The Pelican
Newsletter of Western Port Secondary College

Farewell and Good Luck to our Year 12’s

Important Dates:

16th November—ROLLOVER

20th to 22nd November—Maryborough HPV

24th November—Year 7 Awards

26th November—Year 7 Information Evening

2nd December—Awards Night

4th December—Project 9 Extreme Air

10th December—Lunchtime Music Concert

14th—16th December—Activity Days

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
The Principal

Farewell Year 12 2015
It has again come the time to farewell our graduating Year 12 students. We recently had the Farewell Assembly and Parade Day, and I was very pleased with the conduct of the students through the finishing celebrations. We seem to have moved away from some of the more destructive behaviours that plagued many schools around this time in the past! I look forward to catching up with students and their families at the Valedictory Dinner later in the week.

Senior Exams
The VCE exams as well as the Year 10 and 11 exams are continuing and many students have chosen to come to school to do their final study and preparation – Good Luck to all! The new timetable begins with rollover on the 16th November, so it is important that all students remain up to date with work and homework in all subjects. I encourage all students and parents to contact teachers directly if they have any concerns in this area.

Bright Futures Ceremony and Remembrance Day Assembly
Yesterday we hosted a number of guests and held a ceremony for Year 10 students to sign the traditional Beacon pledge for Bright Futures and undertaking a commitment to remain in Education and Training through to Year 12. This was mostly led by our Year 10 Student Leaders who did an excellent job. We were pleased to welcome champion netballer Bianca Chatfield as our guest speaker. Following this ceremony all students and staff attended a short sombre and respectful Remembrance Day assembly in the central courtyard. Again my thanks to the students who helped lead this event.

Education State
I was very pleased to finally receive confirmation from the Department of Education ‘Gonski’ money that will flow to schools next year. Our school has received a significant additional investment and was the largest of any school on the Peninsular. This additional money will be used to strengthen and enhance the work we are doing as part of our strategic plan and focus on Teaching and Learning. This will provide additional staff to help move students along the continuum who are behind and to extend those who are operating at or above the expected level. It will also provide additional resources to do this work and opportunities to provide more programs and services to student who need them.

Uniform
Students are required to wear full school uniform at all times. A reminder that hoodies and beanies are strictly prohibited. Also a reminder that student’s hair can ONLY BE DYED IN A NATURAL HAIR COLOUR – any other colour is banned. Detailed information about uniform and in particular shoes deemed appropriate as school shoes can be found at:


The supplier of College uniform is Beleza, who have a store at:
Shop 8, 13 Eramosa Rd West, Somerville (near Safeway), 5977-5277

Website
Just a reminder about the College web site – a great way to keep in touch and informed! Please visit:
www.westernportsc.vic.edu.au

Facebook
The College does have a Facebook site – please join this for College updates via social media.

Michael Devine
College Principal

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 Ipads and PC’s.

Visit www.tiqbiz.com.au for more information
In October I had the pleasure of attending the Resource Smart School Awards at the Melbourne Convention Centre. 150 Victorian schools entered the awards. Our Environmental Team was one of only three finalists in the ‘Community Leadership’ School of the Year category. The booklet showcasing the finalists says of our school.

Western Port has embedded environmental education across the curriculum and the school has been a trail blazer in developing a broad range of initiatives that reflect their sustainability ethos. They have shared their learnings with the community in a film that celebrates all of their projects and showcases their relationship with their sister school – SMK Aminuddin Baki in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia.

Our students were also invited to be one of a handful of schools who delivered a presentation to an audience of 100s of educators, student leaders, Sustainability Victoria representatives and official guests. These students were Aaron Hudson, Alfie Hainsworth, Brie-Anna Bischorn and Lani Hodges.

They spoke articulately and confidently about the Environment Team’s initiatives. We were impressed by projects developed by other schools that included the design and construction of a solar powered cinema and Footscray City College’s ‘Weather stations’ global project based on the idea that writing and film gives people the ability to conceptualise scientific ideas.

Environmental Science and Environmental Engineering are some of the career pathways available to students who are interested in the environment and sustainability. Increasingly green trades (Eg: solar installers), are on the agenda. The ATTARS for many of these courses are not prohibitive and I would encourage students to look at these options.

