The College was abuzz once again as the Parents and Friends Association hosted the second annual time capsule evening. Although the windy conditions were seemingly against us in the earlier part of the day, the wind cleared to ensure a fantastic evening. The idea behind this new tradition was to celebrate all of the great things that had occurred throughout the year in Year 7 and to further enhance the positive relationships between the staff, students and parents.

The Parent group was established six years ago and have had an active role in the College and greater community. They are very proud of this new event and its link with the students and staff and the overall coming together to celebrate the growth and successes of everyone involved in this year level.

On the evening itself, students and teachers collected a range of work for display, which was spoken about by the Year 7s themselves. Students acted as exceptionally confident exhibitors, promoting the successes across all subjects undertaken throughout the year. An added bonus to the evening was a great guitar rendition of ‘Seven Nation Army’ (The White Stripes) by Luke Martin and Tyson Day.

Students wrote postcards to their future selves, which were put into the time capsule, along with a newspaper and a very amusing DVD of highlights from the year. The Parents and Friends Association in collaboration with College staff look forward to digging up the time capsule and looking back on times together in 2016.
Hello to the Western Port Secondary College community. We have now completed the building works and are currently landscaping the outdoor areas. We have been thrilled with the improved learning environments and look forward to next year without all the disruption.

On the 21st December we held the Year 12 Valedictory dinner at Mornington Race Course. This was a wonderful night to celebrate the achievements of our Year 12’s and reflect on their time at WPSC. I would like to thank Wendy Rule and the Senior team for all their effort in preparing for the night. We now await final VCE scores and wish our students the best of luck for 2012.

In the last week the music department under the guidance of Tim Bridge has been conducting a series of concerts to celebrate the achievements of students in this program. It was great to see so many local primary school students entertained. I would also like to congratulate the music team on the final end of year concert which was a great success.

On Wednesday 30th November we held our annual time capsule event where we showcase Year 7 work and bury a time capsule that captures a snapshot of the year. I would like to thank Tanya Blanch and the Year 7 team for their effort in running this night.

While I am unable to attend the Awards Night due to leave I want to congratulate all students who receive prizes and recognition on the night. Thanks to Robyn Stephenson who has coordinated the night. One highlight of this night will be the first presentations of Gold, Silver and Bronze awards for the Personal Development Program which we introduced in 2010. I hope to see many more recipients of this award in the future.

I will be on Long Service Leave from the 5th December and Hannah Lewis will be Acting Principal in my absence. Donna Geritz will be Acting Assistant Principal while Hannah takes on this role. I wish the Western Port Secondary College community a happy and safe break and look forward to working with you in the New Year.

Organisational matters

1:1 Netbook agreements need to be returned to the College ASAP. We will start rolling out Netbooks for student use this week and will finish the process early 2012.

Recently we have noticed a number of students wearing incorrect shoes; generally it appears that small groups try to see what they can get away with. The College does not accept suede, canvas or ballet style shoes and will enforce this all year. If you are buying new shoes please contact the College if unsure, we have printed photographs of approved shoe styles, and these are also published on the College website.


Mobile phones at school

While we are living in a rapidly changing world and understand that many students carry these devices on them it is important they are respectful regarding their use during class time. The College does not tolerate student’s texting, ringing or receiving calls during class time for any reason and will support staff who encounters problems with this. This can mean that a phone will be confiscated and stored in the front office for collection via the student or parent. If you have an important reason to ring during class times it is asked that you contact the office, not your child directly as this can cause unnecessary conflict and disruption in class.

Andrew Nicholls
Principal
The Assistant Principals

This year has been an exciting year for all of us at Western Port Secondary College. We have put up with mud, mud and more mud, the noise of concrete being smashed and ripped out of the ground, power tools galore drilling, grinding, sawing and an array of machinery, trucks and equipment all over the place.

Staff and students have been extremely patient coping with the mess, disruptions to programs and difficulties with access around the school. We have watched a phoenix rise out of the mud in the shape of a ‘state of the art’ new gym and Food Technology Facility. It was lovely to watch students’ faces as they entered the new gym for the first time when I conducted tours on the Expo night. Their excitement about the new facilities has been palpable.

The new gym is full of natural light and has seating along the eastern wall for spectators. Upstairs we have a newly carpeted weights room and a separate room which will be set up for ‘spin’ classes.

The Industrial kitchens will be the envy of many a school and we look forward to offering VET Hospitality in the near future. We plan to demolish the old shed behind the gym so that the vista through to the Outdoor Classroom and wetland will be opened up. This will enable us to have easy access to herb and vegetable gardens and our orchard and hen-house to pick produce and collect eggs for Food Technology classes.

We now have the space and capacity to cater for school functions and open up these facilities to outside user groups for hire. We have built strong links with Peninsula Community Health next door and have had discussions with them about sharing resources and developing projects with them. Jean Sheridan and keen art students have been involved in a Community Arts project with the Warringine Precinct and the construction of concrete couches at Peninsula Community Health.

