Important Dates:

TERM ONE

Thursday 24th March—End of Term 1
Monday 11th April—Term 2 Begins
Thursday 28th April—Senior Sport
Tuesday 7th June—Year 8 Sport
Monday 13th June—Queens Birthday
Tuesday 14th June—Junior Girls Football
Thursday 16th June—Intermediate Sport
Monday 20th June—Senior Girls/Boys Football
Thursday 23rd June—SMR X Country
Friday 24th June—End of Term 2
Monday 11th July—Term 3 Begins

BELL TIMES 2015

Warning Bell 8.45am
Period 1  8.50 am - 9.47 am
Period 2  9.51 am - 10.48 am
Recess  
Period 3  11.12 am - 12.09 am
Period 4  12.13 am - 1.10 pm
Lunch  
Period 5  13.58 pm - 2.55 pm

House Athletics!

More photos on page 2
Open Night 2015
Last night we had over 270 visitors come to the school to tour our facilities and see our students involved in various programs and activities across the college. A terrific atmosphere prevailed and we had some great feedback from many visitors, the tour groups appeared really engaged in the different sessions and displays.

I would also like to thank the many staff, students, student leaders, school counselors and parents who volunteered to help showcase our school and provide refreshments on the night. Special thanks to our Transition Co-coordinator Chantelle Steffens. If you were unable to attend and would like a tour of the college please contact the office to arrange a time.

Year 7 Camp
It was a pleasure to visit the Year 7 Camp at Phillip Island for the day. I can honestly say we have a great bunch of Year 7 students this year who have many skills and talents in a variety of areas! My thanks to all the staff that ensured a smooth operation and a camp enjoyed by all who participated. A big thanks also to the Year 10 student leaders who did an outstanding job working with the Year 7’s and running the activities.

End of Term Already!
It is hard to believe the end of term is upon us already. There have been so many highlights this term including sporting, Swimming and Athletics Carnivals, Assemblies, Excursions, Incursions and Music events to name just a few. I hope you enjoy reading about these elsewhere in the newsletter or on our website or Facebook page.

I would like to wish all students and their families a pleasant, relaxing and safe break in the holidays and a very Happy Easter.

Michael Devine
College Principal

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/ GUARDIANS

Parents/guardians of students who do not have student accident insurance are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance and any other transport costs.

Student Accident Insurance can be purchased from commercial insurers.
International Womans Day

Women are an inspiration, an empowerment, a strength, they’re leaders, they’re successful and most importantly, women are worthy. International Women’s Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Every day I embrace the power of femininity but March 2nd was a day that myself got to understand, celebrate and reflect on what true strength and achievement was. You don’t need to make high incomes of money or possess expensive materials but only to get up in the morning and take on the world, as an individual, a power, a woman. This is exactly what the International Women’s Day breakfast evoked in me, it evoked that to empower women is to make sure they view themselves as deserving of the best and nothing less, to lead women to realize their capabilities and as women, build each other up. Kristy Kendall and Moira Kelly both awakened our souls with their words of their successes and most importantly, their not so successful moments. These moments showed that, yes we do have bad days and have things happen to us that we cannot control but it’s how we pick ourselves up with the self-worth we deserve and the strength we possess. “A successful woman is one who can build a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at her” – Happy International Women’s Day to all women and a reminder to us, that we are of value and worth.

Bridgette Kupsch

HPV NEWS—Casey 6 Hour Race

On Saturday 27th February, the Western Port SC HPV team travelled to Casey Fields in Cranbourne for Round 1 of the ‘Jet Couriers’ Victorian HPV Series. In 2016 we welcome our brand new trike ‘The Chief’ to the program to race alongside ‘wally’.

After a successful RACV Energy Breakthrough at Maryborough in November 2015, we set our sights on the purchase and build of a new trike to support to build upon our successful 2015 season.

In December we purchased a ‘Tomahawk’ trike, possible only by the generous contributions of our sponsors (Hillview Quarries, Signforce, WPSC Parents and Friends and K & K Steel). Taking delivery of this Trike on February 4th didn’t leave us a lot of time to prepare for Round 1 of the series. The next few weeks was busy and stressful, but with students staying back after school and support from parent Glen Jansz, ‘The Chief’ lined up alongside ‘Wally’ for the start of the 2016 season.

Round 1 of the series witness 84 HPV’s compete over the 6 hour race. This was the first time that we have entered a separate male and female team in an event and we have had instant success, with both teams earning a 3rd place finish in the Senior Boys and Girls divisions. We welcomed new comers Lily Snaoks and Lachlan Clasby who both made valuable contributions to the success of their teams.