A huge thankyou to the team who attended the awards and to Luke Reardon for his work as Environmental Captain this year. He has done an outstanding job. Luke was awarded a Highly Commended at the State Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities awards in Beechworth in October in the category of Young Leaders.

Hannah Lewis
Assistant Principal
African Drumming!

Music
The College band played at Crib Point Primary and Somers Primary in October, the primary school students formed the largest conga line you had ever seen!

Access Monash
Brodie Phillips and James Potter attended the Schools Access Monash Graduation Dinner at the Merrimu Receptions Chadstone they received their certificate and well wishes for the future from the Monash Team.
STATE representative in Golf
James Hogan-Keogh won the Southern Metropolitan Region Junior Golf Championships at Cranbourne Golf Club on Friday October 9th with a score of 80, two strokes ahead of the second place getter.

James Hogan-Keogh is to compete at the State Golf Championships on Friday October 30th at Lilydale. James is our first student ever to make it to this level. We wish him all the best and congratulations on such a great achievement.

Southern Peninsula Division Lawn Bowls Competition 2015
Hastings Bowling Club were hosts to the Southern Peninsula Division SSV Lawn Bowls competition on Wednesday October 14th. This competition was introduced mainly due to the influence of local man George Bartley, the Hastings Lawn Bowls Club and the Southern Peninsula Division Sports Association and is now in its ninth year.

The draw comprised of teams from Western Port (two teams), Dromana and Mt Eliza (two teams). The day was played in the true competitive spirit of the game with all teams fighting for shot. The day followed a round robin format. The competition was a two bowl triples playing seven ends. Western Port 1 drew with the overall winner Dromana who had three experienced bowlers. Western Port 1 won all their other games to finish second. Well done to team members Kaila Paarlberg, Zoe Mitchell, Toby Smith and Sam Fallaw. Western Port 2 who were novices finished third beating Mt Eliza 1 and 2 and conceding close loses to the other teams. They improved during the day with each end played. Team members were Ayla Gallagher, Bridgette Kupsch, Luke White and Daniel Horstra. A special thankyou to our cheer squad and coaches from Hastings Lawn Bowls Club.

Southern Metropolitan Region Quarter Finals
Southern Metropolitan Region Quarter finals for intermediate boys cricket was played on Monday October 19th at Cranbourne against Cranbourne East. The competition was a T/20 format. Cranbourne batted first with a total of 131. Their opener scored 83 runs not out. Best bowler was Mason Gugich-Mail with 1 for 6 off 3 overs. The boys played well but ended up only eleven runs short. Best batting figures were Alex Devlin 31, Mason Gugich-Mail 30 and Riley Bowman 20. Well done boys on making it to this level of competition.

Southern Metropolitan Region Athletics
On Thursday 8th October six students competed in the Southern Metropolitan Athletics Casey Fields. The day was sunny with some terrific athletics participating for the medals. Over 60 schools are included in this region including high profile schools such as Melbourne High, McKinnon, Frankston, Mornington and Berwick who have over 1300 students. All our students tried hard and we came away from the day with one silver medal and five bronze medals. Overall WPSC came a credible 35th, 34th in the girls aggregate and 29th in the boys. Congratulations to all our students on such an impressive result for such a small school.

Individual results were:
Max Hamlin 4th 17 Years Javelin
Tom Finn 5th 12-13 Years Triple Jump and Bronze Long Jump
Cathy Runting 18-20 Years Bronze 100m, 200m and Bronze 400m
Kaylen Jensen 18-20 Years Bronze 100m and Silver 200m
Peter Megee 9th in 800m and 1500m
In 2015 the Western Port SC Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) team entered into the Victorian HPV series. The series consisted of 4 rounds across the year, ranging in length from 6 hours to 24 hours races. After a successful first attempt at the RACV Energy Breakthrough 24 hour event in November 2014, the team set their goals for improvement in 2015. The Victorian HPV Series awarded points for each event and were accumulated to determine the series results.

The first round was held in February at Casey Fields, Cranbourne. After purchasing a 2nd hand trike only the week before this event, we entered this race with little preparation. The final result had the team finish in 6th place in the Middle Secondary class completing 97 laps and 159km in the 6 hours.