It is important that our students feel valued as part of the broader community and have a range of opportunities to become involved in community projects and activities within and beyond the school. The Student Action Group, Western Port Environment Team and Student Work Teams have had input into the use of and design of new spaces that have opened up within the Building Project. The new facilities in the College have moved the centre of the school to the area surrounded by the Gym/Food Technology rooms, Art/Technology rooms, Community Meeting Room/Arts Centre and the new canteen and staffroom. In the centre we have the ‘Student Common’ which includes the playground and areas designed and landscaped in consultation with students for passive and active recreation. This space will be shared by staff and students and bring the hub of the college away from the older more traditional buildings and closed in courtyards to this open shared space.

Western Port Secondary will be presenting a very different ‘face’ to the community in 2012 and while ‘buildings do not a school make’ student involvement in a wide range of arts, building and environmental projects around the school sell the message to the community that this is a College that has the clear imprint and spirit of students reflecting outwards.

Hannah Lewis
Assistant Principal
The Assistant Principals

2012 Year 11 and 12 students have just completed their rollover in these new year levels, whilst Year 10 students still have a couple of weeks to go. At a recent Senior Sub School assembly I stressed to students the importance of the rollover and the work they need to complete during that time. This is not extra revision, a taster or a bit of ‘summer school’ but the genuine start of the course work for their subjects, whether it be a semester unit of work, or Unit 1 or 3, it is not work that will be repeated next year. Therefore it is vital that students attend during this time and keep up to date with all their class work homework and assignments, in some instances where Senior students did not meet this expectation, they were required to come into the college for a few days after the due date for finishing in their respective year level. This was to ensure no students started the new year ‘behind’ in their work.

On Wednesday I attended a morning tea to celebrate the successful completion of 11 students in a School Based Apprenticeship in Conservation and Land Management. These students have developed practical vocational knowledge and skills, a far greater understanding of the work involved in this area and achieved a nationally accredited Certificate II qualification, as well as having been paid wages for one day a week over the last 12 months – An outstanding result. Congratulations to all these students on a job well done!

I would like to thank all the students in the Senior School who took on leadership roles in a variety of ways. These are an important part of the life of the College and for many students an important part of their schooling experience. In particular I would like to acknowledge, on behalf of our Beacon co-ordinator Ms Mathers, the work of the Student Beacon Ambassadors for 2011, who have done an outstanding leadership job whilst representing the College in this role; they are Georgia Horton, Rhys Bolitho, Dylan Paarlberg, Shae Soden, Casey McDowell, Mitchell Bell and Renee Owen. It was a very difficult process to choose the ambassadors for next year as we had such high quality applicants, however, again on behalf of Ms Mathers I would like to congratulate our new Beacon Ambassadors for 2012; Dayna Carey, Tim Truong, Teesha Jackson, Rachel Robbins, Kenny San, Harry Grasso, Courtney Davidson and Kitlyn Bourke.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all students and their families a very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Michael Devine

Assistant Principal
Art Attack At Westo for 2012

Well it has been a very busy year in the arts at Westo this year, the whole arts department has been buzzing with excitement. I have been lucky enough to teach four year eight art classes this year, every one of them full to the brim with talent and eagerness to learn and create. We have explored lots of different art styles, materials and concepts. I am really looking forward to watching these students mature as they work towards their senior years, and grow into young adults.

Community arts

We have done lots of community activities, such as the fantastic ‘Mt Place’ mural at the Hastings Hub. About twenty students from Years 8 to 12 worked solidly on this for two full terms. They were lucky enough to be a part of the project through from the initial design to the finished result. Go down and have a look.

Art Warriors

Well a small group of the Warriors are just too busy to look up at the camera to tell you about what we have been doing this year. So I managed to get them to mumble some bits and bobs whilst they are drawing, “We have been meeting in Room 8 on a Wednesday, learning how to paint on canvas, do stencils, and draw. Now that rollover has begun Shezza’s timetable has changed so we are going to run ‘Art Warriors’ on Tuesday lunchtime during 2012.

We have also decided that we are going to pick her brains and the brains of other talented artists at our College and learn some new skills, so the first skill we are learning is “Anime/Manga drawing”. So if there are any super Anime drawers who want to share their skills and students who want to learn these skills come over to Room 8 at lunchtime on a Tuesday in 2012.

The College has lots of Art opportunities for keen arty types during 2012, just come over and ask. I would like to thank Candice Franzi and Brianna Colautti for being the 2011 Art Captains. And introduce Molly Fergus and Saige Hall-Norton who will be the Art Captains for 2012.
Art

Art Continued

Nearly half the college has in some way been involved in the library jigsaw mural, this has been all done by students, from the colourful backgrounds, the intricate stencil cutting to the painting of the various quotes by famous people, this mural has really brightened up the library foyer and looks great.

They have lots of great ideas to continue to make our College look great and to take our art out into the wider community. I would like to thank all the great art students of 2011 for continuing to make my time as a teacher totally enjoyable. Have a great break and come back full of ideas.

