls might of had, through a range of activities such as craft, acting, storytelling and games. The aim for the girls is to feel better about themselves and the people around them knowing what do in the future. At the end of the project the students will celebrate with the girls with little party.

Creating Connections
Conference 2014

The Wodonga Senior Secondary College Student Leadership Council will be holding the inaugural Creating Connections Conference 2014. Here we aim to connect with student leadership groups from across the region.

This conference will include a presentation from the WSSC Student Leadership Council and a range of sessions and activities to build leadership skills and create connections with likeminded student leaders.

Tuesday 26th August 2014 9am - 12pm
Wodonga Senior Secondary College
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