Round 2 had us traveling to Gippsland for the Wonthaggi Human Powered Grand Prix, held in March. This round was held over 3 days and involved a 24hours race. Again with the focus on improvement the team completed 346 laps and 484.4kms of the 24 hour period, beating their previous 24 hour record.

After a 4 month break, Round 3 of the Victorian HPV series found us at Ewing Park for the Bendigo EEV/HPV Grand Prix. This round was held over a race period of 10 hours. After some initial safety concerns with the track, the race was reduced to a 9 hour event with the team completing 163 laps and 210km.

The final round of the Victorian HPV series had the team back at Casey Fields last month. For the first time the HPV team had two teams competing with the addition of a Senior Girls team. Again the team improved upon previous results, completing 186.3kms in the 6 hour race (27.3km more than round 1). The senior girls team, in their first event, completed 137.7kms.

Congratulations to our riders (Georgia Walker, Beth McCullagh, Ruby Cargill, Chloe Masarri, Aaron Whitford, Noah Whitford, Isaac Cunningham and Alex Monck) on their 2nd Place in the Victorian HPV Series. Thank You to the parents who have supported throughout the year, with special mentions to Kris & Elaine Walker and Andrew & Kiley McCullagh, support from the College Council and Parents and Friends for their contributions to the HPV program and staff members who visited or assisted, especially Mr Jarryd Pack, and support from our sponsors, who without their ongoing support we could not have achieved these results in 2015.

The teams are now in preparation for the RACV Energy Breakthrough event being held November 19th - 20th in the township of Maryborough.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; November</td>
<td>Rollover – Classes commence for 2016</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; November</td>
<td>Grade 6 Secondary Experience Day</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; November</td>
<td>Year 8 2016 only - Student free day</td>
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<td>Thursday 26&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; November</td>
<td>Year 7 2016 Information Evening</td>
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<td>Thursday 26&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; November</td>
<td>2016 VCAL Year 12’s last day</td>
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<td>Friday 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; November</td>
<td>2016 VCE Year 12’s last day</td>
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<td>Wednesday 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>College Awards Night</td>
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<td>Thursday 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>2016 VCAL Year 11’s last day</td>
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<td>Friday 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>2026 VCE Year11’s last day</td>
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<td>Tuesday 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Grade 6 State wide Orientation Day</td>
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<td>Thursday 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Reports will be available on Compass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>2016 Year 8-10’s finish formal classes</td>
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<td>Monday 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Activities Day</td>
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<td>Tuesday 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Activities Day</td>
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**DENTAL NEWS**

Just a reminder that our Community Dental Service has the capacity to see anyone in either the public or private practice. The Community Dental private practice offers dental services at veterans affairs rates which are very affordable!

Children and young people up to the age of 13 years receive free dental care.

Children and young people aged 13 years to 18 years who are eligible for the Medicare Child Dental Benefits Schedule receive free dental care.

If you would like to make an appointment, or know someone who needs an appointment, please follow this link.

All the best

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Or Visit our website to find out more about us www.eduskill.com.au

Servicing The Mornington Peninsula with Dedication & Excellence In The Field

*Conditions Apply – Limit – 1 X P8 Per Student

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**Is teaching your learner Driver turning you grey??**

Have a free lesson on the Government and take the stress out of driving. Contact Michelle for more information on the Keys2Drive Program.
2015-16 Summer Fire Season Preparedness

Last fire season saw a number of fast moving grassfires and bushfires, including one that had a major impact in our local area. Already there have been a number of significant fires in recent weeks. Forecasts issued by various authorities, all indicate the potential for an above normal bushfire season over most of Victoria, including the Mornington Peninsula, this summer.

In Victoria, the fire danger ratings and warnings provide a clear direction on the safest options for preserving life. The highest fire danger rating in Victoria is **Code Red**. Any **Code Red** declarations are issued by the Emergency Management Commissioner.

The Hastings and Mornington Peninsula are in the Central fire district. The Department of Education and Training (DET) have assessed the risks of bushfires to schools and childcare facilities across the state. Western Port Secondary College, together with a number of other local schools, was found to meet the risk profile and has been listed on the DET Bushfire-At-Risk Register (BARR).

**What Does That Mean For Our College Community?**

On any days that are declared as **Code Red** for the Central fire district; the College will be **closed** and school buses operating into and out of Western Port Secondary College will **not** operate.

While it is not possible to provide the exact number of days on which Code Red declarations will occur, advice suggests that schools in high-risk areas could possibly expect to close an average of 0–3 days per year. In some years, as in the past three summers, there may be no days, while in other years there may be more.

Where possible, since the fire danger ratings are based on predicted weather patterns, we will provide parents with between three and seven days notice of a planned closure. We will contact you by means of a notice and SMS message, for those who have this service, with advice on a planned closure. Additionally information will be posted on Compass and the DET website.

The **College will confirm any decision to close by 1:00 pm the day before a planned closure**.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will **not** change. This is to avoid confusion and help families plan alternative care arrangements for their children.

No staff will remain on site when the school has been closed by a **Code Red** declaration.

Further information can be obtained from the DET website.


Schools on the Mornington Peninsula are in the DET South-Eastern Region. You can access more information about school closures on the DET website:


During the fire season the College will also cancel any offsite activities, such as camps, if the location of these activities has the potential to place the students and staff on these at risk.

While these plans cover potentially foreseeable days, the College closely monitors the local situation on all days when there is an elevated fire danger risk and will implement its own Emergency Management Procedures if it or any of the bus routes servicing the College are threatened by a rapid onset fire. Since a majority of bushfires start in the early afternoon, this may result in the cancellation of bus services departing the College should there be a fire threat along their routes. In these cases the buses on the affected routes will be held at the College and the parents of students travelling on these services will be notified.

Fire Safety is an issue for all, so families should ensure that their own Bushfire Survival Plan is **up-to-date** and includes the necessary arrangements in the event of a school closure. To assist you with your survival plan, **A Prepare, Act, Survive - Fire Ready Kit** can be downloaded from the CFA web site, www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare. It is recommended that children should never be left at home unattended or in the care of older children.

If travelling during the summer months, please be aware that you may be in a different fire district. So check for local information. For up-to-date information, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.

**Please Remember**

In an emergency call: 000
If you see Flames or embers: 000
If fire is seriously threatening you: 000
IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE CSEF FUND

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to notify you of a new Funding scheme provided by the Victorian Government. The funds are to assist eligible families to cover the cost of school trips, camps and sporting activities. The annual Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) amount per Secondary Student is $225.

Students must be attending a government Primary School or Secondary school and be between the ages of 5 and 18 inclusive, and hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent. Forms and more information can be obtained from the school office, Compass, our school website or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef.

The closing date for a CSEF application is 26th June, 2015. We require a copy of your concession card with the application. The funds are paid to the school for eligible applicants and credited to the family account. Schools have strict criteria as to what the funds can be paid towards. We will communicate with the eligible parents/guardians to advise how we intend to allocate the CSEF payment for the benefit of the eligible student.

Please go to the government website www.education.vic.gov.au/csef or contact the college with any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Devine
Principal
Margaret Jolly
Business Manager

Social networking tips for parents

Social networking is a great way to keep in touch with friends and family as well as meeting new people with similar interests and hobbies.

Here are some tips to follow when you feel your child is ready to begin engaging with social networking sites like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter:

- If you haven’t already got an account, set one up so that you can understand what your child can and can’t do as well as learning how to adjust the privacy settings.
- You can use fake information if you aren’t comfortable using your own.
- Make sure your child is old enough to use the site. Sites like Facebook and Instagram require users to be 13 years or older.
- Tell your child to keep their passwords a secret otherwise other people may log on and pretend to be them. It is important that you know your children’s password however.
- Advise your child to set their account to private so that they will only interact with people they know in real life and aren’t approached by strangers.
- Encourage your child to think carefully before they post any information online. Things they post on social networking can have an impact on them even after they delete it and long into the future.
- Help your children to set up their location services on their device so that they aren’t broadcasting their location to strangers.
- Remind children to be careful when making new friends online as some people may not be who they say they are and ensure your children never arrange to meet an online friend unless accompanied by a trusted adult.
- Make sure you know how to report inappropriate content on social networking sites and show your child what they should do if they come across anything inappropriate.