Cheers Jean Sheridan

Library

Reading Awards

On December 1st, many students in Years 7 and 8 received awards for their efforts with reading in 2011. Year 8s had a pizza lunch as well.


Gold medals for reading more than 4000 pages in semester 2 went to Alex Cooke, Angus Fowler, Rhiannon Waller, Matt Fallaw and Jessica Pike. Trophies for reading more than 6000 pages in semester 2 went to: Georgia Couchman, Rebecca Johns, Luke Martin, Alanah Sbisa and Brodie Phillips. Stephanie O’Donnell and Connor Govan were the grand champions, with more than 16,000 and 18,000 pages respectively.

Stephanie O’Donnell received a special Literature Appreciation Award at the College Awards night for not only reading a lot but for reading challenging texts and demonstrating a mature and intelligent understanding of those texts in her writing. She received a $100 book voucher for Petersen’s Bookshop in Hastings.
Senior School

Valedictory Dinner

The Year 12s of 2011 farewelled Western Port Secondary College at their Valedictory Dinner on November 21st. The theme, *Monte Carlo*, inspired Casino-like decorations and sophisticated high-roller elegance. The night was hosted by Vice Captains, India Clifford and Matt Johnson, and Captains, Amanda Alkemade and Ben Herbert gave their penultimate speeches for the year.
Senior School

Farewell to the Year 12 students of 2011
Parents and Friends Association

New exercise bikes for the gymnasium

Through a range of fundraising events over the years, as well as the money raised through the Ritchie’s Community Benefits cards, the Parent group have accepted an application from the PE Department to fund the purchase of eight new spin class exercise bike to bolster our fantastic new gym.

The money raised from these cards has certainly benefited the students of College in the past few years. We have also previously funded the marquee for the HPV team, have given money for a trailer for the music department, provided sports equipment for year level teams and gave a substantial grant to the Connect Program to get this off the ground. We hope that if you don’t have a card and do shop at Ritchies, we ask you to please consider getting a card and nominating our school, so that we can continue to make more improvements for your children.

On a final note, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as the College representative of the Parents and Friends over the past 6 years and I wish them well as they move into the new school year.

Tanya Blanch
Parents & Friends Association

Kitchen Garden

Our Kitchen Garden - Hums & Maths

Recently Year 9 students (now Year 10) had a great day in the Kitchen Garden where they constructed a Wicking bed as well as enjoying an early settler camp oven roast lunch.

The wicking bed works by watering the vegie garden from below where water is stored below the surface, limiting evaporation and providing moisture when needed.

Beef, lamb or chicken with vegies and damper, all cooked with coals – a restaurant meal!

PARENT MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH IN THE COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM FROM 5:00pm. We look forward to new members joining in the future. Please contact Gail Miller at the College if you are interested in being a part of this group for 2012.
GIRLS UNIFORM FOR SALE
Very Good Condition
Short Sleeve Polo Shirt-Size 12 $15
Short Sleeve Polo Shirt-Size 14 $15
Long Sleeve Polo Shirt-Size 12 $15
Girls Summer Dress-Size 10 $25
Girls Summer Dress-Size 12 $25
Girls Winter Skirt-Size 12 $30
Never Worn
Girls Boot Leg Pants-Size 12 $25
Mesh Sports Top-Size 10 $20
Basketball Shorts-Size 10 $10

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15 – 16 YEAR OLD
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No experience necessary, but previous use of hand tools would be an advantage.
Contact 5978 0811
Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm. SOMERVILLE

BELL TIMES 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Form Assembly</td>
<td>8.45 am - 8.55 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>8.58 am - 9.55 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td>9.58 am - 10.55 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recess</td>
<td>11.19 am - 12.16 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period 3</td>
<td>12.19 am - 1.16 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>2.03 pm - 3.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period 4</td>
<td>3.03 pm - 4.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>4.03 pm - 4.55 pm</td>
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Please ensure your student is here before form assembly or a note will be required to explain absence, and an SMS WILL go out.

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**Western Port Secondary College Uniforms**

**FOR SALE**

**Summer Dresses**
- 3 x size 12 - $25 each or 3 for $60
- 2 x size 14 - $25 each or 2 for $45

**Short-sleeved polo T-shirt with College logo**
- 1 x size 12 - $20 each
- 2 x size 14 - $20 each or 2 for $35

**Short-sleeved bottle green sports T-shirt (round neck) with school logo**
- 1 x size small - $8 each

**Short-sleeved micromesh sports top with College logo. Black/Bottle Green/White colour.**
- 1 x size small - $15 each.

**Winter pleated skirt – needs a new zip, tear on skirt but it has been stitched**
- 1 x size 16 - $10 each

For all queries, please call Angela
Ph 59792374 or 0438591139
Important Dates for your calendar

**Semester 2, 2011**

Friday 16th December  REPORTS DISTRIBUTED

**Semester 1, 2012**

Monday 30th January  ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OPENS

Tuesday 31st January  BOOK COLLECTION 1PM-6PM

Thursday 2nd February  STUDENTS RETURN