After 6 hours of racing, the teams from WPSC had pedaled 351kms. Again improving on distance records set in 2015.
Mornington Peninsula Schools Environment Week

Environment students presented at the Briars last week to over 400 Primary School Students. Students investigated creatures in the soil and were surprised by millipedes, spiders, snails, crickets and many more. Year 8 students provided the Presenters under tough weather conditions. Congratulations to all.

Year 7 Tennis

A great day, all students demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, supporting their team mates as well as students from other schools.

With only two on the girls team we could not qualify for a place. However our girls had a great day improving their skills throughout the extra games they played to make up the full competition meaning that all schools could play the total matches. Akaisha Tranter and Stephanie Harwood finished the day very tired but with big smiles on their faces.

The boys had a stella day, rotating their extra player through the rounds to come through with some great wins and finish in third place, well done!

Big thanks to our Year 11 leaders for helping the students with scoring, rules, recaps and a little impromptu skills training, such great support!

Senior Boys Cricket

The Year 9/10 boys headed to Emil Madson Reserve to play Super 8’s. The boys were set to play Somerville, Mornington A and B Team and Dromana.

The day started off sensationally with a five wicket win against Somerville, with a superb knockout by skipper Ben Paarlberg making 25 not out, Ben was supported with great bowling and fielding efforts, Blake Wilson snagging 7 wickets and a superb run out by Tyler Hurren. Unfortunately we came up against some extremely strong teams in in the next few rounds, however the boys teams did extremely well.

Some outstanding performances on the day, Matt Bennetts was a wall behind the stumps taking 4 catches, Blake Wilson hitting 4 overs, Ben Paarlberg 65 and Josh Hastie 38 led the leading runs getters while Jayden Elms had safe hands all day taking 3 catches.

Overall the boys should be very proud of themselves, all showed fantastic sportsmanship all day and played really well together, great team work!
Southern Peninsula Division Swimming Carnival

On Thursday March 3rd the interschool swimming team competed at the combined Southern Peninsula Division swimming carnival at Pines Forest pool. Over the course of the day a number of students swam well beyond what was asked. These students deserve as much credit as our medal place getters. All students performed to their personal bests but were outclassed by a stronger well-trained opposition. Thanks to staff, parents and students for their support. Again some students did not attend which makes it so much more demanding on just a few.

Overall Western Port came fifth a great team effort.

Congratulations to these medal winners:

Silver medal:
Tyson Hess 15 years 50m Butterfly
Matt Foy 17 years 50m Breaststroke, Freestyle
Bridgette Kupsch 18-20 years 50m Butterfly
Aaron Whitford 17 years 50m Butterfly
Jack Holdsworth 17 years 50m Backstroke

Bronze medal:
Tyson Hess Boys 15 years 50m Breaststroke, Freestyle
Eleonore Rich 18-20 years 50m Breaststroke
Ben Puru 18-20 years 50m Butterfly
Bridgette Kupsch 18-20 years 50m Freestyle
Aaron Whitford 18-20 years 50m Breaststroke
Georgia Baker 17 years 50m Freestyle

Boys 17-20 years Medley Relay
Relay members: Matt Foy, Andre Harrison, Lachlan Cox, Aaron Whitford

Outdoor Ed

The VCE Unit Three Outdoor & Environmental Studies students are currently examining the first non-Indigenous settlers relationships with outdoor environments. Point Nepean National Park provides a unique experience where students can examine factors associated with increasing population (the quarantine station), industrialization (lime quarrying for building development in Melbourne) and nation building (Fort Nepean). It is also a fantastic outdoor environment where the students can enjoy an outdoor activity in bike riding.

HMAS Cerberus Ceremonial Divisions

On Friday 18th March Rebecca Harding (Year 12 Music Captain) and Robert Clohesy (Year 10 Leader) represented the College at the HMAS Cerberus Ceremonial Divisions.

Accompanied by Donna Nairn, the students observed the reverence of the ceremony and enjoyed meeting Danny Mulheron, Chief Petty Officer, Navy Community Engagement Program, who was responsible for inviting WPSC to attend.
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Western Port Secondary College is now using an App to communicate with you

Please install this free app onto any device to see all the college news and information.
Information from us, our Website, Facebook and soon the parent’s portal are all at your finger tips from this one great App. Available for Iphone, Androids, tablets and Ipad and PC’s.

Visit www.tiqbiz.com.au for more information

IMPORTANT Camps Sports and Excursion Fund Information
Any parent/guardian who holds a HCC/Pension Card and has not applied for CSEF please contact general office for an application form

CENTREPAY
WPSC would like to announce that we now offer Centrepay as another means of payment. This is a system to assist families with automatic deductions from their Centrelink payments that can go towards College charges. There are no fees associated with this arrangement and the General Office is happy to assist with registration.
IMPORTANT Camps, sports and Excursion Fund
Any parent/Guardian who has not claimed the CSEF please contact the administration.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef